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THE COLLEGE VOICE

CONNECTICUT COLLEGE'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER, SINCE 1977

NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2024

VOLUME LXII ISSUE 1

THECOLLEGEVOICE.ORG

College Breaks Ground on Campus-Altering Construction Projects

KEVIN LIEUE
CO-EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Connecticut College students arrived at a changed campus this fall to a campus with many changes. This summer, construction for three campus-altering construction projects began and are currently ongoing.

These three projects include the remodeling of the College Center at Crozier-Williams, the conversion of Crozier Boulevard into a pedestrian promenade, and renovations of the Silfen Track and Field facility.

Other construction projects underway include residential bathroom privacy improvements in Larrabee, Smith, and Burdick Houses, the creation of the enabling East Lot for displaced parking from Crozier Boulevard, Fanning Hall accessibility improvements, and a facilities conditions assessment.

The remodeling of the Crozier-Williams building began in June 2024 following the end of the spring semester and has continued through the summer. "June was focused on make-safe procedures and demolition," said Justin Wolfradt, Interim Vice President

for Administration and Executive Director of Facilities Management and Campus Planning in the July 2024 "Project Spotlight" email sent to the College community. "Structural, mechanical, electrical, and plumbing work [began] in July." The remodeling is currently scheduled to be completed by February of 2025. This project was a key recommendation of the 2018 Campus Master Plan, which sought to create a roadmap for future construction development over the next 20 years, and a key focus of the Defy Boundaries fundraising campaign, which raised \$67 million for capital projects and facilities improvements like the remodeling of Cro.

The renovation of Cro focuses on four main areas: the front entrance from Crozier Boulevard, Cro's Nest (a social space), Oasis Cafe, and the 1962 Room (a large multipurpose room). The renovated front entrance from Crozier Boulevard promises to feature lighter ceiling tiles and more greenery to create a welcoming atmosphere.

Cro's Nest will be similarly renovated, featuring lighter wood-colored ceiling tiles and more lighter colors evoking warmth and

Article continued on page 4.

Silfen Track and Field: A Renovation

LILLA KATE TUCKER
SPORTS EDITOR

Athletics are a core component of student-life here at Connecticut College. As a small liberal arts school, more than 500 members of our student body participate in the 28 Division III varsity sports offered. One of the main athletic facilities on campus can be found across Mohegan Avenue: Silfen Track and Field is home to Connecticut College's sole turf field and outdoor track. Overlooking the gorgeous Thames River as the only NESCAC to have direct waterfront access, athletes are provided with a state-of-the-art facility for practices and competitions. Despite its luxurious location and ostensibly sufficient conditions, Silfen Track and Field needed a renovation to ensure the highest possible performance for all impacted teams.

Beginning this past July, project team leaders Justin Wolfradt, Executive Director of Facilities Management and Campus Planning, and Kayla Moreno, Associate Director of Projects and Planning, have led the management of Silfen's renovation. The existing turf and track material were first removed, leaving the space bare and empty. The first signs of change came with the addition of the new turf, complete with a Camel head in the center of the field. The far sideline boasts "CAMELS" in light blue lettering, sandwiched between the words "NCAA" and "NESCAC." Mo White, Connecticut College's Head Athletic Director, noted the improved turf material. White referred to the material as "365 material," meaning that it is capable of reacting to all types of weather. While the previous turf was often "frozen" and unreactive to colder months, the new

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Courtesy of Ava Gebhart '27

New Dine at Conn Service Attempts to Promote the "Greater Good"

Until this year, Connecticut College has sourced its own campus dining. Now, Chartwells Higher Education, a dining company serving about 300 colleges and universities across the country, has made another home

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Columns



Courtesy of Tori Rich '28

Tense Presidential Debate Sparks Lively Reactions Across Campus

On Tuesday night, students from all corners of campus packed Coffee Closet, Blue Camel Cafe, the F.R.E.E. Center, and the LGBTQIA+ Center to watch the highly anticipated first

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Letter From the Editor

There's nothing quite like the transition from summer to fall on a New England liberal arts college campus. Especially after spending the previous semester studying abroad in Buenos Aires, Argentina, I am grateful to be back on campus and soak in my final fall semester at Conn. Fall-themed drinks at the coffee shops, changing leaves in the Arboretum, preparation for Fall Weekend events like Harvestfest...signs of fall at Conn are all around.

This semester, energy on campus is especially high due to the upcoming US presidential election. Students gathered in common spaces last week to watch the highly anticipated presidential debate, detailed further in Columnist Tara Kamen's politics column. Opinions Co-Editor Mia Whipple profiles the Camels Vote initiative, which has been actively promoting civic engagement at Conn and helping students register to vote. Many first-year students who turned 18 in the past year will be voting for the very first time this November, and seniors like me who turned 18 just after the 2020 presidential election will finally have the chance to vote for a president.

Here at The College Voice, we are excited to progress as a publication and better serve our campus community this year. Due to the ongoing renovation of the College Center at Crozier-Williams (see Co-Editor-in-Chief Kevin Lieue's detailed breakdown of campus construction projects), TCV has made a new home in the basement of Becker House. New to our masthead, you will see additions to our editorial board: student columnists and photographers.

I tackled the change in dining services in my (lengthy, I know) op-ed this edition. For the first time, campus dining is outsourced by Chartwells Higher Education. Arts Editors Emma Dinkelspiel and Mia Penasa eagerly await Noah Kahan's performance at the September Soundside Music Festival in Bridgeport; read their preview for more! Check out the fall sports preview for a comprehensive rundown of all things Camel Athletics by first-time TCV contributor Evelyn Costigan '28. This edition also premieres our Southeast Scoreboard, created by Sports Editors LK Tucker and Luke Corless. We are continuing our Entertainment Section thanks to our hardworking cruciverbalist, Erica Smith.

We hope you enjoy reading this edition of TCV as you sip your chai and pumpkin spice lattes; happy fall to everyone!

Davi Schulman '25
Managing Editor

THE COLLEGE VOICE

The views and opinions expressed in *The College Voice* are strictly those of student authors, and not of Connecticut College. All content and editorial decisions remain in the hands of the students; neither the College's administration nor its faculty exercise control over the content.

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Connecticut College Takes Steps to Handle History Properly

CLAIRE HLOTYAK
OPINIONS EDITOR

It is highly likely that one of the first things you will hear when attending a Connecticut College event is a land acknowledgment. Available on the College's website, the acknowledgment starts by acknowledging "the land we currently occupy and [honoring] the Native peoples who were its first inhabitants. Specifically, we honor the Mashantucket Pequots, Eastern Pequots, Mohegans, and other Native nations who are indigenous to Nameaug, now called New London." To some new students, land acknowledgments may be a novel concept. For others, it is a common practice. Some say that acknowledgments without action are performative. Wherever you fall, it is important to note the reasoning behind these land acknowledgments to understand the history of the land Connecticut College occupies.

According to state archives, New London County was once home to the largest population of Native Americans in Connecticut. The main tribes present in this area are the Mohegan Tribe, Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation, and Eastern Pequot Tribal Nation. Their interaction with this land dates back hundreds of years. This specific story, however, begins on the lowest athletic field at Connecticut College, where, in 1981, an Indigenous North American burial was disturbed during construction and remains were unearthed.

Following a salvage excavation, the remains found were transferred to the University of Rhode Island. Subsequently, they were lost among the clutter, with only the label CC7 to identify them. Nearly two decades later, in late 2022, URI's Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) coordinator discovered the remains and made the connection to Conn. Dr. Anthony Graesch, Associate Professor of Anthropology at Conn, was contacted, and with his help, the remains were reburied.

However, the story does not end there. A similar disturbance on the lower athletic field occurred in the summer of 2022. No human remains were uncovered, but yet again, this historic land was disturbed without the consent of Conn's sovereign neighbors. This resulted in Dr. Graesch being named as Conn's inaugural College Archaeologist. In this role, he provides "oversight on matters pertaining to the conservation, management, and study of cultural heritage" within the lands stewarded by the College. This role "sets Connecticut College apart from our peers," says Graesch.

This recent disturbance prompted Dr. Graesch to apply for a grant from the State Historic Preservation Office to fund a geophysical survey of the field. The College Voice reported on the initial survey completed in November 2023. Several additional surveys have been conducted since then. According to geophysical and magnetometer surveys, ten more features believed to be Indigenous burials have been discovered below the surface. The Rogers Family Burying Ground is also located near the lower field, dating back to the 18th century. A 2009 survey revealed the presence of 41 potential gravesites, 39 more burials than currently marked. For many years, this lower field has been utilized for sports, including the rugby club and the track and field team. It is not uncommon to see locals walk-

ing their dogs or large packs of Coast Guard students running across the field, either. However, Dr. Graesch emphasizes that these recent discoveries should prompt a change in how the College stewards and relates to the land.

As a result, Conn is working on doing just that. In May, Dr. Graesch hosted a summit with ambassadors from all three tribes. The first of its kind for Conn, this summit was also a chance for the tribes to have a voice in a conversation they have historically been excluded from. The discussions focused on the care of the ancestors discovered and how Conn can continue to steward Indigenous cultural heritage. Until this point, Conn has not made substantial institutional efforts to initiate these conversations. Still, Graesch believes there is value in taking intellectual and collaborative action to the stewardship of Indigenous culture. In doing this, the College can move beyond simply reciting land acknowledgments and realize a more equitable relationship with its sovereign neighbors. As Graesch puts it, "We do not honor Indigenous communities if we do not include them in decisions about land stewardship."

Considering this is a complex topic, there are questions around campus about what this research entails. For the community to be invested in this project, these concepts require demystification. It is important to note that archaeological surveys using geophysical methods, the ones used in this research, are noninvasive, meaning there is no damage to the field or the features below the surface. The process involves sending electromagnetic pulses into the ground and measuring the qualities of the signal returned. Changes in soil composition or the presence of larger objects send back a particular signal, indicating something below the surface.

At this time, there is no plan to excavate any of the features discovered to avoid the risk of disturbing another ancestor. "Archaeology at Connecticut College adheres to ethical practices that preclude the study, acquisition, or curation of human remains," states Graesch.

As new and returning students flood Conn's campus this fall, many may remain unaware of the history of the land they live and learn on. To achieve full collaboration, Dr. Graesch mentions the value of student involvement. Archaeology is a study of the past conducted in and for the present.

This means that "ongoing efforts to decolonize archaeology and dismantle mechanisms of exclusions require students to understand these contours." If students are interested in exploring these topics further, there is a new internship program developed with colleagues from the Mohegan Tribal Historic Preservation Office. Students will learn lab archaeology methods through the lens of Mohegan values and approaches to studying their past. Dr. Graesch also offers several courses to further your understanding, including North American archaeology and archaeological curation, to name a few. He encourages students to contact him or any anthropology majors or minors!

This story is far from over. There is more to come as the College collaborates with these tribes to implement a stewardship of consent and, as Dr. Graesch describes it, "put sentiment into practice." •



Courtesy of Claire Hlotyak '27

Tense Presidential Debate Sparks Lively Reactions Across Campus

TARA KAMEN
COLUMNIST

On Tuesday night, students from all corners of campus packed Coffee Closet, Blue Camel Cafe, the F.R.E.E. Center, and the LGBTQIA+ Center to watch the highly anticipated first presidential debate between Vice President Kamala Harris and former President Donald Trump. The atmosphere in these venues was electric, with high energy and suspense filling the rooms as students gathered to witness what promised to be a fiery exchange.

The debate opened with an unexpected moment. In a bold move, Harris walked over to Trump's podium, extended her hand, and confidently introduced herself, "Kamala Harris; let's have a good debate." Trump hesitated before reluctantly shaking her hand. The reaction from students watching on campus was immediate, with gasps and cheers following this moment and other key points throughout the debate.

The Economy

Harris kicked off the debate by outlining her vision for an "opportunity economy" designed to benefit "all Americans." She emphasized policies aimed at helping families, small business owners, and first-time homebuyers, while taking direct shots at Trump's support for tax cuts for the wealthy and his backing of 20% tariffs. Harris argued that these policies would worsen inflation.

Trump countered by promising to build an even stronger economy than during his first term. However, he frequently diverted the conversation to immigration, making claims about illegal immigrants contributing to crime. His pivot left some students watching visibly confused. Trump also boasted about his pandemic response, stating he didn't receive enough credit for his efforts.

Abortion

Abortion was another flashpoint. Trump stood firmly behind the Supreme Court's decision to overturn Roe v. Wade, calling the justices "geniuses" for their work. His claim that democrats support "post-birth abortions," a widely debunked talking point, was met with disbelief by students watching at Blamel, where a few muttered in disagreement. When asked if he would sign a national abortion ban, Trump dodged the question, instead steering the conversation toward student debt cancellation.

In contrast, Harris did not hesitate to lay the blame for the overturn of Roe squarely on Trump, vowing to reinstate the protections it provided. She framed the issue as one of personal freedom, accusing Trump of stripping women of their rights.

Immigration

The debate heated up further when the topic turned to immigration. Harris accused Trump of blocking a bipartisan congressional effort to pass immigration reform because "he wants to run on a problem, not fix a problem." Trump fired back

College Breaks Ground on Campus-Altering Construction Projects

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... intimacy, according to a flipbook created by KSS Architects and published on the College's website. The exterior terrace of Cro's Nest will also be redesigned with lighter colors and the addition of cozy chairs and fire pits. The renovation of the exterior terrace brings more outdoor space for the College community to utilize for socialization and events.

Oasis Cafe, a favorite snack shop of students and faculty alike, will be redesigned with reconfigured seating, light wood-colored tiling, and an outdoor patio which connects to the second-floor terrace of Cro's Nest.

The redesigned 1962 Room will bring more wood and light green colored walls evoking nature, light, and comfort. Enhanced technology and flexible seating will also be added to improve the room's ability to hold more events of different nature and size.

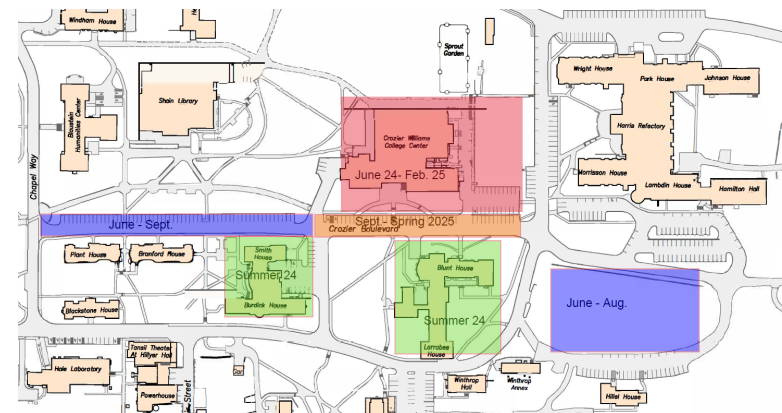
A key focus of the Crozier-Williams renovation plan created by KSS Architects was to bring the feeling of an arboretum inside Cro through the use of biophilic design. KSS chose to use biophilic architecture, an architectural approach which seeks to connect people with nature, because, according to the flipbook, certain places feel good to humans because we are hard-wired to respond to nature.

This redesigning of Cro can lead to many individual improvements in campus community members including reduced anxiety, improved sleep quality, reduced stress, strengthened immune system, and improved health resilience. Similarly, KSS outlines community improvements from the renovation including encouraging emotional attachment to a place. This leads to increased motivation and identification leading to promotion of positive interactions. As a result, feelings of relationship and membership are enhanced.

The conversion of Cro Boulevard into a pedestrian promenade just began in late July. "In July, drainage will be addressed, curb cutting will be completed, electrical work will begin and sidewalks will be poured," wrote Wolfradt in the July "Project Spotlight" email. The boulevard is planned to be completed in phases "beginning at Tempel Green to the area in front of Shain [Library]." The boulevard, which has been used as a roadway and parking area for cars, will be converted into a strictly pedestrian walkway allowing students to safely walk to class free of the worry of vehicular traffic. The pedestrian promenade will run from the southernmost area of campus all the way to the northernmost point and will include added vegetation and spaces for students to connect. The

pedestrian promenade is currently slated to finish in Spring of 2025.

Like the remodeling of Cro, the conversion of Cro Boulevard was also a recommendation listed in the 2018 Campus Master



Courtesy of Connecticut College

Plan. Additionally, it was a recommendation of the 1999 Master Plan according to the College's projects webpage.

To accommodate for the lost parking spaces on Crozier Boulevard, construction of a new East Lot began in late June. This East Lot will replace a majority of the green in front of Zachs Hillel House, which was not without controversy. Wolfradt believes that this lot will be "ready for use for faculty and staff when the fall semester begins with final touches continuing into the fall semester," according to the July email.

Renovations of the Silfen Track and Field facility began in early summer and are scheduled to be completed by the end of the summer for the fall semester. Renovations include re-turfing the Silfen Field with improved turf "designed for optimal athlete safety and high-definition broadcasting," according to the College's project webpage.

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Article continued from page 4.

Shelters will also be added to protect athletes from hazardous weather. The Silfen track will also be completely resurfaced, featuring Beynon BSS 10000 track surface, the “leading choice in surfaces among elite NCAA and international track programs.” The new surface will be completely painted in Connecticut College colors of blue and white, feature zones for high jumpers and pole vaulters, and sprint lane extensions for sprinters.

Bathroom privacy improvements in Larabee, Smith, and Burdick Houses began in June with many bathrooms already retiled. “July will be a critical month for these projects with completing tiling, mechanical, electrical and plumbing to begin and complete partition installation,” according to Wolfradt in the July “Project Spotlight” email. Privacy improvements center around the extension of floor to ceiling walls for all bathroom and shower stalls in Larabee, Smith, and Burdick. The privacy improvements for these student dormitories are expected to be completed by student move-in in August.

Fanning Hall accessibility improvements center around building stairs along the greenhouse to create an accessible route from Tempel Green to the north entry of Fanning Hall. The project “will be completed in July,” according to Wolfradt’s July Project Spotlight email.

The facilities conditions assessment began in May and has continued through the summer. The assessment is campus-wide to help the College determine buildings in need of repair or replacement and create a deferred maintenance plan, according to Wolfradt’s May “Campus Planning Update” newsletter. This assessment is being done by consultants hired by the College who are on campus conducting inspections, interviews, and through constructive feedback from the College community.

Sustainability is a key consideration for all of the campus-altering construction projects this summer. “Based on our Sustainable Building Policy and Practices there must be a sustainability representative on every building project,” said Director of Sustainability Margaret Bounds. “This year, I was the sustainability representative on the Cro

Boulevard project [and] for different projects [but] there are different representatives that are chosen by the Environmental Model Committee, which is part of the faculty governance structure, which is made up of students, staff and faculty.” This ensures that all building projects focus on building sustainability. For the Crozier-Williams renovation, there will be “energy improvements” and the use of “low VOC paint to improve indoor air quality.”

Though some trees and green space will be removed for these projects and the projects to come, according to Bounds, there will be a net increase in “trees and a net gain in accessibility and pedestrian gains” following the completion of the Crozier-Plex Pedestrian Connector and Enabling Parking Project scheduled for completion in Fall of 2025. For students and faculty interested in sustainability on campus, there are

ways to get involved. “We have a Sustainable Building Policy adopted in 2020 and the Environmental Planning Committee is interested in updating the policy alongside facilities to help better meet our sustainability goals,” said Bounds. For continued updates and more information on current and future renovations, stay up to date with the College’s projects webpage and keep your eyes open for project spotlight and campus planning update emails sent to all students and faculty. •

Courtesy of Connecticut College

*Note: This article was originally published in the 2024 summer online edition.

Cro Boulevard

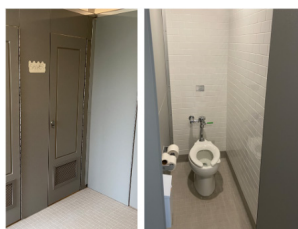


Courtesy of Connecticut College

Bathroom Privacy Improvements



Typical Existing Conditions



Typical Privacy Improvements

Over a Year Post-Affirmative Action Decision, Debate Continues on Race-Based Admissions

THEO ANDRES
NEWS EDITOR

The matriculation of the Class of 2028 marks the first round of college admissions after the US Supreme Court struck down their 2003 decision *Grutter v. Bolinger*, a landmark case that upheld affirmative action. As the 2024-2025 academic year began, waves of outrage struck many social media and news platforms as demographics for incoming first-year students at many top universities like the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC), and Amherst College saw various degrees of decreased enrollment, particularly of Black and Native American students.

The term affirmative action in college admissions refers to the practice of promoting equity where some students of color experience discrimination and generational inequity in access to education. The history of affirmative action in Supreme Court cases dates back to 1978, when they ruled in *Regents of the University of California v. Bakke* that race, particularly affirmative action, could be a factor in college admissions, but that racial quotas were discriminatory.

On June 29, 2023, the Supreme Court overruled *Grutter v. Bolinger* in the case *Students for Fair Admission v. Harvard* and its companion case against UNC, declaring that race could no longer be considered in any student admissions process. In 2014, *Students for Fair Admissions*, a conservative-leaning legal organization that advocates against affirmative action, sued Harvard University and UNC for alleged discrimination against Asian American students. The Supreme Court ruled 6-2 against Harvard, with Justices Sonia Sotomayor and Elena Kagan dissenting, and Ketanji Jackson, despite not taking part in the decision itself, joining their dissent. The decision alleged that Harvard and UNC, in a consolidated case, both failed to avoid racially stereotyping students, and never specified at what point in time they would end race-based admissions, two requirements of *Grutter v. Bollinger*.

Though race can no longer be an official factor in admissions, the decision specified that universities are still able to consider race; for example, a student may mention their struggles in regard to their race in part of their personal essay, or those struggles may be mentioned in a letter of recommendation for the students.

New waves of conversation surrounding the merits and pitfalls of affirmative action struck the internet after MIT released the demographics of their incoming first-year class earlier this fall. Strikingly, their percentage of enrolled students that self-identify as Black dropped from 15% in the class of 2027 to 5% in the class of 2028. J. Brian Charles at the *Chronicle of Higher Education* says that “less than one in six incoming MIT freshmen, or 16 percent, identify as Black, Latino, Native American, or Pacific Islander, which represents a drop of nine percentage points, or 36 percent, from previous classes.”

At Tufts University, the overall percentage of students of color in the Class of 2028 dropped to 44% from the previous year's 50%. Black student enrollment dropped from 7.3% last year to 4.7% this year, and Asian and Indigenous students experienced similar declines.

Amherst College, different from MIT and Tufts, published the racial demographics of their class years in three categories: federal reporting guidelines, self reported identities (domestic), and self reported iden-

ties (international). Self-reported identities allow students to indicate that they identify with more than one race or ethnicity, and therefore numbers differ from the standardized category, though all college students self-report their ethnicities. In the Amherst College Class of 2027, 11% of students were Black, 15% self-reported, but in the Class of 2028, 3% of students were Black, 6% self-reported. Overall, the percentage of students who self-identify as people of color fell from 47% to 38% this year.

One of the largest arguments for affirmative action to remain was to combat legacy admissions, a common phenomenon in admissions processes that favors candidates with immediate family members who previously attended the institution. Amherst College and MIT both previously ended legacy admissions, though they still see discrepancies between numbers of white students and students of color. Having affirmative action in place at those institutions sometimes indirectly counteracted legacy preference by assisting first-generation students and students of color, but the process also attempted to generally bridge the gaps made by cycles of generational poverty, discrimination, and lack of access to education. However, Harvard, whose case ended affirmative action, still practices legacy admissions.

Some college administrators and admission experts cautioned against reading into the numbers in the first year after the case, especially as admissions processes change. Between colleges shedding legacy admissions, changing how they consider standardized test scores, handling a post-COVID-19 world, and any other reasons, college admissions processes change daily. Therefore, numbers and demographics can seem varied and change trends, though many pointed out that the severe drops in enrollment of Black students, uncharacteristic of typical single-year changes.

In addition, many online respondents pointed to the 1996 affirmative action ban in California's Proposition 209. According to a 2020 study by Zachary Bleemer, as the ban took place for the Class of 1998, Black and Latino enrollment at UCLA and UC Berkeley fell by 40%. After 1998, the total enrollment of Black and Latino students at the University of California “declined by about 800 students per year after 1998.” For many, this study provides a clear parallel to the beginnings of trends we see after the federal ban.

Connecticut College upholds that it does not practice legacy admissions, and that the institution very steadfastly stands with affirmative action. The College was part of an amicus curiae brief during *SFFA v. Harvard* with 33 other liberal arts institutions, including the aforementioned Amherst College, citing the “substantial harm” that a decision in favor of *SFFA* would cause to all colleges, especially liberal arts colleges, and of “the extent to which *Grutter* remains workable and scrupulously applied by small colleges.” In an article on the Conn website published after the *SFFA v. Harvard* decision, Dean of the College and interim Dean of Equity and Inclusion Erika Smith stated, “together we will continue to look for other ways to bring the full spectrum of the best and the brightest through our institutions and into leadership roles in the future.” •



Courtesy of Collin Lloyd

Nanoplastics: Seeing the Invisible

OLIVER AUCIELLO
CONTRIBUTOR

This summer, I worked with Columbia University's Chemical Engineering department to research how different plastics degrade to the micro and nanoscale. Before my research, I was not incredibly familiar with plastics, and I especially did not understand the micro- and nanoplastics I heard about so frequently in the news.

From the Ancient Greek word "plastikos" meaning "fit for molding" and from the Latin "plasticus" meaning "of molding," our commonly used noun plastic refers to pliable and easily molded materials. Plastics are types of synthetic polymers, which are made up of repeating monomer (small molecule) chains. While there are seven main types of plastic, there are thousands of specific grades of polymers, each of which has its own specific mechanical and chemical properties and synthesis process.

What is the difference between micro and nanoplastics?

The terms "microplastic" and "nanoplastic" have been circulating through the media to describe small fragments of plastic that are either manufactured or break off of larger plastic. Headlines like CNN's "Bottled water packed with nanoplastics, study finds" and Science News' "Microplastics are in our bodies. Here's why we don't know the health risks" can immediately raise fear and confusion. However, like all trending topics, it is crucial to understand what we know and what we don't.

Although the sizes micro and nano might seem to fall into the same category of tiny things, when it comes to location, origins, properties and consequences, there are many differences. First, to wrap our heads around the size of nanoplastics, we'll start with one centimeter (cm) which has 10,000 micrometers. One micrometer (μm) has 1,000 nanometers (nm). So, one centimeter has 10 million nanometers. A human hair is usually 17 to 181 micrometers thick, while one nanometer is about how long our fingernails grow per second (according to the National Nanotechnology Initiative). Nanoplastics usually refer to plastic fragments of lengths between 1 and 100 nm, while microplastics are between 1 and 5,000 μm (1,000 to 5,000,000 nm).

The behavior of plastic at the nanoscale is very different from the micro and macroscale. In water, objects approaching 100 nm and smaller start to act with the random movement of water molecules (Hassan et al., 2015). This random motion continues despite the pull of gravity and therefore a microplastic might sink while its nanoplastic sibling will float (Gigault et al., 2021).

Where do nanoplastics come from?

As we've all heard many times before, plastic pollution is a major problem that disrupts and destroys aquatic life. While this understanding led to the 2015 anti-plastic-straws movement to save sea turtles and an increasing number of states implemented bans on plastic bag usage, plastic pollution is an increasingly dire issue.

There has been a substantial amount of research on the contamination of microplastics in the aquatic environment and the health implications

that aquatic organisms face. However, due to the entirely different set of properties governing nanoplastics and their detectability, a new category of research with many new challenges is required to understand their effects fully.

Nanoplastics in the environment can come directly from manufactured sources, including nanomedicine and nanoimaging, or fragments of disintegrating plastics. Some examples include tire wear, laundry wastewater, plastic waste, plastic water bottles, and personal care products (such as exfoliants in face washes).

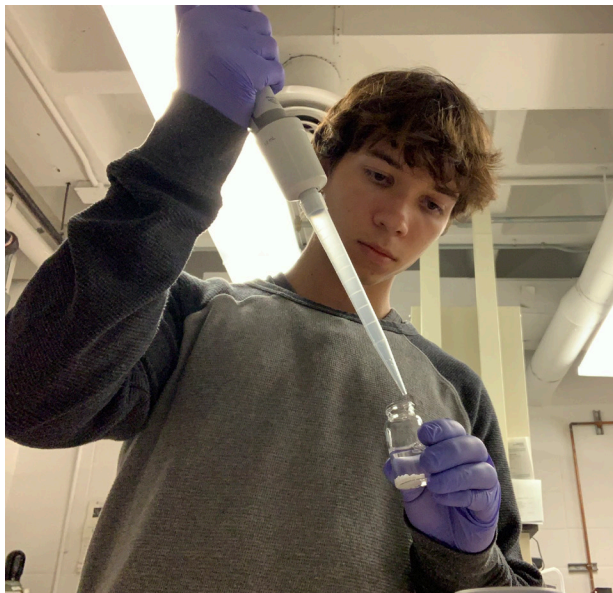
Because nanoplastics are so small, it is hard for the wastewater system to filter them out. Unfortunately, this means that when we use products that contain nanoplastics, they may trickle through the filtration system and end up in oceans, rivers and even freshwater sources.

Impacts on Human Health

There are three possible entryways for micro and nanoplastics to enter our bodies: the lungs, skin, and gastrointestinal (GI) tract. Once inside our bodies, micro and nanoplastics can cause immune dysfunction, alter metabolism and have the potential to cause cancer. However, more research needs to be conducted to accurately determine how the types of plastic and environmentally realistic concentrations affect our health.

As micro and nanoplastics are consumed by aquatic organisms, they are carried up the food chain. Luckily for us, microplastics stay mostly contained in the GI tract of seafood, which is removed during the gutting process. Not so luckily, nanoplastics are small enough to seep into the underlying intestinal tissue of the organism and are likely to remain in the parts we consume.

Courtesy of Oliver Auciello '25



The actual behavior of nanoplastics inside our bodies is very complex and dependent on many factors, though we know one thing for sure: the size of the plastic particle matters. As biological and chemical research continues to uncover the consequences of nanoplastics, it will likely be far too late to reverse the effects that nanoplastics have on our environment and our bodies.

As of now, there are large knowledge gaps on the ways nanoplastics enter and interact with the environment. Because of this, a lot of the research done on the impacts of nanoplastics on human health use environmentally irrelevant nanoplastic samples, such as types, shapes and concentrations that are not yet found in nature. For now, there is not enough research to explain what exactly is happening inside our bodies, so direct conclusions cannot be drawn.

What We Can Do

As part of the larger plastic issue, it is necessary to limit all daily plastic usage, particularly single use items, as Davis and Nguyen state in "The plastic problem isn't your fault, but you can be part of the solution." We can also look into the personal care products we buy and make an extra effort to support brands that take this environmental issue into account. As we learn more about the environmental and human impacts of nanoplastics, we will be better prepared to deal with their consequences. •

Student Accessibility Services Commences Helix Pre-Orientation Program

ADRIEN LONDON
CO-EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Student Accessibility Services' (SAS) first annual Helix Pre-Ori-

entation program from Aug. 19 to Aug. 21 brought 20 upperclassmen mentors and 28 first-year mentees together in order to provide a new welcome experience for students with disabilities at Conn. The typical Welcome Weekend is often overwhelming and lacks helpful details on how to access some critical resources for students with disabilities on campus. Students with disabilities have also struggled historically to find others to connect with socially during Welcome Weekend. Thanks to the impressive combined effort of SAS Director Dr. Jill Heilman, SAS Coordinator Lillian Liebenthal, and the many students invested in disability justice and equity on campus, Helix was a success in providing community, support resources, and a better orientation experience for students with disabilities.

As defined in the Helix Leader Manual, "The Helix Peer to Peer Mentor program is a voluntary program that allows upperclassmen to serve as peer mentors to incoming freshmen registered with the Student Accessibility Services office. Helix mentors will first meet these students during the pre-orientation program and then follow them throughout their first year at Conn."

The idea for a pre-orientation program for students with disabilities has been proposed several times throughout the years, but it was the vision of Max Eikinas '26, Owyn Ledina '25, Minnie Madden '25, and Anna Vredevoogd '26 during a career and disability event that really began to pick up steam. Once Heilman came on campus in the fall of 2023 with her tenacious need to improve the experience of students with disabilities on



Courtesy of Dr. Jill Heilman

campus and tireless support of disability initiatives, it was only a matter of time before Helix would be born—in fact, it would take less than a year. Throughout the spring of 2024, a committee made up of Vredevoogd, Eikinas, Andrew Rood '27, Amanda Scherer '27, Heilman, and Liebenthal got to work designing the program as well as recruiting and training mentors.

In an effort to "provide students and their families the resources, connections, and tools they'll need to embark on this new chapter in their academic journey," as set in the Helix Leader Manual, mentees were provided opportunities to bond in lowkey social settings, participate in accessible tours of campus, explore the Arboretum and various campus quiet spaces, learn about SAS and affiliated resources, practice having accommodations meetings with faculty, know

what to expect in order to prepare for Welcome Weekend, and more.

Next year, Heilman hopes to build on this year's success by bringing mentors to campus earlier to create a stronger bond among them before beginning their mentorship activities. She also looks forward to incorporating Helix into Welcome Weekend for more continuity for mentees.

Helix set out just what it meant to do and laid the groundwork for even more progress toward making Conn's campus a welcoming place for students with disabilities. At the conclusion of Helix's pre-orientation, one mentee told Heilman, "I found my people; there are six of us and we have movie nights in each other's dorms and we go to the dining hall together, and I just feel so happy and welcomed."

In achieving its goal of creating an experience that would stop the cycle of lonely, alienated, and confused first-year students with disabilities, Helix has made major steps in improving Conn. •

Camels Vote: Civic Engagement on Campus

MIA WHIPPLE
OPINIONS EDITOR

In the fall of 2020, students inspired by their Politics of Voting Reforms class worked with the Holleran Center to create Camels Vote: an ambitious, student-centered

program aimed at encouraging civic engagement and fostering a culture of voting amongst students, faculty, and staff on campus. With the 2024 election just around the corner, here's what you should know about Camels Vote's mission.

Increasing Voter Registration/Participation

For many of my peers, this is their first time voting in a national election, and it can feel overwhelming. That's where Camels Vote comes in.

As a student ambassador for Camels Vote, my role is to be a resource for other students. We help students register to vote depending on their state's mandates, assist in the receiving of absentee ballots, and show them how to check voter registration deadlines. But it's more than just the logistics of voting— we also talk about why voting matters, both on a national and local level. National elections are a way to bring your views and beliefs one vote closer to implementation in the Oval Office. Local elections, though consistently overlooked by voters, allow you to contribute to the governing that directly impacts yourself and your community every day. Students must understand that voting gives them a voice in shaping the policies that are important to them.

In an effort to further encourage voter registration, Camels Vote has partnered with the All In Campus Democracy Challenge's Pledge to Vote. By signing the pledge, members of the Connecticut College community commit to staying informed, encouraging others to vote, and exercising their right to vote in every election, whether local, state, or national.

If you cannot attend our various tabling events around campus, we also

post updates on deadlines and requirements on our Instagram @camels-vote to promote accessible information. In the bio of the account, you can find a Linktree with all of the voting resources you may need and information that you may be unsure about.

Civic Engagement Beyond Voting

Camels Vote isn't just for students who are eligible to vote. Many students, particularly international students, can't cast a ballot. However, that doesn't mean they don't have a voice or a role in the democratic process, especially within the Conn community.

Further, we believe that civic engagement doesn't stop on Election Day. For students who can't vote, or those looking for ways to get involved beyond the ballot box, we encourage participation in community events such as civic volunteer work and policy discussions.

We encourage all students, regardless of voting eligibility, to take part in political discussions and events on campus. Whether it's joining a debate watch party, attending a talk by a guest speaker, or simply discussing with friends, students can contribute to the broader political conversation. These opportunities help develop critical thinking skills and foster a sense of responsibility toward the issues that affect us all.

Building Community

Camels Vote believes in fostering a strong sense of community by bringing together voters, non-voters, students, and staff through our volunteer opportunities and tabling events. Through tabling events, volunteers from different backgrounds come together to educate peers about the importance of voting, help with registration, and provide information on how to

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Camels Vote: Civic Engagement on Campus

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... stay informed. These events create opportunities for educational dialogue, where even those unable to vote can contribute by volunteering or raising awareness. This collective effort builds a culture of engagement, responsibility, and shared purpose on campus.

No matter who you are, there are undoubtedly issues on the ballot that are of importance to you. 40 million Gen-Z people ages 18-24 will be eligible to vote in this election, a historical impact that undoubtedly will leave its mark on the election if we get out and vote. Many students at Conn feel

very strongly about politics and the importance of voting in this upcoming election, and that is exactly the passion that the Camels Vote team and its volunteers have. Building a community of people who share a passion for voting and want to share it with their peers is what we strive to do.

If you are someone who would like to be involved with Camels Vote, everyone is welcome! Camels Vote can make a difference, and it starts with each and every one of you. •

Disclaimer: As mentioned in the article, I am an ambassador for Camels Vote. My support of the initiative is through the lens of one who actively engages with them, so I have a bias on the topic.

Housing the Herd

ERICA SMITH
CRUCIVERBALIST

The housing lottery at Connecticut College is problematic. Some students despise it with their whole being, while others are thankful every day that the odds were

in their favor. No matter where you stand, most students around campus agree that the lottery system needs to be changed.

As of 2023-2024, the housing lottery for non-first-year students was based on randomly assigned numbers granted to each class. 1-500 is for seniors, 501-1000 is for juniors, and 1001-1500 is for sophomores. These numbers are an approximation based on class size. The numbers will adjust if the class is bigger, like the Class of 2026.

In the past, once you were assigned your lottery number, housing may have granted you a deduction based on the room you lived in that year. Almost all rooms on campus qualified for point deductions. Basements, multiple occupancy rooms, and common rooms were some of the main reasons for deductions. Because almost all students received deductions in the lottery, they were rendered useless. Director of Residential Education and Life Eric Barnes, saw this and knew there needed to be a change.

Barnes decided not to enforce point deductions during the 2023-2024 housing lottery, which enraged many students, including myself. In my first year, I lived in a triple with two roommates who had picked each other, leaving me feeling unwelcome. After this negative experience, I hoped for better odds in the next housing lottery.

Students would often choose to live in “less desirable” rooms in hopes of receiving a future point deduction. With that incentive now gone, most students wanted to live in single rooms for the upcoming semester. This led to a crisis. There are about 2,000 students at Conn, but only 913 single rooms. This includes the Manwaring apartments in downtown New London and the River Ridge and Winchester apartments. As you can predict, most upper-class students did not get the rooms they desired.

Some students played it smart, forming large groups for housing, which got priority over individual singles. Those who were unfortunate were placed in doubles, triples, or even quads. While waitlists and other changes have since allowed many of those students to switch their living situations, it was overwhelming to receive initial housing notifications this year.

In my case, I was assigned to three different rooms with four different roommates throughout two and a half months. I was the girl who cried roommate. Major anxiety ensued as I met four new random roommates in a short period.

Mia Whipple '27, a spring admit, has faced this challenge twice. Whipple shared that her initial housing assignment changed during her spring move-in as there was no bed in the room for her. Instead of receiving a better lottery number next time, Whipple was placed in a quad for the Fall 2024 semester. She tried her chances on the waitlist, eventually being placed in a Johnson double.

According to Barnes, when students do not get assigned a room during the housing lottery, they are placed in a holder room, typically a triple or

a quad, for the time being. Over the summer, more rooms open up as the first-year class size is revealed. The number of students going abroad and those who transferred also play into the available rooms.

The housing staff then looks at the “unhoused” students’ preferences via the waitlists and adjusts their assignments accordingly. The issue with this is that the system is automatic; when it sees an open room that a student may want, it moves them and places another student in the original space. Without student input, students can lose opportunities for roommates or living spaces that they find desirable.

The housing lottery is difficult because each year, more rooms become unlivable or are removed from the system. This summer, for instance, many dorms were reverted to common rooms, multiple-occupancy living spaces were reduced from triples to doubles, and other rooms were deemed unlivable for safety reasons.

One might think the best solution would be to live off campus, but that is easier said than done. Since Conn is a residential campus, its philosophy relies on the large majority of students living on campus. Each year, some students can be approved to live off campus, but this depends on the number of students enrolled. If there are enough spaces on campus for all students to live, no students would be approved to live off campus.

So, which is the safest option? Barnes and Becky Pritchett, Associate Director of Residential Life, are more than willing to meet with students. If you have a lot of plants and need a room with the best sunlight, they will help you find every room that meets your needs. Their power does have its limitations. If the room you are looking for is so unrealistic that it does not exist, they cannot help you, but it is still good to try.

Barnes also hopes to shorten the housing process. Right now the lottery takes two and a half months, stressful for students and housing staff alike. They want to allow for enough flexibility so that if students do not get their first housing choice, they still have time to apply for another option.

All these planned changes to the system are great, but what will happen with the lottery and deductions themselves? Since deductions based on room quality failed in the past, housing is looking for new solutions. The major idea at the moment is to award lottery deductions to students who are involved on campus. Their philosophy is that if you are bettering this campus, you should be rewarded. This may present itself as attending events run by the college, or even holding leadership positions. There are no official guidelines yet, as housing is still in the brainstorming phase.

No matter what the case is, housing wants to hear from you. Administrators can form the ideals they think are best, but that does not always match the students’ perspective. Solely complaining on YikYak does not create change. Reach out to Barnes or Pritchett via the housing email, housing@conncoll.edu. Addressing your concerns through the proper channels creates change. If you live in an unsafe environment, file a work order. Facilities take notes on the conditions of residential rooms and can move you if you are unsafe.

Conn has seen time and time again that students hold the power. If we do not like the conditions around us, we have the power to change them, but this will only happen if done properly. •

New Dine at Conn Service Attempts to Promote the “Greater Good”

DAVI SCHULMAN
MANAGING EDITOR

Until this year, Connecticut College has sourced its own campus dining. Now, Chartwells Higher Education, a dining company serving about 300 colleges and universities across the country, has made another home at Conn. The College continues to collaborate with Chartwells to fully roll out a new and improved dining experience for students; the complete renovation of Harris Refectory and implementation of new food stations will (supposedly) be complete for the fall 2025 semester.

While most of the faces in Harris and Jane Addams dining halls are the same as before, the food and decorations are quite different. Of course, college students will always critique their school’s food. Dining is an essential part of the college experience—socially and in terms of personal health and wellbeing. It is no secret that students had plenty to say about CC Dining, from its sometimes questionably-cooked chicken to its lack of vegetarian/vegan options. However, student complaints have peaked after this transition from the old CC Dining to the new Dine at Conn service by Chartwells.

Before Campus Dining Director Peter Johnson responded to student concerns in a September 6 email, The College Voice conducted a voluntary survey of 52 Conn students of all class years (with the majority of representation from the Class of 2027, by chance). Based on this survey, we concluded that most Conn students were very unhappy with the change in dining services. Most surveyed students rated the new Dine at Conn service a two out of five, with one meaning not at all satisfactory and five meaning highly satisfactory. No respondents gave Dine at Conn a high rating of five. In comparison with CC Dining, students also rated Dine at Conn a two out of five. TCV Staff Writer Ellis Iurilli-Hough ‘27 circulated a Change.org petition to “Save Dining at Conn,” calling for Chartwells to consider student requests (this petition is not affiliated with TCV). As of September 15, the petition has 209 signatures. Students have gone so far as to jokingly refer to Chartwells as “Shartwells.” Better late than never, Chartwells is making necessary changes to redeem their on-campus reputation.

Missing the Old

“I miss the old Harris with themed dinners such as quesadilla nights and taco nights,” wrote Diana Shykula ‘27. Several students shared this sentiment and cited other Harris Dining staples they miss, such as Sundae Sundays, the pizza station, grilled cheese, poke bowls, avocado toast, smoothies, and bagel bar. “I feel like the college should’ve considered the students’ input more before making these changes,” wrote Jocelyn Bieler ‘25.

Chartwells listened and is returning many of students’ favorites, including Sundae Sunday, homemade pizza, Grilled Cheese Night, and a larger variety of bagels. The sparse and unclear hours of the made-to-order grill have now shifted back to all-day, everyday.

Students also shared complaints about the elimination of paper cups and plastic utensils in the dining halls. “I used to take coffee and tea to go, especially when I am late or I want to drink something hot in my room but now I can’t do that,” wrote Anonymous ‘27. Students miss the ease of taking a coffee to-go, or even a cup of cereal or ice cream. According to the Campus Dining FAQs on Dine at Conn’s website, Chartwells is “focusing on providing a more sustainable and less disposable dining experience, which is why items like paper cups and cookie bags are no longer provided.” They acknowledge that the rather bulky Conn-tainers are not always practical and are “evaluating options to offer more convenient takeout solutions while still maintaining our commitment to reducing waste.” To start, Jane Addams Dining Hall now has baskets of plastic utensils and small paper plates.

Another Anonymous ‘27 summed up: “CC Dining definitely had its issues (such as consistently undercooking meat), but I never walked in and was unable to find a single thing to eat. I liked how CC Dining always had many options and was quick to restock when items ran out, both things that I feel are missing from Dine @ Conn.” Chartwells claims it is actively working to address issues with lack of menu options and staffing.

Where’s the variety?

Several students commend the increase in food quality from Chartwells. However, “it seems that with the increase of quality, there has been a decrease

in options,” as truthfully stated by Anonymous ‘27. The rotating lunch and dinner stations in Harris have been replaced by additional vegetarian/vegan food and other repeated options—chicken, rice, and pasta. “I have been eating sandwiches, pasta, and salads every day,” said Abby Dawson ‘25.

“The [current] rotation makes the weekly rotation of the last two years seem like a luxury; even during Covid-19 the variety was better. It feels like every other day is the same unappetizing and undercooked meal as before, ready to make me pick my poison,” wrote Anonymous ‘25. Students also cited complaints about the severe lack of tea options as well as different types of bagels. In his email, Johnson promised a wider variety of menu options, especially for sources of protein. As put by Blake Rogers ‘25, “They need to...bring back steak, lamb, goat and other options from last year. Turkey burgers and chicken every night aren’t cutting it.”

Chartwells explained the lack of variety in their FAQ: “The repetition of some food options is due to our efforts to stabilize and standardize the menu during the transition phase. We recognize the need for greater variety and are taking steps to introduce new and diverse menu items.” New food items have already begun to roll out; pre-made breakfast sandwiches in Jane Addams and açai in Harris are among the many interesting options.

Which is the fake meat?

Vegetarian and vegan students struggled to find sufficient options—especially for protein—in the old Harris. Chartwells listened and implemented new stations/dishes intended for vegetarians and vegans. Whether their response satisfies students is up for debate. An anonymous vegan student from the Class of 2025 shared, “In the past, it was a lot easier to get creative with the options in Harris, but I am struggling to have a complete and varied diet without supplemental food that I have to pay for with minimal funds from my part-time job. It’s affecting my mood and well-being negatively.”

Students also raised concerns with the new way Chartwells labels food. “Knowing what’s vegan or not has gotten harder—there’s been multiple times where there’s mock meat side by side with animal meat and the only indicator of which is plant-based is the menu ON THE WALL,” wrote another anonymous student from the Class of 2025. “Harris used to write dietary restrictions right above the item, now they make you take an educated guess!” Now, new paper labels appear directly above many food items, hopefully making it easier for students with dietary restrictions.

Allergies and Labels: A Recipe for Disaster

The new Delicious Without station in Harris is intended for students with the top nine major allergies (peanuts, tree nuts, dairy, egg, shellfish, fish, soybean, wheat, and sesame) to dine safely. Many students take advantage of this station regardless of allergies because the food is made-to-order, so there is a new express line for students in a rush.

“Students with allergens outside of the top nine should work with our Campus Dietitian, Jen Moore, to help them navigate the offerings,” according to the Campus Dining FAQs. Still, students with allergies do not feel completely at ease in the dining halls. “Nothing is labeled so we often have to just guess if it will make us have a reaction or not. Also the font on the screens is not large enough to read,” wrote Pluto Payne ‘25. Chartwells claims to be improving menu and label accuracy, hopefully making students feel safer.

“They say [the Delicious Without station is] top [nine] allergens friendly but don’t include legumes (which is frequent among nut-allergies),” shared Nicole Sanfilippo ‘27. “They had nothing for me to eat the first two weeks here. Only after too many meetings was I able to find some stuff for me to eat, but it ended up being the same meal for lunch and dinner.”

Students demand protein!

Protein is an essential part of any college student’s diet, especially a student-athlete. Non-vegetarian students complain about the overkill of vegan and vegetarian dishes from Chartwells: Anonymous ‘27 shared, “It feels as if they are trying to force us to be ‘healthier’ by making us eat vegan and by the much smaller portions provided.” Much of Dine at Conn’s branding surrounds ...

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... wellness and sustainability. Similarly, Shykula wrote, “I understand that the point of this dining service is to be more inclusive for those with food regulations but a lot of the food that is vegan and vegetarian just does not taste like the normal version of the dish.”

Some students, like Anonymous ‘28, really felt the absence of reliable protein: “I’ve been at Conn for 13 days and I’m down 9 pounds... Athletes like myself can’t be screwing up our diets because of poor food quality.” During the first couple of weeks, the only convenient and reliable sources of protein in Harris were deli meats and burgers/hot dogs at the grill. Many students reported eating turkey burgers almost daily for dinner. Anonymous ‘25 wrote, “I feel like I’m getting a freshman 15 in my senior year.”

In response, Dine at Conn has begun to introduce a variety of proteins including pork and fish. Concerns about food safety are rampant, so Chartwells created an entire FAQ section on the topic reassuring students that all meats are cooked to temperature.

Branding and Sustainability

Not only is the food different, but the dining halls also have a brand new look this academic year. A fresh coat of paint and new signs/menu screens make Harris and Jane Addams dining halls appear more modern. Some students, like Anonymous ‘25, are critical of this change: “While the decor of old Harris was a bit dated, it was never something I heard complaints of. This new style is lifeless corporate art with no emotion.” Dine at Conn’s slogan is “the greater good” and greater-than signs appear in cheesy phrases all over Harris Refectory’s walls. “The ‘motivational’ slogans on the wall don’t make sense grammatically or mathematically,” commented Anonymous ‘25.

New signs indicate the sustainable sourcing of Chartwells’ food, like the use of cage-free eggs, crate-free pork, and hormone-free poultry. While some students may appreciate the transparency, others are skeptical: “The sustainability and health fishing by Chartwells does not seem to reflect the actual sourcing of their food, and students can tell the ingredients are heavily processed by taste and quality alone,” wrote another Anonymous ‘25.

The signs surrounding the food disposal area in Harris are a point of contention among students. “Wasting food wastes everything,” reads a large sign above the dirty dish conveyor belt. The sign equates wasting food to wasting money and love. “The wording over the food disposal area is harmful, as it puts food waste on the individual when in reality most of the food being wasted is because no one wants to eat it. This can also prove problematic for people with eating disorders who may feel compelled to clear a plate,” wrote Anonymous ‘25. “I don’t want to be shamed for listening to my body,” added Anonymous ‘27. The new calorie labeling was also triggering for students with/recovering from eating disorders. As a result, Chartwells decided to remove calorie counts from the menu boards and keep them on the online menus.

Jane Addams Dining Hall: (Former) Home of the Panini

The smaller dining hall on south campus, Jane Addams was a student favorite for its fresh artisan bread, infused olive oils and fresh pesto, pre-made salads, and hot soups. Evidently, JA was not supposed to reopen this semester until September 15. Under pressure from Chartwells, JA reopened early on September 2 and its food offerings were a repeat of the food in Harris. Very disappointed, students complained and now Chartwells is attempting to bring back what students loved about JA. New artisan breads

and deli spreads round out the lunch offerings. Specialty salads will also make a return, as will homemade soups as we enter the colder months. The chocolate chips students sprinkled on top of their yogurt and oatmeal are back as well as JA’s signature cold brew coffee.

One of the highlights of lunch at JA was making a sandwich on focaccia or ciabatta bread and cooking it to a perfect crisp on the panini press. This year, the panini presses in Harris and JA are nowhere to be seen. “After thorough evaluation and updates to both the Jane Addams and Harris locations, several challenges were identified including electrical capacity concerns... We will look for [the panini presses] to be reconsidered during the Phase 2 renovation of Harris,” wrote Chartwells in their FAQ. In the meantime, students may bring their sandwiches to the grill station in Harris, but there is no way to cook sandwiches in JA.

To compensate for the temporary loss of Oasis Cafe in the College Center at Crozier-Williams (undergoing major renovations), JA is offering a late-night dining option open beginning at 8 p.m. on weekdays (when Harris closes) and 6 p.m. on weekends. Late Night JA will even have a mobile order option for grilled sandwiches. While less extensive than Oasis’s offerings, Late Night JA has “pub food” such as chicken tenders and mozzarella sticks.

Camels need caffeine!

Conn students with full-access meal plans receive 45 Dining Dollars each semester to use for additional on-campus dining. Before Chartwells, students could use their Dining Dollars at Oasis Cafe as well as the two student-run coffee shops: Coffee Grounds and Coffee Closet. Now, students may only pay with Dining Dollars at the new mobile markets in Harris and JA (consisting of vending machines and overpriced snacks) and Late Night JA/Oasis Cafe (once reopened).

The student-run coffee shops play an important role in Conn’s campus culture. Students use the shops as social and study spaces, taking advantage of the hand-made drinks and baked goods. Payne complained, “Chartwells took away OUR Dining Dollars for OUR student-run coffee shops. They only allow us to use them for overpriced candy and ramen.” Another student noted that the candy and snacks

are cheaper in the vending machines a few feet outside Harris Refectory. There is an irony in the College now making students pay out of pocket at their own coffee shops. Chartwells is working on a new Dining Dollar system that works for students.

The Change to Chartwells

Change is never easy, and it will take time for Chartwells to fully establish its enterprise on Conn’s campus. Students have set the bar high and we will see how Chartwells lives up to our standards. Initial reactions were harsh: “In short, my expectations for Chartwells were at the floor, and they grabbed a shovel and began digging,” wrote Anonymous ‘25. “It feels like 1984 in the dining hall and we should just ‘be happy’ and ‘accept’ the new food overlords,” expressed Rogers.

It is important to note that Chartwells has already instituted many positive changes since the start of the semester. Students are especially enjoying the biscuit egg sandwiches in Jane Addams, the new citrus peach juice, and fried chicken tenders, among other menu items.

If there is one thing camels do, it is speak up to create the campus community we wish to see. While this shift in dining services caused a significant amount of turmoil during the start of the fall semester, perhaps things will settle as Dine at Conn continues to implement student suggestions. •



Courtesy of Davi Schulman '25

CONNECTION Through Social Media

SHANNON BROCK
CONTRIBUTOR

During this past summer, the undertaking of preparation required to start my first year of college was incredibly nerve-racking and overwhelming. There were all the forms to fill out and hours of modules to watch. I had to worry about buying everything I needed for my dorm room to make it feel like a home. On top of that, I had work and all the summer activities I wanted to check off my bucket list. I was waffling between wishing summer would stretch on forever and the part where I was all settled into college life. I worried that the dorms would feel overcrowded, and what if the dining halls served mystery meat? Will my weekends be dull? Will my classes feel suffocating? Will the students and professors be easy to talk to? The questions flooded my brain, so seeing reminders of why I chose Connecticut College on the school's social media was incredibly helpful.

I pride myself on how often I check my email, but keeping up to date with all the emails sent during the summer proved difficult. Connecticut College's social media activity provided information in a more fun, engaging, and supportive format than the daunting emails. I mostly looked at the Instagram account @conncollege, but you can also find them on LinkedIn, TikTok, Facebook, X, Threads, and YouTube.

I spoke to Clare O'Brien, Connecticut College's Content Creator for Digital Marketing and Communications, Christelle Lachapelle, the Director of Digital Marketing, and Danny Rockwell, the Social Media Videographer. These three were incredible to talk to, and they showed me how much they truly care about hearing student feedback and highlighting student voices in their posts. The team posted "CONNcise" videos, a Get To Know You style video introducing professors and students. These are some of Christelle's favorites as she feels that they give professors, students, and staff the opportunity to "share their stories." The page also highlights impressive student internships, like Cecily Hetzel '24, who was awarded a Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship to teach English to children in the Canary Islands. As someone interested in studying English and working with kids, her achievement inspired me and made me confident that Conn would support me in my endeavors.

On Instagram, Conn would post reminders about deadlines for the Class of 2028, keeping us on task. They posted student takeovers to "show Conn through the eyes of a student," said O'Brien. Additionally, the page would post some funny videos of the school's mascot, Humphrey the camel. When I inquired about Humphrey, O'Brien replied, "They're a physical embodiment of Connecticut College. They're a logo, and a funny one at that." Lachapelle described the mascot as "absurd, but that's what makes it fun." Rockwell's favorite series was "Conn Giving Day," where they had the camel in silly situations to show what Conn would be like without funding. When I would tell my high school friends about Conn over the summer, the mascot was one of the first things I mentioned because I thought it was so hilarious and was one of many elements that made the college unique.

A series called "Camel Cribbs" was the one I studied most intently. These videos featured students showing off their dorms around campus, giving a glimpse into Conn's residential life.

I would love to see the series explore different facets of campus life in the future. I would've loved to see more of the dining hall and even full tours of the residence halls that include the common rooms, hallways, and bathrooms. In my book, social media is a highlight reel, and it's

great to see all the highlights of Connecticut College, but I also want an idea of what my realistic day-to-day life is going to look like.

When I asked the social media team what they hope to include in the future, they said, "Anything from a student's perspective." They hope to highlight life outside the classroom, like our strong athletics program and the community of New London, to name a few. The team wants the social media to encourage prospective students to see themselves at Conn, going beyond what the website can provide.

Since arriving on campus, I discovered more social media accounts that keep students up to date on what's happening at Conn. The Instagram account @connchronicles posts the series 'Keeping Up With the Camels,' which allows current students to talk about their lives on and off campus. There's also @dineatconn on Instagram, which alerts students to what the dining halls are serving each day. Most clubs and organizations have social media to show how to find community outside of classes.

Over the summer, I would often worry if I picked the right school, and I wondered if Conn would live up to how it appeared on social media. Every institution has some elements it could improve on. The dorms aren't perfectly clean and the dining halls don't have quite the variety I thought they would, but it's nothing that ruins my day and I don't regret my decision to come to Connecticut College. All the campus clubs I've joined or am in the process of joining have been so welcoming to me, like The College Voice and a cappella groups! There's an overall friendly vibe in the student body. I get to take beautiful morning walks in the enchanted forest (The Arboretum) and watch the squirrels be their merry selves. I can't wait to keep building CONNECTIONS in this community with exuberance I could sense through the social media. •



Courtesy of Canva Magic Media

Old McDonald Had a Paper Due, AI-AI-Oh!

FREYA MATHESON
CONTRIBUTOR

If you ask anyone currently involved in education what their top concern is (after gun violence and low wages), the ubiquitous answer would be AI usage in classrooms. It doesn't take an astute observer to see that these worries aren't unfounded. Practically overnight, the days of stressing over past-due essays vanished. ChatGPT rose from the detritus of the Internet, seemingly vanquishing all intellectual curiosity with its arrival. But how concerned do teachers need to be about AI usage, particularly at institutions of higher learning like Connecticut College? Where's the line between effective incorporation and plagiarism? How can we possibly navigate this dystopian frontier without Joaquin Phoenix and a voice model capable of love? Questions abound.

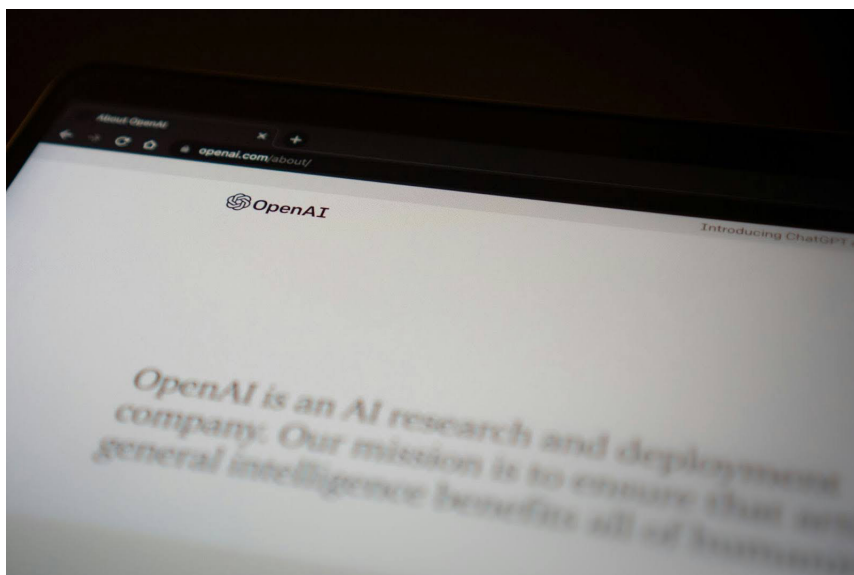
It would be ignorant of me to pretend I haven't seen AI misused by my peers before, sometimes egregiously. I've watched a classmate present a paper where they couldn't pronounce any of the words. I've been subjected to Socratic seminars where it was grossly apparent that several students had never opened the book. As a shameless reading nerd and self-proclaimed learning enthusiast, I found these instances discouraging (as I'm sure many other Camels have.) Attempting to engage in meaningful conversation with classmates who have no interest in trying to understand the material is boring at best and depressing at worst. With these experiences in mind, it's easy to understand strict AI rules that enforce harsh punishments for students caught utilizing it. Yet, throughout high school, I never knew what my teachers truly thought of these policies. Did they believe they were helping or harming students?

To better understand educators' relationship with AI, I spoke with Professor Ostby, who teaches English 150. I was curious about her thoughts on AI as an English teacher in the modern era. We immediately connected over the chaos of navigating this new landscape, which she assured me is just as confusing for teachers as it is for students. It turns out that educators and learners have more in common than I thought, and it was comforting to realize that professors at Conn value student input when crafting AI policies. Additionally, Ostby seemed very

concerned with the issue of equitability in AI. This is something I hadn't previously considered but now see is very important. She emphasized that students who can afford "premium" versions of these new language models have an immediate advantage over their peers who can't. Following this, she provided a great mantra for determining if you're using AI productively or harmfully: could a human tutor help you accomplish something similar? Using AI for brainstorming and workshopping is perfectly acceptable, but a peer tutor could help you with the same thing. Having entire papers written for you or asking an AI model to generate ideas for you are unacceptable uses, both of AI and tutors (especially our Camel tutors, bound by the honor code). Though Ostby's approach to AI has changed over time, becoming more flexible as the world continues to change, she remains hopeful that students will be smart and invest in their learning. A quote of hers that sticks with me is how "Writing is a form of thinking," which is exactly what so many of us come to college to do. Why deprive ourselves of that opportunity, in all of its unorganized glory?

Despite its many downsides, the optimism Ostby had for the future of learning alongside AI left me inspired. I immediately reflected on course selection, something I just experienced for the first time as a Camel. Watching my friends pick our first-year classes, beaming with anticipation at the myriad opportunities to learn, I saw exactly what she meant. Camels are passionate about education; ask anyone on campus! I've only been here for a short time, but can already tell that classes at Conn are vastly different from high school. My classmates are enthusiastic about the material, and everyone is genuinely excited to be here and learn together (eye-roll level corny, I know, but stick with me). I am more than confident that students here won't just do the work required for their classes; they'll dedicate themselves to it, wringing every drop of knowledge that they can (credit to Dean Norbert and his sponge metaphor here; now I think about school every time I wash a dish). The administration should have the same trust that students will only turn to AI if they are truly struggling. Therefore, in the spirit of Connecticut College and its commitment to learning, infractions shouldn't result in harsh punishments, but rather in offers of academic help.

The changing role of AI doesn't stop with administration. Educators and students also need to do their part to discourage harmful uses of AI while making room for its potential benefits. Though I have faith in us Camels, I also understand that the ChatGPT siren call is sometimes all too tempting. Stay vigilant! Remember that feeling of satisfaction when you finish a paper! How wonderful it is to get a good grade knowing you did all of the work required to earn it! (I write this to implore other camels to refrain from dishonest uses of AI, but also to remind any and all future versions of myself.) Similarly, teachers would be wise to realize that though AI has its (many) downfalls, it can also be a valuable tool for both learning and teaching. The technology is here to stay, and it will only improve. What kind of higher institution would Conn be if it didn't encourage students to adapt and learn new skills? AI isn't going anywhere, but neither is human ingenuity. Let's work with what we have rather than lament what we've lost. No ScarJo-voiced product recall required. •



Courtesy of Jonathan Kemper

The Fine Line Between Acapella and Greek Life

LINDSAY BARBAGALLO
CONTRIBUTOR

Though Connecticut College is a famously fraternity-free college, the campus's acapella groups have filled the gap of Greek life according to many students both in and outside of the acapella scene. Grounded in tradition and history, most acapella groups on campus are notorious for their busy audition seasons and highly competitive nature, reminiscent of the "rushing" period that many college sororities and fraternities undergo. While there are seven groups on campus in total—each catering to different vocal types and ranges—slots can be selective, a consequence of the high number of first-years looking to audition.

The audition process can be frightening for new students looking to join Conn's acapella scene, particularly those coming from schools that do not prioritize music programs or learning to sight read. Auditioning in general can be a new and anxiety-inducing experience for anyone, especially first-years battling busy schedules and changes of pace. Luckily, some of Conn's resident acapella artists have come forth with their best advice to assuage the stress that accompanies the audition process.

Vox Cameli's Abby Coviello '26 and Lilly McGee '27 sympathize with first-years and newcomers to the acapella scene, describing the fast, rush-like pace of audition week as they remember. McGee, however, emphasizes that "everyone's been in your position," and that it's a fun and rewarding experience just to "put yourself out there." The audition process is one that allows you to get involved even if you don't get in after your first audition, and the auditions

themselves ultimately serve as an interactive way for each group to get to know not only your sound, but your personality as well

Everyone in acapella has been in your position—from the stress, to the back-to-back auditions, to the chugging-hot-tea-and-honey-to-keep-your-voice-strong. Sabrina Malec '26 of Williams Street Mix, for example, recalls their audition experience as a "long and nerve-racking" time. There can be a significant amount of stress that arises while waiting between auditions and callbacks, and even more stress comes from refreshing that email page, hoping for an update from one of the groups.

Malec encourages first-year students to audition for as many groups as possible, because it can be difficult to truly know the groups until you have that one-on-one experience with them during auditions. They stress that "the groups want new members as much as new members want to be in acapella groups," and that the goal of auditions is most importantly to have fun, meet new people, and make music.

While the Greek life/acapella comparison is not completely serious, it is essential to remember that the seemingly exclusive nature of acapella is just that: deceiving. Strong friendships and life-long bonds have been born from Conn's acapella scene, and the current members of the campus' acapella groups encourage everyone interested to audition over the next week. The audition process is an immersive experience, so it's important to be yourself and remember that at the end of the day, groups want to expand their horizons and meet a variety of people during auditions. •

Noah Kahan, Foo Fighters To Headline 3rd Annual Soundside Music Festival

MIA PENASA
ARTS EDITOR

EMMA DINKELSPIEL
ARTS EDITOR

As the "season of the sticks" makes its way from Vermont to Connecticut this September 28 and 29th, Connecticut College students need not "be far from here" to experience Soundside, Connecticut's largest (and most epic) music festival. To shamelessly co-opt the lyrics of Noah Kahan, those who make the short trek down the coast are sure to reflect back on the weekend with a fondness summed up in a single phrase—"I miss the way you made me feel."

For a third year in a row, the nearby city of Bridgeport, Connecticut will play host to the two-day Soundside Music Festival (formerly known as Sound on Sound), featuring a lineup of chart-topping acts including Noah Kahan, the Foo Fighters, the Goo Goo Dolls, Fleet Foxes, Boyz II Men, Norah Jones, and Teddy Swims. Bleachers will replace Queens of the Stone Age as an additional headliner following concerns surrounding the health of band frontman Josh Homme, who underwent emergency surgery just a couple months back.

In spite of this unexpected change-up, the event is poised to continue to live up to its legacy as an energetic kick-off to the fall season, serving as a preview of rising music industry stars. Soundside's inaugural setlist included Zach Bryan and Noah Kahan, whom few would dispute to be some of the biggest names in music today. Two years ago, however, these artists weren't even headlining the event. As Soundside founder Jordan Wolowitz shared with *The Voice* last September, "[t]hat's why festivals are so great. Over the years, you can see artists grow from club acts to arena acts or stadium acts. In the meantime, a festival can help support them." This is certainly true for Soundside, and 2024 attendees can look forward to seeing Kahan headline the event. The "Season of the Sticks" singer will close out a full day of performances Saturday, while the Sunday portion of the festival will be wrapped up by the iconic Foo Fighters. In the fitting words of this latter performer, "I wonder [...] if anything could ever be this good again!"

Held on the shores of Seaside Park, Soundside attracts music lovers from all around New England, boasting a single stage occupied from 12pm until close. The venue is only an hour away from Conn by train, easily accessible to students interested in listening to the talented lineup. Spectators are free to roam around the space's 325 acres throughout the day, and enjoy a variety of cuisines ranging from bagels, to burgers, to dumplings, to hot dogs, to craft beverages. Parking passes, lockers, and nearby hotels can be reserved through the Sound-

side website, making it a breeze to conveniently access all event information through a single core source. Ridesharing, biking, and walking are also encouraged, and details surrounding dedicated racks and dropoff sites are set to be released closer to festival dates. Unfortunately, boat access at Seaside Park is restricted throughout the festival—attendees will have to be content dancing on dry land in order not to "rock the boat" with festival security.

Rebranded as a collaboration between C3 Presents (the team behind Lollapalooza), and past organizers of Sound on Sound (including Wolowitz), Soundside 2024 is all but guaranteed to offer concertgoers an unforgettable weekend. Over the past few iterations of the festival, organizers have worked through a multitude of kinks: although first year crowd members noted flooding near stage areas made for an uncomfortable viewing experience, last year's audience sections were better equipped for unanticipated rain.

Single-day General Admission tickets to the Saturday portion of the festival are currently sold out, but a limited number of single-day General Admission tickets to Sunday's festivities remain available. Viewers looking for a premium one or two-day auditory adventure can purchase General Admission +, VIP, or Skydeck (21+) passes through the Soundside domain, which offer varying levels of stage viewing, private food and drink, and lounge access. General Admission Plus rates start at \$349 for a single-day ticket, while top-tier Skydeck passes begin at \$875 per day. Those who move now are able to buy at a lower cost, circumventing price increases closer to event dates. Take action early to save on an experience sure to be worth every penny! •



Courtesy of Emma Dinkelspiel

Fall Sports Teams Previews

EVELYN COSTIGAN
CONTRIBUTOR

September rolls around, the mornings are getting colder, leaves are starting to turn, and the sun is setting earlier: all tell-tale signs that the much anticipated fall sports season is upon us! The coming days and weeks will be filled with all of the teams you love to watch and cheer on. The College Voice wants to make sure you are kept up to date with everything you need to know about the teams before the season gets into full swing. The following information is as of Sept. 15, but you can see the most recent scores, records, and schedules at camelathletics.com.

Women's Cross Country

This season is certainly looking up for the women's cross country team, but not without big shoes to fill. The 2023 season was a historic one for Conn; the women's team qualified for the NCAA DIII Championship for the first time ever, finishing 28th overall in the regular season and fourth in the NESCAC Championship. Despite the graduation of five seniors since last season, this year's team seems to be living up to their predecessors, already winning the season opener at the Trinity Invitational. In the 2024 preseason coaches poll, Conn ranks #21—their highest national ranking in recent history. The Camels return All-NESCAC cross-country first team runner Abby Fernald '26 as well as NCAA DIII Outdoor Track and Field All-Americans Alexa Estes '26 and Grace McDonough '26. The team hopes to see a repeat of last year's success. Captain Caitlin Bird '26 shares her thoughts on the road to get there. "We are returning the majority of our top runners this season and we remain optimistic that this is possible by living out our team's values of the 5C's: Character, Common sense, Commitment, Confidence, and Competitiveness," said Bird. It will be interesting to watch as this team progresses throughout the season. Be sure to show support for the first home meet at Harkness Memorial State Park on Oct. 19, as well as at regionals Nov. 16!

Men's Cross Country

Last season, Conn's Men's Cross Country team finished seventh overall with 214 points in the NESCAC Championship. Not a bad end to the season, and we're already seeing the Camels keep that same energy headed into the 2024 season. There's a lot of room for rising stars as the team graduated five seniors last year, many of which were top competitors. This team doesn't seem to be having any trouble picking up the slack, having placed third in the Trinity Invitational. Many strong runners still remain, including All-NESCAC Track and Field runner Matt Scardigno '25 and All-New England Track and Field runner Ellis Iurilli-Hough '27. With the addition of six first-year members, the Camels have a fighting chance at greatness. The Conn College Invitational will be hosted at the Harkness Memorial State Park on Oct. 19, come watch and cheer on the runners!

Women's Field Hockey

It's shaping up to be a thrilling year for Conn's field hockey team. Last season, the team racked up its most victories since 2014 with a record of 6-9. For two years in a row the women's field hockey team has been able to consistently get two NESCAC wins. As ten seniors graduated last year, it will be a compelling story if they can repeat, or even surpass, these wins without some of those key players. They ended their season in victory, so let's hope they can bring that energy back to the 2024 season. So far, it has been a bit of a rough start for the team with three losses

es against nationally ranked #14 Amherst, #4 Babson, and NESCAC foe Bowdoin. However, the Camels pulled off their first win of the season against Wellesley on Sept. 10 with two goals from All-NESCAC Second Team forward Bridget McGann '26 and a shutout from Liz Winemaster '27. Come out and show support for the field hockey team on Oct. 2nd for their next home game against Springfield College!



Courtesy of Sean Elliot

Women's Rowing

The women's rowing team has been hard at work getting ready to take on the competition after a successful past year of rowing. In their last race of the 2023 fall season, the team placed fifth in the 1V8 with a time of 21:16.8 and 13th in the 2V8 with a time of 23:33.9. Over the year they continued to improve, dropping 18 seconds off their preliminary time in the last race of the season. They crossed the finish line with their best time being 7:19.29, giving their fastest performance of the season. Continuing a common theme seen across most fall sports is a large graduating cohort of seniors from last season including All-NESCAC second team coxswain Emma Lanahan '25. This year, with the graduation of fourteen seniors, the returning roster and incoming first-years look to cement their chemistry quickly and keep up the momentum from the spring season into the fall. Even with the graduation of many seniors, the Camels return four rowers from their top varsity boat in Emily Fairfield '26, Julia Finney '26, Sydney Frank '26, and Paisley Brown '26. The women's rowing team will have their first competition at Head of the Snake on Saturday, Oct. 12.

Men's Rowing

Last fall season, the team finished with a 1V4 time of 10:07.5, a 2V4 time of 22:22.6, 1V8 time of 20:16.9, and 2V8 time of 21:31.4. After finishing strong in the fall season, the team then went on to qualify for the 3rd level finals at the National Invitational Rowing Championship. The 1V8 crew finished 4th with a time of 6:54.32 and the 2V8 had a time of 7:02.92. Six seniors graduated from last year's team, so while about a quarter of the crew will be different, new talent may bring a fresh approach to competing this season. The Camels do return six of their

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varsity eight including All-NESCAC second team rower Finn McKitterick '26. The men's team is getting ready for an exciting fall season with their first competition on Oct. 12 at Head of the Snake.

Co-ed Sailing

After missing out for qualification for the Intercollegiate Sailing Association (ICSA) National Championships last spring after two consecutive years of qualification, the sailing team is eager to return to the national stage. Despite the graduation of eight seniors, the Camels return 21 sailors from last year and add six first-years. Having placed 13 out of 18 teams at the Harry Anderson Trophy race at Yale and nine of nine teams at the Pine Trophy at the Coast Guard Academy, the sailing team will hope to build more chemistry to hit the ground running in the spring to qualify for the national championships. The co-ed sailing team will compete next at the Hoyt Trophy at Brown University in Providence on Sept. 21 and 22.

Women's Soccer

Conn has started off the fall season strong with three wins, against University of Saint Joseph, Coast Guard Academy and Bowdoin College, as well as one one loss against Amherst College. Last season was an exciting one for the team, who made it all the way to the NESCAC quarter-finals with a 9-6-1 record. There's a whole new set of faces on the field this season following the graduation of seven seniors last year, including all four captains. This year's seniors are ready to pick up the leadership, especially with eleven new first-years joining the team this fall. The team is led by captains Ella Kahrl '25, Clare Mulvihill '25, and Ella Davidyock '25 and Ella Gazo '26 currently leads the NESCAC in goals scored and assists with three each in four games. We're all eager to see where the Camels can go this season, so make sure to come down to their next home game on Oct. 12 against Hamilton College!

Men's Soccer

The bar is set high for the men's team this year, coming off a historic 2023 season. Ending last year with a 12-7-2 record, they led an undefeated regular season for the first time in the history of the program. They also made an appearance in the NCAA DIII Elite Eight for the third time since 2019. All of this landed them in the eighth spot in the United Soccer Coaches preseason poll. They started off the season with two wins, one against USMMA and the other against Salve Regina, and while they won't have an undefeated record this year due to a loss against Amherst the team still has their sights set high for the rest of the season. When asked what his goals are, Captain Jack Lavorel '25 said, "I would like to see this year, as opposed to other years, overcoming adversity with positivity," said Lavorel. With high aspirations and a positive



Courtesy of Sean Elliot

mindset, there's no doubt the Camels will go far in their fall 2024 season. The team returns many seniors who took a spring semester off to make one more run at a championship this fall, including All-NESCAC First Team captain and last season's leading goalscorer Matt Scaffone '25, All-NESCAC Second Team forward Jake Creus '25, captain Sam Boehm '25, captain

Alessandro Horvath Diano '25, midfielder Rye Jaran '25, and defender Brendan Clare '25. You can come support the men's team in their season at their next home game on Oct. 2 against Trinity College!

Women's Volleyball

The women's volleyball team is on its way to greatness this year, after starting out undefeated six games in a row. Last season was full of highs and lows for the team, with a record of 12-12 and going down in the first round of the NESCAC playoffs. The team has goals of making it all the way to the top three this year.

With a big emphasis on unity,

Amanda Kriedler '25 stated, "our team collectively decided we want to win [the] NESCAC this year." There is a lot of optimism about the team around this season. There is a largely changed dynamic within the team with seven of fifteen team members being first-years and four seniors having graduated from last year including DIIICA Women's Sport Student-Athlete of the Year nominee Emma Wheeler '25. Katherine Randall '25 mentioned that she wants everyone to know, "we are definitely a new group—don't expect the old team to be back." Mila Chan '28, Katherine Randall '25, and Rae Wartelle '27 currently lead the team in kills and points. Don't miss the chance to stop by and see the new and improved women's volleyball team, a big crowd always helps, so be sure

Article continued on page 17.



Courtesy of Finley Regan '27

Article continued from page 18.

Men's Water Polo

Coming off a tough season last fall, with only two wins and twenty-two losses, the Conn men's water polo team has a chance to come back strong. There are a lot of familiar faces coming back to the team this year with only one senior having graduated, but there are also five new incoming first-year players who could give a new jolt to the

game. ACWPC All-American Honorable Mention attacker Jesse Ellis '27 returns alongside senior captains Jonathan Rojas '25, Siaki Nelson '25, and Liam Merrill '25. So far, there is an even split between wins and losses, a blank slate for the rest of the season. With one win against Wheaton College and a loss to Austin College, we're holding out hope for success in the coming season. You can come see them play their next home match against John Hopkins University on Sept. 29! •

Southeast Scoreboard

LILLA KATE TUCKER
SPORTS EDITOR

LUKE CORLESS
SPORTS EDITOR

Connecticut College's Volleyball team is off to an impressive start in their Fall 2024 season. Headed by seniors Katherine Randall and Amanda Kreidler, the Camels remain undefeated this year with a 5-0 record. Recently, the team swiftly took down Elms College in their home opener on September 11. Randall '25 led the way with nine kills, while Zoe Watts '26 and Mila Chan '28 added five kills each. Josie Kelly '28 topped the team with 19 assists, and Riley Lord '26 secured the most digs for the Camels, with five. Elms was able to stick with Conn through the early part of the first set; however, the Camels proved to be too tough for their opponents from Massachusetts. Connecticut College won the match in three sets with scores of 25-16, 25-18, and 25-8. Looking ahead, the Camels begin NESCAC play with a doubleheader against Middlebury and Williams on September 20th and 21st. With such a strong start to the season, Connecticut College's Volleyball squad is prepared for any and every competition that comes their way. •



Courtesy of Sean Elliot

Scores as of 09/15/24

Connecticut College Women's Cross Country: First-place finish at Trinity Invitational

- September 7, 2024
- Wickham Park, Manchester, CT
- Next Game: UMass Dartmouth Invitational - North Dartmouth, MA, Robert Dowd Course - 10:30 am on 9/21

Connecticut College Men's Cross Country: Third-place finish at Trinity Invitational

- September 7, 2024
- Wickham Park, Manchester, CT
- Next Game: UMass Dartmouth Invitational - North Dartmouth, MA, Robert Dowd Course - 10:30 am on 9/21

Connecticut College Field Hockey (1-4-0): 0-6 Loss vs. Tufts

- September 15, 2024
- Ounjian Field, Medford, MA
- Next Game: @ Colby College - Waterville, ME, Bill Alford Field - 11:00 am on 9/21

Connecticut College Women's Soccer (3-2-0): 1-6 Loss vs. #22 Tufts

- September 15, 2024
- Bello Field, Medford, MA
- Next Game: @ Colby College - Waterville, ME, Serdjenian Field - 11:00 am on 9/21

Connecticut College Men's Soccer (2-1-2): 0-0 Draw vs. Bowdoin

- September 15, 2024
- Bello Field, Medford, MA
- Next Game: @ Colby College - Waterville, ME, Serdjenian Field - 2:00 pm on 9/21

New London High School Boys Football (0-1): 14-36 Loss vs. Daniel Hand High School

- September 13, 2024
- Madison Surf Club
- Next Game: @ Windham High School - Windham High School - 7:00 pm on 9/20

New London High School Boys Soccer (2-2-1): 1-1 Draw vs. Killingly

- September 12, 2024
- Killingly High School
- Next Game: @ Griswold High School - Griswold Soccer Complex - 4:00 pm on 9/17

Connecticut College Volleyball (6-1): 2-3 Loss vs. Coast Guard

- September 14, 2024
- Roland Gymnasium at Coast Guard
- Next Game: @ University of St. Joseph - O'Connell Athletic Center - 7:00 pm on 9/17

Connecticut Sun (27-10): 88-69 Win vs. Phoenix Mercury
September 13, 2024

- Footprint Center, Phoenix
- Next Game: @ Las Vegas Aces - Michelob ULTRA Arena - 6:00 pm on 9/15

Camel of the Edition: Jonathan Rojas '25

KEVIN LIEUE
CO-EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Camel of the Edition is a continuous series which seeks to highlight Connecticut College athletes who have stood out from the herd due to their recent performances or as a leader on campus or on their team.

Jonathan Rojas '25 is an attacker on the men's water polo team who has served as a captain for the past two years as the team expanded from nine players to 19. The senior from Houston, Texas has served as an important team leader since the beginning of his time at Conn.

Recently, The College Voice caught up with Rojas to learn why he chose Conn, how collegiate water polo works, and some of his favorite memories as a member of the team.

Could you please introduce yourself? (class year, pronouns, majors/minors, clubs + other involvements)

My name is Jonathan Rojas and I am a senior. I am a double major in Psychology and Economics. I use he/him pronouns, partake on the club squash team, and I have been captain of the water polo team during my junior and senior year.

Talk me through your journey in sports and how and when did you decide to focus on water polo?

I started to focus on water polo in high school. I got into the sport because my older brother played it. After sophomore year, I felt that I should keep [playing water polo] because it became a big part of my life so I wanted to buckle down on it. I kind of was a jack of all trades before [water polo]. I played baseball, soccer, swam, and really picked up anything and everything.

What was your recruitment process and how did you end up choosing Conn?

The recruitment process was different because I came here during the COVID year so it wasn't a guarantee I would get to play or even have a season. When I was connecting with the coach, he couldn't guarantee anything because [he] had to follow the [COVID] guidelines. Even so, he was still very helpful, connecting with me, giving me calls throughout the summer, really going back and forth, making sure I was doing good, and sharing updates. I picked Conn because especially for the water polo program. In our division we end up playing every division you can think of from top [NCAA] DI programs to strong [NCAA] DIII programs. I don't know many other schools that have that sort of caliber of a strong education and strong water polo. I also like the cold here because I was like, "I gotta get out of this Texas heat."

How would you describe water polo for people who are unfamiliar with it?

For starters, it's a seven on seven sport [with] six field players and one goalie played in a deep pool. Many people think you get to touch the floor [of the pool], but you actually don't get to touch the floor and it's all treading [water]. I will say water polo is a little like basketball. In basketball, there's a center and in water polo we have a set. This tends to be the biggest player on the team, someone who has length. Our set player is Cormac [Stevens '27], who is a big and fundamental piece of our team. Games are four quarters and eight minutes long with a half-time. There are also two full timeouts and one 30 second timeout where your team gets to set up on offense but can't meet with the coach. Max score wins depending on the end of the time. Sometimes you can go into overtime or a shootout it just depends on if it's a conference game or a friendly.

How does collegiate water polo work?

So we have the USA Water Polo [organization] which makes and controls rules and regulations. It works in many different ways with a bunch of different conferences. There's the MPSF (Mountain Pacific Division) in California and the division we play in which is sort of like the Ivy League conference because it has Princeton, Brown, Harvard and it's called the NWPC [Northeast Water Polo Conference]. [Collegiate] water polo is all spread out through the country so it's hard to make conferences for DIII. For example, the closest team to us is MIT and the next closest is Johns Hopkins, which is a nine hour drive. So it's hard to get all the DIII teams together which is why it's all mixed [among divisions]. The two conferences that I mentioned are the big conferences. Additionally from our conference, we play a CWPA Eastern championship with Austin, Johns Hopkins, Wheaton, MIT and the top two teams of that go on and play one of the [MPSF's] top two teams. A lot of our games are tournaments because when we play teams from farther away it makes more sense to play more teams for transportation. We do also play some friendlies against local teams such as Iona or MIT which are closer.



Courtesy of Connecticut College

Your team went to Germany last summer; what was this experience like and what other travel experiences have you had?

One of the reasons I picked Conn is because we get the opportunity to go travel and this year we get the opportunity to go to California. We get the opportunity to fly out, drive out and play a bunch of other teams, such as teams from Texas, Princeton, Harvard, and Navy. It's such a cool ability to be able to say in my college days that I played against Princeton, Fordham, Iona and all these big name schools. Every four years we get to go abroad. This past summer we got to travel and go to Germany and play one of the top programs in Germany. This was really cool and unique because in Germany, water polo is such a bigger thing than it is in the states. We were also able to explore multiple cities which is an opportunity you don't often get from a school-funded trip.

I've seen highlights shared on social media where some of your teammates are on ESPN. Could you explain how this happens?

That's another cool thing, when we play Ivy League teams like ...

Article continued on page 19.

Article continued from 18.

...Harvard and Brown. They have ESPN+ streaming [broadcast] for all their games. So when we get to play them, our games are streamed on ESPN+. Being on ESPN+ is kind of a cool little gig we get and they have announcers and replays. It is cool when we get to watch ourselves and all our family and friends can watch us on TV.

You are one of the captains of the water polo team; how would you describe the experience of being a team captain?

Being a team captain is definitely a challenge. During my freshman year, the team had nine players. I looked up to the captains back then and saw how they were able to keep the program going with just nine guys. Now that I'm in their shoes, I've seen the team grow a lot. We have a bunch of good guys and we all love each other and hang out with each other in and outside the pool. It makes it easier when your teammates are your best friends and that we spend a lot of time together because I don't have to say things twice.

How has this season been for your team so far?

So far, it's been really good. We've had two games so far and won one and lost one. Even after the game we lost we came out feeling really static because of how we played and how we felt. We lost 13-15 against Austin College who has dominated us in the past. Being able to go goal for goal with them made everyone realize that "Whoah, we're a team to be reckoned with this year." Everyone's coming out swinging, we have many talented freshmen who have made a big impact on the team.

As a senior in the water polo program at Conn, how has the team changed over the years and what are some of your favorite memories?

The team has changed significantly. We had only nine guys my freshman year which was really tough because you need seven guys to play. It's like playing football with only an [offensive] line. I'd say the team has really turned around, we've gotten a lot of guys to come here, and culture-wise we're a little more known on the campus now. Now, I feel

like more people know our sport and want to come to our games.

Any special team bonding activities, traditions, or pre-game rituals?

One of our pre-game rituals is before the start of every game we do a countoff. We put our hands together and say hump. It's one of the team chants we say and it's one of our team shirts we have. On our days off we tend to get the guys together and watch some game footage from a past game or teams we're going to play soon. Being able to watch them, kick back, get some food going, and hang out to watch the sport [is really fun]. We have a pumpkin carving contest every year. Instead of having a practice one day, we get together and carve pumpkins before we see which pumpkin is the best. Another fun tradition we do is we have a practice where the Coast Guard joins because they don't have a coach so we let them come practice and hang out with us. It's a fun thing to do and I get to meet some coast guard guys. We also do a Secret Santa [gift exchange] amongst the team.

What are your plans going forward after college?

It's up in the air; I've considered going to grad school for psychology or getting a job in investment banking so I've kinda got to flip a coin and pick. I've also been considering getting a job for a year or two and then going back to grad school. I think out of college I'm going to take a little month or two break just to get myself together and finally have some downtime to not worry about doing schoolwork. I think everyone should take some time for themselves after they graduate because it's a big accomplishment and you only graduate once out of undergraduate school. I'll probably stay [playing water polo] with some masters programs, which is made up of a bunch of old guys throwing the ball around and playing. I think I will probably still play it though because it's such a big stress reliever for me getting in the water and throwing the ball around.

Note: This interview has been edited for clarity and brevity.

Please reach out to The College Voice (thecollegevoice@gmail.com or [@the_collegevoice](https://www.instagram.com/the_collegevoice) on Instagram) to nominate an athlete for the next edition! •

Silfen Track and Field: A Renovation

LILLA KATE TUCKER
SPORTS EDITOR

Athletics are a core component of student-life here at Connecticut College.

As a small liberal arts school, more than 500 members of our student body participate in the 28 Division III varsity sports offered. One of the main athletic facilities on campus can be found across Mohegan Avenue: Silfen Track and Field is home to Connecticut College's sole turf field and outdoor track. Overlooking the gorgeous Thames River as the only NESCAC to have direct waterfront access, athletes are provided with a state-of-the-art facility for practices and competitions. Despite its luxurious location and ostensibly sufficient conditions, Silfen Track and Field needed a renovation to ensure the highest possible performance for all impacted teams.

Beginning this past July, project team leaders Justin Wolfradt, Executive Director of Facilities Management and Campus Planning, and Kayla Moreno, Associate Director of Projects and Planning, have led the management of Silfen's renovation. The existing turf and track material were first removed, leaving the space bare and empty. The first signs of change came with the addition of the new turf, complete with a Camel

head in the center of the field. The far sideline boasts "CAMELS" in light blue lettering, sandwiched between the words "NCAA" and "NESCAC." Mo White, Connecticut College's Head Athletic Director, noted the improved turf material. White referred to the material as "365 material," meaning that it is capable of reacting to all types of weather. While the previous turf was often "frozen" and unreactive to colder months, the new material promises to hold up throughout the winter. She also accredited the new material as being "the closest artificial material to grass." Apart from the 120-yard field, turf has also been added on either side of the endlines. Referred to as "D-spots," these small sections of turf outside of the initial netting will provide additional warmup spaces for teams waiting for the field to become available. The D-spots may also be used for various strength and conditioning tests and exercises throughout the fall and spring seasons.

Surrounding the new and improved turf field is the 8-lane outdoor track primarily used by the track and field teams in the winter and ...

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... spring seasons. According to Camel Athletics' report on the project, "the track will be reconstructed with the leading choice in surfaces among elite and international track programs." Ned Bishop, Head Coach of Women's Cross Country and Track, shared many of the track's enhancements with *The College Voice*. "The fence will be further away from the outside lane of the track, allowing us to store our hurdles and steeplechase barriers out of the way. This will give us more space because lane eight is now usable for workouts," states Bishop. Mo White added that, "the track itself has been widened to fit full NCAA specs for all eight lanes." Along with more space across the track, there will also be a new discus circle "that will make our home meets run more smoothly" (Bishop).

One challenging aspect of the previous track material was the inability to properly handle difficult wind conditions for sprint races. Coach Bishop spoke about the ability of the new track to improve this issue: "An extension to the south from the finish line will allow us to run the men's high hurdles in both directions to accommodate the wind conditions. In the past we were able to run all the other sprint and hurdle races, but the men's high hurdles could not be run in reverse." These enhancements prove to be extremely beneficial for not only the track team, but all athletes who often use the space for conditioning or other running activities to prepare for their seasons. Regarding the coloring of the track, Camel Athletics states that "a two-tone design will accompany the track painted in Connecticut College's colors."

Mo White harped on the importance of this renovation project. She shared that "the main driving factor for this project was player safety for all three primary sports that use the turf" and the track teams that rely heavily on the quality of the surface.

When asked about the renovation project, coaches and athletes on campus demonstrate their excitement and anticipation for the completion. "We have needed to resurface the track for a while now, so it is really exciting that we are almost finished with this project," exclaims Coach Ned Bishop. "We will have more effective practices because of the additional space. And the new surface will be better on everyone's shins and joints. The extra energy that everyone will bring to practice by virtue of being in a brand-new

facility will also benefit the whole team. Additionally, the Silfen Invitational promises to be an even better experience for all of the participating teams, which should translate into even stronger performances for the Camels" (Bishop). Ella Karhl '25, captain of the women's soccer team, states, "Redoing Silfen has already and will continue to improve the quality of our practices and games." Karhl believes that "As players, we can be proud to show off a high-quality field to opponents and supporters rather than unsatisfied, which helps maintain our confidence and motivation throughout the season. From our team's first practice on the new turf to anticipating night games on the field later in the season, we are excited to utilize a new resource rather than worrying about the previously degrading quality of the field impacting our play."

At the end of the day, Connecticut College prides itself on its facilities and resources for student-athletes, as well as all members of the college community. The renovation of Silfen Track and Field is a step towards the improvement of an already beautiful place. Words of excitement, anticipation, and overall joy continue to buzz around the soon-to-be completed project. After hearing from coaches and athletes across campus, the impact that this will have on the entirety of Connecticut College's outreach is immense. Karhl put it best: "investing in our athletic facilities encourages fans, players, and the Conn community to invest more in our athletic teams' successes, which is the ultimate goal of the athletic department." The project approaches completion just as all fall sports are delving into NESCAC competition. Come out to Silfen Track and Field this fall to cheer on all athletes but also to see the new and improved facilities for yourselves! •



Courtesy of Camel Athletics

Running with Chips on their Shoulders: Conn Coll T&F/XC Coaching Vacancy

LUKE CORLESS
SPORTS EDITOR

As Conn's dozens of track and cross country athletes trickled onto campus this summer, they were welcomed with the bombshell that 40% of the previous year's coaching staff would not return for the 2024-2025 school year. The Assistant Cross Country/Track and Field Coach Jack Wood, and the Associate Head Coach of Sprints, Hurdles, Jumps, and Multi Symonne Scott have not returned to Conn to continue coaching. Their coaching profiles on the college website are bare, only harboring a title and email. Both coaches were only on staff for a short period, with Scott coaching Camels for a year and nine months and Wood for a year and six. While official track practices have yet to begin, the cross-country season begins in early September, and it is unclear how the loss of such a significant portion of the staff will impact the teams.

Even with the shake-up, there is a ton of hope going into each respective season as all four teams wracked up an impressive resume with strong finishes across the board to end the year. The women's cross country team had truly elite performances, finishing fourth out of 11 teams at the NESCAC Championship, third out of 24 at the NCAA Mideast Regional, and 28th in the NCAA DIII Championship. The men's team also showed promise with a 14th place of 26 team finish at the Connecticut College Invitational, seventh out of 11 at the NESCAC Championship, and ninth out of 25 teams at the NCAA Mideast regional. The track teams also performed quite well, with the women's track and field team placing sixth out of 52 teams at the New England DIII Championships, 21st out of 36 at the NEICAAA Championships, and 64th of 131 teams in the NCAA DIII Outdoor Championship. Finally, the men's track and field team placed eighth out of 11 at the NESCAC Championship, tied for fourth out of 50 at the New England DIII Championship, and 34th out of 39 teams at the NEICAAA Championships. Each team exhibited a ton of potential to climb to a new height with another year of continuity in the locker room.



Courtesy of Camel Athletics

The coaching staff, in particular, did not appear remotely worried about the shape of the roster going forward. In an interview with Head Men's Cross Country/Track & Field Coach Sam Alexander, he commented,

"I'm really excited to see what's around the corner. The individuals on both our Men's and Women's teams, and especially the leadership, have created so much forward momentum that it makes success inevitable."

Head Women's Track & Field Coach Ned Bishop also affirmed that the returning leadership is incredibly potent and has continued to step up in a more significant role while he and Coach Alexander focused on administrative tasks during the pre-season. Even though two coaches moving on from the team is not common, Coach Ned stated that a few times he has had assistant coaches leave the team in August, and each time, the remaining staff has been able to adjust and move towards bringing in someone else to fill the assistant role.

With the two coaches no longer with the school, it poses the question of what they are doing now. Former Coach Wood informed the rest of the coaching staff in early August that he would be heading to Smith as their head coach for the upcoming season. It was seemingly a logical decision as he spent the 2021-2022 and most of the 2022-2023 season as their Assistant Track & Field Coach. He also received his Master's degree in Exercise and Sport Science at the school during that time. With years of familiarity with the institution, it makes sense from Coach Wood's perspective to return to Smith now with a virtual promotion to the Head Coaching role. In a brief conversation with the coach, it appears that work at Smith is fully underway as they begin preparing for this upcoming season.

Former Coach Scott made her decision not to return in mid-August and informed the rest of the staff immediately. Scott does not appear to have informed the staff of a particular reason for her departure, and her minimal social media presence can only leave people guessing what she is up to for the time being. Even during her time at Conn, Scott worked as the owner and coach for her private and group training company, Azimuth Athletics. The company has been providing track coaching and training services across Rhode Island and Massachusetts since 2015, and it is possible Scott has decided to commit to private coaching full-time.

The fall sports season is officially underway, and the cross-country teams have not skipped a beat; if anything, both are off to a blazing start. On the September 7th Trinity Invitational, the men's team had a strong 3rd place finish led by Matt Scardigno '25 with the second fastest time of the event. The women's team took home the crown at the invitational, with Abby Fernald '26 and Grace McDonough '26 placing in the top five. With such a hot start, it would be hard to believe the coaching changes have slowed the cross-country teams down even a hair. The first track practice begins October 22nd, so the teams have plenty of time to acclimate to a few new faces. Faces that Coach Bishop commented could be in place as early as next month. The job listing is already live, and the college has received a slew of qualified options to comb through as the interviewing process begins in the near future. The optimism demonstrated by the coaching staff and team leaders has clearly rubbed off on the rosters and should only create a more welcoming environment for the two incoming coaches to slot in and bring success to Connecticut College track & field and cross country. •

Which Campus Café Are You?

GRACE SCHMIDT
COLUMNIST

- Which sweater would you be most likely to wear?
 - A grandpa sweater
 - A Conn hoodie
 - A sweater vest
- What is your go-to coffee or tea order?
 - An iced dirty chai
 - A cappuccino
 - An espresso
- What is your favorite season?
 - Autumn
 - Spring
 - Winter
- How do you like to spend a Saturday night?
 - At a concert or open mic night
 - Partying
 - In your room with a good book or movie
- What is your favorite color?
 - Purple
 - Baby pink
 - Earth tones
- Would you rather study...
 - In a café
 - In the library
 - In your room
- Which 2024 FYS would you pick?
 - Art IRL
 - Biology in the Popular Media
 - Dante at 700+

8. Which decoration would you have in your room?

- Movie posters
- String lights
- Book quotes

9. Which Internet aesthetic do you like best?

- Grunge
- Clean girl
- Academia

10. Pick a movie:

- "Lady Bird"
- "Anyone But You"
- "Dead Poets Society"

If you picked...

Mostly a's, you are **Coffee Grounds!** You love to dye your hair cool colors. Maybe you play the guitar. You're probably into indie music and films. Possible majors include: film, sociology, anthropology, music, or art.

Mostly b's, you are **Blue Camel!** You're chic, and love to catch up on the latest trends. You have the prettiest notes, with beautiful handwriting and perfect, multicolor highlighting. You have things together, with a consistent health routine and a decent sleep schedule. Possible majors include: biology, neuroscience, psychology, chemistry, or environmental studies.

Mostly c's, you are **Coffee Closet!** You're an academic, and love classic books, such as "Pride and Prejudice," or "Wuthering Heights." You like movies that make you think about life, and maybe you like observing other people. Possible majors include: English, history, art history, philosophy, or classics. •

THE ABBYS
CONTRIBUTORS



Arboretum Word Search

ERICA SMITH
CRUCIVERBALIST

Look below for the names of some of the many trees found on Conn's main campus!

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

Aurora Dogwood

Basket Oak

Carolina Silverbell

Dawn Redwood

Deodar Cedar

Fern-Leaved Beech

Katsura Tree

Red Oak

Seven-Son Flower

Sourwood

Sweet Gum

White Pine

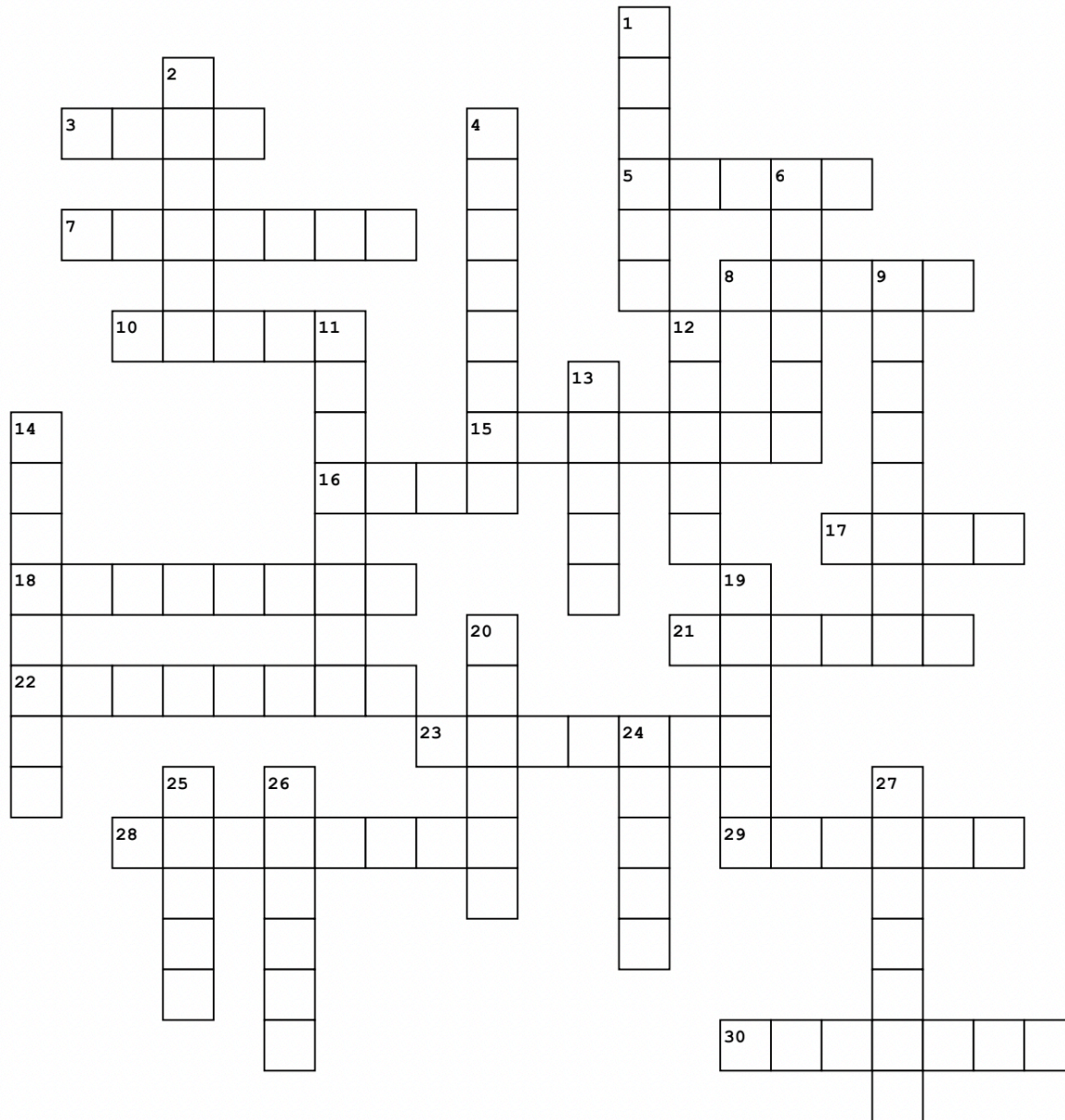
PLEDGE
TO VOTE

On November 5th



Crossword: Getting to Know Yah! (Last Names)

ERICA SMITH
CRUCIVERBALIST



Across

3. You Can Find Her On The Third Floor Of Blaustein With Her Dog Ellie
5. If You Need Help With A Research Assignment, He Will Drop Everything And Find Every Resource Available
7. Conn's Only Archeologist On Campus
8. Anthropology Professor Who Has A Great Interest In Food
10. Chemistry Professor Who Loves To Show Off His Dogs, And Yours
15. Dean Of Student Life, Always Seen Eating In Harris With His Family
16. Assistant Director Of Student Success, Or The Sweetest Woman Alive?
17. Writer Found In The ARC, Also A Cardinal Direction
18. Head Of Club Sports And Outdoor Adventures
21. Empowering Advocate Who Will Always Be In Your Corner
22. Always Directing The Theater Program, Also A Huge Public Health Advocate
23. Advanced Math Professor Who Walks To Work Every Day
28. English Professor Who Leads Students To Be Weary Of Things They Read Online Without Further Thought
29. You'll Receive An Email From Her Whenever Something On Campus Goes Awry, Or When They Place A Parking Ban
30. Advocate For Student Well-Being, Has Creative Ideas On How To Better The Campus

Down

1. He's Your Man If You Want To Take A Creative Approach To Your Degree
2. Head Of First Year Students, A Go-To Whenever You Are Going Through A Crisis
4. Economics Professor Who Encourages Students To Explore Different Business Endeavors
6. Running Around Campus With Camera In Hand
9. If You're Meeting With Her, You Messed Up #Honorcouncil
11. History Professor Who Wants A Greener Earth
12. History Professor Who Explores Global Capitalism With Select Students
13. French Professor Who Took Her Class To Montreal Last Semester
14. Head Of SAC, Always Looking For New Ways To Ensure Students Are Having Fun
19. She Is Always Trying To Make Our Campus More Sustainable
20. Intro Sociology Professor With Fun Glasses
24. The Dean, Only Seen For Important Events
25. History Professor Who Shows Many Different Students Methods Of Peace And Conflict
26. Sophomores, Pay Attention To This Name!
27. You Can Find Him In The ARC Rooting For The Men's Soccer Team

1. Bailey, 2. Morash, 3. Lion, 4. Chavanne, 5. Lopez, 6. Elliott, 7. Graesch, 8. Black, 9. Cardwell, 10. Caring, 11. Garofalo, 12. Queen, 13. Prompt, 14. Williams, 15. Nibert, 16. Orbe, 17. West, 18. Loughran, 19. Bounds, 20. Flores, 21. Powell, 22. Anderson, 23. Johnson, 24. Smith, 25. Stock, 26. Patton, 27. Garrett, 28. Strabone, 29. Savage, 30. Curtiss