



NEWEST SOPHOMORE RESIDENCE HALL

Sr. Thea Bowman Hall Officially Opens, Flooding Issues Reported



The new building officially open on Sept. 8, housing over 125 sophomore students, RAs and staff.

BY JULIAN NAZARIO
Copy, News Editor

Fairfield University officials unveiled on Sept. 8 a new six-person, suite-style sophomore residence hall in the western area of The Quad during a blessing event.

Named after Sister Thea Bowman, an African American woman from Canton, Miss. who dedicated her life to “spreading the joy of the Gospel and promoting cultural awareness and racial reconciliation,” the building will house the Sophomores Give Back program and is part of the efforts made by the administration to expand the campus housing capacity as Fairfield continues to grow.

Jennifer Anderson ’97, MBA ’02, the university’s Vice President of Marketing and Communications, said in a statement to The Mirror that the campus community was “thrilled” with the opening of Bowman Hall.

“We had a blessing ceremony and it was wonderful to see the community – students, faculty and staff – come together to celebrate the opening and visit with the student residents,” said Anderson. “We are excited that the residence hall will house the Sophomores Give Back program, which offers second-year students an opportunity to ‘give back’ to the Fairfield residential community through service, programming and mentorship.”

The blessing, performed by Campus Ministry Director Fr. Keith Maczkiewicz, S.J., ’04, better known to the community as Fr. Mac, was part of the “Fairfield Friday” events

that culminated with the Fall Activities Fair.

While many students celebrated the opening of the new residence hall in The Quad, Bowman Hall residents were restricted from using the elevator later that night due to water leakage from the walls and the elevator. This issue, however, was isolated only to the first, second and ground level of the five-story building

Other students have reported issues with the design of their showers, a concern that the Office of Residence Life recognized in an email on Sept. 7.

“We are reaching out today because over the past few days, there have been several showers throughout Sr. Thea Bowman that have flooded and caused leaking into the units below,” stated Res Life. “We are currently working [with] our facilities team and the contractors to address the issues.”

The office also told students that to avoid flooding, residents should “be mindful of when using the shower and make sure the shower head is not pointed directly at the shower curtain.” They also advised residents to make sure the shower’s drain is “clear of hair and debris.”

“With new construction, it is not uncommon to make adjustments post-opening, and the University is in the process of doing so with the design of the showers,” said Anderson when asked about the issues reported by the students within days of their move-in.

In the communication to students the day before the building’s blessing, Residence Life staff

detailed the steps they were taking to permanently address the flooding issues with the showers.

“We started the work today [Sept. 7] with the lowering of the shower curtains in all of the suites. Starting tomorrow [Sept. 8] at 8 a.m. the contractors will begin checking the bathrooms and start shower threshold installation. They will be continuing work on Saturday morning starting at 8 a.m. and again on Tuesday morning, hopefully completing all of the work before the end of next week,” said the statement.

“With new construction, it is not uncommon to make adjustments post-opening, and the University is in the process of doing so with the design of the showers.”
-Jennifer Anderson
VP of Marketing and Communications

It is unclear what has caused the recent flood issues in Thea Bowman Hall.

The Mirror reached out to the Office of Residence Life for an explanation and an official response to the student claims, but the office has not responded for comment.

Managing Editor Max Limric works as a Resident Assistant for Residence Life, and thus did not read, edit or have any part in the creation of this article before publication.

Student Nursing Association Food Drive Reaffirms Commitment Community

BY SAMANTHA RUSELL
Assistant News Editor

Fairfield’s student nurses took to the beach this past Sunday – but not in their bathing suits.

Hoping to kick the academic year off by giving back to others, the Student Nursing Association (SNA) hosted a food drive open to cans and connections. The event supported Operation Hope’s Food Pantry in Fairfield.

Senior nursing major and SNA President Miriam Dupree stated the event was all in efforts to arouse excitement towards the club.

“[It’s] mostly to get people excited about the events that we are going to start to do [and the] people that we’re going to be with,” she said. “It’s a great way to connect with other student nurses through this club, and also just [to get] excited about giving back to the community.”

From 1 p.m. to 2 p.m., people were invited to not only drop off canned goods, but to “stay a while” and meet other student nurses. Mentorship and community relations remain key values to SNA, so establishing those mutual connections early on is crucial.

The club celebrated a full bin of cans following the event. A variety of food was contributed, complete with canned vegetables, soups and a six-pack of chicken Ramen Noodles. All canned goods were donated to Operation Hope’s Food Pantry.

Eight student nurses gathered for the hour’s festivities, eager to meet new faces. Dupree also organized two raffles for members of SNA who left a donation: one for medical-themed bags – brains, lungs and hearts – and one for Littmann Stethoscopes.

The club buys stethoscopes from Littmann each year, which has established a mutual support of both organizations. “We help them out, they help us out,” reported Dupree.

An overarching purpose of SNA is to prepare Fairfield’s

nursing students for a career in nursing while also engaging in aspects of their local community. The club works closely with its members to develop the skills needed to make an impact. Aside from being introduced to clinical proficiency, being paired with an upperclassman mentor and hearing from various nursing professionals, SNA nurses partake in various community service projects and charity events.

“We have a lot of different community service activities that we are

“Our big initiatives [are] to give back to the community in any way we can.”
-Miriam Dupree ’24
SNA President

committed to every year to not only help our community but to also help our student nurses kind of get a feel for helping other people,” said Dupree. Getting connected with community patients through activities like blood pressure screenings is another key component of SNA and aids in achievement in and out of their scrubs.

Dupree added that SNA often merges with other clubs to help nursing students find time for things other than their workload



Students received donations from students and beach residents for Operation Hope’s food pantry.

– which adds up very quickly. Previously, they joined Fairfield’s Art Club to paint pumpkins and create cards for hospital patients.

This food drive was the club’s first time working with Operation Hope’s Food Pantry. Dupree noted that “food drives are always helpful,” and said she was simply seeking a local organization to give back

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STAGSHospitality


Do you have questions about allergens or dietary needs? Our Campus Dietitian is here to help!



Joanna Schipke is a Registered Dietitian who received her Bachelor's Degree in Nutritional Sciences and Dietetics from the University of Connecticut. She went on to complete her 1200-hour dietetic internship at Keene State College. Joanna started her nutrition career in K-12 working for several different school districts across the state and most recently was employed as the Food Service Director for Watertown Public Schools.

Joanna is available as a resource to students to provide one on one nutrition counseling, assistance with food allergies and other dietary needs, and help students find healthy options on campus. She looks forward to helping students form a positive relationship with food and teaching them healthy habits they can take with them for the rest of their lives.

To schedule a consultation with Joanna, email jschipke@fairfield.edu.



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

9/15
2:45 p.m.
A Fairfield College Preparatory School student was driving reck-
lessly, as he was traveling with his passenger side door open.

9/15
5:10 p.m.
DPS addressed an alcohol violation with a minor at the Town-
houses. The student was referred to the Dean of Students.

9/15
10:40 p.m.
DPS addressed an alcohol violation with a minor in Regis Hall.
The student was referred to the Dean of Students.

9/16
12:10 a.m.
A student was caught publicly urinating at Townhouse 16 Block.
The student was referred to the Dean of Students.

9/16
1:10 a.m.
The fire alarm was set off in Bowman Hall. The cause has yet to
be determined and the alarm company reported to the building to
evaluate if the system is working properly.

9/16
1:36 a.m.
After reentering the Bowman Hall following the fire alarm, a stu-
dent used an electric cigarette in front of DPS officers. The student
was referred to the Dean of Students on the basis of disorderly
conduct.

9/16
3:30 p.m.
There was a full building fire alarm in Meditz Hall. The Fairfield
Fire Department reported to the building and determined that
the alarm was set off by cooking smoke. A second full building fire
alarm occurred in Bowman Hall at 7:30 p.m..

9/18
9:41 a.m.
A fire alarm was set off in the Barone Campus Center. It was deter-
mined that the alarm was set off by cooking smoke in the Stag
Diner.



Changes to the Mezz include televisions with AirPlay connectivity, new couches and Fairfield’s name across the side wall.

Renovations to Mezzanine Reinorgate Student Activity in Campus Center

BY NATHANAEL WILHELM
Contributing Writer

With the start of the new semester, Fairfield reopened the popular student lounge area known as the Mezzanine. Renovated with five new TVs with AirPlay connectivity, new couches and an overall new feel, the Mezz has transformed into a hotspot for student involvement and relaxation.

Located conveniently next to Sushi-Do and Dunkin’ Donuts, the Mezz creates the perfect environment for students to work, socialize and relax. As one of the key people involved with the renovation, Karen Donoghue ‘03, the Vice President of Student Life, expressed her enthusiasm for the results and the overall student experience.

“The Mezz in the campus center has become a very popular place for students to hang out with a cup of coffee, study between classes or play video games on a Friday night,” said Donoghue.

She also explained that the new student space was the result of a “partnership” between the Fairfield University Student Association and the Facilities Management Department of the university.

“We renovated the space to increase square footage while investing in a new look with furniture, paint and carpet to enhance the student experience,” said the former Fairfield alum. “New technology was added throughout the space, and the fireplace is a fun addition when winter weather is upon us! I look forward to seeing our students continue to use this

beautiful space.”

With the new furniture that Donoghue promoted, the new student space provides students with a cleaner and cozy look.

Junior student Kaitlyn Conroy agrees that the new Mezz renovation was a necessary and beneficial addition.

“I definitely go to the Mezz more than last year. The televisions and new colors make it a better place for students to hang out or do work. The Mezz is definitely more welcoming.”

The space features a fireplace, new couches, tables and chairs that allow for enhanced student comfort while spending time in the Mezz. New technology creates a modern learning space that is necessary for modern Jesuit education.

SNA Encourages Participation at Future Club Events

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

to. Throughout the academic year, SNA donates to places like hospitals and children’s centers alongside their annual clothing sale.

At the drive, an event sign-up page was available via laptop for interested nursing students to sign up for upcoming events. Dupree teased an event called “Stop the Bleed” that will hopefully occur this November. She remains excited about all the potential events and activities this semester.

“Our big initiatives [are] to give back to the community in any way we can,” she said. “Anything that we can do to help our student nurses get connected with other patients in the community and also give back at the same time.”

“The SNA Kickoff Event is an example of bringing our nursing students together through community service, while still bringing an element of fun with our badge reels and stethoscope raffles and event sign-ups,” added Dupree post-food drive.

A Mentor-Mentee meet and greet for SNA will take place next Tuesday, Sept. 26. Because of its predicted attendance, disclosed through Sunday’s sign-up sheet to be large, the food drive will be extended to that event.



The Student Nurse Association invites all nursing students to partake in the events hosted by the club and be a member of SNA.

THE MIRROR

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Editors
Julian Nazario, *Head News*
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Jacqui Rigazio, *Assistant Vine*
Ryan Marquardt, *Head Sports*
William McGuire, *Assistant Sports*

Staff Photographers
Kylar Erezuma & Shea Burns

Business Department
Email: info@fairfieldmirror.com
William McGuire, *Chief Financial Officer*

Advisor
Tommy Xie

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

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New Steering Committee Amplifies Student Exposure to the Arts

By GRACE LANNIGAN
Contributing Writer

An integral part of Fairfield University’s mission is to promote the development of the whole person as encapsulated in the Jesuit principle *cura personalis*. Ensuring that the student is holistically educated in the liberal Jesuit tradition is a foundational underpinning of the Fairfield academic experience.

Beginning on July 1, 2023, at the appointment of Dean Richard Greenwald, Ph.D., Art History Professor Katherine Schwab Ph.D. founded the Arts Institute Steering Committee with the goal of harnessing input from faculty, staff and students to promote Fairfield University’s efforts to further expose students to the arts.

Within the College of Arts and Sciences, there are five institutes, each of which focuses on supporting a distinct area of academia through the provision of grants, the expansion of academic opportunities and the cultivation of an increased interest in learning. The Arts Institute Steering Committee is the fifth of these institutes housed within the College of Arts and Sciences.

The structure of the steering committee includes an executive committee composed of permanent faculty members, two-year memberships extended to faculty in a variety of artistic fields who work alongside the executive branch, and one-year memberships for students passionate about extending the influence of the arts on campus.

As the chair of the Institute, Dr. Schwab expresses the distinct desire to cultivate within students an appreciation for the arts that will remain with them after graduation.

She states, “We want students at Fairfield to look at the arts as essential to them no matter their major or desired career.”

Art, Dr. Schwab expresses, has been an essential part of the human experience since the beginning of humanity. It has been a way to communicate for thousands of years prior to the invention of writing. The importance of art cannot be understated, yet Dr. Schwab recognizes that the greatest hurdle to overcome is helping students understand that art ought to be a part of their college experience.



Dr. Katherine Schwab hopes that the Art Institute Steering Committee will cultivate students’ long-term appreciation for the arts and further integrate it into the Fairfield experience.

She recognizes that “students are so busy managing their college workload, but if we can carve out a designated hour every couple of weeks to give students a new artistic experience, that would be so exciting.”

Dr. Schwab hopes that this semester will see the finalization and approval of bylaws that will expand grant-making opportunities for faculty seeking to further integrate the arts into their curriculum. These arts fall under three broad categories: visual arts, performing arts and literary arts including screenwriting, prose and film.

To ensure that the Institute’s vision is aligned with student interests, the committee is structured in a way that gives students, who are passionate about the arts, the opportunity to contribute to the voting process on a rotational basis.

When Dr. Schwab began her research to establish the Arts Institute Steering Committee,

she realized that no current institutes included opportunities for regular student mentorship.

“If we are to engage students more, why should we not include them in the decision-making process?” Dr. Schwab considered.

This provides a unique opportunity for students to make meaningful contributions to the promotion of arts on campus and better engage the broader Fairfield community.

Dr. Schwab emphasizes three core mantras that have helped to frame the Arts Institute Steering Committee. Most importantly, she wants students to know that Fairfield offers events of the highest artistic quality right here on campus.

For those looking to explore the arts outside of the classroom, there exists a wide breadth of opportunities to do so.

Additionally, curiosity is the perfect place to start. The variety of events centered around the arts allows students to engage at their own

pace. Events are offered regularly, and students may choose to engage in whatever topics pique their interest.

Lastly, the more that faculty can help provide information about the arts to students in class, the more they will grow. Oftentimes, students are unaware of events being held until it is advertised by a professor. Through the development of grants and research opportunities for faculty, Fairfield staff will be better equipped to disseminate information to students about events that may be of interest.

The Fairfield University Art Museum is free and always open to the student body. A new exhibition will be open on Sept. 28, and it features work from Polish-American artist and advocate for human rights, Arthur Szyk. For students looking to get involved with the culture of art on campus, this exhibit is the perfect place to start.

EVERY
WEDNESDAY
6PM

A cartoon illustration of a person with dark hair, wearing a white t-shirt and large headphones. They are sitting at a desk, smiling, and holding a vintage-style microphone. On the desk is a large, flat, rectangular object, possibly a book or a tablet. The background is a light gray.

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Opinion

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

Outdated Residential Halls Should Not Lack Basic Needs

BY LIZ MORIN
Opinion Editor

I lived in Campion Hall last year, which is one of the nicer freshman residence halls on campus, along with Gonzaga Hall.

I knew that it was one of the better dorms, and I appreciated the air conditioning, the relatively modern interior and those fancy water bottle refill stations.

For sophomore year, I didn't apply to any of the newer buildings like Meditz Hall or Sister Thea Bowman Hall for various reasons, so I went into my second year acknowledging that the dorm I was living in would probably be worse than Campion.

During move-in week, I learned three things about Kostka. One is that we don't have an elevator on my side of the building. Fine. I found a door that was only one staircase below my room, so it wasn't the end of the world like last year when I would have to walk to the fourth floor when the elevator broke.

I feel for the people who live on the top floor, though. I struggled when my elevator was broken for a few days, never mind being broken without knowing when it would be fixed.

The second was when I learned that Kostka has no drinking water fountains. That was, frankly, scary to learn. Brittas can be relatively cheap if you consider up to \$40 cheap, but drinking water should be necessary for every dorm.

I went to Claver the other day to try and find water on the first floor, but I couldn't find any, so I walked all the way over to the BCC with an armful of water bottles to fill.

Finally, the third thing I learned during my first-floor meeting was that my RA said that our bathrooms would probably get mold because the bathrooms weren't built with vents.

He told us how to clean them to try and prevent it, but sometimes it still happens. Expecting mold should not be allowed. It is unsanitary and unsafe.

This can't be said for Kostka, but I also don't understand why not every sophomore dorm has laundry. I initially chose to live

in Kostka because I didn't want to lug my laundry into a different building. Again, considering the price of rooming at Fairfield, I find this a bare minimum for a dorm to have.

I understand that this is an older dorm, but some of these things are basic necessities for living.

According to Fairfield's website, the price for a traditional double is \$10,700. This is too much money to not have proper resources in the dorm.

The building's outdated interior and weird design can be explained by it being old, but it doesn't explain why we're expected to deal with mold and have to walk through campus to access water.

I was questioning why exactly Kostka, Claver and Faber haven't been renovated (Though Faber is in the process of expanding), and I realized that the school focus seems to be adding more buildings to make up for over-admitting the last few classes.

Everyone who pays for room and board deserves a room, so I get the logic behind building more dorms to ensure everyone has a place to live.

That being said, the dorms that are being built are already filled with design problems because they were rushed to build. Sister Thea Bowman Hall was built last year for sophomores to live in, and within the first day of living there, residents already noticed problems.

Sophomore Angelina Brandon, who lives in the residence said, "The experience of the showers in Bowman flooding the very first week made the transition back difficult, to say the least." She went on to further explain the flooding. "Every time a person in the suite showered, the water would go past the drain, leaving the floor soaked to the point where water was almost out the door." The flooding issue has been fixed, but that never should have happened in the first place. Yet again, it's not a minor fault with a building. Flooding isn't just annoying. It can be really unsafe if it gets out of hand.

In his email on Aug. 29, Dean William Johnson, Ph.D.

revealed that construction was beginning to add onto Faber Hall. That was the only information provided in the email, but I'm insinuating their focus is adding more rooms to Faber rather than dealing with interior issues. I'm not entirely sure why they're adding on to Faber instead of adding on to a dorm that is not on the other side of campus, but that's my opinion.

Frankly, I'm not sure why they made Faber because there lies yet another issue. Kostka is pretty far from most things on campus, so I can't imagine how people living in Faber feel. I understand their need to provide housing for everyone, but I think Fairfield needs to own up to the fact that they have been over-admitting students and they're trying to compensate with the mass production of new dorms. New dorms that are not worth the price that rooming actually is.

As for my theory that Fairfield is trying to become a bigger school, they should ensure they have the resources before doing that. That includes taking time to add additions to dorms or building new dorms entirely so that safety issues like flooding and mold aren't a problem. We shouldn't be building yearly; this should have been thought of years in advance if their plan truly is to expand the school.

In this plan to expand, they should also consider the quality of the buildings because it can affect a student's view of the school and make them not want to be at Fairfield. Even if they are just over-admitting students, we should not have to suffer because of administration mistakes. I wonder if it would be possible for the school to simultaneously upgrade the dorms while expanding.

Adding a water bottle fill system certainly isn't as expensive as building an entirely new building. I think out of anything, the most expensive would be including a laundry room in every building, but again, it is cheaper than building an entirely new dorm, and it would improve student's livelihood.

Ultimately, I wish that Fairfield would work on upgrading the buildings they already have instead of putting all of their attention on creating new buildings, but in the end, there are still benefits to having more dorms on campus.

Managing Editor Max Limric works as a Resident Assistant for Residence Life, and thus did not read, edit or have any part in the creation of this article before publication.



Peets Coffee and Sambazon Acai took over the Dimmena-Nyselius Library cafe. Some students expressed their frustration at the prioritization of these projects, as there are dorms on campus that have outdated living conditions but are not receiving priority renovations.

Dorm Renovations Should Take Priority over Unnecessary Campus Projects

BY MCKAYLAN CONNOLLY
Contributing Writer

Over the past few summers, Fairfield has taken on the task of revamping 'Stag Country' with big projects such as the Leo D. Mahoney Arena, which opened in 2022, or small developments such as adding the Science Center, Peet's Coffee and Sambazon to the DiMenna-Nyselius Library.

Peet's Coffee and Sambazon made their big debut when classes started on Sept. 4, and Fairfield students quickly flocked over to the library; so much so that the line was quite literally out the door. After seeing so many people in line, I decided I had to try.

To start off, the Sambazon's acai bowl is definitely worth the wait in line, which is deceptively long.

Orders for Peet's Coffee and Sambazon are taken from one register, and orders are put together and served very quickly, which makes for a fast-moving line. It's open Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. They accept meal swipes, dining dollars, Stag Bucks and credit or debit cards.

With a meal swipe, I got an acai bowl with granola and three other toppings of my choice.

More toppings include coconut, Nutella, strawberries, peanut butter, frozen mango, blueberries, banana, chia seeds and honey. Peet's Coffee offers espresso, coffee, teas and other beverages. However, a meal swipe only covers an acai bowl or a drink, so if you want both, you may have to cut into your dining dollars.

Despite excellent food and drink options and relatively quick service, trying to fit so much into a tiny space can create a chaotic ambiance.

With an extensive line going out the door and people waiting for their orders, the room can quickly pack. Employees walk in and out of the kitchen, and customers walk back and forth to get spoons, straws and napkins.

Peet's Coffee and Sambazon are both great additions to campus and add variety, though the library may not be the best location considering the size. The other addition to the library this summer was the Science Center, where students can go

for extra help with their science classes. This was added to the academic commons alongside the Math and Writing centers.

While I love a good acai bowl, iced coffee or even a tutor, I also live in Loyola Hall. Loyola Hall is the only unrenovated housing on campus, meaning there is no air conditioning outside of student lounges.

Due to high unprecedented temperatures during the first week of school, Loyola students were left sleeping in student lounges and using numerous fans to stay cool. It put student health potentially at risk, and many frustrated parents brought up these concerns to the university on Facebook.

I believe that any campus renovations should focus first on housing. Additions like the Science Center that involve education are essential, too.

However, student housing is the first place students become comfortable on campus, where they spend a lot of their time. The first week for many freshmen is stressful, and the torrid heat for those living in Loyola made it an uncomfortable transition.

Considering Loyola is the only unrenovated residence hall on the Quad, there is also a lack of resources compared to other dorms.

There are fewer washers in the laundry room, outdated student lounges and a lack of other student resources, such as printers.

My mom was a first-year at Fairfield University in 1995 and also lived in Loyola, and it looks about the same as it did 28 years ago when she moved in.

Small, gradual renovations added each summer, such as adding air conditioning, and renovating bathrooms or laundry rooms, could have been implemented rather than adding more food options in the library that already had a Dunkin Donuts.

Although I am enjoying these new additions to campus, it does seem there could have been other renovations that were prioritized first. But at least now I can have an acai bowl to cool off in Loyola Hall.



The Quad houses the incoming first-year class. Because Fairfield's first-year class continues to grow at an exponential rate, university officials should have better solutions to the never-ending housing crisis.

Nikki Haley is Fighting for the Republican Gen-Z Vote

By **COOPER AITKEN**
Contributing Writer

“If you want something said, ask a man. If you want something done, ask a woman.”

These words spoken by Republican long-shot Nikki Haley took over TikTok the morning after the first Republican primary debate, with edits of the politician amassing hundreds of thousands of views.

The underlying feminist tone from Haley is in sharp contrast to the increasingly conservative Republican Party. However, it demonstrates what Haley is doing differently from Republicans, appealing to the moderate Generation Z audience.

The Gen Z vote is becoming more influential with every election, with over 27% of people aged 18-29 participating in the last midterm election.

This turnout was the second highest in almost 30 years, and political participation in young people is only set to rise in 2024.

Before and after the debates, Haley has consistently polled below 10%, struggling to beat out the more recognizable candidates like Ron DeSantis or Donald Trump.

As Gen Z’s political participation rises, it’s clear that Haley’s strategy includes appealing to young Republicans who are dissatisfied with the increasingly right-wing platform that Republicans are running on.

72% of Gen Z voters identify as pro-choice, and abortion was one of the most decisive and influential issues during the 2022 midterm election.

Many conservative, pro-life Republican candidates who were expected to win their elections lost to their pro-choice opponents.

These results seem to have influenced Haley’s position on the issue, and while she identifies strongly as pro-life, she set herself apart in the



At the first Republican primary debate, Nikki Haley shocked viewers with her moderate views on topics like abortion and competency tests, which has increased her popularity among younger voters.

debate from her ultra-conservative peers, like Mike Pence.

During the debate, Haley called out many of the other candidates for promising to sign in federal abortion restrictions, saying that there are simply not enough votes in Congress for that kind of legislation to even reach the Oval Office.

Haley appears to be trying to appeal to Gen Z Republicans by saying in the debate, "Don't make women feel like they have to decide on this issue when you know we don't have 60 Senate votes."

By refusing to support a national protection of abortion or a national ban, she allows the topic to become a non-issue in her campaign, whereas many of her challenger’s staunch opinions on the topic might dissuade many of their potential moderate voters.

Not only is Haley appealing to young Republicans who don’t believe in restrictive abortion bans, but she also makes herself more appealing as a general candidate to run against

Biden.

Outside of her performance in the primary, Haley’s other qualities and past experience make her desirable to potential young voters as well.

Trump still holds tremendous power in the Republican Party, and in the debate, she advertised her work under the Trump administration as ambassador to the United Nations.

Her work with Trump and the admission during the debate that she would endorse him should he win the primaries may made her more likable to “Make American Great Again” enthusiasts, as opposed to candidates like Chris Christie who are vehemently anti-Trump.

However, Haley has some advantages in this race that her former boss does not, such as her age and her undefeated status in elections.

While Haley is not the youngest in the race at 51 years old, she still makes her age a significant part of her campaign, even advocating for mental competency tests for politicians over a certain age.

Many Americans, especially the youth, are dissatisfied with the ages of current politicians, mainly including the front runners for 2024, Biden and Trump.

Additionally, Haley has not lost any election she has run for, a fact she likes to tout whenever available. This sharply contrasts Trump’s history, as many of the individuals he endorsed for the 2022 midterms lost their elections.

Despite the fact that only 17% of Gen Z voters registered as republican in 2022, 52% identified themselves as independents, showing that Gen Z cares more about individual politicians and their stances than their party.

This will be especially important during the upcoming election, since 75% of Americans said they want a president under the age of 65.

Haley’s age and moderate views may convince many young voters to overlook her party identification and vote for her in order to avoid another 4 years of a Biden presidency, in which he would be the oldest president at 81 years old.

Overall, it’s clear that Haley used the primary as a way to boost her national recognition, which is one of her most significant weaknesses.

By portraying herself as a young, moderate Republican, she likely hopes to gain popularity among Gen Z, which was a successful endeavor based on the number of views she could amass on TikTok shortly after the debate.

While Haley’s chances of being the republican nominee for president in the 2024 election is slim, she has a much better chance of being Trump’s vice presidential pick.

Her more moderate stances would make a Trump ticket more appealing to swing voters.

If the next election is as contentious and close as the last midterm was, it’s important for the republican party to appeal to swing voters and elevate moderate politicians now more than ever.

Are Unpaid Internships Unethical?

By **FIONA KILLEEN**
Contributing Writer

The debate over whether or not unpaid internships should be permitted has only expanded over the last couple of years.

Many articles have examined the ethics of businesses, politicians and universities offering unpaid internships.

Internships are seen as a valuable way of practicing and applying the knowledge you gain through school to an actual occupational setting.

Additionally, internships can help students network and gain contacts for future job searches. Since I have always heard that internships are necessary to career development, I was shocked to read that 43% of them are unpaid.

A recent survey commissioned by LendingTree found that 47% of respondents who participated in an unpaid internship amassed more debt to cover expenses.

For students who already may have taken out loans to fund their education, this only adds to the overarching financial pressure they will face during and after they complete their degree.

While it may have been a bit easier to manage an unpaid internship with other expenses a decade or two ago, the cost of daily expenditures and college tuition has only increased tremendously since then.

The other issue with this is that many students have to work during the summer to support expenses they may accrue during the academic year.

It would make sense that as a student progresses with their college career, they may have to apply for various internships as a way to grow their resume.

This can be tricky for students who come from lower-income circumstances because they may rely on that income from a summer job.

For many lower-income students who want to participate in internships that provide real-world working experiences, they

must consider the tradeoff of the potential economic impact that not receiving compensation will create.

Students with a higher-income background likely won’t have to direct as much attention to the economic returns of a position.

Another factor that may make unpaid internships less feasible for students is that professional attire may be required depending on the office setting or type of internship.

Without some sort of compensation or stipend, students would have to front this cost from their own pockets. Students who are already struggling to pay for school will have even fewer funds available to pay for things such as clothing or even transportation.

Many internships occur in cities or areas beyond walking distance, so students must create the capital to pay for gas or bus tickets.

This puts students who come from lower-income backgrounds in another unfavorable position since they may not have the same ease of a guaranteed means of commuting as students who already own a car or who can take on an internship without worrying about the location.

I was happy to learn that Fairfield University pledges up to \$2,500 for students in the College of Arts and Sciences to cover costs associated with research opportunities or unpaid internships.

I think this is a wonderful initiative because it gives students more mobility to choose an internship that truly best suits them and their interests, apart from their financial worries.

It is no secret that sometimes securing

a summer internship can be a complex or even challenging process, especially with competitive areas of study and companies. Fairfield’s program allows students to apply to a broader range of internships instead of just paid ones.

It also allows students who are interested in pursuing their own research experiences to do this without worrying about financial funding.

It would be beneficial and even necessary for more universities to implement programs similar to this one.

Considering the dilemmas arising from unpaid internships, it is even more crucial to create similar supporting fellowships or programs for schools that mandate internships as a graduation requirement.



There is a current debate over whether internships that do not pay their employees are ethical.

The Vine

The Mirror Is Back!
Have a great
semester Stags :)



Back to School!





STAGS GET PSYCHED FOR THE New semester!

By **JACQUI RIGAZIO**
Assistant Vine Editor

Okay, guys, we’re back! September is in full swing, which means that our Stags are back on campus and gearing up for the new semester.

Between prepping for classes, seeing friends again and getting involved with clubs, there is definitely a lot keeping us excited about what this school year has in store.

Let’s see what our students are looking forward to the most about finally being back in Stag Country!

I think we can all agree that one of the best things about being back at school is seeing our fellow Stags again.

Sophomore Gianna Greco shares “ever since arriving back on campus, I have already met so many new people and made new friends, so I’m excited to keep meet-

ing new people!”

Sophomore Chloe Manasier agrees with this, adding that she is also excited to get involved with new opportunities on campus.

A lot of our juniors are excited to be living in their townhouse-style homes this year!

Junior Sam Healey is excited to be living in Barnyard “with all of my buddies,” and junior Emily Aschenbrenner is pumped to “be back with all of my friends and live in the townhouses!”

Junior Erin Resnick echoes this, expressing her excitement about having more independence from living in the townhouses. Erin also adds that “as you get older, there are more opportunities to do things that are related to your specific major, and what you want to pursue in the future, which is really exciting for me.”

Like many other students, Erin is eager to take advantage of Fair-

field’s awesome career opportunities this semester!

The new school year also brings a lot of new Stags to campus.

First-year Taylor Kiggins is super excited about her first semester in Stag Country, especially after becoming a new member of the dance ensemble.

“I can’t wait for dance classes to start and to meet my new teammates,” Taylor shares. We love to see our first-years getting involved!

While some journeys at Fairfield are just beginning, our seniors are excited to make the most of their last year of college.

Senior Emma Paolantonio says that she is excited to be living on the beach this year (the Fairfield dream!) and to go to all of the senior events.

Senior Luiza Sperling is super ex-

cited about all of her classes and about her new minor in Editing and Publishing.

We wish you the best senior year ever, Emma and Luiza!

Junior Ella Panasci is “excited for all of the campus events, like Pres Ball and the basketball games,” and junior Nicole Eisenberg is looking forward to “cooking family dinners and hosting people over at my house.”

Sometimes it’s the little things that we appreciate the most!

Junior Danielle Oteri says that she is “so excited to start cold plunging again,” and shares that every day she goes down to Penfield Beach to cold plunge in the ocean.

That definitely seems like an effective way to get your day started!

Whether you are taking freezing cold dips in the Long Island Sound this semester or not, there is definitely an abundance of excitement on campus to keep you amped up for the new semester!



STUDENT EDITORS SHINE THROUGH “DOGWOOD”



By **BROOKE LATHE**
Executive Editor

In the final few weeks of May, the Fairfield University “Publishing Practicum” course made their finishing touches on the annual literary journal, “Dogwood: A Journal of Poetry and Prose”.

Starting in January 2023, four Fairfield upperclassmen composed a book from conception to publication in the ENGL 4952 three-credit course.

The course description reads: “students apply material learned in ENGL 3140 (World of Publishing) as they serve in a senior editorial role as a Managing Editor in the preparation of the University’s national literary magazine, Dogwood.”

Sonya Huber, an editor of Dogwood and Professor of English at Fairfield University, explained that the publication has “run a contest since it began” and works to publish writers all around the world. This current publication marks its 22nd year.

In past years, writers would submit their works the “old fashioned way”—through paper and envelope—but now use a paid database called Submittable. For the writers who are interested in competing for the Dogwood \$1,000 contest, submissions cost \$12. However, general submissions are free.

“We usually get about 700 submissions a year,” Huber shared.

Fairfield students screen the submissions in the fall course “World of Publishing.” In groups, each student is assigned 20 stories, to

which they will narrow it down to four—the other group members will do the same. Out of all of the student’s top picks, they work together to then select the best material and are then named Assistant Editors.

Following the selections, the spring course, “Publishing Practicum,” will do the rest.

Student editors in this classroom, also referred to as Associate Editors, copy-edit their assigned pieces for minor mistakes and collaborate with their authors by sending them a first and second proof analysis back to them.

Huber then touched upon something special that happened for the first time this year. “We had a mom who wrote an essay about the death of her teenage daughter, and because the

essay was so meaningful to her, she wanted to talk on the phone with her student editor.”

She continued, “The woman ended up sending the student editor a CD of songs that the daughter had written and the mom had performed. So, in so many cases, there is this beautiful relationship that gets formed,” Huber shared.

After edits are completed, the students will then transfer the pieces onto Adobe InDesign, a layout software.

The journal this year is over 100 pages and most notably features work from incarcerated writers and artwork from a Bridgeport resident—two qualities that Huber wants to include more of in future publications.

“We published our first work by an incar-

cerated writer last year. It was amazing, so we’re trying to expand our outreach to incarnated writers.” Huber added, “I would also really like to figure out a way to devote a section of the journal to Bridgeport writers.”

In addition to the editing and designing skills from this course, Huber notes the other important skill students take away from the practicum: writing.

She explained, “I’ve seen from course evaluations that students really love the chance to just get real creative writing from their selections.”

“We end up talking a lot about what makes a piece strongest—and I love to see that happen for students,” she finished.

For those who are seeking to be published or be the publisher, Huber recommends getting involved in any literary journal scene whether or not it’s a campus journal or unpaid publications that are looking for volunteer editors.

Reading this kind of work will always “sharpen your vision,” she notes. “For example, you will never start a story with someone hitting the alarm clock again because we get probably 20 stories that start like that every semester.”

Dogwood’s most recent publication appeared in physical form this summer, showcasing the hard work of Fairfield students and talented writers.

Copies were distributed to all of the editors and writers, but readers can also purchase their own 2023 copy for only \$10. To buy a one-time book or sign up for an \$8 annual subscription, visit their website.



Each year, students work as editors for Fairfield's literary journal, "Dogwood".

Stay Successful This Semester: Six Goals To Set

By KAITLYN CONROY
Contributing Writer

Summer has come and gone and it is finally time for school to start back up again. Back in August, I had some time to set a list of goals for myself this semester, and I think I did pretty well this year. I mean, I do have two years of experience with this. Here are my top six goals for this semester!

1. Not spend all my money:
The broke college student stereotype is so relatable. We college students have so much freedom to do whatever we want, however, not everything is free. This semester I want to be wiser with how I spend my money, which means I have to lay off Doordash.

2. Find downtime to do something relaxing or enjoyable:
Classes can be incredibly stressful, and sometimes the workload can be overwhelming. It is crucial to find time to unwind and do something that takes the stress away. Taking care of your mental health is critical.

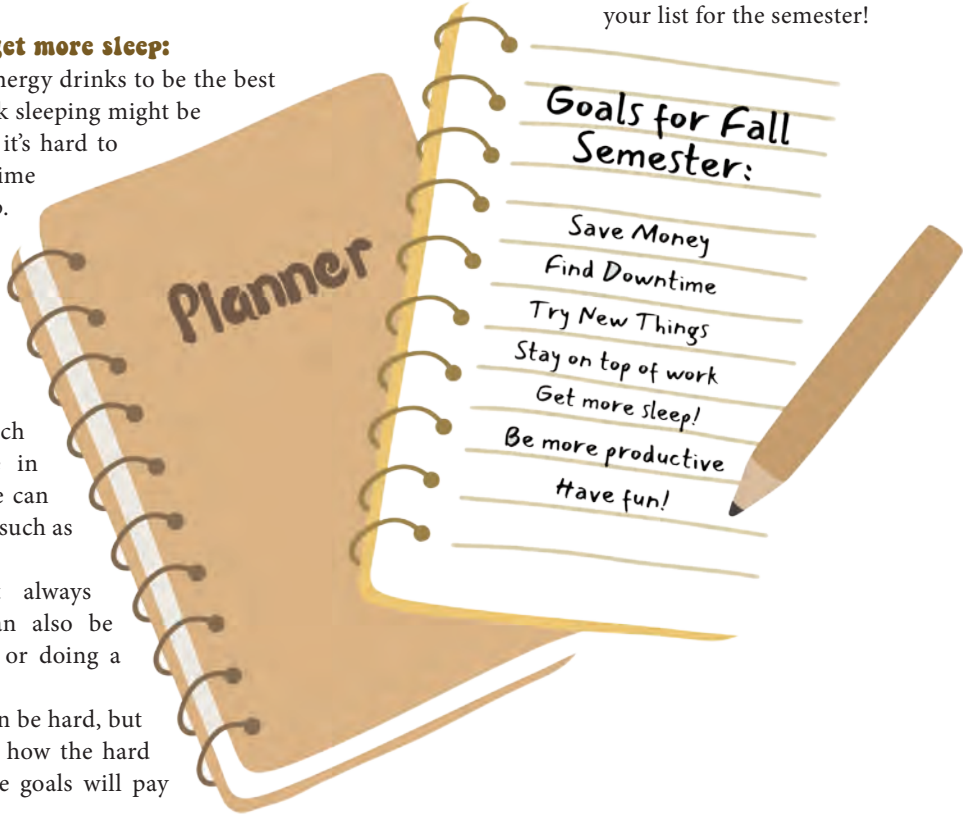
3. Try something new:
College is the perfect time to try something you have never done before! Join a new club or try an intramural sport. Trying new things can also introduce you to more people, which means new friendships!

4. Stay on top of school work:
Life can get busy during the semester, and it's quite easy to get off track when it comes to schoolwork. It's important to balance the fun and the academic parts of college life. Time management and organization is key!

5. Go to bed earlier/get more sleep:
While you might find energy drinks to be the best option to gain energy, I think sleeping might be the smarter option. I get it, it's hard to go to bed at a reasonable time and get eight hours of sleep. However, it pays off when you have a ton of energy the next day.

6. Be more productive:
It's surprising how much downtime you might have in college, and while downtime can be good, there is also a thing such as too much downtime. Productiveness doesn't always have to be studying, it can also be spending time with friends or doing a favorite hobby! Sticking to new goals can be hard, but I like to always think about how the hard work toward achieving these goals will pay

off in the future. Don't start all at once, take it day by day. Soon you'll find that your goals will become a part of your daily routine. I hope that some of my goals inspired your list for the semester!



SUMMER STAGTIVITIES 2023

By CAITLIN SHEA
Contributing Writer

Phineas and Ferb said it best: "There are one hundred and four days of summer vacation, and school comes along just to end it. The annual problem for [this Stag] generation is finding a good way to spend it."

For senior Karla Castro, her summer may not have been filled with building a rocket or fighting a mummy, but she did take a trip to Lake Compounce with a big group of friends.

Jumping on and off the exhilarating carnival rides and spending hours escaping the heat in the water park, Castro thinks back fondly on the experience.

The soon-to-be graduate describes how she was "so happy" as the day was a "nice break" from the academic workload she finds herself balancing.

favorite memory was plummeting down Mammoth Falls after convincing her friends that, "it was not as scary as it looks," even though they may not say the same.

While Castro was busy braving the Wildcat, junior Angelo Corsini found himself face to face with his idol and favorite

YouTuber, Matpat. Owner of the Game Theorist channels, as well as a co-producer, alongside his wife, of the "Grey House" on Broadway.

There is not much this man cannot do. After a special performance, Corsini was able to attend a talkback, where Matt and his wife Stephanie answered questions and met with their fans.

Not only did the superfan get the opportunity to give Matt a fan letter and a copy of a school project based on his YouTube community, but he is even featured in the

cording of the talkback on the "Grey House" channel.

While Angelo was "unable to snap a photo with [his] idol," the chance to meet Matpat will be an opportunity he is forever grateful for.

Sophomore Jonathon Werley found himself back on campus this summer as he began training to become a New Student Leader (NSL).

Werley describes the two weeks back on campus as "one of the most educational, bonding and enjoyable experiences" throughout his break.

While the days could be mentally

drain - ing, "team fun" was always a priority. Gathering in large groups to play Mario Kart in the McCormick Lounge, or visiting town to enjoy 16 Handles after a long day were just a few of the NSLs favorite memories. The sophomore continues to love his time as an NSL, and strongly urges anyone interested to join!

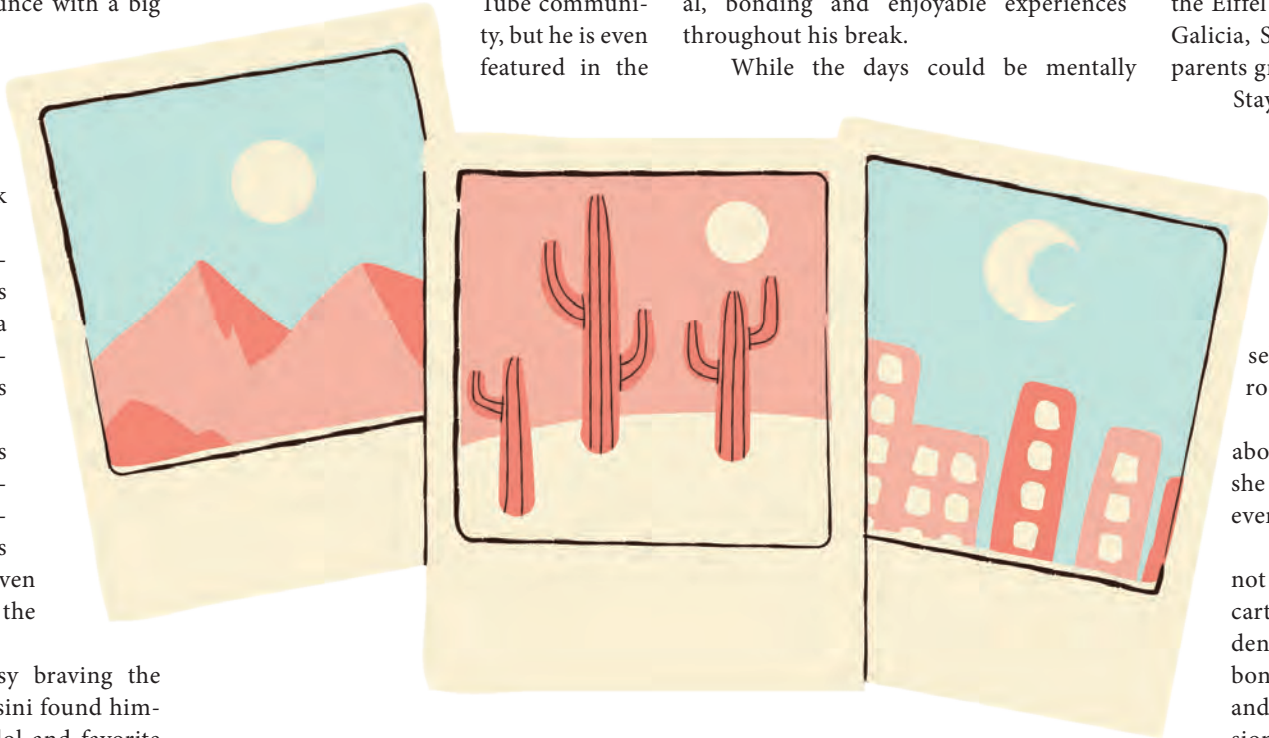
First-year Anna Minino may have not been surfing tidal waves or climbing up the Eiffel Tower, but she did find herself in Galicia, Spain to visit the place where her parents grew up.


Staying with her grandmother, Minino was gone for most of the summer spending time with friends and family.

One of the new Stag's fondest memories was going on a hike to a waterfall where she and her friends found themselves swimming and jumping from rocks all day.

Minino finds herself thinking about these memories constantly, as she "can't wait to go back" to make even more.

While these Stags' summers may not have been as crazy as that of two cartoon brothers, each of these students was able to create memories and bonds that will last them a lifetime, and fuel them with a newfound passion for the start of the new semester!





Meal Prep Ideas To Get You Through Your Week



BY ISABELLA SAGRASE
Contributing Writer

With the start of college, it can be difficult to plan meals and to know what ingredients to purchase from the food store. A great start to your grocery list includes some fruits such as bananas, strawberries, blueberries, raspberries and blackberries. Vegetables are a healthy choice including carrots, corn, spinach, bell peppers and lettuce.

A variety of cheeses along with bread or rolls can be used in multiple ways. Don't forget onion and garlic which can be used to flavor a dish.

Add to the list a rotisserie chicken, ground beef, chicken breasts and eggs for proteins. With these ingredients, you can prepare many recipes that can be eaten immediately or saved in the refrigerator for consumption all week.

Shred up your rotisserie chicken when you get home from the store. Store it in an air-tight container.

This shredded chicken will be used to make several meals. For the first night, a chicken and rice meal with cooked vegetables and sauteed spinach would perfectly balance your plate.

The second meal might be the chicken tossed with lettuce, feta cheese, dried cranberries and pecans for a scrumptious salad. The third meal could be a Mexican-style

bowl with the chicken tossed with taco seasoning. Add rice and beans on the side, along with sauteed peppers, onions, corn and garlic.

You could even make several of these bowls and pop them in the refrigerator to have another night, or even for lunch.

Maybe you want to prepare food to share with housemates. Let's say you wanted to have a dip night with your friends. What's an easy and satisfying dip to make? Buffalo chicken dip, of course! The shredded rotisserie chicken can be used again, tossed in hot sauce, along with a few other ingredients and viola! An instant crowd-pleaser.

How about an easy, to-go breakfast? After shredding the rotisserie chicken when you get home from the store, wash the strawberries, blueberries and any other berries you enjoy.

Cut up the banana into slices. Take about a cup of the fruit mixed together and store it in containers or ziplock bags in the freezer. Before class in the morning, use the fruit containers to make a smoothie with almond or coconut milk and ice. Delicious!

Another great meal prep for breakfast is egg muffins. Simply mix the eggs with milk, salt and pepper. Add any ingredients you like such as mushrooms, cheese, onions, bacon, spinach, or tomatoes.

All you do is spray a muffin pan, pour in the mixture and bake for half an hour. Store in the fridge and reheat as needed. So

easy! And it makes a protein-packed, grab-and-go savory breakfast.

Many meals can be prepared ahead using ground beef. You could prepare hamburgers to be cooked anytime during the week. You can also brown some ground beef on the stove, store in an air-tight container and take it out as needed. Maybe you make it into tacos one night and bolognese sauce with spaghetti another night.

If you have a few hours on a lazy Sunday, find a favorite meatball recipe, cook in a pot of marinara sauce and enjoy throughout the week. Meatballs can even be frozen and taken out when your schedule might be busier and you have less time to cook.

Chicken breasts are so versatile. If you make them into breaded chicken cutlets, you can eat them hot or cold, turn them into chicken parmesan or even cut them up and toss them in a Caesar salad. There are endless options.

As you can see, a little thought and effort ahead of

time can make your life less stressful. You can enjoy delicious, homemade, healthy meals all week by thoughtfully purchasing ingredients and spending a short amount of time on meal prep.

Buffalo Chicken Dip Recipe:

- 1 shredded rotisserie chicken
- 1 8 oz cream cheese
- about 1 cup sour cream
- 1/4 cup of Ken's blue cheese dressing
- Franks red hot wing sauce (to taste)
- Frank's original red hot sauce (taste)
- Mexican blend cheese
- Tortilla chips (for scooping)

Note: Just mix together, sprinkle Mexican blend cheese on top and bake at 375 degrees for 20 minutes.

Barbie Vs. Oppenheimer: Battle Of The Blockbusters

By LIZ MORIN
Opinion Editor

As a fan of both Greta Gerwig and Christopher Nolan, July 21 was a national holiday for me — though I didn't actually get to see either movie until a few weeks after their release. I put together a "Barbie"-themed outfit like the rest of the world, and I went to see it with my mom when the rest

of my family was away in New York. I then went to see "Oppenheimer" with my siblings when my parents were away. After seeing both movies, I can safely say that "Barbie" narrowly won for me.

I want to say "Barbie" is for everyone, but I was surprised by the language in the film. It was not terrible, but I almost expected it to be a kid's movie. I guess it depends on how important a few vulgar words are to parents, but I would say an older elementary schooler is probably the youngest child who could watch the film while barely grasping the depth of the story. I genuinely believe that this movie has the most complex impact on teenage and elderly women.

I found the storytelling to be fantastic. It had so many layers, from the treatment of women versus men in society to the message "Barbie" gave kids for years, even that aging is beautiful. I could definitely see myself watching this a few times and finding a new meaning every time. I think

Greta Gerwig did a great job at showing that this movie was not the "crazy, feminist, radical" movie that some news organizations were making it out to be. In fact, it was actually about gender equality. The Kens don't lose in the end.

They learn that Barbieland can include both the Kens and the Barbies. This really helped with the inclusivity of the film because I also believe it's something men could relate to. It's a film for everyone.

I appreciated how the movie balanced comedy with very serious messages. I have found that past comedy movies handle less serious topics. They tend to lean too far into one or the other (seriousness or comedy), which either means the goal of the movie isn't understood or if it is understood, no one can tell that the movie was light-hearted. Greta Gerwig balanced the two incredibly well, and it was actually funny.

I don't want to spoil too much, but the Sublime joke really got me. Not only was she able to balance two genres, but this was simultaneously a musical. Not really, but there were some excellent musical numbers in there. "Barbie" really had everything going for it, and I really enjoyed it.

"Oppenheimer" was obviously much different than "Barbie". After all, it's a historical movie that lasted three hours, so you must be pretty committed to watching it. I have to give Nolan credit, though. I only got

bored once! That sounds bad, but it's so hard for a movie that's three hours long to keep someone's attention. I found it interesting historically, but if you're looking at it from a technical film perspective, it's beautifully crafted. The acting was great, and I wouldn't be surprised if Cillian Murphy and Emily Blunt get Oscar nominations in the future.

I found the film's timeline a bit odd, but that was until I found out it wasn't just a movie based on Oppenheimer's story. It was based on an actual biography of Oppenheimer called "American Prometheus: The Triumph and Tragedy of J. Robert Oppenheimer," by Kai Baird and Martin Sherwin. I haven't read the biography, but that would probably explain why the timeline was off if it followed a book's timeline. That adds to my point that "Oppenheimer" is more for history and film fans.

The reason I say I give "Barbie" the win is that "Oppenheimer" isn't going to appeal to as broad an audience as "Barbie". "Oppenheimer" is for history fans, film junkies and Florence Pugh fans (Spoiler; I'm sorry to the Florence Pugh fans). This doesn't take away from the fact that it is one of Nolan's best films and will almost certainly win some awards.

But if we're looking at what most people will enjoy while simultaneously being a technically sound movie and story, "Barbie" will win every time.



Great Gerwig's "Barbie" took to theaters July 21 and became one of the most popular movies of the summer.

Best Books To Break Open This Season

By **FIONA WAGNER**
Contributing Writer

Even though school has started up again and our workloads are piling up, we can always make time for a good book.

Here is a list of my favorite summer reads that I would recommend to anyone, even for the upcoming autumn season.

“The Summer I Turned Pretty” by Jenny Han

Last year, “The Summer I Turned Pretty” quickly became Amazon Prime’s hit show and this summer it was back for season two.

However, the TV show started as a book series. This series was a crucial part of my middle school years, but I found myself rereading it in preparation for the show.

There are three books in the series, each following the main character Belly, whose family vacations at Cousins Beach with her mom’s best friend and her sons.

“The Summer I Turned Pretty” is the first in the trilogy, followed by “It’s Not Summer Without You” and “We’ll Always Have Summer.”

Each book is filled with drama, laughs, tears and a love triangle between Belly and the two sons Conrad and Jeremiah. It’s a

coming-of-age story that any teenage girl can relate to in some capacity. For the fans of the show, I highly recommend reading all the books too.

“Better Than The Movies” by Lynn Painter

A rom-com about rom-coms, fake dating, childhood friends and enemies-to-lovers all in one book! “Better Than the Movies” is about Liz Buxbaum, a seventeen-year-old hopeless romantic who wants to live out her rom-com fantasies.

When her childhood crush, Michael, comes home she needs the help of her next-door neighbor, Wes, to impress Michael. Wes Bennet is the typical sarcastic brunette that we all know and love. Liz, however, is not a huge fan ... for now.

The writing in this book is fun, flirty and very witty. It’s a very easy and quick read for anyone who loves early 2000s rom-coms, soundtracks for every occasion and playful banter.

Each chapter starts with a quote from a famous rom-com and at the end of the book, there’s a real playlist that goes along with the story.

If those two things didn’t make you want to pick up a copy, I don’t know what will.

“The Naturals” by Jennifer Lynn Barnes

Calling all true crime addicts! “The Naturals” is basically a young adult “Criminal Minds” in book form. The book centers around five teenagers who have special abilities and all get the opportunity to work for the FBI solving cold cases.

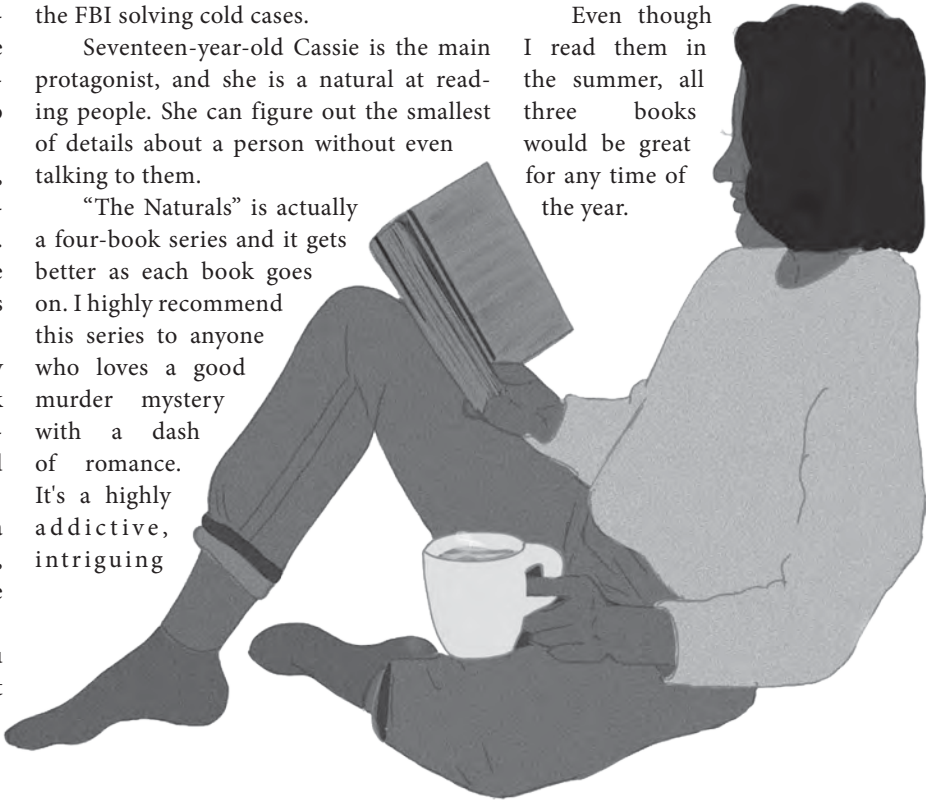
Seventeen-year-old Cassie is the main protagonist, and she is a natural at reading people. She can figure out the smallest of details about a person without even talking to them.

“The Naturals” is actually a four-book series and it gets better as each book goes on. I highly recommend this series to anyone who loves a good murder mystery with a dash of romance. It’s a highly addictive, intriguing

and gripping Young Adult crime series that is perfect for this upcoming spooky season.

Whether you’re just starting your reading journey, need to get out of a book slump or just need some good recommendations, I hope you found this list helpful!

Even though I read them in the summer, all three books would be great for any time of the year.



🎵 Noah Kahan-cert Review! 🎵

By **ABIGAIL WHITE**
Head Vine Editor

If you have listened to the radio, streamed music on Spotify and Apple Music or opened up TikTok recently, you are sure to have come across music from emerging indie-folk artist, Noah Kahan.

Though he first started writing and performing music back in 2017, he has recently gained great popularity with his latest album “Stick Season,” and has since been touring, performing songs from this album live all over the country.

As an avid fan of Kahan’s for quite a few years now, I was excited for the release of “Stick Season”

last fall, and was even more excited when I scored tickets for his Stick Season Tour at the Xfinity Center in Mansfield, Mass. last weekend.

Having grown up in New England, much of Kahan’s music demonstrates a lot of self-reflection, feelings of claustrophobia in small towns and feelings of being torn between staying in one’s hometown or moving far away and experiencing the world.

His songs and lyrics resonate with a lot of his fans, including myself, so I could not wait to see him perform them live in front of a crowd.

Of course, I was excited to hear and scream-sing along to some of his more popular songs live such as “Dial Drunk,” “Stick Season” and “Homesick.”

And hearing a crowd full of people born and raised in New England scream the lyric “I’m mean because I grew up in New England” pretty much made my entire year.

Some of my favorite songs by Kahan are “Orange Juice” and “Maine,” so to see those performed live as well felt like a privilege.

One song that really surprised me — as it turned out to be my



Photo Contributed by Abigail White

An excited crowd waits for Noah Kahan to take the stage.

favorite song live — was “Carlo’s Song”.

Kahan explained to the crowd that he wrote this song for his friend Carlo, and enjoys playing it on his tour to keep his memory alive.

It was an absolutely beautiful experience to hear this song live, to see the entire venue lift their flashlights and hear the crowd singing the lyrics, and I was almost brought to tears.

“Carlo’s Song” has since become one of my favorite Noah Kahan songs.

Kahan’s sense of humor was also what made his concert so en-

joyable.

In between songs, he would make jokes that made the entire crowd burst out into laughter.

We had lawn seats, so there was plenty of room for us to dance and sing along with complete strangers who were also huge fans of Kahan.

The whole night was an incredible experience and I can confidently say that it was one of my favorite concerts I have ever been to.

If the opportunity to see Noah Kahan live in concert ever presents itself to you, I urge you to buy the ticket! It is so well worth it.



Photo Courtesy of @noahkahanmusic Instagram

Noah Kahan performed at the Xfinity Center in Mansfield, Mass. on Sept. 7, 2023.



COFFEE BREAK

SATIRE, GAMES, PUZZLES AND MORE
Editors: Brooke Lathe, Max Limric, Kathleen Morris



FUN FACTS ABOUT THE FIRST-YEAR CLASS

The most popular birthday is November 1, with 11 students sharing the same day!

The most common names in this year's class are variations of Kate and Katie with 47 students!

228 students had a grandparent, parent or sibling attend Fairfield.

For the gentlemen, the most common name is Michael with 26 students!

98 students attended a Jesuit or Cristo Rey high school.

Statistics Provided By:
Corry Unis, Vice President
for Enrollment Management

The Mirror Staff Back 2 Skewel Playlist:

1. I Can't Be With You - The Cranberries
2. Reina - Mora, Saiko
3. Orange Juice - Noah Kahan
4. Lucy Lucy - Betcha
5. Not Strong Enough - Boy Genius
6. ballad of a homeschooled girl - Olivia Rodrigo
7. Alabama Getaway - Grateful Dead
8. Gato de Noche - Bad Bunny, Ñengo Flow
9. British Bombs - Declan McKenna
10. Sprinter - Dave
11. Mexico - James Taylor



Stag Country Pop Quiz:




1. What new resource was added to the library?
a. _____
2. What is the name of the brand new residential hall?
a. _____
3. What is the name of the new coffee and açai spot on campus?
a. _____
4. What residential hall is currently under renovation?
a. _____
5. What sport was added to the intramural roster? (Hint: It became popular with the older generations first)
a. _____

SPORTS

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

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



Sept. 20	Sept. 21	Sept. 22	Sept. 23	Sept. 24	Sept. 25	Sept. 26
 Photo Contributed by the Sports Information Desk	Women's Tennis West Point Invitational West Point, N.Y. Men's Tennis Fairfield Invitational Fairfield, Conn.	Women's Tennis West Point Invitational West Point, N.Y. Men's Golf Macdonald Cup New Haven, Conn. Volleyball at Siena College 2 p.m. Loudonville, N.Y. Men's Soccer at Rider University Lawrenceville, N.J. 7 p.m. Women's Soccer vs. Rider University Fairfield, Conn. 7 p.m.	Women's Tennis West Point Invitational West Point, N.Y. Men's Golf Macdonald Cup New Haven, Conn. Volleyball at Siena College 2 p.m. Loudonville, N.Y. Men's Soccer at Rider University Lawrenceville, N.J. 7 p.m. Women's Soccer vs. Rider University Fairfield, Conn. 7 p.m.	Field Hockey vs. Villanova University Fairfield, Conn. 1 p.m. Volleyball at Marist College Poughkeepsie, N.Y. 1 p.m. Men's Golf Macdonald Cup New Haven, Conn. Men's Tennis Fairfield Invitational Fairfield, Conn.	Women's Golf Boston College Intercollegiate Canton, Mass.	Women's Golf Boston College Intercollegiate Canton, Mass.
 Photo Contributed by the Sports Information Desk 2023-24 Basketball season tickets are on sale now! Visit FairfieldStags.com for purchase information.		 Photo Contributed by the Sports Information Desk First-year field hockey player Lucie Vincent earned NEC Offensive Player of the Week honors.				

Volleyball Holds Serve at Home in Weekend Back-to-Back

By **DANNY McELROY**
Contributing Writer

The Fairfield University Volleyball team staged a convincing defense of home court at Leo D. Mahoney Arena last weekend, dispatching conference opponents Canisius College and Niagara University in straight sets.

The two game slate began on Saturday against the Golden Griffins. After falling behind early in the first set, the Stags quickly regained control thanks to a 7-0 service run from senior Noelle Carey '24, and rode that momentum all the way through a dominant second set that saw a final score of 25-9.

Canisius responded to make things close in the third, tying the frame at 23 apiece, but the Stags clutched out the last two points to seal the win. The success came off the back of a diverse scoring attack that saw six hitters register four or more kills, led by outside hitter Svenja Rodenbüsch '25 with eight.

"I was very happy with the balance we had on offense," first year head coach

Nancy Somera said, according to the game's official press release. "All six hitters were involved, and that's a credit to them as well as our setters distributing the ball and our passers for keeping us in system."

The victory over Canisius also marked the 300th career win as a coach for Somera, who has spent time at Oregon State, South Carolina, and Division III Johnson & Wales as part of her illustrious collegiate coaching career.

The Stags then faced a quick turnaround, taking on Niagara just a day later on Sunday afternoon. The lack of prep time clearly wasn't a factor, however, as the team raced out to a convincing 25-11 first set win over the Purple Eagles.

The visitors kept things interesting in the second set, which ended 25-20 in favor of Fairfield, but ultimately couldn't keep pace after the Stags laid the hammer down in the third with a convincing 10 point run.

The same balanced hitting that

gave the Stags the advantage over Canisius shone through again. Six hitters tallied over five kills, this time led by outside hitter Mikayla Haut '25 and middle blocker Maya Walker '26, who recorded eight each.

The Stags will carry the 2-0 start to conference play on the road to New York this weekend, where they'll square off with Siena and Marist in another Saturday-Sunday back-to-back.



The volleyball team's inaugural season at Leo D. Mahoney Arena has kicked off.

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- Golf Opens Fall Slate With Multiple Tournament Appearances (Page 15)
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Women's Soccer Pulls Through With Win on Senior Day

BY BILLY MCGUIRE
Assistant Sports Editor

The Fairfield University women's soccer team transitioned from the non-conference portion of their regular season to the conference sector, ending the non-conference segment with a bout against crosstown rival Sacred Heart University and kicking off the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) schedule with a tilt against second-year member Mount St. Mary's University.

The crosstown matchup took place last Wednesday, Sept. 13 on the Sacred Heart campus. The Stags seized control of the contest early, shooting the ball seven times in the first 11 minutes of play. They finally snuck one through at the 18 minute mark, as defender Meghan Carragher '26 executed a successful corner kick, finding the back of sophomore midfielder Sam Kersey's head to put the Stags on top.

The scoreboard remained unchanged for the remainder of the half, as the Stags came out with fire and urgency to begin the second half. Kersey led the charge, finding the back of the net once more at the 46-minute mark to give the Stags a 2-0 advantage. In response to Kersey's second tally of the game, Sacred Heart obtained some degree of resiliency, as they responded with back-to-back goals of their own ten minutes later at the 56 and 59 minute marks to even up the score.

The back-and-forth onslaught continued, as the Stags responded

quickly with a goal of their own thanks to the efforts of forward Maddy Theriault '26, who netted her fourth goal of the season off a helper from her classmate, Carragher, who earned her team-leading five assist of the term to put the Stags back in the driver's seat with a 3-2 lead.

Despite momentum moving in the Stags favor, Sacred Heart found an avenue to tie the game with a goal of their own at the 80-minute mark. Fairfield nearly wrestled control of the game from the Pioneers as midfielder Reagan Klarmann '25 nearly put one through but was blocked

thanks to an amazing effort by the Sacred Heart goaltender. As a result, the Stags drew for the second consecutive contest and saw their record move to 2-3-3.

The Stags kicked off MAAC play at Lessing Field on Saturday, Sept. 16, playing host to second-year conference member Mount St. Mary's University. The conference home opener coincided with senior day, as the Stags honored their six seniors: forwards Angela Filosa '24, Elle Scott '24, midfielders Caroline Kelly '24, Maddie Kiely '24, Allie Kirby '24, defender Sydney Corbett '24 and graduate student midfielder Cailin Panacek

in a ceremony recognizing their contributions to the program over the past few years.

The Stags honored their senior class the right way, blanking the Mountaineers in 3-0 shutout. Scott checked her name on the scorecard early, registering her first goal of the season three minutes into the contest to put the Stags on top with some help from Theriault. They did not concede their role in the driver's chair for the rest of the tilt, as Theriault added two more in the back of the net at the 36 and 57-minute marks, respectively, to put the Stags in a very comfortable

position, collecting her sixth and seventh of the season. Ironically, both of her goals were assisted by seniors, with Filosa helping the sophomore out at the 36-minute mark and Scott providing assurance at the 57-minute mark. Additionally, goaltender Katie Wright '26 recorded her third shutout of the season and her seventh of her career without needing to make a save.

With the win, the Stags improved to a 3-3-3 record. A key component of the Stag's victory was their possession of the ball. The Stags outshot the Mountaineers by a wide margin, 32-7, including a 20-0 deficit in the first half.

Fairfield Head Coach David Barrett expressed relief in the victory.

"I'm pleased to get the three points," Barrett explains, according to the game's official press release. "First win in the league. We said this is the start of the next chapter of our season so we certainly got off to a good start. First half was really good, the second half was pretty good. We're still looking to put together a full 90 minutes of consistency and high level but certainly feel good about this performance today and being 1-0 in the league."

The Stag's next showdown will take place on Saturday, Sept. 23 against Rider University in Lawrenceville, N.J. For more information on the Fairfield University women's soccer team and Fairfield athletics as a whole, please visit www.fairfieldstags.com for more updates.








Photo Contributed by The Sports Information Desk

Women's Soccer honored their six seniors during their 3-0 shutout victory over Mount St. Mary's University on Sept. 16.

Weekly 5x4

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

Because we have witty things to say ...	 <div>Tommy Coppola Editor-in-Chief</div>	 <div>Brooke Lathe Executive Editor</div>	 <div>Max Limric Managing Editor</div>	 <div>Julian Nazario Copy Editor, Head News Editor</div>	 <div>Billy McGuire Assistant Sports Editor</div>
	What was your favorite thing you did this summer?	I turned myself into a Pickleball professional.	I spent all of June living in Italy and it was undoubtedly the best experience of my life.	Teaching my sister tennis. She's getting there!	Going to basketball games with friends.
	What was your favorite cereal growing up as a kid?	Me and Golden Grahams go way back.	Apologies to the top of my mouth but Capt'n Crunch!	KRAVE! And cinnamon toast crunch as well vanilla Mini Wheats.	I was not a cereal guy :-)
	Choose one: Barbie or Oppenheimer?	Boss Baby.	Ryan Gosling ... Margot Robbie ... How is this possibly a debate?	Barbie every day.	Make it BOOM...Oppenheimer.
What are you looking forward to the most this semester?	I'm looking forward to simply making my mark on campus.	Soaking up every single day of my senior year. Where does time go??	The tons of new opportunities as a junior. I'm so old.	Billy. And going to football games.	Hoping for the Giants to not be absolutely humiliated again.

Pickleball Joins Intramural Lineup in Program Overhaul

BY TOMMY COPPOLA
Editor-in-Chief

Ethan Godfrey, Program Coordinator of Competitive Sports at Fairfield University, hatched an idea that would make involvement and demand skyrocket: the up and coming sport of pickleball would now be offered to students. He shared that, over the summer, many students reached out to him asking to bring Intramural Pickleball to Fairfield

University. He fulfilled this wish in communication to students at the beginning of the year. On Wednesday, Aug. 30, Godfrey sent out an email blast to all members of Recreation@Fairfield. Along with announcing the new Fairfield University IMLeagues app, he unveiled that two Pickleball leagues, Men's and Co-Rec, would be slotting into the recreational offerings alongside some familiar faces in 3v3 basketball, volleyball, flag

football and soccer. Godfrey thought that such a pickleball program would garner interest, but not nearly the level he expected; he opened 40 spots for teams (20 Men's, 20 Co-Rec) which completely filled up within 45 minutes of the registration window opening. Within a week, over 112 teams had signed up, according to Godfrey. "And counting," he clarified. Due to this, there is

currently a waitlist for teams to get into the "main roster" of teams in the league. In a Sept. 8 email to registrants, he considered it "a good problem to have!" At its early stages of planning, Godfrey realized how much the faculty on campus loved the up-and-coming sport. "Over the summer, Betsy Blagys [Assistant Director of Fitness and Programming] put together a Faculty/Staff Summer League, where she was able to gather 70-plus members on campus!" he stated. "This was a no-brainer to incorporate this into an intramural sport for our students to enjoy too."

Over the summer, Blagys and her staff used tape to outline three courts in the Leslie C. Quick Jr. RecPlex Fieldhouse. Paddles and balls were provided to participants. Since the summer saw an informal league take place, there will not be much setup involved in the league itself. However, Garrett Nelson '24, one of two Head Supervisors, has helped prepare officials and scorekeepers for the new program. According to him, some officials are being trained to officiate pickleball games, while others work to secure court space. "We have also secured court space to have programming run nearly every day of the week," he mentioned.

Captains of teams have also attended meetings with Godfrey and intramural supervisors to best understand the rules of the league, the restrictions on forfeits and other information. "Captains have attended meetings to understand the rules as well as the department's expectations for the year. In conclusion, it is shaping up to be a great year for intramural sports," Nelson shared. Godfrey believes that the rapid growth of the new intramural offering is sure to be a hit on campus. "I am absolutely thrilled about this new program," he stated. "I believe it will contribute significantly to the overall well-being of our students and I'm looking forward to seeing the positive impact it will have on our campus!" Pickleball has seen large growth around the Fairfield County area in recent months. According to the town of Fairfield's official website, there are 13 pickleball court locations for players to play at. The town's website also states that they offer an open league to any player of any skill level. With the new "IMLeagues Fairfield" app, users now have access to a full interface that includes rulebooks for all intramural offerings and links to schedules, announcements and the intramural handbook.



Pickleball, the newest Intramural Sports offering, has seen a very high amount of demand.

Golf Opens Fall Slate With Multiple Tournament Appearances

BY RYAN MARQUARDT
Head Sports Editor

The Fairfield University men's golf team opened their fall slate on Sept. 10 at the Doc Gimmler on the Red Course at Bethpage State Park where they placed 13th out of the 15 teams at the event. Junior Colin Summers led the Stags by means of shooting an even par through the 54-hole event. Out of the 87 golfers competing, Summers finished in a tie for 22nd. On the par 70 course, Summers shot a 69 on the first day followed by a 70 and 71 on the second and third days, totaling his score at 210. Following Summers, other contributors for the Stags were graduate students Shane DeVincenzo and Patrick McCarthy with Anthony Naples '27 rounding out the trio, who shot +7, +8 and +9 respectively. Columbia University won the competition by a wide margin with a score of 13 strokes better than Georgetown University, who finished second. Columbia was led by Nathan Han, who shot 14 under par throughout the three days and was followed by his teammate DJ Francey, who shot nine under par. The men's team had their second event of the season this past weekend, where they participated in the Ryan T. Lee Memorial Collegiate at the Shuttle Meadow Country Club in Berlin, Conn., where they placed sixth out of the 17 colleges at the event. The Stags were led by

Naples, who shot a 137, which put him at five under par and placed him in a three-way tie for third place in the tournament. He placed three strokes behind Francey, who once again won the tournament this time at eight under par. Summers found the top ten, finishing in eighth overall with a score of two under par. McCarthy was Fairfield's third finisher at four over par after a three-under day one and a seven over day two. Tying for 53rd out of the 80-player field in the tournament were

Peter Crowe '27 and DeVincenzo, who each shot nine over par. As a team, the Stags beat the United States Military Academy by one stroke, taking sixth with an overall score of six over par as a unit. Long Island University won the tournament with an overall score of 10 under par with a 14 under par in round two, helping them to best Columbia University by four strokes. The men's team will continue their season at Yale University on Sept. 23-24 for the

MacDonald Cup. The women's team opened their season at the Hartford Hawks Invitational where they took first place. The Stags were led by three top-ten finishers. Graduate student Julia Towne led the Stags at fifth overall out of the 45-player field. Towne shot nine over par through the tournament after an opening day of just two over par. Following Towne for Fairfield was Julia Rabadam '25, who finished sixth overall by shooting ten over par. The third top-ten finisher was

graduate student Maria Beltran, who came in eighth overall at 12 over par. Outside of the top-ten, the Stags had Katelynn Wacławski '26 at 11th, shooting 14 over par. Rounding out the Stag's starting five was Juliette Prud'homme '26 at 16th overall, shooting 16 over par. The women's golf team will continue their season at the Boston College Intercollegiate in Canton, Mass., on Sept. 25th and 26th.



The Fairfield University Men's Golf Team kicked off their fall season at "The Doc Gimmler" event on Sept. 10 in Farmingdale, N.Y.

Opinion: Winners and Losers From Weeks One and Two

By **BRADY CARTER**
Assistant Sports Editor

Week one of the NFL season is a time for sports fans to be re-introduced to the sport they love and for teams to show what they have been working on during the off-season. With this though comes big winners and huge losers. Among the biggest winners from week one was the Detroit Lions. After just missing the play-offs last year in heartbreaking fashion, the Lions walked into Arrowhead Stadium with confidence. They had a tall task ahead of them as they would take on the defending Super Bowl champion Kansas City Chiefs. This game was a thriller where the Lions won 21-20. Quarterback Jared Goff looked sharp as he went 22/35 with 253 passing yards and a touchdown. Third-year wide receiver Amon-Ra St. Brown looked great, as he had 71 yards receiving off of 6 receptions and a touchdown. First-year Lion David Montgomery looked solid as he had 74 yards off of 21 rushing attempts and a touchdown. The Lions defense was 26th in run defense and 23rd against the pass last season and to only give up 20 points against quarterback Patrick Mahomes and the Chiefs is a huge step in the right direction. I predict that the Lions will win the NFC North this year and will lose in the Wild Card round

of the playoffs.

Another massive winner this week was the Miami Dolphins. The Dolphins looked like the team to beat this week in the American Football Conference as they were victorious over the Los Angeles Chargers in a shootout that ended with a score of 36-34. The show was led by quarterback Tua Tagovailoa and wide receiver Tyreek Hill. Tagovailoa went 28/45 with 466 passing yards and 3 passing touchdowns. Tagovailoa looked as sharp as ever and is certainly one of the top contenders for the NFL Most Valuable Player (MVP) award at the moment. The other star of the show was Hill, who had 215 passing yards off of 11 receptions and two passing touchdowns. The blazing speed of Hill proved to be too much for the Chargers defense and is on pace to have a 2000-yard receiving season. The Dolphins defense looked a bit uneasy without the help of All-Pro cornerback Jalen Ramsey, but their offense was on fire and that was all it took to win the game. I predict the Miami Dolphins to win the AFC East and to lose in the Divisional Round of the playoffs.

While many teams looked great this week, there were also many teams that looked abysmal. The team that looked the worst this week were the New York Giants. The New York Giants



Photo Courtesy of @nygiants Instagram



Photos Courtesy of @NFL Instagram

Jets Quarterback Aaron Rodgers was injured minutes into his first game with his new team.

The New York Giants bounced back from a week one shutout loss by securing a comeback win against the St. Louis Cardinals.

had high expectations this year after making it to the Divisional Round of the playoffs last year. Even more so now with the addition of Pro Bowl tight end Darren Waller. Here is one mind-blowing stat that sums up how poor the Giants performance really was. No team in NFL history has ever lost 40-0 or worse, lost the sack battle 7-0 or worse, lost the turnover battle 3-0 or worse, had a blocked field goal returned for a touchdown, and threw a pick six all in the same season. The hard truth for the Giants is that this all happened in the same game during their 40-0 loss to the Dallas Cowboys on Sunday Night Football. Quarterback Daniel Jones looked disappointing as he went 15/28 with 104 passing yards and two interceptions. Running back Saquon Barkley did not look like the player he was last season, as he had 51 rushing yards off of 12 attempts. I predict the New York Giants to miss the playoffs this year and finish third in the NFC East behind the Eagles and Cowboys.

Another massive loser this week was the Buffalo Bills. The story of this game was the devastating loss of first-year Jets quarterback Aaron Rodgers. The four-time NFL MVP tore his achilles on the fourth play of the game and was not able to

complete a pass. This left the door wide open for the Bills to come in and dominate because this brought in backup quarterback Zach Wilson. Wilson is in his third season in the NFL, but really hasn't proven anything. The Bills were not able to capitalize off of the injury to Rodgers as the Bills lost 22-16. Bills quarterback Josh Allen played one of the worst games of his career, as he threw three interceptions and went 29/41 with 236 passing yards. It wasn't like the three interceptions weren't Allen's fault either. They were deep shots down the field that didn't need to be thrown. Allen needs to focus on moving the ball down the field incrementally instead of going for the home run play. Running back James Cook also had a disappointing game as he rushed for 46 yards off of 12 attempts. Wide receiver Stefon Diggs was the only bright spot for the Bills, as he had 10 receptions for 102 yards and a touchdown. I have confidence that the Bills will be able to tighten things up moving forward and I predict that the Bills will make it to the Divisional Round of the playoffs. Week 1 of the NFL season was filled with many surprises and I can't wait to see how the rest of the season unfolds.