

# THE RECORDER

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## Blue Lips And Frozen Fingers For Immigrants



Mariano Cardoso raises his sign as Roshanay Tahir, left, and Andrea Sanchez, right, stand beside him.

KRISTINA VAKHMAN | STAFF



Protesters dressed to feel the cold in solidarity with immigrants.

KRISTINA VAKHMAN | STAFF

BY KRISTINA VAKHMAN  
NEWS EDITOR

They stood in the cold for so long that student Roshanay Tahir lost her voice. However, for Tahir, her raspy throat, "throbbing" skin and pained feet were all worth it.

"It was tough, but what immigrants go

through and face is so much harder," Tahir said after-the-fact, barely able to speak.

Signs held high and mouths sealed with duct tape, Central Connecticut's C.H.A.N.G.E.—short for Carrying Humanity As New Generations Emerge—staged its second "National Day of Action" protest last Thursday at the Student Center Circle. The display was meant to raise awareness about

immigration's reoccurring issues, especially for the undocumented.

Tahir, the CCSU club's president and a board member of its umbrella student-run non-profit organization, knows those issues too well. As Malik Naveed bin Rehman's and Zahida Altaf's niece, she experienced having her Pakistani-born family members, who were facing deportation, confined in

sanctuary in an Old Lyme church for seven months.

"[My family's situation] and others' is the reason I continue to be involved in immigration. I've seen the hardships they have undergone in the past and it wasn't until C.H.A.N.G.E. that I found a platform to be vocal about their story," she stated.

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CSCU

### Professor Gives Nazi Salute, Placed On Leave



A college professor held up a hand in an apparent Nazi salute for five to 10 minutes.

HOUSATONIC  
COMMUNITY  
COLLEGE

BY ANGELA FORTUNA  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

A Housatonic Community College professor was placed on paid administrative leave after giving an apparent Nazi salute during a recent Connecticut State Colleges and Universities (CSCU) system meeting.

Charles Meyrick, an assistant professor of business and economics, allegedly held up a Nazi salute for five to 10 minutes during the meeting led by a CSCU administrator on Nov. 2.

"The reports of a faculty member's outburst at a meeting last week, including the use of a Nazi salute, which

required campus police to respond are appalling and unacceptable," CSCU system President Mark Ojakian said in a statement.

Once campus police responded, Meyrick reportedly ceased the salute, according to the Hartford Courant.

"A number of faculty and staff who were present have reached out to me describing how they felt violated, unsafe and shocked by what they experienced," he went on. "This matter was immediately called to my attention and will be dealt with promptly and appropriately."

The meeting, held at Manchester Community College, was said to focus on the alignment of curriculum across the 12 community colleges in the state, according to the Courant.

Ojakian's "Student First" plan aims to consolidate functions in the 12 community colleges

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LOCAL

### Firing Of Sessions Sparks Protests At State Capitol

BY SARAH WILLSON  
MANAGING EDITOR

Riled-up protesters stood on the steps of the State Capitol hoping to send one message to President Donald Trump: "You are not above the law."

The hundreds of Connecticut residents who came out to rally last week on a cold Thursday evening said they were outraged after Trump fired the now former Attorney General Jeff Sessions. Matt Whitaker, a Republican from Iowa, has since taken his place.

"I am deeply concerned for the

state of our democracy, the rule of law and, most importantly, I believe that Mueller's investigation needs to continue unobstructed to its conclusion [so] the results can be presented to Congress and the American people," Bren Campbell of Naugatuck said.

Hartford was not alone in its demonstration. Dozens of cities across the country also took part in protests against Trump's new appointment, some calling it a move for the president to try and end Robert Mueller's investigation into Russian medaling in

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CCSU

### Central Commemorates Veterans In Award Ceremony

BY ISABELLA CHAN  
STAFF WRITER

Highlighting their contribution to United States' freedom, Central Connecticut honored local and student veterans

at this year's Veterans Day ceremony.

Three veterans, Corporal John E. "Jack" Truhan of the U.S. Marine Corps and CCSU students Specialist Joshua Barnett of the U.S. Army and Corporal Mike Curriel of

the U.S. Marine Corps were spotlighted at the ceremony.

Truhan was honored with the 2018 Veterans Public Service Award for Excellence, while Barnett was honored with the CCSU Student Veteran

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## THE RECORDER

Student Center  
1615 Stanley Street  
New Britain, CT 06050  
860.832.3744

editor@centralrecorder.com  
centralrecorder.org  
twitter.com/therecorder

**Editor-in-Chief**

Angela Fortuna  
afortuna@centralrecorder.org

**Managing Editor**

Sarah Willson  
swillson@centralrecorder.org

**News Editor**

Kristina Vakhman  
kvakhman@centralrecorder.org  
Kelly Langevin, Assistant  
klangevin@centralrecorder.org

**Arts & Entertainment Editor**

Natalie Dest  
ndest@centralrecorder.org  
Shaina Lapuebla  
slapuebla@centralrecorder.org

**Sports Editor**

Patrick Gustavson  
pgustavson@centralrecorder.org  
Ryan Jones, Assistant  
rjones@centralrecorder.org

**Layout Editor**

Daniel Fappiano  
dfappiano@centralrecorder.org

**Copy Editor**

Alicia Voyer  
avoyer@centralrecorder.org  
Danielle Biele  
dbiele@centralrecorder.org

**Photography Editor**

Julia Jade Moran  
jmoran@centralrecorder.org

**Social Media Editor**

Isabella Cenatiempo  
icentatiempo@centralrecorder.org

**Staff Writers**

Kyle Flynn  
Trevi Alickolli  
Isabella Chan  
Shwar Zaidi  
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Isabella Chan  
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# Desensitized But Ready For Change



Twelve people were shot dead at a bar in California last Wednesday. GETTY IMAGES

BY KELLY LANGEVIN  
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Everything came to a halt when a man opened fire at the Borderline Bar and Grill in Thousand Oaks, California last Wednesday. As news of the mass shooting circulated around Central Connecticut's campus, students were ready to ask what kind of statistic this tragedy will become.

The gunman identified as 28-year-old former Marine Ian David Long killed 12 people

and committed suicide. His body was found inside the bar when police were able to enter the building, according to CNN.

The shooter had previous run-ins with the law. In April, officers responded to a call at his home where they reported he was irate and acting irrationally, Ventura County Sheriff Geoff Dean told reporters.

Although the mass shooting may not have shocked Central students, many agree gun control laws are needed

to change the country.

"I would love to see a universal gun permit instead of having it state by state. Fewer people would be arrested for silly crimes of not being registered in a state," former SGA Senator Victor Constanza said.

Looking deeper into Connecticut, Central Senator Amanda King feels the state's gun laws are strict, but still need

improvement within the state and countrywide.

"To my understanding, Connecticut does have some of the strictest gun laws out of all states in the United States, but I do hope to see some stricter national reform. Guns and weapons should have restrictions like regularly updating registration and background checks on the owners," King said.

"We have to look at the many factors that feed into gun violence in America,

including access to weapons, especially through gun show loopholes, desensitizing violence in media systems and ideas of oppression, and lack of reform of people with history of domestic violence and hate crimes," King went on.

The shooter was in the Marine Corps and was on active duty from August 2008 to March 2013, according to Defense Department records.

He also lived with his mother, but friends had no idea what the shooter was like behind closed doors. Though friends described the shooter as a "stable man," a neighbor told CNN that his mother "lived in fear."

Another aspect of mass shootings that need to be focused on is mental health, according to Central students.

"I would love to see more legislation on mental health checks and wait times on background checks. Especially when we have Attorney General-Elect William Tong, who pushed for a bunch of progressive gun laws, I can see him suing organizations like the NRA and Trump on gun laws that put our people in danger," Constanza said.

## Blue Lips And Frozen Fingers For Immigrants

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Tahir stood in a t-shirt and without shoes for about three and a half hours until the cold got to her. She counted at least 17 others joining, with some who "saw us standing and grabbed a poster, put tape over their mouth and stood with us," she said.

Andrea Sanchez, member of C.H.A.N.G.E. and also a board member of the non-profit, stood next to Tahir. The temperature wasn't bothersome to her because of the purpose it served.

"Part of the point was to be cold," Sanchez explained. "It's good to put yourself in the shoes of the 11 million undocumented immigrants in this country that go through fear and discomfort every day. This is standing in solidarity with them."

James Angelopolous, a Student Government Association senator, sat slouched beside the protestors, hands in his hoodie's pockets and shivering, lips blue. He'd stood with them earlier, solely in his underwear, before the weather became too much to handle. Though he was still cold while fully dressed, he didn't want to leave until the end.

"I couldn't take it anymore. I'm f\*\*\*\*\* freezing. But I still wanna be out here to show support," Angelopolous said. The others still standing despite the temperature dropping, he added, was "inspiring" to him. "They're amazing. They're kicking a\*\*."

Passerbyers stopped to read the participants' signs and to take photos. One such person was Associate Professor of Psychological Science Jason Sikorski, who was very happy to see students involved in activism.

"There's a lot of things in our world and on this campus where I find myself

wondering, 'Where are the students? Why aren't they louder?' Sometimes I wish that the students would get loud and get proud and be more visible," Sikorski said.

CCSU C.H.A.N.G.E.'s National Day of Action protest began last year, organized for student Mariano Cardoso's father, who was set to be deported from New Britain back to Mexico. Cardoso participated in this and last year's protests, formerly C.H.A.N.G.E. treasurer.

"I was only out here for an hour," Cardoso said. "I can feel my hands, but I'm not sure if Roshanay can."

Eric Ramos also was part of both, his own undocumented parents having faced deportation. He hopped up

alongside Tahir and Cardoso after taking photographs of them. This year's protest, he said, went smoother.

"It was more dramatic last year. It felt like it was us versus them and that's not what was intended. But this year was received better," he stated.

Tahir hopes to make the protest a tradition as C.H.A.N.G.E.-CCSU and the non-profit continue to grow. But for now, she's pleased with the way the event went under her presidency.

"A lot of people stopped and complimented our work and you could feel it in their voice that what we did affected them," she said. "Our purpose was to raise awareness on immigration and I think our point was made clear."



C.H.A.N.G.E. President Roshanay Tahir stands with her poster during last Thursday's "National Day of Action" protest.

KRISTINA VAKHMAN | STAFF

# Blue Devils Who Protected Our Red, White And Blue



BY KELLY LANGEVIN  
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

For Central senior Nick Faniola, Veterans Day has a special meaning.

"Serving in the military meant having a purpose, serving the

country and serving the American People," he said.

Faniola served in the United States Marine Core for four years. He spent two years in Japan and two years in California.

Faniola is not the only one in his family who has served, and he was more than ready to carry the legacy.

"[Joining] was a family tradition. My father, my grandfather and my uncles were all in the military. None of them were in the Marines, and I wanted to be the first one," Faniola said.

BY SARAH WILLSON  
MANAGING EDITOR

To The Unidentified Soldier:

Though your name may not be known to the world, you will never be forgotten by your fellow Americans. Your service, your dedication and your bravery are more cherished than you will ever know.

Between two world wars and many others, you have provided your country with the ultimate sacrifice. Thank you for giving your life so we could continue living ours, even if your contribution could not be honored with your name.



BY KRISTINA VAKHMAN  
NEWS EDITOR

Student Robert Lindauer may have served his country over 20 years ago, but his appreciation for the military continues to this day.

"Being in the military is very worthwhile," Lindauer said. "It's good for the individual and the country."

Lindauer was in the military from 1972 to 1997 on both active duty and in the Reserves, having positions ranging from a computer programmer to a member of a combat unit. During the 1970's, he was stationed in Germany as the nation remained divided since World War II, with him and his fellows soldiers always thinking that the Russians would come in.

"You're always prepared to go," Lindauer recalled. "I consider myself

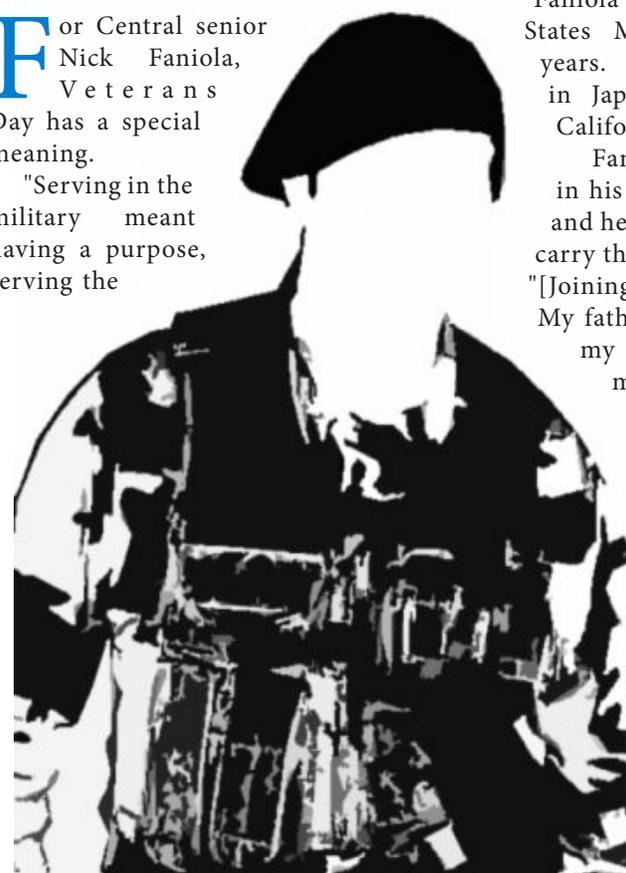
fortunate. The Army never sent me where anyone was ever shooting at me. But I really respect and admire the guys who do go."

Now a Central Connecticut student on the Senior Citizen Waiver, Lindauer takes two courses a semester to "keep [his] brain functioning."

"I'm not going for another degree. I've got a bunch of them. But there are topics that I'm interested in and I'm studying," he stated.

High school and college students, he added, could benefit from serving of the military.

"It's something that citizens need to do to defend and support the country, but it's also a very good way to mature, to learn things, to take responsibility and to lead," he said.



## Firing Of Sessions Sparks Protests At State Capitol

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the 2016 election.

Though protesters said they fear Mueller's investigation could come to a halt, the new Democratic House of Representatives gives some people, like Connecticut Senator-Elect Matt Lesser, hope.

"Two days ago, the people of this state and this country sent a loud and clear message. A message that we think Donald Trump's legislative agenda should lie dead in its tracks," he said to a crowd of over 200. "[The country] has to decide not what is in the interest of one party or another, but what the interest of this country [is]."

Lesser, above all, urged the crowd to embrace facts and come together to support what is best for the country. No matter the outcome he said, America needs to stand hand-in-hand.

Hartford Mayor Luke Bronin, a Democrat, voiced a similar message but urged those rallying to stay optimistic, emphasizing the fact that



Protesters rallied at the Capitol last Thursday with the message that nobody is above the law.

SARAH WILLSON |  
STAFF

the president's campaign manager, foreign policy adviser, his personal lawyer and others have already been indicted.

"On Tuesday, across the country and here in Connecticut, the American people sent a rousing message that we reject everything

about the Trump Administration," Bronin said. "We have two years to get ready to take our country back, to take our democracy back. This really is about the fact that no one is above the law, including the president of the United States."

Despite the fact that Democratic

politicians came together to denounce the president's pick, perhaps some of the loudest voices in the crowd were state residents.

"Our nation was founded on equality for all and therefore even the president himself should be required to follow the law," Campbell continued.

Candie Ky, a Wethersfield native, agreed and said that no matter what it takes, she wants to make sure that Trump is held accountable for his actions.

"[I want] to make sure that if there was anything to uncover, it should be given the opportunity to," Ky said. "Whether it's incriminating or not, we reserve the right to know the truth and I don't think it's fair we allow the president and the administration to try to quiet any sort of investigation."

Despite the newly flipped House of Representatives, it is still unsure as to how the Mueller probe will play out. No matter the outcome, however, protesters said that they want the necessary justice to be served.

# Traveling To New Heights On And Off Campus

BY HUMERA GUL  
STAFF WRITER

For Central Connecticut International Studies student John Duron, traveling has grown into an overall encompassing motivation, fulfilling his hunger for cultural immersion.

"Soaring through the skies from one destination to another, the excitement becomes a fruitful sound to my purpose in life," Duron said.

Duron travels to better himself, as well as to observe and to gain experience.

"[I travel to extend a] hand to those who need it [and to learn] a new traditional practice unique from my own," Duron stated.

Duron works with the CCSU Transfer and Academic Articulation Department. There, he's able to apply his own experiences as a transfer student and to help transfer students with the concerns and frustrations they may undergo throughout their academic transition as he did.

"Without the right tools or proper mentorship, I was forced to self-discover and create a transition on my own," Duron said. "Being part of the OTAA allows me to reflect on my experiences as a transfer student and provide the transfer community at CCSU with



John Duron

HUMERA GUL | STAFF

the right tools to create a seamless and easy transition."

Moreover, Duron hopes to go beyond achievement and leave behind a well-founded resource to the transfer population at CCSU.

"Demand for adequate funding and staffing for a critical and immensely resourceful office [is important].

Pushing for developing a platform for all students when redefining university politics and combating cultural oppressions on campus [is also important]," Duron said.

He is trying to magnify students' voices to bring change and implementations of fair and effective solutions.

Duron was born and raised in Danbury, Connecticut with two older siblings. Growing up, he was a curious child and wanted to do everything.

"I found myself dressing up and role-playing roles of a doctor, a police officer and as Batman fighting crimes the monster under my bed would commit," he recalled.

He is thankful for his curiosities as a child because he realizes the clear determination of helping others.

"I knew I was a helper. I wanted to help people no matter what shoes I would fill when I was an adult," he said.

Now as a graduate student, Duron believes that CCSU is an exceptional state institution. He thinks the family-welcoming atmosphere offers a safe and fruitful institution fostering successful students.

## Professor Gives Nazi Salute, Placed On Leave

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in the state. Originally, the CSCU system proposed a plan to consolidate the 12 community colleges into one which was not approved by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges. The CSCU system is still pushing for an option to limit spending and consolidate the 12 community colleges in the state.

The incident occurred a week after Ojakian sent an email to faculty and administration in the CSCU system regarding "several upsetting incidents [which] occurred on our campuses and on social media that pushed beyond the limits of civil discourse."

"I want to be clear there is a difference between our support of freedom of speech and our tolerance for behavior that is deliberately intended to trigger fear, incite violence or makes people feel uncomfortable or

violated," Ojakian said in the email.

The incident prompted an investigation and the professor is on leave pending the results, the Courant reported.

A spokesperson for the CSCU system shared that Meyrick is still on leave and there are no further updates as of Monday night.

"This does not fit with our community's culture and values, we must hold ourselves to a higher standard of civility, decency and respect," Ojakian said in the statement.

"My message is simple. We are better than this and must hold ourselves to a higher standard of civility," Ojakian said in the statement. "We will address these incidents swiftly and forcefully and I ask all of you to stand up for the culture of respect we value at CSCU."

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# Connecticut Looks To Implement 'Gender X'

BY SARAH WILLSON  
MANAGING EDITOR

After Connecticut's neighbor New York rolled out a proposal for a "Gender X" option on residents' birth certificates, some Central Connecticut leaders are now calling on their state to do the same.

Proposed over the summer, New York officials said that New York City's City Council will soon sign the legislation that would not only make it easier for resident transgender people to change their sex but would allow for people to simply not identify with a specific gender. In other words, those who check off the option "X" would consider themselves gender neutral.

"I think that's beautiful and needed," University Assistant for CCSU's LGBT Center Nichol McCarter said. "I would love to see that happen [here]."

New York City's decision to bring forth the option comes shortly after a portion of the West Coast installed the non-binary option.

For CCSU Biology Professor Sadie Marjani, new legislation has the ability to bring a world of good.

"Biologically, that's perfectly valid," Marjani said. "Sometimes things don't always match up."

According to Marjani, New York's decision to create a "Gender X" option most likely comes as a result of a person identifying as "intersex."

"Individuals that we consider

intersex have sex characteristics that don't fit specific notions of what we have for male and female," Marjani explained. "The chromosomal pattern may be male, but the person may look outwardly female."

Because of this, Marjani said that the non-binary option could be beneficial to one to two percent of the population.

McCarter also advocated for this, saying that, based off of a person's hormones at birth and their genitalia, they are often put on a scale of whether or not they should be considered male or female.

"There are some people who don't fit on that societal standard [of male or female]," she stated. "They are sometimes given surgery without consent to conform to societal standards, which is heartbreaking."

Despite the fact that Connecticut does not have the non-binary option, Governor Dannel Malloy's Press Secretary Leigh R.J. Appleby said that Malloy has been a strong and consistent advocate for the rights of transgender individuals.

According to Appleby, one of the things Malloy has accomplished in office includes signing a law making it easier for transgender individuals to receive corrected birth certificates.



Some want a 'Gender X' option in Connecticut.

GLOBAL NEWS

With this, Appleby said that Malloy also made Connecticut the fifteenth state in America to prohibit gender identity and expression discrimination regarding employment, housing and public accommodation.

"He has [also] steadfastly stood up against President [Donald] Trump's cruel and discriminatory attacks on LGBTQ people," she stated. "There is certainly more work to be done, but Connecticut has made major strides toward equality under this governor."

Though non-binary birth certificate options are coming to light around some parts of the country, so are unwanted obstacles that come along with them; for instance, the need to check off either "M" or "F" at the doctors.

"In general, things are going to more personalized with healthcare. There's personalized treatment care for that person based on what those characteristics are," Marjani said in terms of helping combat the problem. "Height or weight is biologically based, but if

the child is intersex, doctors would be looking at where the differences are."

However, when it comes to CCSU, McCarter said that the university and the LGBT center are working hard toward meeting the needs of transgender and non-binary students as much as possible.

"We have a whole binder here on transitioning [and] we have support groups as well," she said. "We're constantly working on gender-neutral bathrooms and housing."

McCarter also said that it is a simple process for students to change their name if they wish to do so.

Above the complications and ongoing process for non-binary birth certificates, McCarter and Marjani agreed that New York City is headed in the right direction, and would like to see Connecticut do the same.

As of now, there is no word for legislation in motion to allow state residents to identify as non-binary on paper.

## What's New, CCSU?

BY SARAH WILLSON  
MANAGING EDITOR

- The Central Authors Lecture Series will take place on Wednesday, Nov. 14 at 12:15 p.m. in the CCSU Bookstore.
- The Latina Identity Art Exhibit will take place in the Social Science Building at 3 p.m. on Nov. 14.
- A showing of "John Leguizamo's Latin History for Morons" will be held on Nov. 14 at 7 p.m. in the Student Centers' Camp Room.
- This week's "Devils Den @ 10 p.m." will feature the PRIDE Drag Ball.
- Mini skits and musical numbers from CCSU's "Center Stage" will take place in Semesters on Friday, Nov. 16 at 9 p.m.
- Free food and a showing of "A Nightmare Before Christmas" will take place on Nov. 16 at 8 p.m. in the Philbrick Room of the Student Center.
- The Central Marketing Association will be tailgating outside of every home football game on Arute Field on Saturday, Nov. 17, beginning at 10 a.m. Mini events and raffle giveaways will be available.
- CCSU's Contemporary Dance Company will host its annual Fall Showcase on Nov. 17 at 7 p.m. in the Welte Auditorium.
- A "Public Planetarium Show" will take place on Nov. 17 from 8 to 10 p.m. in the Nicolaus Copernicus Hall building.

# CCSU Commemorates Veterans In Award Ceremony

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Central Connecticut and state officials came together to honor veterans.

ISABELLA CHAN | STAFF

Award for Excellence and Scholarship and Curiel the Great Elm VFW 9945 Wethersfield Veterans Scholarship.

Many of those in attendance were family members and friends, some of whom happened to be veterans themselves. State officials were also present, including Senator Richard Blumenthal, Congresswoman Elizabeth Esty and others. Alongside them were CCSU President Dr. Zulma Toro and Connecticut State College and Universities President Mark Ojakian.

The ceremony began with a "posting of the colors" and singing of the national anthem by CCSU student Alexander

O'Neill.

Dr. Toro then began awarding the honorees.

"Veterans serve in several capacities all over the world, in war times and peace," Dr. Toro stated. "They make it their duty to protect and defend the values of this country. Today we recognize their achievements, reflect on their stories of sacrifice, and most important we thank them for their service."

Senator Blumenthal praised Central for its efforts to honor veterans "appropriately" and help them post-service.

"A lot of folks are shopping at malls,

taking the day off, but [Central is] marking this day in a way that's truly appropriate, by honoring three great individuals. Each one extraordinary in the contributions [they] have made while in service and then afterward. And that is what is really remarkable," Blumenthal stated.

All of the honorees play active roles in the community since their return home and have helped in many ways beyond their military service.

Truhan, a New Britain native, is a member of the New Britain Hardware City Detachment of the U.S. Marine Corps League and serves in the Honor

Guard as a rifleman for the U.S. Armed Forces.

He continues to be a longtime volunteer for the community, supporting "Roses for Marines," the Toys for Tots campaigns, and previously served as a Parks and Recreations commissioner and a board member.

Curiel extends his time in the community by being a member of the Formula Society of Automotive Engineers, the Entrepreneurship Club and Central's president of the Christian Students. He hopes to create his own manufacturing company and give back to the City of Bristol.

Barnett, CCSU student majoring in Criminology, volunteers for the American Legion while balancing a part-time job and his studies.

According to Dr. Toro, a hundred veterans enrolled in classes this academic year at the university. She thanked Central's Office of Veterans Affairs for this accomplishment, which works to help veterans transition from military life to campus culture.

John Lynch, a former Sergeant of the Marine Core, appreciated Central for bringing veterans into the classroom.

"It's more than just a personal thing, to look across a classroom and see someone who actually served is important," Lynch said.

# Lax Alcohol Policing At CCSU Tailgate

BY TOM HOPKINS  
STAFF WRITER

At every Central Connecticut football home game, the Arute Field parking lot is a microcosm of American sports culture. And at the pre-game tailgate, fans bring their food, their grills and their alcohol.

But lax policing by the CCSU Police Department the tailgate can be seen as a place for underage kids to drink with impunity.

"I mean, there's no alcohol. It's a dry campus as I'm aware, but you know, they're pretty understanding about it," sophomore Nathan Christopher said.

The understanding seems to balance on the edge of willful ignorance, as those attending the

tailgate aren't automatically required to present a photo I.D. proving they are of age to drink. Tailgaters must provide an I.D. only when requested.

"The more people you allow to drink out there have a good time. More sales, you're going to get in there. It looks better for the football team to have a big crowd," Christopher said. "If you crack down and be a hard-o, no one's gonna want to go to the games."

CCSU PD declined an interview, but provided a statement saying, "In keeping with state law, the possession and consumption of alcohol by minors is prohibited at CCSU. CCSU Police and Athletics event staff are assigned to major sporting events on campus to enforce the university's tailgating policy."

The Student Handbook, however, does not mention anything in regards

to a guideline for tailgating. It does, however, cover the campus alcohol policy, stating that the possession and use of alcohol at any athletic contest are prohibited except when approved for use in writing by the president or chief administrative officer.

The handbook also states that BYOB, or Bring Your Own Bottle, is prohibited anywhere on or off of campus. Alcohol in the residence halls is also prohibited.

Dr. Peter Trioano, the Interim Vice President of Student Affairs, declined to comment on the apparent disconnect between the university's alcohol policy and the tailgate policy.

Without strict guidelines prohibiting the consumption of alcohol at tailgates, it is unclear as to how CCSU will handle future tailgating.



Alcohol found at a CCSU tailgate.

TOM HOPKINS | STAFF

## News In Brief

BY SARAH WILLSON  
MANAGING EDITOR

### Rhode Island Toll Success Could Transfer To Connecticut:

Electronic truck toll success in the neighboring state of Rhode Island may transfer as an idea for governor-elect Ned Lamont as a plan for Connecticut to generate revenue, the Connecticut Post said.

Though only two toll gantries were put in place on a section of I-95 in the summer, Rhode Island has brought in \$1.9 million from tractor-trailers; a number much higher than expected.

Lamont, according to the Post, predicted that truck tolls could generate a \$100 million every year for road, rail and bridge repairs.

House and Senate Democrats in Connecticut have said in the past that they are open to the idea of implementing truck tolls on highways.

Though tolls could generate revenue for the state, those against the idea said that they could create congestion on the roadways.

### Statewide Fires Rip Through California:

The most destructive wildfire in California's history has killed at least 25 people and is continuing to burn throughout the state. CNN reported that the blazes have wiped out an entire town.

According to meteorologists, intense winds and low humidity could cause the fire to spread even further across the state.

A large portion of the state, CNN said, has not seen rainfall in over a month. Dry vegetation from the lack of precipitation has only fueled the fires.

As a result, 250,000 people have been forced to evacuate from their homes statewide. Two other major fires, both in the southern region, are continuing to burn as well.

President Donald Trump said the wildfires came as a result of "gross mismanagement of the forests."

All three blazes are 25 percent contained or less.

### Journalist's Murder Tape Released:

Turkey said it has shared the death tape of journalist Jamal Khashoggi with the United States, Saudi Arabia and others, BBC News reported. As of Monday, it was still unclear as to what the tape showed.

Khashoggi, who is said to have been a critic of the Saudi government, was murdered in October after walking into the Saudi Consulate in Istanbul to sort out documents for his marriage.

There is no official agreement on how the journalist died, though Turkish media has said there were audio recordings that alloted to the idea that Khashoggi was tortured before his death.

## SGA Briefs

BY KRISTINA VAKHMAN  
NEWS EDITOR

The Student Government Association meets every Wednesday at 3:05 p.m. in Bellin A and B in the Student Center. These briefs are from the SGA's meeting on Nov. 7.

- The following items passed in a consent agenda:
- A motion to allocate \$1,260 to the Entrepreneurship Club for food for events and a trip to Wall Street.
- A motion to allocate \$300 for the Lambda Theta Phi co-sponsorship with the SGA for the "Hotter by the Dozen" event series.
- A motion to allocate \$562.40 toward the Academic Affairs Committee budget for a co-sponsorship with the SGA for an advising conference.
- A motion to strike Subordinate Point d from Title 3, Section 3-1 Subsection J, Subordinate Point 7, which applies to the External Affairs Committee, in the By-Laws.

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## EDITORIAL

# We Need You To Trust Us

In a society where the public's trust of the press has become more compromised than ever, journalism is equivalent to indecency. Trying to uphold an ethical reputation is our goal, and our university is making it even harder.

In recent semesters, we have strived to deliver our students and staff groundbreaking news that directly correlates to their time at the university. Novice as we may seem to be, we hold ourselves to the high standards of accurately fact-checking before publication. And we hope others acknowledge our diligent work.

The lack of trust in our newspaper has spread as a result of our decision to publish some controversial, yet important articles about the university's alleged wrongdoings within the administration.

Recently, the Media Relations Officer at Central Connecticut has sat in on several interviews between our reporters and university officials. This leads us to believe that the university deems our newspaper as novice, unreliable and incapable of producing factual content. Though we are not intimidated by the extra ears in the room, it adds an air of entitlement from the institution.

We should be granted the same first amendment rights that journalists in the industry receive. Freedom of the press needs to be upheld, even at the university level. By doubting us, the university is imposing on our constitutional rights.

Our newspaper has grown over the past few years, but we have always done our best to adhere to journalistic standards. As a student-run college newspaper, we are often left to take the lead in determining what is newsworthy and what isn't.

All we ask for is mutual respect and understanding. Despite the occasional, but necessary, controversial articles, we respect university students, teachers and faculty. Respect encompasses both honesty and candor. We aspire to tell the truth by reporting what Central deserves to know while taking into careful consideration the accuracy of that truth.

We know that other university newspapers struggle with the same issues. Our hope is that by calling the issue to attention, the university will see that we need to work towards building a more respectful relationship.

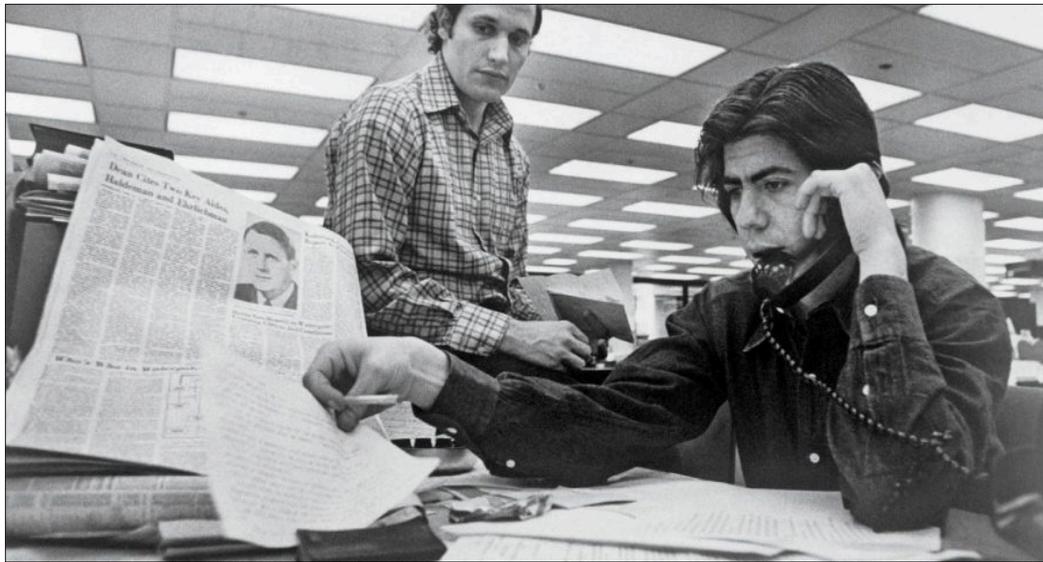
The purpose of working on a college newspaper is to utilize our journalistic technique, but in order to do that, the university needs to take a step back and let us use the skills we have learned since attending CCSU.

Journalists across the world struggle to convey information in a reputable and unbiased manner. We get that it's a problem when they don't. But to have your own university question your morals is abhorrent.

Central, you have given us the tools to be avid journalists, so let us be the reporters you trained us to be.

Why is it so difficult for us to do our job?

# Fellow Reporters, We've Gotten Too Lazy



Bring back the journalism of Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein.

CORBIS

BY KRISTINA VAKHMAN  
NEWS EDITOR

As journalists, our job is to seek the truth and report it—not to scavenge the crumbs of President Donald Trump's tweets.

But digging deeper beyond an issue's surface level is not what the majority of us are doing now. So much news comes out of the Trump Administration, providing an overwhelming amount of easy-to-grab material, that we've become too lax to still be considered professionals.

The Watergate scandal took reporters Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein months and more than one front-page story to uncover. The body of work, to this day, exemplifies quality journalism: hammering away at the dirt with your shovel until you've struck gold, even if it seemingly takes forever. Such tedious work evokes positive change, as seen with President Richard Nixon's resulting resignation.

Woodward himself noticed that modern-day journalism is too soft. A guest on "Real Time with Bill Maher" last Friday, he told the other panelists that the press "takes [Trump's] bait" too easily. Instead of

latching onto being called "the enemy of the people" and onto convenient news bites, Woodward suggested that his home paper, The Washington Post, and another outlet, like the New York Times, should collaborate and investigate vigorously to "make the case for the truth."

"That means lots of work," Woodward said during the program. "And let's face it, we've become lazy and we have to stop becoming lazy."

"We should've gotten [Trump's] tax returns. I should've gotten his tax returns. I feel guilty every day about not getting his tax returns," Woodward continued.

Closer to home, The Recorder's piece on Theater Professor Joshua Perlstein's glossed-over sexual misconduct is an example of stellar journalism. Former Managing Editor Ruth Bruno, the work's author and a Central Connecticut graduate spent six months writing it.

Laborious? Very much so, but those six months of Bruno interviewing, rewriting and fighting for documents with Freedom of Information Act requests yielded a story that led to an overhaul in the way CCSU handles sexual assault cases involving faculty. The cover-up has been replaced

with a zero-tolerance policy.

When a journalist pours their blood, sweat and tears into seeking and reporting the truth, great things can happen. Watergate exposed the corruption behind the face of the American government. The Perlstein story exposed flaws in a system meant to protect victims. Pieces like Ronan Farrow's exposé on film executive Harvey Weinstein, which took ten months to write, inflamed the change in how people perceive harassment.

It's time to stop clinging to everything put out by the Trump Administration. We, as journalists, need to pick our battles and filter out what's

important among the muck. Extensive coverage of the president's outlandish tweets isn't just unnecessary and stupid, but irresponsible. It's alarming that it's so easy. It's bait. Good journalism is meant to be difficult; we're the ones who need to pull all-nighters and drink every drop of coffee in the machine until we find the one clue that'll uncover everything.

As Woodward said, the press should've searched more for Trump's infamous unreleased tax returns. With The New York Times' 14,000-word investigative report on Trump participating in tax fraud and lying about his wealth—yeah, do you even remember that?—the press should've followed the money further. On family separation, we shouldn't have allowed news like Trump wanting to revoke birthright citizenship to distract us from digging into why the administration's considering separating children from their parents again.

This is not a profession where you just clock in and out. Stop picking up the moldy crumbs and trying to fit them into bread just because they're right in front of you. Pick another career if you want to be lazy.

# Mental Health Can Be A Gift, Too

BY KELLY LANGEVIN  
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

The holiday season is among us once again. Families gather around a table full of food giving thanks for what they have been blessed with. Loud cheers from the living room from Thursday football is followed with family gathered on the couch. Thanksgiving will soon be a blur and Christmas gifts from friends and families' favorite stores will be purchased. How about giving thanks and finding a new kind of gift? Mental health.

The holiday season is about appreciating the ones around us so we need to do more than shop for the best gift. We need to take care of them and appreciate friends and family on a higher level. Better yet, we need to do more than that. We need to take care of people we may not even know.

Seasonal depression, also known as Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD) is a type of depression that is related to the change in seasons. SAD, for most people, usually starts and ends around the same time of year - the colder days.

Starting in the fall and continuing into the winter, people with SAD

experience a variety of symptoms: feeling depressed most of the day, losing interest in activities you once enjoyed, low energy, feeling hopeless and having frequent thoughts about death or suicide.

It is important to let ones around you or someone you see struggling to know that they are not alone. Treatments for SAD include light therapy, medications and psychotherapy.

Changes in bipolar disorders may also become more severe. In the winter, people who suffer from bipolar disorder may become more depressed.

The reduced level of sunlight

may cause winter-onset SAD. Loss of sunlight also reduces serotonin levels (a brain chemical) that affects mood may trigger SAD. Melatonin levels may also be affected which plays a roll in sleep.

It is also important to take care of yourself. If you are struggling this holiday season, seek help.

Bring those for help who may not do it on their own. Be a good support system and do more than give someone a gift card or new clothes. Bring someone to the doctors or to therapy. Giving goes beyond a physical gift. Give someone the gift of mental health.



Check on the ones around you this holiday season.

GETTY IMAGES

# Bring Your Writing Inspiration To The Blue Muse

BY SHAINA LAPUEBLA  
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Have you ever wanted to be part of a magazine, but feel like you do not have the skills? Do not fret; Central Connecticut has got you covered. English professor Mary Collins designed the Publishing class to teach students the inner workings of curating a successful online magazine.

Collins aim was to "develop, within our writing, a minor digital writing class and a publishing class that was separate from the literary magazine, The Helix," according to Assistant Professor Jotham Burrello.

Three years ago, Collins was the orchestrator of the concept while Burrello used his previous magazine publishing skills to help facilitate the magazine class. The course, Publishing WRT 384, is offered every semester and taught by Burrello. The prerequisites are WRT 110 or WRT 105 and WRT 105P.

The online magazine dabbles in an assortment of genres. It publishes fiction, poetry, opinions and "a gamut of creative non-fiction on anything and everything the Blue Muse inspires [the staff] to write," according to its website. Literature, fiction and poetry are the only things the staff writers do not write; they encourage student submissions.

"The majority of what we publish is magazine features, short magazine features, which The Atlantic does and Harper's in The New Yorker," Burrello said. "If you look at Blue Muse, just like The New Yorker does, we break it all down into columns and then we made it our own."

This is the only writing course that runs an online magazine in the CCSU system, according to senior English major Derek Blais. "Our writing program is probably the best in the state."

Blais, a former Publishing student, took the class due to it being required for his writing minor, but he advises non-English and Writing majors alike to take the class if someone possesses an interest in being a part of the behind-the-scenes of an online magazine.

"What I love the most about the class is the interviews we have to do for our pieces," Miguel Cruz, current student and English major said. "I consider myself a people person and I find all the kinds of stories you get from someone in just let's say thirty minutes of just listening to them are just amazing."

The students play an important role in deciding the content for the semester by pitching topics that interest them.

"In terms of teaching the class, I never know what the students are going to come up with," Burrello said. "This semester I am learning about tattoos, I'm learning about Uconn Hockey, I just learned about food scarcity."

His favorite story was a feature about Amato's Toy Store in New Britain, which has been around since the Great Depression. He also wrote about a Yard Goats game.

"I weaseled myself a press pass and I got to get in for free, sit in the press box and talk to officials [and] fans," Blais said. "The class made me feel important."

The semester, Cruz wrote an article about student food scarcity. He was able to investigate, track down and research the peccary data for the demanding topic.

"I have to say, learning about the story of a man who struggled with homelessness, for example, has really had a profound and life changing effect on how I see myself and the world around me," Cruz stated. "It was sort of a flashbulb experience that let me that I could handle the really heavy material that many young writers tend to

think are to big for them."

In conjunction with understanding the topics, participants of the class work hands-on by posting content on Wordpress, copy editing, photography, advertising and most importantly, writing.

The class consists of a lecture and a lab. Students learn how to run an online magazine for the whole semester.

The group comprises of roughly 10 to 12 students and it is interesting to find out where you fit in, according to Blais.

All of the aspects involved in curating Blue Muse are essential, but students get first-hand experience in working closely in a team.

"My favorite part was just working as a team in a professional environment and realizing that there isn't just one person running the whole show," Blais stated.

The Blue Muse course offers students transferable skills in the workplace such as handling expansive information, technical ability to publish content and the "teamwork aspect of being responsible," according to Burrello.

As an integral member of the Blue Muse team, students will be introduced to a variety of editorial jobs, such as copy editor, assistant editor and managing editor.

"By the end of the semester, we try to run it like a real magazine," Burrello said. "With an online magazine, we have to do it all and the students kind of learn the systems as we proceed."

Despite using a web-based literary publication as a framework, students will get to understand both sides of the spectrum, print and online.

"It is very important that all cogs in the machine work the way they are supposed to so the creativity of the magazine work the way we want it to," Blais concluded.

## CCSU Professor Fights For Social Justice With A Pen

BY JOSHUA ROSARIO  
STAFF WRITER

Central Connecticut professor Christopher J. Doucot was invited to be the speaker at the "Central Authors" event at the CCSU Bookstore. "Central Authors," sponsored by CCSU Bookstore, the offices of the Provost and Institutional Advancement and the Media Center, focuses on CCSU alumni who have gone on to publish several works outside of the campus. With CCSU English professor, Gilbert Gigliotti, acting as the moderator, Doucot spoke about his book, "No Innocent Bystanders."

Doucot's book discusses the role of allies within social justice movements and what works and what does not. It also explores the marginalization of African Americans and other races throughout America's history and asks what can be done by others to improve race relations.

Doucot opened the event by thanking everyone for attending and proceeded to discuss his reasons for writing the book. As

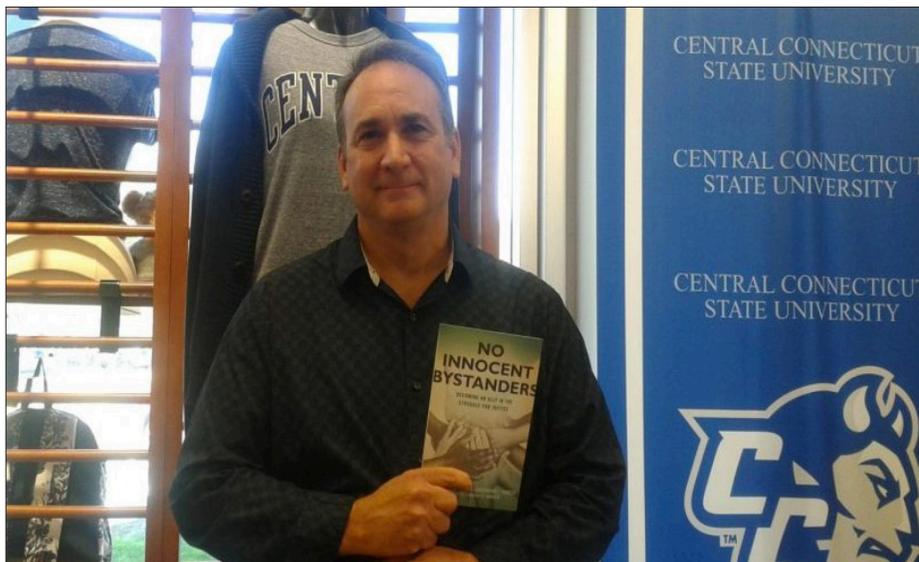
a CCSU professor who teaches race, class and gender, he felt that he had to open up talks of reconciliation with other races on his behalf, as well as citing the "Black Lives Matter" movement as an influence for writing the book.

"We need to work to with integrating our communities," Doucot stated. "We want to encourage white folks to overcome their fears and integrate with other groups."

Doucot also discussed what he liked to call "The Three R's," which were reckoning, repair and reconciliation. These three elements, in Doucot's words, needed to occur before progress in fixing relationships between races could begin.

At the end of the event, the audience was allowed to participate in a short Q&A session. Questions ranging from what could be done to improve race relations, to asking what else inspired him to write the book and if there were any things that were left out of the final product.

Gigliotti encouraged everyone to come back next time, as the next event would feature a poet.



Central professor Christopher J. Doucot poses with his book "No Innocent Bystanders."

JOSHUA ROSARIO | STAFF

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MBA-Finance<sup>1</sup>  
MBA-Health Care Management<sup>1</sup>  
MBA-Supply Chain Management<sup>1</sup>  
JD/MBA  
Accounting  
Business Analytics<sup>2</sup>  
Organizational Leadership<sup>2</sup>

### EDUCATION:

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Secondary  
Educational Leadership  
Instructional Design<sup>2</sup>  
Special Education<sup>2</sup>  
Teacher Leadership<sup>2</sup>

### COMMUNICATIONS:

Interactive Media & Communications<sup>2</sup>  
Journalism  
Sports Journalism  
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Care of Populations<sup>2</sup>  
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Cybersecurity<sup>2</sup>

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JD/MBA  
JD/MELP  
JD/MSW  
LLM in Health Law

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# Get Quizzical With History Club

BY GABRIEL ANTON  
STAFF WRITER

Throughout the semester, there are many interesting and unique events held on Thursday nights in the Devils Den section of the Student Center. In fact, all of these "Devils Den @ 10 p.m." events seek to integrate the student population in a social setting evident with opportunities of meeting new people, getting to know various clubs and organizations around campus, and overall enjoying an end of the week night with friends or family.

Previous popular events include the Meet the Greeks Night (9/27), which probes your interest in joining any of the diverse and amicable fraternities on campus, hosted by the Inter-Greek Council, as well as the Spookappella Halloween Karaoke Night (10/25), hosted by the A Cappella Society. The Dia De Los Muertos Night, celebrating one of Mexico's most popular holidays, The Day of the Dead, took place from Oct. 31 to Nov. 2, and was hosted by the Latin

American Student Organization and Centrals Organization for Latin American Dance Awareness.

Adding to this impressive lineup is the History Club Trivia Night, hosted by CCSU's own History Club. This was the first "Devils Den @ 10 p.m." event this club hosted this semester.

The game was history trivia, and participants in the event were asked to form groups with those around them, encouraging students to put their heads together with new friends while they embark in a competition for the various appealing prizes. Each group developed a team name for themselves and competed in three, ten question rounds for raffle tickets for each team member. The prizes were: a selection of CCSU merchandise: including a hat, water bottle, and string backpack, a selection of CCSU miscellaneous items: including a tree ornament, a box of (blue) hot chocolate, some CCSU gloves and headband, and as the grand prize: a pair of illustrious wireless Beats™ earbuds.

"We've always wanted to [host a CCSU] event as an academic club. We have a lot of resources and want a larger membership for everything that we have to offer," said At-Large Senator and current History Club member, Amanda King.

CCSU's History Club was established in 2012 and has been expanding their resources, membership, and outlets ever since. King, who joined last spring, feels like this event provides as much positive impact on the current history club members as the prospective students who chose to participate. The club emphasizes an academic atmosphere at any of its events, where all active 20 members get to strengthen their knowledge of the wide range of history topics prevalent for their future endeavors.

"At the end of the day, the objective of history club is to enhance the experience of history majors and minors by talking about registering for what classes, degree evaluations, professors, and

events going on in the department and internships," King describes.

The History Club works closely with Student Activities and Leadership Development department, which funds history club and is in charge of organizing the "Devils Den @ 10 p.m." events. The club's relation with SA/LD graduate intern, history club member, and the Student Government Association advisor, Lindsey Martinez, helped them acquire the spot for Thursday night's event.

"What inspired us to do trivia was when he had our own booth at the homecoming tailgate. We had a small jeopardy board and it seemed inviting and it was really fun, and especially since we are an academic, and a lot of History Club is spreading information that we know and having discussions and learning cool things. We all have such different and diverse parts of history that we like, I think that trivia was obvious," King reveals.

Based off the turnout, the quality of the trivia, and the thrill

of participation, it was a very impressive outing for just two weeks of preparation. Everyone had fun, and everyone received some sort of consolidation prize, whether it was free food or a plethora of candies.

As for the trivia itself, as history major and question creator, Sophomore Greg Stefanko said, "...the questions were suitable for the participants who weren't in History Club, but were also difficult enough for the History majors to enjoy." The questions focused around American History only for this matter, as a wider breadth of topics might have been too unfamiliar with the general participant population.

After this successful "Devils Den @ 10 p.m." event, be sure to check out future events on theLink@CCSU. If you are curious about the History Club, you can get more information by emailing: historyclubccsu@gmail.com. Their weekly meetings are Thursdays at 6 p.m. in the History Department Conference room (216-13).

## REVIEW

# Philly Natives Claim Their Spot In Pop-Punk



Philly natives Grayscale return to the pop-punk music scene with sophomore album "Adornment."

MERCHNOW

BY NATALIE DEST  
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Recent Fearless Records' addition, Grayscale, has returned to the music scene with a record that executes confident charisma, maturity and one of high anticipation. The Philadelphia pop-punk natives' sophomore album "Adornment" has reached new heights for the group and is a clear showcase of the band's development.

On the surface, "Adornment" is a pop-punk formula that is built upon electric, commanding riffs, catchy hooks and a newfound aggression. But on a deeper level, it is one filled with stories both personal and universal. With musical instrumentation just as ear-grabbing as the lyrics, this album takes a few listens all the way through to truly take it in for what it's worth.

Kicking off the album is "Let It Rain," a rather strong and energetic start to the record. With the classic punk-guitar riff driving the beginning of the song, lead singer Collin Walsh's vocals are matched with the lyrics "I'm going crazy, haven't slept in days / Can't live with myself and my selfish ways. / Bring the rain, and let it wash me away." This track is meant for the crowd, a song that remains rooted in

punk tendencies and a more than perfect opener for "Adornment."

"Come Undone" featuring As It Is' Patty Walters is an instant hit. A dynamic song with compelling rhythms and complementary vocals from Walters, Walsh's vocals and the rest of Grayscale seem to intertwine perfectly at once. This track was made for rooted fans of the pop-punk scene, giving them the perfect cross-over anthem.

The band's first single off of Fearless Records "Atlantic" follows; a punk-anthem that screams the band is here to stay. A prime example of the group's growth since past album "What We're Missing," "Atlantic" is a powerful slice of emo/pop-punk that is meant to get stuck in your head.

A strong production of vocal delivery, technical musicianship or guitar work and purposeful drumming, this track deserves to be noticed. Walsh's vocals build to the end for the track's chant-like chorus, "I'll burn down this bridge, and set my life up in smoke. / You used to be mine, our world used to shine like gold."

"Forever Yours" immediately takes the high from "Atlantic" and brings it down a few pegs, and in the best way possible. Setting the record at a slower pace, Walsh's

voice remains almost delicate upon the track of an acoustic guitar. "Adornment" almost reads like modern poetry, with "Forever Yours" being a perfect example of the band's impressive yet soulful lyrics. Walsh confesses, "Place my bouquet of old regrets, drop the weight of my sins. / The ground takes in the better man I could have been."

"Beautiful Things" and "Mum" bring the pace of "Adornment" back up to speed, with high vocals and familiar guitar riffs that are wrapped in pop-punk. With favorable punk-echoes specifically in "Mum," Grayscale keeps the record pushing with fan favorites.

"Fever Dream" is a somewhat different pace for the record and the band themselves. It's a great combination of sounding guitar and drums, a much more melodic song with vocals that glide over the instrumentation. There are softer parts within the track that are delicate before they erupt with a strong power and energy, giving the chorus a heavier stance.

"Echoes (Carry On)" is one of the album's notable tracks, almost lead single worthy. The ringing guitar gives the track the flame it needs, as well as the exceptional chord progression of what seems to be a xylophone in the background. This song

is definitely one of Grayscale's more "risk-taking" tracks, as they step up of their comfort zone.

Concluding the album is "If I Ever See You Again," the highly upbeat, sing-along jam session that suffices as the perfect closer to "Adornment." Walsh gleefully sings about the celebration of being out of a bad relationship through a killer guitar solo and chant-like vocals, one to be a crowd favorite live. Fans can sing along to the lyrics, "If I ever see you again, I'd ask for my time back / And if I ever see you again, I'd want you to know that / I was alone adrift, now I can't be more over it."

All in all, "Adornment" is Grayscale's clear proclamation that they no longer write songs simply for the chorus. Instead, the group is creating songs that are almost cinematic worthy; vivid imagery from the lyrics and an emotional atmosphere from the instrumentation.

Being a record that you can grow with, "Adornment" holds a promising future for Grayscale, leading to a transformation of songs with more experimentation, risk and a distinct sound. Whether you are or are not familiar with the Philly natives and their music, "Adornment" is a fresh and genuine pop-punk product worthy of recognition.

## REVIEW

## Five Reasons To Binge 'The Handmaid's Tale'



Offred (Elisabeth Moss) sits against the wall with other Handmaids.

BY NATALIE DEST  
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

One of Hulu's newest, gripping original series "The Handmaid's Tale" has caused an uproar of excitement. Based on the best-selling book by Margaret Atwood, this dystopian novel has bingers hooked, eagerly awaiting for its season three return.

Premiering back in April 2017, this show has been awarded five awards at the Emmys including Best Drama, as well as doubling its audience for season two. It is safe to say with ratings such as this, that this original series has earned the chance of your viewing. So why not consider these five reasons to binge the award-winning Hulu phenomenon over your Thanksgiving break.

## Reason 1: The Dystopian Setting

The show takes place in a Dystopian future where infertility and birth rates have fallen extremely low in the United States. Now referred to as Gilead, in what used to be part of the U.S., this totalitarian society

is ruled by a regime that treats women as property. The main character, Offred, played by actress Elisabeth Moss, is viewed in a society where women have no rights and if you are fertile, you are forced to conceive children for the wealthier class. This societal setting of the shows creates great interest and makes you think of a future where children are bargained.

## Reason 2: Cinematography

Director Reed Morano and cinematographer Colin Watkinson created a color palette for the show that demonstrates the oppression, and somehow it is oddly pleasing. Offred says the line in the show, "They shouldn't have given us uniforms if they didn't want us to be an army." The women's flowing, dark red capes and white bonnets are bold. Inspired by the Puritan movement, these outfits are the staple image for The Handmaid's Tale, and always leave you struck when you see them on the screen.

## Reason 3: Characters

The characters in this series are easy to become attached to. You find yourself rooting for them, crying with them, sympathizing with them and even wishing to watch some of them fail. "The Handmaid's Tale" is no doubt a roller coaster ride of emotions, with a special thanks to the actresses that portray incredible performances. The cast is filled with some familiar faces, such as "Mad Men's" Elisabeth Moss, "Gilmore Girls" Alexis Bledel, "Orange Is The New Black's" Samira Wiley,

"The Mindy Project's" Max Minghella and "American Horror Story's" Joseph Fiennes.

## Reason 4: Compelling Romances

Although the show is based upon gloom and fear, feel-good romances manage to find a way to fit into this high-intensity drama. Whether it be in the present day, before doom struck the U.S., or in the future world

of Gilead, there are more than a few couples to be rooting for throughout the course of the show. For Offred specifically, viewers see much of her romantic life before and during Gilead and the relationships that build her compelling character.

## Reason 5: The Show's Message

Based on Atwood's novel written in 1985, the novel and its series demonstrate the strength of women and what true feminism is. The show is a constant display of women working together and standing up for their rights. Regardless of gender, race or age this piece of work is, it is important to watch this show and evaluate our society of what it is now, and what it could be in the future.

Whether you are caught up with the hit series or are just now hearing about it, "The Handmaid's Tale" is worth watching come its season 3 premiere in April 2019. If you are a fan of dystopian setting or have never really been interested in the matter, this series is an interesting, intense and more than perfect place to start.

You can stream the first two seasons of Atwood's "The Handmaid's Tale" on Hulu.



You can stream the first two seasons of "The Handmaid's Tale" on Hulu. Season three will premiere in April of 2019.

HULU

## Central Faces



SAMANATHA FARLEY  
HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

"If I could go back and talk to my freshmen self, I would say 'Listen, kid freshmen year is all about figuring things out so don't be afraid to try out new things to see what is best for you.'

After all, college is about the experience and all the things that happen while you're here. The moments that you take from each semester can be some of your best memories before you are hit full force with reality and, you know, adulting."

## Dance For A Cure At CentralTHON

BY SHAINA LAPUEBLA  
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Hey Central Connecticut dancers, the Student Government Association and Inter-Greek Council are calling you to help support their cause to help sick children who are in need.

You can be a superhero to a child in need, which coincides with the theme of the marathon.

SGA and IGC are co-hosting the first annual CentralTHON on Dec. 1, from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. in Alumni Hall.

CentralTHON is a dance marathon that benefits the Children's Miracle Network. The aim is to call all Central Connecticut students, alumni, faculty and staff to participate in the fundraising. You can either donate or register as a dancer, where you can join as a solo dancer or as a team.

Your family and friends can sponsor you as a dance participant to raise funds for the young patients at children's hospitals across the nation. By going to the link and registering, you are able to set a goal you aspire to generate from donations.

Clubs and organizations can also form a team, dancing the night away collecting donations that may provide a child with life saving medical treatments.

The event is 12 hours long, but you are not required to participate for the entire duration.

Contact SGA Treasurer Kristina DeVivo and IGC President Jose Nunez for more information on the fundraising efforts.

**CENTRAL THON**

Saturday, December 1st 2018 Alumni Hall  
11:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m.

<p style="font-size: 16px; margin: 0;">miracle network dance marathon</p>	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; padding-right: 10px;">Students</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding-right: 10px;">\$10</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 10px;">Faculty/Staff</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding-right: 10px;">Alumni</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 10px;"></td> <td style="text-align: right; padding-right: 10px;">Public</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 10px;"></td> <td style="text-align: right; padding-right: 10px;">\$15</td> </tr> </table>	Students	\$10	Faculty/Staff	Alumni		Public		\$15
Students	\$10								
Faculty/Staff	Alumni								
	Public								
	\$15								

11:00 AM OPENING DOORS FOR REGISTRATION  
12:00 PM WELCOME TO THE 1ST ANNUAL CENTRALTHON  
12:30-1:00 KICK OFF TIME

LUNCH + DINNER/ HOURLY "MIRACLE DANCE"  
#FORTHETHEKIDS  
SUPERHEROES, GAMES, MUSIC, ENTERTAINMENT, FACE  
PAINTING, CELEBRATIONS FOR THE KIDS!

10:30 PM FINAL FUNDRAISING TOTAL ANNOUNCEMENT

BE YOUR OWN SUPER HERO FOR THE KIDS!

Register online at [dancemarathon.childrensmiracletnetworkhospitals.org](http://dancemarathon.childrensmiracletnetworkhospitals.org)

KRISTINA DEVIVO | SGA

# The Legacy Of Real Life Superhero Stan Lee Will Live On

BY NATALIE DEST

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Stan Lee, Marvel Comics legend, writer and publisher who is famous for giving the world the beloved superheroes such as Spider-Man, Iron Man and The Incredible Hulk has passed away this week at 95 years old.

Lee, who had begun his business back in 1939 and also helped create characters such as Black Panther, The Mighty Thor, The Fantastic Four and Ant-Man was pronounced dead early Monday morning at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles, a family member told The Hollywood Reporter.

"Stan Lee was as extraordinary as the characters he created. A superhero in his own right to Marvel fans around the world, Stan had the power to inspire, to entertain, and to connect. The scale of his imagination was only exceeded by the size of his heart," said Bob Iger, Chairman and CEO of The Walt Disney Company via Marvel's official website.

As Marvel's Editor-In-Chief, Lee consistently made his voice be the voice of the stories themselves. Working and writing almost every Marvel title alongside creators Jack Kirby and Steve Ditko, Lee began shaping a universe where fans felt as if they could turn around the corner and run into a superhero at any moment.

A rich collection of unique characters formulated and only grew as Lee got older, and it was easy for Marvel fans to find a friend within Lee's work. Introducing the famous "Stan's Soapbox," Lee directly spoke to his readers, having the ability to reach a personal level with



Legend and Marvel Comics creator Stan Lee passed away this week at 95 years old.

fans, something that is rarely seen in comics of this day in age.

Stepping away from his EIC position in 1972 to accept the position of Publisher at Marvel Comics, his passion only grew stronger. His heavily outspoken love for comics extended beyond just the books, as he traveled to many college campuses; taking any chance to educate, he took it. An entire generation of younger readers was expanded and broadened thanks to Lee's stories.

It was these comics that eventually led to television shows and movies, also shaping cinematic history for its viewers. The character Spider-Man, in particular, was a figure that is a staple Marvel comic and face of the theater.

"I never thought that Spider-Man would become the worldwide icon he is. I just hoped the books would sell and I'd keep my job," Lee said back in 2006.

Many characters were developed for television with their varying degrees of success. But it was the emergence of "Marvel Universe" in the movies, specifically with the "X-Men" franchise and the 2002 Sam Raimi-directed "Spider-Man" that truly made Marvel ubiquitous. Because of this, The Walt Disney Company purchased Marvel Entertainment in 2009, licensing arm of the comic book brand, for \$4 billion.

Because of much of his success, Lee was occasionally criticized for "egotistically" rooting for himself as much as Marvel, often referred to as "Stan the Brand" and "Stan Lee and the Rise and Fall of the American Comic Book." But for Lee, it was all joy and love. Though the success of these films made his characters worth billions, Lee made sure he maintained that he saw little of that wealth and that it was the character's impact on society that was most notable.

Marvel, The Walt Disney Company and fans around the world will continue to honor the life and career of the comic book legend Stan Lee for all his work, accomplishments and impact he has made throughout his years.

Every time you open a Marvel comic or watch it on the big screen, Stan will be there.

TIME

## 'The Entertainment Tour' Excites Audience

BY CAROLYN MARTIN

STAFF WRITER

Full is in full swing which means one thing for concert goers; the peak of fall tour season. This year I was lucky enough to go to the "Entertainment Tour." This would be a headline show for the pop-punk band Waterparks. However, they were not out on this headliner alone. There are five acts on this bill. First up was De'wayne Jackson, next was Nick Gray, then Super Whatever. After them, I Don't Know How But They Found Me was to perform and after all this, it would finally be time for Waterparks.

De'Wayne Jackson had so much energy. There was rarely a moment he was not dancing or grooving to the beat. His style of music was rap, yet it had guitars instead of a standard beat. The only way I can describe him is, on stage, he's like how you are singing and dancing alone in your room (or what you think you look like). It was a spectacle to watch and I loved every minute of it. He loved the crowd and the crowd loved him back.

Nick Gray followed up with a more

standard rap beat. That is where the problem was. Each song he performed sounded the same, or at least fairly similar to the previous one. After a while, people in the crowd began to sit down and scroll through their phones, groaning as they heard Gray say he had another song to perform.

After, Super Whatever came to save the day. They picked the energy right back up. The lead singer, Skyler McKee was a help in that. On stage, he rocked out with a spastic energy that was infectious. Kids who were sitting on their phones bored out of their mind moments before were now dancing around to a song they didn't know.

Next was the moment a vast majority of the crowd had been waiting for: I Don't Know How But They Found Me. As soon as they got on stage, all eyes and ears were focused on them. They were the only opening band who did not have to win over the crowd. The fans knew who they were and made it known by dancing and screaming the lyrics to their songs. If you do not listen to IDK HOW, I highly suggest you start to.



Waterparks hit the Webster this past Sunday in Hartford, CT.

CAROLYN MARTIN | STAFF

Finally, it was now time for Waterparks. They opened with "Blonde," the lead single from their sophomore album "Entertainment," and the crowd was hyped from that until the very end of the show. In between songs, the lead singer Awsten Knight expressed how he loved coming back to play in Hartford, Connecticut because more and more people came each time.

He also told anyone if they had artwork to give to the band to throw it on stage. So then came posters, papers, drawings and everything in between to the stage. Once the band got a hold of them and looked at them, they gave nothing but praise and gratitude to those who had made

something.

They continued rocking out and even slowing the set down for a bit, which let guitarist Geoff Wigington and drummer Otto Wood take a break. The slow-paced song did not deter the crowd. They still sang along to every word and put their phone lights up. When the energy came back up the crowd delivered, and when the show was over, I can safely say everyone left with a smile on their face and joy in their hearts.

I have never been a show like this one; a show this fun. If you ever get the opportunity to see any of the artists I just mentioned please do, you will not regret it.



DARYL LAPUEBLA | CONTRIBUTOR

# Fashion Design Club Brings The Vibes To CCSU

STORY BY KEYON YOPP  
STAFF WRITER

PHOTOS BY BRANDON FLEMMING  
CONTRIBUTOR

Central's Fashion Design Club hosted their annual fall fashion show Thursday evening. Senior and co-president Sasha Walker put together an extraordinary show, giving it the theme of vibes.

In her first time putting the event together, she could only describe the process as "extremely stressful." Some obstacles she faced while getting the show up and running was the exposure on campus, equipment needed and just practices for such an event.

Beyond having so many obstacles, the show seemed to thrive. The host for the show was Arayzon Brathwaite, a former Blue Devil, performer on Apollo night, widely known model, host and creator, not only in Connecticut but New York as well. Brathwaite kept the audience amused and engaged with their funny antics and engagement with the crowd.

The show modeled a number of different local brands including upraised, Joe Cruz and SKRS.

"Events like these are a good way to push their product out there for people who may not really know about it," Ryan Sutherland, creator of SKRS, said.

Vibes were definitely prevalent during the show and the audience made sure the

models heard it. There were a number of scenes that had the crowd roaring; two in mind were the nasty 1990's theme and deconstruction.

The Nasty 90's scene was conducted by none other than Walker herself, which included bright lights, 90's music and 90's vibrant inspired outfits. The other scene deconstruction conducted by junior Blair Isufi was inspired by Maison Margiela.

"The idea of mixing old patterns and fabrics to new ones gave me the name deconstruction," Isufi said.

After the show concluded Walker was relieved, saying "it's very stressful to have everyone come up to you for everything, but it [the show] turned out to be a great one."

Model Sam Bryd, who is an exchange student from England, seemed to really enjoy his experience in his first fashion show.

"It's crazy. It's so much fun [and] it really gives a boost of confidence when you walk down that runway and everyone is screaming," Bryd said.

He said it as a great opportunity to meet friends and be acquainted on campus.

Make sure to stay tuned for the spring semester's fashion show; flyers will be in the Student Center at the beginning of the spring.



The Vibes fashion show melded retro styles with a modern twist.



At the FDC Vibes fashion show, one of the collections embodied the electrifying red color.



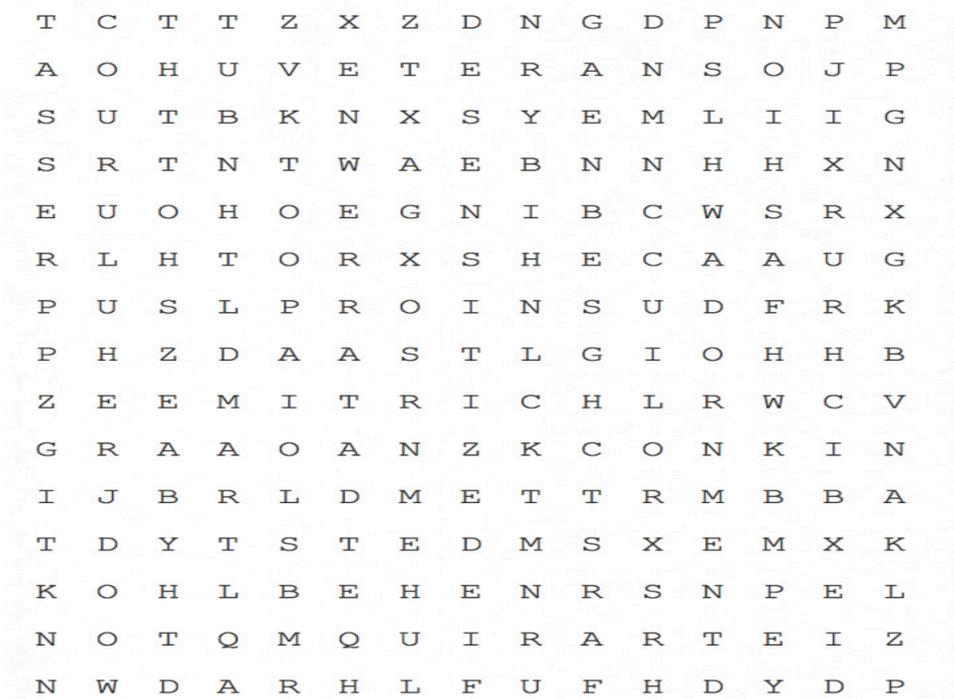
The FDC Vibes fashion show was hosted by Central student Ray Nasir and New York fashion model Zaawadi.



FDC hosted their annual fall fashion show that celebrated CCSU's different vibes.

## Word Search: November 14

- |             |              |
|-------------|--------------|
| Pearse      | Fashion      |
| Kohl        | Vibes        |
| Krishnan    | Adornment    |
| Quirarte    | Mental       |
| Kushman     | Health       |
| Piper       | Desensitized |
| Exilhomme   | Veterans     |
| History     | Freedom      |
| Authors     | Press        |
| Handmaids   | Toronto      |
| Centralthon | Raptors      |
| Binge       | Browner      |
| Hulu        |              |



# Football Wins To Keep NEC Hopes Alive



DJ Exhilhomme (above) won NEC Defensive Player of the Week for his performance.

JULIA JADE MORAN | STAFF

five of 14 passes attempted.

Tight end Arthur Gilmore Jr. was the recipient of one touchdown pass as he went 47 yards to the house right before the end of the first half.

The touchdown was Gilmore Jr.'s fourth on the season and he finished the day with 53 yards receiving.

But once again, the leading receiver on the team was junior running back Drew Jean-Guillaume. Though he only had one ball, he proceeded to take it 86 yards for his first receiving touchdown of the season. He now stands with eight total touchdowns.

After breaking numerous school, conference and NCAA records the last time he stepped on the field, running back Aaron Dawson did not follow that performance with another record-breaking day. He did, however, have a strong one.

Dawson got the bulk of the carries among the running back group after last week's performance as he received 19 carries Saturday afternoon, compared to Jean-Guillaume's 10 and Enyce Walker's seven. It is only the third time he has gotten more than 15.

In total, Dawson ran for 90 yards on the ground and scored two touchdowns, giving him a team-high 13 on the season.

The Blue Devils return home for the last game of the season on Nov. 17 to host Duquesne, with kickoff scheduled for 12 p.m.

If the Blue Devils hope to repeat as champions, they are going to have to take care of business and hope that the Pioneers drop their second straight game.

BY TREVI ALICKOLLI  
STAFF WRITER

Central Connecticut football used a crucial fourth-quarter defensive stand inside their own 10-yard line to propel them to victory against conference foe, Saint Francis (PA), winning 30-14 and keeping their hopes of a Northeast Conference Championship repeat alive.

The Blue Devils have won two straight games and are now 6-4 overall for the season and 4-1 in NEC Play.

They remain in the race atop the conference as they enter the final week of the season tied with Sacred Heart and

Duquesne, with each team having one conference loss.

But the Blue Devils do not control their own destiny going forward.

They host Duquesne in the final week of the season and if they hope to repeat they do not only have to win the game, but they also need Sacred Heart to lose their final game against the Red Flash.

Central's week eight loss to the Pioneers may prove to be extremely costly, but the Blue Devils still have hope and showed strongly on Saturday.

Central used a fourth-quarter DJ Exhilhomme goal-to-go interception to blow a one-possession game wide open.

The sophomore defensive back is one game removed from being awarded NEC defensive player of the week and followed it up with another big day.

Exhilhomme led the team with nine total tackles to go along with one fumble recovery, forced by fellow defensive back Grant Ibeh and the interception.

The defensive unit played well overall as they held a Saint Francis offensive attack that averages 28 points per game on the year to only 14, doing it with stellar execution and forcing turnovers.

Senior quarterback Jacob Dolegala tossed two touchdowns on the day and threw for 153 yards while completing just

# Kohl, Krishnan Standout In First Two Games

BY PATRICK GUSTAVSON  
SPORTS EDITOR

The last time Central Connecticut's men's basketball team traveled to Chase Family Arena, they were defeated by Hartford in a one-point overtime loss to open the 2017 season. This time around, the Blue Devils came out on top, topping the Hawks 75-68 to open their season.

The difference from last year's season-opener was the team playing together, per senior forward Tyler Kohl. Head coach Donyell Marshall agreed that the team was more focused than last year, due to the distraction of his suspension.

Marshall believed what gave his team the edge was crucial defensive stops late, as well as a strong second-half effort.

"I think we just played a little harder than they did at the end," he said.

Kohl propelled the team offensively, thanks to a career-high 30 points to go with 10 rebounds, five assists and two steals.

"He did it at all levels," Marshall said of his star player. "He trusted his teammates. He got them going early which opened it up for him in the second half."

"My guys trusted me, they trusted me to make plays, facilitate and rebound and do all the things to win. I couldn't do this without my teammates," Kohl said.

The performance comes on the heels of a quiet showing in the team's exhibition against Arcadia, where Kohl had just seven points. Kohl said he didn't

entirely trust himself in his first game back from a broken hand, something that changed against Hartford.

"I was more so trying to get everything back. I broke my hand, so I was out of rhythm a little bit. I wasn't trusting myself the first game back. The difference is I trusted myself today," Kohl said.

Also picking up a double-double was senior center Deion Bute, who scored fifteen points while shooting 75 percent from the floor. In addition, he grabbed 11 rebounds while only turning the ball over twice.

Marshall commended Bute's defensive effort against Hawks forward George Blagojevic, who he called a potential Player of the Year in the America East Conference.

"He did a great job of guarding him (Blagojevic) but he also rebounded very well and made his free throws," Marshall said.

Marshall also cited freshman point guard Thai Segwai as a crucial piece to the team's victory, though it did not show in



Tyler Kohl (above) was named NEC Player of the Week.

JULIA JADE MORAN | STAFF

the box score.

"He came in and did a really good job defensively on the point guard and really made it hard for them to run their offense," Marshall said.

The Blue Devils then took on Big East opponent Georgetown on the road, where they more than held their own, falling to the Hoyas by a mere seven points.

While Kohl had another solid performance, scoring 19 points to go with seven rebounds and five assists, freshman Ian Krishnan was the star, scoring a game-high 28 thanks to six three-pointers.

In addition to Kohl and Krishnan, Marshall relied on Segwai, freshman

forward Karrington Wallace and junior Kashaun Hicks to fill the valuable minutes left in the game, cutting the deficit to just four with four minutes remaining. But a late 9-0 run put the game away for the Hoyas.

The Blue Devils were unable to contain center Jessie Govan, who had 26 points, eight rebounds and three blocks. Not only did Govan dominate in the paint, but he was also able to spread the floor, hitting two threes.

The Blue Devils, now 1-1 overall, will be back in action when they take on UMass Lowell at home on Tuesday, Nov. 13.

# Quirate, Kushman Ready For Final Ride With Blue Devils

BY RYAN JONES  
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Though there have been 186 collegiate games played between two seniors of Central Connecticut volleyball, Raquel Quirate and Kaitlyn Kushman, no game matters more than the next. Gearing up to play in the Northeast Conference tournament this weekend, the two seniors are more than focused at the task at hand: winning.

Never one to shy away from pressure, Quirate describes the Blue Devils run to the playoffs as "anyone who has played or plays collegiate sports' dream: get to the championship their senior year, and win it."

The Blue Devils won both of their games this past weekend, ending their regular season on a high note and reenergizing a team heading into the playoffs. The two seniors were honored during the final regular-season game Saturday against LIU Brooklyn, where CCSU was also able to handily defeat the reigning champions.

According to Quirate, the team "had a little bit of a confidence lull, it was tough losing games back to back how we did. This win really boosted our confidence and it put us in a really good mindset to head into NECs next weekend."

CCSU goes into the NECs



Seniors Kaitlyn Kushman and Raquel Quirate have been "best friends from the start."

JULIA JADE MORAN | STAFF

connected with Bryant for second place with a conference record of 10-4. Both Quirate and Kushman have done their part to get the Blue Devils into the position they are in this season. Quirate ranks second on the team in blocks (61) and digs (217), and third kills for the team (215). Kushman is averaging a career-high 2.55 digs per set in her senior season while adding in 116 assists.

The two seniors gained loads of experience over their four years, and have come a long way.

"Starting out at Central," Quirate explained, "I had a very aggressive and emotional mindset. I was an emotional player, and I still am, I've just

learned to control it better. Today [against LIU] I went out there and was relaxed. I thought 'whatever happens, happens.' People tell me all the time that I'm a player who plays well when I don't think. It's sad that it took me so long to figure that out, but I'm here now and that's all that matters."

Over their last four years, Quirate and Kushman have made countless connections with their teammates, something Kushman will miss the most.

"Volleyball brings us all together, and that's something I'm really going to miss. [Raquel and I] were best friends from the start, so it's hard to let go of that," Kushman said.

The friendship, Kushman notes, did not go without mention from Quirate, who looks forward to her future and looking back on memories of playing.

When Quirate sees her teammates years from now, she looks forward to "remembering the family that we [the team] had together. I think we have a great group of girls this year, I love so much. We're a giant family, it's great."

For Quirate and Kushman, they're hopeful they can reminisce over a championship. For both the seniors and rest of the Blue Devils, the fight for that starts Friday.

## Blue Devils Add Depth, Improve Chemistry Over Off-Season

BY RYAN JONES  
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Coming off a tumultuous 7-23 season, the Blue Devils are ready to take on the Northeast Conference again, still hungry to win CCSU its first NEC title.

Central Connecticut faced one of the hardest, out-of-conference schedules in the league last year, going against juggernauts like West Virginia and Penn State early on. The tough schedule got the better of the Blue Devils, who went 0-12 in those non-conference games.

But they were still able to make it to the NEC playoffs, scrapping together seven crucial conference wins to secure the seventh seed. The Blue Devils were quickly ousted once there, losing 60-54 to second seed Robert Morris in a closely contested game.

The addition and integration of seven new players was a challenge faced early on.

"The kids weren't here in the month of July working together, so when we came in September it was the first time they were all together as a group. Our non-

conference schedule was so tough, we were trying to learn our style against West Virginia or Penn State. It's pretty tough to be able to do the things that you want to do against those schools. Then when it came to conference play, we were still trying to find ourselves," head coach Beryl Piper said.

This year, the Blue Devils were able to get some time in together in July, a change already noticeable for Patterson. "The month of July was so huge for us, we are so much further ahead now than we were this time last year. Now we have a good foundation and a good solid group of girls that will compete."

This year's team adds four more to the roster. Forever Toppin, a freshmen guard, "can really slash and get to the rim" per Piper, adding that "she's a tough kid for people to defend."

Freshman, Danielle Delano, looks to get back into the game after a broken leg sidelined her for her senior year of high school. For Piper, Delano is "a big kid that can shoot the ball and score for us [the team]."

Six-foot-two-inch center

Carly Reynolds adds some length to the Blue Devils back court, giving the team another option in the post.

Junior Bruna Vila Artigues, a transfer from Catalonia, rounds out the list of newcomers. The addition of Vila Artigues adds another point guard to the mix, something Piper plans to take advantage of with her lineups.

"With [Patterson's] shooting ability playing in the off-guard spot, then on top of that everything she learned playing point last year, it's gonna be like playing with two point guards on the court. Bruna will surprise people. She knows how to distribute the basketball and will do some good things for us," Piper said.

No matter what the new additions might bring to the table, according to Piper, "they're not just going to come in and play."

"We have other kids that have a little better understanding defensively and offensively of what we're doing," she said. "I do believe as the season goes along, they're going to play and there's going to be some games they make a difference in. We have

so many upperclassmen right now that it's not like we have to rely on the young kids to get it done for us."

For Patterson, the goal remains the same.

"Get to the NEC championship and win the school its first NEC title," Patterson said.

Still focused on the long season ahead, Patterson said: "another goal we have is to compete and win some non-conference games to get our confidence up. We want a good record and good chemistry going into conference play so it's that much easier for us when we are playing games that are really important."

Lydon doubles down on Patterson's big postseason dreams.

"A big overarching goal we have as a team is to just prove people wrong," Lydon said. "The preseason doesn't matter to us, it matters how you finish the season, and I know we want to finish with an NEC Championship. Everyone knows that we all have to step up in order to be successful and we are all really excited about that."

## OPINION NFL Mid-Season Update And Award Predictions

BY ROBERT GULLO  
STAFF WRITER

With week nine in the books of the 2018-19 NFL season, the first half has seen its fair share of surprises. Between the first few weeks filled with ties, the Dallas Cowboys trading a first round pick for Amari Cooper, the emergence of Patrick Mahomes and the competitiveness in the NFC, many things have stood out.

The second-year quarterback, Mahomes has filled in the void of Alex Smith perfectly, making the Chiefs offense the most productive in the league with weapons that feature Tyreek Hill, Kareem Hunt and Travis Kelce. The defending AFC champion Patriots still look to be a team to beat with the Steelers also in the picture, even likely being without LeVeon Bell for the season.

In the NFC, the Rams looked to be the clear-cut winner of the conference after starting 8-0, but fell short to the Saints, who have emerged as the number one threat in the conference. The Eagles don't seem to be the team they were a year ago, and with multiple injuries on defense, the Falcons don't seem to be a factor.

### Playoff picture:

AFC- Patriots, Chiefs, Steelers, Texans  
Wildcards- Chargers and Titans

After starting the season 1-2, the Patriots have soared and won six straight before losing to the Titans. They should hold onto the AFC East until after week 17.

The Chiefs have the best record in the conference and hold a lead over the Chargers in the West.

After decimating the Panthers on Thursday night, the Steelers have improved to 6-2-1, holding onto the first place spot in the North and have won their last five games.

The Chargers' two losses have come from the Chiefs and Rams, arguably the two best teams in the league, and will finish as the fifth seed in the conference. The Titans will fall short in the South to the Texans who are on a six-game winning streak, but will probably claim the last wildcard spot.

NFC- Saints, Rams, Bears, Eagles  
Wildcards- Panthers and Vikings

The Saints and Rams are the two best teams in the NFC, and I feel like one of the two teams will make the Super Bowl out of the NFC. The Vikings could emerge, as well as the Eagles who have gotten better down the stretch with Carson Wentz.

**MVP candidates:** Mahomes, Drew Brees, Todd Gurley and Tom Brady. It's easy to say Mahomes will win the award. Through nine games, he has registered a league-leading 3,434 yards along with 31 touchdowns and has been exceeding expectations in his first year as a starting quarterback. Brees has been playing like he's 25 in his 18th season. Leading the 8-1 Saints, Brees has 2,601 yards with 21 touchdowns and only one interception. Brady is never out of MVP discussion. Dealing with injuries and suspensions early, Brady has still played like every other year and continues to play well each week.

**Coach of the Year candidates:** Sean McVay, Sean Peyton and Andy Reid. McVay, the youngest coach in the league has put the Rams in win-now mode, acquiring players like Brandin Cooks, Dante Fowler and Marcus Peters to boost their chances of winning this year and it's paid off so far. Peyton has led the Saints to an 8-1 record thus far, and looks to be in his seventh playoff appearance and Reid looks like a genius so far for trading away Smith and going all out on Mahomes, leading them to a 9-1 record.

## OPINION

Reliving The First Month  
Of The NBA SeasonBY KYLE FLYNN  
STAFF WRITER

The NBA has been nothing short of a spectacle through the first month of the 2018 season. Some new surprises and old habits have basketball once again sitting at the forefront of global entertainment. The Toronto Raptors have a better record than the Golden State Warriors and LeBron James still doesn't play defense in the regular season.

Toronto's hot start led by Kawhi Leonard, a rejuvenated Kyle Lowry and maybe the best defense in the NBA, makes them one of a group of teams who have been surprisingly good in the Eastern Conference. MVP candidate Giannis Antetokounmpo, who is averaging over 25 points, 13 rebounds and five assists per game, is off to a 10-3 start which includes a win over the defending champion, Warriors.

The biggest news of the season has come from the Philadelphia 76ers. Perennial All-Star Jimmy Butler was acquired over the weekend, giving them a true big three. Alongside Joel Embiid and Ben Simmons, Butler and the Sixers have certified themselves as the top threat in the East.

The Indiana Pacers round out the top four, leaving out last year's top-seeded Boston Celtics, who have struggled to find an offensive identity, losing four of their last five games.

In the Western Conference, the Warriors remain the team to beat even without center Demarcus Cousins, who will join the star-studded squad following his recovery from an Achilles injury. Former MVP Stephen Curry leads the NBA in scoring and is shooting at the highest percentage of his career.

What has been unexpected is the poor starts by some of the last year's best competition in the west, especially the Houston Rockets. After a poor offseason, they have had a hangover, losing four of their first eleven games. Struggling MVP James Harden and Chris Paul are both shooting under 40 percent and haven't been able to mesh with Carmelo Anthony and the rest of the team.

Four of the eight playoff teams from last year are .500 or worse and out of the playoff standings.

Many players have had impressive starts to the season but these few stand out among the rest. Charlotte Hornets guard Kemba Walker is top two in scoring with 28 points per game. Walker is doing everything on the floor for the Hornets and is a sleeper MVP candidate.

Rookie Luka Doncic who was 2017's EuroLeague MVP, has transitioned to the NBA with ease, having one of the best rookie seasons since LeBron James.

A surprising start by the Sacramento Kings has sparked by the play of second-year point guard DeAaron Fox. With just under 19 points and seven assists per game, Fox has improved tremendously from last year, instantly making him one of the best guards in an already heavily-stacked Western conference.

Bulls guard Zach Lavine has carried their injury-plagued roster so far scoring 30 points in each of the first four games and another 41 and the game-winning free throws against the Knicks.

Lastly, Heat guard Josh Richardson has feasted alongside Goran Dragic and Dwyane Wade. Richardson is truly one of the most underrated players in the NBA making his case to be a first-time All-Star in 2019.

NBA basketball is off to a great start with more exciting headlines surely to come. Stay tuned for more updates throughout the season.

## Women's Basketball Falls To Lehigh

BY GRIFFIN GARCIA  
STAFF WRITER

The Central Connecticut women's basketball played the first home game of their 2018-19 season against the Lehigh Mountain Hawks this past Saturday.

The Blue Devils started the game shooting 44.4 percent from the field overall and over 50 percent from three. Senior guard Sydney Hines made a three with 10 seconds left in the first quarter, to which Lehigh responded just before the buzzer to give the Mountain Hawks a 24-20 lead.

In the second quarter, the Blue Devils tied the game at 24 before Lehigh began to run a full-court press. The pressure paid off for Lehigh, as they forced the Blue Devils into four turnovers. Central also struggled to defend beyond the arc, allowing Lehigh to make over 55 percent from three in the second quarter, which they won 31-17. At halftime, the game was 55-37.

Head coach Beryl Piper commented on the Blue Devils' struggles in the second quarter.

"We struggled in our transition defense, the last five minutes after the media timeout they went on a 22-9 run. They really hurt us and hit a ton of threes," Piper said.

Central's woes continued in the second



The Blue Devils fell to 0-2 on the season after Saturday's loss to Lehigh.

CCSU ATHLETICS

half as the Blue Devil offense struggled to produce, not recording a field goal for the first seven minutes of the third quarter and only recording three total field goals in the period. CCSU also recorded three turnovers in the quarter, leaving the game at 75-48.

The fourth quarter was the only quarter in which the Blue Devils outscored the Mountain Hawks, by a score of 14-13. In the final period, Central forced Lehigh into five turnovers as well as four field goals, opposed to Lehigh's two. Despite CCSU's strong fourth, the game ended 88-62.

When asked about the second half, Piper said, "Defensively transition wise we did a better job taking care of them scoring in transition. We needed to be able to score the basketball and we struggled."

Seniors Andi Lydon and Kiana Patterson combined for 31 of the team's 62 points. Fellow senior Hines added 11 points as well.

Going forward, Piper understands the need to straighten out defensive issues, especially in transition.

"We'll watch film, we'll look and see who's in the game and what was going wrong and why it was happening. We work on transition defense a lot," Piper said.

The Blue Devils fall to 0-2 overall in the early season and will look to bounce back on Tuesday, Nov. 13 at Rutgers against the Scarlet Knights in another non-conference test. The game against Rutgers is the first of a three-game road trip for the Blue Devils.

## Cross Country Takes On NCAA Northeast Regionals



The Blue Devils will head to the ICAA/ECAC Championships Saturday.

JOSH GALLO |  
CONTRIBUTORBY PATRICK GUSTAVSON  
SPORTS EDITOR

Both the men's and women's cross country teams of Central Connecticut were back in action Friday at the NCAA Northeast Regionals, where both squads finished in the bottom 10 of competing schools.

For the Northeast Conference Championship winning women's team, they were yet again led by sophomore Angelia Rafter, who crossed the line in 66th place out of 243 competing runners. She was one of two Blue Devils on either side to place in the top 100.

Head coach Eric Blake singled out Rafter for finishing about 100 spots higher than she did last year.

Also in typical fashion, sophomore Megan Brawner and senior Dawn Hubbell finished second and third for the Blue Devils, respectively. Brawner completed the six-kilometer course in exactly 24 minutes, while Hubbell crossed the finish line just over 15 seconds later.

NEC Rookie of the Year Ashley Dana finished the course

under the 24-minute mark like Brawner and Hubbell, good enough for 177th place overall.

The final Blue Devil, whose score was counted, was sophomore Sabrina Chesters, whose time of 25:20.9 put her within the top 200 overall.

Blake was pleased with the women's performance calling it their, "best finish in years."

Senior Madeline Mondo, whose return to competition played a crucial role in the team's NEC championship performance, did not compete.

Also on the men's side, senior Alex Norstrom, who has led the Blue Devils in every race he's competed in except one (finished second), did not participate.

Blake said both Mondo and Norstrom were "not 100 percent physically healthy, so we shut them down and are getting them ready for indoors."

Blake continued to say that both runners were only at 50 percent for the NEC Championship meet, "but only ran to give the team a shot at the title."

"Both are seniors so it wasn't an easy decision to end their season," Blake said.

On the men's side, this opened the door for junior, Roberto Piotto to cross the finish line first for his team, for the third time this season. He finished the 10-kilometer course in 34:25.9, good enough for 59th place out of the 214 competing runners, the only runner on the men's side to finish in the top 100.

Junior Richard Grudzwick continued his fine season when he finished 153rd, finishing the course in just under 36 minutes. Sophomore Charles Taubl finished just under a minute after Grudzwick, finishing in 171st place overall.

Senior Patrick Halloran was a top-five finishing Blue Devil for the first time this season, crossing the finish line in just seven seconds under 37 minutes. Blake was particularly pleased with Halloran's performance.

"In August, I would not have thought Pat would be our fourth guy at the regional but he earned his spot each meet," Blake said.

The Blue Devils have one more day of competition on the schedule for the season. On Saturday, Nov. 17, the Blue Devils will travel to the Eastern Conference Athletic Championships, which Blake compared to the NIT Tournament for college basketball.

"We have only raced a max of six times this year so some of the younger runners will benefit. As for the seniors, this is it, so we want them to end their college cross country career's on a good note," Blake said.



It was the first time in six years that CCSU defeated LIU Brooklyn.

JULIA JADE MORAN | STAFF

## Volleyball Stuns Top-Seeded LIU Brooklyn On Senior Night

BY RYAN JONES  
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

As senior Kaitlyn Kushman put it, the Central Connecticut volleyball team “just wanted to make history” Saturday in their match against LIU Brooklyn. For Kushman and CCSU, mission accomplished.

Coming into the match, the Blue Devils had not beaten LIU in six years. The six years of losses include a matchup in last year’s Northeast Conference Championship, where they were defeated 3-2. The Blackbirds came into the game with a 12-1 in conference record, sitting alone atop the NEC.

LIU lived up their resume early in the first, quickly taking a 15-10 lead. A timeout from CCSU seemed to cure the sluggish start, as they would shock the Blackbirds with a 7-2 run that tied the game at 17.

Both teams battled to a tie at 22, but two kills from Gala Galabova and one from Morgan Woycik would seal the comeback win for CCSU, 25-22.

“We saw something in our blocking

that we wanted to adjust. Our defense was able to set up better behind the block and see a little better, I think it made a huge impact. We finished with 18 blocks, but we didn’t in that first set [before the timeout],” head coach Linda Sagnelli said of adjustments after the timeout.

“Once we stopped and adjusted it, it seemed like it settled everything down and everything started to fall our way.”

The second set looked to be more of the same, with the teams swapping runs until the score sat tied at 14. Mirroring the events of the first set, CCSU came out of a timeout swinging, jumping out to a 20-15 lead.

The five-point lead was the largest CCSU had amounted up to this point, but the Blackbirds would not go down easily, going on a run of their own to bring the game to within one, but CCSU was able to close out the second set with an ace from Emma Henderson, who did not miss a beat after re-injuring her thumb earlier in the set.

CCSU looked prime to take the sweep in the third, taking a 14-11 lead. But no lead was safe, as LIU was able to march

back and tie the game at 17. LIU would extend their lead, but a call reversed in CCSU’s favor would close it to just two. They were unable to halt the Blackbirds after this, and they dropped the set 25-21, forcing a fourth.

“When we lost the third set, we knew exactly what we did wrong and cleaned it up right away,” senior Raquel Quirarte said.

LIU, appearing to have mustered up all its energy to take the third set, committed five early errors to help CCSU to an 8-3 lead.

LIU was able to string together a run that tied the game at 10. Two kills from Quirarte highlighted an ensuing five-point run, capped off by another Henderson ace. CCSU would not trail after this, setting up match point with a nine-point lead. A kill from Henderson closed the set with a 25-18 victory, winning the Blue Devils the match.

Henderson took over the match at points, scoring five aces to go along with her 13 digs and five blocks. Kaprelyan had another double-double night, scoring 11 kills and 18 assists.

Friday’s match against 5-8 St. Francis (BKN) marked similar results for CCSU, knocking them out in a three-set sweep.

CCSU had to battle early, facing a 10-7 deficit. A 5-0 run highlighted by two Quirarte kills would put them back in the driver’s seat, as they would not trail after this, and closed out the set with four straight, winning 25-18.

The Blue Devils did not trail in the second set following the opening point. Three Terrier errors and a kill from Henderson pushed CCSU to a 10-6 lead, but quick runs from SFBK would bring them to within one late. Central would not let it get closer than 19-18, going on a 6-1 that closed the set.

Trailing 19-17 late in the third set, the Blue Devils were desperate for a spark. Two kills each from Kaprelyan and Henderson did just that, helping CCSU go on an 8-0 run to win the game.

The weekend of wins put CCSU back into a tie for second place with Bryant in the NEC with a 10-4 record. The Blue Devils will face off against the Bulldogs for their first game in the NEC Tournament Friday.

## Women's Soccer Unable To Pull Off NCAA Upset

BY PATRICK GUSTAVSON  
SPORTS EDITOR



It was the Blue Devils’ first NCAA Tournament appearance since 2014.

JULIA JADE MORAN | STAFF

For the first time in four seasons, Central Connecticut’s women’s soccer team took part in an NCAA Women’s Soccer Cup game when they traveled to number one seed Georgetown on Saturday. It seemed for the first half that the Blue Devils had a chance to pull off an upset for the ages before falling to the Hoyas by a score of 3-1.

The Blue Devils struck first in minute 19 when freshman midfielder, Roma McLaughlin took the ball upfield and found senior forward, Danielle Pearse, who put it past Hoya goalkeeper, Arielle Schechtman. Hoyas defenders contested Pearse was offsides, but the referees did not agree and the goal stood, giving the Blue Devils an early 1-0 lead.

The goal was the fourth for Pearse in three postseason games. She scored two in the Northeast Conference semifinal against Fairleigh Dickinson, as well as one in the finals against Saint Francis (PA), leading to her being named Tournament Most Valuable Player.

“It’s easy to say it’s a tap-in,” head coach Mick D’Arcy said of Pearse. “But that’s experience to be in the right place at the right time. She’s had a great end to the season. She

has that sense to know where to be.”

Though the Hoyas had their chances in the first half, they were either thwarted by the strong play of the Blue Devils’ backline, led by NEC Defender of the Year Shauny Alterisio and first-team All-NEC player Emily Hogan, or were unable to get a shot past senior goalkeeper Ashley Cavanaugh.

Numbers-wise, the first half was evenly matched. Both teams took three shots. Cavanaugh made two saves, while Schechtman did not have to make any, as the only Blue Devil shot that went on goal was Pearse’s goal.

It appeared the Blue Devils had a shot to knock off the number one seed for a historic upset.

“We went down there to win. There was no thought of showing up and keeping the game a respectable score,” D’Arcy said. “We went in there with a legitimate chance to win and I think with 20 minutes left, we did.”

The Hoyas came out firing in the second half, with eight corner kicks and two shots in the first 15 minutes. Despite this, the Blue Devils remained ahead by a goal, just over 20 minutes away from pulling off the upset.

But things changed quickly and drastically, as Hoya midfielder Paula Germino-Watnick scored from the middle of the box, tying the score. Germino-Watnick was a crucial part of

Georgetown’s attack all game, notching three shots on goal, including the equalizer.

Just eight minutes later, Amanda Carolan gathered the ball off a deflection and beat Cavanaugh, giving the Hoyas the lead with just 13 minutes remaining.

In the 80th minute, Hoya forward Kyra Carusa faced off with Cavanaugh for a penalty kick. Though her initial shot hit the crossbar, she gathered the ball and put it past Cavanaugh, extending her team’s lead to two.

D’Arcy felt that Hoyas should have been called offsides on two of the three goals.

“The player who took the penalty put it in the back of the net, which means she touched the ball twice so she should have been ruled offside. All our players thought it was going to be a free out because that’s the rule,” D’Arcy said.

The loss was the first for the Blue Devils since their Aug. 23 contest against Connecticut, leaving them with a final overall record of 16-2-2.

D’Arcy said he was very proud of the team and they even learned the last lesson they were looking to accomplish on the season: “leave the place better than you found it.”

“This year, for our seven seniors and everyone else on the team, they certainly left the program in a better place they found it,” D’Arcy said.