

THE RECORDER

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Stewart Locks In A Fourth Term As Mayor Of New Britain



Mayor Erin Stewart won the 2019 municipal election with a large margin.

FACEBOOK

STORY BY ISABELLA CHAN
NEWS EDITOR

Erin Stewart secured a fourth term in office after being re-elected as the 41st mayor in the city of New Britain.

Stewart, 32, has continued to serve New Britain since her first

term in Nov. 2013, where she made history as the youngest and only female mayor in the city's history. Since being voted in at the age of 26, she has made it her mission to transform the New Britain area to a safer, positive environment for its current and future residents.

Following the results, Mayor

Stewart was pleased and was ready into jump the start of several new plans she has for the future. She hopes to continue to make changes to the city of New Britain but will be doing it with some fresh faces by her side in the 15 seats on the New Britain City Council. The council now heavily consists of Republicans

candidates, making it almost completely red across the board.

"The most exciting thing is the Republicans have taken back the council and that will help us push forward all of our progresses with less roadblocks," Stewart said. "We also have a lot of new council members coming in so I hope they can come in with an open mind and a willingness to work together."

"I really respect the fact that the people voted for us and I'm so blessed to be able to serve New Britain again. For the candidates who didn't win, I really hope this isn't the last time they run. It really takes a lot of guts to get your name out there and it's admirable that they took a chance. I hope they continue to be involved and inspire more people to do the same," Stewart expressed.

The Republican candidate won with over 5,900 votes, according to unofficial results. She faced off against two opposing candidates

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Should NCAA Athletes Profit From Their Names, Image And Likeness?

BY TREVI ALICKOLLI
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

It's been one of the most talked about topics in collegiate sports and perhaps one of the most controversial topics in recent history - should college athletes be paid? Up until a week ago, the National Collegiate Athletic Association would not budge on their stance that student-athletes would not get paid for the use of their the names, images and likeness at universities. But their historic mindset appears to have changed.

Recently, the top governing board decision-makers of the NCAA voted unanimously to start the process of allowing college athletes to profit from a university using them to create revenue.

"We must embrace change to provide the best possible

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Central's First Fall Concert Went Hard In The Paint

STORY BY GABRIEL ANTON
STAFF WRITER

As the chilly, dry Connecticut autumn winds continued to haunt Central Connecticut's barren campus last Saturday evening, Welte Auditorium provided a comforting escape for students with the school's first ever fall concert.

The free concert served as a high-energy cap to the "Halloweekend" festivities with a lineup of four considerably diverse performers: Ohio based rock/pop band PUBLIC, Los Angeles indie folk band MAGIC GIANT, new wave/electronic duo MISSIO and the headlining, four-time visiting, widely celebrated hip-hop artist Waka Flocka Flame.

As the stage crew began setting up for PUBLIC's opener, the audience began to



Waka Flocka Flame, (above) closed out the concert.

JULIA CONANT | STAFF

accumulate towards the front of the auditorium, many not knowing what to expect from the fairly unfamiliar artists. The initial announcement of the concert had Jesse McCartney and Waka Flocka Flame

headlining, with the two other performers being less known. But when Jesse McCartney cancelled, MISSIO, another generally unknown artist, was announced as the backup artist.

"We came for Jesse

McCartney and Waka Flocka, but we haven't really heard about the other artists," Central student Eric Rosen explained.

The overhead lights dimmed and an energetic display of sharp

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ELIHU BURRITT LIBRARY SPOOKS AND EDUCATES



Students learn about online resources such as databases and bibliography organizers at Elihu Burritt Library last Tuesday.

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WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY WINS NEC TITLE



Angie Rafter, (above) and the women's cross country team took home the NEC women's title.

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THE RECORDER

Student Center
1615 Stanley Street
New Britain, CT 06050
860.832.3744

editor@centralrecorder.com
centralrecorder.org

Editor-in-Chief

Daniel Fappiano
dan.fappiano@my.ccsu.edu

Managing Editor

Natalie Dest
nataliedest@my.ccsu.edu

News Editor

Isabella Chan
chan2017@my.ccsu.edu
Bruna Vila Artigues, Assistant
bruna.vilaartigues@my.ccsu.edu

Arts & Entertainment Editor

Julia Conant
juliaconant@my.ccsu.edu
Carolyn Martin, Assistant
carolyn.martin@my.ccsu.edu

Sports Editor

Ryan Jones
ryan.michael.jones@my.ccsu.edu
Trevi Alickolli, Assistant
talickolli@my.ccsu.edu

Layout Editor

Daniel Fappiano
dan.fappiano@my.ccsu.edu

Copy Editor

Kelly Langevin
kelly.langevin@my.ccsu.edu
Kiernan Foster
fosterk@my.ccsu.edu

Photography Editors

Julia Jade Moran
julia.j.moran@my.ccsu.edu
Kristina Vakhman
k.vakhman@my.ccsu.edu

Business Manager

Shaina Blakesley
shainab@ccsu.edu

Social Media Editors

George Attwood
gjattwood@my.ccsu.edu
Bailey Murphy
baileymurphy@my.ccsu.edu

Staff Writers

Shwar Zaidi
Sam Shepard
Gabriel Anton
Kyle Flynn
Tessa Stack
Samuel Pappas
George Attwood
Brittney Willis
Tom Hopkins
Sarah Willson
Mauriah Johnson

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A Red Flag Can Be A Life Saver

BY ISABELLA CHAN
NEWS EDITOR

A little red flag standing alone may appear to be nothing, but when there are a dozen lined up blowing aimlessly in the wind they are begging to be acknowledged and for good reasons. These symbolic red flags are typically what one thinks of as small warnings before a bad situation occurs.

However, the real ones scattered across the Central Connecticut campus are intended to be a reminder to become aware of some potential dangers in relationships. For weeks, they have stood tall around campus to get students more aware and push to ask questions on Red Flag Day.

For many years, CCSU has been a part of the Red Flag Campaign, a nationwide awareness campaign that addresses dating violence and promotes prevention of dating violence on college campuses — as they are the most common place of occurrence.

“What a lot of people don't realize is college students are actually the most vulnerable to dating violence,” Julie Dewitt, a participant in the campaign, stated. “We've definitely had a lot of students come through and

say they appreciate the work we are doing and they didn't realize certain things could be dangerous or unhealthy behaviors in relationships.”

Through a number of strategies, the university encourages people to speak up when they witness “red flags.” Some warning signs of dating violence, according to the Red Flag Campaign, include hostility, dishonesty, dependence, intimidation, physical and/or sexual abuse and intimidation.

“It's one thing to be aware but it's another thing to be educated,” Dewitt emphasized.

Through “bystander intervention” dating violence can be stopped quickly

stopped in its tracks. Some steps include speaking up and becoming aware that the situation is not okay, stepping in to de-escalate the situation and addressing the matter with the victim and/or the abuser later to safely talk and gather resources who specialize in helping those who are experiencing dating violence.

“It's a common misconception that when victims are being abused they can just leave. The common question people ask is ‘why doesn't she just leave? It doesn't make sense.’ But there's actually a number of reasons why a victim can't leave,” Dewitt said. “It's important to realize these

people need help and it's not always as easy as it seems.”

Several organizations and clubs on campus also partook in generating healthy dating habits throughout the month, as October is known as National Domestic Violence Awareness month. Some of which including the Ruthe Boyea Women's Center, ResLife office and other organizations throughout campus.

As the event came to end in October, members of the Central Connecticut community are encouraged to continue to promote healthy dating relationships and to help those that are in need.

CHAN2017@MY.CCSU.EDU



The Red Flag Campaign is back at CCSU.

KRISTINA VAKHMAN | STAFF

CCSU Works To Normalize Discussing Death



To lighten the dreary mood that comes with talking about death, a cake was provided.

CCSU GERONTOLOGY CLUB

STORY BY JULIA CONANT
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

It's not traditional table manners to discuss death over tea, but at Central Connecticut's first Death Cafe the topic of dying was welcomed and is normalized in conversation.

Featuring hot beverages and choice snacks, students and faculty of the campus were invited to talk about death and all of the factors that come with it. The gerontology club hosted the event, who focus on promoting aging and raises awareness of aging issues. To them, it was important to create an event such as this because they believe that no matter who you are or where life may take you, you will have to deal with older adults in some

form or another.

“By creating a place where you can come and actually talk openly about it, it can provide that support system for those that want to talk about it, but they're in situations where they can't,” Hannah Rodrigues, a member of the gerontology club said. “I wanted to bring it here and open that up to younger people like college students to raise that awareness, because [death is] inevitable, and I feel like [a Death Cafe is] a great experience to help anyone in any stage of life.”

According to the book “Pathologic Grief: Maladaptation to Loss” by New Haven Psychiatrist Dr. Selby Jacobs, up to a third of people directly affected by the loss of a child or spouse will suffer negative effects on their mental health. However, it can be beneficial

to have a safe environment to discuss death and grief. This was the thinking that the Gerontology Club had in mind when putting together the Death Cafe.

Rodrigues got the idea to hold a Death Cafe at Central after attending one herself off campus and becoming inspired by it.

“I actually attended [a Death Cafe] when I was at a gerontology conference,” Rodrigues said. “I thought it was very insightful and powerful because it's something that we have trouble talking about and it's really kind of unheard of.”

As part of the discussion of death, everyone was handed an agenda listing what to expect of the topics and conversation starters.

Conversation starters included “What factors in your life lead you to feel about death the way you do?” and “How do you think the media has influenced our view of death?”

The agenda also featured quotations to ponder

These included “The truth is, once you learn how to die, you learn how to live” by Mitch Albom and “Death helps us to see what is worth trusting and loving and what is a waste of time” by J. Neville Ward.

The Death Cafe allowed for those in attendance to share personal experiences, from watching their loved ones die or having a near death experience themselves.

Rodrigues hopes to have many more Death Cafes at Central in the near future. Following the event, she called the first session a “success,” and believes it will become something people will enjoy for years to come.

JULIACONANT@MY.CCSU.EDU

Stewart Locks In A Fourth Term As Mayor Of New Britain

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Mayor Erin Stewart, CCSU Alum, has been in office since 2013.

FACEBOOK

during the 2019 election: petitioning candidate Devione Tanksley Sr., 33, and Democratic candidate Chris Porcher, 28 — with Porcher receiving 3,574 votes.

The city's Registrar office reported that of the 31,000 active registered voters, almost 9,000 people came out to vote.

During her re-election campaign, Stewart emphasized that she was ready to take on more projects for the coming future; she believes the city can continue to improve throughout various sectors.

"My reasons for running again are both simple and difficult," Stewart explained. "Simple because there are a lot of projects that I want to be a part of. It's difficult because the process of getting projects completed can be very complicated and time-consuming."

Despite these challenges, Stewart was motivated to reclaim her seat in office and credited much that to her team and strong connection to New Britain.

"I was born here, raised here and educated here. This is a city that I love

and I am honored to be your mayor, but I'm not done just yet," Stewart stated in a her final campaign video. "The choice is simple; all you have to do is look back at how far we have come and you'll see that Team Stewart is the leadership we need to keep this precedent momentum going."

In the past, Mayor Stewart has enacted number of initiatives for the city that have benefited its residents. One of which including the launch of an Energy and Innovation Committee, currently known as SMART City Committee, in Jan. 2016, which works to limit the cost of government and switch the city's current resources to more environmental-friendly alternatives.

Along with this, Stewart jumpstarted a drug task force in the city to target and prevent heroin and opioid addictions and deaths, working with a number of the area's service providers to organize a healthy path to recovery. These partners include the New Britain Fire Department, the Hospital of Central Connecticut and Mid-state Medical Center, Wheeler Clinic and others.

Despite their loss, Porcher and Tanksley had big goals for office and the city, hoping to better the city in their own way.

During Porcher's campaign, he pushed for improvements on under-developed areas and ways to attack

financial issues the city is facing. His platform focused on the need to correct blighted neighbors and homelessness problem increasingly rising in the city.

"I definitely still plan on moving forward, mayor or not," Porcher stated in an interview with the New Britain Herald. "It helps that I already work for a grassroots organization and I'm already involved in several nonprofit organizations. Either way, it'll be exciting and I want to thank everyone who came out to support us."

Tanksley heavily advocated the need for a non-affiliated political party candidate as mayor. By doing so, he believed eliminated any differences within the community and create an opportunity for more voices to be heard.

During his campaign, Tanksley targeted ways, to create better economic opportunities for the city's residents while highlighting the high crime levels within youth and wanting to maximize job creation.

"I still feel like I've made a difference and made a change by running as an independent," Tanksley said in an interview with the New Britain Herald. "I think the language of politics has been confusing people and causes them to not want to be involved. By me being out there, I hope it helped the people to see that they can do it, too."

CHAN2017@MY.CCSU.EDU

Domestic Violence Awareness Doesn't End In October

STORY BY BRUNA VILA ARTIGUES
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Domestic violence continues to impact men and women in the United States which leads to various physical and psychological challenges.

Every nine seconds, a woman in the United States is beaten or assaulted by a current or ex-significant other, according to the U.S. Department of Justice.

Countless people are affected by domestic violence every year and college students are no exception.

Based on a report by the National Union of Students, one in seven respondents had experienced a serious physical or sexual assault during their time as a student.

In most cases, the assaults were carried out by someone known and intimate to the victim.

To commence the last day of National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, The Ruthe Boyea Women's Center joined the Collegewise national campaign "These Hands Don't Hurt," to spread awareness throughout students, faculty and staff about how serious and common domestic violence is and how to provide support to the victims and survivors.

"These Hands Don't Hurt really wants to empower other survivors on campus who may not be able to talk about their experience with domestic violence and let them know that they do have the support system on campus every day," Maeve Maltese, a student worker at the Women's Center, stated.

Elizabeth Darragjati, a student worker for The Women's Center, explained that they are mostly focusing on the difference between a healthy and an unhealthy relationship. Domestic violence starts with minor things, like lying or small actions, but it escalates to where "power, control and dominance comes into the relationship," which can lead to emotional and physical abuse.

Domestic violence can leave huge physical effects on victims such as: bruises, red marks, sprained and broken bones, sexual dysfunction, shortness of breath and more.

Aside from physical side effects, victims are impacted psychologically and emotionally as well. Trauma,



CCSU hosted "These Hands Don't Hurt," which promoted healthy relationships.

BRUNA VILA ARTIGUES | STAFF

nightmares, depression, anxiety and low self-esteem are just a few effects of domestic violence that can follow the victim long after they have received help.

White Ribbon Australia, a movement started by men to end male violence against females, noted domestic violence occurs in repetitive patterns commonly described as "the cycle of violence," that describes the phases an abusive relationship typically goes through.

According to White Ribbon Australia, during the tension building phase, the tension starts increasing with some "verbal, emotional or financial abuse." The peak of violence occurs during the "acute explosion phase," in which the behavior may become habitual. Lastly, in the "honeymoon stage," the perpetrator may feel ashamed and try to justify and excuse their actions. Also, both parties could be in denial about the severity of the abuse.

The Women's Center recognizes that domestic violence is a prevalent issue on college campuses nationwide that should be acknowledged.

During the campaign's activity, they had students paint their hands with purple paint and post them on a banner with their name, as a pledge against domestic violence to demonstrate that "these hands will never hurt them or others in the future," Darragjati explained.

The Women's Center wants to let students know that they have a support system and that they are never alone through this experience.

"We want to send the message that every month should be considered Domestic Violence Awareness Month, because it happens all the time to people around you and you may never even know," Maltese said.

@BRUNAVILA

News In Brief

BY SARAH WILLSON
STAFF WRITER

Racist And Hateful Flyers Found On WCSU Campus:

Police are investigating hate-filled flyers that were found on Western Connecticut State University's (WCSU) Midtown Campus.

According to Campus spokesperson Paul Steinmetz, one flyer said "It's OK to be white" and another said "Islam is right about women." A neo-Nazi flag was also hung up.

WCSU is not the first state school that's seen racist and hateful messages. Just last semester, CCSU had the word "ni***r" spray-painted onto multiple campus buildings. Seven months later, the investigation is still ongoing, according to CCSU's Director of Public Relations Janice Palmer. Palmer said that as of now, there have been no findings.

Steinmetz said WCSU will not tolerate hatred and that authorities are reviewing surveillance footage and interviewing witnesses.

Trump Threatens To Pull Federal Aid From California:

President Donald Trump has threatened to halt aid to California, where nearly 100,000 acres have been destroyed by wildfires over the past few weeks.

In a Twitter feud with the state's governor, Trump said that Gavin Newsom (D) had done a "terrible job of forest management."

Data shows that several of this year's wildfires have burned in unforested areas.

The National Academy of Sciences said that increased temperatures due to climate change are causing the "huge" wildfires.

Protests In Iraq And Lebanon Escalate:

Protesters in Iraq and Lebanon have blocked "major roads" after politicians failed to put an end to anti-government demonstrations, BBC News reported.

Prime Minister Saad Hariri resigned last week after being called on to do so by protesters. As of Monday, there was no word on who Hariri's successor would be.

According to BBC, many of the protesters want the entire political system to be replaced, as demonstrators are blaming the government for its "stagnant" economy and crushing public debt.

@SARAHWILLSON

Light in My Window Campaign Illuminates Awareness



Ruthe Boyea Women's Center closed Domestic Violence Awareness month with a candle lighting ceremony.

OLGA FRITHO & MAEVE MALTESE

BY BRITTNEY WILLIS
STAFF WRITER

October was in full force with Domestic Violence Awareness throughout the Central Connecticut campus and has continued to do so as the month came to a close.

As part of promoting safe, healthy relationships, the Ruthe Boyea Women's Center hosted the Light in My Window Campaign that illuminated its audience with conversations, treats and wisdom to help bring about better understanding on dating violence.

"We wanted to send a message to students because they should always be aware of domestic violence. Even though it's the end of domestic violence awareness, it isn't the end of domestic violence," Maeve Maltese, student event coordinator for the Women's Center stated.

"This campaign is a national campaign. I wanted the survivors on campus that are suffering in silence to know that they aren't alone," Maltese added.

Maltese and Elizabeth Darragjati were the organizers of the event. They specifically chose to host the event in Barrows Hall, the only all-female dorm on Central Connecticut's campus. This is the

first time the Women's Center held an event for domestic violence awareness.

Purple LED tea lights were distributed to every room in Barrows Hall before the start of the affair — purple has become the color to represent awareness for domestic violence. Residents were asked to irradiate their lights to spread the awareness and show survivors they have support on campus.

Purple bracelets reading "Love Shouldn't Hurt," were available along with bookmarks, cards and cupcakes with promoting the importance of safe relationships.

The event also took place on the same day as another Women's Center event, "These Hands Don't Hurt," which also worked to get campus involvement on reducing domestic violence.

Olga Fritho, university assistant of the Women's Center spoke about the events.

"Our mission statement for the Women's Center is to advocate, to inform and to provide resources, Fritho explained. "[Students] chose These Hands Don't Hurt to help those learning on campus about awareness."

Later on during Light in My Window, attendees were asked to

engage in a conversation on what the world would look like without domestic violence, offering statements like, "better," "less stressed," and "women could feel more comfortable going home instead of always worried."

Jacqueline Cobbina-Boivin, Coordinator of the Women's Center, spoke about what a healthy relationship and partner resembled.

"It's a partner that says you're beautiful and meaning beautiful inside and out," Cobbina-Boivin explained. "They don't curse at you or call you stupid. They say you're smart, you're intelligent. I love that you have a different opinion, that you question me and that you make me think deeper."

"It's a partner that challenges you to take challenging classes," Cobbina-Boivin continued. "It's a partner that encourages you to study abroad and meet new people. They know studying abroad will open new doors and they will stay with you."

Cobbina-Boivin noted that what she really wanted women to take away from the campaign is the understanding "that your partner doesn't have the right to discipline you."

"We encourage young women to know their worth inside and out," Fritho stated, emphasizing the Women's Center offers a safe place to go on campus for all.



Ruthe Boyea Women's Center closed Domestic Violence Awareness month with a candle lighting ceremony.

OLGA FRITHO & MAEVE MALTESE

What's New, CCSU?

BY DAN FAPPIANO
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

- (Pre)figuring the (Afro)futuristic: Cartography and African Diaspora in W.E.B DuBois' 'The Crisis,' hosted by professor Ennis Addison will take place on Nov. 6 at 5:00 p.m. in Marcus White.
- Gurbakhsash Singh will speak at a Mathematics Colloquium taking place on Nov. 8 from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. in Maria Sanford.
- Central is hosting its annual Veterans Day observance ceremony on Nov. 11 at 3:00 p.m. in Alumni Hall. The Veterans Public Service Award will be presented along with many others.

SGA Briefs

BY KRISTINA VAKHMAN
NEWS PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

- 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 Oct. 30.
- The new club budget deadline for the 2020 fiscal year 2020 is Friday, Nov. 29 at 11:59 p.m.
- Competition for a Cause, where CCSU and New Britain compete for who can raise more donations, starts Nov. 27; the theme is wellness and needed donations include baby, hygiene and food items.
- A motion to allocate \$3,116.72 to Theater Unlimited for hotel accommodations for a Cape Cod conference passed.

@TheRecorder on Twitter

EDITORIAL

Alzheimer's Robs More Than Memories

There is nothing like the look of excitement when someone remembers your face, it's the kind that makes you feel that you matter to them and are important — it's irreplaceable. But that heart warming feeling of recognition gets ripped away when their memories are stolen by the thieving hands of Alzheimer's disease, leaving behind only fragments of their recognition.

Alzheimer's disease is a common form of dementia that causes problems with memory, thinking and behavior. It is progressive and worsens over time, according to the Alzheimer's Association. This disease is more common than Americans realize; every 65 seconds a person begins to develop Alzheimer's. In fact, a third of The Recorder staff has or had a loved one who suffer from the incurable disease in various stages.

Some of us have a loved one who was recently diagnosed, others have someone struggling to do simple tasks or even remember who we are and some of us have lost a grandparent to the crippling disease.

It is not an easy battle to fight, along with the person diagnosed with the disease, their entire family suffers with them. Based a study in 2018 by Hilarity for Charity, a nonprofit organization that works to raise awareness for Alzheimer's, family and friends of those suffering with Alzheimer's or other forms of dementias provided an estimated 18.1 billion hours of unpaid care, with roughly 250,000 of those caregivers being children and young adults between the ages of 8- 18.

Families and friends have become the first line of defense when it comes to helping their loved ones navigate ways to face the challenges brought on by this disease. In "A Marriage to Remember," an Op-Doc by The New York Times writer Banker White, showed firsthand the increasing level of difficulty of what caring for a family member with Alzheimer's disease is like and the adjustments needed within the home to help them be treated.

"Caring for someone with Alzheimer's is a long and humbling experience. Perhaps most painful is the underlying feeling of futility; you know it's only going to get harder," White stated. "The experience of caring for someone with Alzheimer's can be incredibly isolating, at a time when you need support the most."

The disease slowly strips away the person you love into someone almost unrecognizable. People often suggest to create as many memories as possible with their loved ones as they can at this time, but it is difficult when that person begins to forget you or feels irritated from your help.

As of now, there is no cure for Alzheimer's disease but there are treatments that help to slow down the symptoms and number of organizations researching methods to help fight it.

As November brings awareness to the disease as Alzheimer's Awareness Month, it is important to look for signs in loved ones. It can begin with something as little as forgetting to close the refrigerator door or frequent repetition, but it can grow to become much worse.

Alzheimer's disease takes away more than memories; it robs the personality and warmth of our loved ones.

Door Barricades Are The New Must Haves

BY KELLY LANGEVIN
COPY EDITOR

Try to imagine what the world was like years ago; a time where my dad could ride his bike up and down the street with no worries and return home when he saw his porch light on knowing he would make it back.

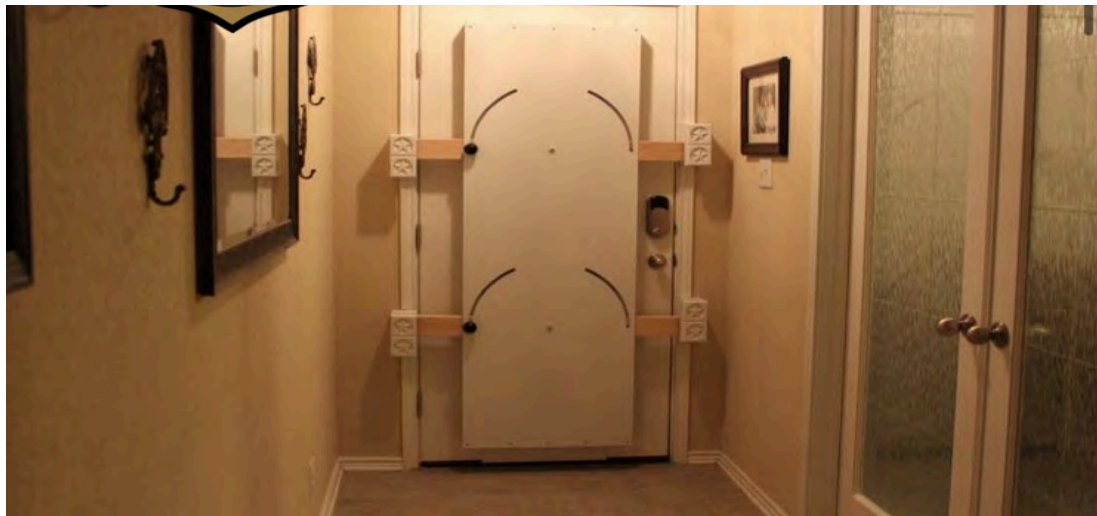
When I scrolled through Twitter the other day and came upon a demonstration video on how to protect oneself when faced with a burglar, I thought to myself that riding a bike down the street may be possible, but returning home or feeling safe, like my dad used to, may be a thing of the past.

The video, filmed by Havenshield, showcased a robber in action and a child using a door barricade to protect themselves from the intruder. The company that creates different types of door barricades and stoppers.

It's an invention that can save lives, one that is sadly needed; one that sadly had to be invented.

The website states that its products are used to protect family, students or employees and can be used in homes, apartments, dorm rooms, offices, churches and classrooms.

According to the FBI, as stated on Havenshield's website, 250 active shooter



Havenshield Door Barricades are part the new reality of home safety.

HAVENSHIELD

incidents have been reported between 2000 and 2017 resulting in 2,217 casualties including 799 killed and over 1,000 wounded.

Havenshield states that their door barricades can, "reduce casualties during these events by allowing teachers to quickly and effectively fortify their classroom doors to keep their students safe."

According to their website, the door barricades hang upon a door like a wreath, and then one must slide the retainer across the bottom of the door and attach it to the barricade with the screws it comes with. Then, mount the barricade latches to the door frame with the attached lag screws.

This need for increased safety does not surprise me, however, it's devastating to see this is the world I am living in. This is the world we are all living in. Yes, will students be safer if barricades are put

in classrooms? Perhaps, but barricades shouldn't have to be there. Students shouldn't have to live like this.

I was a senior in high school when the main entrance of my building and the other schools in my town were redone. Prior to the renovation, students, faculty or visitors would have to buzz in and state who they are before being let into the building. Once allowed access, the person could walk into the building and go in any direction they so please.

After the renovation, the buzzer was still the first step. However, they've added an additional entryway in which you are seemingly trapped in by another buzzer that will unlock the next door and guide you closer to the main office.

This was my wakeup call that school safety was becoming a serious issue. I would not be surprised if

barricades were added or at the least talked about in the near future. Protection at work, churches and government buildings are needed as well.

This is the society we are all apart of, a society where barricades are being made to protect us because this is what the country and the world has come to.

My dad used to tell me he would leave middle school to go home and get lunch because that's what his school did. Now, you can no longer come and go as you wish. Instead, you have to think twice about your safety and if it comes down to it, think if you need a barricade to protect yourself.

It is an invention that is sadly needed and created in order to protect those living out their daily lives in classrooms, homes, offices and more.

@KELLYLANGEVIN2

Normal Is An Ideal, Not A Reality

BY BRUNA VILA ARTIGUES
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

"Why can't you be normal?" asked a classmate in elementary school when I refused to join her in playing with dolls. I thought nothing of it at the moment, but it always stuck with me.

Maybe it is because only-children tend to be peculiar — and I am one — or because I cannot stand dresses nor skirts or perhaps the fact that I hate peanut butter. Oh, I know: I am not normal because I did not dream about a handsome and courageous blue-eyed prince waking me up with a kiss and, of course, every little girl desires this.

Can we define normal? Can we divide things into "normal" and "not normal"? Can we judge people for not being or acting as our "normal" but as theirs?

Seriously, I am worried. It is not because of what that small girl said, but how the whole world uses and understands the word normal. The roots of this word prove that people have defined it about the same

way since the very beginning. In 1500, it was defined as "typical, common," in 1640 as "standing at a right angle," "made according to a carpenter's square," "rule, pattern," and in 1828 as "conforming to common standards, usual."

Years have passed and no one is still aware of how wrong we are, of how much it affects someone personally and of how much it divides the community. We continue to relate the word normal to usual, habitual, standard, unexceptional and popular. Basically, we have always based normal on a mere statistical nicety: what we see all the time, what we see the most.

The worst part is that, unconsciously, we associate meanings to this word.

For society, normal also means correct; in other words, being called not normal or weird is considered bad and incorrect and that panics us. We associate it with being unaccepted and disapproving, the most feared things on earth. People refuse to feel marginalized or different, so they stop being how they really are to fit in this "what-we-see-the-most" standard.

In "Helping Parents of Diagnosed, Distressed and Different Children: A Guide to Professionals" by Eric Maisal, he stated, "it can't be and must not be 'normal' to be a Christian just because 95% of your community is Christian. It can't be and must not be 'normal' to be attracted to someone of the opposite sex just because 90% of the general population is heterosexual. It can't be and must not be 'normal' to own slaves just because all the landowners in your state own slaves."

Once we have made sure we are and act like the normal club, we undervalue and criticize the weird one. And the cycle starts again.

In reality, we resist being labeled as odd because we are terrified of isolation, but we are the ones who are really causing it.

The world has hugely evolved in many fields, but we still have a closed mind in some aspects of life. It is still seen as abnormal for boys to wear dresses or for girls to be strong. People still stare when they notice same-sex couples or witness three people in love

together. It raises eyebrows when one notices for a man to wear long acrylic nails and for a woman to dye her hair pink.

Even things like not going to college are still seen as abnormal, when in actuality attending a higher education institution is not meant for everyone.

Things become odd because a majority of the population does not follow such trends but in the end, we are all humans with bodies and feelings. I guess society is still working to understand that and the "minority" will never be labeled as normal because they don't follow the popular opinion.

To quote the powerful words of Nicki Minaj, "maybe your weird is my normal. Who's to say?"

Who's to judge what is normal and what is not? So yes, people can call me weird. Weird is good. Weird means normal and normal means weird. A thing can be normal and weird at the same time; it always depends on the person. One day we need to be aware and proud of our differences, because they are actually our normalities. Normal is an ideal, but not reality.

@BRUNAVILA

'Glow's Release Party Captures Our Souls

STORY BY BRITNEY WILLIS
STAFF WRITER

Connecticut's own Khadija Lisa held a release party for her album "Glow" at Kamora's Cultural Center in Hartford.

Much like the eye-catching diamond accessories and black sequin jumpsuit she wore, Lisa commanded attention by working the crowd, earning much praise from the audience.

"Glow" is her first album and contains five songs, all of which she wrote. Beginning in December of 2018 and finishing in June 2019, the album took six months to complete. "Glow" was officially released on Aug. 19, 2019.

"I wanted to do a short album that has a message," Lisa said. "I wanted an album to have words that had a meaning."

When describing her work, the singer referred to it as "feel-good music."

The techno-vibe-house-music-style songs certainly had the audience feeling good. Spectators applauded as Lisa and her two dancers Gin Siren and Chantal Edwards

gave memorable performances.

Equally as stunning as Lisa, Siren and Edwards sported black leotards with sparkling fishnet stockings, black boots and diamond necklace pieces that made just as much of a statement as their dancing.

Siren and Edwards have been performing with Lisa since February of 2019. Siren, a long-time friend, was a member of the same dance group as Lisa in high school. Edwards came on board after the two met at an event called La Sala Femme in February of 2019.

In addition to performing her own songs, Lisa did two covers. One was Cee-Lo Green's smash hit "Crazy." Lisa's acoustic cover of "Crazy" featured another Connecticut native; singer, song-writer and guitarist Coleus. The two were introduced through Edwards. Lisa cited "Crazy" as her favorite performance of the evening.

Lisa has always had a hand in the arts, with background that stems from a childhood filled with music, writing and performing.

"My family is Muslim so I couldn't sing in the choir as a child," Lisa said. "I grew up doing musical theater. I would write songs as I listened to the songs on the radio [as a child]. It wasn't until middle school when my mom allowed me to join choir."

Filmmaker D'Anthony Ward was among one of the many people who came out to "Glow's" release party. Ward and Lisa met two years ago while he was filming "What's on This Island," a musical that she starred in. Ward allotted her a spot to perform at the premiere event of his web series "Through it All."

"I want to see her work the crowd. [I'm] here to show support and to be entertained," Ward said.

Lisa credits Hartford's own DJ Ephraim Adamz as playing a major role with the release party. Adamz coordinates many events in Hartford along with an annual event at Six Flags. He has already booked her to



Khadija Lisa, (middle) posed with her backup dancers Gin Siren and Chantal Edwards.

BRITNEY WILLIS | STAFF



Connecticut native Khadija Lisa had a release party for her new album "Glow" last Friday.

KHADIJA LISA

perform at his Pride Fest event in September of 2020.

"She's breaking barriers as a black female doing pop-electronic-house music with Afrocentric roots," Adamz said of Lisa.

Khadija Lisa is not just another amazing artist, she is embracing who she is and putting Connecticut on the map musically.



Trick or Treat At The Library



STORY BY CAROLYN MARTIN
ASSISTANT ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Halloween came a few days early to Central Connecticut with the sixth annual "Trick or Treat" event in Elihu Burritt Library.

Last Tuesday, Oct. 29, students could stop by various booths placed on the first floor and learn about different resources. There were five in total: Gale, JSTOR, ReffWorks, Scopus and Psycinfo.

If students went to every station (which would be denoted by a stamp on their card), they would be given seven raffle tickets. The prizes for the raffle included an iPad, a \$50 Barnes and Noble gift card and Starbucks gift cards.

Librarian Susan Slaga-Metivier was put in charge of the event. However, she is not the one who came up with hosting a trick or treat event in the library.

"This is actually the project and brain child of my colleague Kristen DiMato," Slag-Metivier said. "She got the idea from a library conference that she had went to and we figured it would be a great idea to promote the electronic resources that we have here at the library."

Most of Central's electronic resources come in the form of databases.

"We have over 176 databases," Slaga-Metivier said.

With that many resources, there is something for everyone, and every topic. However, not all of these resources are given the attention they deserve.

"A lot of students are not aware of all the resources we have," Slaga-Metivier said.

The first source is ReffWorks. You can use ReffWorks to keep all your sources organized. You can make and share folders in order to work on multiple papers and with multiple people at the same time. This e-resource will also generate a bibliography.

Next is Gale, a database that is good for finding primary source materials. Gale is also good to use for history papers. After finding the sources you need, you can grab the citation for it off Gale and it can send it to citation websites like Easybib or ReffWorks.

The third e-resource is called JSTOR. This resource lets students access scholarly sources and peer reviewed journals. A downside is you may not be able to find the most recent issue or article on here. However, what you do find will be in full text. JSTOR will also generate citations for you.

Scopus is next. This database is similar to JSTOR, as it shows scholarly and peer reviewed articles as well. However, this database is best for papers dealing with the topics of medicine, technology, science and engineering. Scopus also has a feature called "search alerts." This means any time there is a new article on the topic you are researching you will be emailed saying that it is available.

The final e-resource is Psycinfo. This database looks at the psychology side of various topics. The drawback is the articles that are found here may not be available in full text.

Once students were done going to the different booths they could grab some apple cider, Halloween cupcakes, cookies or mini muffins and relax.

All of these e-resources can be easily accessed from



Elihu Burritt Library hosted their annual "Trick or Treat" event on Oct. 29.

CAROLYN MARTIN | STAFF

Central's library website, which should make writing all your final papers convenient.

@CAROLYN_MARTINN

Central Recorder on Facebook

Central's First Fall Concert Went Hard In The Paint

CONTINUES FROM PAGE 1

cool colors began to dance around the stage. PUBLIC introduced the concert with a variety of their own pop/rock songs as well as some popular hits like Britney Spears' "Toxic." Lead singer and guitarist John Vaughn used the stage and the audience section for his performance, getting closer with his new fans by hopping off the stage and gracing the front row with his lyrics.

They played one of their most popular songs "Make You Mine" and closed with an emotional song "4Her," with a personal message from Vaughn; "I hear a lot of songs about using each other, and I want to sing about something better, about the good parts of a relationship."

The previously lesser-known band's exit made for a "PUBLIC" chant from the audience.

The festive indie band MAGIC GIANT was the next performer to surprise the audience. Without announcing any of their songs' titles, they brought an organic and inspired vibe that felt a little more mellow than PUBLIC. Nevertheless, they initially jolted audiences with some instrumental solos. The drums started the music, followed by a bow-splitting violin solo and an acoustic guitar solo that eased into the background.

Their introduction made quite an impression on the audiences.

"We thought the first two acts were very fun and high energy, and a lot of the songs were surprisingly catchy," a few visiting students from Stonehill College

in Massachusetts commented. "We were not let down by these new artists."

MAGIC GIANT made their way down to the middle of the auditorium to sing one of their mellower songs, "Great Divide." The audience gathered around the three band members as they brandished their very decorative instruments, holding up their flashlights and swaying back and forth with the gentle melody.

"I'm happy that these artists were introduced to us through this medium," Bryan Quickley said. "We had opportunities to connect with them that were a lot more profound than just listening to them on your phone."

Austin, Texas originated MISSIO followed MAGIC GIANT with a high-energy and highly stylized electronic/synth pop music set that electrified the audience out of their MAGIC GIANT daze. They started with "Twisted," a wild dubstep performance accompanied by a maniacal light show and a much more powerful baseline. The audience was still buzzing from the first song when the frontman/songwriter/producer of MISSIO, Matthew Brue, announced the song "I See You."

"I hope that you guys feel seen tonight, I hope you guys feel valued tonight, because I'm assuming if you go to this school or surrounding schools, you guys have amazing people in your lives right?" said Brue.

With "Middle Fingers," the audience had a fine final send-off for the band.

"With our song 'Middle Fingers,'

we are all brought together in unity by raising all of our middle fingers in the air together," Brue continued, encouraging the audience to flip him the bird.

It was then time for the main event. The anticipation for Waka Flocka Flame began with everyone rushing to the front of the audience section. Everyone began to get their cameras ready for another incredulous performance.

The DJ hyped the crowd up with snippets popular rap songs from artists like Drake and Lil Baby, and soon enough, Waka Flocka himself graced the stage with an explosive intro performance of "Grove St. Party." It immediately felt like an entirely new concert as he performed many popular songs from other artists.

Waka Flocka made sure to make his way around the entire auditorium. He came down during his second song "Wild Boy," by Machine Gun Kelly, and connected with the extremely excited fans by giving them handshakes and getting hyped with them. Out of his own songs he performed "Round of Applause" and "Hard in da Paint." He then invited the audience to all come up on the stage with him and have an opportunity to perform rabidly popular songs like "Mo Bamba" to the rest of the audience. His set went on for the same amount of time as the prior artists, yet it felt like it had most of the concert's energy.

"I came in not really knowing what to expect from the other artists, but knowing

that Waka Flocka Flame will definitely deliver. This is definitely a successful concert," Janae Gant claimed.

Although the concert was a success for many students, the auditorium wasn't sold out. In fact, half of the seats were empty. But the reason is much different than prior concerts.

"We still are in our experimental stage because this is our first time doing a fall concert. We'll see how the students react to the fall concert, if they want to see more then we'll have both a spring and fall concert," Scott Hazen, interim President of the Student Activities/Leadership Development organization revealed.

This also goes along with the notion of having a diverse lineup.

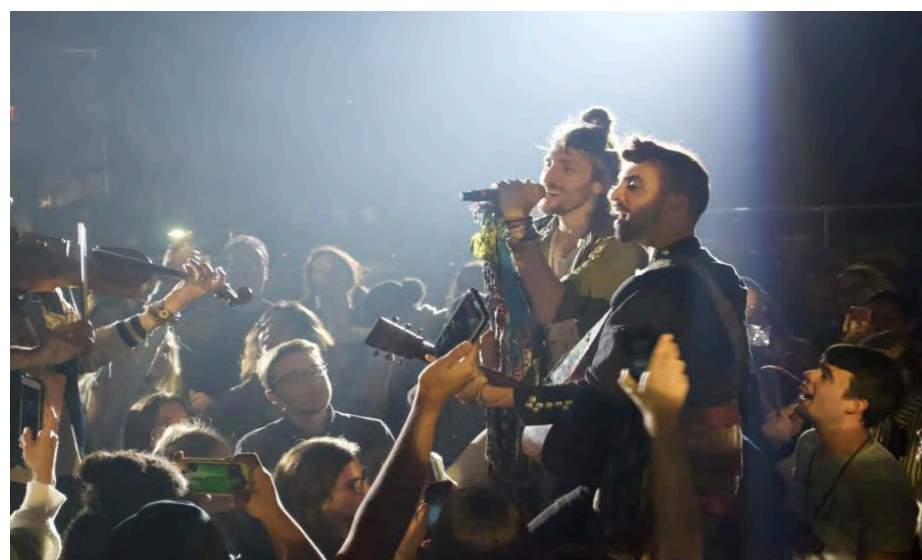
"We try to get a variety of different sounds and artists, like rap, or pop, or r&b to give the students a lot more spectrum," the SA/LD interim President said. "If they don't listen to a certain type of music, there's another artist that can accommodate their taste."

Given the positive experience that students not only from Central, but from New York and Massachusetts experienced, and the high-energy environment that was produced from three fairly unknown artists, it is safe to say that deliberation for further fall concerts will be made in a progressive light. Until then, make sure to look forward to other exciting artists at the spring concert.



Matthew Brue of MISSIO outstretched his arms as he belted the lyrics to his band's songs.

JULIA CONANT | STAFF



MAGIC GIANT made their way into the crowd to sing an acoustic song.

JULIA CONANT | STAFF

Upcoming Event: 'Toshi's Choice'



Toshiyuki Shimada will conduct the New Britain Symphony Orchestra on Sunday in Welte Auditorium.

NEW BRITAIN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

STORY BY JULIA CONANT
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

The New Britain Symphony Orchestra is inviting Central Connecticut students to help welcome their newest conductor, Toshiyuki Shimada. The orchestra has roots at Central, as it began here. As the orchestra grew older, it became more

independent of the university.

On Sunday, Nov. 10 between 3-5 p.m., Maestro Shimada will conduct his first concert with the New Britain Symphony Orchestra in Welte Auditorium. It is called "Toshi's Choice" and will feature pieces selected by Shimada himself, including Francis Scott Key's "The Star Spangled Banner," Tom Myron's "Katahdin," Pyotr Tchaikovsky's "Violin Concerto in D Major" and Anton Dvorak's "Symphony No. 8 in G Major." Guest violinist Solomiya Ivakiv will play during "Violin concerto in D Major."

Born in Japan, Shimada immigrated to the United States in his teenage years. He graduated from the University of Southern California and is a former member of the Houston Symphony Orchestra. Shimada has also directed and conducted the Portland Symphony Orchestra for 20 years.

Currently, Shimada is the music director and conductor of the Eastern Connecticut Symphony Orchestra and the Orchestra of the Southern Finger Lakes, as well as an Associate Professor of Conducting at Yale University.

Shimada was selected for this role in the New Britain Symphony Orchestra after "an extensive search with more than 70 candidates from around the world applying for the position," according to the New Britain Symphony Orchestra.

According to Jeffrey Kreeger, Central's Director of Tourism & Hospitality Studies, "The symphony is made up of professional musicians who put on a very impressive concert."

The concert comes at no charge for Central students who bring their blue chip ID, so if you are looking for a cheap and entertaining way to spend your Sunday afternoon, consider seeing "Toshi's Choice."

JULIACONANT@MY.CCSU.EDU

'Tribal Vibes' Light Up The Night



"Tribal Vibes" helped promote African diversity. PEACE UWAYA

STORY BY BRITTNEY WILLIS
STAFF WRITER

Modern-day African music boomed through the speakers as people moved to the beat, performing cultural dances in Semesters.

Tribal Vibes, an event that promoted African diversity was hosted by the African Student Organization. It made an ordinary Monday evening feel like a Friday night with all the hype it created.

Originally called "A Night in Africa," the African Student Organization has been hosting the event for a few years.

"We are proud to embrace our tribal roots, so we called it 'Tribal Vibes,'" Peace Uwaya, President of

the African Student Organization said about the name change made by the eBoard.

"Tribal Vibes" was certainly a fitting name for the occasion. There was a head wrap station where girls would wrap Kente or Ankara, African cloth, around their head or waist upon request. There was also a face painting station where tribal marks were painted on faces, a table where you could make your own waist beads, necklaces or bracelets and a cupcake station where students could design a flag.

"We usually have an African vendor for food, but not today," Uwaya said.

Nicole Glaude made her own waist beads, while Francois Kazadi made a bracelet of wooden beads inspired by a name bracelet that was made for him in his homeland of Congo.

"Waist beads are worn for cultural reasons and a way of dressing," Glaude said.

Vice President Dami Adele spoke on how "Tribal Vibes" came about as a celebration.

"It shows people the African diaspora. People think it's a country, but it's a continent," Adele said regarding Africa, which is comprised of 54 countries.

Hung around the stage were flags that represented different parts of Africa.

Larry-King Chungong spoke about Coupé-Décalé, which are dances that were frequently seen throughout

the event that originated from Western and Central Africa.

"It's an expression. It's more of people trying to compete and show that they are better than each other." Chungong has been dancing Coupé-Décalé for nine years and loves doing it.

Games were also a part of the night's activities. Trivia questions about geography, comedians, musicians, actors, culture and food got the crowd thinking. Charades that involved similar categories stirred much excitement as audience members tried to help players guess what was on their papers.

Karaoke and an unforgettable fashion show helped end the night. Contestants tied their own Kente's and did their best catwalks and poses for first place. Kwame Opoku and Nana Kittoe tied for the all-male portion, even after a dance-off to help determine first place. The crowd-stealer for the evening however was Christelle Pelei, who started out nervous and ended with confident struts, blowing multiple kisses, causing the audience to go wild with support.

"It feels good," Pelei said about her win for the all-female portion of the fashion show.

To find out more about "Tribal Vibes" or the African Student Organization in general, attend their club meetings on Mondays at 7:30 p.m. in the Student Center room 1849.



The African Student Organization hosted "Tribal Vibes" last Monday night.

PEACE UWAYA

Word Search: November 6

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

Word List

1. CONCERT
2. SHIMADA
3. LIBRARY
4. TRIBAL
5. GLOW
6. RED
7. MAYOR
8. NCAA
9. ALZHEIMER
10. DEATH
11. RAFTER
12. YOUTH
13. OUTLAW
14. DEFENSE
15. SEMIFINALS

Swimming Competes Against NEC Foes Bryant & Wagner

STORY BY GABRIEL ANTON
STAFF WRITER

After a tough loss to New Hampshire last week, the Central Connecticut Swimming and Diving team started off November with a tri-meet against Bryant and Wagner. This is the fourth year in a row that the three teams have come together for the tri-meet. Central has had a stellar season thus far with a minor fumble at New Hampshire, here they faced their toughest competition yet.

The events for the competitive strokes were broken up into two days, with diving taking place on the second day.

Although Wagner and Bryant made them struggle for high spots in each event, the Central swim team played to their strengths against the competition, placing in the top 5 in freestyle, backstroke and breaststroke.

A double-winner from the Sacred Heart meet and a 2nd and 3rd place winner from the New Hampshire meet a week prior, sophomore Erika Maercklein has been leading the charge on many of the freestyle events. Maercklein, along with sophomores Katie Czulewicz and Simona Visnski, got

on the board for the 200-yard freestyle event on the first day of competition, placing 3rd, 6th and 7th, respectively.

On the second day of competition, Maercklein kept up the pace and placed 4th in the 100-yard freestyle with sophomore Jeannette King placing 5th. King placed 3rd in the 500-yard freestyle.

The backstroke events were in similar shape, held that way with the help of Kaylin McMahon, who was also a double-winner at Sacred Heart. McMahon took the 5th place in the 100-yard backstroke event with help from Erin Brown and Kendall, who came in 7th and 8th place, respectively. Kendall had a strong outing the next day as she placed 4th in the 200-yard backstroke event with McMahon taking 5th place and Brown 6th.

The breaststroke events were anchored by senior Alex Lindgren, with help from Mariana Espino, Grace Regan and Katelyn Mann, who each scored 5th, 7th, and 8th in the 100-yard event respectively behind Lindgren's 4th place. Lindgren likewise finished 4th in the 200-yard event the next day, helped then by Regan, who came in 6th.

Wagner dominated the butterfly events, grabbing the top

six spots in the 200-yard event, with the exception of 5th, which was tied with welcome at a time of 2:14:06.

The Central diving team headlined the second day of competition. Kristen Bednarz and Reagan Kenney placed 5th and 6th with 162.5 and 127.05 points, respectively in the 1-meter diving event. Bednarz placed 3rd in the 3-meter event with 173.55 points while Kenney took 5th with 135.9.

CCSU took the top three places in each of the relay events for both days. Four sophomore swimmers Jeannette King, Czulewicz, Perrin, and Visinski placed 3rd in the 200-yard freestyle relay. King with a team of McMahon, Espino, Mann, went onto win 3rd in the 400-yard medley relay. The next day, King, Espino, Mann, and Czulewicz took 2nd in the 200-yard medley relay. Her and Czulewicz teamed up with Maercklein and Visinski to place 3rd in the 400-yard freestyle relay.

Although Central did not score in the top two in any of the non-relay events and did not win an event last weekend, they still put up a strong fight that cemented them in the ranks. The Blue Devils will be back in action on the 22nd, as they host the Blue Devil Invite.

Volleyball Extends Win Streak To Five



CCSU volleyball picked up victories against Merrimack and St. Francis Brooklyn.

JULIA JADE MORAN | STAFF

STORY BY RYAN JONES
SPORTS EDITOR

Central Connecticut volleyball continued their race towards playoff contention in the Northeast Conference, securing two more wins against Merrimack and St. Francis Brooklyn respectively.

The Blue Devils started their weekend at home, facing a Merrimack team they swept in an Oct. 4 matchup.

Merrimack was unable to get anything going against the Blue Devils. In the first two sets, CCSU held the Warriors to negative hitting percentages. Merrimack's third set wasn't much better, hitting .000 to make for a -.024 average on the day.

"We wanted to set the tone for the match tonight and wanted to play at our pace," head coach Linda Sagnelli said. "I think that's exactly what we did."

Merrimack had a better poker hand than volleyball score in the first two sets, scoring a pair of nines in the losses.

Junior Emma Henderson earned a double-double

for her efforts on the day, finishing with 10 kills and 10 digs. This is the outside hitter's 10th double-double of the season.

The entire Blue Devil squad contributed in the victory, with all 15 players getting a share of the playing time against Merrimack.

Sagnelli said she was happy to get everyone onto the floor, specifically giving a nod to the play of freshman Mackenzie Anderson. The third set was only the second time Anderson had played in a conference game, as she served on a run of six straight CCSU points.

"Her handling on the ball was great," Sagnelli said. "The first serve was a little off, so it was good that she went on a serving run. She kind of grew into that, then every serve got more and more aggressive."

After the return of Eline van Heijnin and Gala Galabova from injury, the complete team of 15 looks to be a competitive one in the NEC. While Sagnelli was quick to knock on the hardwood court at the thought of a fully healthy roster, she acknowledges the past injuries

and even accredits them to some of the team's strength's this year.

"We have players that are really starting to grow together as the season has gone on," Sagnelli said. "I think some of the tough losses have actually taught us more about ourselves than anything else."

The depth on the team leaves Sagnelli with a good problem to have: who to start?

"We have a big match tomorrow, and I can't tell you the starting lineup for it yet," Sagnelli said. "Some players are so close that it may come down to a match up or it may come down to a skill. Each player has their own skillset that they bring to the team. I always say 'collectively all those talents is what makes the team,' when we put it all together."

The Blue Devils were back on the road Saturday, taking on St. Francis Brooklyn in an environment that Henderson and Sagnelli alike acknowledged was tough to play in.

The teams traded leads in the first and sat tied late at 23. The Terriers were able to snap off a run of three by forcing consecutive CCSU errors, taking the first set.

The Blue Devils did not allow for such a comeback through the remainder of the game. SF-NY did not break 20 through the final three sets, finishing with a .140 hitting percentage.

With CCSU's two wins and a loss from LIU, the Blue Devils are now in sole possession of the fourth seed in the NEC standings. Sagnelli said the final two weeks of the regular season are "going to be a fight."

"Every outcome of every game is going to be really important," Sagnelli said. "We have to take care of business and we can't lose, but that's true for every team. We're all in the same boat and it's all gonna come down to possibly the last few games of the season."

Sagnelli and the Blue Devils are ready for the challenge, she said.

"It's going to be exciting volleyball, every single point matters."

Men's Soccer Drops Final Home Match

STORY BY ANDREW DECAPUA
STAFF WRITER

In what was the final home game of their 50th season of varsity competition, the Central Connecticut men's soccer team suffered a loss to Merrimack with a final score of 6-0 at home on senior night Friday.

The Merrimack Warriors started the scoring with a goal from Stefano Pesenti in the 11th minute. The score was assisted by Tola Showunmi on a cross pass from the left side of the field that Pesenti knocked in for the goal.

Merrimack continued the scoring in the 20th minute with an unassisted goal from outside the box by Marc Torrellas.

Merrimack's Ghidini Begliardi contributed with goals on both sides of halftime, the first coming on an unassisted goal in the 33rd minute, and his second goal of the night coming off an assist from Pesenti in the

47th minute to start the second half scoring. The Warriors added two more goals in the second half from Tola Showunmi and Kevin Esper, respectively. Showunmi's goal came off an assist from Alessandro Negri in the 77th minute, and Esper's goal was assisted by Sebastian Toro in the 87th minute.

Merrimack out-shot the Blue Devils with a total of seventeen shots on goal to two shots on goal for CCSU.

Both of the Blue Devil's shots on goal came from leading scorer Eddie Yepes, but he failed to tally a goal in the match, ending his goal scoring streak at five games.

The Blue Devils' goalkeeper Jason Dubrovich recorded nine saves in the match. CCSU struggled to get anything going as the Warriors controlled the time of possession for most of the match.

The match against Merrimack was on senior night for Central. Prior to the match the team honored seniors Yepes and John Wilkins in what was the last home game

of their careers as Blue Devils.

"I want them to understand how important it is to be given the opportunity to get a great education and put themselves in the top one percent on the planet," said head coach Shaun Green when asked about what he most wanted the seniors to take away from their time spent at CCSU.

The Blue Devils now sit with a 0-13-1 record on the season, and a 0-8 record in Northeast Conference play. Despite what the record may show, the Blue Devils have fought hard all season, and will look to get a win against Sacred Heart University in their final match of the season.

"We've got to try to get some players fit, we have a lot of injuries right now, and to keep working on our defensive shape and our defending," Green said.

The Blue Devils will be concluding their season Sunday, Nov. 10, at 1 p.m. at Sacred Heart.

Should NCAA Athletes Profit From Their Names, Image And Likeness?

CONTINUES FROM PAGE 1

experience for college athletes,” Michael V. Drake, chair of the board and president of The Ohio State University, said in an NCAA statement release. “Additional flexibility in this area can and must continue to support college sports as a part of higher education.”

This vote is believed to be a step in the right direction for the NCAA but many are still skeptical, as this ruling is nothing more than an acknowledgment that things have to change.

“It’s not the final step but it’s an important step,” Central Connecticut’s Director of Athletics Brian Barrio said. “There’s been a realization, which is a good thing, that these laws aren’t going to go away and this pressure is not going to go away.”

He believes the pressure created by the states forced the NCAA to “get ahead” of everything and put the process into their own hands.

This pressure the NCAA began to feel came in the form of a California bill that was signed by Governor Gavin Newsom that bypassed the NCAA’s rules and allowed college athletes to profit from their names, image and likeness. Other states appeared to be following that model before the NCAA stepped in with this vote.

“I think it was everything,” Barrio said. “The lawmakers in these states have no idea about all the nitty-gritty procedures at [the collegiate level] and if we let them make all the decisions, then this thing is going to blow up.”

Now, the NCAA will continue to look into the specifics of just how to pay student-athletes “in a manner consistent with the collegiate model,” according to their release. There are many who have

an opinion of what is fair and what the rules should consist of.

“I’ve been saying for a number of years that what needs to be addressed is the ability of a student-athlete to monetize their name,” Barrio said. “I’m a big fan of the NCAA’s amateurism model, so I’d very much be against any legislation that allowed schools to pay student-athletes like their employees because I truly don’t think they’re employees. But I find it unreasonable in the modern economy and society to tell these young men and women that they can’t monetize their name, image, and likeness.”

Central Connecticut football head coach Ryan McCarthy has a slightly different mindset compared to Barrio.

“I see both sides of it, I’m kind of neutral on the whole thing,” McCarthy said.

“I feel like when kids are on scholarships, and their college education is being paid for, they’re playing a game, a sport and I understand the commitment, but part of me says they’re already getting \$40-50 thousand a year or whatever it is. I don’t know if they should be getting paid to play a sport when on top of that, they’re getting their education getting paid for.”

McCarthy shared it has taken him ten years to pay off his college loans and he believes that getting an education for free is the most important thing for an athlete, at the end of the day.

“I think I’m on the other side of it but if I was an athlete I might have a different stance on it,” McCarthy said.

Central Connecticut’s starting quarterback Aaron Winchester did not hesitate with his answer on the topic, believing collegiate athletes have a right

to be paid for what they bring to the table to their respective universities.

“Absolutely,” Winchester said. “But I don’t think it should be the same [for everyone]. I think whatever you bring into [the university], that’s what you should get paid.”

Realistically, only a small percentage of collegiate players would be seen as good enough to be worth more than what they are already making via their scholarships to some of the top universities in the country but every athlete deserves the opportunity that every other student gets.

“This is just putting the athletes on the same level as everyone else,” Barrio said. “On-campus you have social media influencers, party promoters or DJs [that make money], those are all things that athletes are not allowed to do.”

“A lot of college students do not have any money, if we’re not putting any restrictions on any other student on making money, then why are we doing that to student-athletes,” Barrio said.

“Johnny Manziel [for example], in college he came up with the whole ‘Money Manziel’ thing and if he wants to make a shirt and profit off of that then he should,” Winchester said. “Regular students can do that, so why can’t athletes?”

Manziel was a former college football star who played for the Texas A&M Aggies in 2012 and 2013.

“[That] conflict exists for like one percent of the student-athletes in Division One and almost zero percent in Division Two or Three,” Barrio said.

“I’ve seen it when I was at USC (University of Southern California). There’s the top athletes of [various sports] that could be getting endorsement deals

tomorrow, or at least be getting something for free but they’re not allowed to do that because of NCAA rules.”

Understandably, Central Connecticut is different compared to one of the top collegiate universities like USC and other places he has previously worked in.

“USC is [the top] end of the spectrum and Central is probably another far end because we have very few student-athletes who can monetize their name, image and likeness but I’ve been in the middle too at Nevada or Pepperdine and we had a handful of student who could make some money doing appearances or doing endorsements,” Barrio said. “I don’t see why they should be able to do that.”

As far as how the logistics go for Barrio, he thinks that the individual market for an athlete should determine how much they can potentially get paid. He also has an alternative solution that doesn’t require athletes getting paid at all.

“The real solution should be that if you are not interested in going to college, you shouldn’t be playing college sports,” Barrio said. “But that’s really the result of the National Football League or the National Basketball Association having age limits and there isn’t much we can really do about that.”

At the end of the day, “the money finds its way into the programs, one way or another,” according to Barrio and all anyone can do is wait and see what the NCAA puts into place regarding collegiate athletes making a profit from their name, image and likeness.

The proposed timetable for their rules to take effect is no later than 2021.

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Youth Shines In Men’s Basketball Exhibition

STORY BY RYAN JONES
SPORTS EDITOR

The new-look men’s basketball team made a name for itself in their first game together, hitting poster dunks and deep threes on their way to a 40-point route of Coast Guard Academy.

Central Connecticut played in a much faster-paced offense than last season’s and rolled out a deep lineup. Nine Blue Devils played double-digit minutes, with five scoring in double figures.

“It has to do with the athleticism and also we can play a lot of guys,” head coach Donyell Marshall said on the offense. “We ended up playing nine or 10 guys that each played fifteen minutes or more. In my first three years here I don’t think we’ve ever been able to play more than six or seven guys.”

Some of the freshman Blue Devils stole the show in the second half, throwing down emphatic jams on the Coast Guard defense, much to the excitement of a packed student section.

Freshmen guards Greg Outlaw and Myles Baker led the youth movement in the game, leading CCSU in scoring with 17 and 16 points, respectively.

“We came out and we had fun,” Outlaw said. “We executed the plays we were going over and played as a team. This being our first game together, we played really well. Hopefully, we can translate this to the Hartford game.”

The returning Blue Devils made their impact in the exhibition game as well.

Karrington Wallace appears to have expanded upon a defensive prowess last season. In his 18 minutes, Wallace grabbed three offensive boards along with a pair of blocks and steals each.

Fellow returnee Jamir Coleman made the most out of his limited playtime, making as many three’s as he took on his



CCSU men’s basketball will open their season against the University of Hartford.

GEORGE ATTWOOD | STAFF

way to 12 points.

Junior transfer Stephane Ayangma cleaned the glass for the Blue Devils, collecting nine rebounds while shooting a perfect six-for-six from the field.

“I thought the offense was a lot better than when we played in our scrimmage,” Marshall said. “We shared the ball together and it made everybody believe in each other. When we had our scrimmage I think that we had a lot of selfishness and the guys kind of put their heads down. When we’re playing as a team, we’re a lot more exciting and we like playing with each other.”

Marshall believes the team’s depth will be a strength once they get into Northeast Conference play.

“I definitely think [the depth] is going to help,” Marshall said. “When you get to NEC’s there’s a lot of teams that really only play five guys, so if we can wear them down and get to other team’s benches, it’ll be really good for us.”

Marshall has emphasized the chemistry this team has, and

how that will help them on the court.

“If you look at the dunks we had and how rowdy the bench was, I don’t think we’ve had a bench that rowdy before,” Marshall said. “Even guys coming in that didn’t play a lot hit shots, one and run plays for the guys who really don’t play. In the past, we never really had that kind of excitement for the team. This team wants excitement all the way down to the 15th player.”

The Blue Devils will be starting off the regular season against Hartford, who looks to be a tougher competition than DIII Coast Guard. Going into the matchup, Marshall said the team will harp upon ball security.

“We want to stop making the small mistakes,” Marshall said. “Some of the mistakes we made as far going for steals that are leading to buckets, it might not hurt you against a team like [Coast Guard] but a team like Hartford, they’re gonna come back and hurt you.”

@RYANJONES385

#20 Football Continues To Win Behind Top-Ranked Defense In FCS

BY TREVI ALICKOLLI
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Central Connecticut football, ranked #20 in the Football Championship Subdivision, traveled to Wagner College for their sixth away game of the season and won handily thanks to the number one ranked total defense in the division.

The Blue Devils held Wagner to negative rushing yards, maintained a big-play offense that found life in the second half and secured a key special teams play.

Central rolled past their conference opponent 27-13 to move to 8-1 on the season, 4-0 in the Northeast Conference. Central is 8-1 for the first time since the 1973 season and they have done it by winning on the road. The Blue Devils' five away victories are the most in the country up to this point of the season.

The team moved up to #17 in the AFCA FCS Coaches Poll this week, the highest ranking for the Blue Devils in history.

On a day where the defense held Wagner to only 182 total yards, including -26 NET rushing yards, they secured seven total sacks, 12 tackles for loss and caught three interceptions. The defense was led by the NEC Defensive Player of the Week, senior defensive lineman Brandon Puritt, who made 2.5 total sacks on the day to go along with his four total tackles.

This was a career game for Puritt as his previous season-high in sacks was 2.5 during his redshirt freshman and sophomore campaigns. As a fifth-year senior, he has 4.5 sacks on the year with three games remaining on the schedule.

Sophomore linebacker Foday Jalloh was another standout defensive playmaker for the Blue Devils. He led the team in tackles on the day, made a tackle for loss and caught his first career interception at the collegiate level.

With the interception, Jalloh became the ninth different Blue Devil to intercept a pass this season. He is also now tied for the team lead in tackles at 50 with safety D.J. Exilhomme.

Central's starting cornerbacks also got



Central Connecticut's defense ranks first overall at the FCS level.

JULIA JADE MORAN | STAFF

in on the interception fun. Senior Tajik Bagley caught his second of the season while sophomore Dexter Lawson Jr. secured his team-leading and conference-leading fourth interception.

Central's leading sack artist, linebacker Tre Jones, secured another on Saturday to put him at 8 total for the season. He is ranked third in the NEC for sacks.

Linebackers Frederick Allen (1 - 8), Mike Mushaw (1 - 1), linemen Justin Kennedy (1 - 5) and Luquay Washington (.5 - 4) also registered sacks against their conference opponent.

Offensively, Central seemed to struggle in the first half as they went into halftime tied with the Seahawks at 13. The Blue Devils scored an offensive touchdown in the first quarter but otherwise struggled. The second touchdown of the half came via special teams.

Exilhomme blocked a punt in the second quarter and fellow safety Alonzo Mitchell scooped and scored his first collegiate touchdown. Exilhomme earned NEC Special Teams Player of the Week honors for his

effort.

"We knew that they were going to be a formidable defense," head coach Ryan McCarthy said to CCSU Athletics. "They're very talented. I thought we shot ourselves in the foot and had an opportunity in the first half to blow things open."

Quarterback Aaron Winchester opened the second half by finding freshman receiver Kyren Petteway for a 39-yard touchdown then later finding senior receiver Tyshaun James for a 35-yard score.

Winchester finished the game 13/19 passing for 213 yards, three touchdowns, and one interception. He rushed the ball seven times for -1 yards.

Petteway earned his second NEC Rookie of the Week honor and finished the game as the leading receiver for Central with four catches for 90 yards followed by James, who caught four balls for 77 yards.

Petteway is the second leading receiver on the team behind James with 210 yards, despite only registering eight catches through three games this season. He's averaging 26.3 yards per catch and is proving to be Centrals

deep threat.

Senior tight end Arthur Gilmore Jr. caught three passes for 45 yards and a touchdown.

On the ground, the Blue Devils got Aaron Dawson back from injury for the first time this season. Dawson missed the first eight games with a foot injury. He was expected to start this season after a breakout campaign a year ago.

Dawson led the team in carries and yards in his first game back, rushing 12 times for 33 yards.

"We struggled again to run the football between the tackles," McCarthy said. "What allowed us to separate was the deep passing game and making some plays."

Despite the unusually slow start to the game against Wagner, Central was able to win with a dominating defense, explosive offense and key special teams play. A total team effort.

The Blue Devils return home to face the Saint Francis University Red Flash on Saturday. SFU has a 4-5 overall record with a 2-3 conference record so far this season.

Kickoff is scheduled for 12 p.m.

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CCSU Weekly Sports Schedule

Football

- Saturday, Nov. 9, 12 p.m. vs. Saint Francis University

Women's Soccer

- Friday, Nov. 8, 1 p.m. vs. Sacred Heart (NEC Semifinals)

Men's Soccer

- Sunday, Nov. 10, 1 p.m. @ Sacred Heart

Volleyball

- Friday, Nov. 8, 7 p.m. @ Robert Morris
- Saturday, Nov. 9, 5 p.m. @ Saint Francis University

Men's Basketball

- Saturday, Nov. 9, 4 p.m. @ St. Johns (NY)

Women's Basketball

- Monday, Nov. 11, 7 p.m. @ Pittsburgh





Angie Rafter, (above) won the women's 5K at the NEC Championships.

RYAN JONES | STAFF



Men's cross country finished as runner-ups in the NEC Championships.

CCSU ATHLETICS

Cross Country Women Repeat As NEC Champs, Both Sides Bring Top Finisher

BY RYAN JONES
SPORTS EDITOR

Central Connecticut women's cross country had two things to defend Saturday; their home course and their Northeast Conference Championship. The team was able to hold strong on both, winning the NEC Championship again as Angie Rafter took home first place for the second year in a row.

"It's so special to be able to defend our title here at home," Rafter said.

The junior finished the 5K nearly 20 seconds before the next best, clocking in with a 17:28.5 first-place time. Rafter defended a first-place finish in last year's Championship, though her time this year is a personal best.

"I can't say I'm surprised with Angie's win," head coach Eric Blake said. "She's been racing well all year, but the way she hammered that lower loop was excellent."

Following behind her was senior Megan Brawner, finishing third. Brawner has been Rafter's running partner this season, something both of them credit to

their success.

"It's been really special to have such a solid training partner and such amazing younger runners on the team," Brawner said. "It's really inspirational even as the older one on the team to see the future talent."

While Brawner praised her running mate, Rafter was quick to reflect it back. For Rafter, Brawner is the glue "holding our team together."

"I don't think anybody on this team would be where we are without Meg," Rafter said.

The younger racers on the women's side cemented what was already a successful outing, running as a pack throughout. Sophomores Ashley Dana and Kaitlyn Stevens were able to move up some spots in the final stretch of the 5K.

Entering the NEC's as reigning champions, Blake said, "the pressure was a little bit different this year than last," explaining that the team "felt as if they had to win."

The men's team likewise put together one of their best outings in the Championship. Roberto Piotta came out

of the gates hot, narrowly grabbing first-place finish with a 25:19.0 time in the men's 8K.

"Roberto's run was very impressive," Blake said. "He has an internal feel that is unmatched where he can get the best out of himself."

The rest of the team stepped it up as well, with five total Blue Devils finishing in the top 20. The men's team put together a score of 50, just seven points shy of first place Wagner College.

Freshman Elias Field finished next for the Blue Devils, placing seventh and taking home the NEC Freshman of the Year award.

Field has put together a strong freshman campaign for the Blue Devils, finishing in the top three among CCSU runners in every race. For Field, "it's all about the training," he said. "We've been training on this course really hard every day, and it helped us out a lot."

Senior Richard Grudzwick finished 13th for the Blue Devils with a personal best of his own. Despite normally placing higher in their races this year, Grudzwick was quick to credit the rest of the team's

perseverance to step it up.

"It's a little bit of disappointment that I didn't run the race I think I could have," Grudzwick said. "But it's the beauty of the sport: anything can happen. I ran a PR in this course today that I'm really pleased about. It's a real team sport, everyone counts whether you're the second guy or seventh."

The upperclassmen blazed the path for the Blue Devils' finishes, an experienced pack that used the familiarity of the course to their advantage, Blake said.

"They've all won conference titles before and they never take it for granted," Blake said. "Some very high-quality racing from them, that group will be missed."

CCSU will finish off the season with races at the NCAA Northeast Regionals and IC4A/ECAC Championships.

"We're gonna go in with the same mentality we had for NEC's," Rafter said. "Even though they're big championship races, coach Blake likes us to go in with the thought that 'we can run with the pack of runners.'"

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Women's Soccer Earns Home-Field Advantage In NEC Tournament



Women's soccer won the NEC regular season championship for the second season in a row

CCSU ATHLETICS

STORY BY GEORGE ATTWOOD
SOCIAL MEDIA EDITOR

Central Connecticut continued their impressive run to end their season, winning their seventh straight game and beating Sacred Heart 2-1 on Sunday. With the Blue Devils winning against the Pioneers, they are officially regular-season champions of the Northeast Conference.

Central earned the number one seed in playoffs and will host the NEC women's soccer Tournament for the second straight year. CCSU closed the regular season with a 10-4-4 overall record and 8-1-1 in NEC play. The Blue Devils will look to win their 10th NEC Championship and their third title in the past four years.

Central continued to start their games strong, breaking the deadlock just seven minutes into the game, thanks to the penalty kick of senior Emily Hogan, the NEC Defensive Player of the Week. Hogan earned the title as a result of three assists in two games.

Head coach Mick D'Arcy was impressed with the way his side was able to start the game.

"We started off well and got another early goal," D'Arcy said. "[The] first half was pretty much under our control, we got the second goal and looked comfortable. We probably should have got a third goal before half time. Like the first half, we started the second half strong and could have probably scored two more goals."

Freshman Giavanna Inzerillo put the Blue Devils ahead 2-0 going into the halftime break with her fourth goal of the season.

CCSU did concede after the Pioneers fought back and tallied in the 78th minute with a goal from Meadow Mancini but Central was able to grind out a result. Sophomore goalkeeper Amanda McQuillan had four saves against five shots faced for the Blue Devils.

D'Arcy admired the way his side were able to win, guaranteeing a home-field advantage.

"15 minutes left and Sacred Heart starts to throw a few

more players forward and had a few chances, scored a goal. In the last 10 minutes, we had to dig in and grind out a result."

D'Arcy loved the way his players fought for the team.

"They had grit in the end, Ally [O'Rourke] made a save on the goal line and there were several good blocks, players like Emily Hogan had several huge blocks throughout the game."

The Blue Devils played 18 games this year and scored a total of 39 goals, the most in the NEC, up from the 37 goals they scored last season.

D'Arcy stressed how much the team wanted to play at home in the tournament after last year's success.

"Hosting the NECs after the success we had here last year was a big thing for this team. The successful tournament last year in the sense that we won the tournament, but also the huge crowds at both the semi-finals and the final," D'Arcy said. "That was a great environment for the players to play in and they wanted to do that again and they know the only way to do that is by hosting."

The Blue Devils went through a rough patch when a lot of their players were injured. D'Arcy stressed how difficult this run of games was for the team.

"If you go back through the earlier games this season, the amount of transition we had to go through because of injuries," D'Arcy said. "We went through a period of four/five weeks where we couldn't get a settled team, we were constantly losing players during the games to injuries and it got to the stage where we only had four substitutes and fortunately a lot of players have come back. We were able to get the stability back into the side and then with stability came the good results."

Central Connecticut will host the 2019 Northeast Conference Tournament on Nov. 8 and 10. The Blue Devils will take on #4 Sacred Heart and #2 Fairleigh Dickinson will face #3 Bryant in the semifinals. @THECHUNKYGADGIE