Campus responds to mental health concerns

By Jacob Dawson
CONTENT EDITOR

“My heart broke,” said Allison Pettis, a first-year nutrition student at the University of New Hampshire (UNH) who previously lost a family member to suicide. “Just hearing that someone else on campus was going through the same thing, my first instinct was fear for the family; fear for the person inside the car... It was just a lot of emotions going on.”

“When I found out it was a suicidal person, I was pretty upset and it really shook my [roommate],” junior music education major Emma Eafati told The New Hampshire. “It’s really up-setting to hear someone is going through that.”

“We need to take care of ourselves and each other,” senior history and International Affairs major Brianna Kretkowski said. “I hope the person involved gets the care they need and knows that people care about them.”

“All I really wanted to know was, like, if the kid was okay and making sure that he was somewhere safe afterwards,” Evelyn Moss said while talking about the emergency alerts she received on Sunday night, March 31. The first-year transfer student studying neuroscience and behavior has also lost a loved one to suicide.

At approximately 9:10 p.m. on Sunday night, UNH students, faculty and staff were notified of an “active police incident” at the West Edge Lot. Soon before the first alert was sent, Eafati was returning to the lot with her roommate to pick up her car when a police officer told them to leave as the officer and others were closing the lot. Kretkowski was also parking her car while police officers were first responding to the scene.

Sunday evening, March 31, UNH police responded to a report of a suicidal male in a parked car with a gun. The car was parked in the West Edge Lot. Alerts were sent to the entire university community and some units in the nearby Lodges were evacuated to a common room out of an abundance of caution. The Strafford County SWAT team with a negotiator responded and successfully
Health
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Spaulding renovations

UNH announces $86 million project

By Madailein Hart
STAFF WRITER

The University of New Hampshire (UNH) just announced its plans for an $86 million renovation to Spaulding Hall. This will be the most expensive project the university has undertaken, and $51 million has already been committed by UNH and the University System of New Hampshire (USNH), which consists of UNH, Keene State College, Plymouth State University and Granite State Community College. UNH is asking the state for the remaining $35 million, which they may not get all at once but over a period of time.

This will be a two-phase project. Phase one consists of building a 50,000 square foot L-shaped addition to the sides facing the Paul Creative Arts Center and Academic Way. This addition will include a new entrance, teaching labs, faculty offices, and a public corridor. The addition will also bring the total square footage of the building to 133,000 square feet of space.

The second phase of the project tackles the existing Spaulding structure. UNH architectDoug Bencks explains that they will be keeping the “bones of the building,” but the inside will be completely redone. The first floor of the building will be primarily research labs with one big lecture hall staying place. The second floor will consist of teaching labs, a lecture hall, collection spaces and a common area where students can relax and do homework.

Bencks says the new common area will be about the same size as the one in Hamilton Smith Hall. The top floor will have four more teaching labs as well as a series of graduate student spaces and research labs. On top of these new and upgraded rooms, the construction will also include new heating and cooling, ventilation, fire alarm systems and plumbing systems throughout the building.

“Science buildings are the most complicated buildings for us to build because of the elaborate control systems and air systems related to the chemicals that are used in the sciences,” Bencks said.

Bencks further explained that the construction will be made difficult because of one part of the building always being occupied. While the addition is being built the original Spaulding Hall will remain occupied. When the addition is finished, UNH will move classes that are usually held in Spaulding into either the new addition or into open classrooms in other free spaces around campus.

Spaulding was built in 1960, and while it still serves the university and students well, “It’s getting very tired and very old,” Bencks said. While there were a
Spaulding
continued on page 3

Suicide hotline
1-800-273-8255

PACS phone number
(603) 862-2090

PACS website
https://www.unh.edu/pacs/
UNH faculty member set to debut personal film

Dan Habib, filmmaker of “Intelligent Lives”, is debuting the film on Wednesday, April 10 in the Memorial Union Building.

Restaurant Week returns to Portsmouth

Contributing writer Evan Edmonds gives his take on the annual week of fine dining in the heart of downtown Portsmouth.

Breaking the bank

Sports editors Sam Eggert and Micahel Mawson review the recent flux of high-priced MLB contracts.

New Hampshire, dear to me

Senior contributing writer Tyler Anderson reflects on his personal collegiate experience at UNH ahead of commencement on May 18.

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Mostly Cloudy

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The University of New Hampshire's Psychological and Counseling Services (PACS) and the New Hampshire Suicide Prevention Coalition (NHSPC) announced Friday, April 3, that they have certified over 30 people as QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer) trainers. The New Hampshire Suicide Prevention Coalition (NHSPC) is the state's leading organization for suicide intervention and prevention. QPR training is a national evidence-based suicide intervention program that trains people to recognize the signs and symptoms of suicide, and to intervene when necessary. The training aims to increase the number of people who can recognize and respond to the warning signs of suicide.

NHSPC Executive Director Robert Yorgason said that the certification of over 30 QPR trainers is a significant milestone in the state's effort to reduce suicide rates.

"Since the training was rolled out at UNH in 2016, we've seen an increase in the number of people being trained on campus. The certification of over 30 trainers is a testament to the University's commitment to suicide prevention and intervention," Yorgason said.

The training is available to anyone who wants to learn how to recognize and respond to the warning signs of suicide. It is a 4-hour training that can be completed in a single day or spread over two days. The training includes information on the warning signs of suicide, how to communicate with someone who may be suicidal, and how to refer them to professional help. Participants also learn how to respond to a crisis situation and how to access resources for further support.

The University of New Hampshire is one of the first universities in the nation to have a comprehensive suicide prevention plan in place. The plan includes a multitude of initiatives, such as the QPR training, to increase the number of people who can recognize and respond to the warning signs of suicide.

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Sunday’s four-hour assembly – the 20th of Session XL and the longest of the semester thus far – saw the re-election of Senate Speaker Nicholas LaCourse and a $60,000 “pull” from the Student Activity Fee (SAF) Reserve Account, among other business.

LaCourse, who was originally elected to the position of speaker near the end of Session XXXIX, won over his opponent, Campus Structure Chair and recent Student Body Vice Presidential candidate Devon Geyer, in a nearly four-hour-long “executive session” closed off to the public, per the Senate Bylaws, lasting until just past 10 p.m. Sen. Logan Stevens (Peterson 1 Co-I), External Affairs Chair and recent Student Trustee candidate Liam Sullivan, Parliamentarian David Cerullo, and Health & Wellness Council Chair Jennifer Hargenrader were also offered as potential nominees for the Speaker post in the previous meeting; each one was declined by the Senate.

Council Chair Jennifer Hargenrader were also offered as potential nominees for the Speaker post in the previous meeting; each one was declined by the Senate.

Celebration of the Senate’s Public Relations Committee, as well as the Outreach Director for the Student Activity Fee Committee and, prior to that, a student senator representing Alexander Hall alongside current Student Body President Ethan McClanahan.

LaCourse, in an April 2 interview with The New Hampshire, called Student Senate the “most important part of my college career,” and that Senate has both changed dramatically and remained the same throughout his time in the chamber, as well as thanking his colleagues for their efforts to “realize public interest in the body, but that progress can still be made.

“You know, we’re not perfect; I don’t think any government is ever perfect,” he said. “Senate is a forum for discussions to happen, it’s not so much, like, the discussion in itself. I think, you know, reaching out to students and letting them know that Senate isn’t such a scary place and that it’s really a tool they can use…to effectuate the change they want to see on campus.”

Following LaCourse’s reelection marks just one moment in his long and eventful tenure in the chamber. Prior to succeeding former Speaker Douglas Marino in May 2017 at the end of Session XXXIX, he served as the Director of the Senate’s Public Relations Committee, as well as the Outreach Director for the Student Activity Fee Committee and, prior to that, a student senator representing Alexander Hall alongside current Student Body President Ethan McClanahan.

In seeking a solution to the lost revenue – which, per Veloz, created a $40,000 “windfall” in next year’s budget - Veloz said that both they and Clement would use budget funds to pay for and cover the “windfall,” only presenting it to the Senate for consideration after both Veloz and Clements received the latest undergraduate forecast total enrollment (FTE) report.

Velez, per Clements, stated that the FTE totaled out at a lower 11,850 undergraduates – 550 fewer students than originally predicted – which created a $100,000 deficit for SAFC.

“In this case, that emergency is that we built the FY2020 SAF organization accounts in the SAF budget as a whole on the premise that we would be having an enrollment next year of 12,400…fee-paying undergrads at the amount of $93 per fee-paying undergrad,” Veloz said. “Both those numbers ended up being incorrect; the recommendation was $93 by the Senate to the VPFA’s Office, and then the VPFA informed myself in a meeting between me and the Vice President of Finance & Administration Christ Clement that he would make a major emergency for the SAF budget because that is less revenue that we are generating this year, with some increases – really not even increases within the organization’s budgets because those tend to balance out with the decreases – in that we are trying to account for a lot of administrative costs that it takes to run SAF,” Veloz said.

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Senate Update

March 31, 2019: Meeting 20 of Session 40
The Relay for Life committee on campus is preparing for their biggest event this year—an 18-hour relay for which all proceeds go to the American Cancer Society. The event begins on Saturday, April 27 at noon and ends at 6 a.m. on Sunday, April 28. The New Hampshire spoke with Norah Silverstone, a senior communications major and the head of recruitment of the Relay for Life committee on campus.

“The whole point is that it’s through the night and when you get tired and you don’t want to keep walking you keep walking and fighting on for those who can’t. You’re raising money during the whole event,” she said.

Every aspect of the event goes toward funding. “People are there selling raffle tickets for games. It’s a carnival-themed this year so we’re going to have popcorn, cotton candy and fun carnival games,” she explained.

“I wasn’t on the committee last year, but my best friend and roommate was, so it inspired me to join and get more involved setting it up,” she said. Silverstone’s hoping to expand this year’s numbers.

“So far there’s around 400 signed up. We should see around 900 to 1000 people throughout the event. There are different activities throughout the day. We have a sunset yoga, a Zumba class, a magician is coming as well as a mind reader so there’s all sorts of events. A bunch of a cappella groups are coming too,” she explained.

Silverstone explained the process of registering for Relay for Life. “You create an account online, you can do it at the door if you like. It’ll be $25 at the event. It’s $20 right now but that just goes straight to your fundraising effort. If you raise $100 you get a t-shirt for the event and you get free food throughout the event,” she said.

Anyone with internet access can join the charitable cause. “The official website is relayforlife.org/unh and you can just click on ‘join this event.’ There are teams but also people who do it solo. There are about 40 other teams now and people can join those. A lot of clubs are joining. Sororities, fraternities, athletic departments so it really gets people from different aspects of UNH to come together,” she added.

Silverstone stressed that participants do not need to be marathon-ready to attend. “A lot of people think it is a relay race… Some people run but it’s not an 18-hour relay,” she said. “We’re trying to raise $100,000 for the event. We’re over $40,000 right now. We’re hoping for $100,000,” she said. The event will not be dependent on the weather either. “It’s indoors in the Whittemore Center. They take up the hockey rink and you just walk around the Whit, so weather doesn’t really affect the event,” she said.

Right now, they are working on different techniques to raise the most funds possible. “For people who signed up for Relay in the past week they’ve all been entered into a competition to win a free SCOPE ticket to this year’s concert. Also, the top fundraiser from the past week is also given a free ticket. It’s another little incentive,” she said. The Durham police is also holding an event where people will get to pie an officer in the face to raise money.

The president of the committee, senior therapeutic management major Emma Jones, also explained how she came to be involved with Relay for Life. “I participated my freshman year and then I saw how awesome the event was and some of my friends were involved so I joined my sophomore year and have been on it ever since,” Jones said along with a personal reason why the event meant so much to her. “I do it for my mom. She passed away from cancer when I was a little kid. That’s the reason why I do it. It’s a really moving experience when you’re a part of it and I think planning it has made it even more meaningful for me,” she said.

Both members stressed that the event is a team effort from within and without. “Alpha Phi Omega is our direct service partner. What that means is they have a fundraising page on our website where you can see how APO’s across the country are doing. They have a national fundraising goal of $100,000,” Jones explained. “The APO chapter at UNH has been super helpful. They have a goal of $15,000 and they are almost there, I think they’re at just over $12,000. We’re so appreciative of them,” Jones said. She hopes to outraise the amount they gathered from last year, which she said was about $80,000 after the cost for rentals.

Jones went on to outline the structure of the event. “There are three major ceremonies at the event. Our first major ceremony is the survivor ceremony. We call it our opening ceremony but basically that’s where we honor survivors. We invite survivors to come to our event with their caregivers,” she said.

Silverstone added that “the event starts out with a survival lap. It’s led by cancer survivors in the community.” There is also a speech given at this time. The second ceremony takes place at night. “We have our luminaria ceremony at nine o’clock at night which is to honor those who are still fighting cancer, honor those who we have lost and support survivors as well,” Jones said. There are many poignant, somber, and uplifting activities during and directly after this ceremony.

Then, when morning comes, the third ceremony begins. She explained the significance of the final ceremony. “Technically it’s called the fightback ceremony but it’s our closing ceremony. It’s where we reveal the total number that we have raised. We also do raffle prizes at that time, so we announce all of those,” Jones said. Silverstone added that, “we have a signed Bruin’s stick by a bunch of team players for a raffle prize.” There are also multiple gift cards to local restaurants among other prizes.

For those interested in becoming more involved, Jones stated that, “we meet Tuesday nights at 8:00 in MUB 321.” The Relay for Life event has been a part of this university’s campus for over 10 years.
News

UNH alumni to appear on the History Channel

By Jenna O’del Staff Writer

Three University of New Hampshire (UNH) Thompson School graduates are soon-to-be TV famous, with them and their dairy farm of 200 cows featured on the History Channel’s “The American Farm.” The show premieres the night of April 4 (the night of this printing)

The Thompson School graduates are Si, Nate and Bram Roberton, whom all graduated in the last five years. They are the fifth generation working Boohan Farm in Contoocook, New Hampshire, about an hour west of UNH’s Durham campus, and the fourth generation to graduate from UNH. Boohan Farm’s creamery, Contoocook Creamery, produces bottled milk and cheese, with products as varied as Maple-wood smoked cheddar cheese and blueberry milk.

Owing to the various components of the farm and creamery is split amongst the brothers and their parents. As Nate explained, he “manage[s] the herd and the health of the cows,” while Si focuses on the crops for feeding the cows, “manag[ing] what mixes go where for fields, [doing] soil test[ing], and making sure that we’re doing everything we can to stay on top of that.”

Brum “works on the creamery side in the bottling… and distribution.” Si said. Their mother does “most of the financial work… and manages the calves,” and their father coordinates all parts of the farm.

Their family has been running Boohan Farm, currently 440 acres, since 1907, when it was originally a 100-acre subsistence farm, meant to feed only the family working the farm. Si described the farm’s history: “My great-grandfather… had a farm to feed his family and then had a little bit left over to sell at the market, and when his sons came back in the ’30s, they really transformed it into a commercial dairy farm.”

Those sons were “pretty progressive farmers,” Si continued, describing new technology the sons and the next generation installed. “In the late ’80s early ’90s our mum and dad came back to the farm, and we’ve continued that progressive streak, staying up with modern technology in dairy farming.”

With each generation we kept adding on more and more land, more and more cows, growing the operation so that we can bring the next generation back, Bram added. In 2018, the brothers heard that a new show focusing on U.S. farming was in the works, and applied to be part of it. After an interview process, they, along with five other families from as far away as Alaska, were selected to be the focus of “The American Farm.” The show intends to “give everybody a picture of what we as American farmers do every day,” Si said. The timeline of the series “starts in the springtime and goes through [until] the fall,” focusing on “how our days change.”

The brothers are eager for the premiere. “We’re really excited for the show to come out,” Si said. “Definitely nervous too, but mostly excited, and we’re really excited to try and let people know what we’re doing out here every day.”

The show premieres in Cole Hall at 10:00 p.m. preceded by a reception and question-and-answer session with the Robertson family beginning at 8:30 p.m. All events are free, but registration is required: https://www.eventbrite.com/c/history-channel-premiere-of-the-american-farm-featur- ing-contoocook-creamery-rick-ets-59382214803.

Preview of UNH staffer’s film “Intelligent Lives”

By Emily Duggan Staff Writer

Filmmaker and University of New Hampshire (UNH) Institute on Disability faculty member Dan Habib aims to improve people’s understanding of the ways people with intellectual disabilities can transition to adulthood through a showing of his film, “Intelligent Lives,” on Wednesday, April 10.

The film follows three students, Micah Fialka-Feldman, a Syracuse University student with a low IQ; Naier Shaheed, a Dorchester, MA high school student who is on the Autism spectrum, and Naomi Monplasir, a Thompson School graduate from high school, and thus, they become part of the 15 percent of people with intellectual disabilities that are employed.

Owing to his first film, “Including Samuel,” from the Federation for Children with Special Needs in 2011. “Chris and his powerful voice and presence was a perfect fit for the narration,” Habib said. “As we got to production, I re-read Marianne’s [Cooper] beautiful book ‘Jesse: A Mother’s Story,’ Marianne, Chris, and I realized that Chris telling their own experiences with their son, Jesse, could be an important component of the film.”

Habib got the inspiration for the film from his son, Sum, who has cerebral palsy, and just recently graduated from Concord High School in New Hampshire. Habib first dabbled in filmmaking with his debut feature film, “Including Samuel,” which focused on his son and earned him an Emmy nomination.

“My own son, Samuel, is 18 and figuring out how he wants to transition into adulthood,” he said. “Samuel is a recent high school graduate, had a job last summer and is taking, and pass[ing], college classes.”

In New Hampshire, more than 35,000 residents have an intellectual disability, according to the UNH-4U website, and 74 percent between the ages of 16-30 are unemployed. Currently, there is no “single federally approved” college or university program devoted to help students in New Hampshire with intellectual disabilities once they graduate high school.

However, in January 2019, the University of New Hampshire (UNH) on Disability received a $150,000 grant to support the startup of UNH-4U, a college program designed for students with intellectual disabilities to be able to complete a two-year Comprehensive Transition Program.

“UNH-4U will combine traditional classroom time with inclusive housing options, peer mentoring and academic coaches from same-age peers,” Tobey Patch-Davies, the Project Director on Poverty and Disability at the UNH-Institute on Disability, said. “We’re excited to establish a model that will help young people with intellectual disabilities achieve their life goals through meaningful careers.”

The career path offered through UNH-4U is similar to the one Fialka-Feldman, in the film took – he is now a hired TA through the Syracuse University system. Habib notes that a college community, as seen in the film, can become stronger when committed to accommodating all types of disability.

“Regular, paid jobs can be and should be accessible to any one with a disability,” Habib said. “And postsecondary opportunities – whether that is college, or vocational training – should be available to everyone. The people featured in the film show what is possible when we have high expectations for people with disabilities and provide them with the support they need to be successful.”

Habib is part of the Current Issue Lectures Series in the Memorial Union Building and will be speaking on April 10, after a free screening of “Intelligent Lives.”

The story of the Thompson farm is told in the new documentary “Intelligent Lives,” which will be screened at the Union Memorial Union on April 10. The show will be followed by a reception and a panel discussion. For more information, please visit the UNH-Institute on Disability and UNH-4U websites.
A COLSA professor merges science and art

By Jenna O’del
STAFF WRITER

Scientific illustration is a “technical drawing or artwork” of a scientific concept, according to Dr. Steffen Poltak, a lecturer in the College of Life Sciences and Agriculture (COLSA) at the University of New Hampshire (UNH). Poltak, when he does not teach anatomy and physiology classes, is a scientific illustrator completing his first-year teaching at UNH.

Scientific illustrations are the images on a PowerPoint slide, or in a textbook, depicting everything from how blood moves through the body to a satellite in space. These illustrations visualize concepts that can be hard to picture, and emphasize biological or physical features that a picture alone may not do justice.

“A lot of times, especially with tissue or something like an insect leg,” a scientific feature is too small or unassuming to interpret accurately, which expects that illustrations are drawn and scaled as accurately as possible. “With Michelangelo and [his] David sculpture, the hand is way out of proportion from what it’s supposed to be, but it really accessible when you use different stimuli to get people interested,” Poltak said.

Currently, as Poltak settles into teaching at UNH, he is focusing on personal and commissioned work. Illustrations on his website, made of mixed media such as watercolor, pencils, and carbon dust, show a lontiof, a nautilus, a portion of a human skeleton.

Many scientific organizations depend on scientific illustrators, from Science Magazine to the Smithsonian Institution. One illustrator who worked for the Smithsonian and the National Institute of Health taught Poltak traditional scientific illustration techniques.

Poltak has used these techniques, as well as photography and digital imaging courses he took in college, to make illustrations for textbooks and presentations in papers he’s written on genetics, evolution, and biofilms, which are species of bacteria that produce a fibrous structure (think slime).

Poltak’s and others’ scientific illustrations teach not only scientists and students of science, though. “You see it as the movement now for science to be conveyed to the average person.” Poltak said and mentioned Neil Degrasse Tyson, the astrophysicist who has hosted TV, museum and a variety of other educational programs, and written books to teach people about the cosmos.

“Science can be really interesting for a lot of people based on the jargon we use and the technicality of it, but it’s really accessible when you use different stimuli to get people interested,” Poltak said.

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Poltak’s and others’ scientific illustrations teach not only scientists and students of science, though. “You see it as the movement now for science to be conveyed to the average person.” Poltak said and mentioned Neil Degrasse Tyson, the astrophysicist who has hosted TV, museum and a variety of other educational programs, and written books to teach people about the cosmos.

“Science can be really interesting for a lot of people based on the jargon we use and the technicality of it, but it’s really accessible when you use different stimuli to get people interested,” Poltak said.

Currently, as Poltak settles into teaching at UNH, he is focusing more on personal and commissioned work. Illustrations on his website, made of mixed media such as watercolor, pencils, and carbon dust, show a lontiof, a nautilus, a portion of a human skeleton.

Many scientific organizations have strayed from being totally realistic. “I’m not just doing strict scientific illustration. Sometimes I take artistic license, and combine forms and play with proportions and make cooler things…that I think are interesting in terms of form and function.” He has drawn a ‘brain fish,’ a fish covered in the grooves of a brain, and a candy cane-striped seahorse. One of the reasons Poltak draws these fantastical organisms is to study a particular feature; to emphasize that feature.

Poltak looks to the art nouveau period from the turn of the 20th century, expressionism, and Michelangelo’s David for inspiration for his fantastical organisms. “I felt very restricted by some of the parameters of scientific illustration traditionally,” which expects that illustrations are drawn and scaled as accurately as possible. “With Michelangelo and [his] David sculpture, the hand is way out of proportion from what it’s supposed to be, but it really emphasizes the power of the hand and the anatomical form.”

Soon, students interested in traditional scientific illustration may be able to enroll in a scientific illustration course with Poltak. The course is currently in the proposal process, but is intended to focus on bioengineering and biomimicry, or building inventions and sculptures after features found in nature. Students would learn computer-aided design, 3D printing, and 3D modeling techniques.

For now, though, Poltak works individually with students interested in scientific illustration, and welcomes others to participate as well.
 SCOPE discusses previous lineup history

By Rose Correll STAFF WRITER

For members of the Student Committee On Popular Entertainment (SCOPE) gearing up for their latest concert on Friday, Apr. 12 featuring Lil’ Baby and J.I.D., the process of choosing who to embrace the stage of the Whitmore Center is more extensive than one might think.

“The process includes discussing the hottest current acts with our agent, surveys with the UNH student body and brainstorming artists in SCOPE that will match the criteria we have developed for a show,” Stephen Rutherford, SCOPE’s executive director, said.

Rutherford ensures popular, relevant entertainment for the UNH students and concedes that because of UNH administration, police, fire, emergency services and student organization leaders. There are 25 members of SCOPE that Rutherford has to manage as well as the new members that join each year.

Students looking at the events page of SCOPE’s Facebook will see lots of up and coming artists and even some more established ones; however, one may notice the lack of female performers in the line-ups. The music industry has an underrepresentation of female artists, and those who do make it in the business, either are low-priced or too expensive to bring to the university, [according to Rutherford.]

“Addison explained how this one particular female performer in many genres are either very small and low priced and will not sell enough tickets for us to make revenue, or they are up and coming and popular yet way too expensive because of the lack of options in the category,” Rutherford said.

Executive director of Electronic Dance Music Community (EDMCon), Mara Breen agrees with Rutherford that there is not enough female representation in the music industry.

“A majority of DJ’s and producers within the EDM world are male,” Breen said. “I have tried finding female DJ’s and producers to book for EDMc, but the problem is either A. finding an artist to tour with the point b. finding an artist we believe would drive the students to come to our events. The unfortunate reality is that female artists are harder to find, especially for student organizations who work with a budget and have a primary focus of reaching the students.”

Not having female performers is not something SCOPE does intentionally, it is just an unfortunate result of the lack of female artists. SCOPE tries to bring more female artists to their concerts, and they hope that this is something they can achieve in the next year.

SCOPE was established in 1971, and is seen by many students as one of the most popular organizations that UNH students as one of the most popular organizations that UNH students have access to. As well as financial aid advisors, there are study abroad awards and funds that COLA students can apply too. Students are able to use financial aid toward studying abroad as well.

Students can reach out to “Global Ambassadors” to learn more information about the programs that are offered. The Global Ambassadors are UNH students who have previously studied abroad, and are available as a resource for those who plan to do the same.

Global Ambassador Emma Addison studied abroad in New Zealand at Victoria University in Wellington through a program called CISabroad. Addison chose this option due to the fact that it was on the cheaper side of other programs offered.

Addison explained her experience and one of the reasons she decided to become a Global Ambassador.

When she was going through the process of finding a program, she was told it may be harder to study abroad because of her major in occupational therapy. Even with a heavy workload and a busy schedule, she was set on going.

Addison explained that she wanted to get the chance to tell other students that it was possible to go abroad even if they are told it will be hard to find time in their school schedule with their major.

“I loved my time abroad and I honestly think it was one of the best decisions I made here at UNH. I wanted to be able to help others who might think it’s not something they could fit in with their major.”

Advice that she gives to students who are thinking about going abroad is to “do it! Even if people tell you it’s going to be hard to fit in or try and convince you you’re going to miss out on things at UNH, don’t believe them. It is not a decision you will regret.”

Study abroad programs aim to attract students

By Melanie Tymn CONTRIBUTING WRITER

UNH offers over 400 study abroad programs around the globe for students to choose from. Through financial aid and advising, there are resources for students to be able to spend time abroad.

New study abroad programs open up every one to two years. This past January, there was a new program to Cuba added to the long list of countries that students can go to. Next year, faculty hope to add one in Budapest. Previously, the Budapest program was split into a fall semester justice studies program and a spring semester humanities program, according to James Parsons of the College of Liberal Arts (COLA) study abroad program at UNH.

Many students who previously went abroad have shared their experiences with others.

UNH alum Eva Bergstrom studied abroad in Ghana and explained how this one particular program “stood out to me as an experience that would be totally different. I was between some other really amazing options but ultimately decided that this would be the best one for me because I was looking for something totally different from my little town in New Hampshire.”

Bergstrom said that the one thing that she was most surprised about was the cultural integration and how it was a lot harder to adjust to society back in the Granite State after she returned.

“There’s a sense of urgency and always getting better and getting more things that there wasn’t in Ghana. Everything was slower and more relaxed and everything seemed happy with the way things were, living in the moment and not constantly wishing for something different,” she said.

The COLA study abroad program offers the most programs out of any college at UNH. Students from all colleges and majors are welcome to apply.

Every year, 200 to 400 students go through the study abroad programs at UNH. There are programs that are offered for a full semester, during the January term and during the summer.

Students may have preconceived notions about study abroad programs, many of them relating to financial costs.

“Some study abroad programs are less expensive than taking classes here at UNH,” Parsons said.

Parsons explained the process of applying for programs and what students can do to plan out the financial costs of their trip.

There is a formal online application that students must complete before the semester begins so that they plan on going abroad. After being eligible to study abroad, students have to fill out an internal application as well. The faculty director will review the application and determine the eligibility of the student. Depending on the program, students need a GPA of 2.5 to be approved to go abroad.

There are many resources that students can utilize when planning to study abroad. UNH offers advising through faculty and students who have been through the study abroad program. Students can speak to study abroad advisors and faculty directors to help with the finances of their trip.

As well as financial aid advisors, there are study abroad awards and funds that COLA students can apply too. Students are able to use financial aid toward studying abroad as well.

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Upward Bound provides college prep support to talented NH high students by providing them experience with residence hall life while living with other Upward Bound students and offering classes that will help prepare them for their next year in school. TMs provide support through tutoring, creative problem-solving challenges, and culturally enriching activities. If you have a strong academic background, and want to help students achieve their goals during our summer residential program, we can offer you a dynamic working environment and extensive training! Work-study preferred but not required.

UNH Upward Bound is seeking qualified candidates to teach our Pre-Calculus/Calculus, Algebra, and Physics courses. Bachelor’s degree required. Preference will be given to candidates who have experience working with high school students and personal experience with, or understanding of, the challenges faced by low income students who will be the first in their families to attend college.

By Valeriia Kholmanskikh
STAFF WRITER

The Women’s studies program at the University of New Hampshire (UNH) has become its own studies department, after having existed for about 40 years as a unanimous College of Liberal Arts (COLA) faculty vote; the idea of the program becoming a department appeared at UNH back in 2006.

“It was always its own free-standing program cobbled together by professors from different departments,” Women’s Studies Chair Siobhan Senier, a professor in the English department, said. “Becoming a department is something we have talked about for a long time.”

The program has established itself as a part of UNH over the years, so not many things will change within the department. “We have in many ways just been acting like a department for a really long time,” Senier said. “Students can major in women’s studies just like you would in a real department.”

Dean Michele Dillon of COLA said the change is mainly symbolic. “Symbolically, this is very significant; telling students, telling faculty that yes, Women and Gender Studies really is a serious important subject area within the academy,” Dillon said.

Although Dillon said that the program’s funding would not change significantly, certain alterations to the program are to be expected. “Now that we are a women’s studies department, we could hire someone who is just a women’s studies professor as opposed to an English professor who happens to offer Women’s Studies courses,” Senier said. “We can also promote and tenure those professors.”

Obviously, promoting the women’s studies program to a department means focusing more on the issues of gender, which is the main area of study for the department.

“It just has a little more energy, it is already a highly energetic faculty and student group,” Dillon said. “This just brings a new energy and a new appreciation that these types of issues deserve the higher possible levels of acknowledgement and affirmation within the university.”

For the students in women’s studies, the change has a meaning, too. “Becoming a department will encourage more funding, more awareness on campus, more representation,” Clara Perron, a senior English and justice studies major and women’s studies minor, said.

“It validates our experiences,” senior women’s studies major Dani Tovar said. “I think as a white cisgender straight male-dominated campus and country that we are, it’s so important that the minority groups have representation.”

Women’s Studies program becomes solo department

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Courtesy of UNH Women’s Studies
Alumna Ella Nilsen ‘13 discusses modern journalism

By Benjamin Strawbridge

NEWS EDITOR

UNH alumna and Vox Politics and Policy reporter Ella Nilsen shared her rise from local to national news coverage in a Tuesday, April 2 presentation as she served as the year’s Donald M. Murray Visiting Journalist. Speaking to an audience of roughly 20 UNH students, faculty and other guests, Nilsen, who graduated from UNH in 2013 with a major degree in history and minors in writing and Asian Studies, discussed her current position as a Washington-based reporter covering Congressional Democrats, taking time to highlight her biggest articles that covered topics such as last December’s government shutdown and Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh’s appointment to the court. She also discussed her current position as a Washington-based reporter covering Congressional Democrats, taking time to highlight her biggest articles that covered topics such as last December’s government shutdown and Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh’s appointment to the court.

Calling it the “main” part of her talk, Nilsen told the body about her ascension from UNH to Vox, starting with her experiences as a political reporter at Main Street Magazine, interning at New Hampshire Public Radio and working nights at Foster’s Daily Democrat. Following this, she obtained her first full-time job at the Keene Sentinel where she primarily covered healthcare and the NH opioid crisis; she called the experience at the Sentinel her “first foundation in journalism.”

“I had a great editor; I had a lot of freedom to pursue projects…to do a little digging and do some investigations, and that was great,” she said.

Nilsen afterwards moved to the Concord Monitor, where she stayed for two and a half years and got the chance to cover the presidential campaigns of Bernie Sanders and Donald Trump during the 2016 N.H. presidential primary at what she called the “perfect time.” Nilsen also recalled a story in which, while seeking to interview then-candidate Trump after a rally, she mistook him for a fan and offered to take a photo with her instead of an interview; she later got a photo of Trump backstage signing a pledge to cut taxes.

“I was really lucky to be a young reporter in New Hampshire at this time because presidential candidates are literally just coming to town,” Nilsen said. “Like you, you really don’t have to go anywhere; you don’t have to go to Washington, D.C., or anywhere else to cover them. They’re just flocking to New Hampshire; it’s a really great place as a young reporter to get exposed to national campaign coverage and get exposed to…all these political reporters there to make connections.”

Following her time at the Monitor, Nilsen arrived in Washington and, after taking time to adjust to the city’s unique “political bubble,” utilized connections she had made during her time at the Monitor to reach out to outlets like Politico and CNN. After months of job-seeking, Nilsen recalled receiving an offer in Jan. 2017 from an editor at Vox. Nearly six months later, she finally moved to Washington to manage Vox’s daily email newsletter as part of a three-month contract with “no guarantee” of a full-time job. Ultimately, at the end of the three months, Vox promoted Nilsen to a full-time position where she took on general assignment reporting on top of her work on the newsletter before joining their congressional team covering House Democrats after a previous member left their position.

Nilsen stressed that although reaching out to and interviewing key political figures is the meat of her work on Capitol Hill, she spends more time than not writing for politicians to come to her, especially while crowded and surrounded by dozens of other journalists seeking the same opportunity.

“So, a lot of my job looks like this, which is standing in hallways or walking very fast through hallways trying not to, like, bump into the reporter in front of you as you’re all moving in this mass around whatever member of Congress,” she said. “But…there’s always stuff happening, it’s really interesting.”

For part of her presentation, Nilsen displayed a PowerPoint showcasing her own photos of key figures and events she had covered, as well as images from other photographers and news outlets featuring her in the shot, often seen using her smartphone to capture audio of the scene at hand from politicians like Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) and Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-NY).

Nilsen also offered advice to attendees aiming to pursue journalism or similar fields after college, such as stressing the importance of asking questions and not being fearful of asking “stupid” questions, how to get to know a subject without “befriending” them, and the need to write stories in ways that so that readers of varying knowledge of a given topic can understand their content and purpose. After her talk, Nilsen answered audience questions where she gave her thoughts on broadcast journalism, where graduate students seeking national journalism jobs should look for work and make connections, how journalists should cover the Trump administration and its official claims and statements and how to seek out objective news sources and steering clear of “political spin” from both sides.

Nilsen, in an interview with The New Hampshire following the event, said that one of her favorite aspects of journalism is the chance to ask questions and uncover the lives of subjects she covers, but that she is also driven by “the freedom to pursue stories that are interesting to me, to be able to tell stories that I thought were important, and to shine a light on things that I thought needed to be told.” She added that she hopes to write for publications like The New York Times and the Washington Post later in her career.

“I think that those are incredible news organizations that are able to tell really amazing stories and have a lot of resources to do so,” she said.

Ella Nilsen ’13 speaks to UNH students and faculty members regarding her experiences as a political commentator for Vox

Benjamin Strawbridge/TNH Staff
By Benjamin Strawbridge
NEWS EDITOR

Getting off the ground is just the beginning for Aviation Club President Eric Ciarla and Co-Vice President David Miner as they hope to take local student interest in aerospace, aviation and flying to new heights with their newly founded student organization.

Ciarla, a first-year computer science major, said that the club took off after he promoted the idea through a Facebook post, partly inspired by his own experiences as a pilot-in-training outside of UNH seeking a private pilot license.

“I just wanted to find some likeminded people who also enjoyed aviation and I wanted to share that passion with UNH,” he said.

Miner – a junior mechanical engineering major who serves as vice president alongside first-year student Ava Mitchell – recalled hearing about the club through Ciarla’s post.

“I saw it and was like, ‘Hey, that sounds like a really cool idea,’” he said, “and so I kind of jumped in, was like, ‘I know a thing or two about aircraft!’”

Miner explained that while the club is still attempting to finalize its “ultimate goal,” it would primarily focus on “giving people an outlet” to talk and learn more about the basics and specifics of aviation. He added that the organization plans to use its connections to the nearby Portsmouth-based CHI Aerospace flight school to encourage its members to engage in flight training at a discount.

Ciarla noted that, due to “liability,” the club itself is not authorized to offer flight training as an “official” activity. As a result, he said that the club’s on-campus activities would work to emphasize the “social” aspects of aviation, such as watching movies about flying, engaging in networking events, off-campus tours of local airports, community service and volunteer work, and inviting, according to Miner, “industry professionals” and local workers in the field as guest speakers from time to time.

The club held its inaugural information meeting on March 18, where it welcomed seven new members.

“I was really excited about the informational meeting because I wanted to figure out what others expected when they heard about an aviation club,” Miner said. “So one of the questions I had for the people who showed up was, ‘what do you expect to get out of this;’ Because, based on what people want, that could help to shape our plans for the future. So, you know, we might have an idea of what we want it to be, but some other people might have their own ideas, and by taking everybody’s thoughts into account, we can get a… more accurate vision for what we do moving forward.”

Ciarla and Miner see their club as a way to bring attention to what the president called an “underserved” topic and bring fans of aviation of all skill levels together in an environment that allows them to learn about aviation in a more active manner, especially since they said it had not been offered since the college’s former flying club left campus years ago.

“…it gives people an outlet; you know, people who like aircraft, flight, anything related to airlines, all that kind of stuff; people who looking for advice, maybe they’re trying to get into flying and they don’t know much about it; you know, ‘where do I start?’ You know, well, maybe we can help.”

As of April 3, it currently boasts 10 members. It hopes to hold meetings every other Monday in Room 101 in the North Wing of Kingsbury Hall.

Ciarla said that his love for aviation, and the club’s mission, stems from the feeling of being thousands of feet off the ground, calling the experience “something else.”

“I think our end goal for that [the club] is to build a community on campus who really enjoys aviation and promotes the interests of aviation,” he said.
This day in The New Hampshire history...

By Marcus Weisgerber and LisaArsenault
Staff Writers

The day began with eyes set on the NCAA Men’s Division I hockey crown. Students planned which classes they would skip and from which of the many set up around campus they would view the game.

Fans filled the MUB, Hamel Recreation Center, town bars, dorm rooms and fraternities to watch their #3 nationally ranked UNH Wildcats take on the University of Maine in the Frozen Four semifinal.

At the same time, police in cruisers and transport vans, on foot and on horseback, patrolled the community.

More than 70 law enforcement agencies were mounted and ready for a rowdy reaction by hockey fans, and the administration were making preparations for a championship celebration. All was bought to a screeching halt, though, when the UNH men’s hockey team was defeated in a 4-2 rout by Maine.

The game was televised on campus in the Rec Center lounge and at the MUB in the theater II, the food court, Strafford room, and TV lounge and off campus at local bars. According to cadet Linda Cicirici, the game was offered a $250 special for a whole cheese pizza and two sodas throughout the game.

“The energy is flowing throughout the building,” said sophomore Bryan Ames, standing in the MUB food court at the end of the first period. Ames, whose face was painted blue and white, said that it was great that the University put such effort into televising the game across campus.

At the end of the second period, the mood shifted from excitement to nervousness with Maine holding a 2-1 edge. Professor Tom Ashwell, who teaches a sports broadcasting class, watched the game from the TV lounge in the MUB with some of his students. Ashwell admitted that he had a bad feeling about the outcome of the game.

Others had feelings about the game were due to the announcing. Freshman Scott Ostrem said that the commentators on ESPN seemed to play favorites to Maine the entire game and didn’t give UNH the respect they deserved.

Senior Sam Leggatt said, “I slept through the third period because it was just getting worse.”

Some still held onto hope, though. Sophomore Mollie Savage, who was watching the game from theatre II, said it was much better watching the game on the big screen than on her nine-inch television in her room. Savage said she was nervous but had confidence the Wildcats would comeback in the third.
Too Many Zooz’ rise from the bottom:
An interview with the King of Sludge

By Adrienne Perron
STAFF WRITER

When it comes down to it, the success of Brasshouse band Too Many Zooz came from a video taken on an iPhone. King of Sludge (KOS), the drummer of Too Many Zooz, said that the band had no intentions of fame when they first started playing together in the subway seven years ago.

“Our break came from participating in a long tradition of street performers in New York, our dedication to being [in the subway] and how much time we play [music],” he said.

KOS, originally from Indianapolis, said the first day that the three members of the band played together on the L platform of the New York City subway was a spiritual one.

“People stopped and were like, ‘What the hell is that?’” KOS said. “So obviously we decided we were going to do it again.”

The other members of Too Many Zooz include Leo Pellegrino, who plays the baritone saxophone, and Matt Muirhead, who plays the trumpet. Pellegrino, originally from Pittsburgh, and Muirhead, originally from Boston, met while studying at the Manhattan School of Jazz. The genre of music that the band plays, Brasshouse, was coined by KOS, and as far as he knows, no other band is doing exactly the same genre.

“There was really no origination to the style other than us knowing we wanted to be in a band where we could play how we wanted to play and what we wanted to play,” KOS said.

“So what happened with that is people would come and ask us what kind of style of music we [played] and we never really had an answer... the kind of music that we agreed we liked was house music and EDM and hip-hop, and so I was like well why don’t we just call it Brasshouse, and we just went with it.”

Brasshouse is not the only name that KOS has created. He christened himself the King of Sludge when he was living in Harlem. KOS said that he was living with a hoarder at the time and it reminded him of living in dirt and grunge. He then made the association that sludge is “the stuff that falls to the bottom” which reminded him of playing the bass drum.

KOS first met Pellegrino while both members were performing with the Drumadics, a percussion group that played in the subway. After Pellegrino took another saxophone player’s spot in the band one summer, KOS asked the group members if anyone wanted to play extra in the subway to make more money. Pellegrino agreed, and he, KOS and KOS’s son played together in the subway for a period of time.

When KOS’s son went back to school in the fall, Pellegrino and KOS decided to continue playing music together. One day, KOS said that Muirhead was sleeping on Pellegrino’s couch and was invited to play with the duo.

“And that was the beginning of Too Many Zooz,” KOS said.

The band name, according to KOS, came from Pellegrino’s friends who had been looking for their own band name. They didn’t want to use the name “Too Many Zooz” and so passed it on to Pellegrino for his own band.

Although some bands might sound kind of like Too Many Zooz, KOS said that the way that the band approaches making music is different than the processes of a lot of artists. He said that the band’s music is always changing due to the fact that the tools the band uses for music are always changing. When they perform in the subway, they use tools to make music that they bring to the subway. When they make music in the studio, they use the tools that are in the studio.

“There’s no limits on how we see music,” KOS said.

“The Passionate Foodie

The Breakfast Club

An Ode to Soulja Boy

PORTSMOUTH & THE SEACOAST WEEK
Seacoast Restaurant Week is in full swing

By Evan Edmonds
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Boxes of different foods are stacked up almost to the top of the freezer. There are four large 12-by-20-inch pans stacked on top. They are layered with three to four sets of freshly made coconut shrimp from the kitchen, left to freeze in bulk for the impending weekend rush.

The coconut shrimp, among many other new items, will be available to customers on the new menu at the River House in downtown Portsmouth for Spring 2019’s Restaurant Week. The event began on March 28 and runs through April 6, and involves over 40 restaurants on the Seacoast. During the 10 day “Restaurant Week,” participating establishments offer selective three-course meals for discounted prices. For those restaurants, the event provides an opportunity to generate more business and make new dishes, but also give customers the chance to eat at places they might not normally visit.

The River House is offering lots of new options for customers, such as pork belly and coconut shrimp appetizers, as well as grilled New York sirloin and barbecue ribs. Sous-chef Mike Borque has been at The River House for around eight to nine restaurant weeks now, and he said that Restaurant Week allows establishments to offer more affordable food so customers can come in, pay less than they would have and, “hopefully come back and give us their money again.” Even as a long time Portsmouth resident and long-time member of the restaurant community, Borque said, “Maybe I’ll actually go out to restaurant week,” when talking about the different restaurants he could try with good deals.

Kitchen Manager Daud Silllueta said, “If you want to go on a date with your girlfriend, take her to Massimo on Restaurant Week,” because you can get a high-end dinner for a lower price. Ristorante Massimo offers a “formal dining experience,” according to their website, but during Restaurant Week, it won’t solely be catering to a fancy crowd.

Conner Welch, a cook at Massimo, said he expects more people and bigger crowds during Restaurant Week. He said it’ll be more consistently busy at Massimo throughout the week with lots of people that don’t usually eat there. He said there is more kitchen prep, but the dishes aren’t any harder to make. Ristorante Massimo is offering new options like swordfish, which is cheaper for the kitchen to get than usual options according to Welch; but it will sell even more because it’s different from their usual options. While the “Salmon di Re,” or pan-seared salmon, is a $30 dish at Massimo normally, customers can enjoy a three-course meal for the same price during Restaurant Week.

This offer is available at all of the restaurants participating in the event. Customers can enjoy a three-course meal at lunch for $16.50, and at dinner for $30. With these deals available, general manager of The River House, Justin Rivlin, said Restaurant Week lets restaurants take a more creative approach to their menus. He said they still need to cover costs because they are offering the cheaper deal, but restaurants might use a discounted food, which they buy in bulk, to do so. For example, their kitchen got a good deal on the ribs by being offered due to their bulk purchase for Restaurant Week, he said.

For the River House, Rivlin said customer influx is moderate because customers generally fall into the middle class, and people tend to use Restaurant Week to take advantage of the cheaper prices at fancier restaurants. That didn’t stop the River House from filling up Saturday night; yellow tickets lined the board and the restaurant had a consistent 35-minute wait. The downstairs bar was packed with people chattering nonstop at an unusually high volume. It was so crowded with business that a family of three with a baby (that chose to remain anonymous) asked to move from their seats to a quieter spot on the balcony.

Miranda Dow, a server at Wentworth by the Sea in Newcastle, said Sunday night was busier than usual. Being a UNH student herself, Dow said she would encourage students to take the opportunity restaurant week offers and “explore the delicious and beautiful restaurants Portsmouth has to offer.”

There is one restaurant in Durham that participates in Restaurant Week, but according to restaurant manager of three years Katie MacManes of the Three Chimneys Inn, there doesn’t seem to be an increased number of college students coming into the restaurant. Despite this, MacManes said they are busier during Restaurant Week, and it is “definitely a time where you want to make a reservation.” Rather than college students, MacManes said more parents eat at the Inn during Restaurant Week. She said it gives them incentive to come to Durham to see their kids, as well as attracting people from neighboring towns like Exeter and Portsmouth who want to try something new.

In addition to the restaurant deals, several locations in Portsmouth are offering lodging discounts to encourage new people to stay and try the food. The Port Inn Portsmouth is offering 10 percent off their overnight rates, while The Hotel Portsmouth is offering 15 percent off; but Restaurant Week isn’t solely attracting visitors. The “Go Portsmouth NH” website sums up Restaurant Week nicely when it states that the Seacoast restaurants participating are “inviting you to enjoy great meal values during lunch and dinner over these 10 days.”
Despite having made connections during the band’s musical career such as making music with stars like Beyoncé, nothing supersedes the connection that the band has made with each other and with the people of New York in the subway, according to KOS. Without that, he said that the band wouldn’t be here.

So far, the band has produced one album, five EPs, and a Christmas album, not including singles and music videos. KOS said that the band members try to insert their personalities into their music videos as much as possible, even though their unique ideas sometimes get shot down. KOS said that the band members are constantly working on ideas and trying to refine things. A lot of the time, decisions for the videos come down to budget, KOS said.

For people who have yet to listen to the music produced by Too Many Zooz, KOS recommended that people listen to Warriors, one of the band’s most popular songs.

Too Many Zooz will be performing with the band Moon Hooch on Tuesday, April 16 at 8:00 p.m. at the 3S Artspace in Portsmouth. According to KOS, Moon Hooch started in the subway as well, and fans of Too Many Zooz will like their music.

When it comes to performing, it is never about the space KOS is in, it’s about the space he is trying to create.

“I can’t really think about performing at all, I don’t really think about the audience or anything like that,” he said. “I am more focused on what I’m playing and listening to the two guys because a lot of our music is improvisation, so I have to be focused on developing changes or where things are going.”

KOS said that Too Many Zooz’ performances are original, which is an experience in and of its own. “We as artists have something to say,” he said. “Experiences are hard to find these days, and that’s what we aim to give each night, so if you want that, you can come get it... a true experience. I’m ready to dance.”

‘The Dirt’ is a disgusting, captivating and honest look at 80s rock ★ ★ ★ ★

By Zach Lewis  STAFF WRITER

“The Dirt” is not a movie to watch lightly. This is a high-octane, male-gaze-driven autobiography of the 80s hair metal pseudo-satanic rock band Mötley Crüe. The Netflix movie is fully endorsed by all the living members of the band, and after watching the film you’ll see just how much of an accomplishment that is for such a debauchery group. They should all be dead; the sheer number of drugs and alcohol content in their bodies would sedate a hippopotamus.

There are the familiar tropes of band biographies that show up, as well as some new instances. There’s the back-story, the rise, the fall, the overdose, the rehab, the break-up and then the come-back. There isn’t a single dull moment in the film, but I cannot advocate for anyone to watch the movie. I would read the book, which is probably even filthier, if you want to do that to your brain. There are moments where you start to wonder why you’re still watching and then you realize it’s because the movie is so captivating. It’s hard to fathom that this is probably a sanitized version of the reality that this band experienced during their height of fame. If “Bohemian Rhapsody” was the Apollonian example of the musical bio-pic, then “The Dirt” is definitely the Dionysian. There’s also, if you can look past that gratuitous sex and clear objectification of women, a sincere story of friendship and family between Tommy Lee (Machine Gun Kelly), Nikki Sixx (Douglas Booth), Vince Neil (Daniel Webber) and Mick Mars (Iwan Rheon). Iwan Rheon is more notably known as Ramsey Bolton in the “Game of Thrones” series on HBO. Oddly enough, his portrayal of Mötley Crüe’s guitarist is a far removal from his sadistic character on that show and is the most subdued and level-headed member of the band.

One saving grace for “The Dirt” is its sincerity. They do not pretend to be good people. Nothing is sugar-coated or white-washed. This film shows a human depravity and narcissism that most - if it were about them - would shield from the world. These rock and roll monsters are truly on a crash course of destruction, but wind up surviving, and saving each other, in the end. Each member, either emotionally or physically damaged in some sense, except for Tommy Lee who seems to have had a “Leave It To Beaver”-esque upbringing, find their second family within the group. They are outcasts that are given the keys to the city - and to the liquor cabinet.

To signify how insane their actions are, all one needs to do is examine the scene in which Ozzy Osbourne appears. In this historic, although possibly apocalyptic meeting, Mötley Crüe and Ozzy are at a swimming pool at a hotel that they are staying at on their tour. These next few sentences are gross, and I would stop reading if you want to sleep or eat in the next few hours. The Prince of Darkness precedes to warn the band about the dangers of excessive consumption and snorts a line of fire ants. That’s not an ol’ fashioned slang word. These are actual fire ants. He then pees on the ground and proceeds to drink his own urine. This isn’t even the most outrageous scene or sequence of events in the movie. Mötley Crüe always up the ante. It’s now safe to continue reading.

The film shows how power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely. This is a rock band when that genre still dominated the airwaves, even if rock was starting to take a backseat to new wave and other forms of commercial pop. With that said, I don’t believe I can recommend this movie except as a sad and accurate portrayal of how a glam metal band in the eighties lived their tempestuous lives. If you do stream this movie you will not be able to look away. The acting is great, and the production is solid. The subject matter will most likely make you “Shout at the Devil.”
As a person who has suffered from anxiety her whole life, I have always been frustrated by books that attempt to portray mental illness but end up romanticizing it instead, such as “13 Reasons Why” or “Winter Girls.” Neal Shusterman, however, takes a different approach to write about mental illness in his best-selling novel, “Challenger Deep.”

The book follows 15-year-old Caden Bosch, who seems to be in two places at once. In one chapter, for instance, he is at home or school with his family and friends; in the next, he is on a pirate ship heading towards Challenger Deep, the deepest part of the Marianas Trench. There is a buildup at the start of the novel where Caden shows symptoms of his mental illness, ranging from thinking that a kid at school is going to kill him, to fearing that something bad will happen to his family if he is not in the house. He is also restless and starts taking long walks deep into the night to calm his mind. Caden also accuses his family of being spies and tells his friends that he knows exactly what they are thinking because he can read minds. As this is happening, Caden tells the reader about the pirate ship and all of its characters, which include a pirate who seems to never plan ahead and creates chaos for the sake of looking like a hero, a parrot who sees and hears everything, a figurehead who can’t be free, a man who has been on the ship for years but chooses to still swab the deck and a map maker who can see things that no one else can. On the ship, everyone has a special cocktail, and if you’re not careful, your brain could fall right out of your ears and hide on the ship like a rat.

While going back and forth between these two narratives, it almost feels like you’re losing your mind alongside Caden. The chapters are random and short, so you never know which Caden you’ll get or for how long. The pirate segments didn’t make any sense to me until halfway through the book; at that point, Caden goes to a mental hospital and starts putting his life back together.

At first, the story seems scattered and hard to understand, much like Caden’s own mind. But as soon as Caden goes into the mental ward, the reader understands the thought process more. The pirate is revealed to represent his mental illness while the parrot represents his therapist, and the two incessantly war with one another both in the outside world and on the ship. Caden never knows who to believe or which side to take, which makes his journey to healing much more difficult. This fragmented storytelling is one of my favorite aspects of the novel, and is such a realistic portrayal of what it is like to have a mental illness and have the outside and inside worlds clash almost constantly.

Shusterman takes the reader through all the highs and lows of Caden’s recovery, much like how this treatment is in the real world. Caden is suffering, and the reader feels lost and confused along with him as his ship is going down. This book can be triggering for people who are sensitive to subjects such as mental illness and suicide; but if you can stomach it, then I think everyone should read this book to get a creative yet lifelike glimpse of what it is like to have to deal with a mental illness on a daily basis.
By Caleb Jagoda
ARTS EDITOR

I want you to picture this: It’s 2007. Eight-year-old Caleb has just gotten picked up from his weekly Catholic class at his local church, and in his pocket sits his state-of-the-art, $20 navy-blue-and-grey camo MP3 player my mom bought him from Kohl’s as a reward for several months of not biting his nails (a habit I picked back up again because my mom no longer promises me camo MP3 players if I don’t do it - on a side note, this is holistically how we should reward success in our society: The Medal of Honor should be replaced with the MP3 Player of Honor, the Nobel Peace Prize with the MP3 Playerz Prize and a Grammy award with… well… I guess a massive camo MP3 player? That was stupid, I’m sorry, carry on).

Among his music library on this MP3 player are classic bangers that could make Vincent Van Gogh cut off another man’s ear and become a “Silence of the Lambs” Buffalo Bill-of-sorts as he sews the new ear onto his body, just to fully appreciate the music’s sonic artistry, and could make Spike Lee full-sprint onto a professional basketball court and spontaneously combust into a million little pieces of New York (which would include ripped-up pieces of Timbs, Carhartt shirts and Derek Jeter’s face) after hearing their cinematic ariphrases; songs such as Jesse McCartney’s “Beautiful Soul,” Nickelback’s “Rockstar,” two or three Smash Mouth heaters and the clean versions of a litany of different Lil Wayne songs.

Yet, there’s one song he heard on the radio that he can’t seem to get out of his head, so he pulls up LimeWire and begins to download what’s going to be his favorite song of the year, a song that includes the dance he’ll practice every Wednesday after CCD to blow off steam from learning about God. It’s the stunning, striking, endlessly catchy and terribly outdated “Crank That (Soulja Boy)” by none other than Young Draco AKA Big Draco AKA our god and savior, Soulja Boy.

Watching the music video now is ridiculously entertaining: Y2K was just a tough time for humanity; we had all this new technology in its pubescent stages that was far too clunky, and people also decided to dress like they were either extras in “Fight Club” or like their closet suddenly became jorged with clothes that belonged to somebody that had the exact opposite body shape as them. It was just a strange time, and Soulja Boy’s video for “Crank That (Soulja Boy)” sums it up oddly well. There’s the hilariously terrible graphics that are superimposed over the phone and computer screens of people watching Soulja Boy crank that. There’s the opening scene, where Mr. Collipark, the head of record label company Collipark Music, reaches out to Soulja about signing him to a deal … through INSTANT MESSAGING - to which Soulja IMs him back, “Meet me at my crib…” and then immediately daps up his boy in an oversized blue polo. And I can’t forget maybe the two best parts of the music video: the absurdly cheap Stop & Shop white-framed sunglasses that Soulja Boy simply writes “Soulja Boy” on the that’s making headlines anymore, he’s still in the news cycle 12 years after his breakout radio hit.

These days, Soulja Boy is a walking, talking meme, and everything he does seems to be outrageous. On his new website, the SouljaStore, you can buy a wide array of items that are near-exact copies of other items, just with the word “Soulja” placed in front of their title. You can find the SouljaPods, the Soulja-Console (which is sold out now), Soulja socks that have weed leaves on them and a wide variety of other Soulja items, including jewelry such as the “I’m the Plug” necklace that is a counterfeit gold wall outlet plug that hangs around your neck. It’s all very strange and extremely funny, but when you listen to his explanations, he might actually have a point in what he’s doing.

While I have no idea if the products he’s selling even work well or not, and while they’re probably nowhere near the quality of the items he’s rapping off, at the very least, he has a point about the profit margin he’s making off of these items and the cost he’s selling them for. On his meme-able interview on “The Breakfast Club” radio show, Soulja Boy explains the selling and making of his SouljaPods and other items with, “My product is assembled in China just like the iPhone… if you turn the iPhone around and look on the back, it says what? ‘Assembled in China.’ So why are they knocking me for getting the iPhone around and look on the back, it says what? ‘Assembled in China.’ So why are they knocking me for getting the product made in China, but you’re

praising the iPhone that’s overpriced a** swish.”

And then once they prod him more, Soulja Boy asks Charlamagne and the rest of the hosts how much they think it costs to make an iPhone in China versus how much they sell it for: “How much is that in profit (for Apple)? Like $980? So who really is the bad guy? Me or Apple?” While the Soulja items probably hardly work and are just counterfeits versions of name brand electronics, he’s making a pretty interesting point about the monopoly Apple has created and how overpriced their items are, just because people will still buy them no matter how expensive they become.

And to think this isn’t even nearly the best or most interesting part of the hour-long interview.

The best part of the interview is the most well-known part of the interview, and I’m going to give you the whole quote with no breaks because it’s that perfect. First, as a preface, the hosts are questioning whether he or Meek Mill had the better comeback year, after Meek Mill was released from prison, came out with a number one song and a number one album and regained some of the fame he lost after having largely lost a rap beef with Drake that slowed his mainstream success. Charlamagne tells Soulja Boy in defense of Meek Mill having the better comeback year, “But you didn’t beef with Drake, the biggest rapper in the world!” Soulja’s response is as follows: “Draaaaake?! Draaaaake?! The **** that got bodied by Pusha T? The **** that is hiding his kid from the world, but his world want to hide from the kid? Aubrey Graham in the wheelchair? Drake?! Stop playing with me in here. Y’all talking about the lightskin *** from Degenerees? Stop playing with me like I didn’t teach Drake everything he know. Y’all ain’t hear his first song? ’Tell me, what’s really going on / Drizzy Drake back up in this thing, I’m ready: That’s Soulja! That’s my bar! He copied my whole first song! He copied my first song! Word for word, bar for bar! Don’t act like I didn’t make Drake. Don’t do that. Don’t do that. Draaaaake? Aubrey?” Soulja became completely exasperated, and while throughout the interview he seems to have an answer for everything they throw his way and continuously cuts off the hosts, this seemed to be the boiling point of his frustrations.

“Draaaaake” has become a well-known meme, and Soulja has entered back into mainstream relevance and I am eternally happy to know my third-grade hero is still making his mark in 2019.

“Yuuuuuuu.”
Forever blue and white: A Wildcat’s journey

Marked by alcoholism, homophobia and expulsion from both the school and my prior major, my time at UNH has been unpredictable. With my under-graduate career set to end with the conclusion of this fall semester, TNH has been kind enough to allow me to write about my experiences at UNH. Given the odd road taken to get to my degree, I hope this piece – at best – proves helpful to other students who may be struggling to find their footing on campus and at worst – is an entertaining piece of voyeuristic storytelling by those who observe the changing nature of undergraduate organizations I have elected not to discuss student experiences with others with experiences with as I do not want the actions of past students to af-fect current perceptions of groups within our own community. My connections to UNH began in the summer of 2012 when I was admitted through the Continuing Education program while living in a halfway house in Keene. To begin, I will tell you that my GED years prior, I took the course to prove to myself that I could handle college-level work. During this summer, I met a few professors who proved difficult, but I managed to claw my way out with a “B” and decided to apply to UNH for a major in social work. I was accepted and started school in the fall of 2012. My decision to attend UNH ultimately came down to the kindness shown to my unique situation by the Department of Housing and Carola Organ-sch of Admissions. Due to being 21, Housing did everything they could to ensure I lived in Babcock Hall with other nontraditional stu-dents while Carola – for reasons beyond my control and I am indebted to those who believed in my ability to succeed. I am greatly thankful to those who believed in me, especially in a meaningful manner, and I feel is one of the most impor-tant tenants of higher education – learning how to critically examine the world around you even if the discoveries made may conflict with personal beliefs.

In blending the spring semes-ter of 2016, I re-joined Student Senate, eventu-ally became historian, and began working to help the organization reclaim its history due to the misplacement of files in previ-ous iterations. Learning about the history of the University allowed me even greater opportunities as I pieced back together Senate’s past. I am especially grateful to the help I received from the Spei-cal Collections & Archives, TNI, for their assistance. I have re-moved many significant re-search I hope to focus on in my graduate career set to end with the con-clusion of this fall semester.

The official reason for my expulsion was attendance. I even-tually joined the Social Work department – the department must earn the right to be a specific type of person becomes a social worker; one who only examine societal injustices. I have never reached a point in my life where pursuing a master’s degree is a genuine reality. My time at UNH has been difficult, but I found my footing thanks to those who believed in me. The skills that may be hav-ing a difficult time, I hope this piece has proven somewhat use-ful in showing how even those who face difficulties can find some form of solace on campus. Not only have I grown, but UNH has taught me more about a unique opportunity to educate those who may not believe they have the abilities or resources needed to succeed. I am in-cluded to UNH for reasons beyond my impaired health – I hope that I can every return to give back to the institution that has provided me with so much.

By Tyler Anderson CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Fighting the ball since 1911

18 Thursday, April 4, 2019 THE NEW HAMPSHIRE

Opinion

THE NEW HAMPSHIRE

18 Thursday, April 4, 2019
Early 21st century was a rough stretch for anyone trying to write a genuine comedy in Hollywood, and for good reason. Ben Stiller’s “Zoolander” came out two weeks after the 9/11 attacks. The established comedian cracked jokes on a live talk show for directing an insensitive film in the wake of a tragedy. He later explained feeling blindsided by the criticism and that it might set precedent for dull humor in high-profile movies.

That’s exactly what happened. For a few years there we couldn’t do better than “Big Fat Lie” or “Cheaper by the Dozen” because the country was in a rather sensitive place. Lighthearted funnies were the norm because they’re near constant in the industry; no matter the political environment we’ll always get three “Dr. Doolittle” sequels for one “Tropic Thunder” because the former doesn’t offend.

“Arrested Development” was a decade ahead of its time and still miss jokes because they’re too subtle, and that’s a problem many times through the series many times through and still miss jokes because they’re too subtle, and that’s a merit most modern-day comedies fail to achieve. Who wants to be spoon-fed jokes with a side of laugh track? Unfortunately, most people in 2003.

Part of its uniqueness stems from the directionless plot. There is a narrative but as early as the fourth episode of each season it’s completely lost on most viewers who aren’t paying close attention. The layers written in adds a distinct charm, the show because you can zone in on one, ignore the rest and still get something from the experience.

I first watched “Arrested Development” when I was 13 or 14 years old and had way too much internet access and far too few responsibilities. Michael Bluth seemed like the reasonable son in a totally dysfunctional family because he could sniff through lies and always made it known. He wished a better life for himself and his son, George-Michael. They just needed to fix the family before moving on.

Eight years later Netflix ordered a fourth season. Michael was suddenly a narcissistic, selfish father who patronizes his son like any other Bluth. It was frustrating to make that they’d change character four season in, but it’d been so long since I watched the old episodes that I went back to point out the differences.

There were none. Michael always had the same self-destructive qualities as the rest of his family but was so oblivious to them that he convinced himself and the viewers (I hope) of his superiority. There are hints throughout the series that the other Bluths see through Michael. Lucille frequently makes comments about it. The viewer sees Michael as superior because he’s the main character; Michael actually has a superiority complex. It’s written into his character.

Rarely do TV shows incite reflection 10 years after its last breath. The cult following “Arrested Development” drew a testament to its crafty writing. They weren’t afraid to bring something to the table and that’s what separated this show from the likes of “Daddy Day Care.” It’s also what got “Arrested Development” canceled. We weren’t ready for that kind of show, and it wasn’t until Hollywood remembered how to be funny for some one to resurrect the Bluth family.

Netflix recently released the second half of season five, intended to be the final episodes of the series. While some of the jokes fall flat and it’s even harder to understand what the hell is going on, it’s still fun to revisit the Bluth family.

“Arrested Development” canceled. We weren’t ready for that kind of show, and it wasn’t until Hollywood remembered how to be funny for someone to resurrect the Bluth family.

Netflix recently released the second half of season five, intended to be the final episodes of the series. While some of the jokes fall flat and it’s even harder to understand what the hell is going on, it’s still fun to revisit the Bluths at the end of their run. I owe everyone involved with “Arrested Development” that much, I feel.

Bret Belden
Executive Editor

Letters policy

We welcome letters to the editor and aim to publish as many as possible. In writing, please follow these simple guidelines: Keep letters under 300 words.

Type them. Date them. Sign them; make sure they’re signed by no more than two people. If you’re a student, include your year, major and phone number.

Faculty and staff: Give your department and phone number. TNH editors for space, clarity, accuracy and clarity. Letters to our office in Room 132 of the MUB, email them to tnh.editor@unh.edu or send them to The New Hampshire, MUB Room 132, Durham, NH 03824.

Opinions expressed in both signed and unsigned letters to the Editor, opinion pieces, cartoons and columns are not necessarily those of The New Hampshire or its staff. If you do not see your side of the argument being presented, we invite you to submit a letter to the editor by sending an email to tnh.editor@unh.edu.
Sports

Men's volleyball club wins Division II

By Jon Kinson

The UNH men's volleyball team placed first in the Division II Championships of the New England Volleyball League (NEVL) held in Lundholm Gymnasium Saturday.

The Wildcats took two out of three games from the top-seeded University of Maine team, giving them an overall 7-2 record, good enough to take the title.

Maine who finished third with a 5-4 record, was also beaten by Tufts, the upset team of the tournament, who were second with a 6-3 record. Bradford, the other participant, finished with an 0-9 record.

The four teams had to play each other three times and the team with the best record won the championship. UNH went into its last match ahead of Maine with a 7-1 record, beating Tufts two games to one (15-14, 15-3, 15-6) and taking all three games from Bradford (15-8, 15-5, 15-6) earlier. They only needed to win two to assure themselves of the title.

Maine proved tough in the first game of the match. After trailing early, the Wildcats tied and stayed close to Maine, finally losing 16-16. In the second game, Maine again took an early lead. From an 8-4 deficit, UNH then blitzed the Wildcats 15-2 to take the second game decisively.

In the last game UNH had no problem with the Bears, winning 15-6.

"It could have ended in a three-way tie," said Head Coach Chris Dowdell. "It could have gone either way. I was confident we would not give away too many points to Maine. We would stay in the game. We'd pick each other up.

In the match, the Wildcats missed only two serves. They (UNH) made some key serves.

The men's volleyball club captured the New England Volleyball League Division II Championships Saturday in Lundholm Gymnasium. They play in the Division I Championships Saturday.

"We didn't get the scores we deserved in forti," said Goodspeed. "The UNH squad then began pulling things together as displaying the skills that got it there. The vault was the strongest for the Wildcats, and in the vault wasn't enough to offset a shaky start on the balance beam. The UNH women's gymnastics team finished in fifth place at the 1985 Northeast Regional Championships held at the University of Pittsburgh Saturday.

It was basically a two-team meet at Ohio State and Penn State, battled for the top spot with Ohio State prevailing 185-63 to 185-65.

In the battle for third, the three finishers, which were separated by only 9 points, Bowling Green came out on top with an 175.6, followed by Pittsburgh with 175.4 and UNH with 174.7. The University of Rhode Island took the final spot with a 172.1.

"It was Kim's best meet ever, especially against such strong competition," said Goodspeed.

The Wildcats dug themselves a hole right from the start, scoring their lowest score of the year (41.3) on the balance beam, their first event. Then in the next event, the floor exercise, they had good performances but it didn't reflect in their scores.

"We bombed beam and didn't get the scores we deserved in floor," said Goodspeed.

"The UNH squad then began pulling things together as displaying the talents that got it there. The vault was the strongest event for the Wildcat as three performers each scored over 9.9. Diane Carlin led the way with a 9.9 which tied for eighth place. Freshman Jennifer Dowdell tied for second place with her secondconsecutive 9.9. Carlin was the only Wildcat to achieve the honor.

Goodspeed had hoped the Cavanaugh might also lead to participate in the beam. Although it was positive, she would not part in the floor and vault events. "We scratched Laura from beam because of her ankle injury and we didn't want any chances with her getting a permanent, more serious injury," said Goodspeed.

UNH's other injured gymnast who was relegated to rest was Toby Kappas. He scored an 8.8 for third place on the team.

The Wildcats made up all of ground on Bowling Green's GYMNASTICS, page 26

Gymnasts fifth at Regionals

By Steve Langivity

A strong all-around performance by senior Kim Sonier and good team showings on the bars and in the vault wasn't enough to offset a shaky start on the balance beam as the UNH women's gymnastics team finished in fifth place at the 1985 Northeast Regional Championships held at the University of Pittsburgh Saturday.

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Sonier's performance was certain one of the bright spots in the tournament for the Wildcats and head coach Gus Goodspeed. Sonier was consistent throughout the meet, scoring 9.1 in both the vault and the uneven bars, 8.9 in the floor exercise and 8.7 on the beam, which gave her tenth place in the all-around with her score of 55.8. She also came in tenth on the bars.

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Laura Cavanaugh above scored a 9.2 on the bars at the Regionals Saturday to make the All-East team in that event. (Dave Drouin file photo)
### UNH Women’s Lacrosse Schedule

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### UNH Women’s Lacrosse Results

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The UNH men’s and women’s track teams kicked off their outdoor schedule this past weekend at NC State’s Raleigh Relays.

The men’s team had a strong showing from their throwers in the first weekend of action, led by senior Jon Chapman. Chapman placed ninth in the hammer throw, throwing a distance of 184’ 1”.

Other Wildcats who competed in the hammer throw included senior Eric Brogioli who placed 11th and obtained a new personal record of 182’ 8”; junior Edward Speidel finished in 13th with a final distance of 177’ 4”, which is also a personal best. Senior Duncan Holland threw 163’ and finished 22nd in this event as well.

A standout from the indoor season, junior Zachary Astle, took tenth place in the shot put this weekend, throwing a distance of 53’ 7.75”. The thrower competed in the discus as well, but only threw well enough to place 32nd with a distance of 136’ 6”.

A pair of New Hampshire athletes, junior Kyle Faucher and first-year John King, participated in the javelin throw at NC State. Faucher placing 15th, throwing 183’ 7”; King placing 22nd and throwing 172’.

Moving over to the track, senior William Ulrich took home 20th place in the 1500-meter in his first action of the spring. Ulrich finished his run in 3:49.61, falling just short of his personal best of 3:47.36.

Junior Nicolas Sevilla-Connelly ran in the 3000-meter steeple chase over the weekend, finishing in 39th place, and running in 9:19.65.

The women’s team had five athletes compete at NC State, headlined by junior Alyssa Colbert. Colbert participated in the javelin and the discus, finishing 14th and 20th respectively. She threw 129’ in the javelin, and 142’ 5” in the discus which is a new personal best for the junior.

Other throwers from the weekend included junior Natalie Howes, finishing 19th in the javelin, throwing 123’ 9”. First-year athlete Sary Williams, who excelled late in the indoor season, threw 38’ 2.75” in the shot put, good enough for 34th place.

On the track, fifth-year runner Danielle Gajewski ran 4:33.95 in the 1500, giving her a 50th place finish. Senior Shannon Murdock ran just four seconds slower than her teammate but finished in 77th place.

Up next for the ‘Cats, the team will travel to the Colonial Relays in Williamsburg, Virginia on April 5, and their first home meet of the season will be at 11:00 a.m. on April 6, as the team will host Holy Cross and Maine.
Contrary to years prior, 2019 has seen MLB stars avoiding free agency and opting to stay with their current teams long-term. MLB teams have had a similar train of thought this year, as these young studs will become free agents around their age 30 season instead of their age 26 season. Of course, there was the blockbuster 12-year $426.5 million extension that kept superstar center fielder Mike Trout with the Angels, but there are a lot of other player signings that deserve recognition. A majority of these deals are team-friendly, including second baseman Whit Merrifield staying in Kansas City for $16.25 million over four years. Merrifield batted .305 last season on a weak Royals team hitting a career-high average of .304, leading the MLB in hits and stolen bases with 192 and 45 respectively. The Royals really got away with murder on this signing, as Merrifield could have been in line for a major payday in free agency. That said, Merrifield is 30 years old, and teams are becoming less willing to invest in older players. Some of the most striking team-friendly signings were among the starting pitchers. Yankees ace Luis Severino signed an extension for four years and $40 million. Severino is currently sidelined with a shoulder ailment but he is projected to return in May. As a Red Sox fan, I was happy to see Severino stay in the Bronx. Severino got lit up in the 2018 postseason as the Red Sox keyed into him tipping pitches. You may remember, the Red Sox won that game 16-1.

The best contract extension came out of Tampa Bay, as the Rays re-signed reigning American League Cy Young winner Blake Snell. To say that Snell was elite last season would be an understatement. The 25-year-old lefty had one of the best seasons for a starting pitcher in recent memory, posting an ERA of 1.89, 221 strikeouts, a WHIP of 0.974, 21 wins, all in a mere 180.2 innings. The Rays locked up one of the three best pitchers on the planet for $50 million over five years. To put that in perspective, Yankees pitcher Masahiro Tanaka signed a seven-year contract worth $155 million before the 2014 season, and since then he has posted a sub-3.00 ERA once. Look for Snell and Nola to stay among the league’s best pitchers for the next decade, barring they stay healthy. To lock these guys up in their prime for $10 million dollars per year (or less), is among the best deals in recent baseball memory.

Now don’t get me wrong, baseball teams shoot themselves in the foot in the last three to four years of these deals, where they owe aging players crazy amounts of money. Look no further than Trout’s teammate, Albert Pujols, who is on the books for $28 million this year while coming off a 2018 season that saw him bat just .245 with 19 home runs in 117 games. Don’t expect those numbers to go up for the 39-year-old slugger, either. He’s far from the only example, either. Miguel Cabrera, Robinson Cano, I could go on but you get the idea. Had Trout hit the open market as a free agent, though, he easily would have hit the 500-million-dollar threshold. Mike Trout’s numbers are ridiculously good. If he’s healthy, he either wins the AL MVP or he’s the runner-up. He has the chance to go down as one of the best players to ever swing a bat and pick up a baseball glove, barring he continues his stellar play. In a world where Manny Machado gets 30 million dollars per year, I think it’s fair to say that Trout is underpaid with an average annual value of 35.5 million a year with this extension. Trout’s awards are impressive; rookie of the year, two-time MVP, seven-time all-star and six-time silver slugger. The guy is legit, and the Angels will not regret locking him up long term. The worst extension is one that hasn’t happened. The Red Sox need to extend Mookie Betts right now. It’s fitting that I talk about Trout above, since Betts is the closest thing the game has to Trout.

Sure, he hasn’t shown the consistency that the Angels center fielder has, but at their best, it’s hard to see much of a difference in their play. His “off year” in 2017 saw him finish with 24 dingers, 102 runs batted in, 26 steals and a gold glove. Sure, his batting average wasn’t much to be desired, .264 for a career. 302 hitter, but his “off year” still saw him finish sixth in the MVP voting. I’ll take that. Mookie is the most well-rounded player the game has today. Don’t get me wrong, Trout is more dominant with the bat, but where Mookie “lacks” in that category he more than makes up for with his defensive range. Mookie has saved 99 runs above the average center fielder in five full seasons. Mike Trout? Nine in seven full seasons, according to Baseball-Reference.

I could go on forever comparing their stats, but at the end of the day the numbers are close. Mookie Betts, coming off a MVP winning season and a World Series victory, deserves to be paid. Maybe not quite Mike Trout money, but close to it. Please, Red Sox. Do the right thing, pay the man.
Women’s lacrosse improves to 8-3

By Bailey Schott

SPORTS WRITER

UNH junior midfielder Rylee Leonard recorded a team-high four points to lead the ‘Cats (8-3, 3-0) in the 16-6 blowout win over the University of Hartford (1-12, 0-3) on Saturday.

Leonard netted three goals and completed one assist. She was one of five ‘Cats to record multiple points. Sophomore midfielder Elizabeth Blanding, first year midfielder Emily Curtis, first year attacker Lily Powell and junior midfielder Michele Smith all joined Leonard with two points each.

First-year defender Taylor Dedek and sophomore midfielder Gabby Masseur stood out on defense, as the pair was credited to a total 10 ground balls and seven turnovers.

The Wildcats scored the first two goals of the game within 30 seconds of each other with the first from Leonard and the second from Blanding.

Leonard recorded an assist less than a minute later when she connected with senior attacker Mickenzie Larivee to put the ‘Cats up 8-1.

UNH dominated the rest of the half, scoring another three goals in ten minutes to end the half with an 11-1 lead.

The second half was played at a back-and-forth pace, as the ‘Cats maintained a 10-goal lead. Hartford jumped on the board first in the second half less than two minutes in, but Leonard answered shortly after with her second goal, to keep the margin at ten.

UNH scored the next two goals to jump up 14-2, with Curtis’ first career goal and another from sophomore attacker Sabrina Groover.

The Hawks followed suit scoring back-to-back goals, thus cutting the lead back down to ten. Curtis stretched the lead out again with her second goal that came off a spin move through the defense.

Both teams scored again before time expired, but the first half deficit was too great for Hartford to overcome. The Wildcats advanced to 7-3 on the season with their third straight win.

The Wildcats travelled to UMass Lowell Wednesday afternoon to take on the River Hawks, who they dominated 11-4.

Senior attacker Mickenzie Larivee led the way for the ‘Cats with five points, three goals and two assists. Graduate student and midfielder Devan Miller also put on a show offensively, netting four of New Hampshire’s 11 goals.

UMass Lowell got out to a promising start, jumping on an early 1-0 lead less than a minute into the game on a goal by Kristin Keith.

Larivee answered for the Wildcats with goal number 15 on the season at 24:51 in the first. The following eight minutes after the tying goal were an offensive stalemate. Each team turned the ball over four times, until Larivee sparked things back up with her second goal of the game and put the Wildcats up 2-1 with 16:29 in the half.

Continuing her hot streak, Larivee ripped another goal that found its way to the back of the net less than a minute later to take a two-goal advantage over UMass.

UNH added to their advantage before the River Hawks could answer on a goal by Miller, New Hampshire led 4-1 with under 15 in the half.

Massachusetts scored two unanswered goals to cut the lead to one in the final five minutes of the half, but Wildcat senior attacker Catherine Sexton scored at 2:54 to regain the two-goal lead.

Miller got hot in the final minutes of the half scoring her second and third goal within two minutes of each other, giving the ‘Cats a comfortable 7-3 lead at half.

Both teams came out of the break cold, holding the 7-3 score for another ten minutes. Miller got things going again with her fourth goal, putting New Hampshire up four with 20:40 left in the game.

The ‘Cats kept the River Hawks off the board for most of the second half stretching the lead to 10-3 before UMass got anything going offensively.

Lowell’s Samantha Blair scored the teams fourth goal on a free position shot at 11:59 in the game, making it 10-4 advantage Wildcats.

New Hampshire scored its final goal with 35 seconds left off a shot by sophomore Gabby Masseur to cap the 11-4 victory.

The Wildcats extend their win streak to four with the road win. They continue play Saturday in New York against the University of Albany at 1:00 p.m.