



Fairfield received a combined 4,000+ admitted students on April 2 and 15 for the Fairfield in Focus events.

Fairfield University's Class of 2027 Shatters Admissions Records

By Kathleen Morris
Assistant News Editor

15, 455 applications.
6, 940 students admitted.
A 14% drop
in the acceptance rate.
Although move-in is still
months away, Fairfield University's Class of 2027 has already managed to shatter institutional records.

The Office of Admissions received an unprecedented number of undergraduate applications in 2023. Over the past five years, the total has increased by 35%.

Subsequently, the acceptance rate has dipped to a new low of 44.9% from last year's rate of ~58%.

Corry Unis, the Vice President for Strategic Enrollment, attributes this shift to Fairfield's recent climb to #115 in the national ranking of Best National Universities by U.S. News and World Report.

Unis believes that the recognition has "opened up the minds of students in different parts of the country that weren't as attracted to a regional school, as we're now becoming more attractive as a national school."

According to the U.S. News and World Report, colleges and universities are categorized using a methodology that is "the product of years of research" and engagement with "institutional researchers and high-ranking academic officials."

The ranking factors range from graduation and retention rates to faculty resources, including class size and student-faculty ratio.

U.S. News also acknowledges the strength of institutions' individual programs.

Fairfield earned distinctions within a number of departments. Notably, Fairfield's School of Engineering and the Marion Peckham Egan School of Nursing and Health Studies placed in the top one hundred nationwide.

Unis expressed that the Office of Admissions has "seen applications grow every year for the last number of years. This past year was the biggest increase that we've realized in many years."

He estimated the number of applications grew by 18% in 2023. In addition to the national

ranking, Unis believes that the university's implementation of the Student Search program has contributed to the increase.

"We're actively recruiting students who are sophomores and juniors in high school and encouraging them to apply as seniors," Unis conveyed. "We've seen some great successes and we've continued to increase our attention to sophomores and juniors in high school in order to build a deep connection with them and have them want to join the Fairfield community."

Moreover, a major draw for high school students is Fairfield's test-optional policy. For more than a decade, the institution has not required students to submit standardized test scores.

This decision aligns with Fairfield's Jesuit tradition, which prioritizes "cura personalis" and viewing the totality of each student's being.

"We try to eliminate barriers to entry for students [and] artificial roadblocks," Unis explained. "I think testing for some students can be a really great way to demonstrate some of their skill set. For other students, it can be a little bit more problematic. So, being optional gives the power to the students where they can make the determination whether or not they wish to submit those scores."

When reviewing applications, Unis revealed that he reads students' essays prior to evaluating their grades and numerical data.

"It's that glimpse into understanding who that student is," Unis elucidated. "That essay is our first foray into understanding the prism which we should use to review the rest of the application."

This notion of a broader understanding of one's character and the ideal of "cura personalis" encapsulates the institution's mission to support students in their development as global-minded citizens.

A recent Fairfield News article reported that the large applicant pool encompassed students from "1,455 high schools across the United States, District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, as well as thirty-nine countries around the world."

As Fairfield becomes home to students from an array of backgrounds, Unis underscored the

Office of Admissions' commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion.

"We want to make Fairfield University's enrollment reflective of the world we live in. That's a priority that we've had since I've been here [and] well before I got here," Unis declared.

He mentioned the work of the Diversity Recruitment Team, which is "focused on growing the numbers of traditionally underrepresented students every single year."

Last year, the Office of Admissions launched the Company Scholars Program.

The Fairfield University website states that it is "a unique program that provides four-year, full-cost scholarships to a cohort of students attending Jesuit and Cristo Rey high schools."

This year, Unis anticipates about twenty students to enroll as Company Scholars. He looks forward to welcoming this diverse group, proving that the institution is "starting to move the needle in the right direction to get us to where we want to be."

The enrollment of the Class of 2027 will continue to expand Fairfield's cultural horizons, continuing the pattern of exponential growth the institution has witnessed in recent years.

The current group of first-year students, the Class of 2026, previously set the record for Fairfield's largest applicant pool. The Office of Admissions received 13, 358 applications, which resulted in the enrollment of 1,340 students.

In July of 2022, Fairfield News described the Class of 2026 as "the biggest and academically strongest in the University's eighty-year history."

The Class of 2027 is slated to follow in these footsteps.

Steven Bayne, Fairfield's Secretary of the General Faculty, evaluated the duality that these statistics imply.

Editor's note: Head News & Copy Editor Julian Nazario and Editor-in-Chief Tommy Coppola work in the Office of Undergraduate Admissions as Tour Ambassadors and thus did not read, edit or have any part in the creation of this article before publication.

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Fairfield Awards Dinner Raises \$1.3 Million Towards "Student Excellence"

By Samantha Russell
Assistant News Editor

The 34th annual Fairfield Awards Dinner raised \$1.3 million towards student scholarships, diversity expansion and an extraordinary college experience for all—exceeding their ambitious \$1 million goal.

This financial feat marks the 2023 Dinner, accompanied by over 600 alumni, as the most successful Fairfield Awards Dinner in the University's history, as highlighted by a recent FairfieldNews article. The \$1.3 million triumph was secured through generous sponsorship, journal advertisements, tickets and fundraising contributions.

"This dinner, and the scholarship it supports, has made a tremendous impact on the University's ability to provide greater access to a Fairfield education," reported Jennifer Kane, Director of the Fairfield Awards Dinner and Advancement Corporate Engagement.

The Fairfield Awards Dinner grants an opportunity to "celebrate inclusive excellence" as well as ignite the full potential of Fairfield students. The ceremony, which took place this year on April 12 at New York City's renowned Cipriani 42nd Street, awards a wide array of scholarships to provide diverse and talented students possessing financial needs with an authentic Fairfield education.

"Adhering to our Jesuit ideals of being men and women for others, this scholarship helps make a Fairfield education accessible to students from all walks of life."

- Jennifer Kane, Director of the Fairfield Awards Dinner

The Alumni Multicultural Scholarship Fund may be the most powerful and transformative award of the event, gifting students with \$559,000 in scholarships this past fall. If not great enough, 18 students received an average of nearly \$31,000 from the endowment fund.

Adding on to student success, the Awards Dinner recognizes six esteemed parents, alumni, staff, faculty and friends of the university for their devoted service, leadership and accomplishments. This year awarded Andrew J. McMahon '89, P '19, '13 with the Alumni Professional Achievement Award, Shannon Siwinski '92, P '16 with the Alumni Service Award, and Deacon Patrick Toole with the Honorary Alumnus Award. Philip J. Lane,

Ph.D., P '10 was recognized with the Distinguished Faculty / Administrator Award, and John Thompson III and Monica Moore Thompson, P '23 with the Parent Leadership Award.

Vice President for University Advancement Wally Halas expressed in a FairfieldNews article great pride in and appreciation for this year's honorees, declaring that they have made "tremendous contributions to the University" while demonstrating the Jesuit value of being men and women for others.

During this year's event, the crowd absorbed compelling words from student speaker Kwahmyre Barbour, a senior finance and management major from Philadelphia. Barbour spoke on the importance of opportunity, taking advantage of it, and being okay with uncomfortability.

"Throughout my time at Fairfield, I have been presented with [opportunity and obstacles]. I have used each experience to learn, grow, and make a lasting difference," he began.

His final piece of advice urged his fellow Stags to do the same.

"Now, before I leave here today, I ask the following question: Winston Churchill once said, 'a pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity; an optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty.' Which person will you be?"

Barbour chose the word "honor" to describe this opportunity to "share [his] story with such a big room of influential people." Coming from his personal experiences, one of which is a deferral from Fairfield University in 2019, speaking at this dinner meant everything to him.

As a part of Fairfield's Jesuit values, a mission to create change through acting on the needs of others begs for fulfillment. This dinner achieves just that.

"Adhering to our Jesuit ideals of being men and women for others, this scholarship helps make a Fairfield education accessible to students from all walks of life," Kane disclosed.

Putting plans into action is something that the Jesuits, as well as the Fairfield community, wholly prioritize. In line with those goals, these scholarships actively open spaces for underprivileged students to gain a rightful education.

Aside from profound scholarships, however, the Awards Dinner also emphasizes the power of building meaningful relationships through networking.

According to Kane, the official dinner program began at 6 p.m., complete with remarks from the event co-chairs, President Mark Nemec, Ph.D., and acceptance speeches from honoree recipients. However, a pre-networking reception took place from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m., in which university-scholarship students had the chance to connect with event honorees, trustees, the Awards Dinner Committee members and some corporate partners.

"Our long-term goal for this dinner is to continue engaging alumni and parents and to encourage

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Compiled by Kathleen Morris
Information contributed by the
Department of Public Safety.

4/12
12:30 p.m.
A female student reported a vehicle accident in the Campion gravel lot. There were no injuries, but the two cars involved drove away without exchanging contact information. Students involved in accidents are advised to exchange their contact information and call the Department of Public Safety.

4/12
2:20 p.m.
Fairfield University received a racially insensitive letter. The letter was addressed to the institution, with no specific name included. The incident is being investigated by the Fairfield Police Department.

4/13
1:24 p.m.
A stone wall at an off-campus residence was struck and damaged by a vehicle. The incident was accidental and Fairfield University has pledged to make the wall wider.

4/13
2:45 p.m.
Two University iPads were reported stolen from the Egan School of Nursing and Health Studies. The date and time of the theft is unknown. The incident is under investigation by the Fairfield Police Department.

4/14
9:15 p.m.
A female resident reported that an unknown individual entered her room in Loyola Hall. The resident reported that the individual made her uncomfortable and left. The incident is under investigation.

4/15
4 a.m.
A female student from Fairfield University is reported to have left her cell phone at Cumberland Farms, after she ran out of the establishment. The Department of Public Safety located the student and returned the device.

4/16
7 p.m.
A student was found driving recklessly and speeding through traffic at the Regina A. Quick Center for the Arts. The male student, who was uncooperative, was pulled over by the Department of Public Safety. The student was referred to the Dean of Students.

4/18
11:15 a.m.
The Fairfield Police Department reported an off-campus hit and run. The driver was located and identified as a Fairfield University student. The incident is still under investigation.

Fairfield Bellarmine Begins Building Inaugural Class



Nakia Letang, Director of Admissions for Fairfield Bellarmine, traveled to Bullard Havens High School on Jan. 26 to share the news of Bellarmine campuses' first ever admissions to three senior students.

By Tommy Coppola
Editor-in-Chief

Director of Admissions for Fairfield Bellarmine Nakia Letang, along with her fellow Bellarmine leaders, have begun to shape the first-ever incoming class for Fairfield Bellarmine. Fairfield Bellarmine is described in a press release from Sept. 23, 2022 as a two-year associate's degree program that is designed to bring a more accessible Jesuit higher education to students in Connecticut, specifically in the Bridgeport region.

With that, Letang and the Bellarmine leadership team have been hard at work to create the new class, which aims to bring a valuable education to roughly 100 students according to the "academics" tab of the Bellarmine website. On the same page, it reads that "Fairfield Bellarmine will welcome ~200 students annually" in the Fall of 2024 and beyond. "We are still in the process of building the first incoming class for the Bellarmine Campus. We continue to see lots of interest from students in the local and greater Connecticut region," Letang shared. "Students and families are excited and we look forward to welcoming our students into the Fairfield community." On Thursday, Jan. 26, 2023, Letang traveled to Bullard Havens High School in Bridgeport, Conn. to share with three applicants the news that they were admitted into the Bellarmine program. One of the Bullard Havens High School seniors who was admitted to the program by Letang in person, Ceanna Ferguson, shared in a video attached to the press release, "I am very grateful, I'm really excited!" Ferguson's excitement aligns with the excitement of many other applicants, who are well-represented from different high schools in the area. According to the press release, applicants hail from 14 public high schools in Connecticut, four technical high schools, four Catholic schools as well as one private school. The students who attend the Bellarmine program will immerse themselves academically into the Magis Core curriculum while also pursuing one of four major academic tracks as part of the associate's degree: Business, Computer Science, Health Studies and Liberal Studies. After graduating from Fairfield Bellarmine, students will have the opportunity to transfer their credits to a four-year university, which will allow them to pursue a bachelor's degree if they choose. Kevin O'Brien, S.J., the Vice Provost and Executive Director of Fairfield Bellarmine, shared the leadership team's commitment to student success. "The curriculum in four tracks—business, computer science, health studies and liberal studies—was approved last year, so we are focusing on how that curriculum will be delivered, both with exceptional faculty and academic and technology support," O'Brien commented. To Letang, the ultimate goal of the associate's degree program serves to help students enjoy what they are learning and develop skills that will help them become leaders in their intended fields. "At the core, my hope is that we will have been able to effectively create an environment that truly supports and nurtures the identities, gifts and talents of every student joining the Bellarmine campus," Letang stated. Although the Bellarmine program will educate students through its various academic tracks, it also works as a way for students to "find connections, a sense of belonging, excitement for learning and a supportive community to help them accomplish beyond what they could have imagined for themselves," as Letang shared. "Fairfield's commitment to advance access to our values-based, student-centric, outcomes focused education will benefit students enrolled in the two-year associate's degree program at Fairfield Bellarmine, and will provide greater opportunities and pathways to achievement to these students of promise," Fairfield University Vice President for Marketing and Communications, Jennifer Anderson, stated. The new Fairfield University campus is continuing to near completion in its renovation. The original press release in September of last year announced that the new campus would be occupying the former St. Ambrose School, but would come with renovations to modernize the space. O'Brien made clear the upcoming goals of how the space will turn out. "Renovations of the former St. Ambrose parish property—the home of Fairfield Bellarmine—are underway. We are renovating four buildings for our first year, to provide state-of-the-art facilities for our students, faculty and staff," he stated. He continually spoke to the efforts of Fairfield University's Facilities Management team, who oversees the construction of new facilities and buildings both on—and off—campus. "This is a challenging project because we are renovating a 100-year-old property, but we are excited about blending the old and the new on our Bridgeport campus. Thanks to our colleagues in facilities management, we are on schedule for a Labor Day opening." Anderson explained what specific parts of the facility are being reconstructed into spaces for learning. "The renovations for the Bellarmine Campus are being completed for the adaptive re-use of the rectory, church, convent and garage at the former St. Ambrose Church," she shared. "Construction activities have included sitework, the installation of new utility lines and demolition." With the first Bellarmine class set to utilize the new campus's opportunities in the fall, Letang and her fellow leaders look forward to a "radically hospitable Fairfield welcome" to all the students who will be joining the historic first step into Fairfield Bellarmine. The Mirror will continue to report on news and updates regarding Fairfield Bellarmine as the projected opening of Labor Day draws closer.

THE MIRROR

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Award Dinner Values Strong Alumni-Student Relations

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their support; encouraging young alumni to attend," she explained. "Additionally, we want to continue fostering relationships with existing and new corporate partners, who will not only support this scholarship and dinner but provide greater opportunities to our students for internships and full-time positions." The program concluded at 9 p.m., and the event ended at 10 p.m. Alumna Adrienne Johnson '91 and Trish Comey Preston '80 co-chaired the dinner together for the second year in a row, demonstrating those long-lasting alumni contributions to the University. Fairfield University's commitment to providing universally-strong academic experiences additionally helps to enrich the general community, campus and learning environment. Junior student Donna Ismail, who attended the 2023 ceremony, conveyed

feelings of utmost satisfaction regarding her experience, especially the many opportunities to speak with admirable guests. "It was honestly amazing to see how the people who went to school before me are doing and all the opportunities they gained from Fairfield," she said. "I think the pre-reception was the most impactful experience. I would describe it—the dinner—as the best thing I've ever done at Fairfield." Likewise, Barbour focused on the networking of multicultural students, linking how that networking has led to acceptances in professional fields. Since 1995, this endowment fund has given over 998 scholarships to 264 individuals. Since 1998, over \$20 million has been raised for the Alumni Multicultural Scholarship fund, along with additional scholarships. Regardless of economic or social status, Fairfield University holds open arms for all students, and their work to encompass those students does not go unnoticed.

Next year's Awards Dinner will take place at the same venue on April 3, 2024.



Photo Courtesy of Fairfield U Facebook

Senior Kwahmyre Barbour spoke on the power of leaving one's comfort zone.

Senior Students Denounce Lack of Student and Guest Tickets for Commencement Ball

By Brooke Lathe
Executive Editor

After four years of working toward a bachelor’s degree, Fairfield University celebrates graduating seniors with the annual Senior Week. For the current graduating class of 2023, several events leading up to their walk across the stage are planned and advertised. Outings include assisting Bryant Elementary School’s field day, a commencement fair, a gathering at the Seagrape Cafe for \$2 Tuesday, a senior farewell block party, a senior picnic at Holiday Hill, a Family dance and a formal Commencement Ball.

On March 31, Fairfield’s Office of Student Engagement sent out an email to senior students noting each event, what it consists of and the pricing. Five days later, on April 5, another email arrived in the inboxes of all seniors reading: “Due to an overwhelming demand in Commencement Ball [tickets], we are currently sold out.”

The Commencement Ball is set to take place Wednesday, May 17 from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. at Anthony’s Ocean View. Tickets were priced at \$120 each, whereas guest tickets sold for \$135. In the initial email, the event noted in small print that “this event has a capacity limit and may sell out.”

Danielle Parisi, Assistant Director of the Office of Student Engagement, explained “We set the capacity at 750 to leave some wiggle room for our security, Senior Week team and volunteers. We were including our guest number in that cap but since the demand for tickets from Fairfield seniors is far higher than for guests, we are working with the venue to

include those seniors.” She added, “We were not anticipating such a high and fast demand!”

As a result, OSE opened a waitlist for senior tickets only, put guest ticket sales on pause and stated in the follow-up email sent out to the senior class that they will “be managing this waitlist as tickets become available.”

Parisi shared separately that “We [OSE] have been working with Anthony’s Ocean View on a capacity plan to ensure we reach as many students as possible.”

“Our goal is to serve as many seniors as we can and we are excited that this is such a popular event,” Parisi continued.

“I know class [sizes] have become bigger, so the school should try to work with the increasing numbers to ensure traditions can stay for seniors.”

- Madeline West ‘23,
Editor-in-Chief Emerita

Additionally, the follow-up email ended by sharing that OSE “will announce if and when guest tickets become available.” However, in the following days Parisi shared “Due to the overwhelming demand for tickets, we do not anticipate having tickets available for guests. We want to be sure Fairfield seniors get an opportunity to attend first!”

Parisi continued, “Some students may have also joined the waitlist proactively

in case they weren’t able to receive their own ticket. So if they already have a ticket and are also on the waitlist, they will not be contacted.”

As of this week on April 17, however, OSE sent out an email titled “Commencement Ball Waitlist” to only the seniors who were on standby. The message reads: “A ticket has become available for purchase and we would like to give you the opportunity to claim it. We are going to have drop-in hours in the Office of Student Engagement this week at the following times: Tuesday (4/18) 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Wednesday (4/19) 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., Thursday (4/20) 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Friday (4/21) 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.”

“If they do not come to purchase a ticket during those times by the end of the week, we can not guarantee a spot for them,” Parisi stated.

In addition to the waitlist, Editor-in-Chief Emerita Madeline West ‘23 noted the strain on students with event pricing. “I know myself and others are feeling as though the end of the year events are a big chunk of money. It’s honestly hard to stress about paying for these events whilst trying to finish classes and find work.”

Included in the original email sent out by Parisi, however, a link was included for students looking for financial assistance.

The form reads: “The Student Life Financial Assistance Program is an initiative within the Division of Student Affairs that assists students who may not have the financial means to attend or participate in University sponsored events, programs or opportunities, especially this year’s Senior Week events.”

The confidential application is

specific to senior students looking to participate in 2023’s senior week events, and the decision is determined by the Office of Student Engagement. Students who are looking to have a lower ticket price are asked to fill out the questionnaire by Sunday, April 30 at 11:59 p.m. and will hear back from OSE by Monday, May 8 at 11:59 p.m.

Questions consist of your living situation, which tickets you are looking to get covered, your resume and any additional information OSE should know. “Should applicants purchase tickets and then become informed that they have received financial assistance, they will be reimbursed,” the form notes.

Nevertheless, prior to the waitlist lift, student concerns spread like wildfire.

“My phone blows up every day with texts in the senior GroupMe of people asking if someone is selling tickets to the Commencement Ball,” Executive Editor Emerita Madison Gallo ‘23 shared.

Senior Jake Cartisano is one of those students. “I didn’t purchase [a ticket] right away because I didn’t know if everyone was going and didn’t expect them to sell out,” he stated. “I’m also unsure of what the process with the waitlist is, even though I am on it I haven’t heard anything else.”

“I was put on the waitlist for Commencement Ball,” West said. “From what I’m aware, this event used to allow guests while this year it doesn’t even seem like they can accommodate all seniors. I just hope those on the waitlist can end up going,” she continued, “I know class [sizes] have become bigger, so the school should try to work with the increasing numbers to ensure traditions can stay for seniors.”

Psychology Club Hosts Campus Walk for Suicide Prevention

By Liz Morin
Opinion Editor

On Sunday, April 16, Fairfield University’s Psychology Club hosted its annual Out of the Darkness Walk in partnership with the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (ASFP) to raise awareness for suicide prevention and mental health. Students, parents and friends met at the Stag statue around 11 a.m. to walk around the various tables set up to help raise awareness for mental health and then listened to three speakers before embarking on the one-mile loop around campus.

The event was not limited to those who have a direct connection to suicide, but to anyone who wanted to support the cause. There was a table of beads with a color guide that ranged meanings from a personal struggle with mental health to the loss of a partner to suicide to supporting a friend or the cause itself.

Members of the club were able to volunteer and participate in the walk. In addition, shirts were dispersed for volunteers and tables with free stickers and bracelets for those students participating in the event.

Sophomore Bridget Clark was a volunteer for an event at the raffle table and commented on the reason behind joining the event. “I joined the walk because I’m really passionate about mental health awareness and destigmatizing it.”

At the same table as Clark was volunteer Lexi Currivan ‘25. “I just think this is a great event to bring everyone together and help raise awareness to prevent suicide,” she commented.

The president of the Psychology Club, Lauren Adams ‘23, expressed her excitement about the event.

“I am so excited about today, last year was extremely successful and I think this year will be ten times more successful. We have double the amount of people registered to walk with us.”

Last year, the event raised \$10,000 and this edition had over \$15,000 raised for ASFP.

“We’ve raised over \$15,000 so we’ve met our goal which is amazing and I am so thankful,” continued Adams. This amount was from funds collected before the event. After the event, the donations from the day were added to make the total amount \$18,000.

The brand Here For You set up a pop-up shop where they were selling sweatshirts and sweatpants with their brand’s name on them, donating 20% of profits to ASFP. Members of the Psychology Honors Society Psi Chi were running a table with small bags that had encouraging stickers in them along with a stress ball.

Senior Marie Belmanian, who is also the Co-President of Psi Chi, spoke about how excited she was to see the turnout at the event. “I’m really excited to be here today; it means a lot that the Psychology Club put this together and it is really just such a great initiative to have on campus.”

Fundraising and Events Manager of the Psychology Club, Clare McGinnes ‘25, commented on how glad she was to see that all of their work had finally come together.

“This whole process was a lot of work, but seeing it all put together shows how worth it it is. It makes me so happy to look around and see everyone smiling and getting involved



Participants of the Out of the Darkness Walk walked with signs and shirts promoting the slogan “Hope Walks Here”.

while spreading the message around campus,” she said. “This is one of my favorite events and I’m so happy to be a part of it.”

Founder of Here For You, Ellie Hanley, was one of the three speakers before the event. She told her story about losing her uncle to suicide and how she battled depression throughout college.

“I have a lot of anxiety when I’m flying on planes, in regard to crashing or losing oxygen. But I got on a plane one day and I suddenly didn’t care if I crashed,” Hanley commented while talking about how her experience with depression and connection to her uncle inspired her to open a business and pursue her passion.

Jim Kuczo was the second speaker and shared with the crowd the story of his son Kevin, who took his life in 2021. Kuczo and his wife Kristin founded Kevin’s Afterglow in his memory to raise awareness of suicide prevention through education in schools by addressing the mental health crisis in today’s youth. He emphasized the lack of mental health professionals in his talk.

“For every 1,800 people struggling with their mental health, there is only one psychiatrist available. That number should be around 40.” He concluded by encouraging students to turn to the person next to them and say “love you man.”

The final speaker was Kiersten Nicolosi ‘24, who spoke about losing her dad to suicide a few years ago.

“In the last week of my first year at college, my life changed forever. I was working on a final project and I got a call from my uncle saying he was waiting in the back of my residence hall. So, I went out and I talked to him and I received the worst news an 18-year-old could ever hear.”

Nicolosi continued telling her story by saying “He

told me my dad passed away and when I asked how, he reluctantly told me he had taken his own life.” She reiterated that it was no one’s fault that her dad lost his fight and that he was a good man who was an encouraging coach and father who sent daily texts of affirmation and was expressive and emotional.

Secretary of the Psychology Club Allie Mele ‘23 was given the opportunity to be the person who started the walk around campus due to her raising the most amount of money.

Members of the executive board of the Psychology Club expressed their disappointment toward Fairfield’s faculty and administration for their lack of appearance and even comments.

Adams was hopeful that they would have more faculty show up and support them. At the event, she stated, “That was the battle that we’ve been dealing with, a lot of students have felt a lack of support from staff and faculty at Fairfield, and we did reach out to pretty much every department, so we are hopeful that some of them are coming!”

Two faculty members were present at the event. Professor Jessica Karanian, Ph.D. and Jeanne Peloso, Ph.D., both of whom are within the Psychology department. Dr. Karanian is the moderator of the Psychology Club, and Dr. Peloso was photographing the event.

Mele commented on the walk.

“This is such a great and important cause. Huge shout out to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention for helping us organize this. Obviously, all of our proceeds go toward their cause and I was so excited to wake up this morning and see that we reached our goal of \$15,000! She finished, “It’s just so amazing to see more people come out!”

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Opinion

Rising Tuition Prices Push Students Away From College Opportunities

By Liz Morin
Opinion Editor

Fairfield is expensive, and it's important to understand that as students who go here.

I'm in a very privileged position here; when I was starting high school, my parents told me they were willing to dedicate whatever money they could so that my siblings and I could have the best education we could, even if they couldn't necessarily afford it.

I am extremely thankful for them and their help because I know how ridiculous the price of college is today. I thought other people would feel the same way, but I was sorely mistaken.

I've met my fair share of people, not even all at Fairfield, whose parents pay for their college. Great!

What I don't understand is how many of them completely take advantage of that privilege, skipping almost all of their classes and failing most of them as well—arguably by choice—because if they did go to class, I'm almost certain their grades would be better.

Admittedly, I always felt kind of bothered when a friend of mine, who I know is not funding their own tuition, would call me and say, "Oh, why are you complaining about your B? I have like 3 Fs."

This has always thrown me off because I've also gotten calls from my friends who are seniors in high school who have gotten into some top schools and dedicated all of their time and effort to getting into these schools, who, in the end, cannot afford it due to the price.

This leads me to my point: that the price of college is unfair to a majority of students and is limiting their opportunities.

The rising price of college is inevitable with the state of the economy right now. There are so many factors to explain

it, from the growing demand for college to the growing base salary to pay administrators and professors. An article from Forbes says that the main factors causing growing tuition

are "administrative bloat, overbuilding of campus amenities, a model dependent on high-wage labor and the easy availability of subsidized student loans."

I admit, the price of Fairfield isn't something we can just stage a protest for, but it is painfully expensive compared to many other colleges, with tuition itself (no room and board or dining) rounding in at \$55,510.

The price of college itself may not necessarily be limiting students, but the number of student loans they are going to have to pay back if they are to attend said school are.

The average person who is paying back student loan debt usually owes somewhere in the \$28,000 range, according to a statistic from Forbes.

I'm under the belief that more and more students are starting to realize that the name of a school is not worth the tens of thousands of dollars in debt they will be.

I knew a girl from high school who is a perfect example of this. She was a great student, class president, straight As, in every honors society imaginable, three-sport varsity athlete.

Everyone thought she was going to be our high school's "token Ivy," as there is usually one student each year who ends up at an Ivy League. However, she went to a state school.

It wasn't that she didn't get into the Ivys or other nationally recognized schools, she just thought that it would be unintelligent to lose so much money for an education she could get at her state school. S

he goes to Umass Amherst now, which has a world-renowned business program and is in the honors program.

What would have happened if she did, hypothetically, end up at Harvard? She would be in a world-renowned business program ... with years of debt.

So the students who do have to narrow down their college choices due to money may not necessarily end up in bad positions, but they had the opportunity to go to some amazing schools if the debt they would end up in wouldn't be so bad.

I have a friend who recently got into Tufts and could not afford it, so he is going to a Massachusetts state school. He expressed to me that he was extremely disappointed that he worked so

hard to get into Tufts, just not to be able to go.

However, he is happy to go to the school he is going to now because he knows he is getting a great education and won't have to worry about dealing with years of debt after his four years are over.

This goes into the issue of scholarships. There's a common saying students will have heard: "Work hard and you will get scholarships to college!" Great.

Here's the issue. One, the amount of scholarship money schools offer is not balanced out with the tuition they require. Fairfield provided between \$15,000 and \$28,000 in merit scholarships, which sounds good when you say it out loud, but when you put that next to the roughly \$70,000 you are paying for everything else, that only drops your tuition to the \$40,000 to \$60,000, most likely on the higher end as the harder the school is to get into, the less likely you are to get a higher scholarship.

Either way, the average price that Fairfield comes down to is still more than what a state school would end up being, and even many other private schools.

The amount of scholarship money that is provided to a student can make or break their decision, and if they got into a school that is notably hard to get into worldwide, chances are they did not receive much of a scholarship.

I was always under the belief that this is because scholarships are typically for outstanding academic achievement, but when you're applying to an Ivy, pretty much every student has more than outstanding academic achievements, so it's harder to stand out.

This is something to consider now that Fairfield's acceptance rate has dropped to about 44.9% for all students. Does this mean it will be harder to receive merit scholarships from Fairfield now too?

There is a known way to help with the financial burden of education, though many people brush it off due to the stigma around community college.

Many students will choose to go to a community college for two years in order to not only save half of what a traditional four-year college student would pay but to be close to home to work and save up money.

I believe that there is a stigma behind community college, likely due to prestige.

I remember having this discussion with my dad, and we were both very pro-community college, but then he said, "I'm all for it. More people should go; but not my kids."

I don't blame him for that statement. I think a lot of people grew up with the impression that anything outside of the traditional four-year path is "wrong" or for people who didn't get into a traditional college or for people who can't afford college.

But there are so many benefits to community college or at least just starting there.

US News wrote an article on community colleges saying there are lower costs, a straight path to a four-year college, it's proximity to home, schedule flexibility and there is specific workforce training. If the stigma around community college were lower, this would mean more students would be comfortable with going down this path in order to save money.

Fairfield does have a new two-year associate program in Bridgeport called Fairfield Belarmine.

It is for low-income students in the Bridgeport and Greater Connecticut area for them to start in a lower-cost associate's degree program before transferring into a four-year college.

I was glad to hear that this was a project of Fairfield's, and I think it's a great step toward acknowledging the finances of college and providing more opportunities for students.

Overall, students who do have to alter their college decision based on money aren't ending up in bad positions, though it is disheartening to hear that they had the opportunity to go to their dream school if the price tag wasn't so high.

It won't happen fast, but something deep-rooted in the education system needs to change. CNBC provided a study that "For college-bound students and their parents, a whopping 98% of families said financial aid would be necessary to pay for college."

This limits the variety of educational opportunities that current students and prospective students have, and the world would be a much better place if the education system could reform its prices.

Campus Services Should Consider Extended Hours to Include Students

By Mary Rado
Contributing Writer

I have a turbo every Wednesday from 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., and after this class, I sit in my dorm for hours doing homework.

I am always in need of a pick-me-up from either the Dunkin' Donuts or Starbucks that are on campus, but I always encounter a predicament—they are both closed!

Now, why can't they be open until 8 p.m., just like the Tully or 9 p.m., like the Stag Diner?

I believe that they should stay open later because many students have classes during the day and always have to rush to get their coffee before they close.

Also, some students like me often don't like the options that the Tully offers that day for breakfast/lunch and like to grab food from Dunkin' or Starbucks. Especially during midterms and finals week, though they extend the hours beyond their normal times, they should stay open later into the night because a lot of students stay at the library late.

If they were open later, they would get more business than usual!

First-year Ashley Lawrence states, "I think all of them should be open later. They're more in the mood for pick-me-ups later in the day."

I agree because some people aren't in the mood for a coffee in the morning and more so in the evening!

With the luxury of only having these two places open on our campus that has more of a variety for breakfast and lunch, extra time is essential.

Living away from home was a big adjustment for me since I live about an hour and a half to two hours away from here.

Where I am from in New Jersey, I am close to malls, Shoprite, Target, etc. I have all the necessities right there instead of having to spend a \$13 Uber to and back from a store or clearing my schedule to hop on the Stag Bus. My mom mails me some things from Amazon or home to help me so I don't need to spend money on Uber.

However, I encounter the same predicament that I enter with Starbucks and Dunkin', which is that the mailroom is closed when I am finally done with my busy day of classes!

The mailroom should be open later, too! The mailroom opens up from 9:30 a.m. to 3:45

p.m.

These hours are ridiculous because many students are in labs, have turbos or have little time between classes to grab their packages and go back to their dorm to put them away and go back to class, so they have to wait for the next day.

They should be open Saturday and Sunday because my parents mailed me something for Valentine's Day, and it came on Saturday, the weekend before Valentine's Day, and I wasn't able to get it until Monday morning!

If they can't accommodate this time solution, I think they should make more lockers or make the lockers bigger because half of the time, I am at the mailroom to pick up a package that is too big for the locker.

If the mailroom were open on weekends, it would help a lot of people out.

Overall, having the luxury of having our own Dunkin', Starbucks and Mailroom gives many students the feeling that they are back home, but I feel these hours should change to accommodate our Fairfield student's busy schedules!



MON-SUN: 5PM-9:30PM



MON-FRI: 11AM-9PM
SAT-SUN: 3PM-9PM



MON-FRI: 11AM-8PM



MON-FRI: 8AM-3PM



MON-THU: 11AM-8PM
FRI: 11AM-3PM
SUN: 4PM-8PM

Photo Courtesy of @stagshospitality Instagram

Students are expressing frustration with the early closing times of campus services.

Healing Political Discourse, One Opinion at a Time

By Madeline Hossler
Opinion Editor Emerita

In a recent Opinion piece for the New York Times, Jonathan Malesic, a professor of writing at the University of Texas at Dallas, reflected on the current state of political discourse on college campuses.

Issues of political discourse and partisanship on college campuses are not a new debate.

Malesic claims that “commentators on the right and the ‘heterodox’ left often claim that college students are all either stridently liberal or cowed into silence by those who are.”

This theme was explored in the 2018 book *The Coddling of the American Mind*, which details instances of conservative speakers being disinvited from college campuses.

In contrast, the presence of conservative overreach in education is evident in the recent controversy over Florida’s Stop W.O.K.E Act, which limits how professors can teach issues of racial inequality and imposes harsh penalties for those who fail to comply with the state-sanctioned viewpoints.

Political polarization has been steadily increasing in American society. Pew Research Center details how both parties’ voters have consistently been moving further from the center and, in turn, developing increasing antipathy towards one another.

Higher education is just one of many issues where political polarization is becoming increasingly present in the discourse.

Malesic, however, is able to find hope for a future with less polarized political discourse. Where does he find it? Right here, in the Opinion section of student newspapers.

In some cases, Malesic finds student newspapers that are working explicitly to confront partisanship. He details the efforts of student editor Megan Tran of the “Daily Texan”.

Tran found that in her publication, the article submissions they were seeing more consistently provided liberal perspectives and focused on certain types of campus issues.

She made it her mission to hire stu-

dent columnists that would provide a more diverse range of perspectives, with the goal of creating a paper that more faithfully represented the ideas of the student body.

But more importantly, Malesic finds the issues students are debating in their campus newspapers to be “endearingly local”.

Some student newspapers included serious examinations on how to improve graduation rates or how ethical it is for a Baptist college to require students to attend chapel.

Some were a little more silly, like whether or not it’s a good idea to feed campus squirrels.

One student paper he looked at included an article on the best campus bathrooms, an incredibly important topic we here at *The Fairfield Mirror* opinion section have also been proud to cover.

All across the pages were examples of students caring about each other and their entire campus community.

Malesic finds that the true controversies playing out in the pages of student newspapers are typically almost charmingly non-partisan.

What raging culture war issue prompted two response articles and a flurry of online comments on “*The Cor Chronicle*” at the University of Dallas?

Whether or not it should be considered acceptable to be barefoot in public campus spaces.

This is something I certainly relate to from my time editing this section.

In my time as Opinion Editor that ever sparked controversy.

It received a letter to the editor from a faculty member and earned me the summons for a disapproving lecture from the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences himself.

The topic? How the mission behind the Magis Core Signature Elements was being undermined by the limited availability and inconsistency of the classes that carried

them.

That’s about the furthest from politically salient you can get, but nonetheless, something that does impact the lives of Fairfield students.

Now I’m not here to pretend that everything I’ve written here was exactly hard-hitting.

I’m sure nothing about our campus community changed dramatically because I once wrote a few hundred words warning people against trying to wear heels to Pres Ball.

But hey, if I saved one naive freshman from blisters so bad they had to make the walk back from Bellarmine Hill barefoot and, I suppose, then face the wrath of the writers for “*The Cor Chronicle*,” it was certainly worth something.

Writing for the opinion section teaches you what I would argue is one of the most valuable real-world skills a person can have: the ability to care enough about your community to want to figure out how to make it better.

Good opinion writing requires critical thinking about the issues facing your community.

It requires listening to the people around you: the things that make them happy, the things that make them frustrated and everything in between.

Opinion writing teaches you to better organize and articulate your own ideas about the world as it is and as it ought to be, a skill that is essential to the health of political discourse on campus and wherever else you may go in life.

Opinion articles can hold administrations accountable, they can help other students navigate the challenges of campus life and can offer suggestions on how to genuinely help improve the campus community.

Student newspapers represent a unique opportunity for civic engagement. The value of that opportunity should not be discounted.

Student newspapers might not be the magic bullet here to save us from everything toxic about American political discourse. But hey, it seems like a great place to start.



Clam Jam 2023 Is Overpriced

By Brooke Lathe
Executive Editor

After Dean Johnson announced there would be no guest passes sold for Clam Jam 2023 following the incidents at Santa Con, I anxiously awaited to hear what this year’s Clam Jam would entail.

On April 12, we finally received an email sharing all of the information.

For seniors, tickets will be \$85 whereas juniors are set to pay \$90 for one ticket.

The price includes transportation to and from Penfield Beach, food, alcohol for those 21+ and entertainment by “Imanbek”.

For last year’s event, however, which included all of the same features, tickets were priced at \$70 for seniors and \$75 for junior students—a price I would be more willing to pay.

But, due to the fact that the university is losing the usual guest pass revenue, tickets for 2023 saw a \$15 increase.

Although I am not a se-

nior and don’t have to pay for all of the upcoming, pricey senior week events, I still have a problem spending so much money on a school event—and for good reasons.

Firstly, since I am 20 years young during the time of the event, I can’t consume any of the alcohol that is included in my open-bar ticket price.

Why isn’t there a separate, lower ticket cost for those who are underage and can’t take advantage of a large part of the price they’re paying?

As for transportation, our usual StagBuses will bring students back and forth to the beach. A location not too far off the path of the usual in-town drop-off. These buses are free to use for all students on a daily basis, so why would we pay for something that normally has no cost?

More importantly, I believe there should already be free transportation if the school is providing alcohol to students—it’s just basic safety protocol.

And, what about the seniors who live on the beach already and will walk over to the venue rather than using school-provided trans-

portation? Is transportation included in their ticket price?

The food provided, and included in the price, will also be catered by our own university food supplier, Aramark.

Certainly, they aren’t paying an additional, noticeable amount for this.

The only fees would be paying the workers and for the food—payments they already spend every day.

Furthermore, while I’m sure our DJ will be a fun addition to the event, he is a no-name artist.

To compare Clam Jam with our upcoming Fairfield University Student Association sponsored spring concert, students are paying only \$55 for transportation to Bridgeport’s Hartford Healthcare Amphitheatre, a free meal from a food truck and a performance from an artist who is more well-known and enjoyed by the masses.

This is a price that is worth it to me.

Even if the spring concert is sold at a loss for FUSA, I wholeheartedly believe that is what the university should do for Clam Jam anyway.

The school profits so much

off of our tuition, room and board, miscellaneous fees and more that students should not pay for the entire price—it should be a celebration for Fairfield students as an end-of-the-year event.

While I’m unsure of exactly how many tickets are sold for the event, if 400 people at minimum purchase a pass to attend, the University would receive approximately \$35,000 (if half are seniors, and half are juniors).

The only thing I can think of that are outlying factors that would cause a higher price would be security and building the stage for the artist—but even then, I’m certain both of those won’t add up to 30 grand.

Are they even spending any money on us or are they breaking even with our ticket cost? Even more pressing, is the university profiting off of this event?

Unfortunately, because I have a very firm stance on attending every college event I can as it’ll always provide life-long memories, I will still be attending.

However, I feel like I just got gypped out of \$90 I could have spent on something more practical.



Clam Jam is a university sponsored, end of the year event and will take place on April 29 at Penfield Beach. Tickets are \$85 for seniors and \$90 for juniors.

The Vine



Editor: Abigail White



Free
Birth
Day
Coffee!

A Feminist Twist On The Myth of Orpheus And Eurydice with Theatre Fairfield

By Abigail White
Head Vine Editor

It has come time for Theatre Fairfield to present their closing production of the 2022-2023 season, and they are ready to amaze audiences with their production of “Eurydice,” a feminist twist on the classic Greek myth of Orpheus and Eurydice.

We have heard the Greek myth of Orpheus and seen it remade and remodeled into various retellings. But we have never seen Eurydice as more than a prop.

Ruhl’s “Eurydice” and Theatre Fairfield’s productions of the show flip the narrative, centralizing Eurydice’s story; her love, her heartbreak, her tragedy. Throughout the play, we follow Eurydice as she searches for her identity and her truth as a woman and a human being. Though she is still defined by her male relationships, both with her father and her husband, it is ultimately Eurydice who will make the decision as to how she will live, die and love.

Senior Lillie Kortrey plays the protagonist, Eurydice, as she navigates her relationships with both her husband and her father.

“Eurydice is a very complex character. She is exploring two relationships in two different realms: a romantic relationship with Orpheus and Earth and a familial relationship with her Father in the Underworld,” said Kortrey. “Having to constantly be aware of both relationships and finding the nuances in both has been one of the challenges I’ve encountered with this role.”

The relationship between Eurydice and Orpheus is loving but nothing close to perfect. The push and pull of the love and conflict between the two characters are portrayed with excellence by Kortrey and Anthony Lupercio ‘26. Eurydice’s relationship with her father is a complex one as well. Through the acting of Kortey and Ben Dressel ‘26, the audience can feel the sweet and heartfelt moments along with the moments of sadness.

Kortrey continued in speaking to her experience playing the character, “Eurydice is relearning, both words, facts, memories,

etc., but also making up for the time she lost with her father while they were in separate realms. Playing with that has really been something that’s progressed and blossomed over the rehearsal process.

Though a challenging and complex character indeed, Kortrey beautifully portrays the role of Eurydice, from the confusion she experiences when first entering the Underworld to the conflict that plagues her as she is made to choose



Photo Courtesy of @theatrefairfield on Instagram
Lillie Kortrey '23 will enter the Underworld as protagonist, Eurydice, in Theatre Fairfield's upcoming production of "Eurydice."

between returning to the real world with her husband, Orpheus, or remaining with her father.

When Eurydice first enters the Underworld, she is met by the Chorus of Stones, three creatures of stone that seem to resemble a Greek chorus, yet do not allow for the sound of the song in the Underworld. Played by Nora Jacobi ‘25, Alyssa Suarez ‘25 and Courtney Sobogal ‘26, the stones proved to be some of my favorite characters. Dressed immaculately in silver costumes they provided great comedic relief amongst the tragedy and deep emotion of the play. I could not help but laugh at their snarky

lines and hilarious delivery as they serve as accomplices to the Lord of the Underworld, brilliantly portrayed by Emily Sheridan ‘24.

Though captivating and emotional, it is not just the acting that made Theatre Fairfield’s production of Eurydice incredible to watch. With the hard work of the production’s artistic team including producer Lynne Porter, costume designer Julie Leavitt, movement choreographer

Brad Roth, set designer Karl Ruling,

score composed and performed live by Co-director of the Music Program Michael Ciavaglia with violist Elisabeth Messier ‘26 and bass guitarist Andrew Margaritis ‘26 of Fairfield University’s music department. It is wonderful to see all walks of Fairfield University talent come together to make this show possible, and seeing students and faculty from the music department compose and perform in this production is incredible.

Anticipation for this production is building up as opening night approaches on Wednesday, April 19 at 7 p.m. It will be Dr. Martha LaMonaco’s final production as resident director for Theatre Fairfield as she concludes her work as a feminist theater historian, activist and director. And after seeing it all come together on stage, I can confidently say that it is a production to be congratulated on.

“Besides our really cool technical elements, and our hilarious Chorus of Stones, I am excited for audiences to finally see Eurydice’s side of the classic Orpheus myth,” Kortrey said in anticipation of the play’s opening night. “There is next to nothing on her historically and in mythology, so I love that we are giving her a voice. I’m so excited for audiences to watch and enjoy.”

Students, faculty and the Fairfield community alike can see “Eurydice” in the Wein Black Box at the Regina A. Quick Center for the Arts Wednesday, April 19 through Friday, April 21 at 7 p.m. with matinees on Saturday, April 22 and Sunday, April 23. Tickets (\$10 for general admission and \$5 for students) are on sale at the Quick Center Box office and on the Quick Center’s website so be sure to score yourself a front-row seat to the show before they are all gone!

I am truly in awe of the talent that Theatre Fairfield hosts and the cooperation of each moving part to come together and put on a fantastic show.

From the meticulous attention to detail in the set design, to the breathtaking costumes and props to the awe-inspiring talent of each actor, Theatre Fairfield’s production of “Eurydice” is not one to be missed.

Stags' Easter Break Activities



By Max Limric
Managing Editor

Easter Break, the break that gives us a taste of summer, and gives me a taste of laziness ... as in I got no work done over the break. But it was Jesus’ time, of course, so I instead chose to devote my time to Him—and a lot of students agree with me on that.

Sophomore Mekaylia Ingram went to church and she praised Jesus, “the risen King,” she states. She sang, “The Blood Will Never Lose its Power” for all those in attendance at the Easter Sunday mass.

Church continued to be a big hit over the Easter weekend ... which makes sense seeing that we attend a Jesuit Institution.

First-years Kevin Camy and Matthew Papizan also attended mass in their respective towns. Papizan recalls how he “took the body of Christ” while there. Camy describes his after mass activities, in which

he went to his aunt’s house, roasted s’mores and sang around the fire pit.

Junior Caroline Morris went to the Easter vigil that her sister dragged her to, and the service ended up being two and a half hours. She then watched the Bruins make history, which she found “more fun.”

Not everyone’s highlight of their break included Church though, as Claire Demarco ‘25 went to a Yankees game with her whole family. She went to their away game in Baltimore and watched them win, which she states “was amazing.”

Sophomore Ella Panasci won her family Easter egg hunt by “a landslide.” She describes how she was tackled to the grass by her brother, but prevailed and found the golden egg—which held 20 bucks.

The Easter festivities continued as Nelle Kanewske ‘25 went home to Texas and did a relay race with eggs. Something about racing to be the first team to get their eggs

back to the start in order to claim a prize of \$50 for Amazon. I got lost in the detailed instructions to be honest.

At the ripe age of 20, Xin Chi ‘25 retook her drivers license test for the fourth time ... and passed. She’s now a *licensed driver* and was legally able to whip over to her friend’s house and catch up with them over break.

Junior Thomas Drillien watched the Masters with his friends, then went out golfing and tried his own hand at being a golf legend, but sadly didn’t win. He does claim “he had fun” though. He also went to some of his friends’ houses over Easter break and spent time with their families. One of his friends’ families hosted an easter egg hunt, but he was the only one there who didn’t find an easter egg with 10 bucks in it. He feels “aggrieved.”

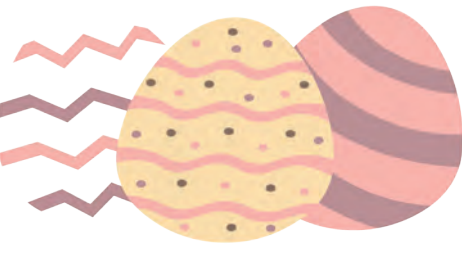
Sophomore Nohea Breeden dyed eggs in Boston for her first visit to the city. She

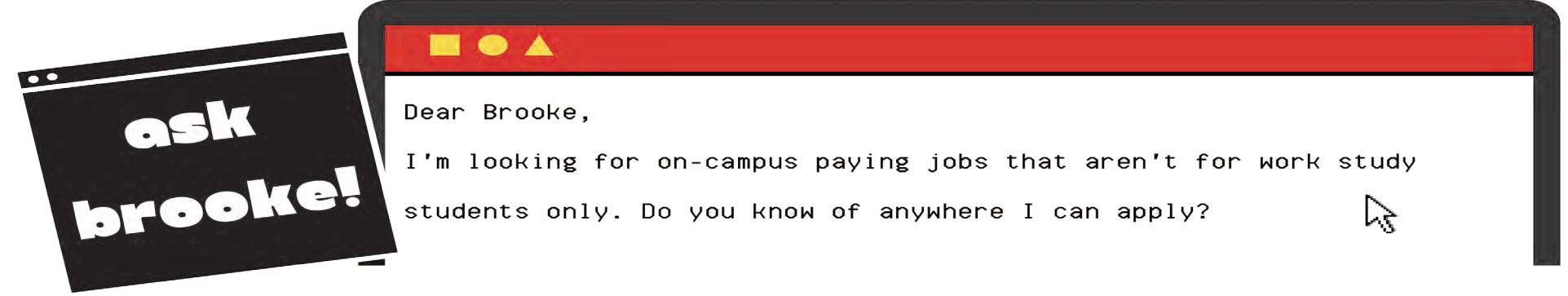
also had a lobster roll and cannoli feast. She describes her weekend as very “tranquil.”

Junior Thomas Lane says “his Easter was excellent because he didn’t do anything.”

I’m sure Lane’s wishing for that whole lot of nothing right now as classes attempt to cram two lectures into one class and assign tests and papers due the same day.

Easter may have seemed like a glimpse into summer, but we still have to finish this year out strong. So keep your head up and try to find that “tranquility” that Breeden found over her Easter weekend as we enter into finals territory.





By Brooke Lathe
Executive Editor

“Dear Brooke, I’m looking for on-campus paying jobs that aren’t for work-study students only. Do you know of anywhere I can apply?”

With all of the expensive, end-of-the-year events, it’s no surprise some of us Stags are looking for a little extra cash—I know I certainly am. While it might be too late to apply for a job now, as we only have a couple of weeks left of the school year, here are some positions to keep an eye out for when the fall semester rolls around!

Peer Note Taker – I served as a notetaker three separate times for different courses and it’s definitely one of the easier jobs you can have. If a student is registered with the Office of Accessibility and in one of your classes, you may receive an email from your professor at the beginning of the year to see if anyone is interested in being a peer note taker.

In this role, you are expected to type electronically (or neatly handwrite if the course heavily uses numbers) a detailed recount of each lecture and upload it promptly to my.fairfield.edu in the Accessibility & Accommodations tab. You must not only include what is written on the board in the class but also what the student may have had trouble understanding or hearing—this may include announcements or reminders about upcoming assignments and due dates. Finally, you will then log your hours on Workday (the hours meaning

the time your class takes place and you were taking notes) and receive \$14 an hour. If you miss a class, you are still expected to upload a set of notes for the student in need.

Rec Plex – There are so many jobs that are available at the Rec Plex. From front desk receptionists to group fitness instructors and equipment or laundry room assistants, they’ve got it all. If you are currently lifeguard, CPR and first-aid certified, you can apply for the position of a lifeguard in the pools on the bottom floor.

In addition to keeping all swimmers safe, you are expected to clean the pool, the deck and the surrounding areas. Lastly, students also have the opportunity to become a staff supervisor—a role where you are to be responsible for opening and closing the gym, overseeing the staff and enforcing policy.

Intramural Sports – Other jobs in the RecPlex that are more playful include working for intramural sports. There are sports officials, who act as referrers for each game, stat keepers and supervisors.

Tour guide – If you aren’t afraid of public speaking and want to talk about how awesome Fairfield is, you can interview to become a tour guide! As a tour guide, you are responsible to show prospective students different parts of campus including residence halls, academic buildings, the campus center, the dining hall, the library and more. Each tour will ask you different questions about the university such as clubs, campus life and the surrounding town which you will be expected to answer

positively and honestly. I have a lot of friends who are tour guides and absolutely love it. I would suggest learning how to project your voice and walk backward before you apply, though!

NSL – If you’re a student at Fairfield, you should already know what a New Student Leader is. NSLs play a heavy part in helping first-year students transition from high school to college. They work the New Student Orientation in June, Fall Welcome in August and teach their own First Year Experience course.

The class consists of dialogues that surround campus culture, time management, roommate conflicts and more. While their schedule is incredibly demanding in the summer and fall semester, they receive an average stipend of \$1,400 (the pricing changes each year on differing variables).

Tutor – Depending on your major and understanding of your classes, your professor may ask you if you are interested in helping struggling students. As a result, you could find a time that best works within your schedule to meet with a classmate one-on-one and teach them course material in simpler and slower terms.

Writing Center – Before you can even apply to become a writing center tutor, you do have to complete the Writing and Responding (ENGL 2290) course during a semester where you will learn how to properly guide students in building a better-written piece. The role allows you to pick what times you are available, and

students of all majors will sign up for slots to talk privately about their essays, research proposals, annotated bibliographies and more.

Each appointment aims to host a collaborative meeting between the tutor and the student where suggestions are provided. Instead of the tutor changing the student’s paper directly, they work as a group so that the student grows as a writer

The Fairfield Mirror - If you are interested in a career in Journalism or writing in general, students have the opportunity to become a paid editor at the university’s independent student-run newspaper: “The Fairfield Mirror”. Depending on your position, your role may vary a bit, but a general rule of thumb is that a paid staff member will edit contributing writer’s pieces, write at least one article per week, provide pitch ideas and design a layout that will go to print on a weekly basis.

As college students, we’re all hurting for money but probably don’t have the time or energy to work on top of juggling five classes. However, some of these positions are flexible and may even cater to your interests.

Check them out for yourself when the applications open up and see if you can snag yourself a paying job to feed what seems to be a constant stream of financial burdens.

Are you seeking any advice? Email Brooke at brooke.lathe@student.fairfield.edu or direct message our Instagram @fairfieldmirror to be featured!



Tommy Coppola
Editor-in-Chief

On April 2, 2023, the Fairfield University Student Association sent out an email to students noting that Grammy-nominated hip-hop producer Metro Boomin will be the headliner for the upcoming Spring Concert on April 28, 2023, at Hartford Healthcare Amphitheatre in Bridgeport, Conn.

With that in mind, I’ve been diligently preparing for the upcoming event by trying to memorize every single lyric of every single Metro Boomin song there is. Kidding, but since I’ve been a fan since he dropped his collaborative album “Without Warning” in 2017, I feel as though I bring the proper qualifications to give you my top picks of what I hope to hear.

As a note, since he’s a producer and not an actual rapper, he collaborates a lot with other artists; those legendary songs could be a whole list in of itself. The following list is exclusive to music he has published under his name.

#1 – Ric Flair Drip

“Ric Flair Drip” was the one song that originally put Metro Boomin on my radar. 2017’s “Without Warning” album, a collaborative effort between 21 Savage, Offset and Metro himself, featured this bouncy and energetic song that fluttered around the top of

the charts for a good amount of time.

“Ric Flair Drip” is one of the most well-known Metro Boomin songs, and he is sure to get the crowd going with this one. You’ll see me in the middle of the crowd rapping this one word-for-word.

#2 – No Heart

Though this song came out a lot earlier in 21 Savage’s career, “No Heart” is one of the first and most popular collaborations between Metro and 21 Savage. The song is a little slower and easier to follow, so fans are sure to be able to recite this one with ease.

The production from Metro Boomin is super simple, but ultimately it helped propel both himself and 21 Savage into stardom in the rap game.

#3 – Go Legend

My personal favorite for a really long time (before “Creepin” came along, spoiler alert), “Go Legend” is a 2017 hit off the album “Double or Nothing” which is a joint effort between Metro and rap star Big Sean. “Go Legend” is the introduction to the album and kicks off with a feature from Travis Scott.

#4 – No Complaints

When you combine Drake with anyone, the product is bound to be something special. That is absolutely the case on “No Complaints,” where Drake and Offset share

the spotlight over Metro’s production from his 2018 album “NOT ALL HEROES WEAR CAPES”. “No Complaints” is exciting and keeps the fans in anticipation for Drake’s verse to bring everything together.

#5 – Runnin

Off of the “Savage Mode 2” album, a collaboration between Metro Boomin and 21 Savage, “Runnin” is an infectious track that has heavy drums, which is sure to turn up a crowd at any venue (especially the Hartford Healthcare Amphitheatre).

This is my personal favorite off of “Savage Mode 2,” but the Morgan Freeman-narrated album has much more to explore other than this one.

#6 – OnTime/Superhero (Heroes & Villains)

Although these are technically two different songs, they flow together seamlessly and I decided it would make sense to group them together. The song begins with triumphant-sounding vocals from none other than John Legend with some strings playing loudly in the background.

After a minute or two, we’re able to hear Morgan Freeman’s voice (again, I know) which bridges the gap between the lighter part and the darker part, with deep horns and more hip-hop-heavy vocals from Future.

The two together juxtapose each other nicely, making for a strong start to his most recent album.

#7 – Creepin’

“Creepin” is without fail my favorite Metro Boomin song of all time. The slow, R&B type beginning paired with the quicker-paced 21 Savage verse at the end of the song makes it not only fun to listen to, but also fun to sing along with.

The Weeknd takes most of the vocal work, with the moody intro and catchy chorus. “Creepin” is an incredibly easy song to listen to, and it is high on my list of songs I hope to hear during the concert.

I will say, his latest album (and the namesake of the tour itself) “Heroes & Villains” is probably my favorite, and it was extremely difficult to leave off some of my current favorites. “Metro Spider,” “Too Many Nights,” “Trance” and more are serious honorable mentions for my list, but there’s simply not enough room on the page to elaborate on every single song he has (I absolutely could if you asked me to).

Although these picks are just my favorite few, Metro has an entire catalog of different music that you should explore ahead of the concert to be as prepared as possible. Be sure to do your homework!

Coffee Shops And Cafes To Sit And Study



By Abigail White
Head Vine Editor

If there's one thing I've dedicated my time to this semester, it would have to be finding the perfect coffee shop in the town of Fairfield to either grab a bite to eat or sit and get some work done.

As much as I love a good cram session at the Dimenna-Nyselius Library, it's always nice to switch it up with a change of scenery every once in a while. And the bonus of studying in a coffee shop is the food and beverages!

After having visited just about every coffee shop and cafe in the town of Fairfield in an attempt to find the best coffee and breakfast sandwiches, I feel I have a bit of authority to speak to which are my favorites.

1. Candlewood Market

This is arguably my favorite study spot in the town of Fairfield.

You can find me at Candlewood Market just about every weekend doing homework or running in for a cup of coffee on my way to work during the week.

Candlewood Market is a family-owned business, roasting coffee for over 12 years and opening up a storefront in the SPORTSPLEX in Fairfield, Conn. with their continued growth.

One of my favorite aspects of Candlewood Market is its atmosphere. With its bright spacious building with plenty of comfortable seating, it makes for the perfect space to sit for hours and get some work done.

And I cannot speak of Candlewood Market without mentioning the delicious food and drink

options. It is more than just a coffee shop with an array of coffees, teas, kombucha, sandwiches, pizza, ice cream, milkshakes and more on their menu. Some of my favorite menu items include the real fruit smoothies, the breakfast sandwiches and, of course, the coffee.

From the friendly staff to the delicious food to the wonderful atmosphere, I cannot say enough good things about Candlewood Market.

2. Chef's Table

Chef's Table seems to be a fan favorite among Fairfield students, and after going more frequently, I can see why. Though I often find myself stopping in to grab a coffee and a breakfast sandwich, Chef's Table is more than just a coffee shop.

Boasting a variety of soups, a salad bar, panini bar and a coffee bar, you are more than

likely to find something you like at Chef's Table. One thing that I really appreciate is that there are multiple gluten free options like bagels, toast etc.

As someone with a gluten intolerance, it can be really hard to find a place that accommodates allergies and sensitivities and Chef's Table has some of the best gluten free bagels I have tried in a while. The full breakfast and lunch menus can be found on their website.

With the doors wide open at all hours of the day, fun decorations, upbeat music and a bustling atmosphere, I would definitely recommend Chef's Table is definitely a place I would recommend for grabbing a bite to eat with friends rather than a place to sit and study.

3. Shearwater Coffee Bar

This is a place that I tried more recently and can confidently say that it is host to my favorite coffee in the town of Fairfield. It has quickly become a place that I will stop into on my way to my internship for a cup of coffee.

Located in the Brick Walk off of Post Road, Shearwater Coffee Bar offers a variety of their very own locally roasted and fresh brewed organic coffees, espresso, cold brew and nitro coffee as well as a variety of pastries and artisan chocolates.

Though the inside space is a bit small and the seating is a bit limited, I have found myself sitting at Shearwater Coffee Bar on multiple occasions to get some work done.

If you are lucky enough to score a table, the warm and inviting atmosphere is perfect for a study session with a delicious cup of coffee to accompany it.

4. The Stand

This vegan cafe is located right around the corner from Candlewood Market in the SPORTSPLEX in Fairfield and is home to some delicious and healthy food.

Prepared from scratch and served by friendly and caring staff, The Stand has a variety of vegan cuisine from breakfast to lunch, smoothies to ice cream and pastries.

Again, it is the allergy-friendly and healthy food options that really make The Stand stand out to me. There are not many places where I can get almost every single menu item prepared gluten-free.

And while the food options are vegan, The Stand is open to all, not just vegans. Some of my favorite menu items include the Tomato, Basil and Avocado Toast, the fruit smoothies and the pancake breakfast. I can assure you, the vegan food is delicious!

Though not necessarily my go-to study spot off campus, I would highly recommend trying out The Stand.

5. Starbucks

I think just about everyone can say they have studied in their local Starbucks and the Starbucks on Post Road makes for the perfect study spot. With upstairs seating, separate from the counter and pick-up, this Starbucks is a great place to sit and cram in some work.

I know I have spent many Sunday afternoons at this location completing school assignments. You can never go wrong with a Starbucks!

With finals season right around the corner, you may want to check out some of these coffee shops and cafes as study spots or food options when the library and Tully start to get too crowded.

The town of Fairfield is home to so many great coffee shops and cafes, and I can assure you that these are some of the best!



A Guide To The Best Beach Day

By Jacqui Rigazio
Assistant Vine Editor

The weather that we had this past week made me feel like we teleported right into summer. So naturally, the heat was the perfect excuse to take advantage of the beautiful beaches in Fairfield. On Friday of last week, my friends and I planned a beach trip after our classes to make the most of the high temps. The serotonin I felt from stepping onto the beach and seeing it full of my fellow Stags all soaking up the sun was truly unbeatable.

My friends and I lounged on the beach for hours listening to music, reading books and testing out the water (although it was too cold to take a full dip). Our successful beach day turned out to be one of my favorite days of my sophomore year. If you haven't made a beach trip yet, it is a must before the school year comes to an end. Here are my tips and tricks for the perfect Fairfield beach day!

Pack layers

Friday's temperature of over eighty degrees definitely warranted shorts, a T-shirt and a bathing suit during the day, but I did not plan for the cooler temps that would come in the evening. As it got later in the day and the ocean breeze became a little chilly I found myself wishing that I had packed a light sweatshirt to cozy up in. Although I was very

content soaking up the sun in my bathing suit, it definitely does not cover up enough to provide any amount of warmth. If you hit the beach anytime soon, come prepared for any weather. I would recommend wearing a bathing suit with shorts and a T-shirt and packing a sweatshirt just in case. You could even pack sweatpants too if you are going on a cooler day. Being prepared for any kind of weather will definitely make your beach day way more enjoyable.

Bring a trash bag

No one likes people who leave their trash all over the beach. Don't be that guy. Always come prepared with a trash bag to throw out any snacks, drinks, or trash that accumulates during your trip. You can even pick up any trash previously left on the beach and toss it into your trash bag to make the beach a cleaner place for everyone. We are so lucky to have beaches in such close proximity to our school, so it is our responsibility to keep them clean for everyone to enjoy!

Pack snacks

In order to avoid getting "hangry" at the beach, plan ahead and pack snacks to keep you fueled up in the hot sun. Family-size bags of chips, Cheez-It's and pretzels are my go-to beach snacks. These bigger bags are ideal because you can share them with friends and they create far less trash than anything individually packaged. Sandwiches are also a great beach meal if you think you'll need

something more substantial. My friends and I brought a cooler with popsicles to cool us down which was definitely a crowd-favorite snack option. Along with your snacks, be sure to bring some cold water to keep you hydrated in the sun!

Sunscreen

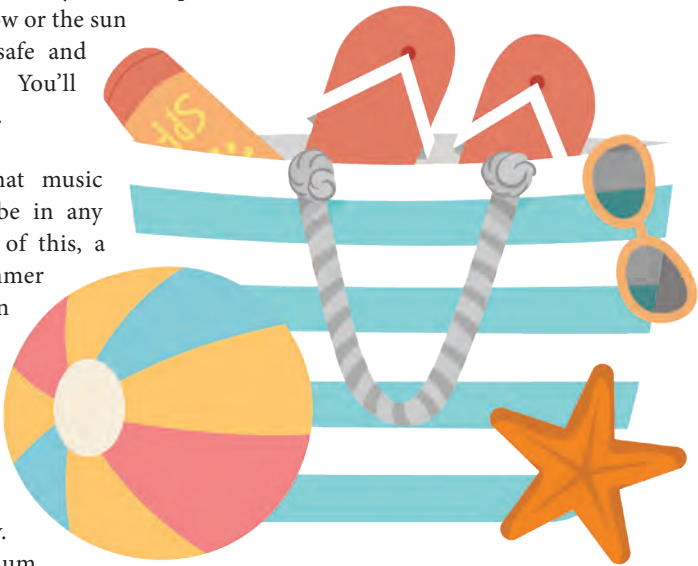
If you are someone who always tells yourself that you'll get a burn first because it'll turn into a tan, this one is for you. Too many times I have self-sabotaged by convincing myself that I won't get a sunburn which has always resulted in red skin and regret. No one likes being sunburnt, so sunscreen is a necessity on any beach trip. Even if the UV index is low or the sun is behind clouds, stay safe and sunscreen up anyways. You'll thank yourself for it later.

Music

Everyone knows that music makes or breaks the vibe in any given scenario. Because of this, a speaker and a solid summer playlist are essentials when coming to the beach. I have been working on my summer playlist since spring break, so you can imagine that I was eager to whip it out for my big beach day. If you're a Spotify Premium

user like myself, you can start a remote group session and send the link to your friends. This way, everyone can cue up songs and control the same speaker from their own phones. My friends and I loved using this feature at the beach because it was an easy way to combine all of our music tastes and favorite songs!

So there you have it, my holy grail of beach day tips! Hopefully, this will come in handy for those of you who are planning to visit the sand and shores in the near future. I know I am already looking forward to the next sunny day when I can hit the beach!





Fairfield's Free Birthday Treats



By Brooke Lathe
Executive Editor

Happy Birthday! Well, maybe it's not your birthday just yet, but I thought that when the time rolls around, I would get you prepared.

A common rule of thumb for many businesses is that when it is your yearly celebration of you, customers are offered a free gift. And, luckily enough, a lot of businesses in Fairfield and nearby are waiting for you to pick up something lovely for your special day.

Here is a lengthy list you can refer back to of what places offer free items, what they are and what you have to do to secure the bag!

Crumbl Cookies - A new Crumbl location opened up on 2261 Black Rock Turnpike not too long ago, and per each of their locations, you are guaranteed one free cookie of the week on your birthday.

For those who are not familiar with this bakery, every Sunday the stores are closed to prepare their new recipes for the upcoming week.

Then, four to five new flavors are presented for six days only, with no guarantee to return.

To accept your birthday cookie, just sign up on the app and make a profile with the correct date!



Panera Bread - Panera offers each customer their annual "birthday freebie" once signing up for their rewards program which can be selected from their pastry display.

Some items may include a croissant, cinnamon roll, bear claw, brownies, chocolate chip cookies, frosted cookies, lemon cookies and more.

My recommendation, however, will always be the kitchen sink cookie since it has semi-sweet chocolate chips, caramel, pretzels and flakey salt.

Jersey Mike's - Also on Black Rock Turnpike, Jersey Mike's gives customers one free regular-sized sub upon signing up for their rewards program at least a day before.

McDonald's - Salty, and only good when they're warm, you can get one free medium fry from McDonald's on your special day.

Worth it? More than likely no. But if you're headed there anyway, you might as well sign up through the app at least a day before and use the reward!

Chipotle - I know this is a fan-favorite for a lot of people, so this tip will definitely come in handy for most of the

Stag population. Any time within your birthday month (yes, they allow you to claim it once anytime within the month of your birthday), if you feel like having a burrito or bowl, you are given free chips and queso or guacamole.

The catch for this "free treat" is that you must purchase something with a \$5 minimum in order to receive the side snack; per usual, just make sure to join their rewards system before going to the register.

Dunkin' - If you roll into the drive-thru or walk in the lobby, you can receive a free drink of any size as long as you sign up for the rewards program.

Starbucks - If you're more of a Starbucks fan, you're in luck. As part of the rewards member program, you are offered the choice of one complimentary handcrafted beverage, or one complimentary food item or one complimentary ready-to-drink bottled beverage.

Disclaimer, the university-affiliated locations do not participate in the rewards program, so if you wish to claim your complimentary item, you can only pick it up at 1740 Boston Post Road.

Dairy Queen - More dessert! After signing up to join their rewards program, you can pick up your free blizzard at any time during your birthday.

The moral of the story is, all you have to do is spend a few minutes signing up for a rewards program to get a complimentary gift.

To be on the safe side, I would suggest making an account at least 24 hours before you go birthday-treat hunting so that your date registers in time for pickup. Go out there and make the best of your birthday!



Stepping Into Spring Styles

By Hannah Collins
Contributing Writer

It seems to me that we've been waiting for warm weather for weeks and now it's finally here!

Say goodbye to heavy winter coats and hello to sundresses and shorts. Spring is the perfect season to create a new wardrobe for yourself and change your style! For me, I love cleaning out my fall/winter wardrobe and seeing the options I have for spring and summer.

Keeping up with the current fashion trends is the perfect way to see what you want to add to your closet. I love to see what trend is rising up again and which is out the door. Following different influencers and stylists is a great way to see what you wanna wear for the spring season!

Here are some tips to spruce up your spring closet:

A staple sundress
There is nothing I love more than a good sundress.
It can be dressed up, dressed down and worn the way it is.
This is a definite staple for your spring wardrobe. With the ever-changing weather, you never know how warm it might be. Pairing a flowy sundress with a light jacket can be the

perfect spring look!

A stylish button down



You can never go wrong with the button-down look. This is personally a favorite for me because of all the different ways it can be styled.

An oversized button-down with a belt

and loafers is perfect for a brunch date; dress it up with a blazer and heels for a night out! My advice is to stick with neutral colors for the button-down, as it's already a bold piece itself.

The switch from black to neutral blazer
A good blazer is something you need in your closet, always. This is the key to dressing up any outfit you wear. The holy trinity of blazers includes a black one, a leather one and a neutral tone. For the spring season, I suggest either a light brown or beige blazer. A blazer is an easy throw-on when running errands, going out to eat, or even just feeling good in your own skin.

It's a sophisticated and timeless piece of clothing that is a must-have in any season.

Loafers or sandals
I have to say that I've become a huge fan of loafers over the past couple of months.
Like the blazer, they are a timeless item you should have in your wardrobe. If it's on the cooler side, you might want to opt for a cute pair of loafers instead of sandals or any open-toe shoe. Styled the right way, these

loafers could make you look like an Upper East Side local. Now if it's on the warmer side you could switch the loafers out for those sandals. I always say that a little heel never hurts, and it amps up your outfit in the perfect way.

A light sweater or cardigan
Even though the weather is getting warmer, sometimes the breeze sneaks up on you. It's always good to have a light sweater or cardigan on hand to throw on if it's chilly. With sweaters comes the very popular "coastal grandmother" look and it's vital you execute it the right way.

My suggestion is a good pair of white linen pants and a light sweater either in shades of blue or beige. This is your perfect Martha's Vineyard look that never goes out of style!

The perfect trousers
Last but not least, you need a good pair of linen pants or trousers. This light and airy look will make you look and feel great. These are perfect for the days when it's not too hot and not too cold. These can be styled with a plain cropped tee, a light sweater or an oversized blazer. I suggest sticking to neutral colors for this outfit, as it's a simple and sophisticated look.

These six tips are guaranteed to spiff up your spring wardrobe and make you feel confident in your style!



COFFEE BREAK

SATIRE, GAMES, PUZZLES AND MORE

Editor: Elizabeth McLaughlin
elizabeth.mclaughlin@student.fairfield.edu



THE OFFICE TRIVIA


- Where does the series take place? _____
- Who started the fire in S2 E4, The Fire? _____
- What is Dwight's made up title called? _____
- What is the title of Michael's movie? _____
- Who are the original members of the Michael Scott Paper Company? _____
- Which character's favorite day is Pretzel Day? _____
- Who does Michael hit with his car? _____
- "It's not _____, it's Kevin Malone."




Scranton, PA | Ryan | Assistant to the Regional Manager | Threat Level Midnight | Michael, Pam, Ryan, Vikram | Stanley | Meredith | Ashton Kutcher

Mirror Staff ... Would You Rather?


- Live in space or live in the ocean?




Ocean (7)
- Only eat ice cream or only eat donuts?




Ice cream (5)




Donuts (2)
- Own a penguin or own a panda?




Panda (7)
- Be able to time travel or fly?




Time travel (5)




Fly (2)
- Own a private island or own a private jet?




Island (7)



- Watch one TV show forever or listen to one music artist forever?




TV show (2)




Music artist (5)
- Live in the jungle or live in the desert?




Jungle (6)




Desert (1)
- Have it always be summer or always winter?




Summer (7)


- Be President of the United States or King/Queen of England?



President (1)



King/Queen (6)

Mirror Mad Libs

It's a _____ (adjective) Wednesday! The sky is _____ (verb ending in -ing) and the _____ (plural animal) are out and about. What a day.... Today, I was on my way to _____ (Fairfield Location) when I ran into _____ (noun). I couldn't believe my eyes! I'll have to let the _____ (Fairfield University student-run newspaper) know of this breaking news!

April 19	April 20	April 21	April 22	April 23	April 24	April 25
Women's Lacrosse at Manhattan College Riverdale, N.Y. 3 p.m. Softball vs St. John's University Fairfield, Conn. 3 p.m. Baseball at Hofstra University Hempstead, N.Y. 3 p.m.	Softball at Yale University New Haven, Conn. 3:30 p.m.	Women's Golf 2023 MAAC Championship Round 1 Lake Buena Vista, Fla. All Day Men's Golf 2023 MAAC Championship Round 1 Lake Buena Vista, Fla. All Day Baseball vs Niagara University Fairfield, Conn. 3 p.m.	Women's Golf 2023 MAAC Championship Round 2 Lake Buena Vista, Fla. All Day Men's Golf 2023 MAAC Championship Round 2 Lake Buena Vista, Fla. All Day Men's Rowing Kerr Cup Philadelphia, Pa. All Day Women's Rowing Kerr Cup Philadelphia, Pa. All Day	Women's Golf 2023 MAAC Championship Round 3 Lake Buena Vista, Fla. All Day Men's Golf 2023 MAAC Championship Round 3 Lake Buena Vista, Fla. All Day Baseball vs Niagara University Fairfield, Conn. 12 p.m.	No games scheduled	Softball vs University of Hartford Fairfield, Conn. 2:30 p.m. Baseball vs Sacred Heart University Fairfield, Conn. 3 p.m. Softball vs University of Hartford Fairfield, Conn. 4:30 p.m.

Women's Golf Competes in Navy Spring Invitational

By Ryan Marquardt
Head Sports Editor

This past weekend, on April 15 and 16, 2023, Fairfield University women's golf team traveled to Annapolis, Md. to compete in the Navy Spring Invitational tournament at the par 72 Naval Academy Golf Course. The Stags finished in fourth place out of the seven-team field with a score of 44 over par. Fairfield shot 24 over on their first day, followed by twenty over on the second day to secure their spot in fourth, sitting 15 shots behind the third place finisher and host United States Naval Academy at 29 over par according to the official results.

Dartmouth College dominated the competition, winning by 19 strokes, shooting three over par in both round one and two to finish at six over par on the tournament. Yale University finished in second place, four strokes ahead of Navy, with a 25 over par through the two day tournament after being just six shots behind Dartmouth. After the first day of action, Yale had a weaker

day two shooting sixteen over par and distancing themselves from first. Following Fairfield, fifth place finisher was Youngstown State University at 57 over par with two consistent days just five strokes apart from one another. Rounding out the tournament was Bucknell University and Wagner College, shooting 65 over par and 69 over par and finishing sixth and seventh respectively.

Navy's Stephanie Lee led all golfers with a four under par score, including a five under on the second day of the tournament, followed by Katherine Sung and Sophie Thai of Dartmouth, shooting two under par and one over par respectively. Leading Fairfield was Addy Douglas '23 with an eight over par tournament, shooting a 76 both days and placing in a tie for 14th overall. At nine over par with a 77 in round one and a 76 in round two was Sydney Nethercott '24. In 21st was Julia Towne at +12 on the weekend, but shot a 74 on the second day. Rounding out Fairfield's golfers were the trio Katelynn Wacławski '26, Juliette Prud'Homme '26

and Grace Kryscio '24 all at +18 on the weekend.

Fairfield ranked fifth on the tournament in pars with 93 and fourth in birdies with 18. Dartmouth led both categories with 121 pars and 23 total birdies. Dartmouth also led in average scores on par threes at 3.25, par fours at 4.14 and par fives at 4.83 demonstrating their dominance in the tournament. Yale found second in all those categories as well. Fairfield has a tie for fourth with Navy on par threes with an average score of 3.45, came in fifth for average score on par fours with a 4.4 and fourth on par fives at 5.18.

Individually, Douglas led Fairfield for average score on par threes, tied with Nethercott on par fours and led on par fives with average scores of 3.25, 4.3, and 5 respectively. Dartmouth had the top three finishers individually for pars along with two of the top three for number of birdies. Nethercott led Fairfield in pars with 24, giving her the fifth most in the tournament. Douglas led Fairfield in birdies in a tie for fourth in the tournament.



Photo Contributed by The Sports Information Desk

Sydney Nethercott '24 placed second for the Stags in the Navy Spring Invitational.

The women's golf team will continue their season in the 2023 Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference Championships on April 21, 2023. For more information visit fairfieldstags.com.

In this week's issue...

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- Club Ski Secures Podium Finish on California Slopes (Page 15)

- Offensive Juggernaut Propels Baseball to Victories (Page 15)

- Lopez-Senechal Makes Fairfield History in WNBA Draft (Page 16)

Opinion: Carter, Anderson Stand Out Among NFL Draft Prospects

By Alexander Regan
Contributing Writer

With the NFL Draft quickly approaching, airing on ESPN and NFL Network on April 27 through April 29, here are my top five prospects for the 2023 NFL Draft.

Jalen Carter DT: Junior from Georgia. Prospect Grade: 7.1 (Pro-Bowl Potential)

Player Comparison: Quinnen Williams (NY Jets). Projected Top Ten pick.

Teams to draft: Arizona Cardinals, Detroit Lions, Atlanta Falcons, Chicago Bears

Jalen Carter is my top prospect for the 2023 NFL Draft. Even though he did not dominate in the stat box, totaling three sacks and two forced fumbles in ten games in 2022, he was a force on the field. Carter seemed to lift offensive linemen and throw them to the ground. Not only was the two time NCAA National Champion dominant in the run game, but he also generated 24 QB hurries and five QB hits. He has a deep bag of pass-rush moves including his swim, chop and bull rush. My only issue with his on-the-field issue with Carter is his stamina. He had a low snap count at Georgia (partially due to Georgia's rotational scheme), and he looked gassed sometimes late in games. Now the real issues with Carter come off the field. Carter was arrested on March 1, and charged with street racing and driving 104 mph, the same street race that led to the death of his teammate Devin Willock and Georgia team staff member Chandler LeCroy. He also massively disappointed at the Georgia Pro Day, where he came in nine pounds (6'3 - 323 lbs) over his tested weight at the NFL Combine (6'3 - 314 lbs) and left early due to cramping. If Carter can stay on the field, there is no doubt that he could become a top five player at DT, but he needs to stay out of trouble.

Will Anderson Jr. EDGE (DE): Junior from Alabama Prospect Grade: 7.0 (Pro-Bowl Potential). Player Comparison: Khalil Mack (LA Chargers). Projected Top Five pick.

Teams to Draft: Arizona Cardinals, Seattle Seahawks, Detroit Lions

Will Anderson Jr. is another one of my favorite prospects in this year's draft. He had an outstanding career at Alabama. The two-time All-American and SEC Defensive Player of the Year had 34.5 sacks, 58.5 tackles for loss, 207 total pressures and 114 solo tackles in his career at Alabama. He outmatched offensive tackles with his elite athleticism, a quick first step at the line, phenomenal bull rush and pad level. He also has NFL size at 6' 3 1/2" - 253. However, Anderson will need to develop more effective pass-rush moves at the next level. He far too often relied on his athleticism and his bull rush. On film, he also didn't finish plays as much as he should have when running backs shouldn't have escaped his tackling range. Overall, I think Anderson is a very good EDGE prospect, especially at the NFL level. We should expect him to make a difference immediately.

Bijan Robinson RB: Junior from Texas Prospect Grade: 7.0 (Pro-Bowl potential)

Player Comparison: Josh Jacobs (LV Raiders). Projected to be drafted late first to early second round.

Teams to Draft: Las Angeles Chargers, Buffalo Bills, Philadelphia Eagles

Bijan Robinson is easily the best running back prospect since Saquon Barkley at Penn State. Robinson had 3,410 rushing yards and 33 TDs and rushed for 6.3 yards per

carry over his three-year career at Texas. He had 1,580 rushing yards and 18 touchdowns rushing in 12 games in 2022. He also had 314 receiving yards on 19 catches and 3 touchdowns receiving out of the backfield to go along with his rushing dominance. The Texas Longhorn product is a true three-down back who can do it all; he can run, catch and is a tank at 5'11 and 215 pounds. His low center of gravity and contact balance complements extremely well with his agility, creating a pinball of a RB that is extremely hard to bring down. That's why he led college football with 104 missed tackles in 2022. I don't have much to complain about with Robinson, other than the fact that he doesn't have the same speed and acceleration as Saquon Barkley. He projects much like Josh Jacobs of the Las Vegas Raiders. Even though I have him as my number three, players expect him to fall in the draft (even possibly to the second round) due to running backs losing value every year. I think he'll make an immediate impact, and be a pro-bowler one day.

Christian Gonzalez: Junior from Oregon CB Prospect Grade: 6.7 (Quality Year 1 starter)

Player Comp: Aqib Talib. Projected Top ten pick.

Teams to draft: Detroit Lions, Las Vegas Raiders, Atlanta Falcons.

Chrisitan Gonzalez may become the next lockdown corner in the NFL. Chrisitan Gonzalez had four interceptions and seven pass deflections in 12 games in 2022 at Oregon. On film, he

has fluid hips, and a special ability to recover even when he gets fooled on a route. Gonzalez is also a sticky CB, and WRs had a difficult time generating separation for a long time due to Gonzalez's close-out speed. He is also a great blend of speed and size. He measured in at 6'1 197 lbs at the NFL combine and ran a 4.38 40-yard dash. He also received a 9.95 relative athletic score, which compares all NFL combine testing results from 2003, putting him in the 99th percentile. The only knock I have on Christian Gonzalez is that sometimes he will get exposed by bigger receivers, like when he faced Drake London in 2021. Other than that, I think Christian Gonzalez profiles as a lock-down CB at the next level.

Tyree Wilson EDGE (DE): Senior from Texas Tech. Prospect Grade: 6.6: Year One Starter. Player Comparison: Carlos Dunlap (KC Chiefs). Projected Top Ten pick.

Teams to draft: Arizona Cardinals, Seattle Seahawks, Detroit Lions, Atlanta Falcons

Tyree Wilson may be the best run-defender in the class. Wilson is 6' 6 - 271 pounds, and has an insane wingspan of 86" inches. In 12 games, he had seven sacks and 17 tackles for loss in 2022. His length attributes to a lot of his strengths. Not only does he have a crazy tackling range in the run game, there is no escaping him. Wilson is a strong edge setter, and holes never open up on his side. He also has a strong bull rush that compliments his length, and linemen are unable to get their arms into his frame because; he is just that big. However, Wilson will never be a premier pass rusher, he does not have an elite bend and doesn't get off the line very fast, simply because he has so much to move around. He also doesn't have a deep array of pass-rush moves, it's pretty much just his bull rush. Overall, Wilson projects as an elite run defender with pass-rushing upside. I think he will go within the top five picks.

*Prospect Grades. 8.0: The Perfect Prospect. 7.5-7.3: Perennial All-Pro. 7.1-7.0: Pro-Bowl Potential. 6.9-6.8: Quality Year 1 Starter. 6.7-6.6: Good Year 1 Starter.



Christian Gonzalez is ranked by many as the top corner in the draft.

Weekly 5x4

Your 2023-24 5x4 Columnists: Tommy Coppola, Brooke Lathe, Max Limric, Julian Nazario, Samantha Russell


Because we have witty things to say ...

Did you see The Super Mario Bros. Movie?

What's your favorite board game?

How do you like your eggs cooked?

Fun fact?




Tommy Coppola
Editor-in-Chief

Yes. No spoilers, but it is the best movie of the year.

“Sorry” is the Michael Jordan of board games. “Monopoly” is Scottie Pippen.

Scrambled. I’m simple.

I’m also a triplet. That also made my first year here very easy.




Brooke Lathe
Executive Editor

No, but I really want to go watch “Air”.

Mr. Green in the library with the candle-stick.

Sunny side-up! I love dipping my toast in the runny yolk.

I will be living in Italy for the entire month of June. :)




Max Limric
Managing Editor

Like no, but my brother saw it and said it was good.

A tense game of monopoly where I end up yelling at my brother Cooper is fun and gets my blood beating.

In the shape of a veggie omelet from Maria in the Tully.

I’m a triplet. That made my first year here very easy.




Julian Nazario
Copy Editor, Head News Editor

No, not everything has to be made into a movie!

Nothing beats a rigged game of Monopoly... always be aware of the fraudulent banker.

Cool idea Max, but no thanks; just give me scrambled eggs with ham.

My brother stuck a fork in my forehead when we were young! Also, not a triplet.



Samantha Russell
Assistant News Editor

Yes!! It was so cute.

Not a huge board gamer, but does Jenga count?

Over easy with runny yolk for sure.

I’m a twin!

Club Ski Secures Podium Finish on California Slopes

By Tommy Coppola
Editor-In-Chief

As the snow begins to melt away, the memories of the 2023 Ski and Snowboard season certainly will not.

Fairfield University's club Ski and Snowboard team posted a historic season, with their most recent and notable accolade being the Men's Freestyle team finishing third place in the U.S. Collegiate Ski & Snowboard National Championship, which was hosted in Mammoth, Calif. From March 6 to March 11.

The podium-placed team was composed of students from different class years, and featured six skiers and one snowboarder, according to a news release on the official club sports website. Senior captain and skier Michael Streeter led the group comprised of skiers Collin Hicks '24, Matthew Thompson '25, Jack Ambery '25, Vincent Pirraglia '25, and Jake Kirsch '26. The lone snowboarder, Nolan Cooper '25, rounded out the roster in the national competition.

Their winning ways are nothing new for the team. According to Chelsey Wright, Fairfield University's Assistant Director of Competitive Sports, "They

took part in four regular season races in New York, Pennsylvania or New Jersey and consistently finished top three for the men's and women's teams!"

Their preparations during the season, which saw them competing in events and races at Blue Mountain, Belleayre Mountain and Camelback Ski Resort, helped prepare the team for what would be an eventful – and snowy – national championship experience.

"The mountains in California got slammed with a lot of snow, which altered

race days to ensure everyone was able to compete," Wright explained. "We showed up to a mountain with 3 feet of untouched snow and we camped out the lifts as they began to open," Streeter shared. However, he continued, the team made the best of a bad situation by constructing jumps and ramps out of snow for members of the club to do all kinds of flips and tricks they wouldn't normally be able to do. Despite the setback, the team was able to nab the third place honors

for the Men's Freestyle event as a team, cementing this season as a historic finish for the Stags. According to senior captain of the Women's Alpine team Mary Foley, the women's alpine team was able to take home fourth place honors, with

Club Ski finished their season with a memorable end placing third in the national championship.

Photo Courtesy of clubsports.fairfieldstags.com

the men's alpine team coming in fifth on the season in their league. Streeter acknowledged that although the team loves to see individuals place highly in their respective events, the thing that matters most at the end of the day is the success of the whole team. Compared to high school skiing or snowboarding, which is mostly individual, collegiate ski and snowboard is a team competition that relies on all members of the team to succeed.

Foley and Streeter both agree that the ability to make friends and other social connections are two of the most valuable parts of being members of the team.

When looking back at her season, Foley shared that "Overall, I loved spending time with members of our team and members from other teams in the conference. Ski racing is a small world, so many of our competitors were friends we have met prior to ski racing in college."

"We hangout often outside of typical event skiing," Streeter corroborated. "A big group of us go skiing every Wednesday as many of us don't have class."

Considering the social aspect, many new faces joined the team this year. Both Streeter and Foley shared that their respective squads grew with highly motivated and highly enthusiastic skiers and snowboarders that Foley says "positively contribute[s] to the whole team dynamic".

The memories and experiences from this past season, to Foley and Streeter, will never fade.

"I feel like our abilities to work together to tackle challenges we have experienced as a student-run team have made us incredibly close and have created life-long memories," Foley stated.

Offensive Juggernaut Propels Baseball to Victories

By Billy McGuire
Assistant Sports Editor

After a previously successful week that saw the Stags take two out of three against Manhattan College in a weekend series as well as picking up an additional win in a weekday tilt against Yale University, the Fairfield University baseball team continued its strong play this past week in matchups against Quinnipiac University and the University of Hartford. Playing a total of four contests between the two institutions, the Stags won all four to improve their overall record to 21-12 along with a 7-2 conference record in Metro Atlantic Athletic

Conference (MAAC) play. The Stags kicked off the week in a single-game date with in-state non-conference foe Quinnipiac University on Tuesday, April 11 at Alumni Baseball Diamond. The offense continued to perform at an elite level, hitting double digits in runs scored for the 15th time this season as they took the win, 13-3. Furthermore, every batter in the starting lineup managed at least one hit, combining for 16 hits and 24 base runners as a team overall. Quinnipiac began to suffer the damage at the bottom of the second inning, as the Stags managed to hit four consecutive singles in seven pitches, with

the later two culminating in the first two runs of the outing off of the bats of catcher AJ Donofrio '23 and infielder Dean Ferrara '25. Infielder Mike Becchetti '23 then caused an even bigger dent, as he smashed a three-run blast, his tenth of the season, to cap off the five-run rally.

After the Bobcats brought home two of their own at the top of the third, the Stags stormed back by expanding their lead to six thanks to a flyout off the bat of Ferrara as well as singles from outfielder Ryan Strollo '23 and graduate student infielder Noah Lucier. Two innings later, at the bottom of the fifth inning, the Stags went on another major five-run rally. The fun started when back-to-back doubles came from both Becchetti and Lucier, who ended up going five-for-five at the plate during the outing. A wild pitch then brought Lucier home, which also saw designated hitter Matt Bergevin '24 advance to second. Outfielder Matt Bucciero '26 capped off the rally by blasting a two-run homer to extend the lead to 11, giving the Stags a double-digit lead.

That was all she wrote, as the Stags did not score again and only gave up one more run at the top of the eighth to take the win, 13-3. In addition to their blistering offensive act, the pitching staff proved to be effective in their own right. Right-handed pitcher Kevin Kell '26 started the frame by throwing three innings and allowing two hits and two earned runs in the process. Succeeding him were lefties Blake Helmstetter '24, Billy Fitzgerald '23, righty Emmett Tolis '24, lefty Evan Berta '24, and graduate student righty Luke Marshall, who combined for only five hits and seven strikeouts in six innings thrown, an effective perfor-

mance from a strong bullpen. Bergevin pointed out that even though the Stags set a program record in home runs last season, he feels that the balance between contact and power is enabling them to be a more productive unit overall this season. "We're a unit. I mean, Noah Lucia started the season as the number nine hitter and he's leading the MAAC in doubles right now. So everyone is contributing no matter what role they're in. Bringing in coach Faye this offseason to lead the unit has helped a lot, and he's adjusted very well to each player and their respective skill sets."

Following the win, the Stags played a home-and-home series with the University of Hartford, playing host to the Hawks on Friday, April 14 at Alumni Baseball Diamond, before heading up north to West Hartford, Conn. for a doubleheader that took place on Saturday, April 15. The Stags picked up where they left off, as they sparked a three-run triumph at the bottom of the first, as Pagliarni singled to right to bring back Becchetti to knot the score at one. After a Bergevin walk, Bucciero proceeded to bring both of them off of a two-run double to right-center to give the Stags their first lead of the afternoon.

Following a nice rebound from right-handed pitcher and graduate Jake Noviello at the top of the second in which he kept the bases empty with the exception of a walk, the Stags did further damage control at the bottom of the second with a four-run rally.

Read full article at
www.fairfieldmirror.com



Photo Contributed by the Sports Information Desk

Baseball stands at 22-12 and has continued their offensive dominance throughout this season.

Lopez-Sénéchal Makes Fairfield History in WNBA Draft

By Brooke Lathe
Executive Editor

Five years ago, the Fairfield University athletics program could have never predicted the records and achievements that Lou Lopez-Sénéchal '22 would go on to shatter and continue to break even after her time as a Stag has ended. The alumna not only established her mark on Fairfield's court but on the University of Connecticut's and soon enough, College Park Center's too.

Early Life & Background

As the daughter of Carlos López and Sophie Sénéchal, Lou was born in Guadalajara, Mexico—yet, she spent her entire childhood in France as described in an article by ESPN. She grew up naturally athletic, as she dabbled in many sports including soccer and basketball, but decidedly stuck to the latter as she felt like “an equal” on the court even though her teammates were mostly older than her. As you can imagine, the rest is history.

Her Road to Fairfield

In 2017, Lopez-Sénéchal left France to attend North Atlantic's Basketball Academy located in Dublin, Ireland, which sparked the thought of playing collegiate basketball in America.

After applying to 280 schools in the United States, as shared in an article by ESPN, she heard back from a handful of colleges that offered scholarships. Among those was the University of Massachusetts Lowell, the University of Tulsa, the University of Akron, the University of Duquesne and finally, Fairfield University.

Joe Frager, Fairfield University's Women's Basketball head coach at the time, invited Lopez-Sénéchal to Fairfield, where he assessed her athletic ability as well as her personality. Following the interaction, she sent in her acceptance letter, acquiring her full-ride as a Stag and plotted her move to Fairfield, Conn.

Time as a Stag

In 2018, Lopez-Sénéchal joined Fairfield's women's basketball team at the height of 6'1 at the age of 19. And, throughout her four years as a Stag, she became highly decorated.

Lopez-Sénéchal was announced as the MAAC Rookie of the Year in 2019 as well as three-time MAAC All-Academic Team (2020-2022) and three-time All-MAAC First Team. In 2022, her senior year at Fairfield, she was named MAAC Player of the Year (only the third Stag in history) and the MAAC Championship Most Outstanding Player, as she made her way onto the 1,000-point club after shooting 604 in the 2021-2022 season, totaling her career points to 1,598 thus far.

Most notably, during her final season as a Stag, she led the team to the program's first MAAC Championship win in over twenty years, as she scored 24 points against Manhattan College. This secured them a spot in the 2021-2022 NCAA Championship, which unfortunately led to a 52-70 loss against the University of Texas despite Lopez-Sénéchal's 17 baskets.

According to fairfieldstags.com, Lopez-Sénéchal left a lasting impact on Stag history as “she ranks top-ten in program history in six categories,” which includes sixth in career points, sixth in 3-point field goals made (170) and second in 3-point percentage (.391).

A Year at UConn

Following four years of her undergrad at Fairfield, Lopez-Sénéchal walked across the Bellarmine lawn and went on to join the University of Connecticut's classrooms and basketball court for a graduate year. On April 23, 2022, she posted her official announcement on Instagram @loulpzs revealing her addition to Geno Auriemma's well-known team: “Very blessed and excited for this opportunity and to begin this next chapter! Thank you to everyone who has helped me get to this point.”

As a Husky, Lopez-Sénéchal played a total of 1,161 minutes, allowing her to earn 575 points and a 3-point average of .440. Following their 2022-2023 season record of 31-6, and AAC Championship game against Villanova, Lopez-Sénéchal and her team secured a spot for the annual March Madness tournament.

While the Huskies made their way into the Sweet Sixteen, they ended up losing to Ohio State with a 61-73 final score. Nevertheless, Lopez-Sénéchal ended her last collegiate match with a solid 25 points totaling her collegiate



Photo Courtesy @dallaswings Instagram

Lopez-Senechal (middle left) and third overall pick Maddy Siegrist (middle right) join their new team.

career to a combined score of 2,173 points between her four seasons as a Stag and one at UConn.

Lopez-Sénéchal earned First Team All-Big East and Big East All-Tournament team for the 2022-2023 basketball season.

Earning Her “Wings”

On April 10, 2023, the Women's National Basketball Association held its 28th annual draft at Spring Studios in New York City, N.Y. Eligible athletes consisted of NCAA Division I players that turn 22 years old during the year of the draft or are within three months of graduating from a four-year university. Lopez-Sénéchal not only checked the boxes of both of these requirements, but due to her undeniable skill and passion for the game, she was the fifth-overall draft

pick for the Dallas Wings.

As a result, Lopez-Sénéchal made Stag history as she is the first Fairfield University alumni to ever earn a spot on a WNBA team.

On her Instagram @loulpzs three days later on April 13, posted a smiling picture with the caption: “Hearing my name being called at the WNBA Draft is a moment I never thought would happen one day ... But it did a couple [of] days ago, and I will cherish it for the rest of my life. Crazy what a year can do to you. Super excited for the next chapter.”

The now 24-year-old will make her first appearance as a Pegasus with their first regular season match on May 20 at 1 p.m., only one week following her UConn graduation.



Tommy Coppola/The Mirror

Lopez-Senechal has was the fifth overall pick in this year's WNBA draft to the Dallas Wings after her collegiate career at both Fairfield University and University of Connecticut.