## THE MIRROR

Independent student newspaper

Week of March 29, 2023

Vol. 49 Iss. 16





"The Women's Rights are Human Rights" will be on display at the Walsh Gallery until July 1, 2023.

#### Fairfield Museum Celebrates Women's Rights with Walsh Gallery Exhibition

By Kathleen Morris Assistant News Editor

Elizabeth Hohl, Ph. D., commenced her "History Bites: Women's Rights are Human Rights" presentation at the Fairfield Museum and History Center on Thursday, March 23 with a joyful declaration.

"Happy Women's History Month!" Hohl exclaimed.

In her introduction, Hohl read from this year's "Proclamation of Women's History Month." The proclamation, signed by President Joe Biden, designates March as a month to "celebrate the countless women who have fought tirelessly and courageously for equality, justice and opportunity for women and girls and the United States and around the world."

According to an article published by the National Women's History Museum, Women's History Month began as Women's History Week.

"In 1980, a consortium of women's groups and historians—led by the National Women's History Project (now the National Women's History Alliance)—successfully lobbied for national recognition," the article states.

President Jimmy Carter declared the Week of March 8, 1980, as National Women's History Week. Seven years later, Congress passed Public Law 100-9 to distinguish the entirety of March as Women's History Month.

Each year, the National Women's Alliance publishes an official theme. Their website announced the 2023 theme as "Celebrating Women Who Tell Our Stories."

"The timely theme honors women in every community who have devoted their lives and talents to producing art, pursuing truth and reflecting the human condition decade after decade," the Alliance shared.

The current exhibition at the Walsh Gallery of Fairfield University's Art Museum, "Women's Rights are Human Rights," underscores the power of artistic expression in activating the fight for equality and the elimination of gender stereotypes. The exhibition includes seventy-nine women's rights and advocacy posters from around the world. It was organized and curated by Elizabeth Resnick, Professor Emerita of Graphic Design at Massachusetts College of Art and Design.

Resnick commented on the intended message of the selected artwork.

"In their collective visual voice, these posters promote women's empowerment and participation in society while challenging religious and cultural norms and patriarchal attitudes that subordinate, stigmatize or restrict women from achieving their full potential," Resnick explained.

Hohl, an Assistant Professor of the Practice in the Department of History, joins a group of faculty co-curators from Fairfield's Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies Program.

In addition to Hohl, the team includes Rachelle Brunn-Bevel, Ph.D., Johanna Garvey, Ph.

D. and Anna Lawrence, Ph.D.
Carey Mack Weber,
the Frank and Clara Meditz Executive Director of
the Fairfield Art Museum,
demonstrated her gratitude

for the curation staff in the Director's Foreword featured in the exhibition's catalog.

Weber thanked the individuals, who "worked with the museum staff to further

individuals, who "worked with the museum staff to further curate the exhibition to fit our space, and expanded the existing wall labels according to their areas of interest and expertise."

During Thursday's discussion, Hohl provided a glimpse into the exhibition by displaying and dis-

cussing posters from the collection.

First, Hohl framed her speech by outlining the broader significance of the exhibition's title.

The emergence of human rights discourse can be traced back to the eighteenth century. Hohl considered the research historian Lynn Hunt, who described human rights from the perspective of Enlightenment thinkers.

Hunt illustrated that,

"human rights requires three interlocking qualities: [they] must be natural (inherent in each person) ... equal (the same for everyone, regardless of race, class, gender and other facets of identity and universal (applicable across geographical boundaries)."

Hohl also cited key female figures who have shaped the course of United States history.

She noted that in 1948, "the Universal Declaration of Human Rights came to fruition under the expert leadership of Eleanor Roosevelt—a document that many groups sought for decades, including the National Women's Party," a political organization created to achieve women's suffrage.

Hohl also examined Hillary Clinton's 1995 address at the United Nations Fourth World Conference in Beijing. Clinton emphasized that

These posters promote women's empowerment and participation in society while challenging religious and cultural norms and patriarchal attitudes."

#### - Elizabeth Resnick, Exhibition Curator

"If there is one message that echoes forth from this conference it is that ... human rights are women's rights ... and women's rights are human rights."

Yet, Hohl acknowledged that "despite the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the many documents that followed, the failure to respect women's human rights materialized in countless ways: discriminatory practices

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

#### Distinguished Gentlemen Club Encourages Healthy Masculinity Among Students

By Max Limric Managing Editor

The Distinguished Gentlemen Club is a newly reinstated member of the plethora of clubs at Fairfield University. DG differs from the rest as it strives to create a better understanding of community among men of all ethnic backgrounds through discussion, service and social events.

Their mission statement declares that "this club will encourage its members to grow intellectually, spiritually and socially through informational meetings and planned activities that coincide with our club's ideals." It continues, "Members must seek to be committed to justice and the betterment of the community. We do NOT tolerate discrimination to others; no matter their creed, race, ethnicity, sex, sexual orientation, etc."

Vice President Luka Silva '25 describes that "DG fosters an open environment where men can speak on the challenges they face in society." He stresses that "members will not only be equipped with the resources to succeed as an individual but will also have a community of gentlemen who will support one another on and off campus."

President of The Distinguished Gentlemen, Ruben Rocha '25 explains the importance of the club: "I think it is important to discuss topics surrounding healthy masculinity with our peers and living up to our philanthropy goals as a club.

The Distinguished Gentlemen's E-Board works directly with Fairfield Professor and Clinician Jay Taylor as they question and explore "what it means to be a man in society and how society molds masculinity to be a certain way based on culture and history."

Silva stresses the importance of having these conversations as "many students on campus may be in need of a community who welcome this type of dialogue as many benefits stem from this form of communication because it helps men on our campus visualize their goals and aspirations."

This semester, DG hosted their Kick-Off Distinguished Gentlemen Discussion with a research study lecture with Professor Jay Taylor and invited guest speaker/author Mr. Jim Olayos.

Another upcoming event featuring Taylor is on March 30. His lecture and research study titled "Breaking Out the Man Box," "assimilates with the culture we want to spread on campus," Silva says.

Distinguished Gentlemen invited Jim Olayos, lawyer, president of Future Stars Basketball and Sports Academy in Fairfield county, and author of the book called "The Kindness Formula." His book is written in honor of his oldest son Jimmy Olayos who tragically passed away in 2021.

Silva describes that "Mr. Olayos was invited to speak about his book which touches on values and habits that [have] helped him, his children and the people around

him become ethically successful." "By bringing in such guests

and working with our resources here at Fairfield University, we continually seek to enrich our campus," he continued.

Silva expresses that "there is a sense of self-betterment and purpose" in their meetings and events. "We touch on many themes including idols, careers, fatherhood, success and community service."

The club's ideology is built upon the core Jesuit values such as Cura Personalis, Magis, and service as they believe that by instilling these values into

Members
will not only
be equipped with
the resources to
succeed as an
individual but
will also have a
community of
gentlemen who will
support one another
on and off campus."

#### - Luka Silva '25, VP of Distinguished Gentlemen

their club's ideology, "each member will benefit as a student and in the real world."

DG is open to anyone on campus—not just male students—as the club serves as a safe space for both men and women to discuss topics pertaining to masculinity. Silva states that even though "male students solely tend to come to our meetings, our events are open to everyone on campus and we have seen female attendance this semester."

DG also sponsors community service events at the Islamic Community Center in Bridgeport, Conn. and will participate in the "Walk a Mile in Her Shoes" event on April 29 in Downtown Fairfield in which a mile is walked in honor of sexual and domestic abuse victims.

Senior Remysfield Papillon, describes that upon first arriving to campus, the clubs mission of being people for others resonated with him. "When I came into campus one of the first clubs I encountered was the Distinguished Gentlemen. I was impressed by how they carried themselves and their dedication towards being people for others resonated with me deeply."

In regards to questions about what it means to be a man in society, they believe there is no right answer. Still, they hope that students will join them as they create a better understanding of community among men of all backgrounds and strive to fulfill the Jesuit value of "men and women for others."

## INSIDE

#### News

Humanitarian Action Club Helps Refugees in Texas

Page 3

#### Opinion

Fairfield Needs To Promote Sustainability

Page 5

#### Vine

FU Dance Ensemble Presents "Don't Stop the Music"

Page 8

#### **Sports**

Rocket League Team Wins MAAC Championship

Page 16

## DO YOU WANT TO PUT YOUR STAGBUCKS TO GOOD USE? CONNECT YOUR STAGCARD TO GRUBHUB

STARSHIP + GRUBHUB + LIBRARY

Library Dunkin' is now available for pick-up and delivery on the Grubhub app!

### Dunkin' Pick-up/Delivery Hours: Mon-Fri: 8 am-3 pm



### **Updated Levee Hours:**

Sun-Thurs: 5 pm-10:30 pm Fri-Sat: 5 pm-11:30 pm

### Fairfield at Night Delivery Hours:

Sun-Wed: 5 pm-10:45 pm Thurs-Sat: 5 pm-11:45 pm



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

3/21/23

4 p.m.

The Department of Public Safety assisted the Fairfield Police Department with locating a student on campus who had stolen a sign from a local restaurant. The sign was returned and no further action was taken by the Fairfield Police Department.

3/24

1 a.m.

A male and female student were found inside the construction site of Bowman Hall.

3/24/23

1 a.m.

Students in a townhouse were documented by the Department of Public Safety for the possession of a beer keg. The students were referred to the Dean of Students.



#### THE MIRROR

Incorporated 1977

Tommy Coppola, Editor-in-Chief Brooke Lathe, Executive Editor Max Limric, Managing Editor Julian Nazario, Copy Editor

#### **Editors**

Julian Nazario, Head News
Samantha Russell, Assistant News
Kathleen Morris, Assistant News
Liz Morin, Opinion
Abigail White, Head Vine
Jacqui Rigazio, Assistant Vine
Ryan Marquardt, Head Sports
William McGuire, Assistant Sports
Elizabeth McLaughlin, Coffee Break

Staff Photographer Kyler Erezuma

#### **Business Department**

 $\label{lem:com} \begin{tabular}{ll} Email: in fo@fair field mirror.com \\ William McGuire, \it Chief Financial Officer \\ \end{tabular}$ 

**Advisor** Tommy Xie

#### **Contact Information**

Fairfield University 1073 North Benson Road, BCC 104 Box AA, Fairfield, CT 06824 General email: info@fairfieldmirror.com

The Mirror is the recognized student newspaper of Fairfield University. Opinions and ideas expressed herein are those of the individual student authors, and not those of Fairfield University or its Board of Trustees

### Spring Break in Texas: Humanitarian Action Club Helps Refugees Arriving in the United States

By Grace Lannigan Contributing Writer

Over Spring Break, members of Fairfield University's Humanitarian Action Club traveled to Abilene, Texas, as they partnered with the International Rescue Committee (IRC) in assisting refugees who have recently arrived in the United States.

The International Rescue Committee is an non-governmental organization that aims to assist refugee children suffering in the wake of a humanitarian crisis in their home country. Children in the program range from ages six to 20. This necessitates a variety of services to deal with a wide range of needs.

A fundamental element of the services provided by IRC focuses on education, school support and assisting children in learning English to better assimilate them into the United States. Fairfield students and faculty participated in the Spring Break camp which entailed not only educational services but also extra-curricular offerings including taking children on museum visits, college tours and sporting events. Many of these are activities to which the children had never been exposed.

As encapsulated by Fairfield chaperone Sabnam Ghosh, "working with them (the children) reminded us that we were surrounded by a number of global instabilities and problems that we do not have to face on a pervasive level in our daily lives."

Sabnam explains that the health and wellbeing of the children in JRS are dependent on the care of staff and volunteer workers, and it is both "an honor and a grave responsibility" to uphold the safety of the children and be empathetic to their individual needs and concerns.

Humanitarian Action fellow
Bobby Schattle '25 reflects that "the trip
to Abilene proved extremely informative
both for myself, our group and the IRC."

Schattle notes that the children

both for myself, our group and the IRC."

Schattle notes that the children with whom Fairfield volunteers engaged were full of energy, funny and enthusiastic about engaging with staff and growing

in their understanding of various aspects of American culture and the English language.

majority of children at JRC have emigrated from the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Zimbabwe. Despite many of the childrens' primary language being Swahili, volunteers felt little to no impasse

by the language barrier; rather, JRS community-building work encouraged engagement and friendship that bridged both cultural and linguistic lines.

Chaperone Danushka Bandara felt a special connection to the mission at IRC as he drew connections between working with the refugee children in Abilene and his work with refugees in his native Sri Lanka as he says, "having worked with refugees before in my home country, I felt I could use my own experience to contribute to the trip's success."

Students and staff have collectively echoed how their work with the children enabled them to fully realize the extent of the security and safety in their own lives as they have noted the childrens' reality which is tainted by chronic instability and crisis.

Authentically listening and learning from the children is one of the most important aspects of volunteer work at JRS, and Fairfield students were able to offer assistance both in meeting the children's practical needs as well as their emotional and mental health yearnings to ensure that their experience at JRS is one of holistic growth and integration into the broader community.

In the aftermath of the trip, Fairfield students and staff have noticed



volunteers felt lit- Fairfield students assisted refugees in Abilene, Texas.

how resonating of an experience their work with JRS has proved to be.

First-Year student Kevin Camy notes that volunteering at JRS or a similar refugee assistance organization is "an experience that everyone should take advantage of, and the opportunity to connect with the people allowed him to challenge many preconceived notions and implicit prejudices."

As reflective of the broader mission of Fairfield University's Humanitarian Action Club, proactive discussion and firsthand learning from the JRS trip helps to further the club's goal to raise awareness about myriad social and humanitarian issues that reside both in international communities and within the United States itself.

Volunteering at JRS or a similar refugee assistance organization is "an experience that everyone should take advantage of, and the opportunity to connect with the people allowed him to challenge many preconceived notions and implicit prejudices."

As reflective of the broader mission of Fairfield University's Humanitarian Action Club, proactive discussion and firsthand learning from the JRS trip helps to further the club's goal to raise awareness about myriad social and humanitarian issues that reside both in international communities and within the United States itself.

### Meet Dakota, Fairfield's Beloved Emotional Support Dog

By Julian Nazario Copy Editor, News Editor

Professor Carole Pomarico sat waiting in the Egan School of Nursing conference room with a table filled with two big files of papers with comments from former and current students, pictures, research information and newspaper clippings from both The Fairfield Mirror and other national publications. However, the topic of those files and news articles was not centered on Professor Pomarico or on the days on which she was giving classes in the old nursing building.

They were focused on her eight-year-old dog and Fair-field University sensation, Dakota.

"Well I was doing a lot of research about college students and how students are stressed out and how animals help them, especially dogs, and so I brought the idea to my Dean and I asked her permission to bring my dog to the Egan School ... and she said yes," explained the professor as to what where the origins of Dakota at Fairfield University.

The 2008 recipient of the Florence Nightingale Award for Excellence in Nursing went further and highlighted how Dakota "knew what to do" once she got to the nursing building.

"She got into the elevator, went into the classes, greeted students; she just knew what to do."

Initially, Dakota got certified as an emotional support dog to support her new role in the nursing community. Still, as it became more clear to Pomarico that Dakota was a dog with a purpose, she proceeded to get her certified as a therapy dog and a Canine Good Citizen, certifications that her dog holds since 2018. Once that happened, "she became the dog of the Egan School."

Meredith Wallace Kazer, Ph.D., APRN-BC, FAAN, Dean of the Marion Peckham Egan School of Nursing and Health Studies, echoed the comments of Professor Pomarico in a separate statement, saying that "we couldn't have known the impact she would have" when Dakota arrived years ago.

"Over the subsequent years, watching students lay next to Dakota on the floor, seeing the smiles and comfort, the release of stress and the feelings of joy she brought to our university community, has been overwhelming," said Kazer. "We are beyond grateful that Dakota found her way to Fairfield."

Despite being associated with the Nursing school and having her "home" in the Dean's office, Dakota has impacted Fairfield University students throughout the entire campus. An example of this has been with her visits to the Animal Lovers



Professor Pomarico and Dakota have participated in multiple campus events.

Club, the DiMenna-Nyselius Library and most recently, she was part of the Wellness Center booth for StagGiving Day.

For students, having a therapy dog has been a great addition to campus. As documented by Professor Pomarico, Dakota's presence can make anyone's day.

One student who filled out her "a dose of Dakota means to me ..." feedback paper, said "[Dakota] is everything that is sweet and soft in the world. I love to see her and rub her behind her ears."

The same student also added to her statement that Dakota "has a calming presence."

Another student that also com-

pleted Pomarico's paper shared that "a reason I chose Fairfield was because Dakota is part of the Egan family."

At past events where Dakota was present, students have told Pomarcio that they wished their respective schools and departments had a therapy dog. However, Dakota is for now the only therapy dog approved by the University to interact with students as bringing other therapy dogs to campus is a lengthy and multi-step process for the owner and the university.

Dakota, a pioneer dog on campus whose tenure at Fairfield started in 2015, has definitely impacted students and also her owner's life.

"Makes me feel great; I love it," exclaimed Pomarico when asked how she feels about her dog pioneering the therapy pet program at Fairfield and the impact that it has had on students. "I think that if I've brought happiness and calmness and helped students adjust to college life and any personal issues they were having ... it just brings me so much joy."

CONTINUED ON WWW.FAIRFIELDMIRROR.COM

## Rev. Daniel Joslyn Siemiatkoski, Ph. D. on Importance of Jewish-Christian Relations

By Samantha Russell Assistant News Editor

"Engage with people who also care about the common good," urged Rev. Daniel Joslyn Siemiatkoski, Ph. D., as he recounted the history of and explored the ways to combat antisemitism in America.

Fairfield University's 17th Annual Jewish-Christian Engagement Lecture offered students and staff the opportunity to hear Dr. Siemiatkoski discuss the nation's prevalent challenges with bigotry. The Aloysius P. Kelley Center Presentation Room held the event on Wednesday, March 22, which was titled "Antisemitism and the Far-Right: A Challenge to Jewish-Christian Relations."

Dr. Siemiatkoski began his speech with an introduction to the history and evolution of antisemitism and white supremacy in America. However, the bulk of his time regarded the major challenges these concepts pose to Jewish-Christian relations.

These challenges, as told by the speaker, settle themselves into three categories: conspiratorial thinking, the institutional decline within the Church and a tendency towards illiberalism.

During his address, Siemiatkoski highlighted the composition of antisemitism as complex mindsets and tools used to eliminate the Jewish population from Christian societies.

As noted in its title, the speech emphasized specific actions of the far-right political standing. Although threats of antisemitism in the far-left are still worthy of concern, he emphasized the vitality of recognizing its apparent damage as it stems from the other extreme.

"In the context of the United States, the threat of antisemitism on the far-right is a greater material concern," he advised. "This is because far-right antisemitism is a well-documented cause for acts of murder, violence and mayhem against a U.S.-Jewish community in the past decade."

The difference between anti-Judaism and antisemitism was a point Dr. Siemiatkoski made sure to cover in the early moments of his talk. According to him, the difference lies in how Jews are treated socially.

Anti-Judaism occurs from the distinction Jewish people have curated between themselves and white Europeans. The theory states that Jews demonstrate a set of apparently different qualities that are shown simply in their essence.

"Jews are then portrayed in their essence as the eternal enemy for Europeans or, in a US context, for white people," reported Siemiatkoski. "They can never be made into an equal because their essence is always the one inferior to and in conflict with European society."

Hence this disparity, he asserted that white supremacists aim to remove Jews from society. Antisemitism, on the other hand, is a worldview formed by conspiracy theories. The speaker elaborated on how

white Christians present Jewish people as an

"all-powerful, malignant force responsible for all the problems in the world." In fact, he warned that antisemitism is a branch of conspiratorial thinking that is and will be used to reject democracy.

He also discussed an overarching narrative of the Christian religion: that America is blessed by God, and Christians must fulfill God's will for their country. Not only does this narrative perpetuate cultural degradation, but it also privileges those under that specific worldview.

"This [white, cultural] identity and this worldview is based on conflict. It uses an 'us versus them' dynamic that polices who does and does not count as an American," said Siemiatkoski.

In essence, antisemitism is a tool of hatred that operates under white nationalism; it elevates the goal to eliminate the Jewish population, similar to the plan of Nazi Germany.

This annual lecture was proudly co-hosted by Fairfield University's Bennett Center of Judaic Studies and the Center for Catholic Studies, with efforts to unite two presumably different groups.

Positioned at a Jesuit University, a center for Judaic Studies may seem "counterintuitive," as proposed by Glynn Dynner, Director of the Bennett Center of Judaic Studies. However, he continued to explain its duty to become a "bridge between Jews, Catholics and other communities."

We do this both through immersion into very specific aspects of the Jewish experience, and through events that increase awareness about wider, humanitarian issues," such as monthly Shabbat services and dinners.

Siemiatkoski noted that because the ideas of Christianity and white identity are fused together into a single notion, people who adopt those ideas are more inept to cause and encourage violence towards outsider groups, such as Jews.

"Once a person has adopted this worldview of white, Christian nationalism, surveys show they also have high degrees of disposition towards racism, xenophobia, anti-immigration views and authoritarianism," he revealed.

Another symptom of this belief is that conspiratorial thinking which drives nationwide prejudice.

The speaker laid vast attention on the "Great Replacement Theory," a conspiracy theory that sits at the heart of antisemitism. This theory suggests that the Jewish population, and "other global elites," are "plotting to replace white, Christian Americans with non-white immigrants."

The Great Replacement Theory hints at a sort of white genocide that is simply not true. At the "Unite the White" Rally in Charlot-

tesville in 2017, protesters chanted the phrases, "You will not replace us," and "Jews will not replace us."

Similarly, Nicholas Fuentes, political commentator, Christian and self-proclaimed antisemite and white supremacist, stated in 2021, "We are coming for you," as well as, "We are willing, ultimately, to die for our cause," towards the people who have "disrupted" America.



Dr. Siemiatkoski emphasized prevalent issues faced by Jewish Americans.

These statements, as described by Siemiatkoski, not only endorse the Great Replacement Theory but incite considerable acts of violence against those "disruptors," who are portrayed as a threat to American purity.

As Siemiatkoski grew further into his speech, he touched upon the fact that social media has established an atmosphere for antisemitism to flourish. The "Christian lies" that spread about the Jewish population, in the form of outlandish conspiracy theories, have created a mainstream type of danger.

"This is not an issue far away from you," he spoke. "Violence is only a matter of time." He pondered which "American patriots" will have the courage to simply take that next step.

Siemiatkoski also explained the concept of words leading to actions. Although antisemitism may begin as a theoretical belief, it transforms into an action that is feasible and, finally, one that is necessary.

'This history [of violence and expulsion] tells us that rhetoric about hidden enemies and sinister plots has real, social consequences," he said. For the final third of his speech, the

scholar switched gears and brought his and his audience's attention to Jewish-Christian relations—another roaring purpose of his lecture.

Although they have faced significant challenges, positive relations still exist between the two religions. It is the duty of Christian churches not only to conduct self-examinations but to actively partake in making real amends towards antisemitism. These amends can be as simple as recognizing the New Testament as a Jewish text.

The second challenge posed to uplifting Jewish-Christian relations is an institutional decline. Siemiatkoski inquired his audience about the frequency with which they

attend church. Fortunately for the point of his argument, not many people raised their hand.

He predicted that by 2050, Christians will not be the majority in America. And, with fewer Christians and fewer people attending church, there will be less support and funding to build up Jewish-Christian relations.

He reminded his audience that the power lies with Christians to rework these relations into something better. However, when you have people like Fuentes endorsing violence and separation, it is difficult to meet those amends.

A solution? Siemiatkoski voiced this question: "We have to ask how the Church's teaching against antisemitism can be disseminated effectively in the future."

He believes it is a problem of ignorance. If racists and antisemites knew better, they would not think the way they do-which ties greatly into the roots of conspiracy theories.

The final challenge discussed was the emergence of illiberalism, or anti-liberalism, which "rejects the core assumptions of the modern political systems of western liberal democracies." Instead of embracing values like pluralism and multiculturalism, it embodies authoritarianism and traditionalism.

Siemiatkoski claimed that we as a society are moving out of the modern era, a period that relied on liberalism. Now, those liberal ideas as well as democracy are being challenged. "That [is] what the Jan. 6 [attack

on the Capitol] was!" he exclaimed. In line with this idea, reshaping Christian identities in an illiberal pattern shifts the meaning and construction of Jewish-Christian relations altogether.

> CONTINUED ON WWW.FAIRFIELDMIRROR.COM

### Walsh Exhibit Amplifies Issues Through Feminist Lens

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

in education, employment, health care as well as inadequate representation, voter suppression, damaging stereotypes and violence." The exhibition seeks to amplify "these

issues as well as messages of hope and empowerment visible through a feminist lens," Hohl reiterated. Hohl continued, expounding that "feminists aimed to end all forms of oppression because, as Fannie

Lou Hamer declared: 'Nobody's free until everybody's free."

The Fairfield Museum and History Center supplied colorful notecards and pencils for audience members, who were invited to contemplate and comment on the display of posters. Hohl facilitated the dialogue, which elicited poignant responses that confirmed Hohl's belief that "the legacy of feminist resistance is manifested in the poster art of our exhibition."

This first poster, created by French artists Julie Ruffin and Sabrina Benlemqawanssa, was designed to endorse women's right to education.

The poster depicts an image with dual meaning. The striking illustration, set on a black background, portrays a fountain pen that is reminiscent of the shape of a woman's body. The poster's text reads "Éduquer Ne Se Conjugue Pas Assez Au Féminin," which translates from French to "Educating is Not Conjugated Enough in the Feminine."

The phrase is a nod to the grammatical variations of the French language and alludes to issues of illiteracy among women. Hohl contextualized this issue, mentioning a 2019 United Nations report that revealed: "750 million adults could not read and write a simple statement [and] two-thirds of those adults were women." Globally, activists continue to expose and address

such injustices. Hohl referenced Malala Yousafzai, who bravely campaigned for the education of Pakistani girls, and illuminated that "the global struggle for women's right to con- LoMonaco's class, voiced her enjoyment of the trip. trol their own bodies is repeatedly displayed in these posters.

The second poster, "Leave My Body Alone" by Canadian artist Anita Kunz, is a startling rendering of these struggles. The stomach of the headless body of a naked woman has been transformed, overtaken by an enormous mouth. The mouth is open wide and accompanied by the poster's exclamatory title, which is scrawled in a white font.

Hohl observed that "the shout comes from the gut rather than her mouth—a different version of a full-throated scream," which could be identified as a cry for help as "laws, policies and practices are spinning out of control [and] horror stories [are] abound on the news."

The posters showcased at the "History Bites: Women's Rights are Human Rights" represent a fraction of the entire exhibition. The audience, which encompassed both men and women, expressed their excitement to visit the full gallery.

Dr. Martha S. LoMonaco, an author and the Director of the Fairfield University's Theatre Program, meditated on her "deeply moving and exhilarating" visit to the Walsh Gallery. LoMonaco, the recipient of 2023 Lucy Katz Award, felt it was "complete serendipity" that the exhibition duration aligned with American Women Playwrights, her Social Justice course.

"Since theatre is all about creating powerful images—on stage and in show marketing—that convey the core social justice issues of the play, the 'Women's Rights are Human Rights' posters deeply resonate with our work," LoMonaco communicated.

Her students were able to uniquely engage with the artwork, as they "chose posters that captured the essence of plays [that they] already have read and also imagined new plays that might be written inspired by other posters." Maddy Kurnik, a first-year student in

The different art styles of each poster were gor geous, and the overall message was really powerful," Kurnik said. "It was an amazing experience to witness this gallery with my classmates, and I would definitely go see it again."

"The Women's Rights are Human Rights" exhibition opened on Jan. 20 and will be on display until July 1, 2023. The exhibition is located on the Fairfield campus, within Regina A. Quick Center for the Performing Arts. It is open to the public from Tuesday to Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and admission is free. For more information and to access a virtual tour of the exhibition, please visit https://www.fairfield.edu/museum/womens-rights/.

In closing, Hohl reminded attendees to continue developing new perspectives within the exhibition's overarching theme of women's human rights.

"Even when we restore the rights of everyone, how do we eliminate misogyny, racism, ethnic hostilities and other forms of prejudice?" Hohl probed.

The exhibition symbolizes the necessity of continuing the conversation of women's rights. The importance of this sentiment is concretized by the quote highlighted in the exhibition's marketing materials. The poster memorializes an excerpt from the journal of Audre Lorde, a civil rights activist and radical feminist. It reads, "Your silence will not protect you."

As Women's History Month draws to an end, Hohl urges her audience and viewers of the exhibition to reflect once more on the words of Hillary Clinton: "We must recognize that women will never gain full dignity until their human rights are respected and protected."

Editor: Liz Morin Email: elizabeth.morin1@student.fairfield.edu

## Opinion

# Fairfield Needs to Start Advocating for Itself as a Sustainable Campus

By Liz Morin Opinion Editor

Climate Change needs to be addressed better in the education system.

That is our problem here. I, and a majority of teens and adults, likely didn't learn about global warming until high school, and even then, it's taught as a mere requirement.

I remember my dad teaching me about it in middle school, and then I learned nothing else about it until my junior year of high school when I took Environmental Science.

Even then, the world's global warming wasn't even uttered until the second half of the year. After I originally learned about the detrimental effects of climate change, I was committed to doing everything I could as an individual.

When I saw the lack of climate education my high school was offering, I founded our school's Climate Action Club to try and make our school more sustainable. The issue with that? The administration didn't listen. They didn't want to give up even a fraction of their money to buy more recycling bins which are a mere \$20 on Amazon.

When I was applying to colleges, I did look at their commitment to sustainability policies. There was a pretty sharp difference across schools. For example, I remember being blown away by the University of Vermont's commitment to sustainability. One of the first things they said on my tour was that they are a 100% green cam-

pus that doesn't sell any plastic. They use renewable electricity, and all of their food is grown locally. I would use the University of Vermont as an example of a school that does it right and as an example to follow.

Following my experience in Vermont and coming down to Fairfield, the drastic difference in the commitment to sustainability is visible. Fairfield University certainly has sustain-

ability policies in place. The website brought me to a 43-page document with faculty and staff contributions. It seems in-depth enough, going as far as to critique the school's use of cleaning supplies.

I get that implementing sustainability is hard and expensive, so it may take years for policies to be enacted. The document shows that some ideas are estimated to start from 2025 to 2027. But to know that there are plans in place is definitely calming.

However, my next question is, why does no one on campus know about these policies? Before looking at the document, I would have thought that Fairfield couldn't care less about its impact on the environment. There is plastic everywhere, from the plastic



The Leaders for Environmental Action (L.E.A.F.) Club hosts several beach cleanups throughout the year.

bags and containers that are used at the Stag Diner and food trucks, to plastic drink bottles sold everywhere.

I distinctly remember going to Sushi-Do one day with my reusable water bottle and being almost forced into getting a bottled drink because it is part of the meal swipe.

It doesn't help that there have been several occasions where the water refill stations have had red or yellow lights meaning the filter needs to be changed. There have been cases where this has lasted for weeks.

I remember that my first time going to Fairfield beach ended up being after a party had just occurred—I was disgusted. There was trash everywhere, and not a single person was around and picking it up.

The Leaders for Environmental Action Club at Fairfield has to come through and clean up the mess that the student body left behind. Though not as bad, there have been quite a few times that I've walked around campus, and there were pieces of trash just thrown on the ground. The funny thing is there are trash cans everywhere on campus.

That leads back to my first statement the issue is a lack of

climate change education. There is a considerable difference between taking a course on a topic versus caring about a topic. I have to take STEM classes for the Core curriculum, but do I feel strongly about any of those topics? Absolutely not.

What I'm saying is there's a difference between taking a course about a topic to get a grade and scratching off another core requirement rather than taking the class because it interests you. So while Fairfield is providing Sustainability and Environmental Science courses, it seems students lack the motivation to use what they're learning in the classroom in the real world.

Overall, I'm not quite sure where the issue lies here. Fairfield seems to provide resources and classes for students along with clubs like Leaders for Environmental Action at Fairfield, also known as L.E.A.F. club.

The club provides several opportunities for students to engage in sustainable activities such as beach cleanups. So why is this club not talked about more? In fact, why are Fairfield's sustainable practices not talked about more, and how do we fix that problem?

I think the issue lies with Fair-field not advocating for itself as an ecoconscious school.

This brings me back to the University of Vermont example. Within the first five minutes of my tour there, they announced their declaration to be a completely eco-friendly school.

They advocated for their environmental awareness clubs, and there were posters hung everywhere. This is something that could help Fairfield. From the beginning, tours should mention all of the sustainable initiatives Fairfield is trying to implement.

Orientation should mention it, the Fairfield Instagram should post more about it, there should be posters hung and more attention should be directed toward events L.E.A.F. runs.

We need to make it known from the moment you step on Fairfield's campus that we care about sustainability.

If the message is thrown under the rug, no student will go searching for something that they don't even know is there.

## The College of Arts and Sciences Professors Deserve More Appreciation

By Kaitlyn Conroy Contributing Writer

"At Fairfield, we believe that how you learn is just as important as what you learn." I found this quote on the Fairfield University website. It is essentially what a liberal arts education is all about.

It is why I personally love having a liberal arts education. The classes I take outside of my majors still relate to how I am learning and make me a more well-rounded student overall.

I was never really one to complain about the Magis core, as I went undecided for my entire first year. The Magis core helped me explore what I wanted to study because it gave me a variety of introductory classes that allowed me to hone in on what I wanted to major in.

Not only is Fairfield known for its liberal arts education, but it is also known for its top Business and Nursing programs. The Dolan School of Business is the largest school on campus, with 2,181 undergraduate students. The Egan School of Nursing and Health Sciences has 703 undergraduate students. The two most popular programs at the schools are Finance and Nursing, respectively.

With a strong population of students in both of these schools, it would make sense that some people raise the question of whether the other programs at the school feel underrepresented.

I reached out to professors in Egan, but they did not share their opinions on the matter. I also reached out to some of my professors who teach subjects in the humanities for their opinion

on the subject.

Professor Emily Orlando of the English Department told me that she believes that "there is a discrepancy between the College of Arts and Sciences buildings and those that house those two professional schools. Both the Business school and the Egan school have newer, more modern, very beautiful buildings compared to the buildings of the [CAS]."

Professor Orlando said that she remembers the days when Donnarumma used to have torn carpets and outdated classroom furniture throughout the building.

Now, there have been some modifications in the building, such as new carpets, smart TVs, upgraded restrooms and modern classroom chairs. However, it does not compare to the new Dolan School of Business or Egan buildings. She finds that "these discrepancies can lead prospective students away from studying the humanities."

I agree with her statement on the buildings. I find that the buildings can show who is more strongly favored within the University. It would be nice to see CAS get a new modern and beautiful building like Nursing and Business.

It would show that the University really does treat all the schools equally. I also wanted to see what students had to say about this. Sophomore Communications major Olivia Scott does not feel overshadowed by the Nursing school since "nurses are going to be saving people's lives one day." I did not get any comments about feeling overshadowed by the Business school.

Personally, I think that the Business and Nursing schools are not affecting my educa-

tion in any way. The professors within CAS are incredible. I can only speak from personal experience, but I find it so easy to connect with them better because they are so passionate about what they teach.

I have learned so much from my professors. I am an English and History student, and both departments are great. You can really tell just how much the professors love what they do and are so excited to share it with their students.

If anything, I feel that they are definitely underappreciated by students who are not in CAS. I find that students outside of CAS completely overlook these professors and their work. They view their classes as just mandatory classes to graduate with, so they do not appreciate the work their professors have put into the subject they are teaching. I have noticed this in a lot of my classes.

I am also in the process of searching for an internship. I want to start off by saying that the CAS Career Center is incredible. They have been so much help to me this entire year in starting my career-finding journey.

I went to the career fair a few weeks ago in hopes of finding something to apply for. However, I found that so many of the companies there were looking for majors other than those in the humanities. I think I only found two companies to talk to out of the large number that was there.

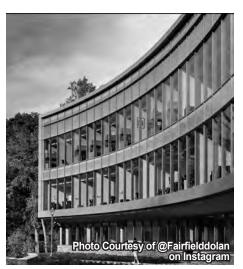
Where is the recognition for those in the humanities or the arts? As someone who personally is not interested in any field business related, it is really hard to find an internship for someone pursuing an English and History degree. I felt re-

ally underrepresented at the career fair.

Do I sometimes feel underrepresented at Fairfield because of the strong population of Business and Nursing students? Sometimes. However, it is not really affecting my education in any way.

As I said before, I think the professors within CAS are incredible. I do not regret choosing to study the humanities at all. Internship and job opportunity-wise, I can feel a tad overshadowed

However, nothing is really affecting my education which is most important. I do believe, however, that those working in CAS deserve more appreciation than what they receive.



A majority of Fairfield students study within the Dolan School of Buisness.

## The New Extended Levee Hours Makes Getting Food a Lengthy Time Commitment

By Julian Nazario Copy Editor, News Editor

Sorry, but the new Levee hours don't make much (if any) sense.

During spring break, Stags Hospitality announced on their Instagram page that the student-favorite, The Levee, would be expanding its hours of operation to stay open until 10:30 p.m. on weekdays and thus establishing itself as Fairfield's late-night food destination. However, not many people, myself included, noticed that the additional 30 minutes of operations would result in the Levee opening at 5 p.m., six hours less of operation during weekdays. This is a bad trade.

I have to say this before going further into my rant: I like the idea of having a true "late-night" food option on campus, just not at the expense of eliminating their lunch offerings.

At a recent Fairfield University Student Association (FUSA) Senate meeting, they were talking about how they were working with Matthew Dinnan, Vice President for Auxiliary Services, to change the hours of operation of The Levee. Like everyone else there, I was also really excited about the idea of having a food option open until midnight even if they wouldn't accept meal swipes. Sometimes you just need to have a slice of pizza to stop your stomach from making weird noises that alert you about how hungry you are!

Another reason why I'm so opposed and conflicted about these new Levee hours is that there has been an increase in the waiting lines and times to order that only started right after spring break. For example, last week I went to the Levee on Monday and Tuesday at around the same time (9 p.m.)

just to find the line at the front door and the waiting period being almost half an hour. I honestly don't know whether it is because of a possible lack of workers, students deciding to go, once again, at the same time to eat, or if it is a consequence of students going to The Levee for dinner because they cannot enjoy lunch in the best dining place on campus.

One thing has to be clear: there shouldn't be any change without consulting the whole student body, not only the FUSA senators in one committee.

Another thing that should also be clear ... we need The Levee to go back to its previous hours of operation if that guarantees that it will remain open for lunch and ensure that the line goes back to an acceptable length.



Students are expressing frustration with the new operating hours at the Levee.

# Winter Break Proves to Be the More Restful and Engaging Break

By Amy Magagnoli Contributing Writer

As humans, we need breaks in our lives. Whether it be a break from school, work or even from people, we need a break in order to stay mentally stable and "recharge" ourselves.

A break consists of pulling yourself away from the things and activities that you normally do to relax and open your mind up to simply just focusing on yourself.

Without taking breaks, we can't be successful in our goals and careers, as a break allows us to grow and be more productive while increasing our energy levels and ability to focus.

Throughout the eight months in which students study hard, focus on their classes and focus on their futures, we become burnt out at times and are in need of a break.

That is why each semester, students look forward to the two big breaks of the academic school year: winter and spring.

Which break is more effective? Both of these breaks give students an



opportunity to recharge and come back to finish the semester off strong or to start the next semester. However, due to the length (about a month)

and holidays that are present during the winter break, winter break is more effective at allowing students to have a mental reset from the Fall semester stress.

To begin, winter break begins at the end of December. Students go home after finishing their final exams from the Fall semester.

At the end of the semester, in December, students' families may celebrate holidays such as Hanukkah and Christmas, in which both holidays consist of families coming together, where all individuals are present and spending time with one another. Holidays are a very special time for all families.

Not only may families celebrate Christmas or Hanukkah, but they are also able to celebrate the New Year during winter break. Last winter break, I went to the gym, worked on myself and spent time with my family.

Personally, I believe winter break is more relaxing for students, as students have much more time to reflect on the semester and recharge for the next semester.

When students come back in the spring, it is a new year, which symbolizes new beginnings. Overall, I think winter break is more relaxing for students, as they can take much more time to focus on what they need to work on while being able to spend time with their families

On the other hand, spring break occurs

in mid-March and lasts just over one week.

This year during my spring break, I traveled outside of the country with lots of friends and relaxed in a tropical location.

Even though I intended to relax on this five-day vacation, I felt as though I did the exact opposite. In all honesty, after this year's spring break, I felt like I needed another break afterward to recover from all the stress.

Most of us come home extremely sick and tired from spring break, which does not allow us to be successful in finishing the rest of the spring semester.

As this is my opinion, many may still believe being in a tropical atmosphere with your friends is most definitely a break. However, for me, this is not a time when I am able to mentally reset and relax.

Without any holidays present during spring break, we are most likely not coming together with our families, which is very unfortunate, as holidays allow us to see the importance of life and spend time with the people who will always be there for us.

Because as we know, friends may come and go, but our family is forever, and mentally, it is always good to spend some quality time with your "forever" people.

Winter break symbolizes everything new. A new year, a new semester and a new you.



Whatever went wrong in the first semester, you can change and be the best student you know you can be during the second semester.

During this time, students can set new goals, rest up, get a job and find new ways to keep their bodies healthy.

When returning to campus after this long break, it feels so good to see your friends and finally get back into a routine that sustains your goals.

Like I said in the beginning, a break is when we pull away from activities we normally partake in.

During spring break, we are most likely partying and spending time with friends, which is what we do every weekend when we are at school.

Winter break allows us to partake in new activities, ones that will better our own well-being and mental state.

Even though winter break may be more effective, both breaks give everyone an opportunity to forget about what is going on at school and start fresh when they come back to begin or finish off the semester.

# "Can Congress Even Keep Up?"

Tommy Coppola Editor-In-Chief If you're someone who follows along with current events and politics like myself, you might find yourself upset at how Congress acted in their hearing with Shou Zi Chew, the CEO of TikTok.

I share a similar sentiment to a lot of members of my generation who are outraged as well. If you weren't able to catch this hearing or keep up with the fallout, basically, a bill has been circulating in the U.S. Congress to ban the popular video app TikTok due to the danger that it possibly presents to users. But in the specific hearing, Congress threw all types of questions at Chew and seemingly did not do their homework completely.

Our elected officials are concerned that TikTok, run by a Chinese parent company called ByteDance, is taking a good amount of our personal information and feeding it to the Chinese Communist Party as an article by Reuters notices. Whether that is true or not is not my place to say; what I am concerned about, however, is the lack of care, research and attention that Congress showed ahead of this testimony.

Chew shared his company's efforts to block out harmful content, make the app less addictive and to protect data of users so that no foreign influence is controlling the app.

Staring in the face of a complete ban of the

app in the U.S., Chew was very composed and reassuring to a Congress that seemed almost fully united in their skepticism.

But what I noticed, like many others, is that Congress seems out of touch with modern technology, and is making a problem out of something that could have been addressed in many other avenues since the dawn of social media.

The idea that TikTok is the problem seems pretty general. Representative Jeff Jackson of North Carolina's 14th District is a Congressional newcomer as of this election cycle, but has been open and candid on social media about his thoughts.

In a Twitter post on March 27, he wrote that the "TikTok congressional hearing was brutal, but the issue is much broader than just one app." He explains that this could also be an issue with all forms of social media, not just TikTok. I agree, and I think that even if there is a problem there, it is a bit late to make a problem out of it.

He seems to use the word "brutal" in reference to how out-of-touch older members of Congress appeared. According to a CNN article, Buddy Carter, a representative from Georgia's First District, seemed staunchly convinced that TikTok tracked pupil dilation of children. What?

Another North Carolina congressman, Rep.

Richard Hudson from the 9th District, asked if Tik-Tok accesses his home WiFi network.

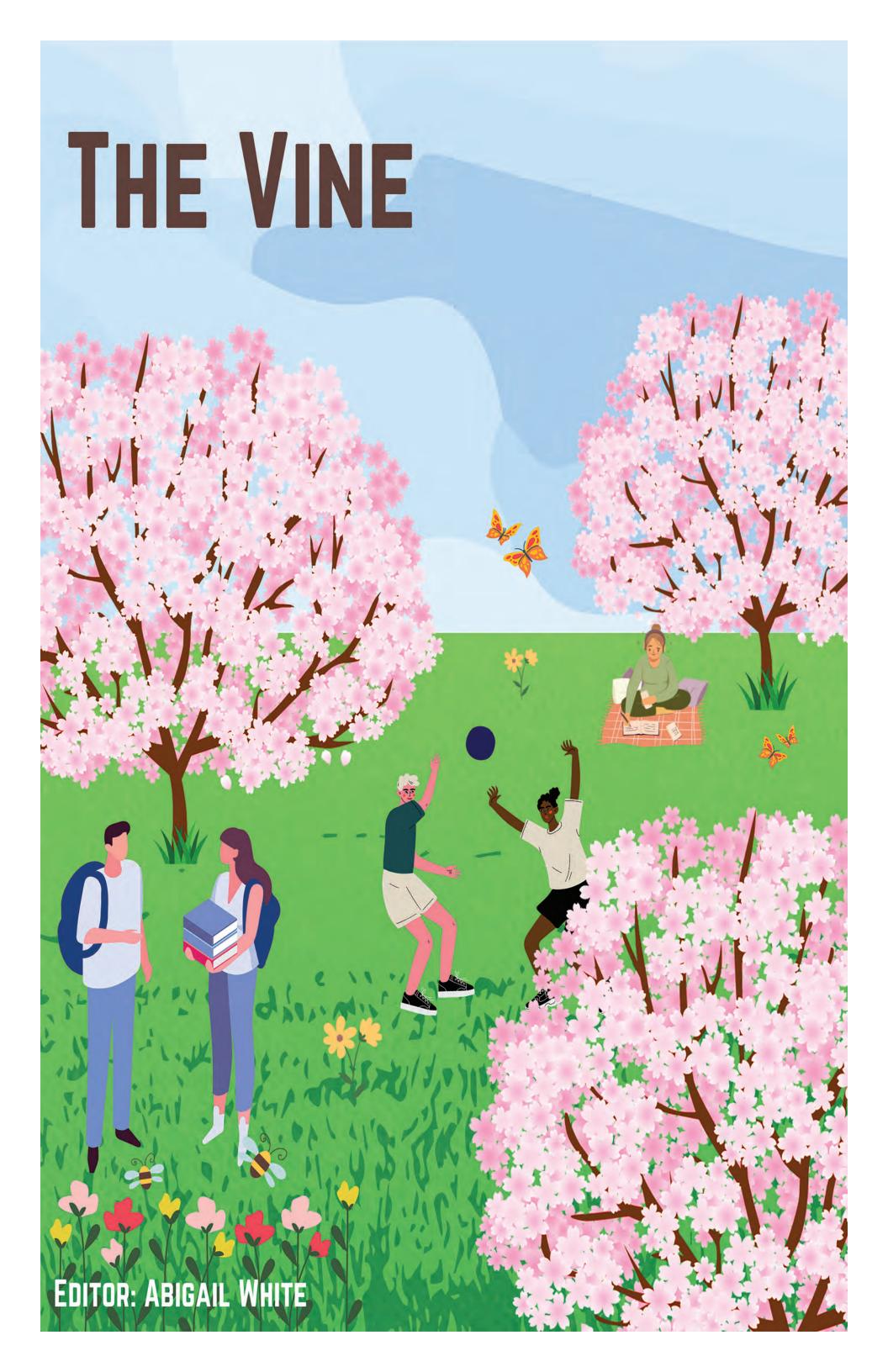
It is 2023, and they're curious whether an app, like all others that require internet connectivity, can access our home internet. Are we serious?

Another big thing that comes to mind is Connecticut Senator Richard Blumenthal's famous quote during the Facebook hearing, where he said "Will you commit to ending Finsta?" I'm not even going to try and explain this one, because I don't get it either. The list goes on.

This is where I wish there was more Generation Z representation in Congress because the people in the seats governing our nation and passing legislation are so hypnotically uninformed about the changing times.

I don't really care if TikTok gets banned, and if it is actually a security risk to our nation, then I suppose Congress will have been justified in its skepticism.

I think personally, the moral of the story is that I care that the people making our laws actually know what they're doing. We should have trust in the elected officials we choose, and we shouldn't fear that congresspeople are too behind to make educated decisions on behalf of us, our safety and our well-being.



## "DON'T STOP THE MUSIC" WITH FAIRFIELD UNIVERSITY DANCE ENSEMBLE

By Erin Resnick Contributing Writer

This past Saturday, I attended the annual Fairfield University Dance Ensemble (FUDE) dance recital, "Don't Stop the Music," and it was absolutely incredible. FUDE is the largest student-run organization at Fairfield with over 70 dancers showcasing their talent in styles such as tap, ballet, lyrical, hip hop, Irish step and more. This was the first time in the club's history that the recital was completely sold out, selling over 700 tickets in the Quick Center!

I am proud to say that many of my roommates and close friends are involved in FUDE, and I know firsthand how much work is put into these shows. These dancers have worked tirelessly for months to learn, practice and perfect their dances for this show, and I can assure you that it was worth it to see the end result. From the graceful and emotional ballet performances to the energetic and powerful hip-hop numbers, every single dance was mesmerizing to watch. While it is almost impossible for me to choose a favorite, I want to highlight a few of my favorite dances and what made them so enjoyable to watch.

Having had a (very brief) dance career myself, tap performances have always been one of my favorites. From the song choice to the choreography, "Higher" choreographed by sophomore Ainsley Corriveau was incredibly entertaining to watch. Everyone in the audience could tell how much rehearsal went into this piece because the taps were so clear and together. There were so many moving parts that came together to make an amazing performance that the whole audience enjoyed.

My next favorite was a Broadway jazz to life! dance entitled "Chicago" choreographed by senior Grace Filippi. This number involved a mashup of songs from the Broadway musical, "Chicago," and could not have been more enjoyable to watch. The choreography of each section of the mashup created such a unique portrayal and interpretation of

I am a sucker for a pretty ballet dance and "My Way," choreographed by senior Maria Boyle was absolutely breathtaking to watch. The fluidity and simplicity in the movements, combined with the beautiful costumes, had the entire audience holding their breath in awe. You can never go wrong

FUDE seniors pose together before their last annual showcase.

the story. The movement and costumes also contributed to the performance overall and had me smiling in my seat.

Known to me as the "bright pink pants dance," the hip-hop number "16 Shots" was choreographed by a former member of FUDE, Cait McKearney '22. This dance was high energy and the dancers really attacked the choreography. This was one of my favorite dances because the facial expressions and fun costumes really brought the dance

with picking a Frank Sinatra song and I'm positive everyone in the dance made Mr. Sinatra proud.

Photo Courtesy of @fudanceensemble on Instagram

Speaking of good songs to dance to, the lyrical number performed to Whitney Houston's "Greatest Love of All" was captivating. This number was choreographed by Elliot Enriquez '25 and really captured the emotion behind the song. With so many girls in one number, it can't be easy to choreograph a piece with so many moving parts, but Elliot managed to pull it off effortlessly.

The Irish Step dancers are always a crowd favorite and they did not disappoint this year. From the Ed Sheeran hard-shoe dance to their dance battle against the tap ensemble, every dance was a hit. My favorite thing about the Irish dancers is that they look like they're having so much fun on stage throughout every dance they perform!

Finally, the dance that stood out to me the most was the Mamma Mia Broadway jazz number choreographed by Joni Medzadourian '25 and sophomore Kate Enriquez (tap). This number was at the very end of the show, and yet the dancers had so much fun energy throughout this whole dance. I found myself smiling ear to ear for the entirety of the dance just watching how much fun they were having on stage!

I am often referred to as the "dance mom" of my friend group, which is a title I hold with pride. For two years in a row, I have watched from September to March as my friends, and all of the dancers, put in so many hours a week to learn and rehearse their dances. I have seen tears in times of frustration and indescribable relief and pride when you finally nail a section of your dance that you haven't been able to get for months.

No matter how many times I had seen the dances before the show, either when my roommates practiced in our room or showed me a video from rehearsal, I was still blown away by the talent these dancers have. The dance ensemble here at Fairfield University is filled with incredibly talented dancers and choreographers who should all be proud of themselves for the incredible show they put on. If you didn't have a chance to go to the recital this year, mark your calendars for next year's performance (I know I'll be there!).

## Sunshine and Studies: The Best Outdoor ly spots On Campus

By Christina Silvestri Contributing Writer

As flowers are planted in front of Canisius and at the feet of Lucas the Stag. students want to spend as much time soaking up the spring sun as possible.

Already, I've seen the Quad turn into a football field, picnic spot and tanning spa. But with warmer weather comes the end of the semester, meaning an abundant workload.

This does not mean you have to be stuck in the library until May. The Fairfield campus has plenty of outdoor study spots perfect for finishing up a paper on "The Canterbury Tales" or studying for your Organic Chemistry final.

My go-to spot for a relaxing sunny day is the Quad.

I bring my backpack and a large blanket and pick whichever spot speaks to me

The top of the mound is a good spot to be on display, but I prefer a more low-

The great thing about spreading out on a blanket is that you can do



book, a hammock would be a fun choice.

I have never done this myself, but it is certain that on a nice spring day, you are sure to see someone hanging around campus in a hammock. This might be best for work that requires only one material, like reading or doing work solely on your laptop. Just find a few trees and hang out!

If you are looking for something more private, take a stroll down to Bellarmine

You can take your lawn blanket here or occupy one of the benches. This study spot is by far the most serene.

The sound of the water and the plants blowing in the breeze create a tranquil environment to get some work done.

You should not encounter too many people here, but definitely watch out for geese and turkeys!

College students are chronically indoors throughout the school year. So "carpe

Seize the day and welcome the warm weather.

Breathe in the fresh air and put on your sunglasses while you dive into your Consumer Culture homework.



Dear Brooke,

Course registration is coming up and I'm having a hard time choosing

classes, any advice?



By Brooke Lathe **Executive Editor** 

"Dear Brooke, course registration is coming up and I'm having a hard time finding classes and figuring out what to choose. Any advice?"

With five registration periods under my belt, I feel like I know the ins and outs of these stressful weeks pretty well.

The routine I have been using for years has become incredibly easy to pick out what courses I want to pick—but maybe that's just because I'm a rising Senior with only a few requirements remaining. You underclassmen are lucky!

#### **Degree Evaluation**

The first step is to always log into your Degree Evaluation. You can find this on my.fairfield. edu and it will tell you all of the courses you've taken, your current

classes and the credits that are still required for graduation. Within each section, there will only be specific courses that will register for its completion—so be sure that they are the correct CRNs.

When you click on the courses, the site will give you a list of every single class that is offered but only a handful will actually be available for the upcoming semester. These courses will say "Fall 2023" and provide the seat number maximum and the time selec-

#### Plan Ahead

After noting what classes are needed and available, head over to the Course Registration tab on my.fairfield.edu. One of the sections will offer students to "Plan Ahead" and you can make multiple plans with different course selections. This is incredibly helpful when registration day comes because you can pick your first

plan which will automatically register you for all of your top picks. If one or more classes are full, you can choose your backup plans instead of frantically searching for another course as seats fill up.

One big note is that if you are an underclassman or do not have priority, make sure to check if the original classes you picked are already taken up by seniors and athletes. You can find this by clicking on a class and looking at the "enrollment/waitlist" section.

There were many times when I was an underclassman and prepared my schedule early but I had to frantically change it the night before because they were all full.

#### Rate My Professor

As always, people will have personal opinions on whether or not they enjoyed a specific professor, but as a rule of thumb, I always like to skim through reviews. Once you see which course section you have your eye on, you can see who is teaching the class under the "instructor" tab.

A quick search on the website will bring you to the course and professor rating and additional comments about a student's experience.

I would suggest not taking the comments fully to heart but more so as a guide—as far as I'm concerned, most of my professors have been amazing.

#### Mix The Core With Your De-

This doesn't apply to all majors, but as an English Creative Writing student, there aren't that many options offered each semester for my degree. As a freshman, I foolishly thought that if I had gotten my core classes over within my first two years of school, I could spend the last two years only taking classes that I truly enjoyed and would cater to my future career.

Do not do that-otherwise, you will be like me and struggling to fulfill your degree because there aren't enough courses available for the current semester. So, make sure to take a good look at every single class that is available for the upcoming semester because it might only be taught every three years and you'll end up missing a class that could truly benefit or interest you!

Fall registration always takes place bright and early at 7 a.m. for every section. For seniors, registration takes place on April 11, rising juniors are scheduled to register on April 14, sophomores on April 18 and first-years on April 21.

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

## FLYING OFF TO FLORENCE FOR SPRING BRE

By Abigail White Head Vine Editor

Spring break has come and gone, and with it came a lot of fun travels and activities for Fairfield University students.

Having never traveled for spring break during my almost three years of college, I knew it was time for me to pack my bags and head somewhere fun this year. The destination I chose was Florence, Italy!

This may seem like an ambitious trip for just a one-week break from school, but for me, this trip has been a long time coming. As my senior year of high school ended abruptly due to the start of the pandemic, I missed out on a lot of opportunities, one of them being a senior trip to Europe.

Though I did not choose to study abroad in college myself, I am fortunate to have some friends who are currently studying abroad in Florence, presenting me with the perfect opportunity to visit!

traveling completely alone, I was quite nervous. However, I found that my excitement to see my friends and explore a new city and culture greatly outweighed my nerves.

Passing over the Swiss Alps on my connecting flight, and watching the skyline of the city and the Duomo come into view as the plane landed in Florence only heightened my excitement.

The first thing I noticed when I set foot in the city was the difference in architecture. I can definitely say that the buildings in Florence look a lot different from the skyscrapers I am used to in a lot of cities in the United States. With colorful buildings, beautiful alleyways and cobblestone streets, it is safe to say that the architecture of Florence is beautiful and unlike anything I have ever seen before.

Upon meeting up with my friend, I was given the grand tour of the city (it didn't matter that I was completely sleep-deprived from my overnight flight-I was far too excited to sleep!) Being my first time overseas and first time I saw the Duomo, the Ponte Vecchio (a bridge

> that stretched across the Arno River) and the basilica of Santa Croce.

I was fascinated by the fastpaced bustle of the city-people working in cafes, rushing to class, riding vespas around the streetsand I have to admit, I found myself a bit jealous of my friends who's daily commute to school includes passing the Duomo.

The nightlife in Florence was just as entertaining as the daytime

My friends and I tried a variety of restaurants, ate delicious food, went out for gelato many times and even found ourselves dancing with strangers as a street performer played a tune on the accordion one night. The beauty of being in a city such as Florence is stumbling upon all sorts of opportunities. Whether it is live performers, artists or unique stores filled hand-crafted goods, there is always something to see or experience.

With only a week to take in the sights and cultural experiences that study abroad students have months to take in, I knew I had to take in as much as I could.

One of the first activities we had planned was a tour of multiple

wineries in the countryside of Tuscany. With beautiful sweeping hills and vineyards and, of a day trip to Rome, a city I have always course, the delicious meats, cheeses and olive wanted to see. Though the sights of the oils provided for us to try, I felt like I was living city such as the Colosseum, the Trevi Fountain, out a scene in a movie. Another sight-seeing activity we knew we had to do was climb to the top of the Duomo.

It was close to 500 steps and took a lot of effort, but the reward was worth it. To see the city from the top of the Duomo was an incredible take-in. I will admit that I am still amazed that we made it up all those stairs.

One of the highlights of the trip was watching the sunset at the Piazzale Michelangelo, a spot in which the entire city can be

We opted to rent the electric Bird scooters and ride them to the Piazzale Michelangelo rather than walk all the way up the large hill, which was a really fun experience. Once at the top, the view was incredible.

The view of the mountains looming in the distance against the backdrop of the pink sky was breathtaking and watching the sun sink below the distant city to the music of a live guitarist was incredible.

On my last day before I had to return



A view of the Duomo from The View on Art Rooftop Bar

the Spanish Steps, Vatican City and the Sistine Chapel were incredible, I will admit that it was a hectic day filled with a lot of walking. If you are planning a trip to Rome in the near future, I would suggest splitting it into two days if you really want time to see all the sights. Nevertheless, it was a great experience and I was excited to explore another city other

home for school, my friends and I took

than Florence during my time in Italy. Though it was a short trip, I feel that I really got the full experience of Florence. I even picked up a few words in Italian: "Ciao" and

"Grazie." Okay, so I am nowhere near fluent, but it was still a cool experience to try and communicate in a country where people speak a different language.

I am grateful to my friends studying abroad for hosting me and showing me around the city that they now call their second home. It was an experience I will never forget and one that makes me want to travel more in the fu-



An alleyway in Rome demonstrates the colorful and unique architechture of Italy.



clean the floors.

member to, we dust the top of our Micro-

fridge and my nightstand. I also like to use

and light switch.

disinfectant wipes or spray on surfaces

we touch a lot, like the door handle

If you live in housing with a

By Erica Schindler Contributing Writer

After months of cold weather, spring is finally here. With this change of seasons also comes spring cleaning.

For college students in particular, this is a perfect time to tidy up and get organized as we enter the final stretch of the academic year.

Dorm rooms can accumulate mess and clutter quickly, but with the right cleaning plan, anyone can tackle their room's mess. Here are some ways you can get your room in order ahead of the incoming warm

Designate a weekly cleaning day. Every Sunday night, my roommate and I take some time to clean and organize our room.

We were somewhat inspired by trend-TikTok videos demonstrating "Sunday resets." These videos feature people cleaning their dorms, apartments or houses and can actually be pretty motivating.

Sunday nights work for us (and likely many other college students) because it's a time when our schedules are generally open.

By choosing one day to focus on cleaning, you can avoid worrying about cleaning during the other days of the week.

Try to stick to a weekly schedule for cleaning. Roommates can hold each other accountable, or you can even put a weekly reminder to clean in your calendar.

Create a cleaning routine Once you've chosen a day



The work can seem overwhelming, but Then we move on to wiping down our it can be helpful to split up tasks among desks and the windows. When we can resuitemates.

Fall into good habits to avoid clutter

It can certainly be distracting and difficult to live in an unorganized, cluttered room. If you're someone who thrives in a neater environment, it's important to stay organized. I have a few habits I try to follow to avoid disorganization.

Most of all, I make sure that everything has its place. I have an organizer on my desk that holds sticky notes, tape and other school supplies. I also have a container for my makeup and other products.

With a system like this in place, I don't have to leave clutter in random places for myself to clean up later.

Another habit I follow is to make my bed every day. A made bed provides a surface that can be used for things like folding laundry and it also makes for another place to sit in a small dorm room.

Getting rid of things you don't use in your dorm can also help cut back on clutter.

Spring is the perfect time for a refresh, give away or donate what you don't need and free up more living space for yourself

## NETFLIX SAYS GOODBYE TO "NEW GIRL"

Jacqui Rigazio

Assistant Vine Editor Attention to "New Girl" lovers near and

far, I regret to inform you that this title is no mere clickbait. The dearly beloved FOX series, "New Girl," was announced to be leaving Netflix on April 17, 2023. The series will be available for stream-

ing on Hulu and Peacock instead, but this shift feels quite drastic for "New Girl" fans like myself who do not have either of these streaming services. For the next three weeks,

noto Courtesy of @officialnewgirl on Instagram

The popular show will be leaving Netflix on April 17, 2023.

fans across the country will binge-watch the show to soak in the last moments they may have with Jess, Nick, Schmidt, Winston, Cece and Coach.

I started watching "New Girl" in seventh grade, and have been watching it on a continuous loop ever since. I'm not even

For many people-myself included-this show has been a constant source of laughs and happiness throughout the ups and downs of the real world. It quickly became

> my favorite show, and has remained as such for the past seven years. Therefore, I feel extremely qualified to present to you my master list of the five most binge-worthy "New Girl" episodes to watch before it is taken from Netflix for good.

#### BACKGROUND CHECK SEASON 4 EPISODE 6

This episode easily takes the cake for the most laughs in the series. A Sargeant visits apartment 4D to conduct a background check on Winston to see if he is fit to become a police of-

Things become more complicated when Jess reveals that she has been hiding a secret ... in the form of a huge bag of meth in her closet. The roommates try to cover this up so that Winston's chances of becoming a cop aren't ruined, but chaos ensues. Between Nick's inability to keep a secret, Coach recruiting a stranger to help with their charade and the supposed "meth" turning out to be aquarium rocks, this episode is comedycentral for any viewers.

#### QUICK HARDENING CAULK SEASON 2 EPI SODE 19

This is definitely one of my favorite episodes of "New Girl" by far. Tensions between Nick and Jess are higher than ever, which always makes me want to scream at my TV for them to just get together already.

Schmidt is dealing with his feelings of being in love with Cece but not being able to have her, and he projects these emotions onto a lionfish. After seeing a lionfish in an aquarium, he becomes captivated and insists that he must have it. This episode hilariously follows Jess and Nick's budding romance and Schmidt's ridiculous and metaphoric quest to obtain a lionfish.

#### PRINCE SEASON 3 EPISODE 14

In this iconic episode, Jess and Cece find themselves invited to a party hosted by Prince. The two best friends are ecstatic, while Nick, Schmidt, Winston and Coach try to sneak into the party. Nick lets it slip that he loves Jess, and the moment is painfully awkward when she freezes and says nothing back. But who better to help Jess with this dilemma than Prince himself?

Prince makes an appearance and helps Jess navigate her feelings, all while the guys are conducting ridiculous charades to get themselves into the party. Between Nick and Jess's love story and Prince's iconic cameo, this episode is a must-watch.

LANDING GEAR SEASON 5 EPISODE 22

This episode is a mix of everything "New Girl" does so well. Humor, romance, bittersweet emotions and even greater love for the characters are on full display. Schmidt is freaking out when he is trapped on an airplane on the day of his wedding. Chaos ensues as the roommates try to delay the wedding and Schmidt tries to get off the plane.

This hilarious but painful dilemma comes to an end as Schmidt finally gets back to the apartment to see Cece standing in her wedding dress at the end of a makeshift aisle. The beautiful couple spontaneously gets married in the Loft, where it all started. As a Cece and Schmidt shipper, this one had me feeling all the feels.

#### SPIDERHUNT SEASON 4 EPISODE 17

This is a classic, funny and lighthearted episode, exactly what "New Girl" does best. Schmidt becomes petrified when there is a spider in the apartment, which is revealed to be one of his biggest fears. The gang splits into teams, each designated a role of "jar man" or "smusher."

These pairings also serve as an excuse for Jess to try to find out why Cece has been acting so weird recently, to which Winston reveals that she still has feelings for Schmidt. This episode is full of laughs and iconic lines.

Clearly, I am not ready to say goodbye to "New Girl" just yet, and neither is my good friend Erin Resnick '25, who says: "as Netflix loses 'New Girl,' I lose my will to live." Honestly, so true Erin. For the next three weeks, Erin and I will be reliving our favorite moments from the series while we still can!

And if anyone wants to share their Hulu or Peacock log-in with me before April 17, shoot me an email.

## Taylor Swift: Tour, Tunes And Ticketmaster

By Fiona Killeen Contrinuting Writer

On Friday, March 17, about 69,000 people flocked to the State Farm Stadium in Glendale, Ariz. to witness the opening night of Taylor Swift's "The Eras" tour. Of course, in typical Swift fashion, she simultaneously broke a national record while performing. Madonna had previously held the record for the highest-attended female concert in America.

The opening night of "The Eras" tour actually broke this long-standing record. There is no doubt that the public demand and support for Swift was evident.

Prior to the actual concert, there was some turmoil expressed online regarding how Swift and Ticketmaster handled the sale of admission

In my opinion, companies such as Ticketmaster need to do a better job of preventing bots and spam accounts from inundating websites when ticket sales go live. While these bots may have not been successful in actually purchasing tickets, since they contributed to the crash of the site, genuine fans weren't able to purchase tickets if they were kicked out of the queue.

Another factor that I believe to be unfair was how people who had no intention of actually attending the concert, bought tickets at considerably lower prices than what they actually resold them for.

For people who were unable to get tick-

ets, many TikTok creators live-streamed the shows. Regardless of how chaotic the process to purchase tickets was, the success and anticipation for opening night demonstrated I thought it was creative how many fans selected a specific era or album to coordinate their outfits with. Swift herself also came dressed to the nines with many sparkly and



Taylor Swift performing on the opening night of The Eras Tour.

that fans have moved forward.

A hallmark of any concert, especially a Taylor Swift concert, is the outfits. Whether it was the fans who attended, or the actual performer herself, there was a lot of buzz surrounding what everyone wore.

show-stopping styles.

Many fans noticed how she wore a variety of different colored bedazzled Loubiton boots. I loved how each pair of boots coordinated with the color of the respective outfit. Christian Louboutin did announce that the

company would be outfitting her in custom red bottoms throughout the tour.

Another part of the show that I found exciting was Swift's announcement that she was going to perform a different acoustic version of a song at each show.I love the idea of each venue listening to a different song since it offers a moment of surprise and anticipation.

Since she only played one song from Speak Now ("Enchanted"), hopefully, the acoustic set will include more songs from this album. Perhaps the limited amount of "Speak Now" songs was due to the speculation surrounding Swift releasing the re-recorded album in the near future. As a "Folklore" fan myself, I was excited to hear that Swift performed so many songs from the indie pop album

Not only did she dedicate a substantial amount of show time to the album, but she also included some unexpected but well-loved tracks such as "My Tears Ricochet" and "The Last Great American Dynasty."

The monumental success of "The Eras" tour opening weekend seems to be the result of Swift's dedication to including what the fans truly want to see and hear.

Instead of just playing the most popular singles from each album, she took the time to reflect on what the audience would enjoy the most.

I think Swift's enduring commitment to valuing her fans plays a considerable role in her popularity and fortune.

# Inspiration and Upsets From The 2023 Oscars

By Liz Morin Opinion Editor

This year's Oscars were particularly interesting to me because I actually got to bet on them now that Massachusetts (my home state) has legalized sports betting. My dad and I split \$50 to take our picks, but we ran into a bit of an issue.

If you don't know how sports betting works, which I didn't know until I did this, the bet that is most likely to win will earn you the least amount of money. It's supposed to draw in different opinions so that DraftKings doesn't owe 1,000 people hundreds of dollars. I wouldn't have minded that with any other Oscars year because the winners are usually pretty random, but this year was different, because all of the wins were predictable from the start of awards season.

That's not a bad thing of course, though I can see how it can be controversial. I knew from the beginning that "Everything, Everywhere, All at Once" would sweep—that was the best movie I had seen in years, from the creativity to the editing, to the plot. I highly recommend it if you haven't seen it. The highlight of the evening was the attention that the film received because it truly deserved all of the love.

Obviously, this clean sweep wasn't great for my dad and I because we lost \$50, but I was happy to see that such an amazing movie did well at the awards. They won Best Actress, Best Supporting Actress, Best Supporting Actor, Best Director, Best Picture,

Best Original Screenplay and Best Editing. Michelle Yeoh and Ke Huy Quan were both the first Asian American actors to win for their respective categories.

While I am extremely happy for them and I loved the film, I think some other movies should have been recognized. Clean sweeps certainly show that one film was more dominant over the others, but I always found it kind of ruins the enjoyment of award shows.

"The Banshees of Inisherin," "Tar" and "Elvis" did not win any awards, which I think is a little ridiculous. "Banshees of Inisherin" was a phenomenal movie, and though not particularly plot-heavy, the acting was incredible, and it was great writing.

I thought they were a shoo-in to win some awards, with Colin Farrell winning Best Actor potentially, but they went home empty-handed. That's the issue with sweeps at award shows-it takes away recognition for the other amazing films that equally deserve the award.

Brendan Fraser won Best Actor, and I would say that not only was the win expected, but it was well deserved considering that Fraser was blacklisted from Hollywood for a decade after he spoke out about being assaulted by the former President of the Hollywood Foreign Press Association, Philip Berk.

He's such a great actor and a really nice guy, so I wouldn't argue that win. As for Best Actress, I didn't see "Tar" until after the Oscars, but I have to admit ... I liked Cate Blanchett's performance better than Michelle Yeoh's. I'm sorry!

I think it's because Michelle had such a great cast surrounding her, but "Tar" was really just Cate Blanchett. She carried the almost three-hour movie on her back, and I think she should have gotten some credit for it.

Jamie Lee Curtis won Best Supporting Actress, which the internet had a field day with. No one thought she would win, which is fair. I didn't even think she would be nominated. I had predicted Kerry Condon from "Banshees of Inisherin" or Angela Bassett from "Black Panther," as did most people.

Not that I don't think Jamie Lee Curtis is a great actress, but she was barely in "Everything, Everywhere, All at Once," and if anyone from that film should have won the Supporting Actress Award, it should have been Stephanie Hsu. She's new to the film industry though, so I'm sure she'll have her time.

I think the most confusing part was the mixed sweep between "Everything, Everywhere, All at Once" and "All Quiet on the Western Front." I have a strong dislike for war movies, so I don't plan on watching it, but from what I was told, it's one of those

movies that only a very niche group of people would watch. I heard it's good, but I certainly don't think it should have won nearly everything.

I was disappointed to see that it won Best Cinematography over "Elvis" because the cinematography in "Elvis" was one of the main reasons I enjoyed the film so much.

I think every year for awards season there is always some sort of controversy; from who was snubbed, to a strange outfit choice to the performances. This year, however, everything was relatively peaceful, and no one had much to dislike beyond the internet really wanting Angela Bassett to win Best Supporting Actress.

The performances were good, with Lady Gaga singing a slowed-down version of her song "Hold My Hand," which just proved again that Lady Gaga has some insane talent.

None of the other performances from Rhianna or Sofia Carson stood out, though admittedly, I was con-

fused seeing Sofia Carson because I forgot she existed after her "Descendent's" days.

Overall, I would say this was one of the better Oscars, and I would recommend all of the movies that were nominated!



## COFFEE BREAK

SATIRE, GAMES, PUZZLES AND MORE

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



#### **Mirror Staff Coffee Orders**

Iced Mocha with Oat Milk
Iced Vanilla Latte with Oat Milk
Vanilla Cold Brew with Almond Milk
Iced Matcha Latte
Pistachio Iced Latte with Whole Milk
Iced Vanilla Latte
Iced latte with Oat Milk
Iced White Chocolate Mocha

#### SUDOKU

	9			1			3	
		6	35	2		7		
	Z.I	Ē,	3		4			
2	1						9	8
		2	5		6	4		
	8						1	

#### **Triple the Fun!**

By: Julian Nazario, Copy Editor, News Editor

So apparently, I was the only one who received the memo about Coffee Break replicating The Daily Show model of finding a new host to their show, so here I am trying to be as corny and misleading as possible. (Editor's Note: Nick Silvia, if you're reading this, you're not being replaced, don't worry.)

Anyways, last week, Fairfield announced and celebrated that they accepted over 6,000 students out of the more than 15,000 that applied to the university, hoping to break the record for the biggest class in history (again ... as if we were going to get a Guinness record). Another thing they aim to break is the Starbucks oven, which apparently was never fixed but that's for another article.

After sending that email, the administration also released a plan on

Fizz under the username "@Eduardo-IsMyDean" announcing the demolition of the softball field to install 57 shipping containers as new dorms because "converting the townhouses to triples was not surprising enough" to students.

Some of my sources say that the complex will hold the name of a Hispanic priest to show how much the university cares about diversity on campus and because there are too many buildings named after Dolan and Quick. And, because some HBCUs have already used containers as dorms, Fairfield will be trademarking the phrase "the only university in the tri-state area with Airbnblooking dorms on campus."

Also happening last week ... National Week of Bragging About Having Round One for Housing and I have no

problem saying that I am proud of participating in this year's event for the first time here at Fairfield at 9:08 a.m.! For those in forced triples that were promised priority housing, thanks for believing so badly in Res Life (IYKYK).

Okay, I know that by this point you are extremely bored by my jabs about housing at Fairfield, so let's talk about something that's more controversial and has gotten more attention than the Res Life Instagram Live explaining that there was no such thing as "priority housing" for those who have survived living with their roommate and a rando in the third-floor lounge: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Well ... that was me attempting to do satire and I can confirm to you that I will stay just writing (actual) news. Hasta la vista baby!

## SPORTS

Head Sports Editor: Ryan Marquardt >> ryan.marquardt@student.fairfield.edu

Assistant Sports Editor: Billy McGuire >>william.mcguire@student.fairfield.edu



March 29	March 30	March 31	April 1	April 2	April 3	April 4
Softball at Yale University New Haven, Conn. 3 p.m.  Women's Lacrosse at Iona University New Rochelle, N.Y. 3 p.m.	No games scheduled Baseball at Mount St. Mary's University Emmitsburg, Md. 3 p.m.		Women's Golf Women's Intercollegiate at Prospect Bay Grasonville, Md. All Day  Men's and Women's Tennis vs Sienna College Fairfield, Conn. 12 p.m.	Women's Golf Women's Intercollegiate at Prospect Bay Grasonville, Md. All Day  Men's and Women's Tennis vs Mount St. Mary's University Fairfield, Conn.	Men's Golf Southern Invitational Fort Lauderdale, Fla. All Day	Men's Golf Southern Invitational Fort Lauderdale, Fla. All Day  Baseball vs Yale University Fairfield, Conn. 3 p.m.
Softball has six games	Photo Contributed by the sthis week, both home	Sports Information Desky	Softball vs Rider University Fairfield, Conn. 12 p.m., 2p.m.  Baseball at Mount St. Mary's University Emmitsburg, Md. 1 p.m.  Women's Lacrosse vs Marist College Fairfield, Conn.	TBA  Women's Rowing Holy Cross, Manhattan & Marist Teaneck, N.J. All Day  Baseball at Mount St. Mary's University Emmitsburg, Md. 12 p.m.		Softball at University of Connecticut Storrs, Conn. 6 p.m.
	st Rider University over	man and the state of the state	4 p.m.			

### Nancy Somera Named Next Volleyball Head Coach

By Danny McElroy Contributing Writer

Earlier this month, Vice
President for Athletics Paul
Schlickmann officially named
Nancy Somera to be the next head
coach of the Fairfield University
women's volleyball program. Somera will succeed longtime head
coach Todd Kress, who stepped
down in January to pursue another head coaching opportunity
at San Jose State University.

Somera comes to Fairfield as her latest stop in a long and illustrious career in collegiate volleyball, both on the court and on the sidelines. As a student-athlete at the University of Southern California, she was a two-time all-conference selection and contributed to a Trojans team that reached the Final Four in 1985, according to an official press release from fairfieldstags. com.

Upon graduating from

Southern California, Somera spent eight seasons as an assistant coach before receiving her head coaching breakthrough in 1999 for Oregon State University. Two years later in 2001, she would go on to lead the team to their first NCAA Tournament berth in 18 years.

Somera remained at Oregon State until 2005 when she took over as head coach for the University of South Carolina. There she guided the team for two years before taking a break away from collegiate volleyball.

Somera returned to the sport in 2014 as head coach of Division III Johnson & Wales University, and is fresh off the heels of a remarkable seven-year stint with the University.

After her first season, Somera began a run of six straight conference championships and NCAA Tournament appearances, earning Division III National Coach of the Year honors in 2017. She also served as Assistant Athletic Director during her time at Johnson & Wales, positioning her as a tremendous asset to Fairfield's athletics department at large.

"I believe Fairfield's growing academic reputation nationally, along with its emphasis on the holistic development of its students, will attract top talent to the program," Somera told Fairfieldstags. com. "I look forward to growing the program's strong tradition of success."

Doing so will provide Somera with a significant challenge in her new role after years of dominance under departing head coach Todd Kress. Between his two stints as head coach at Fairfield, Kress is the all-time winningest coach in both university and MAAC conference history, and just this past season led the Stags to the tenth regular season

conference championship of his tenure.

However, given Somera's long track record of excellence in

the collegiate sphere, fans of the Stags should have much to look forward to as this new era of Fairfield Volleyball begins.



Nancy Somera has been named the newest head coach of Fairfield Volleyball

#### In this week's issue...

- Men's Lacrosse Splits First Two Conference Contests (Page 14)
- Stags Place Ninth In The Battle At Rum Pointe (Page 15)
- Former Fairfield Coach Finds New Home (Page 15)
- Rocket League Team Tops Iona For First MAAC Championship (Page 16)

## Men's Lacrosse Splits First Two Conference Contests

By Ryan Marquardt Head Sports Editor

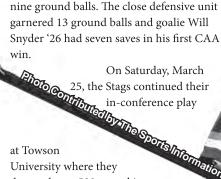
The Fairfield Stags men's lacrosse team opened up their Colonial Athletic Association regular season with a nail-biting win at Hofstra University, taking the win 12-11 on March 18. Like the final score, the box score reflected the tight contest with the only advantages being the Stags scooping up 31 ground balls to the Prides' 20 and Hofstra's four man-up opportunities to Fairfield's two according to the game's official recap.

The game started off hot for Fairfield with the Stags jumping out to a 5-2 lead with Will Consoli '26 and Jake Gilbert '26 each finding the back of the net in the first two minutes of the game. Hofstra then quickly battled back, tying the game at two apiece. Fairfield quickly snapped back with Bryce Ford '24 kicking off a three-goal run for the Stags with Consoli netting his second and Jack McKenna '25 getting the Stags a 5-2 lead. After the Stags took this lead, they did not give

it back, with Hofstra getting within one goal four separate times but never being able to take the lead.

With 9:04 left in the game, the Stags were up 10-9 and scored to get a two-goal lead with Consoli finding the back of the net for the fourth time on the day. Fairfield then would win a faceoff, kill some clock and Ford scored his sixth point of the day with his third goal with just 5:56 left in the game.

The only change to the score would be with less than a minute to go when Hosftra managed to score two goals and garner a third possession. However, the Stag's defense stood tall and held Hofstra one goal short of tying the game. The combination of Ford, Consoli and McKenna combined for ten goals and five assists totaling 15 points on the day. In addition, Max Paparozzi '23 also scored and Rob Moore '25 had two assists.



Furthermore, redshirt Sophomore

Dylan Smith aided the Stags, going 13 for

26 from the faceoff X and contributing

University where they dropped to a .500 record in the conference at 1-1. The Stags lost 11-7 and were outshot 37 to 32, went 8 for 22 on the faceoff X, had two more man-up opportunities and were out-ground balled 48 to 33 according to the game's official recap.

The Stags went down 2-0 early in the first quarter but managed to close the lead to 2-1 with 4:10 left in the first. Towson then rattled off two goals before Paparozzi netted one of his own with just nine seconds left in the first quarter making the score 4-2 in Towson's favor. The second quarter saw Paparozzi score his second on the day to close the gap to a one-goal game. Towson then managed to score two goals in the final minute of the first half giving them a 6-3 lead going into the break.

Coming out of the half, McKenna opened up the scoring followed shortly after by a Towson goal and then rounded out with a goal from Ford ending the third 7-5 Towson. The final quarter opened up with a goal from Consoli, making it once again a one-goal game before Towson managed to put the game away.

The Tigers scored four straight goals, making it an 11-6 game until Ford scored the Stag's final goal and the final goal of the game with 2:31 left on the clock making it 11-7.



McKenna and Consoli, who each scored one, and Consoli, who contributed with two assists, with Paparozzi scoring two of his own to round out the Stag's scoring efforts.

The loss dropped the Stags to a 3-6 record and 1-1 in the CAA. Up

to a 3-6 record and 1-1 in the CAA. Up next the Stags will host Drexel University on April 1st at 12:00 pm. For more information visit fairfieldstags.com.



Fairfield celebrates their win over Hofstra which was their first in-conference win of the season.

## Weekly 5x4

## Your 2023-24 5x4 Columnists: Tommy Coppola, Brooke Lathe, Max Limric, Julian Nazario, Liz Morin

# Because we have witty things to say ...

How was your March Madness bracket?

What's a show you've been binging recently?

Would you rather fight 100 duck sized horses or 1 horse sized duck?

Do you have Tik-Tok? What side of TikTok are you on?



Tommy Coppola Editor-in-Chief

Considering the fact that I had FAU going to the Sweet 16, I'd call it a win.

"The Mandalorian". Season 3 is awesome so far.

I think the one horse sized duck is a good way to go.

I have it, but I don't really use it at all.



Brooke Lathe Executive Editor

I didn't fill one out but I have been watching every game. My unofficial predications are UCONN and Iowa.

I'm dying to binge "Daisy Jones And The Six". Anyone willing to share their Prime passcode?

I am horrified by this question but I guess 1 horse sized duck. I would domesticate it.

Yes, but with much guilt. And strictly cooking and dog videos.



Max Limric Managing Editor

I made my first one ever this year because my younger brother asked me to. I got Princeton right ... but nothing else. "Narcos" while I'm waiting for "Abbot Elementary" to start up their weekly episodes again.

1 horse sized duck, easily. Even my steel toe timbs couldn't handle the 100 duck sized horses.

I do, but I delete it and re-download it 15 times a day. Pretty soon though it won't matter as it might get banned. Sad face:(



Julian Nazario Copy Editor, Head News Editor

I did not participate in making March Madness brackets, so...

Just finished my YOU marathon, so now I'm looking for new shows to waste my time with.

I had to read this 3 times, but 100 small horses would be so much fun.

Yes, I have TikTok with time limits and for some weird reason mine is a mix of politics, comedy and movie clips.



Liz Morin Opinion Editor

I haven't followed March Madness since middle school when we did a school wide bracket.

I just finished watching "The Last Of Us" and now I'm on a big "Succession" kick.

1 horse sized duck for sure. 100 of anything is too intimidating for me.

Weirdly, running TikTok because I'm training for a half marathon so I've been doing a lot of runningesq searches.

### Stags Place Ninth In The Battle At Rum Pointe

By Ryan Marqurdt Head Sports Editor

The Fairfield University men's golf team participated in the Battle at Rum Pointe in Berlin, Md. this past weekend, finishing in a tie for ninth-place alongside crosstown rival Sacred Heart University out of 17 schools competing. The teams played at the par 72 Rum Pointe Golf Course, which totaled 7001 yards on March 25 and 26.

The Stags were led by graduate student Michael McCarthy, who finished in the top-25 for the first time as a Stag, shooting two over par with a score of 74 in the opening round on Saturday, and was even on Sunday to tie for the 20th position in the 100-player field.

The next highest-ranked Stag was Killian McGinley '23, who finished four over par over the two-day tournament, placing him in a tie for 30th. At five over tying for 33rd was graduate student Jason Salemeno, who placed third for the Stags.

The fourth Stag on the scoresheet, Patrick McCarthy '23, ranked 47th of the 100-man field at seven over par. Rounding out Fairfield's top five finishers was Zachary Maloy '25, tying for 79th.

Taking the individual top spot home was Sacred Heart's Marcus Lim, who shot a 69 on the first day and then a 66 on the second day to win by one stroke at nine under par according to the official results of the tournament. Finishing in second was Kyle Underwood from Long Island University, who after just shooting one under par in the first round battled back with a seven-under second round and finished just one shot shy of tying for first. Underwood's second round would end up being the best single round in the tournament, beating Lim's day two total by one stroke but falling behind due to his shaky day one.

Despite Lim's performance, Sacred Heart was still an overall +17 in the tournament as were the Stags. Easily taking the win by 14 strokes was Long Island University, shooting a -15 on the tournament, including going seven under par on the final day. Their combined score on the first day was 280 and on the second was 281, demonstrating their dominant consistency. Rider University managed second place at an overall score of one under par, shooting a combined 284 on day one, and then as a team going three over par on the second day with a 291 score. They did secure second by just one stroke, though with Iona College and Colgate University both tying for third place at an overall even par through the two days, with Colgate shooting a 288 both days and Iona scoring 287 and 289 to keep them both perfectly

on par.

Rounding out the top five were Harvard University and Siena College, tying for fifth place at five over par in the tournament. Harvard shot 291 on day one and 290 on day two. Siena had a strong 289 day one and a 292 day two. Then Dartmouth University and Mount St. Mary's University finished in seventh and eighth scoring eight over and +10 in the tournament. Mount St. Mary's had a nice seven-shot cushion over the two ninth-place teams of Sacred Heart and Fairfield.

Fairfield had a better first day compared to their second day, as they shot +5 as a unit through round one at a combined 293 strokes. However, round two proved to

be more difficult for the Stags. They were +12 on the final day with a 300 combined score pushing them further down the leaderboard.

The best single day by a school was Long Island University's round one day of 280. The worst single round for a school was last-place finisher Hofstra University's round one, in which they shot a combined 316. Round two did not go much for them, with a 305 putting them in last with a +45 score in the tournament.

Fairfield men's golf will play again this upcoming weekend in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. for the Southern Invitational at The Falls Club. For more information, please visit fairfieldstags.com.



Graduate student Michael McCarthy led the Stags in the Battle at Rum Pointe with a finish in the 20th position of the 100 player field.

### Former Fairfield Coach Finds New Home

By Billy McGuire Assistant Sports Editor

The Georgetown University men's basketball program brought onboard a new head coach to right the ship next season, as they have plucked Ed Cooley away from Big East foe Providence College. Prior to his twelve-year stint manning the Friars, Cooley was the head coach at none other than Fairfield University, as he led the Stags for five seasons, from 2006 to 2011. Cooley finished his time at Fairfield with an overall record of 92-69, to go along with a 58-32 conference



New Georgetown coach Ed Cooley at his opening press conference.

record. His first two seasons in Fair-field featured some growing pains, as he went 13-19 and 14-16 in 2006-07 and 2007-08, respectively. He secured his first winning season in 2008-09, with a 17-15 record.

His last two seasons in Stag Country gave the program some of its most successful seasons in recent memory, as he led the Stags to a 23-11 record in 2009-10, finishing second in the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) that season with a 13-5 record. The big strides Fairfield took that season earned them an invitation to the CollegeInsider.com Postseason Tournament (CIT) that season.

Fairfield made it to the quarterfinals after a thrilling overtime win over George Mason University in the opening round, winning that contest, 101-96. He also guided Fairfield to a miraculous comeback, overcoming a 27-point halftime deficit to shock George Mason. The Stags came up short vs Creighton University, taking the loss, 73-55 in the process.

The Stags built on their previous seasons' success by finishing in first place in the MAAC with a 15-3 conference record, while going 25-8 overall. After being upset by Saint

Peter's University in the MAAC tournament, the Stags were invited to the 2011 National Invitation Tournament. The Stags found some success in the NIT, winning a hard-fought battle against Colorado State, 62-60, before coming up short in the next round to Kent State, 72-68. Cooley soon departed Fairfield to take the head coaching job at Providence on March 22, 2011.

In his twelve seasons at Providence, Cooley revitalized a floundering program and brought them back to a solid degree of respectability. After two rebuilding years, Cooley guided the Friars to five consecutive NCAA tournament appearances, before appearing in the 2019 NIT. Despite their success, Providence never advanced past the Round of 32, and only found itself climbing out of the Round of 64 just once. Providence returned to the Big Dance in 2021 after finishing atop the Big East conference standings that season with a 14-3 conference record while going 27-6 overall. This was Cooley's most successful season on the job, as the Friars advanced to the Sweet Sixteen after defeating the likes of South Dakota State University in the round of 64 and the University of Richmond in the round

of 32. The University of Kansas, led by future NBA first-round picks Ochai Agbaji and Christian Braun, came on top of the Friars, 66-61, in a hard-fought matchup. Kansas went on to win the National championship that season, but out of all of the opponents they faced leading up to their title, the Friars gave them the biggest scare, squeaking by them by only five points.

Cooley returned for one more season, which culminated in another NCAA tournament appearance before falling short to the University of Kentucky, then bolting for Georgetown. Cooley will look to turn around a Georgetown program that desperately needs to regain its identity after a tumultuous decade that has seen struggles under former coaches John Thompson III and Patrick Ewing.

It is also notable to see a former coach at Fairfield not only secure a position at a respectable program such as Georgetown but also accept a job at another Jesuit university. It may take some time for Georgetown to be admirable again, but Cooley knows how to build a winning program and culture, which he demonstrated at both Fairfield and Providence.

Photo@outlesyof@rocketleagueInstagram

## Rocket League Team Tops Iona For First MAAC Championship

contributed by McAloon, Fairfield

in the opening round, where they

completed a three-game sweep in

In the semifinal round, they

faced off against Manhattan College

According to an official bracket

from the beginning.

the best-of-five series.

By Tommy Coppola Editor-in-Chief

#### The Spark

When Ethan Godfrey first started his role as Program Coordinator of Competitive Sports at Fairfield University back in 2017, he held an information session with students to see how popular an Esports organization would be on campus.

Out of this came the idea for a casual Fortnite tournament, where 72 students came out, showing Godfrey and the campus community that Esports could not only survive at Fairfield but thrive.

As the E-gaming scene grew globally back in the mid-2010s, the Electronic Gaming Federation (EGF) rose to the occasion and established leagues across many different competitive video games for youth groups, high schools and especially colleges. EGF Founder Tyler Schrodt, a former student at Rochester Institute of Technology, began running events out of his dorm room, according to the website.

This created the opportunity for the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC), alongside EGF, to create an Esports program that planned to hold its first conference championship event on March 13-14, 2020, according to a MAAC Press release. Due to the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, however, the event was postponed to March 25, 2020, with players logging on from home.

#### E-Gaming Erupts at Fairfield

Godfrey stated that Fairfield stepped into the MAAC Esports scene in 2020. Since then, the program being offered at Fairfield University has grown to feature popular games like Valorant, Overwatch, Super Smash Brothers Ultimate, League of Legends and Rocket League.

Fairfield University's Club Esports President, Logan McAloon '25, spoke to the importance of Club Esports on campus.

"I want Fairfield students to know that Club Esports is a welcoming

and competitive organization that offers a variety of game titles," McAloon stated. "We are open to players of all skill levels; whether you're a beginner or an experienced gamer, there's never been a better time to get involved in esports."

🄰 @Fairfield Mirror

The best way to get involved in Esports at Fairfield is to join their Discord server, which is the "central hub" for getting involved according to McAloon. The discord link can be found at https://discord.gg/C892z-VRfBQ.



was held March 9 through March

Matthew "Matter" Baker '24, Luke "Lawexpress" Wagher '26 and William "Skout" Duffy '23 were the three starting players for Fairfield's team, who were able to dominate the regular season and secure the 2023 MAAC Championship.

With an undefeated season, winning all nine games and losing none, captain Baker and company had their sights set on the championship

took on in-state rival

Quinnipiac University, dropping one game to them but still breezing by for a series score of 3-1.

The championship round, which was a best-of-seven series, saw Fairfield pitting against Iona University, according to an article recapping the events of the tournament by esports.gg. This was a repeat of last year's Rocket League championship, with Iona coming out victorious in 2022

This year, however, the Stags took their revenge by sweeping Iona in

four games to become the 2023 MAAC Champions. They did not lose a single game throughout the regular season, and according to the same article, this is the first time Fairfield has found itself in the champion's column across any title, not just Rocket League

"Mostly, I would say that this year was the culmination of everything we had been practicing and refining over the last three years," Baker

The road to the championship required lots of work from the team. "To prepare for the tournament, we joined another online league to play against other teams from around the country," Wagher explained. "This gave us extra confidence going into the tournament since we knew that if we played our normal game, we would come out victorious."

#### **Building Chemistry**

As a first-year student, Wagher joined the team without knowledge of his teammate's playstyles; with this in mind, he had to work with his teammates to create a cohesive unit, which he claims only took "a few games".

"Another seasoned teammate, Sam Martin, decided to take the semester off, which led to a hole in our line-up," Baker explained. "Luckily the addition of Luke Wagher went seamlessly, and we all gelled quickly and easily. Our confidence level was high throughout the season, which carried us into and through the MAAC tournament"

Wagher and his teammates

knew the pressure was on during the final round, but channeled this energy into his best performance yet. "Since I was a freshman, I did feel a little pressure since nobody knew who I was so I just had to prove myself," he shared. "All of us were playing our best game and it really showed since we won the series 4-0 against Iona in a best of

"Octane" is the most popular car

in the game "Rocket League".

Baker felt the same about his strong performance, but his MVP win means more than just his individual effort.

"Rocket League is a team sport, and our performance was almost flawless in the final game. I obviously got the MVP Award for the championship, however, I really feel like it could have easily gone to any of my teammates," he shared.

Looking ahead, Wagher and Baker feel confident in repeating the team's success, even after Duffy graduates. They also look forward to seeing how the MAAC will shake out next year.

"Our goal will be to retain the championship title, but it won't be an easy road. I know of a lot of other schools who also have players graduating, so it will be interesting to see how things pan out," Baker stated.

#### Other ESports

The other Fairfield teams came up short in their respective tournaments but still displayed a strong performance regardless. Quinnipiac took home the Valorant championship, with Fairfield falling out in the quarterfinal round to MAAC newcomer Mount Saint Mary's University.

The Stags additionally fell to Marist College in the quarterfinal round of the Super Smash Bros. Ultimate bracket and lost to Quinnipiac in the opening round of the Overwatch 2 tournament.

However, they put up a strong fight in the League of Legends Championship Tournament, as they were able to move swiftly past Quinnipiac in the first round. They eventually lost to Manhattan College, whose program had an undefeated season according to the same article on esports.gg.



Left to right: William Duffy '23, Luke Wagher '26, Matt Baker '24 celebrate their first MAAC Championship victory.