

## UNH reports 35 active cases in most recent update

By Ben Domaingue  
STAFF WRITER

The University of New Hampshire (UNH) has released its coronavirus (COVID-19) statistics for its second week of classes between its three campuses.

These results come just after the extended Labor Day weekend, the only extended weekend students are allotted for the Fall 2020 semester.

UNH was quick to release its results going into Labor Day, as well as publishing its most recent set of results on Tuesday, 9/15.

Between these two results, UNH has seen a decrease in its seven-day total from 35 to 26 cases between its three campuses. Its active cases for students have also dropped from 62 to 35 and 14 to 11 for faculty. 24 of the 26 of these cases are located on UNH's Durham campus.

The number of students quarantining on the Durham campus has declined from 40 to 28 total students, and the number of students isolating on campus in Babcock Hall has declined from 18 to 14 students in Adams Tower West.

UNH makes a distinction between quarantining and isolation. Students in quarantine are located in Babcock Hall and have been in close contact with a student who has tested positive for COVID-19. A close contact is defined as an individual within 6 feet for 10 minutes or more within two days of illness onset, regardless of mask usage. Isolation is defined as an individual who has symptoms of COVID-19

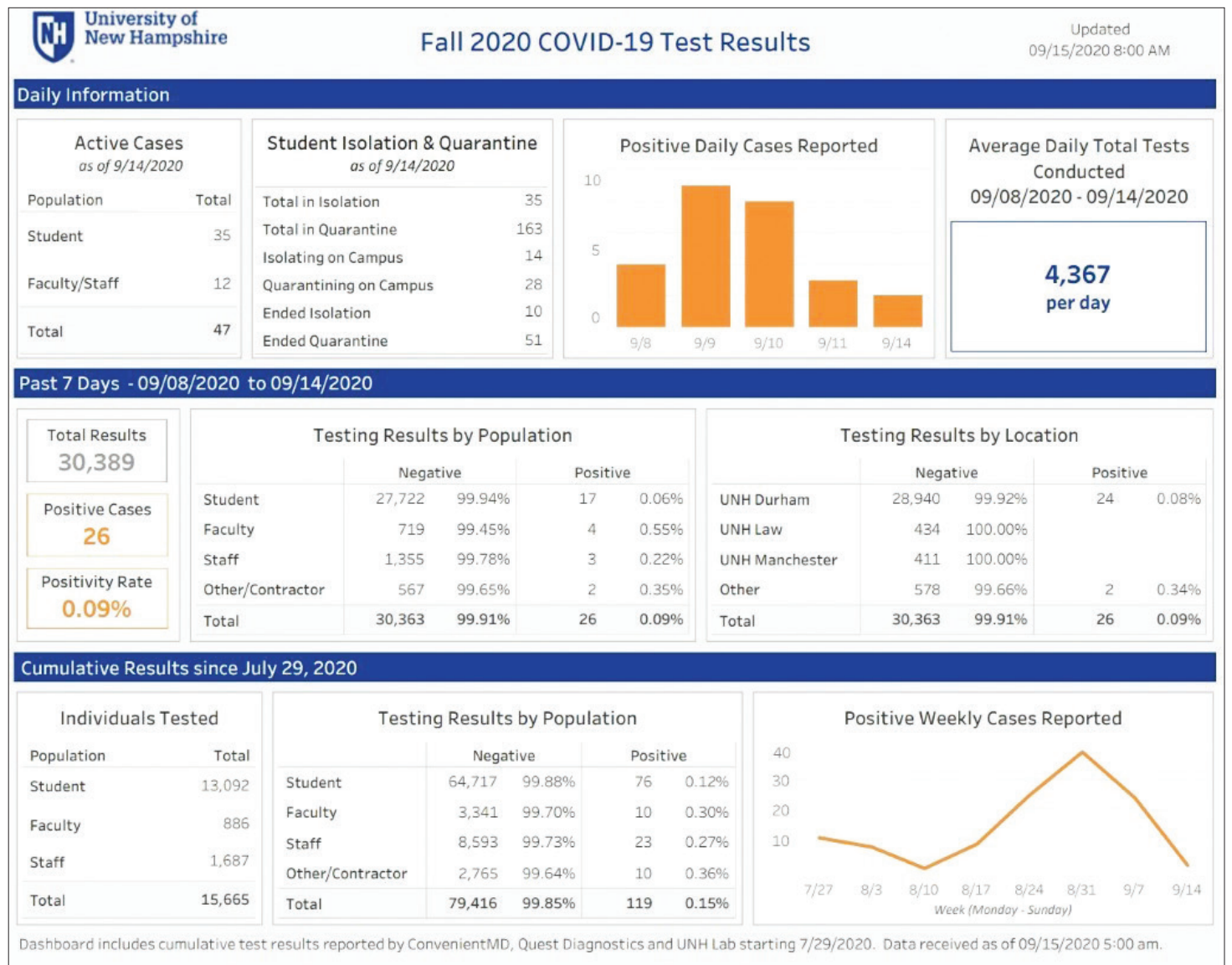


Photo courtesy of UNH

and/or has tested positive for COVID-19.

The number of students ending quarantine increased from 12 to 51, and the number of students ending isolation has risen from seven to 10.

The total number of individuals in quarantine on or off campus has gone down from

251 to 163, and the number of students in isolation has declined from 62 to 35.

The average number of daily tests has risen from 3,352 to 4,367 week over week.

UNH has tested 79,416 students, faculty and staff since reporting began on July 29th, 2020. This includes results

from ConvenientMD, Quest Diagnostics and the UNH Lab.

UNH has performed 64,717 tests on 13,092 individual students. Of these tests, 76 have returned positive. UNH has also performed 3,341 on 886 individual faculty members, of which 10 have returned posi-

tive. Of the 1,687 faculty, 8,593 tests have been performed with 23 positive cases.

Students, faculty and staff are urged to monitor their symptoms and schedule a contact Health and Wellness immediately if they have symptoms of COVID-19.

## UNH unveils new COVID-19 lab, tests 4,000 daily

By Anna Kate Munsey  
MANAGING EDITOR

The University of New Hampshire (UNH) recently opened a "state-of-the-art" coronavirus (COVID-19) testing lab, which can process up to 4,000 samples per day.

The lab is located on the second floor of UNH's Health and Wellness building. It is directed by two UNH professors, Rick Cote and Kelley Thomas.

Both testing and contact tracing are performed in conjunction with the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (NHDHHS).

All self-tests completed and dropped off by UNH students on the Durham campus are processed by the lab. In the future, the lab hopes to process samples from Keene State College, Plymouth State University, and other schools in the University of New Hampshire (USNH) system.

According to an article from

the university on Sept. 8, "The lab is exclusively testing for COVID-19 and will play a key role in the university's commitment to extensively monitor the student population and quickly identify and prevent any spread of the virus and help provide a safe environment for students, faculty, staff and the community."

Test results from the lab can be ready in less than 48 hours, according to the university.

UNHInnovation is involved with both the self-testing

process and the lab. In order to create and provide students with UNH's shallow nasal swab self-testing kits, the university submitted an Emergency Use Authorization application with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

According to the latest testing results available, UNH has 47 active cases as of Sept. 14, and 163 people are in quarantine with 35 in isolation. Fourteen people are isolating on campus, and 28 are quarantined on campus. The university had

26 positive cases out of 30,389 tests completed in the past week, resulting in a positivity rate of 0.09%.

Isolation is defined as the 14-day period after someone has tested positive. Quarantine is when someone has been exposed to a COVID-19-positive person, and can potentially develop symptoms.

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80/48  
Partly Cloudy

Sept. 18

62/42  
Partly Cloudy

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62/39  
Sunny

Sept. 20

62/39  
Sunny

Sept. 21

62/40  
Sunny

Sept. 22

66/46  
Partly Cloudy

Sept. 23

73/48  
Sunny

Weather according to weather.com

## CONNECT

### Executive Editor

Josh Morrill | [TNH.editor@unh.edu](mailto:TNH.editor@unh.edu)

### Managing Editor

Anna Kate Munsey | [TNH.me@unh.edu](mailto:TNH.me@unh.edu)

### Content Editor

Hannah Donahue | [TNH.news@unh.edu](mailto:TNH.news@unh.edu)

### THE NEW HAMPSHIRE

132 Memorial Union Building  
Durham, NH 03824  
603-862-1323

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## UNH COVID-19 lab

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Degnan, Medical Director at Health and Wellness said, “Health & Wellness in conjunction with the NH Department of Health and Human Services will be tracking and contacting members of the community who test positive or inconclusive to inform them of test results, provide guidance on isolation and care, gather information to identify who may be close contacts and reach out to identified close contacts. Health & Wellness will also assist in arranging isolation and quarantine housing on campus if required.”

The lab uses pooled testing, where students’ COVID-19 samples are tested together, and if a pool tests positive, each sample from it will then be tested again individually. Once the positive case or cases have been identified, the student will be asked to go to Health and Wellness to be tested by a healthcare professional, and then the contact tracing process will begin. Close contacts of the positive case will be notified and must quarantine either in on-campus quarantine housing at Babcock Hall or at home. Those who test positive must isolate in Adams Tower West or at home.

“In addition Health & Wellness will perform repeat COVID-19 testing if an initial test result is inconclusive or rejected due to an inadequate

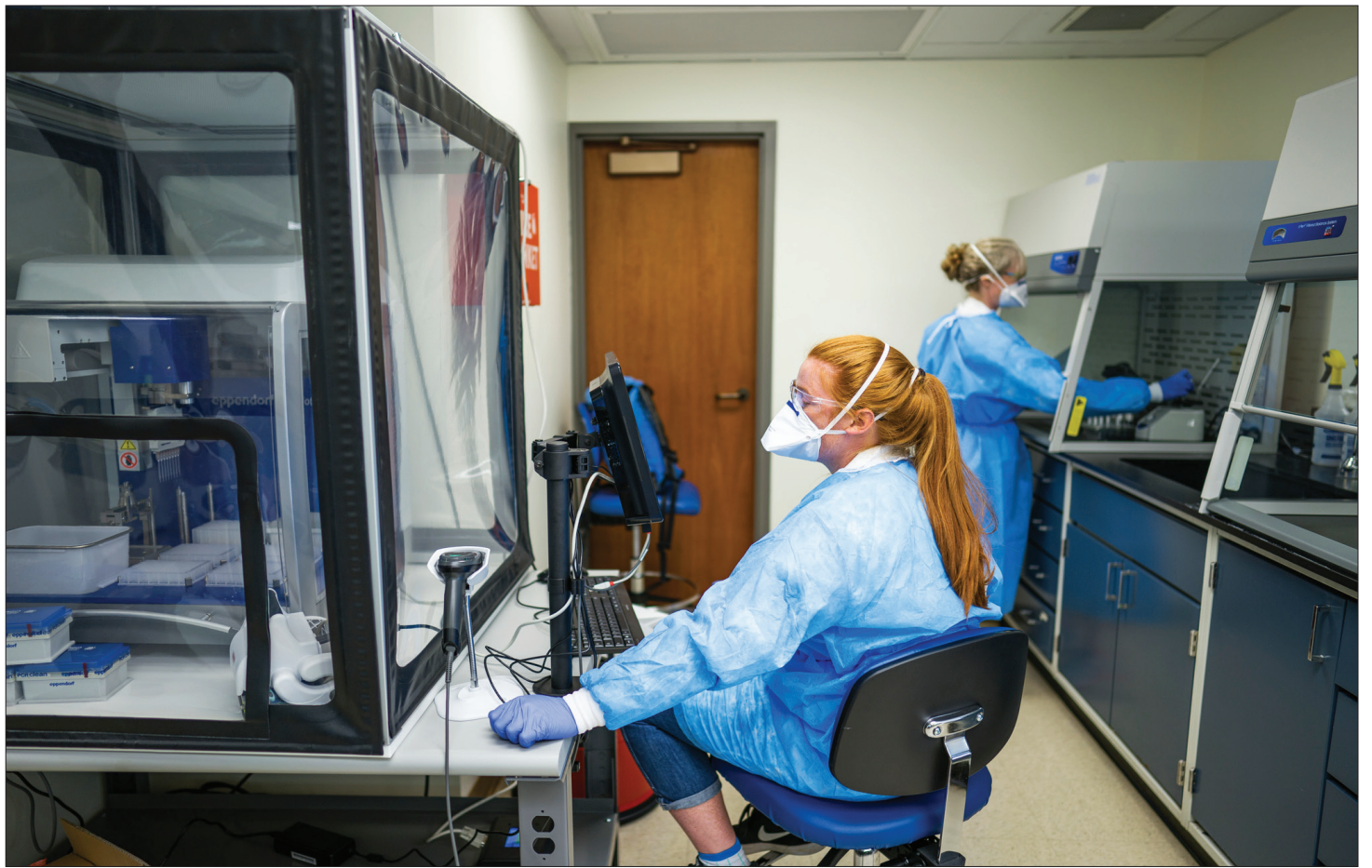


Photo courtesy of Scott Ripley

specimen,” according to Degnan.

Tallie Anne Algieri, a junior genetics major, is one of a few students who work in the lab. Her role as a clinical lab assistant includes logging student samples into the system, organizing them, and putting them into groups as well as controlling the pipetting instrument, and making sure work stations

are clean.

“It’s just a really fun experience, I love doing it because I am interested in doing research when I get my undergrad, this is just a great way to build experience and learn how a lab works,” said Algieri.

She cleared up some rumors about notification for students who test positive for COVID-19. If someone’s results

come back positive, “You will be notified by UNH Health and Wellness, the University System, New Hampshire public health - your phone will be ringing off the wall and you will be getting emails non-stop,” said Algieri.

“We’re doing really well compared to other schools. I think UNH is handling this extremely well, it’s very

well-thought out, I’ve never heard of another school doing self-swabbing so it’s working, it’s really working, and I think definitely with all the emails that go out.... They’re doing a job letting us know and showing us what the consequences could be.”

# Durham students deal with dining hall reform

By Aqeel Hisham  
STAFF WRITER

Durham, NH - Dining halls at the University of New Hampshire (UNH) are well-known as the “it spots” for social gatherings, in addition to their array of food options. From making new friends at the stir-fry line to roommates going on an adventure for a late-night bite, Holloway Commons, Stillings and Philbrook provides a place for students to fuel their energy without sacrificing their social life. Each dining hall also has different specialties, food options and even themes to cater for all UNH students.

However, the current health crisis has made it harder for the dining halls to keep up with the same service they have been providing for years. UNH has also increased their prices for meal plans and swipes. While some students understand that the dining halls have to sacrifice the quantity of food options for safety, others are not pleased with the quality of food they are receiving for the price that they paid.

Katherine Weick, an earth science major said, “The dining halls this year are definitely different, it is not what I had expected.” Nonetheless, the sophomore said that the staff are still friendly and nice to the

students. When asked about the price increase for the meal plans, Weick said, “I understand that using disposables would cost a lot of money, but for the food options that they are offering and less staff members, I don’t see why they have to increase the prices.”

The one thing that she thinks they should change is putting out a few more options, if not a lot. All in all, Weick is happy with her experience by saying that they are “doing a pretty good job.”

“We are all being fed, that is a good thing,” she added.

Contrarily, Harry Piaquad, a junior economics major, thinks that the dining halls are “lacking in every department.” Piaquad is not satisfied with the dining halls at all this semester.

“I don’t mind having less options, but even the quality of the food is poorer than last semester,” he said. Piaquad believes that less is more in terms of the complexity of the food served. “They need to stop making us fancy food and just make food we actually want to eat - simple but better-quality food,” he explained.

But for first-year genetics major Dominic Carignan, the experience at the dining halls has been good so far. “I guess they started off a bit rocky, but it is getting better,” he said. Carignan believes that UNH dining halls are “doing the

best they can with the current situation.” However, Carignan would like to see an increase in portions and options for desserts. “The desserts are pretty small. Even with lesser options, I would hope that it was in a bigger portion,” he added.

“It is not easy to make changes,” said junior Karly Houghton, a sustainability and recreational management and policy dual major that works in Holloway Commons. But with all the negative comments coming from students about the food at the dining hall this semester, Houghton replied, “With the current situation, the dining halls are doing the best they can.”

Houghton explained that they had to provide less food because they do not want to sacrifice safety for quantity. “The dining halls had to even change their food provider when this pandemic happened, and that was not easy at all,” added Houghton.

For Houghton, working in Holloway Commons this semester was different.

“Not a lot of students go to the dining halls anymore, it is less chaotic but still a lot of work because we always need to make sure that there is food on the counter,” she explained.

When asked about the changes in routines for the staff, Houghton said there are

not many differences.

“We have always been required to wear gloves at all time but now we also need to wear masks. We are also only allowed to go to the dining hall through the staff entrance and lastly, we have a strict rule of putting the food on the counter and we are not allowed to hand food to student,” she said.

However, Houghton believes that the dining hall should switch to a better alternative. “For being one of the most sustainable colleges in the country, I think we should shift to using plates and utensils that are eco-friendlier, we are just using so much plastic right now,” she said.



Photo courtesy of UNH



# COVID-19 to have long-term mental health effect on students

By Isabelle Curtis  
CONTRIBUTING  
WRITER

“This is a disaster.”

That was the overwhelming thought in first-year studio art major Jamie Landry’s head as she stared blankly at her open laptop. Her schoolwork was beginning to pile up and she still couldn’t focus on any of her online classes.

Landry is one of the thousands of college freshmen whose latter half of their senior year of high school was abruptly cut short because of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Students and educators across the country were forced to make the shift to strictly online learning with almost no prior preparation. The switch to online learning hit Landry especially hard.

“I have ADHD, so it’s really hard to focus on online classes. Just in general my self-confidence went through the floor,” said Landry. “I was like ‘I’m not getting anything done, I can’t focus on anything.’”

Landry’s feelings of frustration and inadequacy were worsened by the reminder of all the things her class had missed out on. The senior dance that was supposed to be hosted on a boat as it cruised around Lake Winnepesaukee, and the class trip to Six Flags never happened.

“It was very disappointing. I made it four years through high school and then just didn’t get to do any of the stuff the past years got to do. It was sad,” said Landry.

These increased feelings of mental distress experienced by Landry are just a small example of a nationwide increase in mental health problems. It was found that 30.5% of college students reported that their mental health negatively

affected their academic performance on a least six days during the past four weeks; an 8.6% increase from the prior fall, according to a survey conducted by the Healthy Minds Network for Research on Adolescent and Young Adult Mental Health and the American College Health Association of 18,764 students across 14 campuses.

Will Lusenhop, who is Clinical Assistant Professor of Social Work at the University of New Hampshire (UNH) and maintained a private practice until two years ago, explained the effects of the pandemic on mental health. Lusenhop cited that increased feelings of anxiety and depression caused by COVID-19 can aggravate pre-existing mental illnesses which then cause additional anxiety and depression. This traps people like Landry into feedback loops of mental distress.

Lusenhop also explained the possible long-term mental health effects of the pandemic through the diathesis model. The diathesis model tracks the trajectory of how disorders manifest by examining the relationship between people’s genetics and their environment.

“You’re going to have some people for whom depression and anxiety never have exhibited but the stress of [the pandemic] will essentially activate what may never have shown up,” said Lusenhop.

Beyond the stress caused by academic or financial factors, Lusenhop also pointed to how damaging prolonged periods of social isolation can be on an individual’s mental health. “Social interaction for humans is as fundamental as air,” said Lusenhop. “Our brain functioning does not do well if we are not in social interactions or feeling close to people.”

Junior marine biology



Photo courtesy of Isabelle Curtis

major Bryson Torgovigsky experienced the effects of social isolation first hand after UNH shut down after spring break last semester and he found himself finishing his sophomore year in his childhood home in Washington, DC. There were suddenly 432 miles separating him from campus, his friends and his new girlfriend.

Torgovigsky occupied his summer by attending online classes, walking his dogs and occasionally participating in virtual Japanese conversation hours. His plans to visit Japan that summer had also been canceled. It would have been the third time Torgovigsky visited the country. He had already been part of a Tohoku earthquake relief program in 2017 and a social advertising campaign for the Japanese government in 2018.

Torgovigsky tried to keep in contact with others as much as possible despite the physical distance. “[My girlfriend and I] were very positive about the

whole thing,” said Torgovigsky. “I called her every night unless one of us had another commitment.”

Torgovigsky’s return to UNH was also marked by inconvenient distance. Because Torgovigsky’s study abroad trip to New Zealand this fall semester was canceled, he was separated from his old roommate and placed in a single room in default housing. Torgovigsky hopes to be able to switch dorms soon so he can live with his roommate again.

Nevertheless, Torgovigsky has noticed a vast improvement in his mental health both because of the increased social interaction and work environment. “Having to return to the high school idea of doing work at home was a bit of a strain,” explained Torgovigsky. “Being on campus, which I associate with college, schoolwork and everything, makes it much easier for me to sit down, focus on lectures and do work.”

However, while the return

to campus for students like Torgovigsky means the return to a familiar environment and friends, the social isolation freshmen feel as they navigate meeting new people is made worse by COVID-19 social restrictions.

“You literally can’t get close to other people, like physically, so it’s impossible to have conversations with people,” said Landry.

Lusenhop believes that people’s mental health will continue to deteriorate as the COVID-19 pandemic goes on with no end in sight. This situation is made worse by the United States’ inadequate mental health services.

“Our mental health system is probably one of the better ones in the world,” said Lusenhop. “We have more of a culture of people getting therapy and therapists, but it certainly doesn’t meet the demand.”

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# Degnan takes on new roles during midst of COVID-19

By Caitlin Staffanson  
STAFF WRITER

The coronavirus (COVID-19) was unforeseen but has affected people all in different ways. For Dr. Peter Degnan, medical director for Health and Wellness at the University of New Hampshire (UNH), his role completely changed.

Degnan said that seemingly overnight last spring, his role shifted as did many other employees' roles at Health and Wellness. While their job is to protect the health and safety of students, faculty, staff and community members, a pandemic was an unforeseen event that took lots of time, care and patience to maneuver. Degnan has served as medical director at UNH for just over four years but has been with Health and Wellness for six years. This summer, Degnan participated in many groups that discussed if or when students could return to campus and the guidelines that must remain in place for the university to open. Degnan is the primary contact for public health matters at UNH.

"We re-thought our medical care models for our health center, expanding to include Telehealth in addition to continued in-person visits," Degnan said. "We are committed to providing as much as possible the same scope of medical care and wellness promotion services as previous, but in an environment that is safe for our community and our staff."

Degnan attended St. Michael's College in Vermont and studied biology as an undergraduate. In college he began working for fire and rescue services as an EMT and this ended up pushing him towards medicine. He decided to attend Georgetown University for medical school and he later completed his family medicine residency in Denver. Degnan worked in community health care, then several family medicine practices across the seacoast. When the opportunity came to join the Health and Wellness team, Degnan took it. He said he has always enjoyed working with students and this opportunity seemed like the perfect fit.

Degnan's role is split between administrative and clinical responsibilities. In addition to clinical care, he serves as the liaison for the clinical staff on the senior leadership team. He also oversees Health



Photo courtesy of Peter Degnan

and Wellness's clinical operations, clinician recruitment and staffing, and ensures adherence to their operating policies and procedures.

"Dr. Degnan is very committed to the mission of Health & Wellness and the work of the staff, and the health and well-being of our students and entire UNH community,"

said Kathleen Grace-Bishop, the Director of Education and Promotion for Health and Wellness. "Dr. Degnan is a highly skilled practitioner and he is totally present to students when providing care. We are lucky to have him and thoroughly enjoy working with him."

Health and Wellness has two other physicians, and five

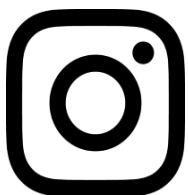
nurse practitioners. These seven health care workers work with patients 100% of the time while Degnan sees patients only about 60% of the time.

"Lately, I'm a part of way too many Zoom calls," Degnan said.

"No question that my favorite part is interacting with students in the course of medi-

cal care," Degnan said. "It is an honor to bear witness to the education and whole-person development of our students over the course of their time here at UNH, and if we can have a positive impact in that process, all the better. I also love working with our staff; they are amazing."

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# Clark's American Bistro to open this fall



*Evan Edmonds/TNH Staff*

**By Evan Edmonds**  
STAFF WRITER

In the former location of Durham's beloved Young's Restaurant on Main Street, Clark's American Bistro is aiming to open by the end of September according to owner Doug Clark.

Just three months after the opening of Italian restaurant Ciao Italia, Clark's most recent restaurant is nearly ready to open in Durham. Clark's American Bistro is finishing construction and building its menu in order to open fully by the end of September or "very early October," said Clark. The restaurant will have a rustic American look as a celebration of both America and Durham, with a focus on the role Durham played in the creation of this country.

Clark said he wants to remind people that Durham was a thriving town long before the University of New Hampshire: "there's so much more to this town than the university," he said. Clark's American Bistro will celebrate the founding

fathers of Durham with vignettes on the wall telling Durham's histories.

They will debut a regional American menu, similar to how Ciao Italia is regional Italian. Clark said he has divided the country into seven regions to be represented in the menu: New England, Mid Atlantic, South, Texas, Midwest, Southwest and the West.

He said his team has researched the most classic recipes, craft beers, and wines from each of these regions to offer a menu allowing customers to experience the whole range of the country's foods.

"If you want a European experience, go to Ciao Italia, that'll be a little more upscale, and here it'll be a little more casual and all-American," Clark said. "By nature it'll be a little more pub-ish, but we call it gastropub, because every item on the menu will have something special to it."

This "upscale pub-food," as Clark said, will likely include some New England classics like chowder, lobster rolls and fried fish, barbecue ribs from Texas, a steak from the Midwest,

Tex-Mex from the Southwest, and possibly a Po-Boy from Louisiana. "Here we want to show people there's more to American food than just pizza and burgers," Clark said.

They will also do brunch on the weekends, and potentially Thursday and Friday in the future, to meet the demands of the locals who have been sending in personal notes asking the bistro to do breakfast.

In terms of construction, Clark said the transition has been straightforward: painting the walls and the ceilings, redoing the floor, building a bar and changing the lighting from that of a breakfast place to something darker for lunch and dinner.

Clark's American Bistro is being built completely optimized for the coronavirus (COVID-19), Clark said. Anticipating that COVID-19 will be here for a while, he said they are preparing for it at Clark's American Bistro from day one.

Rather than plexiglass hanging down between booths and tables, each booth will have a glass window to act as adequate separation but also contribute to the restaurant's aesthetic and

character. The bar is completely separated from the dining area and there will be a separate take out stand in the front. Clark said they have considered doing take out through the back door as a different alternative. Since they will be serving American food, it will be much more conducive for takeout, Clark said.

They plan to have as many as 18 out of the 26 tables available inside, plus another 10 or so outside until it gets too cold.

Clark said he is still hoping for Durham to develop a scale for residents to come into town and stay, rather than just coming and going. He said that with four or five adult restaurants, Clark's American Bistro preparing to add to that, it will get residents to start coming downtown.

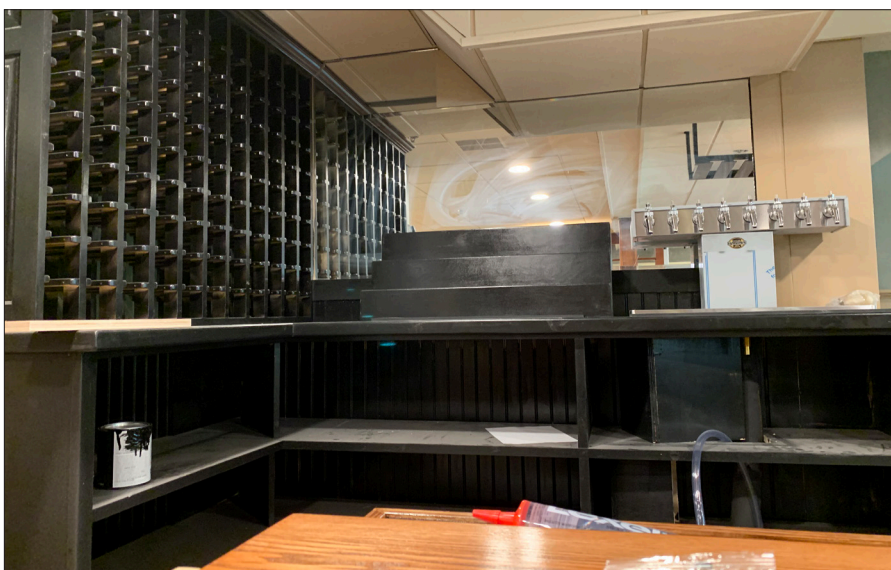
Clark said the typical audience might be a little more mixed, about 60 percent adults and 40 percent students. Similarly to Ciao Italia, Clark said the goal is to have a place that the residents of Durham feel comfortable eating in.

"It hurts me to know that when I grew up in Durham, my family would go for walks downtown," Clark said, "[and

now] it's always just a go get something and leave. It used to be a social gathering place." He said that the opening of Clark's American Bistro and more conversation about creating more gathering places in Durham should help bring more balance to Durham: 50 percent of businesses catering to students and 50 percent of them catering to adults.

Clark is exploring some more possibilities in terms of restaurants to be opened in the future, including "Week's Chop Shop," a grab-and-go salad, soup and sandwich place for people who "want to eat healthy, but don't want to still be hungry after they eat," Clark said. Another option would be a "beer hall" idea similar to South Station in Boston with food stands around the perimeter.

Similarly to Clark's intent for Durham as a whole, he said he wishes for Clark's American Bistro to be a gathering place: "this will always be a place where you can sit and have a conversation," Clark said, "That's what I've promised my wife."



*Evan Edmonds/TNH Staff*



*Evan Edmonds/TNH Staff*



# Durham farmer's market impacted by pandemic

By Shawn Latulippe  
DESIGN EDITOR

The Durham Farmers Market on Mondays has been a chance for farmers to sell their food and do it in a safe way during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, as it is much easier to social distance in the parking lot outside in the Sammy's Market. With no farmers markets in May, some farmers struggled with where to sell their food to people. On Sept. 15 farmers at the Durham Farmers Market shared their experiences with the pandemic and their food at the market.

Charlie Reid started the University of New Hampshire (UNH) Garden Club and Dairy Club 17 years ago and usually has students work with him on his farm, Stonewall Farm to earn credit for the UNH Animal Science class ANSC 600: Field Experience. Reid said last spring was the first spring he had no help on his farm

and says that most farmers have struggled amid the pandemic. Reid sells his food at the Durham Farmers Market on Mondays. He said, "yeah it's been hard, but there's not much you can do about it."

"The first month [week] in May they didn't allow any farmers markets, some cities have not even allowed any at all. So it's caused everybody to scramble and you got to look for another way to sell food," Reid said.

"Farm stands have popped up so people have been doing it that way and then they let us in Portsmouth at the Little Harbour School and that's been okay. There's a lot of farmers and there's a lot of customers that just refuse to come back to places where there's lots of people," said Reid.

He now sells at a farm stand in Lee at Dog Rose Farm and also to some restaurants in Portsmouth and some health food stores. "But it hasn't been near what it used to be," said Reid. He says he's been

selling his food at the Durham Farmers Market for well over 30 years.

Another vendor at the market says his business has gotten better amid the pandemic. Alexander Nash and his wife Alyona Nash own the bread company The Olde Craft Bakery in Dover, NH. Nash, who moved to the US from Russia 11 years ago says he prides himself on making quality, European-style bread.

During the pandemic people have gotten more into baking bread and this has helped Nash's business, but he also says that it comes down to the organic ingredients from Canada in his bread and his advertisement of the bread to consumers.

"I believe in education, this is how we have built our business. Because unless you are able to tell people the difference between your best product and something else, how will they know," said Nash.

Donna-Lee Woods has 120 goats at her farm, Hickory Nut

Farm in Lee NH. She says she's been doing farmers markets from Boston to Concord to North Maine and Berwick this summer and says this is her first summer at the Durham Farmers Market. She has a friend that does the farmstand in Durham that told her "you've gotta come over and do it." She sells firm goat milk cheeses, goat milk soaps and a goat milk fudge and goat milk caramel.

Woods said in regard to the current pandemic's effects on the markets, "the temperament, the emotional aspect is much, much higher than before. People are excited for it, they look forward to it."

A customer at the Durham Farmers Market, named Sticky Rice, is the lead vocalist and dancer of the band Brown Rice Family said he was excited to move to New Hampshire from New York recently.

He said, "I love the farmers markets but I've been down in New York for a minute, for quite a long time I set up shop here and

it's been good. I like it here, I like the farmers market." Rice continued on, "food is your medicine and medicine is your food, so I think the more local the food is grown the more sustainable it is for the environment and also for the body because we're all part of the one creation you know and also supporting local businesses is also good you know spread the wealth."

Julie Griewank, a member of the Seacoast Growers Association, talked about the farmers market during the pandemic, she said "a lot of people feel that shopping outdoors is safer than indoors, are being much more careful about what they eat, and are cooking for fun which means the fresh, local and our certified organic ingredients are really a hit, so we've had a really good year in that sense. In a personal sense since there's nothing else to do we just work all the time and that works fine for us too."



Shawn Latulippe/TNH Staff



Shawn Latulippe/TNH Staff



Shawn Latulippe/TNH Staff



# Changing with the times: the college admissions process

By Chloe Camelio  
STAFF WRITER

Like many things around campus, the University of New Hampshire's (UNH) admission process needed to adapt due to the coronavirus (COVID-19).

One of the biggest changes that prospective students experienced is the operation of campus tours. Last spring, all of the campus tours were cancelled and did not resume until this August. This August, in-person tours resumed, but with much smaller groups and more frequent time slots. UNH started to offer student-led virtual tours for prospective students and the school plans to continue those at least through this fall. Prospective students and their families from outside New England are not allowed to attend in-person tours and must opt for a virtual option.

In addition, UNH Admissions started to livestream tours on Instagram as an alternate way for prospective students to see campus. Admissions plans to engage with students and families virtually during open houses, virtual tours, admission office hours, virtual fairs, and even one-one-one meetings with their admissions counselor. This

gives prospective students the opportunity to see all that UNH has to offer, while being safe.

"Our admissions staff is even more accessible now through chat, text, and increased opportunities to schedule individual zoom meetings. While COVID-19 has created a great deal of stress, I believe some of the changes in admissions have been for the positive for students as we have adapted quickly to respond to the needs of students and their families in their college search and application process," said Admissions Counselor Tara Scholder.

Another change that both the university and students have had to adjust to is the cancellation of standardized tests. Many schools have had to transition to test optional for fall 2021 applicants, but UNH started to be test optional back in fall 2020.

One of the biggest changes for both the fall 2020 and 2021 admissions process is that some high schools are switching to "pass or fail" grades. On the UNH COVID-19 admission FAQs page, it states, "UNH supports the decisions made by high school faculty and administrators regarding what grading methods they think most appropriate given the academic adjustments



Photo courtesy of UNH

required by the public health challenges we are all facing. Accordingly, we are deferring to what the high school/institution believes most appropriate for grading methods in the spring semester 2020. Students should still take full course loads, do as well as they can, and take courses pass/fail based on advice

from teachers and school counselors."

The website also states that both elective and core classes can be taken as pass/fail. As for how the school will evaluate pass/fail grades, the UNH Admissions COVID-19 FAQs says, "Students must still take required courses needed for

admission and/or the major they hope to study. If a student presents, in our opinion, too much 'F' achievement, admissions staff will consult with school counselors for additional detail and context of the student's experience."

## Want to get involved with The New Hampshire?

Contributors'  
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SCAN ME

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# Gallery: Sept. 15 Durham Farmer's Market





# This day in TNH history

12 Friday, September 17, 2010

The New Hampshire

## Student orgs come together for University Day



Left: UNH Color Guard performs on T-Hall lawn on U-Day. Right: The Army ROTC's climbing wall was a hit at U-Day.

**Samantha Pearson**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The air was thick with smoke and laughter on Tuesday as the annual University Day picnic took over Main Street.

Students and residents from Durham and surrounding towns prowled the area Tuesday between 3:30 and 6:30 p.m., feasting on free food provided by UNH Dining Services and enjoying a plethora of activities provided by virtually everyone in the community.

"Oh my goodness, there's everything here!" super senior Sean Matthews said of the event's scope.

The day's activities offered something for everyone, whether it was a foreign language club, juggling practice, a rock wall, loud music, prizes for trivia, a chance to test your football-throwing skills, information about local organizations seeking to make a difference, and countless others.

University Day boasted a wealth of informational booths and

entertaining activities to encourage students to get involved on campus.

The dining halls closed for the afternoon and Main Street was blocked off for the pedestrian takeover, which gave everyone a chance to wander around the fair and see the sights while mingling with fellow students.

"Le club français adorent la jour d'université," sophomore Molly Driscoll, a member of the French Club, said, expressing her club's love for University Day.

Driscoll and her fellow club members were among dozens of student organizations hoping to attract new members.

Amongst Tuesday's sprawl of booths for student organizations, university departments, programs, Greek life and local organizations and businesses were several sports demonstrations and a colorful array of foods ranging from cotton candy to snow cones.

At several booths, students were handing out leaflets with information about their organizations and others were insisting students take a lollipop or apple with them as they left.

At 5 p.m. a flash mob to "Shout!" took over the fair to promote Arts for Life. Shortly after, several students competed in a "bad dance" competition similar to those often featured during halftime at UNH sporting events.

Near the back of the fray was a

dozens of kids had taken their turn inside the bounce house throughout the day and many of them returned for a second or third chance to jump around.

**"Oh my goodness, there's everything here!"**

*Sean Matthews*  
super senior

Some of the kids came straight from the balloon man, who was stationed just down the sidewalk handing out balloon animals to children and college students alike. One little girl carried a balloon puffin with her to the bounce house while a UNH student walking in the opposite direction wore a green vampire balloon hat.

"My balloons are guaranteed to pop," swore the balloon man as he twisted balloons into what would eventually be a mermaid. "If they don't pop in two weeks, bring them back, and I'll pop them for you."

Next door, the face-painting booth boasted its own crowd of eager children and students hoping to get a fun design on their cheek.

Further down the sidewalk, a DJ booth blasted a popular Spice Girls song across T-Hall lawn, and on the other side of the fair, Snoopy stood out amongst the dozens of dogs who had accompanied their owners to University Day, hugging and high-fiving students as they passed to check out what was happening around the famous beagle.

Only one complaint seemed to be pervasive amongst the students in attendance at the fair. As junior Sinead Grabbert put it, the food could have been improved for students with restrictive diets.

"I hate that my only option as a vegetarian is a salad wrap," Grabbert said. "Other than that, University Day is awesome. It always is."



RAYA AL-HASHMI/ CONTRIBUTOR

Members of the UNH gymnastics team entertained the crowd with tumbling at University Day.

purple bounce house in the shape of a castle decorated with the faces of the Disney princesses. Surrounding the structure were several members of the UNH Volleyball team and dozens of children of all ages.

"We're here to promote the team and hang out with kids," junior Amy Keding said. "It's been a really awesome day."

According to her teammates,



RAYA AL-HASHMI/ CONTRIBUTOR

Members of a student organization talk to local children last Tuesday at University Day.

SCOPE PRESENTS...  
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17 September 2020

# Just Mercy: Race, justice, and perseverance

By Anna Kate Munsey  
MANAGING EDITOR

In his first novel, accomplished attorney Bryan Stevenson shocked the world with a nonfiction story addressing racism, our criminal justice system, innocence, and humanity at its ugliest and most vulnerable. *Just Mercy* has since been made into a major motion picture, starring Michael B. Jordan and Jamie Foxx.

Stevenson, a Harvard Law graduate, moved to Alabama to pursue a humble career focused on exonerating prisoners who had been wrongly convicted with an emphasis on those on death row. The story's main focus is the case of Walter McMillian, who was wrongly convicted of a murder and spent six years on death row. It wasn't until 1993 that the Alabama Court of Appeals ruled McMillian's case had been mishandled, including witness coercion and exculpatory evidence suppression.

The rest of Walter's life was spent educating people, sharing his story, and speaking at conferences and with the media. He dealt with a significant amount of mental health issues, and experienced early-onset dementia due to the trauma he had experienced. He passed away on Sept. 11, 2013. Walter's story lives on, and the issues it presented are just as important to this day.

It sounds cliché, but this book will make you smile, frown, laugh, and cry. You'll feel frustrated and angry, optimistic and hopeful. Ultimately, the story of Walter McMillian and others will unequivocally convince you that we need change and reform, that we cannot let fellow human beings suffer the way Walter and so many others unfairly do.

Throughout the novel, Stevenson also highlighted the stories of many others who had been wrongly convicted or sentenced, including chapters focusing on juvenile offenders, mothers, and those battling addiction. He tells the stories of Trina Garnett, Antonio Nuñez, and Ian Manuel, all of whom are sentenced to life in prison

for non-homicidal crimes they were convicted of when they were thirteen and fourteen years old. We learn about a man named "Dr. Ed Seger" who fabricated his credentials as a mental health expert and psychiatrist and worked for eight years in a hospital, doing competency evaluations on people accused of crimes. Eventually, his fraudulence was discovered, but it was absolutely too little too late for so many of those he had uneducatedly diagnosed, or ruled that they had no mental illness whatsoever.

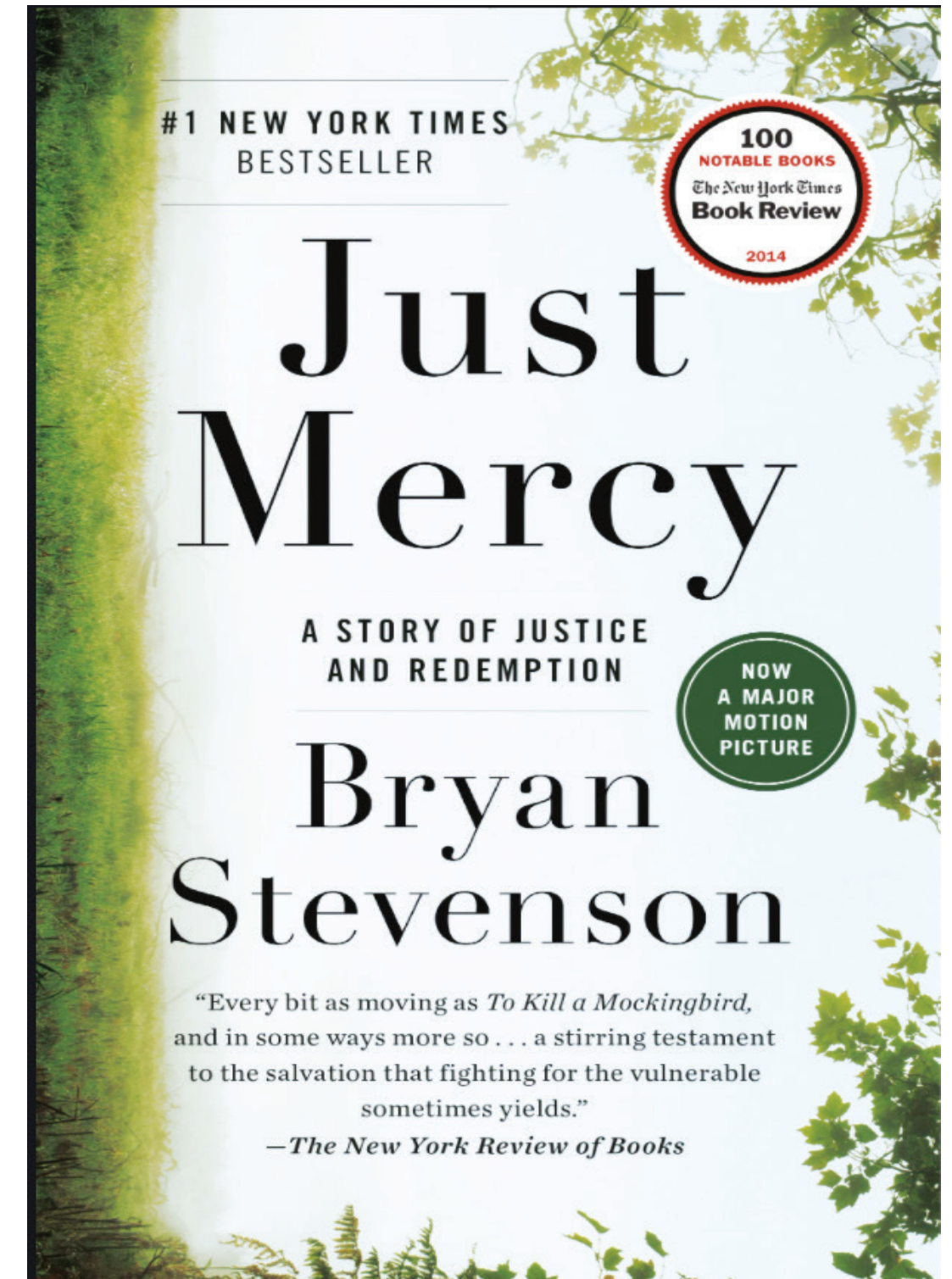
Stevenson weaves personal experiences and anecdotes with statistics on race, crime, and incarceration with the stories of those wrongly accused, each with a different fate. He describes his own disheartening experiences with racism and discrimination, but his focus is his work.

The tone and writing style of the story was incredibly effective - Stevenson is clearly brilliant, but his writing is readable and fast-paced - it doesn't make you feel dumb or slow, it makes you feel educated and understanding, and of course, inspired.

In some ways, *Just Mercy* reminded me of a favorite classic of mine, *To Kill a Mockingbird*. The ideas of race, injustice, and defending those who cannot defend themselves were some of the bigger similarities. It's unfortunate, however, that so many in our country are still facing these same injustices from nearly 100 years ago.

Support for both Stevenson and the Equal Justice Initiative (EJI), which he co-founded, grew dramatically over the years as the cases they took on gained more and more national attention. Today, the EJI has over 150 employees.

As much as his clients were affected by Stevenson's kindness and drive to help them, he was affected by them and their stories as well. "Walter made me understand why we have to reform a system of criminal justice that continues to treat



*Photo Courtesy of Penguin Random House*

people better if they are rich and guilty than if they are poor and innocent. A system that denies the poor the legal help they need, that makes wealth and status more important than culpability, must be changed. Walter's case taught me that fear and anger are a threat to justice; they can infect a community, a state, or a nation and make us blind, irrational, and dangerous."

I often say "everyone has to read x book" but with *Just Mercy*, I really mean it. This book explores and exposes the fundamental flaws of our past. It expresses in undeniable terms the urgency of con-

fronting racism and the deepest flaws in our criminal justice system. Every once and a while one of those truly eye-opening books comes into my life, and always evokes strong emotions. *Just Mercy* evoked feelings of frustration and sadness, but also motivation. Stevenson has proved that justice can be achieved, even for those in the most seemingly hopeless situations. Those of us born into privilege must fight for those who have not been given the same opportunities. We must stand up for the poor, the marginalized, the ill, and the helpless. And, perhaps even more

important, we must encourage our friends, family, and peers to do the same. This is the only way true change can occur.

As John Lewis wrote in his posthumous op-ed, "When historians pick up their pens to write the story of the 21st century, let them say that it was your generation who laid down the heavy burdens of hate at last and that peace finally triumphed over violence, aggression and war. So I say to you, walk with the wind, brothers and sisters, and let the spirit of peace and the power of everlasting love be your guide."



# Review: Travis Scott meal at McDonald's

By Evan Edmonds  
STAFF WRITER

IT'S LIT! In truth, the new McDonald's and rapper Travis Scott collab meal is of usual standard to be expected from McDonald's - but with the name of an international hip-hop superstar onto some classic fast food, it can't hurt to try it - so I did.

Straight up! The meal isn't revolutionary or new to the McDonald's menu. It's quite literally a Quarter Pounder with cheese, but "Travis style," adding bacon and shredded lettuce. In addition, the side of tangy barbecue sauce did in fact come with the fries. Lastly, a classic McDonald's sprite to wash it all down for \$6.79 - a dollar more than the typical Quarter Pounder with cheese meal.

The burger did somewhat benefit from Scott's minor upgrades: the bacon added some nice crunch and flavor while the shredded lettuce was kind of just there - not super necessary. I doubt that Travis Scott was the first to dip fries in barbecue sauce, but for what it's worth it was a pretty decent combo. The burger even benefitted from a little dip in the barbecue. For the bonus bacon and barbecue, I'd say the extra dollar is worth it, if that's what you want.

There's more to be desired here depending on personal ex-

pectations. For those expecting a whole new meal or different burger, you'll be disappointed. For those looking for McDonald's, you'll be pleasantly surprised when they slide some crispy bacon onto your burger and sneak a bonus barbecue sauce into your bag! Most of all this meal made me wonder: "why doesn't a regular quarter pounder have bacon?" And honestly it probably should - but at least now if you want to add it to your Quarter Pounder you can feel like an international hip-hop star.

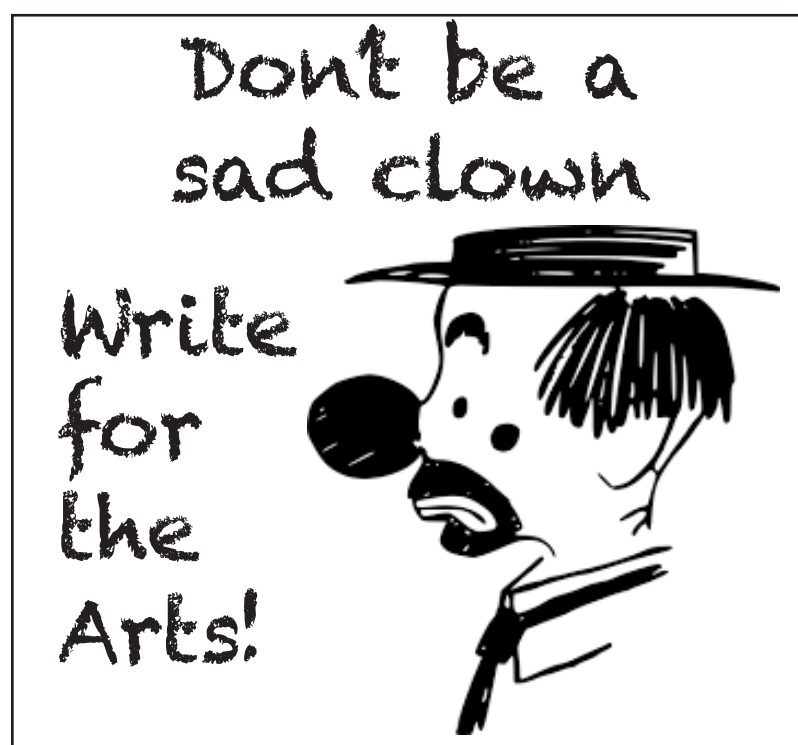
The Travis Scott meal isn't anything but marketing - but it's pretty good marketing at that. Who doesn't want to try the favorite McDonald's meal of their favorite rap artist? Overall the experience depends on expectation, and I'd warn eager fast food or Travis Scott fans to keep theirs at a five or six out of ten. If a new McDonald's meal isn't enough, apparently there is also new McDonald's and Travis Scott merch coming soon, according to his website. If you're stopping by McDonald's and you're still interested in adding bacon to your burger, just tell them Cactus Jack sent you. Or order a number four and ask to add bacon. Up to you.



**A quarter-pounder with bacon, lettuce, and cheese is the main course in the Travis Scott meal, with a McDonald's Sprite to drink.**



**A side of fries with tangy barbecue sauce completes the meal**





# Editorial: Ed Markey’s win brings an end to the Kennedy’s reign

By Ashlyn Giroux  
CONTRIBUTING  
WRITER

As the 2020 presidential election draws closer, the country is at a standstill looking at the given options: Joe Biden, a moderate Democrat who we became familiar with while he served as Obama’s vice president for eight years; or Donald Trump, a notably right-wing conservative who has caused a visible divide in the country’s political system over the past four years. Progressive Democrats like Sen. Bernie Sanders and Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez have also brought attention back to the left and determined what candidates really are and aren’t progressive. While state primaries are

still being held, we’re seeing the rise of progressive Democrats running for a spot as their states’ representatives and senators. Incumbent Massachusetts Sen. Ed Markey proved that progressive candidates are back on the come up, after he defeated Rep. Joe Kennedy III in Massachusetts state primary.

Markey’s lengthy list of endorsements from progressive organizations and politicians like The Sunrise Movement, MoveOn, Rep. Ocasio-Cortez, and The Sierra Club have backed his statement that he was more progressive than Kennedy. Co-authoring the Green New Deal and being a staunch supporter of Medicare for All, Markey made it clear that even as an older candidate he still carries very progressive ideologies. Markey, who has never lost a race, attributed

this to the fact he was the son of a milkman from Malden who went to Boston College and wasn’t born into a dynasty of politicians like Kennedy, and saying these experiences helped shape him into the politician he is today. Kennedy, on the other hand, has politics in his blood: his great uncle was President John F. Kennedy (D), his father Joe Kennedy II (D) was a U.S. Representative for Massachusetts, and his aunt Kathleen Kennedy (D) served as the Lt. Governor of Maryland.

The Kennedy family dynasty has held onto the fact that they have always been strong Democrats. President John F. Kennedy embraced the fact he was a ‘progressive’ Democrat for his time. Nowadays, many progressive Democrats especially see right through

the picture that ‘Kennedy Democrats’ have painted of what being progressive looks like. Nowadays, JFK would be deemed a neoliberal (a Democrat who embraces the concepts and ideas of free market capitalism), and though Biden does not align with free market capitalism, he has coined the term ‘moral capitalism’ to try to appear as a more progressive Democrat. Kennedy III’s loss, the first loss ever of any Kennedy running in Massachusetts, shows that the Kennedy Democrats’ legacy is coming to an end. Markey even decided to bite back at the generations of moderate democrats the Kennedy’s have churned out. He realigned JFK’s infamous “Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country” line to “Ask what your country

can do for you.” He used it as a campaign slogan, signaling the progressive shift within the Democratic Party.

While Markey’s win is a huge success for progressive democrats and leftists alike, there is still much work to be done within the Democratic party and the political system in its entirety. Whether the issue is LGBTQ+ rights, gun violence, or racial justice, the system has to be turned around and the only way we can make that happen is by voting in politicians like Markey who will push for legislation on social justice issues and protections for minorities and the environment alike. Markey is one of the first progressives to be elected in this cycle who will ensure this happens—let’s keep more coming.

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### Thumbs up

### Thumbs down



Thumbs up to Portsmouth for passing a mask mandate



Thumbs down to all the N.H. towns that haven’t yet



Thumbs up to the Celtics winning game 7 over the Raptors.



Thumbs down to the Celtics losing game 1 to the Heat after being up 14 points in the fourth quarter.



Thumbs up to professors doing their best during this difficult time.



Thumbs down to Zoom University.





University of New Hampshire  
Room 132 Memorial Union Building  
Durham, NH 03824  
Phone: (603) 862-1323  
Email: [tnh.editor@unh.edu](mailto:tnh.editor@unh.edu)  
[TNHdigital.com](http://TNHdigital.com)  
[twitter.com/thenewhampshire](https://twitter.com/thenewhampshire)

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Josh Morrill

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# From the *Editor's Desk...*

Over the past few months, the sports world has seen student athletes like Ohio State University quarterback Justin Fields and Clemson University quarterback Trevor Lawrence speak out on behalf of college football players all around the country.

Their message has been simple: They want to compete in 2020.

On Sept. 16, the Big Ten Conference announced its intentions to let its football athletes do just that.

They join the Southeastern, Big 12, Atlantic Coast, American Athletic, Conference USA and Sunbelt conferences, as the only FBS conferences to play this season.

This decision is great for the athletes. They get to play the game they love for another season, and for some it's their last.

Much of the pushback that schools have had to deal with has been from the premise that they are robbing their athletes of the opportunity to get a shot at the next level (National Football League).

Yes, in many cases, without a football season these athletes could potentially lose out on millions of dollars. But, that's the vast minority.

Most of the student athletes

that would apply have been heavily scouted and monitored by NFL teams for years. If anything, another year of football could risk their dreams by sustaining injuries or playing poorly.

This isn't coming from a member of the "sports are meaningless" crowd either. As a youngster, my emotional stability would fluctuate based on whether my Patriots or North Carolina Tarheels would win any given weekend. It's not an exaggeration to say that I'm one of the most passionate sports fans you would ever meet, but there is something more important at stake right now.

In a statement from the Big 10, they said that their Return to Competition Task Force gave the go-ahead to return to the field. Through further examination, you can find that this four-person "task force" executive committee is made up of, wait for it... ONE medical professional and three athletic directors.

I find it suspicious that this task force came to this conclusion just weeks after seeing that Ohio State University, one of its most prominent schools, had 882 COVID-19 cases, and that number is still on the rise. However, that number doesn't even come close to rivaling the Uni-

versity of Iowa, which has over 1,800 positive COVID-19 cases.

The reason why football is back is very simple. Money.

Many universities across the country have gotten consistent thrust in their backside from politicians and because of the economic effect that football has on various communities.

By having football, money from merchandise, and other sources will get funding for universities and put less stress on local and state governments to fund them.

The NCAA has a huge hand in the matter as well due to the fact that they are losing hundreds of millions of dollars even with select conferences choosing to play.

These athletes will now be traveling across multiple states and bringing possible COVID-19 cases back to their university. It doesn't matter how many task forces or resources you have, the risk is too high.

If you think this decision was made with the student athletes best interest in mind, then you are sadly mistaken.

**Josh Morrill**  
Executive Editor

The New Hampshire is the University of New Hampshire's only student-run newspaper. It has been the voice of UNH students since 1911. TNH is published every Thursday. TNH advertising can be contacted at [tnh.advertising@unh.edu](mailto:tnh.advertising@unh.edu) or by phone at (603) 862-1323.

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# Celtics fall to Heat in game 1 of East Finals

By Shaun Petipas  
SPORTS EDITOR

The Boston Celtics and the Miami Heat kicked off the Eastern Conference Finals on Tuesday night, and if game one was any indication of how this series is going to be played, this one may go the distance.

The Miami Heat were able to sneak out of game one with the win after forcing the game to overtime and by getting some key plays by Jimmy Butler and Bam Adebayo. Butler and Adebayo were the heart of this team defensively and that wasn't disputed after Adebayo saved the game with a rejection of Jayson Tatum at the rim in overtime.

The Heat started the game off with their worst shooting performance of the season but when the unlikely spark, Goran Dragic, found his stroke, it was tough to stop the Heat. Ending the game with 29 points and 4 assists, Dragic was the unsung hero who kept Miami in the game while the rest of the Heat struggled to find their shots early.

If Boston loses the series this will be the game they look back upon and kick themselves. Kemba Walker's performance has to be acknowledged as one of the reasons the Celtics don't have a 1-0 lead. Walker hasn't looked like himself in these playoffs and it was pretty apparent again Tuesday night. The UConn product finished the game shooting 6-of-19 with 19 points and couldn't get into a groove all game.

However, he isn't the only issue for the Celtics as they've struggled to execute and close out games while they're ahead.



Heat forward Bam Adebayo rejects Celtics forward Jayson Tatum at the rim on his last second dunk attempt.

COURTESY OF MARK J. TERRILL

This was evident in their series against the Toronto Raptors when they were about to go up 3-0 but instead went through a hard-fought seven-game series. There's been too much looking to score from one-on-one matchups. They seem to settle for shots rather than drive to the hoop to create a better one.

There were some bright spots for the Celtics however, with a great game from Marcus Smart, and as much as it may pain Boston fans to hear, Brad Wanamaker. Smart ended the

night with 26 points meanwhile Wanamaker ended with a line of 11 points, 6 assists and 5 steals.

Having these two contribute on the offensive end while still doing their thing on the defensive end is huge for this team. Now, don't expect a performance like that from them every game, but Smart has been shooting at a much higher volume and has proven he can't be left open on the perimeter.

"He's improved off pick and roll quite a bit over the last six

years and he's improved in his shooting obviously," said head coach Brad Stevens to reporters after Tuesday night's game. "We thought he was going to take a huge jump three years ago and then he had a couple of hand issues during the year. But you could see it was coming. And then the last two years he's shot it really well."

Meanwhile, Tatum was all over the offensive end carrying the Celtics to overtime. He scored 30 points in the loss. Tatum kept the Celtics in the

lead most of the game, but poor fourth quarter and overtime play led to the Celtics collapse.

Tatum admitted that in his first season he didn't know what to expect, but that this season, it's different.

"Now I can say I've been here before," Tatum said.

The Celtics will need to adjust defensively to keep the Miami offense at bay. They'll also need to find some new wrinkles in their offense against the Heat whose defensive sets are ever-changing.

# Pats down Dolphins in Newton's debut

By Brackett Lyons  
SPORTS WRITER

FOXBOROUGH MA. — The New England Patriots faced off against the Miami Dolphins in their home opener this Sunday, Sept. 13. The Patriots played their first game without Tom Brady on the roster since 1999. Now led by Cam Newton, the Patriots battled a stubborn Miami team to a 21-11 win.

The first quarter was scoreless between the two sides for the first time in 15 years. The Patriots went with a run-heavy offense to start along with Newton completing his first pass as a Patriot to tight end Ryan Izzo for 25 yards.

New England had an early scare when Damiere Byrd muffed the Dolphin's first punt of the game. J.C. Jackson was able to recover the ball, but Byrd was benched on punts

with Julian Edelman handling the duties for the rest of the game.

The Pats offense got in a rhythm moving into the second quarter. Running back Rex Burkhead had the bulk of the carries and Newton got going with a seven-yard first down run on third-and-5. Newton then completed a six-yard pass to Edelman marking Edelman's 600th career reception. Newton then ran in for a four-yard touchdown following a run by James White.

On Miami's next drive, quarterback Ryan Fitzpatrick had his pass intercepted by Stephon Gilmore. Wide receiver Preston Williams slipped, and the reigning Defensive Player of the Year was there for the pick.

The Pats were unable to gain many yards and were knocked out of field goal range when Newton slipped and was sacked on third-and-6 for a loss of six. The Dolphins responded

with a drive that set up a 46-yard field goal making it a 7-3 ball game.

After a three-and-out by the Patriots, Miami drove down the field to the Patriots' 47-yard line. On first-and-10, Fitzpatrick had his throw intercepted by Adrian Phillips. Phillips was watching Fitzpatrick's eyes in the middle of the field and undercut his pass. The Patriots would once again fail to turn an interception into points when Nick Folk missed a 45-yard field goal attempt at the end of the half.

The Patriots scored to start the second half; Newton led a methodical drive down the field and capped it with an impressive 11-yard touchdown run. Newton beat the Miami contain and took a hit at the pylon just getting into the end zone.

With 1:03 remaining in the third quarter it looked like New England was headed for another touchdown with several strong plays on the ground

and through the air. On a pass to N'Keal Harry, the ball was stripped and went through the end zone resulting in a touch-back.

Miami fought down the field with several big plays including a fourth-down conversion from a 23-yard pass interference called on Gilmore and another pass interference call in the end zone this time on Terrence Brooks. Miami punched in the touchdown on third-and-goal from the one and the two-point conversion was successful thanks to a scramble by Fitzpatrick. The Pats now led 14-11.

The New England offense responded with a 23-yard end-around run by Edelman with another 15 yards tacked on thanks to a late hit. Newton led the Pats into the red zone and converted a fourth-and-inches with a quarterback sneak. The drive finished off with a one-yard TD rush from Sony Michel that gave the Patriots a

21-11 lead with 5:26 remaining in the game.

Newton ran the ball 15 times in his Patriots debut. Head coach Bill Belichick wasn't concerned about the volume of rushes from his new quarterback, explaining that those numbers depend on the defense more than Newton.

"I think those numbers are, with all due respect, I think they're a little bit skewed," noted Belichick. "If they play it a certain way, they could put the ball in whoever's hands they wanted to if they really want to declare who's going to get the ball."

New England held onto their lead thanks to an end zone pick by J.C. Jackson with 1:36 to go. The win marks Cam Newton's first with the Patriots and Belichick's 238th. The Patriots hope to build off this win when they play the Seattle Seahawks next Sunday night on Sept. 20.



## UNH's Sutherlin named to preseason AE first team



COURTESY OF CAMERON BEALL/TNH STAFF

UNH senior guard Sean Sutherlin (right) was named to the America East All-Conference Third Team in 2019 after averaging 12.8 points per game.

### By Cameron Beall SPORTS EDITOR

In his first season as a Wildcat, senior guard Sean Sutherlin wasted no time getting to work. He finished the season averaging 12.8 points per game, 9.3 rebounds and 2.6 assists. His 9.3 boards were good for second best in the conference, and 7.6 defensive rebounds per game got him as high as 14<sup>th</sup> best in the nation.

Sutherlin was named as a co-MVP for the team along with junior forward Nick Guadarrama a season ago. He was also given the team's rebounding award, as well as being named to the America East All-Conference Third Team with Guadarrama.

After just one season of Division I basketball Sutherlin has found his name in the headlines once again. The Wildcat was named to the preseason America East All-Conference First Team and was polled as one of the conference's top-five players ahead of the 2020-2021 season.

What makes the story so unlikely for the 6-foot-5 guard is how he ended up here. The Minnesota native didn't receive a single Division I or II scholarship coming out of high school and played his first two collegiate seasons at Sheridan College, a Junior College in Wyoming.

"Before my senior year

of high school, I didn't have any interest from any colleges at all," explained Sutherlin. "When I started my senior year, I started to get a little bit of interest from Division III schools, and at the end of the year a couple junior colleges started contacting me."

He explained that he had three different offers from Junior Colleges, but that Sheridan was the only one to give him a full scholarship. After a visit to the school, Sean said how much he loved the campus and the culture, making his decision to land there easy.

Matt Hammer, Sutherlin's head coach at Sheridan, recalled how much he liked the guard's physical capabilities coming out of high school, and his potential to get even bigger and stronger.

"One of my former college teammates used to be a head coach at a high school around Minneapolis that coached against Sean, and as soon as I brought his name up he told me, 'if you can get the kid, you have to get him'," explained Hammer. "We recruited him hard, he was at the top of our list."

When Sutherlin first got to Sheridan minutes were hard to come by. The guard explained how there were two older and very talented players ahead of him on the depth chart. He came off the bench for much of his first season.

Hammer spoke to the work

ethic of his former player after watching him fight for minutes his first season and eventually starting every game the next year.

"The thing that we loved about him was that he had the same demeanor day in and day out. It didn't matter if it was game night or if it was a 6:00 a.m. practice, he brought it every day and that's what we loved about him."

Sutherlin mentioned that he viewed the older teammates as motivation, noting that one former teammate had about 30 offers from Division I schools after their two seasons at Junior College. Things didn't come as easy for him, however.

"There wasn't much interest at all. I had a couple Division II offers after my sophomore year, and at the last-minute New Hampshire came in and offered me a scholarship," explained Sutherlin. "Once they offered me a scholarship, I knew that I wanted to play at the highest level possible."

UNH head coach Bill Herrion recalled what went into the process of recruiting Sutherlin.

"We wanted to try and get an older, more experienced and physically mature player," noted Herrion after having such a young team the season before.

Herrion explained that they don't normally dip into the talent at Junior College, but they felt that was the route they needed to go instead of relying

on a first-year collegiate player. His son, Ryan Herrion, who is on his staff made a recruiting visit to Sheridan College and really liked what he saw from the point guard.

The season before Sutherlin arrived at UNH the team had only won five games. In his first season they finished with a regular season record of 15-14, adding 10 wins to their previous total. Herrion said on multiple occasions a season ago that the difference was that his guys needed to learn how to have a winning mentality.

In his final season at Sheridan his team featured a 31-4 record and made it all the way to the Junior College National Tournament. Herrion explained how Sean's previous success and winning mentality helped the team a lot in his first season.

"I think that when you get players that come from winning programs and are used to winning like Sean, they have a positive impact on your program," said Herrion. "He's not the most talkative kid, he's quiet, but his game will speak for itself."

Hammer co-signed on fact that Sutherlin is a player who lets his game do the talking.

"He wasn't our most vocal leader," said Hammer. "He was a guy that led by example every day. By the end of his sophomore year he did become more vocal, but he was a guy that when he did have

something to say everybody listened."

Herrion further explained the impact and potential that Sutherlin will bring in his senior season after being in the program for a year and being more comfortable.

"I think he's going to explode this year. I think he has a chance to be the best player in the league."

From only a few Division III and Junior College offers out of high school, to only one Division I offer before his junior year, Sutherlin isn't going to let the accolades get to his head. The point guard is simply trying to justify the attention that he is finally receiving.

"It's a blessing obviously, but I can't let it get to my head. I just have to stay humble and prove that they did make the right decision," said Sutherlin.

