

THE RECORDER

www.centralrecorder.org | October 23, 2019

VOLUME 120 | ISSUE 10

FOI Documents Show Professors Accused Of Sexual Misconduct Went On To Other Universities



Former Central Connecticut employees, who violated sexual misconduct policies, continue to work at higher education institutes.

CCSU

BY TOM HOPKINS
STAFF WRITER

One former Central Connecticut professor and a former athletics coach who were found to have violated the university's nondiscrimination and sexual misconduct policies have gone on to find employment elsewhere in their fields. In one of these cases, and two additional cases where criminal charges were pressed, CCSU allowed these men to resign from their positions, instead of properly terminating them.

In a June 2017 report, recently released by the university via FOI request, a female student alleged that adjunct professor Mohamed Ghonaim had sexually harassed her on multiple occasions. According to the complaint, Ghonaim repeatedly

made comments about her appearance, calling her beautiful and saying that she resembled his ex-girlfriend. After arriving to class late one day and missing a quiz, Ghonaim instructed the student to stay after class. While alone Ghonaim sat next to her and commented on her resemblance to his ex-girlfriend whom was once a student of his and "indicated he would give her special treatment and allow her to make up the quiz," the report said.

Upon completion of the quiz, Ghonaim asked to walk out together, the student, already fearful of him, agreed. Once they arrived at his car, Ghonaim gave her his cell phone number, hugged her and suggested he walk her to her car which was parked in a different lot (Kaiser). Once at her car he asked for a ride back to his car. During the car ride he touched

her hair, hugged her and kissed her on the cheek before leaving, according to the complaint.

In another interaction in his office, Ghonaim shared with her the details of a sexually explicit dream he had of which she was the subject. "I dreamt you came to ask me a question after class and things get very heated," Ghonaim said according to the complaint. "We went to the back room and I give it to you from behind. It was so real that I woke up from it, like a wet dream."

According to the complaint, Ghonaim also manufactured ways to get himself alone with the student. He graded her notebook from a group project last, assuring they would be alone in the classroom together, then offering to walk her to the Kaiser parking lot where he

began parking, which was further away from the building he worked in than Vance lot he usually parked in. Upon arriving at his car, he asked her to get in and talk, she declined, but he pressured her. Once inside, he commented on her looks and how much he loved her body, he touched her hair and began creeping his hand to her back, then further down her back near her butt.

Despite her uncomfortable body language Ghonaim continued until she said she had to leave, at which point he insisted she eat candy and drink water that was in his car to show that she trusted him. She declined. Ghonaim then told her how much he wanted to touch her and that "he has the 'sex drive of a teenager' because he has 'high testosterone,'"

CONTINUES ON PAGE 2

Center For Africana Studies: The Drumbeat Of Central

BY BRUNA VILA ARTIGUES
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

The Center Africana Studies at Central Connecticut welcomed a newly refurbished space during a ribbon cutting on campus, in which members of the community were invited to join.

"We stand here in recognition of the need for spaces that provide a safe harbor and challenge in time for everyone who enters," Dr. Evelyn Phillips, Director of the Center of Africana Studies said. She explained that their mission is to engage and educate the community about Africa and its people and retain graduate students.

The ribbon cutting was followed by the calling of ancestors along with a participatory drumming led by Lance Kamau James and four different blessings – a libation ceremony, a Christian, a Bahá'í,



President Zulma Toro and Dr. Evelyn Phillips cutting the ribbon.

BRUNA VILA ARTIGUES | STAFF

and an Islamic.

The center is a connection to the past of CCSU; in the late 1960s, students of African descent protested for the life of black students, faculty and black studies. They join others in part

of a nation-wide effort to bring diversity to American campuses.

"We want the university to embrace all humanity and understand in the contribution that we educate everyone to their fullest potential," Dr. Phillips

said.

The center represents the vision of those who came before and a recognition to the ones that have made it possible. Some of which including Ebenezer

CONTINUES ON PAGE 3

CENTRAL GETS SPORTY WITH BINGO



Semesters was packed with students hoping to win sports-themed prizes last week at Touchdown Bingo.

SEE PAGE 7

FOOTBALL WINS BIG ON HOMECOMING



Behind an offensive output that saw the Blue Devils score 52 points, Central defeated Bryant in their Homecoming game.

SEE PAGE 12

THE RECORDER ARCHIVED

If interested in an archived PDF versions of this semester's Recorder, head to OurSchoolNewspaper.com/recorder.

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

Sarah Willson
s.willson@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

About

The Recorder is a student-produced publication of Central Connecticut State University and does not necessarily represent, in whole or in part, the views of CCSU's administrators, faculty or students. The Recorder articles, photographs and graphics are property of The Recorder and may not be reproduced or published without the written permission from the Editor-in-Chief. The purpose of The Recorder is to approach and define issues of importance to the students of Central Connecticut State University. Staff meetings for The Recorder are held on Mondays at 5:00 p.m. in the Blue and White Room in the Student Center.

Advertising

If interested in placing ads, please contact The Recorder's Ad Manager at advertising@centralrecorder.org. For more information including our rate card, please visit: www.centralrecorder.org.

FOI Documents Show Professors Accused Of Sexual Misconduct Went On To Other Universities

CONTINUES FROM PAGE 1

according to the complaint. He then put his hand on her inner thigh, when she attempted to leave he put his arms around her and asked her to stay. Ghonaim then asked to kiss her, she said no. He kissed her on the cheek anyway. She had to struggle to finally be able to leave the car.

Ghonaim confirmed parts of the student's allegation while denying others. However, the investigators found him to not be credible and, based on the evidence, found it more likely than not that he violated CCSU's Nondiscrimination and Sexual Misconduct Policies by creating a hostile learning environment based on gender and using threats, demands, or suggestions that retention of one's educational status is contingent upon toleration of or acquiescence in sexual advances.

CCSU Director of Public Relations, Janice Palmer, said in an email that Ghoniam left as the university was taking the proper steps to terminate him. Ghonaim continues to teach at the University of Hartford and the Community College of Rhode Island. Ghonaim did not respond to request for comment. Representatives from the University of Hartford were not immediately available for comment, but Ghonaim is listed in their online directory as an adjunct professor. CCRI did not respond to request for comment, but he is listed as an associate professor the school's website.

A report from April 2014 investigated another alleged violation of nondiscrimination and sexual harassment policies, involving the women's softball coach at the time, Jeffrey Franquet, that found he subjected a player or employee (identifying information was redacted) to "severe, pervasive and persistent unwelcome comments and actions of a sexual nature."

According to the complaint, Franquet asked a female employee for sex, made sexual comments to and about female athletes and employees, made inappropriate comments to

female athletes about their bodies and showed a female employee a nude picture of himself. The investigators interviewed 21 student witnesses and 12 employee witnesses, and found that Franquet made inappropriate comments about his player's bodies.

It was reported by one player that he said "If I was [in college], or if I could I would date (redacted player name) she's like the perfect girl."

Another player said that he showed her an inappropriate photo of himself, possibly naked.

Several players also reported that he made comments that he could "bounce a coin off" or "balance a cup" off their butts, told one player she had a "ghetto booty" and called some players fat.

According to the report's findings, four female employees detailed at least one occasion where Franquet talked about his sex life or made a comment about a sex act he wanted to do with them. One employee reported that Franquet once gauged her interest in having a threesome with him and his wife.

According to the report, there were also rumors that Franquet had an inappropriate, perhaps sexual relationship with one of his players, but investigators found no evidence of the claim and rumored player failed to appear for an interview. It was also reported second-hand that Franquet made a comment to one of his assistant coaches that he wanted to "stick it in any hole" of a player's body. However, investigators were unable to interview the person who allegedly told the players about the comment and therefore could not confirm it.

Franquet recently took a job coaching women's softball at Delaware State University. "I am pleased to welcome Jeff Franquet and his family to Hornet Athletics," DSU Director of Athletics Dr. D. Scott Dines said in an announcement welcoming Franquet as the head coach. "We conducted an experienced,

deep search, and Jeff rose to the surface as a great fit for DSU Softball," Dines said. Franquet did not respond immediately for comment and representatives from Delaware State University were unavailable for comment.

Palmer said in an email that Franquet was properly terminated by the university.

It is unclear if the University of Hartford, the Community College of Rhode Island or Delaware State University knew of the sexual misconduct violations of their respective employees. Palmer explained that under the CCSU teacher's union contract, CCSU cannot share employee files. "Though the AAUP Collective Bargaining Agreement prohibits the disclosure of personnel records, HR is able to share whether or not an employee was in "good standing" when they left, retired, or were terminated from the University," Palmer said in an email.

The inability to disclose personnel files has led to others who have violated CCSU's sexual misconduct policies to go on to find work in their fields.

As reported in 2010, Moises Salinas, an associate professor of psychology and CCSU's first Chief Diversity Officer, the person who handles all incidents of sexual misconduct on campus, was found by the University Counsel, Carolyn Magnon, to have made "unwelcome sexual advances" on a student. The student, Krystal Rich, alleged, according to the report, that Salinas asked her to go to lunch with him and while at lunch sat uncomfortably close to her and repeatedly touched her inappropriately. He grabbed her hand, holding it while rubbing it with his other hand and repeatedly touched her thighs.

After leaving the restaurant, Salinas made further unwelcome advances on Rich in his car. He again touched her thighs, then grabbed her arm to pull her closer to him and attempted to kiss Rich. She turn her head so his lips landed

on her cheek. Salinas pulled her closer again and even though Rich turned her head again, he managed to kiss her on the mouth and then jammed his tongue through her closed lips. Salinas tried kissing her again, but Rich successfully turned away so he only caught her cheek. He then forced his hand between her thighs and slid it up to her crotch.

In her report, Magnon recommended the matter be referred to Human Resources for further action. Charges were brought against Salinas, he pleaded no contest and received just a one year suspended sentence and a two year conditional discharge, with the conditions that Salinas resign from CCSU, not teach again and leave the country.

Salinas went back to his home country of Mexico and became the Academic Dean at Hebraica University in Mexico City. He is now the Rector (president) of ORT University Mexico, grimly ironic, as the institution focuses on social justice and leadership, according to their website. Salinas has had a book published by Random House since the incident.

In another report from 2014, adjunct English Professor Daniel Gula sexually assaulted student Shannon Cunningham. According to the report, he asked her for a hug and when she hugged him he held her tightly, grouped her, tried to kiss her and then put his tongue in her ear. When she told him to stop he continued and exposed his genitals to her. When Cunningham was leaving he asked her, "What do you expect me to do with this?" as he pointed at his penis. When she bent down to pick up her bag and leave, Gula rubbed his body against her backside.

As reported at the time, Cunningham did not initially press criminal charges against Gula. She only did so after she discovered that CCSU allowed him to resign and he was able to get a job at an all-women's college.

Clarification Statement

In the printed publication of FOIA Release Unveils Two Communication Professors Caught In Sexual Misconduct Allegations, there was a misspelling of the name Antonio García Lozada in it's first reference, it has since been corrected. Along with this, García Lozada would like to note the characterization of his statements in the investigatory report on Communication Professor Jeffrey Teitler: "This quote is a misconstruction, falsehood and misrepresentation by the former chief Diversity Officer, Rosa Rodriguez, removed from her job last spring."

@TheRecorder on Twitter

Center For Africana Studies: The Drumbeat Of Central

CONTINUES FROM PAGE 1

D. Bassett, the first African-American student that graduated from CCSU in 1853 and Carolyn Anderson, the first African-American woman to graduate in 1896, which was the same year as Plessy vs. Ferguson.

Multiple people stood up and expressed their thoughts about the center and the renovation during the ribbon-cutting ceremony.

"This is wonderful. This is astounding. This is history in the making," Dr. Felton Best, a philosophy professor, said. "We are such a great family. We applaud everyone that came and all that are going to be coming in the future, and all of the future scholars that are going to get their doctorate and make a mark for the institution and Africana studies."

With the new space, the center will be able to continue to educate, spread and develop the study and culture of African people throughout the world, as well as their social, economic and political systems. They offer and organize programs, conferences, activities and events during the year to contribute to this understanding. Their door is always open to anybody that needs a safe place.

The Africana Center emphasizes they are not just for students of the African diaspora; it is for everyone at this institution.

As President Dr. Zulma Toro said "to be a steward of our community is one of our main pillars," and



Music by Nzinga's Daughters was part of the ceremony in the new Center for Africana Studies.

BRUNA VILA ARTIGUES | STAFF

"the center gives us a perfect example of how we can accomplish that."

"The Center serves as a hub for community engagement, bringing the community to CCSU," Dr. Toro added.

The closing ceremony ended with another musical

performance by Nzinga's Daughters and drumming by Lance Kamau James.

"Don't let this be the last time you are here," Dr. Phillips said. "Remember, we want this Center to be the heartbeat and the drumbeat of Central."

@BRUNAVILA

Breast Cancer Awareness Matters

BY BRUNA VILA ARTIGUES
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Breast cancer is the second leading cause of death in women, the American Cancer Society reports. National Mammography Day, on Oct. 18, is a reminder everyone can spare a couple of minutes to make a mammography appointment that could be lifesaving in the future.

President Bill Clinton was the first one to declare National Mammography Day in 1993, which lands on the third Friday of October, known as Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Today's technology has the ability to identify breast cancer in its early stages is available and can help save a life.

"About 1 in 8 U.S. women will develop invasive breast cancer over the course of her lifetime," the American Cancer Society states. In fact, in 2019, over 268,000 "new cases of invasive breast cancer are expected to be

diagnosed in women in the U.S."

"As a woman, a medical professional and the mother of a daughter and a son, I believe that having an annual mammogram based on the recommendations of the American Cancer Society for Breast Cancer is paramount to the health and safety of all women and men," Dr. Marisol Ostrov, Interim Director of Student Health Services at Central Connecticut said.

As the American Cancer Society explains, the mammogram is a low-dose x-ray that allows radiologists to look for changes in breast tissue and detect breast cancer. There are two types of mammograms: a screening mammogram for women who do not have any problems, and a diagnostic mammogram for women who have breast symptoms.

"Most women with breast cancer have no symptoms, so regular breast cancer screening to find breast cancer

early is very important," Dr. Ostrov said.

"Breast cancer is a preventable cause of death and a simple screening can potentially help save your life," Dr. Amber Cheema, a family medicine specialist added.

American Cancer Society recommends that women of average risk for breast cancer between 40 and 44 have the option to start screening with a mammogram every year; women between 45 and 54 should get mammograms every year; 55 years old and older can either choose to continue with annual mammograms or switch to every other year.

"All women should understand what to expect when they are getting a mammogram for breast cancer screening," Dr. Ostrov explained. Some women describe it as uncomfortable while others refer to the screening as painful. Everyone has their own discomfort and pain threshold.

However, "in the end, it is a fairly quick procedure that is over in 10-15 minutes and most importantly it saves lives," Dr. Ostrov continued.

Dr. Ostrov further explains that some of the reasons why women do not get annual mammograms can be because of the lack of education on the importance of these exams, the lack of funds or insurance to pay for it, not making time to take care of themselves or simply the fear of getting breast cancer because of the exposure to radiation.

However, there are many organizations that provide free mammograms on a regular basis, as well as events in the community close by that help make it easier for women to be screened.

For further information, it is recommended one speaks to their health care provider or contact the American Cancer Society.

@BRUNAVILA

What's New, CCSU?

BY DAN FAPPIANO
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

- CCSU's Theatre Department is presenting, "Lend Me a Tenor," on Oct. 23 to Oct. 26 in the Black Box Theatre located in Maloney Hall.
- Karen Ritzenhoff of Central's Communication department will present, "The Handmaid's Tale: Teaching Dystopia, Feminism and Resistance across Disciplines and Borders," in the CCSU Barnes and Noble Bookstore on Oct. 23.
- Queer Cofee and Donuts will be Oct. 24 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the LGBT Center.
- Applications for Orientation Leaders are due Friday Oct. 25 in New Student Programs Office.



SGA Briefs

BY KRISTINA VAKHMAN
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. 16.

- Office of Student Affairs Director Scott Hazan announced that the new recreation building will open Spring 2020.
 - The following items passed in a consent agenda:
 - A motion to allocate \$1,682.41 to the South Asian Student Association.
 - A motion to allocate \$492.45 to the African Student Organization.
 - A motion to allocate \$780.00 to the Central Step & Dance Crew.
 - A motion to allocate \$100 to the Inter-Greek Council's account passed.
- A motion to allocate the SGA's External Affairs \$109.50 for food for their Voter Registration Drive passed.

News In Brief

BY SARAH WILLSON
SOCIAL MEDIA EDITOR

Over 100 Schools Below Recommendations For Measles Vaccine:

Data released Monday morning showed the school-by-school measles vaccine rate at 134 kindergarten schools in Connecticut is 34 percent below “recommendations,” according to the Department of Public Health (DPH).

The data shows kindergarteners across the state below the 95 percent “herd immunity” mark at the start of the 2018-19 school year increased by over 30 percent as compared to last year.

Religious exemptions played a large role in the increase, data showed. At some private schools, like Crossway Christian Academy in Putnam, over 40 percent of children were unvaccinated.

The DPH recommends staying up-to-date with your vaccines, as they are often the “greatest defenses against many serious illnesses.”

According to the DPH, there have been three confirmed cases of measles in the state this year.

Storms Rip Through US South:

Deadly storms ripped through Texas over the weekend leaving tens of thousands of people without homes and killing at least one person in Arkansas, NBC News reported.

The National Weather Service said that a 140 mph tornado had been confirmed in Dallas and that over 13,000 homes in Arkansas were without power.

As of Monday, the storms continued to move east towards Indiana and Wisconsin, NBC said.

US Troops Abandoning Syria Will Head To Iraq:

US Troops leaving northern Syria will relocate to western Iraq, Secretary of Defense Mark Esper said.

According to Esper, the goal of redeploying troops is to help combat the resurgence of ISIS, though Kurdish forces say they have escaped prisons in Syria.

President Donald Trump’s announcement to withdraw troops from northern Syria essentially gave the green light for a Turkish offensive against the Kurds, BBC News reported.

Trump had previously promised to bring US troops home.

@SARAHWILLSON

Connecticut Takes Further Steps In Legalizing Marijuana

BY ISABELLA CHAN
NEWS EDITOR

Governor Ned Lamont represented Connecticut during the Governor’s Regional Cannabis & Vaping Summit, in which he and number of other states worked to make a collective effort to legalizing the recreational use of marijuana by next year.

The summit’s initiative was to not to create a multi-state pact to pass a specific bill, but rather further inform state leaders and representatives on ways the legalization will impact them.

Those in attendance, along with Lamont, were New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo, who discussed the idea with Lamont on a fishing trip, Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Wolf and New Jersey Gov. Phil Murphy. Representatives from Massachusetts and Colorado joined the summit as well to share how the sale of recreational pot has benefited their regions. A representative was also there for the state of Rhode Island.

“This is a very important topic and is probably one of the most challenging issues I’ve had to address in the state of New York,” Cuomo stated. “It is complicated, it is controversial and it is consequential. And that is a very difficult and challenging combination.”

Cuomo emphasized that if action is not taken properly to legalize marijuana then more consequences could arise than any actual benefits. With the history of Colorado and Massachusetts as examples on how to properly conduct such actions, some states are feeling more inclined to move forward with such a change, including Connecticut.

Prior to the summit, Lamont



Gov. Ned Lamont of CT, (left) and Gov. Andrew Cuomo, (right) initially discussed regionally legalizing marijuana over a fishing trip.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

has been backing the “weed horse” since his campaign trail. He believes the state would be able to generate close \$150 million through the legalization of recreational marijuana and sports betting, but he emphasized the right way to initiate marijuana regulations is through a “regional coordination,” among states.

“This makes sense: sitting down, working together, working together with New Jersey, working with Pennsylvania and our other neighbors to make sure that what we do, we do it on a standardized basis, we do it on a well-regulated basis with health and safety paramount,” Lamont stated. “I think we’re much stronger when we work together and that’s what this meeting is all about.”

The governors collectively agreed that in order to conduct this new system the states would have curate core principles in which they would incorporate

in each of their individual forms of legislation. Some of which include establishing an appropriate sales tax rate, imposing limitations on number of sales licenses and a deep dive into social justice reform revolving around areas that are disproportionately impacted by cannabis usage.

Although each state does plan to implement their legislation independently, the core principles will ensure “coordination” across state lines, according to Murphy.

“You’ve got your own sovereign reality, your own unique realities in your own state, but that doesn’t mean you can’t be coordinated,” Murphy added.

Along with wanting to propose a marijuana bill by next year, Lamont is also moving towards limiting the use of related tobacco and vaping products amongst youths.

Recently, the state passed a law, this month, that raised the

age of purchasing tobacco and vaping products to 21 in order to limit younger generations from using them. This came along with an increase tax on non-refillable, sealed e-cigarette products to 10 percent of open wholesale, \$0.40/ml of e-cigarette liquid.

According to the administration, the state is estimated to lose close to \$6.3 million in annual tax revenue due to the new legislation. Lamont argues though the loss is worth it if it means bettering the health of Connecticut’s young people.

“With the rising use of e-cigarettes and vaping products among young people, we are seeing a growing public health crisis and it’s time that we addressed it,” Lamont stated. “Continuing the enforcement of outdated laws just because that’s the way it’s always been is not a good enough reason for why they should continue to reflect outdated perceptions.”

CHAN2017@MY.CCSU.EDU

New Britain Looks Towards Lowering Opioid Epidemic

STORY BY RYAN JONES
SPORTS EDITOR

As the death toll from opioid overdoses continues to rise across the country, New Britain and its Mayor Erin Stewart continue to work towards lowering it.

New Britain is fifth on the list of Connecticut municipalities with 21 deaths in the first half of this year, which puts them at pace to nearly equal last year’s total number of deaths of 43.

To combat this ongoing issue, Stewart and New Britain joined other Connecticut communities in launching the H.O.P.E Initiative (Heroin/Opioid Prevention & Education).

The purpose of the H.O.P.E Initiative is not to increase incarcerations due to drug use, but rather help those abusing them get the help they need to fight and cure their addiction.

“We know we can’t arrest our way out of the problem,” Stewart said. “So what we do is instead of arresting them, we’re giving them resources.”

There have already been a total 544 overdose deaths in Connecticut in the first half of the year, per a report from the state Office of the Medical Examiner, with 94 percent of them involving opioids.

With the H.O.P.E Initiative, the way the police handle drug addicts has changed, Stewart said.

“We give them a little card to call, and when they go to the hospital they’re given first access to a treatment bed instead of going to jail,” Stewart said. “That’s just a better outcome I think for everyone.”

The program has been a positive for the city thus far Stewart said, connecting 24 residents with addiction services in its first three months.

“I think it’s a fantastic idea that our community is taking a proactive approach to opioid abuse,” Aldermen Robert Smedley said. “It’s a huge problem from our youth down to our adults. The faster we can get this stuff out of our streets, the better for our community.”

Stewart also created the New Britain Opioid Task Force in January to help get the drug off the streets.

Stewart and the Task Force have one goal for the program: “By 2021 we want to reduce the opioid deaths in town by half,” Stewart said.

As for plans going forward in the city, Stewart’s hands are somewhat tied on the matter.

“We have to create a pipeline from the police to the hospital to the treatment centers,” Stewart said. “The problem is, there’s not enough treatment centers. Unfortunately, there’s nothing really that I can do about that except advocate to the state that they need to make more beds available.”

@RYANJONES385

EDITORIAL

*No One Wins With A
'School Lunch Tax'*

Recently, a New Jersey school district has implemented a, "school lunch tax," in which some students would be unable to attend extracurricular activities, such as homecoming and prom, if they owe money towards school lunch. According to The Hill, "students with a negative balance will be able to get a hot meal, but not a la carte items. The[n] if debt goes over \$75, high school students will be prohibited from going to school dances, including prom until the debt is fully repaid."

While the idea of losing out on prom might already may be scary enough to some, the new rule goes further than making students miss out on unforgettable moments. Students are now being labelled as the bad guy for their inability to afford a meal, which is much worse.

While the new rule continues to allow students, in this district, to enjoy a hot meal, even after they surpass their debt, the school will continue to add any charges to the already hefty tab. The fact of the matter is, an adolescent being punished for not being able to afford lunch is a disgrace to schooling every where.

High school students should be focusing on making lifelong friends and trying to get into a higher education institution, not thinking about if they can afford the debt created by receiving their next meal.

It is also important to keep in mind not every students is born with the same privileges. Often times, those growing up in disproportionately funded communities suffer from food insecurity and rely on their local schools for their daily meals of breakfast and lunch.

According to No Kid Hungry Organization, about 22 million school children count the free or reduced-price lunch they receive at school but over 3 million of those children aren't getting the breakfast they need because of the way it's served in schools.

Forcing those students to not only pay for lunch, but be given punishments for not being able to afford the cost is simply cruel. Being forced to work a part-time job in order to receive a meal at school is not a situation any student should be forced into. By adding a debt to this already, unfavorable situation, it only leaves young people suffering more.

Unfortunately for many students, this is not just an issue at the high school level nor is it occurring just in the Cherry Hill district of New Jersey.

According to CNN, 75% of all U.S. school districts report a student meal debt, similar to the system set in place within Cherry Hill public schools. Furthermore, the news source states that the average amount of student meal debt per district is \$2,5000 while some areas have reached as high as \$856,000.

School districts scattered across the country should not be making paying off lunch debt a priority to their students. Rather than target the money their students owe, these institutions should look into how many of their students are leaving their schools hungry.

Eating food should be a right, not a privilege.

Besides, it's not like a deprived 14-year-old living in a single-parent household is going to impact the economy so much because they couldn't afford their chicken nuggets every Thursday.

Letter to The Editor - Ramon L Ramirez

Greetings,

I write in response to the statements offered by President Dr. Zulma Toro in the article related to my sons, Juan and Lui Ramirez (who were part of the CCSU soccer team), published on Dec. 5, 2018, in the university newspaper, The Recorder, by Angela Fortuna and Patrick Gustavson.

You may wonder why after so long I've decided to answer the false statements offered by Dr. Toro to the reporters of the newspaper. Well, I must confess that there were several reasons why I didn't answer the false statements at that time. The main reason is that my sons, Juan and Lui, felt that after the publication of the report on Dec. 5, 2018 several people did not view them kindly. On the other hand, they received the support of many others that expressed to them that they knew were telling the truth but did not dare come forward. The second reason is that I find it outrageous that a person with a level of education as that of Dr. Toro and the prestigious position that she holds, have to resort to lies to protect and cover up the acts of anti-ethical and corruption committed by the coaching staff composed of Shaun Green, David Kelly and Olgert Dalipi. Third reason is the high level of complicity and conspiracy that exists in the office of the president and several other officials of the university that intends to silence the acts of corruption that exist in the management of the soccer team of the university.

Now after seeing the latest events that have risen on campus where students feel defenseless by the lack of responsible action and prevention on the part of the president that acted inappropriately in protecting the students affected, I could not afford the luxury of staying silence. The moral corruption is affecting the student body at all levels regardless of whether it is female or male.

The directors of the university seem to be more concerned about negative publicity or even the demands that these issues may generate than the physical and emotional stability of the student body, and this has already become a security issue...

Many will say that I am disrespectful to the highest representation of Central Connecticut State University, but to speak truthfully is not disrespectful.

Gandhi Said :

"Many People, especially, ignorant people, want to punish you for speaking the truth, for being correct, for being you.

Never apologize for being correct or for being ahead of your time.

If you're right and you Know it, speak your mind, Even if you are a minority of one, the truth is still the truth."

So I hope that with that thought you understand this writing.

Now let's talk about the poor performance and lack of ethics shown by Dr. Toro in the investigation and reporting, which is demonstrated in this extract from her conversation with the newspaper.

"The students brought a number of issues, including discrimination of race. And remember, I share the race. They are from Puerto Rico, I am from Puerto Rico."

That sentence sounds nice "They are from Puerto Rico, I am from Puerto Rico"; but it demonstrates her lack of professional ethics, I believe that, what she should have done was to recuse from investigation for that very reason. Inclusive, Dr. Toro has been the only person who has attached the race issue to our investigation request. She did it to cover up for the person in question to such an extent that she took our complaints about corruption, fraud in the management of the soccer team and possible granting of sports scholarships to players who do not have the level of skills to be in the Division 1 team and changed everything

to an issue of race. I assure you that everything that Dr. Toro said in that article is false, I brought translators to each meeting, but she insisted on translating to Dr. Galligan herself.

Now I ask why the silence and the complicity of Mrs. Mc David and Dr. Galligan, as they were present at the meeting. They are aware of our concerns, and have been copied in all my correspondence.

I remember as if it were today the face of Mrs. Mc David when my wife, our sons and I went to the first meeting. I will never forget it, it was clear that she understood all of our issues. I also remember the silence of Dr. Galligan and I know that deep inside they know the truth and that this matter could have been resolved without damaging the sports career of these young people.

Today the University is going through many issues of cover-ups, lies, acts of violence either physical or psychological to the detriment of students, trying to deceive the public opinion by not carrying out their magisterial responsibilities.

In our case we are proud of our children who dared to denounce something that has been happening for many years in the university and that nobody had the courage to do.

The University turned its back on my sons and you will be the only ones responsible for this to continue happening indigenously . We went with the best intentions and the truth on our side, trusting that we would be dealing with honest and professionally ethical people, but to our surprise that was not the case.

Dr. Toro was not honest in her statements in this article and had not respect for the team who works at The recorder, as she changed the truth lies.

I want to express to Mrs. Mc David and Dr. Galligan that I fell embarrassed by the behavior that Dr. Toro has shown in this matter, I do not

want them to think that all Puerto Ricans are equal to her and felt that I needed to explain myself :

Puerto Ricans; we are inclusive, happy people with a big hearts. We are proud that our brothers and sisters have overcome and represent us outside of small country, that is why you will notice that when you meet a child born in the USA of Puerto Rican parents and is asked where you from, he will say from Puerto Rico, because what matters is the blood that runs through our veins, our essence and our culture.

That is why Dr. Toro is wrong to talk about races in this matter, in the environment where I grew up and where I raised my children that does exist; if you look closely at Juan and Lui you will understand. They are brothers, children of same parents, but different skin color; that's how we Puerto Ricans are. A multicolored country where there is no separation by skin colors.

That is why Juan and Lui will always treat you with respect and with a smile on their face because even knowing that you hide the truth, we raised them to be happy and above all good human beings; they will never deny you or anyone else greeting, We are Puerto Ricans , from whom we do not look at race, we look at the hearts of the people.

I just have to tell you that no matter how long it takes, the truth always beats the lie...

Every time you stumble with Juan and Lui in favor of the university, guilt will invade your minds.

"Remember to do good, without looking who"

I will continue waiting for you to do the right thing and I hope that because of the insistence on my part the truth is discovered, do not retaliate against Juan and Lui Ramirez,

Sincerely,

Ramon L Ramirez

Letter to Editor - Antonio García Lozada

Ms. Chan,

After reading the electronic edition of The Central Recorder, I am perplexed and upset. You quote a document where you stated as a matter of fact that I made statement that portrays Professor Jeffrey Teitler in a negative light. This quote is a misconstruction, falsehood and misrepresentation by the former chief Diversity Officer, Rosa Rodriguez, removed from her job last spring.

I am outraged that this false statement has been published by Ms. Chan, and The Recorder, without verification from my part; a key principle of journalism and sound reporting. I expect an

immediate retraction about this quote. Otherwise, I will most likely pursue all available legal remedies. What was written is both false and in bad faith. I will have been more than glad to state my posture. Errors of fact are painful and affect lives.

Let's remember that professor Teitler was promoted to full professor by the recommendation of the President Dr. Zulma Toro after all of if these investigations had been concluded.

An immediate retraction is of the essence. I request publishing of this whole statement.

Antonio García L.

Central Recorder on Facebook

Pep Rally Prepares Students For Homecoming

STORY AND PHOTOS BY JULIA CONANT
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Despite heavy wind and temperatures in the low 50's, Central Connecticut students and faculty alike gathered in the quad up the hill last Friday for C.A.N. and S.G.A.'s Pep Rally.

Within minutes of the Pep Rally beginning, students flocked the table giving away free tie-dye Homecoming 2019 long-sleeves. As with most Central events handing out free shirts, the late-comers had to settle for shirts several sizes bigger than desired.

The Inter-Residence Council held a game of giant Jenga. Participating students had three chances to pull out a Jenga block with either an S (small prize), M (medium prize) or L (large prize) written on it. For those who weren't lucky enough to pull a prize

block (like the person writing this article), they were still offered consolation prizes such as lanyards and halloween candy.

There was also a face painting booth. Students could have their faces painted blue and white, displaying CCSU pride.

Central's marching band, pep squad and dance team entertained attendees of the Pep Rally with musical and dance performances.

A couple food trucks lined the blacktop, as well as food from Sodexo such as wings, pizza and mozzarella sticks. A beverage station offered water, coffee and hot chocolate.

After the Pep Rally, C.A.N. revealed that the second headlining act of their fall concert will be Teen Choice Award nominee, Jesse McCartney. Follow C.A.N. on Instagram @can_ccsu for updates on how to attend the concert on November 2.

JULIACONANT@MY.CCSU.EDU



Students could play a giant version of Jenga for the chance to win a small, medium or large prize.



Friday's Pep Rally offered food trucks, face painting, giant Jenga, prizes and more.



Justin Boutin's, (above), face gets painted blue and white to show off school spirit.



Central's pep squad danced to get students excited for the rest of Homecoming week.

C.A.N. Holds 'Paint Night: Homecoming Edition'

BY AVA PIOTROWSKI
STAFF WRITER

Canvases displaying pumpkin patches and blue skies filled Semesters last Wednesday at "Paint Night: Homecoming Edition."

This board and brush style event was put on by C.A.N. programmer, Tia Meares.

"Each programmer was in charge of putting on a fall event, and I chose to do a paint night because it was a highly requested idea by general C.A.N. members," Meares said. "The company 'FUN' helped make the event happen." Upon arrival, you were able to get a free Homecoming 2019 shirt, as well as find the best place to sit for the best view of the painting that you would be creating on your canvas. The painting that the students were recreating was a pumpkin patch scene, which contained tons of autumn colors, big orange pumpkins and a scarecrow to go with it. This painting could be the perfect way to complete your fall decor.

When first starting to paint, you could

feel the excitement in the room as the night began. Students started to file in and pick their canvases. An instructor stood on the stage and walked around as he guided students through the process to create their masterpiece. "I really enjoyed this event," Maddie Ceci, a Central student said. "I'm not the best artist, but C.A.N. made it possible to have someone guide us through the night to create this awesome fall scenery."

Painting the sky was the very first step and probably the easiest one. After painting the sky, the next thing was the dirt road and then the trees. At this point there were a handful of people who decided to make their own masterpiece out of what the group had started to paint. There were some people who painted witches, bats and many other different spooky things onto their paintings.

Overall, C.A.N.'s Paint Night produced many art pieces, each one different in its own way.

Homecoming Goes Retro

STORY AND PHOTO BY TESSA STACK
STAFF WRITER

Central Connecticut brought back the leg warmers, scrunchies and every pop culture reference from the 80's, 90's and early 2000s.

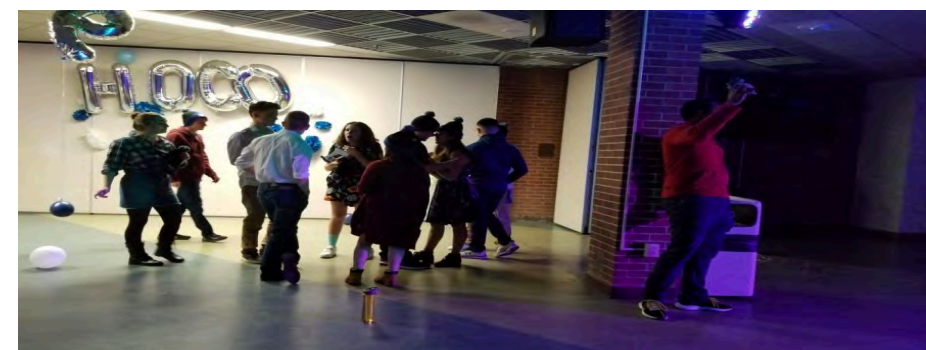
Last Friday, WFCS and Hillel hosted their Homecoming dance, "A Night Of Nostalgia." Students and their guests gathered all around Semesters in Devil's Den as the DJ played popular songs from the last four decades.

There was sour puckering pink lemonade, some chips and dip and a vanilla cake ready to be cut. A disco ball hung from the ceiling with blue and red strobe lights rotating from the DJ booth.

Using Central's colors, blue and white

balloons filled the ceiling along with a photo set-up for everyone's social media profiles right next to the entrance. Silver mylar balloons spelled out "HOCO 2019."

As for the students who attended, if they were not dancing, they were socializing and congregating by the punch bowl. Because of the 80's 90's and 00's theme of the dance, students dressed up as Eleven from Stranger Things, Cher from Clueless and Kim Possible, to name a few. Most people made some new friends, making the homecoming dance a great way to kick off the start of the 2019 homecoming weekend.



Students gathered near the "HOCO" balloons and chatted while listening to music from the 80's, 90's and 00's.

REVIEW

Welcome [Back] to Trench



Tyler Joseph performs "Car Radio."

CAROLYN MARTIN | STAFF

BY CAROLYN MARTIN
ASSISTANT ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT
EDITOR

A year after releasing their fifth studio album "Trench," Twenty One Pilots are still on the road on their Bandito Tour. This year on the fifth night of tour, they stopped by Mohegan Sun Arena. Twenty One Pilots did not come alone. MisterWives has joined them on tour as their opening act.

Upon entering the casino, it was clear who was there to see Twenty One Pilots. Attendees were decked out in yellow

bandanas, camouflage pants and Twenty One Pilots merchandise. It truly brought out the community aspect of music.

The lights went off and MisterWives took the stage. They opened with their song "the end." The crowd did not seem to be too familiar with MisterWives, but they welcomed them with open arms. The crowd really seemed to enjoy the cover of "Truth Hurts" the band performed. They ended their set with "Our Own House." The MisterWives vocalist Mandy Lee was a ball of energy for their entire set. They are definitely a group to look into. Their latest songs

"whywhywhy" and "Find My Way Home" are available now.

Finally, Twenty One Pilots came on stage. This tour was very similar to the Bandito Tour shows that happened earlier in the tour, including last year's performances. They opened the show with the song "Jumpsuit," and the crowd responded well to it.

The pyrotechnics were a fun aspect of the show. During some songs, flames would shoot up from the stage. The addition of multi-colored lasers rapidly blinking over the crowd was another visually appealing feature. It added to

the entire experience.

The crowd was very involved at this show. From screaming "wake up, you need to make money," a line from "Stressed Out," to Twenty One Pilots' vocalist Tyler Joseph telling one side of the crowd to sing part of a song, then having the other side sing another part and then having the entire arena sing it with him.

Later on, Twenty One Pilots brought MisterWives back on stage to help them perform their song "Cut My Lip." When both bands were up on stage having fun together, you could tell they enjoyed the night. Twenty One Pilots told the crowd that Mohegan Sun was the first arena they had ever performed in and they were happy they could come back and perform there again, this time as the headlining act. They said they would love to come back again another time.

The duo ended the night with their signature send-off, "We're Twenty One Pilots and so are you."

At the end of the night, all of the concert goers gathered as much yellow confetti as they could carry. Those who were in the pit walked out with streamers around their necks. It's interesting how a band can make a piece of paper mean something. Twenty One Pilots are slowly becoming a household name and they are a group you need to see live at least once in your life. Until further notice, they'll be in Trench.

@CAROLYN_MARTIN

C.A.N. Hosts Touchdown Bingo

BY SHWAR ZAIDI
STAFF WRITER

Central Activities Network (C.A.N.) has hosted a bingo night every semester that brings people to a wild, exciting environment to have some fun and possibly be lucky enough to win a prize.

On Tuesday, Oct. 15, Bingo Night was held in Semesters at Devil's Den. Many people came out to win prizes and have some fun while the whole room was packed.

Bingo games included traditional bingo, four corners, cover-all and more. Several prizes were given out, like sweatshirts, Patriots tickets, a Fitbit 3, a table tennis set, a yoga mat and water bottles. There was also food at the back of the room, which was quickly finished by the end of the event.

Central student Trinitee Williams said, "I like how they have a nice prize. The fact that we have to get different patterns makes it fair and harder to win which is good because a lot of people are here and it helps keep the flow of the game going."

In between rounds of bingo, people also played musical chairs. This involved six students voluntarily coming up on stage. Each time the music stopped, one student was eliminated. The last person on the last chair in each round won a prize.

Lots of people were yelling and screaming, hoping to win the prizes. The crowd was wild and eager to hear each number be called out. When the hosts asked if anyone was close to getting a bingo, the students in the audience were



Attendees of Touchdown Bingo reset their cards between games.

SHWAR ZAIDI | STAFF

anxious to find out how they stacked up compared to everyone else, and if it was possible for them to win bingo. Some people were so outraged anytime someone went up and won a prize hoping that they got the numbers wrong and could continue to play. The event helped people get out of their comfort zone and meet different people, as well as become competitive in a healthy and safe environment.

"I like how competitive the game was, but I just wish I won a prize," Sophomore Kyle Giglietti said.

The winner of the Patriots tickets ended up being Eric Stefano, who came

to the event wearing a Patriots sweatshirt.

"I'm so lucky," Stefano said. "I'm going to the game and I'm gonna take my mom with me. We're huge Patriots fans, we watch every game together. It's just gonna be a great time."

A couple of students believed that the event was enjoyable and great. But some students complained about how long and dragged out the game was. Central student Madelyn Corey said, "I like the variety of prizes and the multitude of different games, I just wish that we didn't have to wait between the numbers."

Nadia Santone, a program director of C.A.N. who helped host the event, was

happy with the results of the event.

"I think the Bingo game went pretty well," Santone said. "A lot of people showed up and had a great time. Our program director Mia Perez did an amazing job picking out sports-themed prizes, and rounds went well."

If you were unable to attend, this wasn't your last chance. C.A.N. puts out different events that can help you become more involved on campus. C.A.N. hosts fun activities such as concerts, games and trips. For more information, you can go to their meetings every Wednesday at 7:30 p.m., where you can help brainstorm ideas for the events.

Wind Ensemble Hosts A Night Of Remembrance



The Wind Ensemble performed to friends, family and faculty of the music department in Welte Auditorium. JULIA JADE MORAN | STAFF

BY NATALIE DEST
MANAGING EDITOR

For their fall showcase, Central Connecticut's Wind Ensemble concluded their weeks of preparation with a concert full of storytelling compositions to family, friends and faculty of the Department of Music.

Held in Welte Auditorium this past Monday, Oct. 14 at 7:30 p.m., the night consisted of a repertoire worthy of recognition, performed by the many talents that make up the Blue Devils Wind Ensemble.

Unlike concerts performed by the group in the past, this showcase was tied together by a particular theme that held special significance throughout each song performed. With the concert titled "Memoir," each composition was written in dedication to someone of importance.

Director of the Wind Ensemble, Dr. Robert Schwartz commenced the night with a piece entitled "Downey Overture," written by Oscar Navarro, a piece dedicated to the Downey Symphony Orchestra. The song's grand beginning and enthusiasm

held throughout, making the start of this concert one to remember.

"This piece is very reflective of Spanish, Americana music tied together," Schwartz said later while describing the piece. "It's a lot of fun with a lot of great moments in there, a piece of a lot of rhythm and color."

The ensemble performed just that, withholding Navarro's energy of the piece from beginning to end. Every part of the band was able to bring out each instrumental section proudly, making it an enjoyable piece when welcoming the audience.

However, it was the piece entitled "Memoir," a third movement of a brass quintet by Suite Parisienne, that truly brought the theme of the showcase to life; remembrance. Composed by student and Wind Ensemble member Gabe Leardi featuring guest trumpeter and faculty member Dan D'Addio, this piece honors the memory of Dr. David Kayser, Band Director of New Britain High School who passed in 2017.

Once a student of Kayser, Leardi mentions his past experiences with his previous instructor before performing.

"I have never seen anyone get so excited about anything, ever, when it came to music," Leardi said. "I could go on and on about all the things Dr. Kayser has done for me as his student... I was so happy to [arrange the composition] and perform it here tonight."

As for D'Addio, this piece is a moment not only to share with the audience but to share with Kayser as well.

"Any time before playing this song with Gabe standing next to me, I can feel Dave is with us" D'Addio said. "In my view, Dave was one of the finest trombone players I have ever met in my life. The only thing he was better at was teaching music, and I've learned so much from him about music and about being a teacher."

Once playing the composition, the emotion was clear from both Leardi and D'Addio, making this piece one to remember after leaving the showcase. With the accompaniment from the rest of the Wind Ensemble, the performance was done justice, receiving heavy applause once over.

Additional guest trumpeter and faculty member Larry Gareau also performed later in the night, featuring on the song "Portrait of a Trumpet," dedicated to the memory of

New Britain native Conrad Gozzo.

"I wouldn't be surprised if no one in the audience has ever heard his name before, but you all have heard his music before," Gareau said before performing. "Gozzo was your classic trumpet player, one of high talent and songs worthy of playing."

The band and Gareau brought to life Gozzo's talent and warm tone throughout the duration of this 1965 composition, seeming to gain the interest from the audience once the roars of the applause were heard.

Concluding the night, the ensemble performed a piece entitled "First Suite in E-Flat," referred to in the program as a "stirring finale that creates a thrilling experience for performer and listeners alike." The Wind Ensemble had no trouble in performing this song to its purpose, giving the concert a strong conclusion.

In only a few short months, Dr. Schwartz and the ensemble were able to create a show of musical recognition and importance. In case you missed this showcase, the Wind Ensemble will be hosting their last concert of the semester on Dec. 4 at 7:30 p.m. in Welte Auditorium.

@NAT_DEST



Student Gabe Leardi and music department faculty member Dan D'Addio perform "Memoir," dedicated to Dr. David Kayser. JULIA JADE MORAN | STAFF

Word Search: October 23

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

Word List

1. TRENCH
2. HOMECOMING
3. BINGO
4. PEP
5. PAINT
6. COMMUNICATION
7. MAMMOGRAPHY
8. AFRICANA
9. CENSORSHIP
10. INFORMATION
11. MCCARTHY
12. HENDERSON
13. YEPES
14. ALTERISIO
15. ENSEMBLE

Women's Soccer Registers Fourth Straight Clean Sheet

BY GEORGE ATTWOOD
STAFF WRITER

Central Connecticut women's soccer continued their dominance with their third and fourth straight shut-out victories against Long Island University and Merrimack College. They won 3-0 and 5-0 respectively. Mick D'Arcy is now just one win away from his 200th as head coach.

Against the Sharks, Central opened the scoring just four minutes and 40 seconds into the game thanks to senior Allyson O'Rourke, who scored her fourth goal of the season. Yo Tachibana became the 12th Blue Devil to score this season with her first goal on the year.

Former Northeast Conference rookie of the year, Roma McLaughlin continued her run of impressive performances and registered three shots on goal, one of which was an acrobatic overhead kick.

Despite the result, D'Arcy thought his team played well but was impressed with how LIU came back into the game.

"Every game is huge, you have to put points on the board," D'Arcy said. "We got an early goal and then the second but we always knew we'd need the third goal to finish the game off. I thought LIU did a great job at the start of the second half, they pressed us a little bit higher, forced us out of our rhythm. Overall, very happy, we'll take the shut out with three points."

With 14 minutes remaining, the Blue Devils were able to get their third goal. Rookie Ashley Wright struck the ball into the net after great wing play from junior Jenna Rae Covello.

As a team, they have conceded just two goals in their last six matches, exemplifying a strong defensive unit lead by vocal captain, senior Shaunev Alterisio.

"That's one of the biggest parts of my game, I've always been talking and communicating and I think that's what brings up the spirit in our team,"



Freshman Ashley Wright, (above), scored one of the Blue Devils' three goals against LIU.

JULIA JADE MORAN | STAFF

Alterisio said.

Last year Alterisio was NEC defensive player of the year, but she said that this can be attributed to how well the team played.

"The defensive player award, I gave it to my other center back and outside backs, we work together and we work our asses off all year round."

The Blue Devils came into this year having lost eight seniors, all of whom were instrumental with the team winning the NEC championship.

"We lost huge players last year, but this year we were able to fill the gaps well and since pre-season, we've been grinding," Alterisio said.

Despite hoisting an impressive 5-0-

1 record at home, Central came into the game against Merrimack with a 2-4-3 away record. D'Arcy had always stressed the importance of being able to pick up points away from Central.

"I think it came down to consistency," D'Arcy said. "Getting the shutouts at home and scoring goals and then the challenge is can you do that on the road and we did, which is the encouraging part."

The game against Merrimack was a strong team performance from the Blue Devils, with several players contributing.

"Eight different people were on the scoresheet either with goals or assists, so again the load was spread among the team," D'Arcy said. "The work rate was

very good, we shut Merrimack down, they only had one corner that was dangerous, but defensively from the forwards to the goalkeeper, we suffocated them and this is something we are looking to maintain and I know we have enough quality going forward that we can score."

Merrimack joined the Northeast Conference this year, with today's match being the first-ever meeting between the Blue Devils and Warriors.

Women's soccer plays its' final two home matches starting with Robert Morris on Friday, Oct. 25 at noon. Central will honor its' seniors in the final home game on Sunday, Oct. 27 against Saint Francis U. at noon.

Week 8 Fantasy Picks

BY THE RECORDER SPORTS STAFF

With injuries to stars like Patrick Mahomes and Keryon Johnson plaguing Fantasy GM's, some risky trades and questionable waiver wire pick-ups will soon have to be made for teams trying to get back into contention. For some ideas on who to trade for or who to keep away from, the Recorder Sports staff will give you Week 8's sure things, sleepers and busts.

Ryan Jones, Sports Editor

SURE THING: Steelers D/ST, PIT v.s MIA

While the Steelers' offense continues to have its' own woes, the other side of the ball has been a bright spot in Pittsburgh. After a bad opening performance against the undefeated Patriots in Week 1, the Steelers' defense has been lockdown as of late. They've scored in double-digits in three straight weeks and will be taking on the winless Dolphins at home in Week 8, another must-start for fantasy owners.

SLEEPER: Josh Allen, BUF QB v.s PHI

Despite "only" dropping two touchdowns on the miserable Dolphins' defense last week, Allen will be taking on another abysmal secondary in the Eagles this week. A banged-up Amari Cooper was still able to torch Philly's backfield in Week 7, something Josh Allen will be looking to replicate with John Brown on his side. Look for the Bills' QB to put together another strong performance this week.

BUST: Julio Jones, ATL WR v.s SEA

This bust ranking comes more against who will be throwing to Jones. While it's undoubted that Jones is still a top-tier receiver in the league, the Falcon's offense has been unable to get anything going against opposing defenses this year. Things look to be even worse in Week 8, as Matt Schaub gets the start with Matt Ryan going down with an injury. These words are hard to type out, but consider benching Julio Jones this week in his matchup against Seattle.

Trevi Alickolli, Assistant Sports Editor

SURE THING: Hunter Henry LAC

TE @ CHI

Henry has been on fire since returning from injury and has established himself as a reliable target for Philip Rivers. He has 197 yards and one touchdown over the last two weeks. Rivers should look at Henry's direction early in his progression due to the heavy pressure the Chicago defense will show him.

SLEEPER: A.J. Brown WR TEN vs. TB

With Ryan Tannehill in at quarterback, the Titans offense looked decent in Week 7 which means that Brown has a reliable quarterback to get him the ball against a Tampa Bay team who is typically in shootouts.

BUST: Tyreke Hill WR KC vs. GB

Patrick Mahomes was injured in Week 7 and Matt Moore is projected to be the starter in Kansas City going forward. Hill owners will more than likely start him due to his talent but should temper expectations with Moore in at quarterback. I believe the offense will take a massive step back without Mahomes and they are facing a very

good defense in Green Bay.

Andrew DeCapua, Staff Writer

SURE THING: Cooper Kupp WR LAR v.s CIN

Kupp has averaged the fourth most fantasy points among wide receivers over the last four games. The Bengals will be without their top two corners, so Kupp could be in for a big night.

SLEEPER: D.J Chark WR JAX v.s NYJ

Despite a mundane performance this past week, Chark looks to rebound against a porous Jets' secondary that ranks in the bottom half of the league against the pass.

BUST: Golden Tate WR NYG v.s DET

Tate has led the team in targets since his return from suspension, but that looks to decrease this week with the possible return of Sterling Sheppard.

CHARGERS

Ryan McCarthy Officially Named Head Coach Of CCSU Football



After leading the Blue Devils to a 6-1 record, Ryan McCarthy, (above), has officially been named the head coach of Central Connecticut football.

JULIA JADE MORAN | STAFF

BY TREVI ALICKOLLI
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

After starting the season 6-1 and getting his team ranked for the first time since 2006, Ryan McCarthy was officially announced as head coach for the Blue Devils' football program last Wednesday after serving under the interim title since February.

Brian Barrio, Central Connecticut's Director of Athletics said that the program has agreed to a multi-year deal with McCarthy that makes him the 14th head coach in school history and should keep him here for the foreseeable future.

The product on the field has definitely been there for McCarthy, and through seven games in 2019 he's proven himself to be deserving of this promotion. Central is averaging 34.4 points per game and allowing an average of only 19.7 points per game.

The one loss this season came against Football Bowl Subdivision opponent Eastern Michigan. Against said FBS opponent, Central fell short after a blocked punt returned for a touchdown with less than 20 seconds remaining, the only thing keeping the Blue Devils from an undefeated record.

"What I love about Ryan is more of what I see Monday through Friday than I do on Saturday," Barrio said. "He's recruiting the right kind of kids, he's brought stability to the program and he's an incredibly positive addition to our department."

"He was my guy from day one and he's a coach I can picture holding up the trophy at the end of the year."

According to Barrio, in addition to his support for McCarthy since the beginning, the players also wanted him to receive the job as well.

"When I first met with the team in February after Pete left, [the players] were very clear about what they wanted to

happen and while that's not the deciding factor, that weighs a lot in the decision making," Barrio said. "How much these guys respect him means a lot to me."

When Central's former head coach Pete Rossomando decided to step down and accept the offensive line coaching position for Rutgers University, it came as a surprise to many, including McCarthy.

"I didn't know in advance," McCarthy said. "But when he informed me he was leaving, he sat me down and told me, 'I'm going to recommend you for the head coaching job.'"

"I said to him 'how do you know I'm ready?' and he said 'I don't, but you'll have to work yourself into the job.'"

"It was obviously a lot at once but as things progressed I got more settled in and having a really strong staff helped tremendously."

"The staff is critical, whatever message I'm conveying, it starts from the top and it works its way down and the staff has done a great job of following the core philosophies of the program that Pete instilled."

At that time, McCarthy might not have been ready for such a drastic change but believes that, "If the opportunity presents itself, you have to make the most of it. I knew initially when I first got the job that it would be a lot at once because there were things that I never had to do, but you have to take that step in the direction."

His journey to become a head coach has spanned for nearly two decades and his wife Jennifer has seen the work ethic that led her husband to this point since 2005.

"We met back at the University of Albany in 2005 where we were working alongside each other and he was always the first one in the office and the last to leave," McCarthy said. "Now, as his wife, I can say he does the same thing. He's a relentless worker, there is no doubt he has put in the time to earn this."

McCarthy still keeps in touch with Rossomando, talking every week. McCarthy is thankful for the job his predecessor had done with the team prior to his departure.

"The program was in a really good place when I took over, I didn't have to build," McCarthy said. "[We have] a lot of returning football players that Pete recruited."

Despite his relationship with Rossomando, McCarthy has established his own style as a coach that appears to be working.

"He's been doing this for quite a while now and he's had some great mentors," Jennifer said. "I think first and foremost, he cares about [his player's] well being as people [first], students [second] and I think athletes third."

"As much as it's important to win on game day, I think he's probably most excited about the opportunity to shape young lives and hope they turn out to be successful men in life."

"I would definitely call him a players coach," junior running back Aaron Dawson said. "He's just a great guy, man. With everything that I've been through this season, he's always been in my corner. He's always there for us to make sure we're good on the field and off of it."

Dawson was projected to be the starting running back this season after a breakout sophomore season, but has been dealing with a right foot injury that has kept him out through the team's first seven games.

He admits McCarthy has been different than any other coach he has had. "I feel like I can connect to coach [McCarthy] more, I feel like we talk more and we just have a better relationship [compared to others coaches]."

"I don't think I've ever had a closer relationship with a coach," graduate transfer quarterback Aaron Winchester said.

"During my recruitment, I remember him calling me and there was just a bunch of noise coming from the back and he told me 'my bad, my three sons are acting up.'" Winchester said. "I just remember thinking 'this man is taking time out from his family to call me and that really just showed me that he cares. It's the little stuff like that, I think.'"

Earlier in the season, Winchester admitted that after Rossomando announced he was leaving the program, he was hesitant on his commitment to CCSU, but his belief in McCarthy was the deciding factor in him staying committed.

McCarthy's philosophies and game plans seem to be working for Winchester, and the relationship with his coach might be a factor behind his career-highs up to this point of the season.

Winchester has 2,050 total yards (1492 passing, 558 rushing) through seven games and a total of 13 touchdowns (nine passing, four rushing).

"When you have a guy who cares about you, both on and off the field, it's easy to go out there and run through a brick wall for him."

"[I have] a closer relationship with him because I play quarterback," Winchester said. "I see the extra work that he puts in and it's definitely a reassuring thing knowing that we have a guy who is going to work his butt off and is going to give us the best opportunity to win games."

"He just has a game plan for everything. He's always grinding," Dawson said. "I remember when we were flying to Eastern Michigan and he was always on his laptop. I don't think he sleeps. That's the definition of a grind right there."

After the nearly undefeated start to the season, players said that they expected the head coaching move for McCarthy and even have a slogan for the season.

"In Mac We Trust."

"In Mac We Trust, man," Winchester said. "We can overcome [anything] throughout the season, highs and lows. He's come through plenty of times and he'll continue to come through and we'll continue to come through for him."

"Whatever he says, whatever he does, we all know that it's going to work," Dawson said. "He's a brilliant guy, one of the smartest, if not the smartest coach I've ever had on the football field."

The news of his promotion and Central being ranked #25 in the STATS FCS National Poll for the first time since 2006 all came in the same week, but McCarthy has been sure to keep his focus.

"To me, honestly, it was just another week," McCarthy said. "There was a lot of external things going on outside and I talked to the team to maintain our focus, it's just another week."

McCarthy and his football program will look to continue the dominant year by closing out the season with five more conference games, three of them at home.

"[In the future] hopefully you're going to see a hard nose football team that controls the ball on the ground on offense and controls the other side of the football on level one," McCarthy said.

@ATREVI013

@TheRecorder on Twitter

Volleyball Splits Weekend Of Games

BY RYAN JONES
SPORTS EDITOR

Looking to bounce back after its' three-game winning streak was snapped last week, Central Connecticut volleyball was able to pick up an important Northeast Conference win Saturday to get back into the thick of things.

CCSU opened its Homecoming weekend of games against the top seed in the NEC, Robert Morris. The Colonials entered the match undefeated in conference play, holding a 6-0 record that sits them atop the NEC standings.

Taking on the daunting task of facing the NEC's Goliath, the Blue Devils looked prime to play David in the inter-conference match up.

The teams traded leads 11 times through the first set, both setting up long rallies back-and-forth. An ace from freshman Isabelle Roufs helped the Blue Devils snap off a 3-0 run to pull away with a lead. They would not relinquish the lead for the remainder of the set, forcing a .150 hitting percentage from the Colonials as they took the first 25-18. The Blue Devils are only the second team to take a set from the Colonials this season, who have won in sweeps in every other game (the other team being Sacred Heart, who likewise lost 3-1).

"We were very prepared going into this match and the execution in the first set was flawless," head coach Linda Sagnelli said. "They were able to tie together execution with competitiveness and aggressiveness that made the team attitude of 'here we come.'"

RMU was quick to answer back following its' first set loss. The Colonials opened up the second with a 7-1 run over the Blue Devils and led by as much as nine before a late push from CCSU. The Blue Devils used a 7-1 run of their own to draw within two of RMU, but an error clinched the second for Robert Morris.

As Robert Morris again began to pull away with the lead late in the third, CCSU stormed back with a four-point



Volleyball is now 4-4 in Northeast Conference play.

CCSU ATHLETICS

run. The Blue Devils were only able to draw within three, however, dropping another close 25-20 set.

The Colonials were quick to end things in the fourth. With the game tied at 10, the Colonials used an 8-1 run to gain one final lead over the Blue Devils to win the fourth 25-16. The Blue Devils had its' worst hitting percentage in the fourth, going for only .136 against RMU.

The Blue Devils had a quick turnaround following their loss to the Colonials, taking on Saint Francis University at home Saturday.

CCSU held a strong lead over the Red Flash for most of the first set, but SFU used a late push to tie things back up at 17.

As the two teams continued to go back and forth, the Blue Devils had the chance to pull away as the game sat at 22 all. Errors doomed the Blue Devils chance at redemption in the first, with two straight mistakes sealing SFU's first set win.

After allowing a .257 hitting percentage from SFU in the first, Central would not allow the same success for the rest of the game.

After taking the second, the Blue Devils easily took the third with the help of three aces from Roufs. The Blue Devils led by as much as 10 as they handily took the fourth 25-15, winning the match.

"We just need to learn how to finish the game," senior Morgan Woycik said.

"Today we lost the first set, but ended up getting big leads in second, third and fourth, and that's exactly what we needed and what we need to do moving forward."

The Blue Devils improve their conference record to 4-4 on the year, back in the middle of the pack and just a few wins outside of a playoff spot.

Senior Madelyn Kaprelyan posted her fourth straight double-double after securing 15 kills and 11 assists. Junior Emma Henderson landed her third straight with 17 kills and 11 digs.

The Blue Devils will be on the road this weekend, traveling to LIU Friday before taking on Fairleigh Dickinson Saturday.

@RYANJONES385

CCSU Weekly Sports Schedule

Football

- Saturday, Oct. 26, 12 p.m. vs. LIU
- Saturday, Oct. 26, 7 p.m. @ Fairleigh Dickinson

Women's Soccer

- Friday, Oct. 25, 12 p.m. vs. Robert Morris
- Saturday, Oct. 27, 2 p.m. vs. St. Francis University

Men's Soccer

- Friday, Oct. 25, 3:30 p.m. vs. LIU

Volleyball

- Friday, Oct. 25, 6 p.m. @ LIU

Swimming & Diving

- Saturday, Oct. 26, 12 p.m. @ New Hampshire

Swimming & Diving

- Friday, Oct. 25, CCSU Mini Meet

Men's Basketball

- Monday, Oct. 28, 7 p.m. vs. Coast Guard (Exhibition)





The Blue Devils remain undefeated in conference play at 2-0.

JULIA JADE MORAN | STAFF



Central leads in the NEC in both offense and defense.

JULIA JADE MORAN | STAFF

Football Wins Big On Homecoming

BY TREVI ALICKOLLI
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

In front of more than 5,000 Blue Devil fans, Central Connecticut football returned home for the first time in over a month, dominating Northeast Conference opponent Bryant University from start to finish, winning the game 52-14.

"It's phenomenal, it's great to come out here after we've been on the road for a long time," graduate transfer quarterback Aaron Winchester said. "It's great to show our fans what we've been doing and how we've been improving. I think we put on a pretty good show for them."

The Blue Devils did put on a show, putting up 50 plus points for the first time this season and the first time since Oct. 6 of last year against Robert Morris University.

Central, who is now ranked #23 in the STATS FCS Top-25 Poll, is 6-1 this season overall with a 2-0 NEC record.

"I thought our offense was grooving pretty well today," head coach Ryan McCarthy said. "Balanced in terms of run-pass, Aaron [Winchester] was running the football really well, we were doing a really good job up front blocking and we were getting the ball down the field, which was critical."

The Blue Devils put up 555 total yards on offense including 312 on the ground and 243 through the air.

The offense stretched the field with freshman receiver Kyren Petteway, who recorded the first two catches of his collegiate career on Saturday and scored touchdowns

both times from 34 and 41 yards away respectively.

Petteway is the first Blue Devil to have two 30 plus yard touchdowns in a game since 2011. He finished the game with two catches for 75 yards and two touchdowns on his way to being named NEC Offensive Rookie of The Week.

"We see it in practice every day so it's no surprise for us," Winchester said. "As a freshman, sometimes you have those jitters and obviously he didn't. As far as the CCSU program, you see that we have guys like Tyshaun [James] but we also have some young guys who are out there making plays."

Being able to play three-wide sets speaks to the depth and production from young guys that Central has been getting and it's critically important for more than just the passing game, McCarthy said.

"That makes us a lot more difficult to defend when you can use other guys and other guys are making plays," McCarthy said. "Sometimes you've got to widen people out to run the football, you can't line up in heavy all the time and just pound your head against the wall so the ability to run the ball out of the spread is important."

The running game was led by Winchester, who rushed the ball 10 times for 161 yards and two touchdowns. The scores came from 42 and 56 yards away.

"Our playcalling was phenomenal and our execution was phenomenal today," Winchester said.

Winchester finished the game with 389 total yards (228 passing, 161 rushing) and four total touchdowns (two throwing, two

running).

He was named Offensive Player of The Week in the NEC Conference for the third week in a row in addition to being named an Impact Performer.

Danley Exilhomme was the leading rusher in terms of attempts as he had 14 for 84 yards (6.0 avg) and one touchdown.

Exilhomme was also named an Impact Performer this week.

He now leads the team in rushing touchdowns with five.

The Blue Devils lost a little momentum in the second quarter when the Bulldogs came out offensively with new looks that Central was not prepared for heading into the game.

"In the first half, they came out with something we hadn't practiced all week," Exilhomme said. "But after we went in there, [adjusted], and we shut them down."

"They got the ball out quick, they were taking advantage of our second-level defenders," McCarthy said. "I think they were probably a little concerned about the defensive line [getting there] so they got it out quick."

To adjust to Bryant's offense, Central switched from man coverage into more of a cover two look with five defenders underneath, according to Exilhomme and McCarthy.

Defensively, the Blue Devils were led by sophomore linebacker Foday Jalloh who registered 11 tackles.

Fellow linebacker Tre Jones recorded two sacks and four total tackles, including two for loss.

The dominant performance on Saturday

is no surprise for either side of the ball, who feel that practicing against each other is definitely helping their performance against opponents week in and week out.

"From camp until now, we still can't score on them [during practice] but we come out here and we roll [against other teams]," Winchester said. "Playing against our defense every day, we feel like we're playing against the best guys that we're going to play and that gives us confidence on Saturdays."

Central is ranked as the number one total offense and defense in the NEC through seven games, averaging 454.1 yards per game while only allowing 295.1 yards per game.

In a week filled with good news, McCarthy and his players know to keep their focus.

"Honestly, it was just another week, there was a lot of external things going on outside and I talked to the team about maintaining the focus," McCarthy said.

"It's all great to be ranked Top-25 and to have the record that we have, we've earned it, but it's about keeping our focus," Winchester said. "Having coach McCarthy as our head man, we won't lose that focus."

Central returns to Arute Field for another conference game against Long Island University, kickoff is scheduled for 12 p.m.

"I think we've got a food football team. I think we need to make improvements but we're on the right track and I think they're playing with a lot of confidence, which is important," McCarthy said.

@ATREVI013

Men's Soccer Drops Match After First Half Lead



Men's soccer remains winless on the season.

CCSU ATHLETICS

STORY BY ANDREW DECAPUA
STAFF WRITER

Central Connecticut men's soccer team suffered their ninth loss in a row on Friday, dropping a 3-1 decision to Saint Francis University. The Blue Devils now sit with a 0-11-1 record on the year and a 0-6-0 record in Northeast Conference play.

CCSU were first to strike in the game, going up 1-0 in the 29 minute. The goal came off the foot of the team's leading scorer and so far lone bright spot, senior Eddie Yepes. Yepes scored the lone Blue Devil goal off of a long assist from junior Francesco Ambrosino, his first of the season. Yepes has now scored five goals over the last four games. The senior transfer leads the team in both goals and assists this season.

Saint Francis U was quick to answer with a goal of their own in the 37 minute from

Renan Fuentes assisted by Felix Tonne, who delivered a low cross pass that Fuentes tipped in for the goal.

With a 1-1 tie heading into the second half, the Blue Devils looked to keep things contentious after the break. That soon changed as the Red Flash's Lucas Rosa delivered a 52 minute goal that was assisted by Renan Fuentes. Rosa and Fuentes also connected in the 60 minute on a second goal of the game for Rosa, putting Saint Francis U up 3-1.

"We've got to replicate it in training over and over until we get it down," head coach Shaun Greene said. "I'm proud of our effort, it's been fantastic. We were up 1-0, we came out at halftime and were optimistic in the second half. This is a great group of guys and have never thrown in the towel."

SFU tallied 10 shots on the day to CCSU's three. Despite what the box score may show, the Blue Devils opened up the second half with numerous scoring chances but were unable to capitalize on them, falling just a pass short or committing a costly turnover.

The Blue Devils have struggled this season and have yet to notch their first victory, but despite the struggles the team remains motivated.

"This team has never had their head down. This team has never taken their foot off the accelerator, they've gone all out. We've said 'look we are going to finish this, and we are going all the way to the finish line.' We are going to go all with our best effort we are not easing off," said head coach Shaun Green.

With only three games remaining on the schedule for the Blue Devils, they'll look to finish off their season on a high note. They finish off the year with two straight home games against Long Island University and Merrimack, respectively, followed by a road game at Sacred Heart University to wrap up the regular season.

The Blue Devils will look to tally their first conference win of the year this weekend when they take on LIU at home on Oct. 25, at 3:30 p.m.