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THE COLLEGE VOICE

CONNECTICUT COLLEGE'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER, SINCE 1977

New London: From Ex-Whaling Hub to Green Energy Capital

ADRIEN PROUTY
NEWS EDITOR

For several decades of the 19th-century, New London, Connecticut was one of the busiest whaling ports in the world. In 1876, the Central Vermont Railroad Pier in New London became the first and only 19th-century pier in the state of Connecticut. It brought a boom of trade to the successful seaport city as an interchange point for freight ships and the Central Vermont Railroad network. Whaling fueled the city's capital and infrastructure, but with the development of alternatives to whale oil, sharp decline of whale populations, and eventual bans on whaling, the city's economic and industrial success became mostly a thing of the past.



Before: Courtesy of Connecticut Port Authority

In the early 20th-century, the Connecticut State Pier was built just to the east of the Central Vermont Railroad Pier. The state hoped it would encourage economic development, but it did not have the success of the original pier. It did, however, provide an important port facility to the United States Navy in both world wars and was a contributor to Groton's ability to establish itself as the "Submarine Capital of the World," a title it earned by delivering 74 submarines to the Navy in WWII.

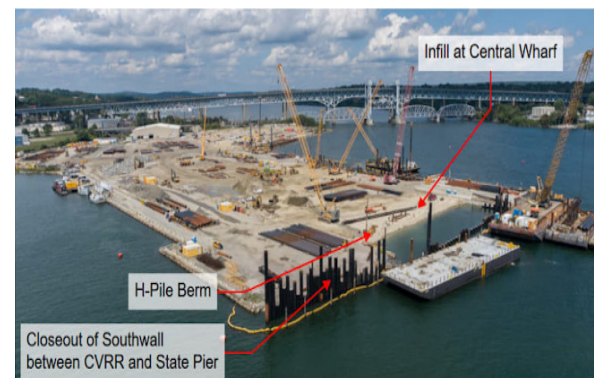
In 2019, a project was proposed to connect the two piers to create a larger Connecticut State Pier to serve as a modern heavy-lift port facility capable of supporting the staging and assembly of wind turbine generators for offshore wind energy projects. In February of 2020, the harbor development agreement was finalized and plans to construct the new and improved Connecticut State Pier in New London were set into motion.

The Connecticut Port Authority, a quasi-public agency that oversees Con-

necticut ports, hopes that the improvements will address previous shortcomings and enhance the State Pier's ability to capitalize on opportunities for the State of Connecticut. Connecticut has partnered with Ørsted and Eversource, both corporations involved in the energy industry, to fund this project. After its completion, projected to be in spring 2023, the Ørsted and Eversource joint venture company will begin a ten-year lease agreement for the use of the State Pier for wind turbine generator pre-assembly and staging. Three offshore wind projects already lined up will total more than 1700MW of energy production and are already scheduled for delivery from the completed pier facility to sites in New York, Rhode Island, and Connecticut. They are expected to be able to produce enough energy to power one million homes. "To my colleagues in the United States Senate, if you want to see the future of energy in this country, come here, come to New London, come to the State Pier. This is the future of energy in the United States of America," says U.S. Senator Richard Blumenthal.

With the construction of the State Pier, new job opportunities have already been brought to New London, and with its completion, many more are expected. Ned Lamont, Governor of Connecticut, reports that "This agreement paves the way for a surge in activity in New London and Eastern Connecticut that will cement the state's position as a leader in the industry. This new partnership achieves the goal of job growth in a critical part of our state, while making investments in clean energy, showing the world, yet again, that Connecticut will be a leader in addressing climate change."

In periods where Ørsted and Eversource may not have need for the pier, the facility will be marketed to other customers to ensure it is as efficient as possible. This will also establish it as a stable source of employment and economic benefit for New London and surrounding communities. According to Eliza Fawcett of the Hartford Courant, the State Pier promises "a slew of new jobs and economic stability for New London's next generation of residents."



Now: Courtesy of Connecticut Port Authority

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Letter From the Editors

Another successful Fall Weekend came and went! Despite the dreary weather, campus came to life with trees just starting to change color and a chill in the air. As I witnessed heartwarming family gatherings and pet the fluffiest dogs all across campus, I felt transported to the pre-COVID days three years ago when I was a wide-eyed first-year.

Under the HarvestFest tent, we sold amazing t-shirts and adorable stickers designed by multitalented Layout Editor Robbie Lynch. At our table, we reunited with dearly missed alumni (including two former EICs checking in on their beloved newspaper). Another recent grad, Samirah Jaigirdar '22, returned to say hello (check out Madelyn Rose's interview with Jaigirdar, Conn's Young Alumni Trustee). Generations of camels reminiscing on their alma mater sparked comparisons of annual traditions and events. Managing Editor Lucie Englehardt dove deep into our archives and explored how things have changed (or not) over the years at Conn.

Throughout the weekend, there was a plethora of musical performances, including the annual cappella showcase under the tent on Tempel to the Music Department "Prism" concert in Evans. Arts Editor Davi Schulman reports on Broadway star Stephanie Block's evening performance, a treat for the Conn community. Check out our arts section for more music reviews and a TCV exclusive curated fall playlist.

While some visitors warmed up in coffee shops, sipping chai lattes and perusing copies of TCV, devoted sports fans flocked to Silfen Field to watch field hockey and soccer games in the rain. Our sports section in this issue is bursting with equally exciting stories. Sports Editor Hannah Foley spotlights successful female coaches in professional athletics while Opinions Editor Ellie Wagner features Ilia Malinin, a prodigious teenage skater coincidentally from my Virginia high school. The rapidly changing New England weather coupled with hurricanes battering states and islands to the south is a constant reminder of the ongoing climate crisis. Annie Feldmar-DeVitre writes about sustainability efforts at Conn, shedding light on the various ways students can soothe their climate anxieties and channel their energy productively.

Just about a month into the semester, Conn students are finding their grooves and settling into their schedules, including the typical busy schedules and looming deadlines around every corner. To destress, check out our original crossword made by Layout Editor Zoe Dubelier and yours truly. It's perfect for cruciverbalists (a word I learned from my cruciverbalist older sister) and those who haven't justified a *New York Times* games subscription yet.

As always, we welcome new writers and anyone interested in getting involved with TCV to reach out! Swing by our biweekly pitch meetings, send us an email, follow our Instagram, and check out our website to learn more. We can't wait to welcome you to the team.

Catja Christensen
Co-Editor-in-Chief

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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New London: From Ex-Whaling Hub to Green Energy Capital

Article continued from page 1.



Now: Courtesy of Connecticut Port Authority

Unfortunately, the Connecticut State Pier project has not progressed without setbacks. The project was proposed at \$93 million and aimed to be completed by March 2022. The State Pier, still uncompleted, has currently totalled \$255 million and is expected to be completed in the spring of next year. Part of this is because the

original estimate did not include all contingencies and expected 'soft costs,' including architectural and engineering fees, permits, and legal expenses, which are difficult to determine before a construction project begins. The project estimate was increased by \$64 million after relocations to avoid interference with the Cross Sound Ferry and by another \$20 million for permits and to accelerate the dredging of the Thames River. The significant discrepancy between the projected and current costs has increased suspicions surrounding the previous deputy secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, Konstantinos Diamantis. The U.S. Attorney's office has served a federal grand jury subpoena requesting all communication on the topic of school construction, hazardous material abatement, and the State Pier projects involving Diamantis. There has also been dissatisfaction with the actions of the Connecticut Port Authority and its lack of transparency with millions of dollars of taxpayers' money. With some overturns in the state government and the Connecticut Port Authority, many hope that the future of the State Pier and of all Connecticut ports will be more successful and directly beneficial for affected seaport communities.

For Connecticut College students, improvements to the State Pier will mean an exciting boom in downtown New London. New shops and restaurants can be expected as the city's population grows. The campus can also expect a potential increase in community interest in campus events, like the College's theater productions and art exhibits. The development of the State Pier will lead to developments for the City of New London and increasing opportunities for community involvement for interested students. •

Board of Trustees Welcomes New YAT, Samirah Jaigirdar '22

MADELYN ROSE
STAFF WRITER

Last spring, Connecticut College welcomed six new members to the Board of Trustees. The Board consists of a group of elected alumni who are responsible for overseeing the policies and operations at the College. Collectively, these individuals work to implement new plans and policies to develop its future. Joining these new members is a Young Alumni Trustee, Samirah Jaigirdar '22.

Jaigirdar was an international student from Bangladesh who double-majored in International Relations and Global Islamic Studies and minored in Arabic. Additionally, she was a CISLA scholar. Outside of class time, she conducted research through the International Relations Department in a project titled "Tearing Down the Façade: Power, Realism, and the War on Terror." Jaigirdar was also a member of the International Student Association and the Student Government Association (SGA), serving as president during her senior year. She cites her time as a member of the SGA as one of the reasons she chose to remain connected with Conn and apply for the Young Alumni Position. Jaigirdar applied for the position during her senior spring, where she was elected by the members of her class. Her experience as a member of governing practices at Conn allowed Jaigirdar to further her connection with the school—a connection she hopes to keep after graduation.

Jaigirdar was appointed to the position during the late spring of 2022, and she began service on July 1. During her time thus far, she met with the committee in preparation for the Board meeting scheduled in early October. On the Board, Jaigirdar will be serving on the Student-Trustee Liaison Committee and the Student Experience Committee. As a member of the Committee on the Student Experience, Jaigirdar will oversee matters affecting student life of the College, including residential life, student wellbeing, student activities and organizations, and will support equity and inclusion practices as they relate to student life, culture, and conduct.

When asked about what she is looking forward to as a Board member, Jaigirdar says she is looking forward to collaborating with other alumni and those equally



Courtesy of Samirah Jaigirdar

invested in helping the College flourish. While the majority of the current Board members are many years her senior, as one of the three Young Alumni Trustees, Jaigirdar has the opportunity to bring a fresh perspective to the Board, where she can share her experiences as a recent graduate and help improve student experience for current and future students.

Now, Samirah is pursuing a Master of Theological Studies at the Harvard Divinity School, where she is specializing in Religion, Politics, and Ethics, exploring the topics of extremism and propaganda. Upon completing her master's Jaigirdar hopes to earn a PhD and eventually pursue a career in academia. Reflecting upon her classes at Conn, Jaigirdar says that her studies at the College helped lay the foundation for her future. While at Conn, she was able to develop her interests in government and international relations through her academic courses, research experiences, and international studies as a member of CISLA.

As a student both in and outside of Conn and as a person, Jaigirdar is an incredibly accomplished individual. Her work both in and outside the classroom make Jaigirdar an incredibly notable young woman. As a recent alum, she continues to make Connecticut College proud and is a wonderful addition to the Board of Trustees. •

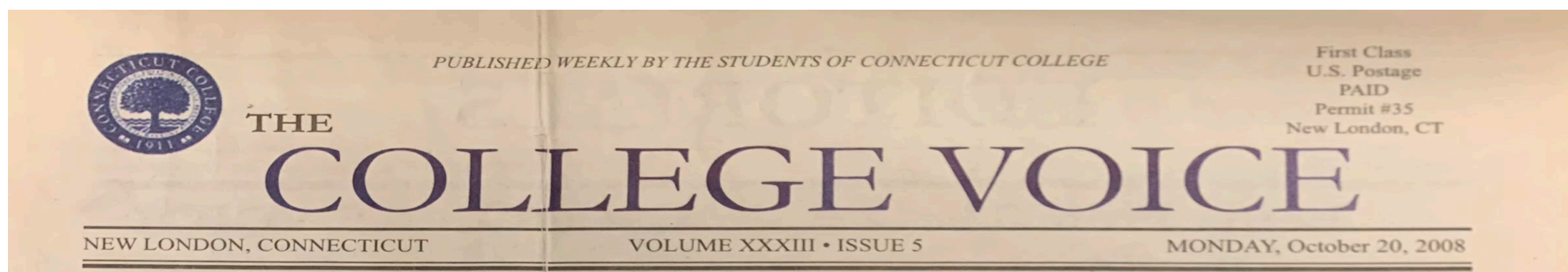
I Spent an Afternoon in the Archives, Part I

LUCIE ENGLEHARDT
MANAGING EDITOR

If you head to the Digital Commons, you will find scanned issues of *The College Voice* – albeit with dozens of different nameplates – first published by women at the College in 1915. I have kept my eye on the archives since I joined TCV in 2019, and I finally decided to start with those archived paper copies in the office: stories tucked away in the galvanized cabinet, hidden in battered manilla folders and waiting to be unearthed. Though these archives only took me about fifteen years back, I found a compelling pattern: student journalists were, and still are, agents of social change, and the newspaper became a liberating outlet through which student-wide dissent was actualized. Ten years ago, TCV went through the archives and re-published

buildings on campus. With our recently-unveiled Palmer auditorium, as well as waterfront and the aforementioned Cro renovations in the works, it is worth noting that the spirit of an all-residential college is actively dampened by dorms that visibly demand repairs and an altogether renovation.

2012 called for deep investigations into the real cost of a Connecticut College education, listing the rising tuition at \$49,385 – “the steep number many fear.” Meaning, our tuition has increased nearly \$30k in the past fourteen years. A representative of the College in the 2012 issue called on the students to “maintain houses and public places” to minimize the operating budget of the College – a diplomatic ask given that the operating budget for an academic year would be \$113 million in 2012. In the face of today’s steepening inflation and soaring tui-



Courtesy of Lucie Englehardt '23

noteworthy stories; here the noteworthy stories that have been written by and for students in the ten years since.

Fanning Hall was occupied by student protestors in May of 2016 to condemn the administrative response to the activist club, Connecticut College Students in Solidarity with Palestine. Club members has posted pro-Palestinian flyers – “fake eviction notices” – to call attention to Palestinian claims against Israel, and the flyers that were soon taken down despite citing a free speech precedence. They took to a Protest Blog to publish testimonies of bias incidents that were reported and documented by students but unaddressed by administration. Though the “Occupy Fanning” protest had ended with the 2016 academic year, the aim of the Fanning occupation left an indelible impact on the landscape of student protest at the College and fed the endurance of campus activism.

Just as student dissent forms regarding the Crozier-Williams renovation on our horizon, the College undertook a \$9.8 million project on the Shain Library renovation that sparked conversations surrounding disability justice amid large-scale projects. Donald Budge '10 called the Shain Renovation “a giant middle finger to the students” and argued that Shain is a “trophy wife” of a large-scale campus project. In fact, several articles on campus accessibility – or lack thereof – claimed the Shain renovation as impractical given the lack of ADA-certified residential

tion, how will the financial trajectory of the College ensure that funding is being allocated and diversified in the best interest of our student body, and that a liberal arts education can move towards attainability?

A plethora of 2008 issues took me back to the Obama/McCain election where social networking first began to mobilize voters; 2016 issues highlighted several campus protests against president-elect Donald Trump. Through both our local and presidential election cycles, *The College Voice* has been a constant outlet for the sharing and distributing of procedural knowledge of ballot-casting. The papers were relics of past protests during election seasons, where students relied on a united front to ignite campus-wide change and raise awareness.

Journalism has a rare capacity to call us into our present moment, and listen to stories that are actively shaping our social behaviors, knowledge systems, and cultural values. It is a meaning-making structure in our lives and its avenues of storytelling shift as the world shifts around us. Student activism has ebbed and flowed since, but student journalism is consistently a valuable mechanism of personal agency, a tool of discovery, and an access point into institutional reform. I have confidence in the longevity of *The College Voice* being a platform for our voices, and the paper continuing to share stories that matter with the community. •



October is **Cybersecurity Awareness Month**

Don't fall for scams!

Follow the tips below to stay safe:

- Hover your mouse over links before you click. When you hover your mouse over a link, you will be able to see the URL that you will be taken to if you click.
- If you receive an email with a link to a special deal or promotion, navigate to the organization’s website instead of clicking the link. By visiting the website directly, you can ensure that the deal is real.
- Before you click a shortened URL, make sure it’s legitimate. You can use an online URL checker to view the full URL.

Climate Anxiety at Conn: the Intersection of Sustainability and Mental Health

ANNIE FELDMAR-
DEVITRE
CONTRIBUTOR

There's no doubt that students at Conn are full of commitment, passion, and drive when it comes to making a positive impact on our environment. Climate change has only become a more pressing issue over time, and the urgency

our students feel to do their part has increased with it. Due to this, many of our students face something called climate or eco-anxiety, meaning "a chronic fear of environmental doom," according to the American Psychological Association.

At Conn, students exhibit their avidity for saving the environment through the countless initiatives and projects on campus. These efforts include, but are not limited to, the Sprout Garden, the Office of Sustainability, Spokespeople, CC Climate Collective, and Oceana. Conn has a Sustainability Fellows Program and the Goodwin-Niering Center for the Environment, along with a sustainable living residence option for students called Earth House. In July 2021, Conn earned a Gold rating from the Sustainability, Tracking, Assessment and Rating System (STARS), which is a program of the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE). Clearly, sustainability efforts at Conn are of the utmost importance and many students spend hours per week dedicating their time and energy to creating a more sustainable campus and life, even if they aren't involved in on-campus programs.

It is important to note the reason behind our students' and administration's concerns as they stress the importance of sustainability on our campus and in our cur-

riculum. Our students' futures will be affected by these issues, which can influence their mental health daily. The responsibility to confront the impact of past generations' actions on the climate weighs heavily on many of our students, resulting in their climate anxiety. The pressure to have extremely sustainable lifestyles, whereas one billion-dollar company or institution's choices would have a much greater im-

act, still burdens our students.

There are other strategies to help soothe climate anxiety along with plenty of mental health resources on campus, ranging from Student Counseling Services to student organizations working to bring awareness to mental health issues. Each person may choose to act on and cope with this anxiety differently. Students should aim to find a place where their voice best fits and where they can make an impact without putting pressure on or shaming themselves if their voices don't look or sound exactly like the one on the front page. Don't sacrifice your sanity for your sustainability efforts.

Connect with others in your

community. Ultimately, the only way we can contribute is if we are healthy and well, meaning that rest is the key to success here.

The future for sustainability at Conn is bright. Our students and administration are continually committed to exploring more ways to educate and learn about environmental friendliness. We have incredible resources to support us through all the ups and downs that the climate crisis brings, but the most important thing to keep in mind is that we can't conquer everything and that taking care of ourselves comes first. •



Courtesy of Annie Feldmar-DeVitre '26

Head Space in a Shared Place: Another Round of Common Room Living

CAROLINE SNYDER
CONTRIBUTOR

As the final week of August crept up and a greater number of students than ever before boarded planes, stepped onto trains, and packed cars to make their respective journeys to New

London, many were left wondering what they would find when they got there. After all, many students did not find themselves in the single, double, triple, or quad they may have expected, but in a common space where students have not previously lived. Roommate numbers varied, with some people having as few as one roommate, and others ending up with as many as five.

As the first few weeks of classes have drawn to a close, fallen leaves have started covering the walkways, and students have settled into life here at Conn, the reality of their living situations, and their mental health impacts, have settled in too. In hearing from four different students, all living in various common rooms and locations, it seems that there is one factor that primarily distinguishes the good situations from the bad, the content students to the unhappy: the number of roommates. Even though a common room may be larger than an average triple or quad, cramming in too many people still makes it difficult for everyone present to feel as if they have time for themselves, or even a space to really make their own. Considering the fact that every student should have a comfortable and safe place to

live, and that the other aspects of their lives are inevitably impacted by whether this is available or not, it is very important that Conn listens to its students about these issues. Additionally, it is essential that they do something about situations that do not prove to be good for housing.

Emma Linder, a first-year living in Hamilton House, has only two roommates. She loves her space there, saying, "It is such a nice room and is so spacious." She and her roommates were able to make the space both functional and "very aesthetically pleasing" through the use of string lights, two mini fridges, a Keurig, a TV, and moving the furniture around (see photos below).

Another first-year, Anna Levine, lives in a common room in Morrison and has had a similarly positive experience so far. She has just one roommate, and loves the amount of space, TV, and the windows. Though she and her roommate haven't done a lot, they have made the room their own through small details, such as adding a rug in between their beds. In Levine's opinion, Conn should continue to house people in common rooms in the future "as long as they reduce the number of people in each room," though hers is "quite spacious" due to only having two people.

Article continued on page 6.

Head Space in a Shared Place: Another Round of Common Room Living

Article continued from page 5.

get to their beds or desks, or about feeling overcrowded or like they can never be alone.

Unfortunately, others living in common rooms have not been so lucky. A student who wished to remain anonymous, living in the Katharine Blunt common room, has five roommates, and has come across a lot of negative aspects of living with that many people. They noted the lack of alone time and difficulty having friends over, in addition to their roommates' different sleep schedules and the amount of noise as problems they have faced. The student also does not find their room to be aesthetically pleasing due to the difficulty of decorating with the number of roommates. Unlike Levine, they do not think Conn should continue to house students in common rooms in the future, as it is "impractical and detrimental to [student] mental health to never have privacy or alone time while at school." As anyone who has spent even a small amount of time in an overcrowded space would know, it gets very irritating, no matter how much you may like who you are with, to constantly be without your own space, and it is not fair on students to force them into a situation where they do not have any.

Another student, who also wished to remain anonymous, has faced some of the same problems living in a common room, though they have been able to decorate with the use of posters and "little knick knacks." While they said they have trouble finding time to be alone, they have been able to make their own space and think that their roommates and them have made the best of their living situation. They also feel that their situation is better space-wise than some others, such as forced triples.

Overall, it seems that the use of common rooms as living situations is something that can be made doable within reason— as long as they are not overcrowded to the point where the lack of space is detrimental to student mental health. Given the expe-

riences of students with many roommates versus only one or two, if Conn continues to use common rooms as housing spaces, it should not be in place of other solutions, but as a supplement to them instead. •



Courtesy of Anna Levine '26

Get Your Sh*t Together

SOPHIA HOSFORD
STAFF WRITER

It was a night of laundry and adding movies to my Netflix list that I would never watch. It took five minutes for relaxation to turn into repulsion as I entered the 2nd floor bathroom in Smith.

Rather than a clean bathroom I found pieces of toilet paper and hair strewn about. I guess the skunks made their way to Smith because only an animal could be responsible for such an offense. I then found puddles of dirty water. It pooled in the center of the bathroom requiring users to maneuver themselves through an obstacle course just to wash their hands, but some people don't even bother doing that.

After nearly losing my life to the collection of hair and even more water that had accumulated in the corner of the room, I exited, happy to have my life but not happy knowing I'd return later to an even grosser setting – chicken in the sink and an overflowing wastebasket. Dinner and a shower? This was not an isolated incident. It's disgusting, it's common, and it's not just Smith.

It seemed as though the same skunks in Smith made their way to Johnson - it's entirely plausible for them to have climbed several sets of stairs. They like a challenge. Or maybe it's the squirrels — you see them chasing each other across Tempel squaring off over territory — perhaps the competition escalates in the bathrooms. Freshman Matthew Fuentes lives on the second floor where some of the toilets don't flush and shaved hair lines the sink and floors — decor no one asked for. Worse, in the handicap bathrooms, residents don't flush and leave their belongings for days — I guess their faith in the honor code is unmatched.

Several weeks ago, vomit was left uncleaned on the third floor of Plant. Freshman Sabrina Malec lives there. She recalls walking into the bathroom and seeing vomit that wouldn't end up being cleaned for hours as the residents responsible failed to



Courtesy of Sophia Hosford '26

clean it. It appears that students struggle with maintaining the bathrooms over the 48 hour period while someone else isn't cleaning up their mess.

Not everyone gets to live in Hotel Morrison. Shockingly, secondary parent-pleaser, paradisiacal dorm Hamilton also struggles to maintain its bathrooms. Dirty underwear left for days, tampon disposal machines knocked off the wall, and food in the sink is how freshman Caroline Snyder described the first floor bathroom. Clearly all is not well in paradise. Two floors above, a freshman wishing to remain anonymous discovered a used tampon on the floor, a lovely Monday morning wake up call. Such a jumpscare eliminates the need for coffee.

The Larrabee basement bathroom is infamous, known for its unflushed toilets and

Article continued on page 7.

Get Your Sh*t Together

Article continued from page 6.

condom ridden stalls. Sophomore Melanie Rollins is the Larrabee House Senator and also a basement resident. She described the bathrooms as “revolting, smelly, and uncomfortable.” The basement and the first floor are particularly problematic in Larrabee. “Everything above the first floor is a lot cleaner,” Rollins said. Larrabee has held several meetings about the bathrooms, involving central campus, REAL Staff, and contacting custodians. Meetings have included basic bathroom etiquette like flushing the toilet because we definitely didn’t learn that as children, and explanations that having sex in the shower isn’t very nice! The basement bathroom has become a dumping ground for used condoms, both used and unused tampons, and shaved pubic hairs. Rollins recalled both showers being rendered unusable on account of the pubic hairs in one and used condom in the other. “At least one toilet

is always clogged,” she added. Larabee REAL staff are currently planning another bathroom hygiene meeting. We all must learn from KB which we now know stands for Klean Bathrooms.

The lack of bathroom etiquette is frustrating and disrespectful to all, but especially to custodians who work hard to maintain the school’s cleanliness. We are just as responsible for maintaining the space. We must respect our environments and recognize that we live in a community with guidelines. We must try to keep it clean rather than worsen the experience for everyone. Having a sense of ownership over our community shouldn’t entitle us to treat it poorly, it should instill a desire to make the living experience enjoyable for everyone.

So the next time you are about to leave the bathroom without flushing the toilet, just know that everyone will hate you! And remember, flushing everyday keeps the REAL staff at bay. •

What College Exchange Programs are Available to us at Conn?

SOPHIA HOSFORD
STAFF WRITER

Steel Design, Military History, Principles of Naval Architecture, oh my! These courses are just a sampling of those available to Conn students opposite Route 32 at the Coast Guard Academy (CGA),

one of the many colleges at which Conn students could take classes.

Conn, the CGA, Wesleyan University, and Trinity College have a unique partnership enabling their students to take courses at the other institutions. Students are unable to take courses that are also offered at their own college or are similar in content.

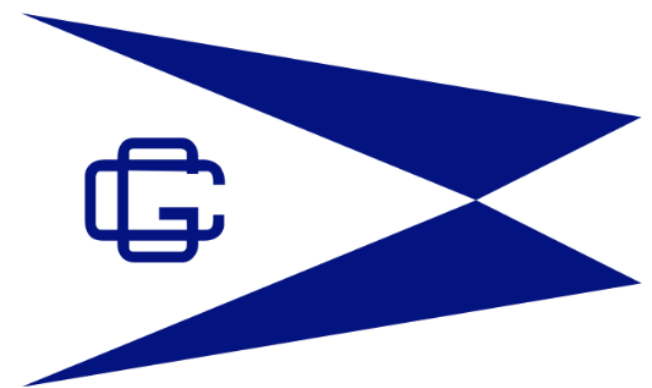
According to the CGA’s website, Conn students and CGA cadets are allowed to “enroll and receive credit for courses completed at the other institution on a limited, single-course exchange basis”. Both Conn students and CGA cadets are able to use the libraries and athletic

facilities at the other institution. A senior CGA cadet who wishes to remain unnamed is currently enrolled in Conn’s Introduction to Contemporary Issues in Education course taught by Professor Karen Pezzetti. The cadet is interested in pursuing a Masters in Education post-CGA and wanted to gain additional insight into the subject. She found the class through the Conn dynamic schedule. Her advisor “suggested taking something outside [her] major,” especially because the student had a free elective. The student is currently majoring in Operation Research and Data Analytics at the CGA.

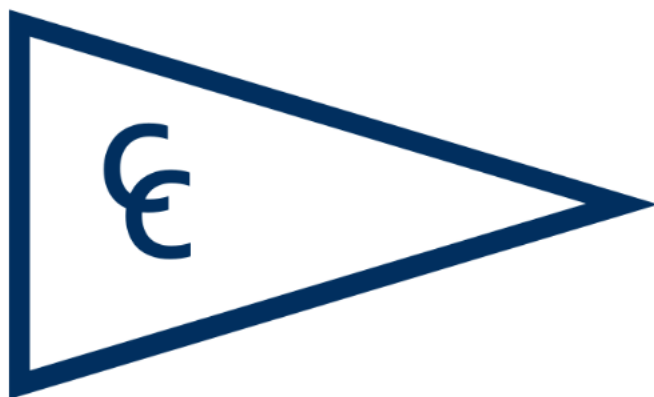
create a connection with someone other than cadets.” She added that, if her schedule allowed, she would be interested in taking another course at Conn in the future. She appreciates the opportunity to “briefly experience a different kind of college campus.” She appreciates the connection between students and instructors at Conn and the dialogue-style teaching as opposed to strictly lecturing. She enjoys that change of pace.

Conn student Christopher Koskinen ‘24 participated in the exchange, too. Koskinen took an American military policy course at the CGA., “It was and still is the best class I have ever taken,” he said. Koskinen wanted to take a class on military history and figured the CGA would offer some since Conn did not. Though registration requires students to jump through several hoops, gathering signatures left and right, Koskinen believes it is “definitely worth [the] time and effort.” Koskinen remarked, “I personally really liked it and learned a lot from a different teaching style, but everyone learns in different ways.” He added, “It can be a bit of a culture shock taking a class at a military institution if you haven’t been to one before,” but for Koskinen, it was a great experience that he definitely recommends.

Also available to Conn students is the 12-College Exchange, a consortium of highly selective Northeast colleges. A select number of juniors may participate in this program. Some of the colleges include Amherst, Bowdoin, Conn, Dartmouth, Mount Holyoke, Trinity, Wesleyan, Wellesley, and Wheaton. Students are only able to apply to one college for the full year, but there is an opportunity to apply to a different college for each semester, though the program is highly competitive and students are not guaranteed placement at the institution of their choosing. To participate, Conn students need to discuss the program with both their advisors and their class deans. If approved, Conn students then have to contact the registrar at Wesleyan, Trinity, or the CGA who determine if the Conn student is able to enroll. •



Courtesy of The U.S. Coast Guard Academy



Courtesy of Connecticut College

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other institution. A senior CGA cadet who wishes to remain unnamed is currently enrolled in Conn’s Introduction to Contemporary Issues in Education course taught by Professor Karen Pezzetti. The cadet is interested in pursuing a Masters in Education post-CGA and wanted to gain additional insight into the subject. She found the class through the Conn dynamic schedule. Her advisor “suggested taking something outside [her] major,” especially because the student had a free elective. The student is currently majoring in Operation Research and Data Analytics at the CGA.

In terms of applying, the cadet explained the process as quite simple. “It was up to me to find the class, and see if I was eligible, then submit that request to my registrar in the spring, then on the first day of class I would show up and see if there were any other seats available,” she said. The cadet knows a handful of other students participating in the exchange, but it is only open to juniors and seniors because that is the “first time [cadets] have open electives within [their] four-year program.”

The cadet enjoys the program and encourages others to participate: “It’s nice to

Conn Fall Sports Preview

KEVIN LIEUE
CONTRIBUTOR

Fall sports are in full swing and we're here to give you an inside look at the fall sports teams and their expectations for this season. The records and scores are as of October 1st but you can see all updated scores and schedules at camelathletics.com.

Women's Cross-Country: Last season, the Connecticut College Women's Cross Country team placed seventh at the NCAA Division III Mideast Regional Championships. As a result, the team was nationally ranked twenty-eighth in the USTFCCA Division III Preseason ranking. This marks the first time the women's team has been nationally ranked since 2008. Though expectations are higher, the basic guiding principles of the team remain unchanged. "We expect our team to follow what we call the 5 C's: character, common sense, commitment, confidence, and competitiveness," said senior captain Julia Curran. By following the 5 C's, the team hopes to achieve many of their season goals. While the team hopes to improve on "team performances at NESCACs and Regionals compared to last year," equally important for the team is to "promote an inclusive and supportive team environment, and give 100% in the classroom and when competing," said senior captain Sarah Anderson. Catch the women's cross-country team in action at the Connecticut College Invitational at Harkness Memorial State Park in Waterford on Saturday, October 15th.

Men's Cross-Country: Coming off a season in which they finished sixth at the NCAA Division III Mideast Regional Championships, the men's cross country team was nationally ranked thirty-first in the USTFCCA Division III Preseason ranking to open this season. This season, the Camels hope to perform even better. While many key runners have left, nine first-year and transfer runners have joined. Of these runners, first-year Jonathan Norton and transfer junior Branden Mellit have already scored points in the varsity lineup for the Camels. The team is captained by seniors Matt Carter, Chris Verstandig, and Max Notarnicola. Come watch the men's cross-country team at their home meet at Harkness Memorial State Park in Waterford on Saturday, October 15th.

Field Hockey: The field hockey team is off to a 2-6 start, already matching their win total for last season. This year's captains are juniors Hope Melanson, McKalynn Jacobsen, and Kylee Quinn. The captains told The College Voice they hope "to make the NESCAC tournament which requires two in-conference wins which we all believe we can accomplish." To do so, the field hockey team has worked to celebrate achievements en route to their goal. "We remind ourselves that Rome is not built in a day and that we need to appreciate the baby achievements we obtain. For example, the box score against Tufts this year showed the immense progression we have made; we held our own against the No. 4 team in the country, almost matching them in SOG and corners." Three seniors graduated last year, including All-NESCAC second team goalkeeper Jackie Mountford '22. However, seven "kind, dynamic, and hard-working" first-years have joined and first-year Bridget McGann has already scored six goals in eight matches. Though no seniors are on the team this season, the Camels have seventeen returnees and hope to continue improving this season. The field hockey team will play their next home match against Bates College at Silfen Field on October 22nd.

Women's Rowing: The oldest varsity sport at Connecticut College, women's rowing, hopes for a successful fall season this year. Following a spring season in which the women's rowing team competed at the National Invitational Collegiate Regatta, the Camels look to continue improving this fall. "Our team's main goals for this season are to improve our endurance and speed," said junior captain Annabelle Tanger. This fall, the Camels will be without "a few members of the team that are studying abroad," said junior captain Mattie Wernerfelt. But "we have a really strong first-year class coming in that we're super excited about." Equally exciting for the team is the chance to compete in a historical race. "We are looking forward to competing at The Head of the Charles this fall," said junior captain Emma Lanahan. This race is the biggest two-day regatta in the world and features over 11,000 rowers according to Regatta Central. Watch the women's rowing team race

their next race at the Head of the Snake at Lake Quinsigamond in Worcester on Saturday, October 15th.

Men's Rowing: After an impressive spring season in which the team won the Amherst Invitational, the Camels hope to build on their success this fall. "We're trying to place as well as possible in longer head style races of the fall season against some solid competition," said senior captain Eric Pica. "Medaling at least once in our 1V boat would be huge." Additionally, the opportunity to compete in the Head of the Charles race excites the team. "The race we are all looking forward to is the Head of the Charles in Boston, MA, as there will be thousands of people in attendance and is "the race" in the world of rowing," said Pica. While a class of eleven seniors graduated last year, the team has been bolstered by the addition of many underclassmen. "Ian Cullen is a freshman making an immediate impact," said Pica. "He has earned his seat in the 1V this season and is doing fantastic." Support the men's rowing team at their next race, the Head of the Snake, at Lake Quinsigamond in Worcester on Saturday, October 15th.

Co-ed Sailing: Following an impressive spring season which capped off with



Courtesy of Erica Pica '23

the team finishing thirteenth at the ICSA National Championships, the Camels hope to fight for the national title this season. With a returning cast of twenty six sailors, including twelve seniors, the Camels have no shortage of experience. In addition, the team has added seven first years to help the team improve. With the completion of new docks, there is plenty of reason for optimism this season. Catch the co-ed sailing team at their next home race, the ACC Round 2, on October 22nd and 23rd in New London.

Women's Soccer: Following a strong season in which the women's soccer team appeared in the first round of the NCAA Division III Tournament, the Camels hope to build on their success and go farther. "Our team mantra this season is we get to, we want to," said senior captain Myra Johnson. "With this, our expectations for this year are high with hopes of making it further than before." While this may be challenging, the Camels hope to stay focused by being "instantly focused on working hard for the next game on our schedule." Of the eleven new first-years and transfers, first-year Alexa Warner and transfer sophomore Sarah Hobbs have already had a significant impact on the field. The women's soccer team is currently 5-2-1 and plays their next home game against Bates College on Saturday, October 22nd at Freeman Field.

Men's Soccer: Coming off last season's NCAA Division III national championship win, the men's soccer team expects to go far once again. The Camels lost three key senior players but have added a group of eleven first-years ready to contribute. First-year striker Gavin Vanden Berg has already scored three goals in six appear-

Article continued on page 11.

Conn Fall Sports Preview

Article continued from page 10.

ances. The team is captained by seniors Augie Djerdjaj, Steve Yeonas, and Oliver Pinyochon. The Camels are currently 3-2-2 and play their next home match against Babson College at Silfen Field on Wednesday, October 12th.

Women's Volleyball: Coming off a 9-11 record and an appearance in the NES-CAC tournament last season, the women's volleyball team hopes for more improvement this season. "We're always looking to improve our program every year," said senior Georgia Quesnelle. "I think that's just an expectation every single year that we're in the program." The Camels have opened this season 5-6, including a conference win against Bates. This is no doubt due to the help of incoming first-years. "We have 5 first years, which is a relatively big class," said sophomore Katherine Randall. "They're all solid players and we're really excited." With only one senior graduating, the women's volleyball team looks to grow this season as they hope to "ultimately win a NESCAC championship," said junior Natasha Shrivastava. Catch

the Camels in action in their next game at home against Wesleyan University at the Luce Fieldhouse on Thursday, October 13th.

Men's Water Polo: Coming off a difficult season in which the team only won one game, the Camels look to grow this season with a revamped team. "Our program is still bouncing back after struggling with the pandemic, but this season will still be a great rebuilding experience," said senior captain Sam Guy. "We have a good group of freshmen who will get a lot of impactful minutes throughout the season, so we hope to see significant strides from all of them." Three first-years in particular have already made a mark on the team. "Sebastian Parilov immediately became our starting goalie, Jack Haddad has speed and puts effort in on both sides of the pool, and Carson Neidert has given us depth at the center position," said Guy. In addition to improving, the Camels hope to finish in the top four of the Division III Eastern Conference Tournament. The Camels are currently 1-3 and play their next home matches at the athletic center against MIT and Harvard on Saturday, October 8th. •

The Future of Coaching is Female

HANNAH FOLEY
SPORTS EDITOR

On September 18, first-year head coach Becky Hammon and her Las Vegas Aces won the first major championship in Las Vegas history. While there are plenty of storylines to come out of this series, one of the biggest was how stupid NBA

owners looked for overlooking Hammon as a head coach for multiple programs.

Hammon's career started as a player, going undrafted out of Colorado State in 1999 but made her way onto a roster. She played the first half of her career in New York and the second half in San Antonio. She's a 6x All-Star, Olympic silver medalist, and was named to the WNBA's 15th, 20th, and 25th-anniversary team. And while Hammon was a fantastic player, it's her coaching that has left her mark in history.

While recovering from an injury in 2013, Hammon was invited to numerous San Antonio Spurs practices as a guest coach, and a year later, the Spurs offered Hammon a full-time assistant coach position, becoming only the second woman on an NBA coaching staff.

Hammon was the head coach of the Spurs summer league team that won the summer tournament in 2015. Over the next 6 years, Hammon interviewed for numerous positions as a head coach in the NBA but was overlooked every time. After she won the championship as a first-year head coach with the Aces, it has become even clearer that she was qualified.

Hammon isn't the only one who has been overlooked. Kara Lawson was an assistant for the Celtics but took a head coach job at Duke shortly before a coaching shuffle at the Celtics organization. Dawn Staley was interviewed for the Portland Trailblazers head coaching job in 2021, and after not being offered the position, went and won a national championship with her South Carolina Gamecocks.

There are numerous examples of women in men's sports outside of basketball too. Katie Sowers made history as the first female coach to coach in the Superbowl in 2020 as an offensive assistant coach for the San Francisco 49ers. Dawn Braid became the first full-time female coach in the NHL as a skating coach with the Arizona Coyotes. Kim Wyant was the first woman to coach a men's NCAA soccer team to the NCAA tournament as the head coach for NYU. Kim Ng became the first female general manager of an MLB in 2020 for the Miami Marlins.

These women are trailblazers, but there is even more evidence of their excellence when talking to their players. In a *Players Tribune* article in 2018, Pau Gasol wrote "I'm telling you: Becky Hammon can coach. I'm not saying she can coach pretty well. I'm not saying she can coach enough to get by. I'm not saying she can coach almost at the level of the NBA's male coaches. I'm saying: Becky Hammon can coach NBA basketball. Period."

After the hiring of Kim Ng, Miami Marlin shortstop Miguel Rojas told reporters "Kim is one of the most qualified individuals for our GM role, and we are grateful to have her as part of our team. I am excited to go to work with her and bring a championship to Miami."

There are women coaching the NBA, MLB, NFL, and NHL. Most of the time, women

are overqualified for their positions, continuing to perpetuate the narrative that women have to overachieve to receive the same recognition as men. However, the more examples we have of women in sports, the more future generations will see female coaches as normal. The future of coaching is female, and I can't wait until we longer have to celebrate every hiring of a woman in sports. •



Courtesy of OfficialBeckyHammon/Flickr

Ilia Malinin: The Seventeen-Year-Old Quadgod

ELLIE WAGNER
OPINIONS EDITOR

On September 14th, 17-year-old figure skater Ilia Malinin made sports history by landing the first quadruple axel in an international competition. This was the first new jump to be landed since Brandon Mroz landed the quad lutz in 2011, and the first new axel to be landed since Vern Taylor landed the triple axel in 1978. Malinin landed the jump during his free program at the U.S International Classic in Lake Placid. It was an unexpected achievement, as this was the very first competition of the international season, and had relatively low attendance. Still, the Virginia native executed the jump perfectly, cementing his place in the history of figure skating and giving the U.S high hopes for the future.

A quadruple axel is a jump that takes off forward, does four-and-a-half revolutions in the air, and comes down backwards on one foot. It was thought to be nearly impossible until quite recently. Since a quad axel does four-and-a-half revolutions (as opposed to just four as all other quad jumps do) it is thought of as the first step towards quintuple jumps. In competition, it is worth 12.50 points, over 4 points higher than a triple axel. The quad axel has been attempted in competition without success twice, the first by Russia's Artur Dmitriev Jr. at the 2018 Rostelecom Cup and the second by Japan's Yuzuru Hanyu at the 2022 Beijing Olympics. The quad axel is an incredibly hard jump to do, as the force exerted on the knee and ankle coming down is extensive.

Ilia Malinin made his senior figure skating debut in 2021. He performed well at U.S. Nationals in 2022, placing third, but narrowly missed out on an Olympic spot. After an impressive win at the 2022 International Challenge Cup, he earned a spot at the 2022 World Championship. After the withdrawal of recent Olympic gold medalist Nathan Chen, Malinin was seen as the U.S.'s best hope to medal at Worlds. Despite his training as an elite athlete, it seems that Malinin's current weakness is consistency. At



Courtesy of Robbie Lynch '24

Worlds, he placed fourth in the short program after a stellar performance and was projected to medal ahead of his quad-packed free program. However, after a scary fall on a quad Salchow at the beginning of the free, he made multiple mistakes throughout the program and ended up finishing in ninth place. He spoke after the event about feeling pressured to skate well, which ultimately messed with his head during his programs. The U.S did not leave the men's event empty-handed, however, as teammate Vincent Zhou earned the bronze medal. Malinin did go on to win the 2022 Junior World Championship shortly after, setting the junior world record for the highest score ever recorded in both the short and free programs. Malinin began training the quad axel shortly after worlds, and posted videos of his first few attempts on his Instagram, aptly named "quadgod". This definitely caused a stir in the skating world, and many speculated whether it was safe for a 17-year-old to be training such a high-impact jump. Others wondered if he would be able to land it cleanly in a competition after his previous problems with consistency. Many expected he would wait until a big international competition, like Skate America or an event on the Grand Prix circuit. However, in true "chaos child" fashion, he landed the historic jump at the first international competition of the season, in front of a relatively empty audience.

For the past few years, the quad axel has been seen as an almost unattainable goal for skaters. As the final quad jump left unlanded, many were training and striving to be the first. It will be interesting to see who will land it next, as well as who will become the first woman to land the jump. This great success for Ilia Malinin leaves the U.S optimistic about its future in this new 4-year cycle post-2022 Olympics. Because Malinin is so young, many assume he can only get better and will be near unstoppable by the time the 2026 Olympics comes around. After the semi-retirement of Olympic Gold Medalist Nathan Chen, the U.S. may have finally found its new golden child of the men's division. •

Sports Spotlight

Featured Team: Men's XC

Pre National Invite 10th/36 Teams

Upcoming Events:

James Earley Invite, Westfield, MA
(10/8)
Connecticut College Invite, Waterford,
CT (10/15)

Coaching Staff:

Sam Alexander, Interim Head Coach

Featured Team: Women's XC

Pre National Invite 15th/39 Teams

Upcoming Events:

James Earley Invite, Westfield, MA
(10/8)
Connecticut College Invite, Waterford,
CT (10/15)

Coaching Staff:

Ned Bishop, Head Coach
Laura Nadelberg, Assistant Coach

Featured Team: Women's Field Hockey

10/1 vs. Hamilton College L, 1-2

Upcoming Events:

10/8 @ Williams College
10/9 @ Middlebury College
10/15 @ Colby College

Coaching Staff:

Chrissy Chappell, Head Coach
Kaeley DeNegre, Assistant Coach

Featured Team: Women's Volleyball

10/1 @ Amherst College L, 0-3

Upcoming Events:

10/7 @ Middlebury College
10/8 @ Hamilton College
10/13 vs. Wesleyan University

Coaching Staff:

Josh Edmed, Head Coach
Leanne Sakowicz, Assistant Coach
Alexandra Facchini, Assistant Coach

The Last Stand of Jimmy G

FRITZ BALDAUF
SPORTS EDITOR

The San Francisco 49ers are a curious case this season. Coming into the year they possessed one of the best collections of high-end talent in the entire league, and particularly in the NFC, which projects to be quite weak this season. This includes blue chip superstars such as tight end George Kittle, jack-of-all-trades weapon Deebo Samuel, edge rusher Nick Bosa, linebacker Fred Warner, interior defensive lineman Arik Armstead, and All-Pro left tackle Trent Williams. They also have a class of young emerging stars such as wideout Brandon Aiyuk and defensive backs Charvarious Ward and Talanoa Hufanga.

For all of the talent on the Niners' roster this season, they had a question mark at the game's most important position. 2021 number three overall draft pick Trey Lance was given the reins at quarterback this season after sitting behind veteran Jimmy Garoppolo last season (which culminated with a close loss to the eventual Super Bowl champion Los Angeles Rams). The plan had always been to trade Garoppolo in the off-season, or to release him in order to save some salary cap space. However an off-season shoulder surgery ended up tanking Garoppolo's trade value, and the team and the quarterback agreed to a restructured contract to make Garoppolo the league's highest-paid backup quarterback before he hits free agency next off-season.

The move to keep Garoppolo drew a lot of criticism from both fans and media around the Bay Area. There was a sense that Garoppolo's presence would make it harder for the young and raw Lance to take control of the team. His presence also didn't help put to bed the questions about Lance's readiness, as many viewed him as a liability due to his inexperience. Despite his sky-high potential, many viewed Lance as a potential weakness for a team that is currently right in the middle of a wide-open Super Bowl window.

Now, heading into week 4, the Niners are 1-2 after an ugly loss to the Denver Broncos in which Garoppolo struggled mightily. Despite his struggles last week, keeping Garoppolo around is looking like a lucky masterstroke by general manager John Lynch. After Lance struggled to play in torrential rain in a shocking loss to the Chicago Bears to open the season, he broke his ankle on a running play late in the first quarter of the Niners' week two 27-7 win against the divisional rival Seattle Seahawks. 49ers' head coach Kyle Shanahan caught a lot of criticism for putting his young quarterback in harm's way, with how much he was running him. Garoppolo stepped in for Lance, looking solid, completing 13 of 21 passes for 154 yards and a touchdown to backup tight end Ross Dwelley in three quarters of play. He also rushed for a touchdown.

Regardless of who is at fault for Lance's devastating injury, the Niners are right back where they were for the past several seasons, with Garoppolo at the helm of an ultra-talented roster. Jimmy G has been one of the league's most polarizing quarterbacks

throughout his run as the Niners' starter. The team is 31-14 with him as a starter, far better than they have been with any other quarterback in the six seasons they have been coached by Shanahan. The last two seasons in which Garoppolo has started the majority of the 49ers games they have reached the Super Bowl (2019) and the NFC Title Game (2021). Despite the team's success with him at quarterback, Garoppolo is clearly a physically limited thrower. He struggles to consistently throw deep, isn't particularly mobile, and is prone to several head-scratching decisions per game, throws which many Niners fans have come to term the "Jimmy Oh No" throws. And no 49ers fan has will ever forget his infamous overthrow of Emmanuel Sanders with Super Bowl LIV on the line back in February of 2020.

So, with Garoppolo now at the helm, how does this change the 49er's prospects this season? The answer is probably not that much, at least in terms of baseline expectations. While Garoppolo's ceiling is certainly lower than Lance's sky-high potential, his floor is undeniably higher. He's an experienced NFL starter, both in the regular season and in the playoffs. He's beloved by his 49er teammates and knows Shanahan's offensive system well. Three seasons ago the Niners were a play or two away from winning a title with him at the helm, and last season they were a play or two away from getting

back to the big game with him. Garoppolo is a solid game manager, and given the wealth of talent around him, that is likely all that he will be asked to do; he won't be asked to win many games for San Francisco by himself, but rather he will be asked to just not lose them for them. This season's Niners' roster is perhaps the most talented team he and Shanahan have had to work with, and in a weakened NFC, they should cruise into the playoffs and be among the favorites to represent the NFC in Super Bowl LVII this coming February in Arizona.

Where the projections for the Niners really change is in the long term. Garoppolo is in the last year of his contract, and

the assumption remains that the team will move on from him after this season in favor of Lance, who they invested significant draft capital in to acquire. But at this point, Lance will not have played in more than two competitive football games in each of the past three seasons (he only played in one game in his final season at North Dakota State in 2020 due to covid, started two games last season for which Garoppolo was injured, and played the first 1.3 games this season before getting hurt.) The same questions about whether or not he will be ready to step into a Super Bowl contender roster that doesn't have much of a margin for error or time to develop a young player will remain.

What remains the case, is that San Francisco will likely once again contend for the Super Bowl this season. They may even win it, with Jimmy Garoppolo riding off in one final blaze of glory. What is not for sure though is where the team will go at the game's most important position after this season. •



Courtesy of Pexels

A Guide to the 2022 MLB Postseason

LEO SAPERSTEIN
CONTRIBUTOR

The air is getting colder and the leaves on trees are changing colors. October is coming, and with it comes the most magical time of year: the MLB Postseason! The new expanded format has made this year a more intriguing race. The format

is as follows: The top two division winners will receive a first-round bye. The other division winner will play in the wild card series, as well as the three teams who made the playoffs through the wild card. Let's take a look at all the participants in this year's playoffs!

Atlanta Braves: The reigning World Champions are showing why they're no fluke. Outfielder Ronald Acuña Jr, outfielder Michael Harris, third baseman Austin Riley, and shortstop Dansby Swanson, make up a loaded offensive core. They also carry one of the best starting rotations in the league with Max Fried and Kyle Wright. The Braves are in a prime position to be the first team to repeat as world champions.

Cleveland Guardians:

Perhaps a name change was all that was needed. All jokes aside, this has been an unexpectedly good year for the Guardians. Shane Bieber, Triston McKenzie, James Karinchak, and Emmanuel Clase, lead a lethal pitching staff. Their offense, with outfielder Steven Kwan, infielders Amed Rosario, Andres Gimenez, and perennial all-star Jose Ramirez, have turned quite a few heads as well. The Guardians have been one of baseball's biggest surprises this season, and they look like a team that could possibly make some noise in October.

Houston Astros: The Houston Astros are the top team in the American League, and not without good reason. Houston's offense consists of infielders Jose Altuve and Alex Bregman, along with feared designated hitter Yordan Alvarez. They also have one of the top starting rotations in the league with Framber Valdez, Luis Garcia, Cristian Javier, and the ageless Justin Verlander. It's safe to assume that they will be legitimate World Series contenders once again. However, it remains to be seen if they can get over the hump without their beloved trash cans.

Los Angeles Dodgers: The Dodgers have been unstoppable all year, even breaking their single-season record of most wins in franchise history. Their offense is stacked with stars from top to bottom, such as Mookie Betts, Freddie Freeman, and Trea Turner. Their starting rotation continues to be amazing with Clayton Kershaw, Tony Gonsolin, Julio Urias, and Tyler Anderson. Their bullpen is also solid. The question: will they be able to put an end to the "Mickey Mouse ring" narrative this year?

New York Mets: Could this finally be the year for the Mets? Owner Steve Cohen once again opened his wallet, signing big-name free agents as well such as outfielders Starling Marte and Mark Cahna. He also brought Max Scherzer and Chris Bassitt to Queens to join forces with Jacob deGrom in the starting rotation. All-star closer Edwin Diaz has also had a year for the ages. Perhaps this is the year the Mets finally put an end to all the memes plaguing them for years.

New York Yankees: The Yankees were the best team in baseball in the first half of the season. However, they fell back to earth after the All-Star Break. Despite a rough August, a healthy Yankees offense is a scary proposition for pitchers in the playoffs.

Opposing pitchers would have to face a squad led by presumptive MVP Aaron Judge. The starting rotation is still a solid unit headlining Gerrit Cole and Nestor Cortes as well. The Bronx Bombers are in the hunt for their 28th title. Say what you will, but the Yankees are a legitimate threat in the American League.

San Diego Padres: The Padres are once again going all in. Even without their superstar shortstop, Fernando Tatis Jr (who sustained a wrist injury and then was suspended 80 games for PEDs), the Friars are stacked with talent like third baseman Manny Machado. They won the Juan Soto sweepstakes during the trade deadline, along with acquiring first baseman Josh Bell, infielder Brandon Drury, and reliever Josh Hader. The problem is they are underperforming big time. It would be wise to not hold your breath in hopes of the Padres making a deep run.

Seattle Mariners: The Mariners are in the postseason for the first time since 2001 and looking for their first pennant title in franchise history. Their lineup is littered with talent, like rookie outfielder Julio Rodriguez and first baseman Ty France. Their

rotation of Luis Castillo, Robbie Ray, Logan Gilbert, and George Kirby, is also one of the top groups of arms in the game. However, the Mariners still have to make it past stronger teams like the Yankees and Astros. Their chances of winning the pennant are not great, but crazier things have happened.

St. Louis Cardinals: With two franchise icons, Yadier Molina and Albert Pujols, retiring after the year, this could be the last dance for this Cardinals core. Whether or not it is, they are certainly in a position to win now. Third baseman Nolan Arenado and first baseman Paul Goldschmidt have been causing problems for opposing pitchers. The Cardinals starting rotation, with Adam Wainwright, Jordan



Courtesy of Unsplash

Montgomery, and Jose Quintana, is sure to give the team longevity each game. Ryan Helsley also headlines a tremendous bullpen. The Cardinals moved into the division lead just after the all-star break and have not looked back. They have all the tools to make it the storybook ending they want.

Tampa Bay Rays: The Rays could trade away their entire team and still find a way to make the playoffs. Every other team would have been counted out with the number of injuries the Rays had, but the Rays found ways around it. Outfielders Randy Arozarena and Harold Ramirez have kept this offense afloat, while the always stingy bullpen, now featuring Jason Adam, has held firm. It has become almost impossible to count out the Rays. With this being said, it will be important to pay attention to the depth, or lack thereof, of their roster going into the postseason.

Toronto Blue Jays: After firing their manager, Charlie Montoyo, the Blue Jays have put themselves right where they want to be — in the postseason. The Jays' offense has multiple dangerous sluggers like first baseman Vladimir Guerrero Jr., outfielder George Springer, and catcher Alejandro Kirk. Kevin Gausman, Alek Manoah, and Ross Stripling have also filled out a good starting rotation. However, there are multiple holes in this team. Their chances of them going far are slim.

As the regular season ends, it's time to get ready for another unforgettable postseason that we'll be talking about for decades to come! •

You Better “Believe” It: Stephanie J. Block Performs at Conn

DAVI SCHULMAN
ARTS EDITOR

Broadway actress Stephanie J. Block made this year’s Fall Weekend extra special with her spectacularly breathtaking performance. Block came to campus on Saturday, Oct. 1 to participate in an afternoon conversation/Q&A for a small audience, moderated by Theater Professor Ginny Anderson. The main event was Block’s solo performance, titled “Believe: An Evening with Stephanie J. Block.” Block said that “Believe” is her current motto: “Believing in better, believing in each other, believing in the future.” She likes to describe her life as “brutiful,” a combination of the words “brutal” and “beautiful” coined by a friend, because as difficult as her job can be, she finds it extremely fulfilling to create art for others to experience together.

Stephanie J. Block made her Broadway debut in 2003 portraying Liza Minnelli in “The Boy From Oz.” Block has an extensive Broadway resume, starring as Elphaba in “Wicked,” Reno Sweeney in “Anything Goes,” Trina in “Falsettos,” and originating the role of Star in “The Cher Show.” As of the beginning of this month, Block is playing the Baker’s Wife in the revival of “Into the Woods” alongside her husband, Sebastian Arcelus, who plays the Baker. (Yes, Sebastian Arcelus is Dean of Student Life Victor Arcelus’s brother! Block said she is very familiar with the Connecticut College campus, having visited many times for family gatherings at Arcelus’s house.) Block has won multiple awards over the years, including the 2019 Tony Award for Best Actress in a Musical for her performance in “The Cher Show.”

During the afternoon conversation, Block emphasized the importance of a liberal arts education for aspiring artists, because everyone needs to know “what is going on in the world” and have an understanding of how history influences art (and vice versa). Block also spoke about the podcast she started with her friend and fellow actress Marylee Fairbanks during the Covid-19 quarantine. It is called “Stages,” not just because they perform on literal stages, but because they discuss the different stages of life and milestones people experience in the context of a global pandemic. On their podcast, the two have interviewed famous actors such as Jason Alexander and writers like James Burrow (“Cheers” and “Friends”). Block expressed her belief that artists do not have to sacrifice their humanity and dedication to their families to make a successful career. She thinks it is “not easy, but so fulfilling” to balance family time with performance.



Courtesy of Davi Schulman '25

Block reflected on performance highlights throughout her prolific career. She said that when she first looked at the “Falsettos” score by William Finn, she did not understand it. It was not until she had and spent time with her daughter that she saw the score in a new light and was able to relate to Trina’s motherly instinct. Block also spoke about the differences in the revival of “Into the Woods,” which premiered after Stephen Sondheim’s death in 2021. She described the first thirty seconds of the show, when all of the actors are just “people in costumes” standing on stage and looking at the audience in silence, until they “breathe in” their characters and begin telling the story. Her advice to Conn students who may perform in the college’s spring production of “Into the Woods” was to stay true to Sondheim’s very intentional writing and to work as a unit with their fellow cast members, conveying their close and interdependent connections to the audience.

Tickets to Block’s performance in the newly renovated Athey Center in Palmer Auditorium were open to the public, and the orchestra seats filled up quickly. Block opened her performance with a bang, singing a charismatic rendition of “Don’t Rain On My Parade” from “Funny Girl” and captivating the audience with her powerful belt. She held a conversation with the audience

throughout the show, telling her story and introducing each song in context. Block sang hit songs from some of her most well-known shows, like “Defying Gravity” from “Wicked,” “I’m Breaking Down” from “Falsettos,” and “Believe” from “The Cher Show” (in her signature Cher voice). She also sang the song “Moments in the Woods” from “Into the Woods,” the show she missed to perform at Conn that night.

Block laughed about her starring role in the musical “The Pirate Queen,” which now appears on The New York Times’s list of the top ten Broadway musical flops. She admitted that everyone had high hopes for the show, as it was written by the lyricist of the hit musicals “Les Miserables” and “Miss Saigon.” Ultimately, the musical failed, and the production team lost a lot of money. Still, Block remarked that good songs can come out of bad musicals.

After singing her last planned song, Nancy LaMott’s “We Can Be Kind,” the audience gave a standing ovation so powerful that Block agreed to sing one more song: “As If We Never Said Goodbye” from Andrew Lloyd Weber’s “Sunset Boulevard.” Between her inspirational stories and incredible vocals, Block’s performance clearly moved the audience and made them “Believe” in the power of art. •

Don't Worry Drama? A Spoiler-Free Review of "Don't Worry Darling"

HANNAH STOEVER
CONTRIBUTOR

By now, almost everyone has heard of the drama surrounding the new film “Don’t Worry Darling,” directed by Olivia Wilde and starring Florence Pugh and Harry Styles. To summarize it without going into too much detail, there was an affair and unprofessional relationships, problematic casting choices, and a difficult director leading the project. Wilde found herself at the center of the drama, as she was the reason behind most of the issues mentioned. Although the drama and controversy could be discussed for hours, the question remains about whether or not the film is worth seeing.

When I went to see the movie on Friday night with a few friends, we had to

find another movie theater due to our first choice filling up the entire auditorium. Although we pre-ordered our tickets, the theater we ended up going to was almost completely full before the movie started. As it was the first night that the film was showing in many areas, it was clear that tickets for “Don’t Worry Darling” would be difficult to grab. By now, it will most likely be much easier to buy tickets and find good seats.

Is the film worth seeing? It depends on your movie preferences. This film tries to be incredibly serious, yet some moments are unintentionally funny; my friend and I found ourselves laughing a little too much at certain parts of this film. I don’t think

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Don't Worry Drama? A Spoiler-Free Review of "Don't Worry Darling"

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that was Wilde's intention in the slightest, but because there was almost too much attention surrounding this film, most people were expecting it to be either amazing or terrible, no in between. I was in the latter half, but after seeing the movie, I think there were both effective and ineffective elements of the film.

Starting with the good, as many expected, Florence Pugh made the movie in terms of her powerful and effective acting. I don't think anyone else's acting in the film was necessarily stellar aside from Pugh, who once again continued her streak of phenomenal acting in every film she is in. Her character's fear and anxiety about the patriarchal and controlling world in which she is living is clear in every scene. The audience can feel her dread, which grows throughout the film and up until the conclusion.

In continuing with this idea of dread, the horror/thriller elements during the film's progression are also strongly effective. This experience may not be universal, but as a woman viewer, the fears in this film are realistic, especially when thinking about autonomy and agency in both fictional worlds and reality.

While trying to come up with decent and/or good elements of this film, my friend brought up the visuals. I'm personally in between the opinion of whether or not the visuals are that special. I think there are some really odd choices; but, on the other hand, I think the shot editing was effective in instilling the growth of dread and distrust. Visually, there was some jarring imagery, but at the same time it did not feel like anything necessarily new or never-before-seen in cinema.

The rest of the actors (besides Pugh) did not really stand out to me. Both Chris Pine and Harry Styles did not seem as terrifying as they could have been, especially when dealing with a narrative like "Don't Worry Darling." Some of the other actresses like Gemma Chan and KiKi Layne had the potential to be great, but they were not given

nearly enough screen time. Olivia Wilde and Harry Styles specifically were really hard to view as characters in a movie without thinking about their celebrity statuses and the controversy surrounding this film. Despite the topic being prominent in many conversations, the drama before this movie premiered made it difficult to really immerse myself in the film.

Narrative-wise, this film could have been so much better. The first half was enjoyable, still flawed, but more enjoyable in comparison to the second half; the writers tried to explain way too much of the film's mystery rather than letting fans interpret elements. After viewing the film, the same friend and I discussed how the mechanics and technology of the film should have been explained rather than the mystery. The creators of the film tried too hard to explain the parts of the movie which should have been interpreted. Instead, they left out valuable information of how things were happening, and left little explanation regarding the plausibility of the scenario. Despite it being a fictional film, there should at least be a bit of information provided regarding one of the main plot points, rather than trying to spoon feed us the themes and messaging of the movie. It felt like the audience was witnessing an eerily familiar story, but there was not anything new or fascinating. The film did not feel as empowering as it seemed to be promoted; it was more about the pain and challenges that women are subjected to everyday.

Did the drama around "Don't Worry Darling" ultimately lead to an impressive and unique film? In my opinion, no. There were good elements and elements that did not work as well. Like with most films, I would recommend seeing it for yourself and forming your own opinion. "Don't Worry Darling" was a film that became a legend due to surrounding controversy within the cast and crew, but in the drama's wake left a story and characters that lacked much-needed nuance and development. •

Exploring The Eerie – Alex G's God Save The Animals

OWEN AVERY
CONTRIBUTOR

The only consistent thing in life besides the sun coming up is a new Alex G album. The

singer-songwriter, whose full name is Alexander Giannascoli, has been releasing albums for more than a decade. With each album comes a methodical evolution of the signature sound he created on cult classics like "Race" and "Beach Music." On his tenth album, "God Save The Animals," Alex has shed the cape of the "son of Elliott Smith" without abandoning it completely, making it one of the best albums of his already sprawling career. It's an album that evolves with the times and brings a new angle to his 100+ song discography, but does not desert the sound that got him here in the first place.

Religious motifs and allegories are spread through the album, yet, when asked about these themes, Alex claimed his approach to writing about religion was not different from his approach to songwriting in his previous albums.

"A few people that I'm close to became religious. It made me wonder what they found. I love exploring those concepts lyrically because I don't have to have any answers," he said in an interview with Pitchfork.

While Alex does not have the answers, he desperately tries to approach them in every song. In the 90s alt-rock throwback "Runner," Alex's passionate voice croons, "I like people who I can open up to/Who don't judge for what I say, but judge me for what I do." While you can never take his lyrics at face value, these lines and the rest of "Runner" do not feel like Alex wrote them through the mouth of a different char-



Courtesy of Alex G / Domino

acter, as they often are. "Runner" is one of the few tracks that lacks distorted and auto-tuned vocals. When Alex shrieks, "I have done a couple bad things," it feels like he is screaming it, not a character.

On the fourth track "S.D.O.S," Alex creates sprawling soundscapes, where single elements that would feel at home on previous works in isolation – simple drum patterns, melancholic chord progressions, and the occasional piano roll – come together to create something new. Alex utters, "Naked in my innocence/Tangled in my innocence" over and over for the first half of the song through a deep, gravely layer of auto-tune. Instead of the lyrics seeming like the forefront of the song, they become another element in the composition, with his voice cutting in from above. Around halfway through the track, a new voice appears, moaning the odd refrain, "God is my designer/Jesus is my lawyer." These two sonically distinct voices reflect a feeling of unknowingness that has been so present throughout his discography.

Following this track is the stand-out "No Bitterness." A song which, for the first half, lyrically and audibly sounds like it could fit into one of his previous works of electronic experimentation such as "Beach Music" or "House of Sugar." However, by the latter half of the song, you check your phone to make sure you are still listening to an Alex G song. Simple guitar picking quickly gets transmuted into distorted loops as crunchy drums drive the track. Alex's auto-tuned voice cuts through the noise, lamenting,

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Exploring The Eerie — Alex G's God Save The Animals

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“And if I cried/I really would like it.”

Many publications have referred to this track as Alex leaning into a more hyper pop sound, and aspects of the track could indeed be heard on hyper pop songs from leaders in the genre such as 100 Gecs and A.G. Cook. However, no other artist could work these sounds so seamlessly into a cohesive album. As soon as “No Bitterness” fades away, “Ain't It Easy” slowly creeps into your ears. A song that initially sounds like a Duster-esque, slowcore song with simple drums and repetitive guitar loops quickly becomes haunted by Alex's repeated whispers of the phrase “Ain't it easy.” After a short bridge consisting of unintelligible autotuned noises, he cries out, “I should have known/That you had lost control.” Just when you think you have the song figured out, he changes it at an impossibly perfect time.

It is this dichotomy of familiarity and uncertainty that makes the album so alluring. You think that each track could be placed on a previous album in G's sprawling discography, yet just when you think you have it figured out, it erupts into something new.

Take the tenth track “Immunity,” a four-minute song that looks through the lens of a cocaine addict in rural Kansas. While lyrically similar to tracks such as “Hope” (“House of Sugar”) and “Change” (“Trick”), it is something completely different. His autotuned voice croons over pianos, guitars, and swelling synths. The narrative is never linear; instead, the narrator jumps from idea to idea. They start singing about an “Accident in Kansas” and how they will “Call you back soon,” before switching to the

warm refrain, “Yeah, I'm in love with you/Yeah, I love you.” Instead of creating a linear concept, building from song to song to an ultimate conclusion, Alex opts to explore a feeling instead.

On the penultimate track “Miracles,” Alex returns to the folksy, country sound of “Rocket” as he sings some of his seemingly most personal lyrics — “You say one day that we should have a baby, well/Right now, baby, I'm struggling, we'll see, yeah” — as his longtime partner, Molly Germer, plays a sorrowful violin in the back. Alex paints a picture of a man struggling, but instead of wallowing in it, he recognizes that “There's no way up from apathy, yeah.”

On the final track, Alex G moves away from the hopelessness of previous records and closes the album on a hopeful note with “Forgive.” His voice rings clear as he cries out “Forgive yesterday/I choose today” over a low-key guitar. In these lyrics, Alex may be telling listeners to stop hanging onto the Alex G of the past: “We build/Castle upon castle upon castle”. The castles of the past, present, and eventual future exist on a level plane, and it is up to you to choose which one to listen to and explore.

Overall, With “God Save The Animals,” Alex continues on his hot streak that started with his first major label release. This album is an essential listen for any Alex G fan, and while it may be a jarring, genre-bending experience for those who are unfamiliar to his sound, it introduces them to an artist who has spent a decade making unique songs, with no end in sight. •

Nobody Done Ever Did Live There, Did They?

SULEMAN SALEEM
CONTRIBUTOR

There are an approximate 340 million specks of sand on any given beach where you are currently standing. Over in the distance, just underneath where the sun still floats, stands a mariachi band playing asynchronously. A shadow of the acoustic guitar at play looms over ~75 people. Heads bob and legs flounder as waiters bring in trays and people find spare seats at this dimly lit rooftop cafe. Children brush past you and in the glasses they wear you see a refracted moonlight. *Why does the world look so much more sad in that liminal period between day and night? You wonder.*

Modern life is overwhelming — this is what Cut Worms, the nom de plume of singer-songwriter Max Clarke, implies in his 2020 folk/Americana double-EP “Nobody Lives There Anymore.” With its 12 bar blues-y rhythmic structure, Worms's “The Heat Is On” — the opening track on the album — intones emphatically about the once-was, a world which “soak[ed] in ballroom tears/Where the dresses once/Had swayed”. This is a rough schematic of the motif that Worms employs throughout the album: the simple notion that there was once a world built on promises long forlorn by people and systems beyond our control. Like how you feel an estrangement from yourself when the sun is setting, when you are strolling away from the happenings of life, so do you also experience an angst driven by a remembrance of these forlorn promises. That, above everything, this angst isn't an aberration but a necessary feature of life — a recalling back to a history you are not waking *from*, but to.

Because it is a double-album, it has a tripartite structure, with fluctuations in ennui: the first quarter looking towards the past, the second coping with angst regarding lost promises, and the third asking the listener to consider themselves as an individual in the wider context of history and make something with the experienced angst.

The Past (and Tragedy)

This recalling of the past is most explicit in “Unnatural Disaster” and “Last Words To A Refugee.” A fundamentally historical project, the former concerns itself with the fundamental teleology of history. Where does it end? What is the process? Worms's

narrator is a dismayed victim of the tide-turning of history, filled with violence and fear: “Well have you heard the news?/Well do you think that it is true?/How the bad seed spoiled the brood?”. And aren't there so many identifiably bad seeds, in the shape of genocidal individuals in power, throughout history — a process which Worms refers to as a “death march”?

This is an epiphany that our narrator — the eponymous “refugee” — experiences. With its folksy, teary-eyed narration, the song chooses to comment on the powerlessness one feels in the schema of history — ask yourself this: would a soldier of “the Evergreen War” (as Worms's sings in Veteran's Day) matter in the happenings of history? Would a Jane Doe from Ohio be remembered actively by any seeds of any worth whatsoever? This creates angst which Worms beautifully builds on in the second quarter of the album — angst created by considering the role of the individual in relation to the larger trauma of the death march that is history. Our narrator is a refugee who is still living — they are someone who has escaped a descent into fascism and is now burdened by the question of mortality, hoping to make something of their life. They reflect on their salvation from false promises, dwelling on the what-could-have-been.

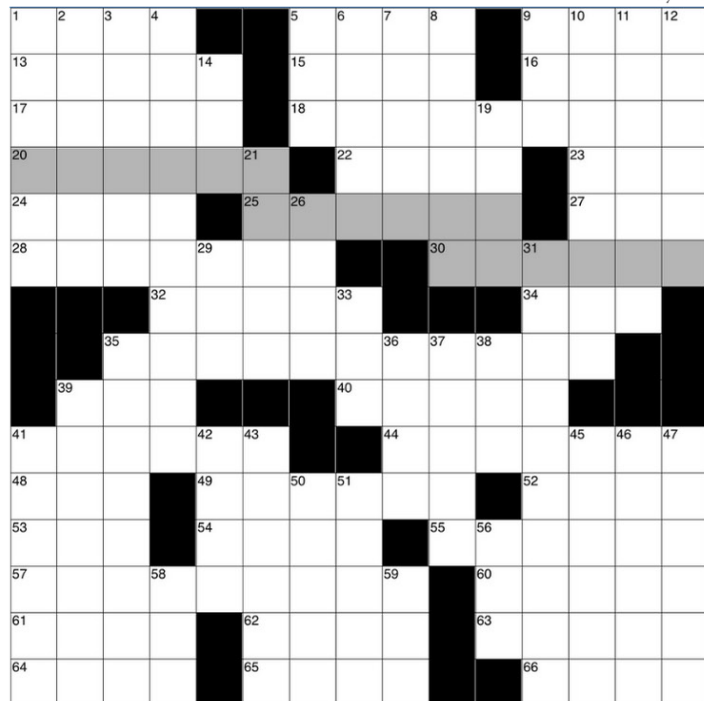
The Present (and Acceptance)

Worms's “Veterans Day” stands as the foremost testament to the grandeur of the album, showcasing its most immediate strength: the ability to craft a narrative about simple abstractions. This song, as I see it, is a recollection of the American Dream — most reductively an experiment in pursuit of equality for every person of every creed — with its flowery, almost repentant poetry. Our narrator is a former soldier who has been forgotten in this new world, having once committed himself to the seeming improvement of his former countrymen, forced to “act at their command/I do tricks/Like a dog” to simply make do. The song argues against mythology — that of the American West, that of the American Dream, that about the world at large post-9/11 — with

Article continued at thecollegevoice.org.

"Where You Lead, I Will Follow"

By C&Z



Across

- 1. American 80s war
- 5. Trade
- 9. Stuck in traffic (in)
- 13. Former PM of Azerbaijan, _____ Rasizade
- 15. Soda or pop
- 16. Offspring of a horse and donkey
- 17. The Great Barrier can be described as such

- 18. The opposite of a connoisseur would have this
- 20. "I'll drink it, shoot it, eat it, snort it, whatever form it's in" -Lorelai Gilmore
- 22. Something you bat
- 23. Vietnamese new year
- 24. What the word "cycloptic" has
- 25. "If it was physically possible to make love to a hot beverage this would be the one" -Lorelai Gilmore

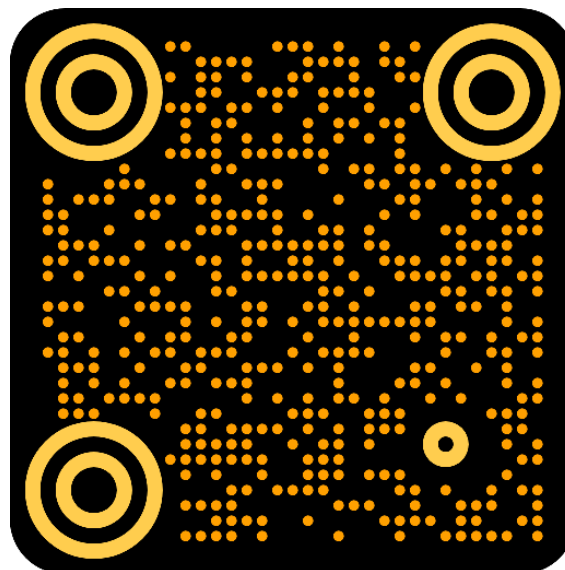
Down

- 1. Filipino Bongbong
- 2. "We _____ in the same"
- 3. Wisniewski of the Kansas City Chiefs
- 4. Arianna's eponymous post
- 5. Initials of Linda Tripp actress in American Crime Story: Impeachment
- 6. Author, Virginia _____
- 7. Measurement of bread
- 8. "Star Trek" distance measure
- 9. Organization of US doctors, Abbr.
- 10. Not too many
- 11. Changed
- 12. "_____ in St. Louis" movie
- 14. Bread of corned beef sandwiches
- 19. Four actor of Divergent, _____ James
- 21. Arthur's foster father in "The Sword in the Stone"
- 26. People of the Platte River Tribe
- 29. She, in Lisbon
- 31. Tom Cruise has three of these
- 33. High rank in academia, Abbr.
- 35. Sally sells this by the shore
- 36. First Black NHL player Willie _____
- 37. Soup server
- 38. 52 in Roman numerals
- 39. Tottenham Hotspur's highest ever goal scorer, Jimmy _____
- 41. Italian lager
- 42. Smallest currency in Harry Potter
- 43. When repeated, name of RFK's assassin
- 45. Send money internationally
- 46. Gets out of bed
- 47. Give in
- 50. Gugino of Spy Kids
- 51. Longtime manager of Liverpool FC
- 56. UFC sport
- 58. Cape Town country, Abbr.
- 59. Moonrise Kingdom Director, _____ Anderson
- 27. Something might cost you an _____ and a leg
- 28. British actress and suffragette, Maud Arncliffe _____
- 30. "I need _____ in an I.V." -Lorelai Gilmore
- 32. Augustus of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory
- 34. Losing him was blue, but loving him was _____ according to Taylor Swift
- 35. Hometown of character known for her love of the shaded clues
- 39. Earth-related prefix
- 40. Sewers, showers, and sinks have this in common
- 41. Youtube trend in the early 2010s
- 44. Battle over a Wikipedia page
- 48. Some M.I.T grads
- 49. Resting place of Jefferson?
- 52. Carrie Underwood slashed a hole in this
- 53. First word in the chorus of "Bad Romance"
- 54. Russian mountain range
- 55. "BAM!"
- 57. Result of a successful coup
- 60. Multiple moose?
- 61. "Little House on the Prairie" father, _____ Oleson
- 62. Mont Blanc, par exemple
- 63. Late night news shows start _____
- 64. Wedding crasher and shopaholic, Fisher
- 65. Preferred activity of college students and babies
- 66. Emcee

The College Voice's Ultimate Fall Playlist



Courtesy of Grace Flynn



Scan this QR code for a link to the playlist.

Courtesy of Sophia Hosford

GRACE FLYNN
OPINIONS EDITOR
SOPHIA HOSFORD
STAFF WRITER

Three hours and thirty minutes of fall. The TCV Ultimate Fall playlist is the perfect accompaniment to your walk to lunch or class at night in Fanning. The music in this playlist connotes feelings of windswept leaves and you in your coat briskly moving through the chilly air. From Bon Iver to the Velvet Underground and Mazzy Star, we hope this playlist encapsulates fall and keeps you feeling cozy as the days grow colder. •