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Durham, UNH provide voting opportunities for students

By Evan EdmondsSTAFF WRITER

The University of New Hampshire (UNH) is preparing to offer absentee voting opportunities on campus during the month of October for the upcoming general election.

The three-day event, run by Durham election officials, will take place at Huddleston Hall on Thursday, Oct. 8, from 2 to 6 p.m.; Wednesday, Oct. 14, 2 to 6 p.m.; and Saturday, Oct. 24, from 12 to 4 p.m. There is an opportunity for approximately 350 students that live in a residence hall, house, or apartment in Durham to participate. Students are required to pre-register on the UNH votes page on the UNH website. Preregistration has not yet started, but students will be notified when the option is available.

At Huddleston Hall, "there will be the opportunity to register to vote, request an absentee ballot, and complete the ballot in compliance with election state law," UNH spokesperson Erika Mantz said in an email. These events are being held to ensure voting is "as safe as possible," she said, meaning reducing density at the polls on Election Day in the midst of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

In addition to these on-campus events, students can make other efforts to reduce crowding on Election Day such as requesting and returning absentee ballots by mail on the town of Durham website, requesting and completing an absentee ballot before the election, or registering early to reduce the amount of time spent at the polls on Election Day. Students that have yet to register in Durham can do so in the Town Clerk's office from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday, and until 6 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 5.



Shawn Latulippe / TNH Staff

General election for voters registered in Durham takes place at Oyster River High School (ORHS), from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 3. The last day to register is Sunday, Oct. 25, although same-day registration is available on Nov. 3. For additional information on Durham's voting laws, or to request an absentee ballot, voters can visit the election information page on the town of Durham website.

College students in New Hampshire have the option to vote within their hometown or the home they've established in college.

A piece of mail with a
Durham address, a Durham
rent statement or residence hall
address that is listed in Webcat
can be used to provide proof

of residency in Durham. If a student lacks any of the necessary identification, they can complete an affidavit attesting to these qualifications instead. For more details on registering Durham as a student domicile, visit this link from the New Hampshire Secretary of State for the official document on requirements for voting in New Hampshire.

The town of Durham is also emphasizing the importance of University of New Hampshire students to vote by absentee ballot in order to make the polls safer on November 3. Town Administrator Todd Selig said encouraging voters to vote by absentee ballot is the "safest possible way," to go about this election and keep everyone as healthy as possible. Selig said big election years in Durham typically include a lot of new student voters, and in past

elections, he said, Durham has registered as many as 4,500 new voters on Election Day, and have processed anywhere from 9,000 to 12,000 voters in total on any given election day. He said with these numbers in mind, the town has attempted to increase outreach ahead of time and make it accessible for students to either register at the Town Clerk's office beforehand or via an absentee ballot to try and decrease congestion at the polls.

Similarly to how the town prepared for the state primary in Sept., Supervisor of the Checklist Ann Shump said they have all the necessary protection equipment, such as sneeze guards, to bring to ORHS. She said same-day voter registration will take place in the school's multi-purpose room while voting will take place in the gym as per usual. Due to

the necessary social distancing, lines will be longer than usual. In terms of ballots requested, Shump said the town has received requests for as many as 2,400 absentee ballots, which is "far above" other years.

Durham administration said they are encouraging students to do their part especially in this election - doing more than just waking up on the day and going to vote in person - to help decrease in-person turnout.

"Students are part of our community, and need to help keep us safe as well as each other," Shump said. "Everyone who came into the polling place at the primary, whether they were working or voting, wore a mask. We expect the same will happen at the general election, even though the numbers will be much larger."

UNH reports 36 total active cases in most recent update

By Ben Domaingue STAFF WRITER

The University of New Hampshire (UNH) released its coronavirus (COVID-19) statistics for the week of Sept. 23 through Sept. 29 for all three campuses.

It is important to note that

UNH releases its results daily. These results are accurate as of 8 a.m. on Sept. 30, 2020.

Between these results, UNH has seen a decrease in its sevenday total from a high of eight to a low of zero cases between its three campuses. Its active cases for students have also dropped to six, while cases for faculty have

spiked to 28 in Durham.

The number of students quarantining on the Durham campus has dropped to four, while the number of students isolating on campus remains at one. The number of students quarantining off-campus stands at 54, while the number of students isolating off-campus is five.

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 and/or has tested positive for COVID-19.

Three students have ended quarantine, while four students have ended isolation.

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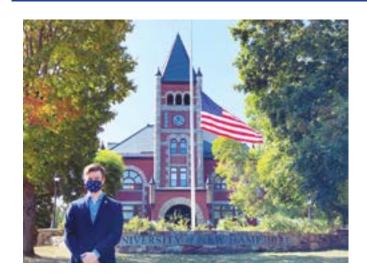
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What's the **Weather?**

Oct. 1

74/48 Partly Cloudy

Oct. 2

65/45 Cloudy

Oct. 3

66/42 Sunny

Oct. 4

62/43 Partly Cloudy

Oct. 5

59/42 Rain

Oct. 6

64/48 Partly Cloudy

Oct. 7

67/49 Partly Cloudy

Weather according to weather.com

The next issue of TNH will be published on

Thursday, October 8, 2020

But you can find new content daily at

TNHdigital.com

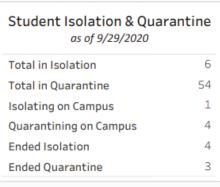


Fall 2020 COVID-19 Test Results

Updated 09/30/2020 8:00 AM

Daily Information



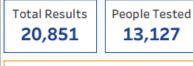




Average Daily Total Tests Conducted 09/23/2020 - 09/29/2020

> 3,051 per day

Past 7 Days - 09/23/2020 to 09/29/2020



0.11%

22 Positivity Rate

Positive Tests

Prevalence 0.17%

Testir	Testing Results by Population Negative Positive					
	Negative		Positive			
Student	19,025	99.98%	3	0.02%		
Faculty	515	99.61%	2	0.39%		
Staff	926	98.62%	13	1.38%		
Other/Contractor	363	98.91%	4	1.09%		
Total	20 829	99 89%	22	0.11%		

Testing Results by Location							
	Negative		Positive				
UNH Durham	19,447	99.91%	17	0.09%			
UNH Law	436	100.00%					
UNH Manchester	577	99.83%	1	0.17%			
Other	369	98.93%	4	1.07%			
Total	20,829	99.89%	22	0.11%			

Cumulative Results since July 29, 2020

People Tested				
Population	Total			
Student	13,166			
Faculty	923			
Staff	1,763			
Other/Contractor*	1,672			
Total	17,524			

Testing Results by Population						
Population	Negative		Positive			
Student	107,774	99.92%	87	0.08%		
Faculty	4,931	99.54%	23	0.46%		
Staff	11,621	99.39%	71	0.61%		
Other/Contractor	3,904	99.41%	23	0.59%		
Total	128,230	99.84%	204	0.16%		

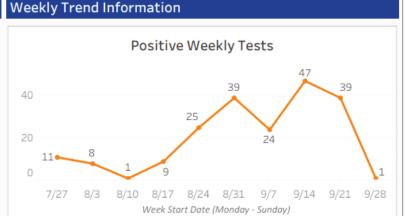


Photo courtesy of the University of New Hampshire

Testing results continued from page 1

These numbers are lower than the results from 15 days ago, where the total number of individuals in quarantine on or offcampus was 251 and the number of students in isolation was 35. Now, they stand at 54 and six respectively.

UNH has seen two COV-

ID-19 clusters, one as a result of an off-campus party at the Theta Chi Fraternity, and the other at the Gables. Both clusters have been managed by UNH.

The average number of daily tests has remained steady, topping off at 3,051 as of 8 a.m. on Sept. 30, 2020.

UNH has tested 17,524 students, faculty and staff since reporting began on July 29, 2020. This includes results from ConvenientMD, Quest Diagnostics and the UNH Lab.

UNH has performed 107,774 tests on 13,166 individual students. Of these tests, 87 have returned positive. UNH has also performed 4,931 on 923 individual faculty members, of which 23 have returned positive. Of the 1,763 staff, 11,621 tests have been performed with 71 positive cases.

In an email released to UNH community members, President James W. Dean Jr. said, "We are still seeing small but troubling instances of positive infections, which at any time could quickly expand and lead to closing our campuses."

UNH has been hailed as the

model by Senator Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH), but even so, Dean continues to urge community members to "stay safe, careful and vigilant."

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

UNH professor accused of posing as woman of color on Twitter

By Ben Domaingue STAFF WRITER

University of New Hampshire (UNH) Assistant Professor Craig Chapman has recently come under scrutiny for allegedly posing as a woman of color on Twitter under the name "The Science Femme" with the handle "piney_the."

Chapman is an assistant professor within the College of Engineering and Physical Sciences (CEPS) at UNH, where he teaches chemistry.

The information was released on Reddit and Twitter by an anonymous source within the chemistry department.

Chapman was allegedly linked to the account through a series of tweets to Chapman's brother's brewery, Pineland's

In a slew of tweets dating back to June 30, 2020, The Science Femme boasted "I was successful in killing my dept's woke statement on recent social unrest" and that he believes this to be "a toxic ideology that cannot be given an inch."

The Science Femme credited themselves in being successful in "removing all woke terminology from the statement including antiracism, white supremacy, white privilege, and claims of systemic

Chemistry Department Chair Glen Miller allegedly confirmed in an email to faculty that The Science Femme was in fact run by Chapman. Miller condemned the offensive statements, but said he is supportive of Chapman as person. Additionally, Miller shared his plans for rectifying the situation.

Additionally, Chapman allegedly posted illicit and revealing photos of a currently unidentified woman on his alias account.

These accusations come as UNH attempts to push new diversity, inclusion and equity initiatives in order to aid marginalized groups on campus. Chapman has allegedly boasted about actively sabotaging these initiatives within his department.

"Being on these committees is the best way to steer larger policy further down the line," The Science Femme said. "You have to endure all manner of nonsense. but do it."

As of Sept. 29, 2020, Chapman's personal twitter account as well as The Science Femme were

In a comment to The New Hampshire, UNH Spokeswoman Erika Mantz said "we are deeply troubled by what we've learned so far and immediately launched an investigation."

Chapman has not responded for comment. Miller could not respond for comment as per UNH Human Resources.

This story is still developing.

TNHdigital.com

On the Spot with Student Body President Nicholas Fitzgerald

By Aqeel Hisham **STAFF WRITER**

Public health, transparency, and improving diversity, equity and inclusion on campus were the main goals laid out by the University of New Hampshire's (UNH) Student Body President, Nicholas Fitzgerald.

Fitzgerald has been working with UNH to voice students' opinions. Speaking with The New Hampshire, Fitzgerald talked about his earlier life, including high school experiences and also behind the scenes of becoming the student body president of UNH.

Fitzgerald grew up in the small and rural town of Silver Bay, NY. With only about 200 people residing in the town, Fitzgerald's childhood memories are often with his younger brother.

"We definitely have that stereotypical sibling rivalry, but we bonded well with each other since we were the only two kids in the area," he said. Aside from that, he also said that having his cousins as his neighbors also made their family grow "closer together rather than farther apart."

When asked about the person that he looked up to the most. Fitzgerald replied that his mom influenced him greatly since she was significantly involved in his

"She's always there and always supportive," he said. He described his mom as having set

a good example for him to follow in both personal and professional life. "She's definitely a lot of where the hardworking nature from me comes from," he added.

Much like the town he grew up in, Fitzgerald went to a small high school in Ticonderoga where his class size consisted of only 76 people. However, being in a small school gave Fitzgerald the opportunity to get to know everyone. "I treated everyone as friends and likewise," he said.

Fitzgerald excelled academically from a very young age. Apart from being an honor student in high school, he was also involved in club activities and all-seasonal sports. By the time he was a senior, Fitzgerald was the president of a few clubs such as Quiz Bowl, Youth in Government, and the Drama Club.

Despite the high level of engagements, Fitzgerald described himself as an "extremely shy person in high school." However, one of his favorite memories from high school was being involved with designing the junior prom. He described the experience as "shocking" because he was always used to being the "background person."

"I wasn't doing it for the recognition, I was doing it because it was fun and I respect my class and wanted them to have a good time," he said.

Going into college, Fitzgerald knew that he wanted to be a part of the Student Senate. "That is what I did in high school and I see no reason why I wouldn't want to do it at UNH," he said. He explained that he ran to be a student senator for his residence hall, Richardson House, during his freshman year but lost the position to a junior. He then decided to join the Campus Living Association (CLA) because of his strong drive to represent students.

During his sophomore year, Fitzgerald held the national communication coordinator position at CLA. He explained that one of his duties in this role was "making connections with other schools to build up our ceiling to look a lot more like theirs." He added, "This position has taught and given me a lot of experience to be a leader."

But before Fitzgerald was the student body president, he served as the president of CLA. "The reason why I became the president of CLA was that I saw the potential in CLA and representing the whole council and really governing them. There hasn't been a government [in CLA] prior, so I ran for president there to help shape it into the kind of organization it is today," he said.

Fitzgerald stated that CLA is a government organization that was "under the radar." To have better relationships with other student governments, he worked closely with previous Student Body President, Allie MacPhee, and previous Student Body Vice President, Kelsey Crowley, along with other student senators to

bridge the gap between CLA and the Student Senate.

Fitzgerald described the process as "difficult." Nonetheless, there was progress and through working closely with the Student Senate, he felt comfortable running for student body president.

Even though Fitzgerald and Student Body Vice President Tyler Silverwood ran unopposed, he clarified the fact that they ran in the midst of a pandemic which would result in an increase of work. However, Fitzgerald was determined to run for president at that time to fulfill his vision. "I have a vision of a more unified student government, where all the governments work together to increase student's voice," he said.

Fitzgerald's drive and motivation to serve as student body president came from his family. "My family has a bit of a legacy when it comes to public office in our town. My grandfather was on the town board and my father is on both the town board and the school board," he explained. Additionally, Fitzgerald wanted to make his family proud as he believes that he has the same sense of leadership and determination spirit as his family.

When asked about the transition from a "background person" to being the student body president, Fitzgerald said that the most alarming thing is the "publicness" of it. "The job itself runs much like any other leadership job. It is the interviews and having a picture of me as part of the public health campaign that sometimes caught me off guard," he said.

But just like any other student, Fitzgerald's number one priority is to balance between academics and his job. "Sometimes I do get carried away and put my job first, but I am here first and foremost as a student and therefore, academics are more important," he claimed. Fitzgerald is double-majoring in political science and history, and minoring in in anthropology and Native American and Indigenous studies.

In addition to the heavy academic workload, Fitzgerald is also a trumpet player for the UNH Marching Band. One of his greatest achievements, aside from winning the position as the student body president, was the awards that were given to him by the UNH Marching Band. "They might not know this, but every time I get an award, I get so overwhelmed with happiness because it's not something that I asked for; I don't ask for awards," he said.

Fitzgerald's hope for the future is to continue working on the main goals that he had laid out in May. However, he said that his biggest goal after the reopening of UNH has been the increase of diversity, equity and inclusion on campus which he believes will kick off with President Dean's town hall.



Res. life aims to create sense of community during COVID-19



By Mia Serino CONTRIBUTING WRITER

First-year dorms at the University of New Hampshire (UNH) are turning to creative solutions to facilitate a sense of community while following coronavirus (COVID-19) restrictions.

Social events in residence halls have taken a new shape. It especially affects resident assistants (RAs), whose job is to create a welcoming environment, and first-year students who are trying to find their place in the campus community.

Cassie Sleboda, a first-time RA in Lord Hall, understands that she is expected to foster a sense of community within her building. She is determined to make her hall an inclusive and welcoming place for the newest members of campus.

"Freshmen are coming here fresh from high school. They don't really have that friend group yet," said Sleboda. "I know as a senior, I have a lot of resources and knowledge about the campus that I can spread to everybody in this dorm."

Although Sleboda's job expectations didn't change during this unusual time, UNH has amended certain protocols in response to the pandemic. She says the process of acquiring supplies is different this year.

"Typically, an RA can go out and get the items that they want for their socials, and then bring it back and do the social," said Sleboda. Now they must first go through their hall director. "We have to tell him what we want, and he has to get it for us," Sleboda said. "It's a little bit more difficult that way."

Convincing first-year students to attend socials is also becoming an increasingly difficult task. Rachel Richards, a first-year student in Christensen Hall, said the idea of going to socials can be worrying, especially after the bonfires that took place during the first weekend of the semester.

"I know that the first couple

of days when I wasn't here, they had fires and a lot of people showed up," said Richards. "I'm just not a fan of big crowds of people."

To adjust to the new rules put in place because of COV-ID-19, Sleboda recognizes the importance of putting "creative twists" on hall events to ensure that everyone is safe and comfortable. A few activities that she found to be successful were "knock and talks" - where the RA knocks on residents' doors and has a conversation with them - and walks through college woods.

Residence halls are using of social media to reach out to students. Instagram is especially popular among the four first-year dorms. Williamson, Christensen, Lord and Alexander all made a point to introduce their staff through videos, short bios, and newsletters.

Their Instagram accounts have also been used to promote socials such as mask decorating and outdoor movie nights. Maddy Maynard, the resident hall director at Alexander Hall,

invited her residents to an her expectatio

invited her residents to an Instagram live where she gave them a tour of her apartment and an opportunity to ask her anything.

Information regarding hall council has been advertised on Christensen and Williamson's social media as well. According to Williamson's Instagram account, Zoom info sessions were held, and students have also been provided with details about voting.

In a post on Instagram, Christensen Hall said that they will be conducting hall council meetings in person in the basement lounge.

Richards pointed out that socials and hall events aren't the only ways to create a close-knit environment within one's floor. She was pleasantly surprised by the way UNH has reacted in response to COVID-19 and enjoys talking to the girls who live on her floor, going out for walks, and just hanging out with friends. "I didn't think it would be as open of an experience as I'm having," she said when asked how much

her expectations for freshmen had changed since being on campus. "My experience has been great. The people, they're so nice. We all care about each other."

When asked what made her want to be a RA, Sleboda brought up an RA who lived in her building freshmen year. "He kind of mentored me a little bit, and he showed me how inclusive this university is, and how an RA can make a difference within somebody's career here," she said.

She tries to put herself out there as much as she can by sitting in the lounges, creating a GroupMe for her floor, and greeting her residents whenever she sees them to get to know them better.

"You have to put yourself out there," said Richards, acknowledging that it is easier said than done. "You can guarantee someone's going to bite. Someone's going to be like 'I want to be your friend."

Contributors' Meetings Mondays at 6:30 p.m. on Zoom



Student Senate hosts town hall on dining concerns



Photo courtesy of the University of New Hampshire

By Aqeel Hisham STAFF WRITER

In a virtual town hall with the University of New Hampshire (UNH) Student Senate, the executive director for hospitality service Bill McNamara said that UNH Dining is considering new ways to increase efficiency in the Dining Halls without compromising safety.

"We're looking to create another line, maybe someplace else," McNamara said. "One of the first things that we have to take into consideration [and] what we have to be able to work through is how the line is going to move through the facility to make sure that everybody is still distant."

It was the Student Senate's first town hall this semester, held on Friday, Sept. 25. The event was hosted through Zoom and moderated by Student Body President Nicholas Fitzgerald, Vice Student Body President Tyler Silverwood, and Health and Wellness Council Yuri Makar.

The town hall was hosted along with UNH Dining to address students' concerns and complaints regarding the dining halls this semester. The event was divided into three segments: introduction of UNH Dining's outline, addressing the concerns of students, and a live Q&A at the end.

During the first segment, McNamara, the executive director for hospitality service, explained UNH Dining's outline for the fall semester. He stated that the plan to reopen was made in late spring, right after the shutdown due to the coronavirus (COVID-19). "We really needed to make the best decision possible with the information we had at that time," he said.

In order to continue their operation this semester, McNamara said that UNH Dining has to fol-

low and keep up with the latest version of guidelines provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). "Hopefully what you've been noticing is what we're continuing to learn, continuing to listen, and we're continuing to adjust our services while staying within the safety guidelines," he said.

One of the main concerns for UNH Dining this semester is the wait time. "We knew that 6-foot physical distancing and no self-service was going to create backed up lines and longer wait time for everyone," said McNamara. Due to this concern, the dining hall was initially not able to provide food customization services for students. "We felt that it was important to have minimal wait times to make sure that students were able to keep on schedule," he explained. However, with the updated guidelines by CDC and DHHS, UNH Dining is trying to slowly incorporate this feature for students.

McNamara also voiced his concerns about how long lines would take up more space because he "wants to make sure that everybody has the opportunity to be able to sit in the dining room." He added, "Creating these lines are some of the things that take a little bit of time and challenges us a little bit."

In the second and third parts of the town hall, most of the questions from students were regarding the food options, product sustainability, and the cancellation of meal plans and swipes.

In response to students wanting more food options, David Hill, the director of dining, said that UNH Dining tries to write a menu and continue to offer stir fry and salad bar that is "going to hit the broad segment of the population."

Central Café, located at the Whittemore Center, serves a variety of comfort food ranging from chicken tenders to fries and even pizzas. "We did add 30 meal exchanges to every single unlimited plan with a value of \$8.50 that could be used at Central Café," said McNamara.

Regarding other food options such as vegetarian, vegan,

and gluten-free diet, Rochelle L'Italien, a registered dietician at UNH, said that students could go on the dining hall website and use the filter option to see which dining halls are providing those

UNH Dining has also increased the servings for meat alternatives. "We've added veggie burgers, for instance, three times a week now between the three dining halls. We've also added some plant-based proteins like portions of black beans and other beans and lentils, that can be asked for on request at any of the food stations we add," said L'Italien.

In terms of sustainability at the dining halls, McNamara said, "We are committed to sustainability and we're using compostable items as we are able to."

Hill reminded students that UNH Dining had to make these changes back in the summer. They need to ensure that they have the supplies they need available in a large amount. And while restaurants were also resorting to compostable instead of plastic, the supplies were shorter than their demand.

Nonetheless, McNamara assured students that being sustainable is very important to UNH Dining and that they are always working with their vendors.

As of right now, the period for students to cancel their meal plans or swipes has ended. Students have had the first four weeks to cancel their meal plans or swipes since UNH Dining extended their initial cancellation period. However, "As far as swipes, they do carry from fall into spring. So if you're not using your swipes this semester you would be able to use them in the spring term," said McNamara.

In an interview with *The New Hampshire*, Fitzgerald said, "The concept of a town hall is something that I thought we should always be doing. It is a great way of both [providing] transparency and also getting opinions directly from the students to the senators." Additionally, Fitzgerald explained that being in a state with the longest history of town halls, the Student Senate at UNH should utilize this concept more.



Impacts of Ruth Bader Ginsburg's passing

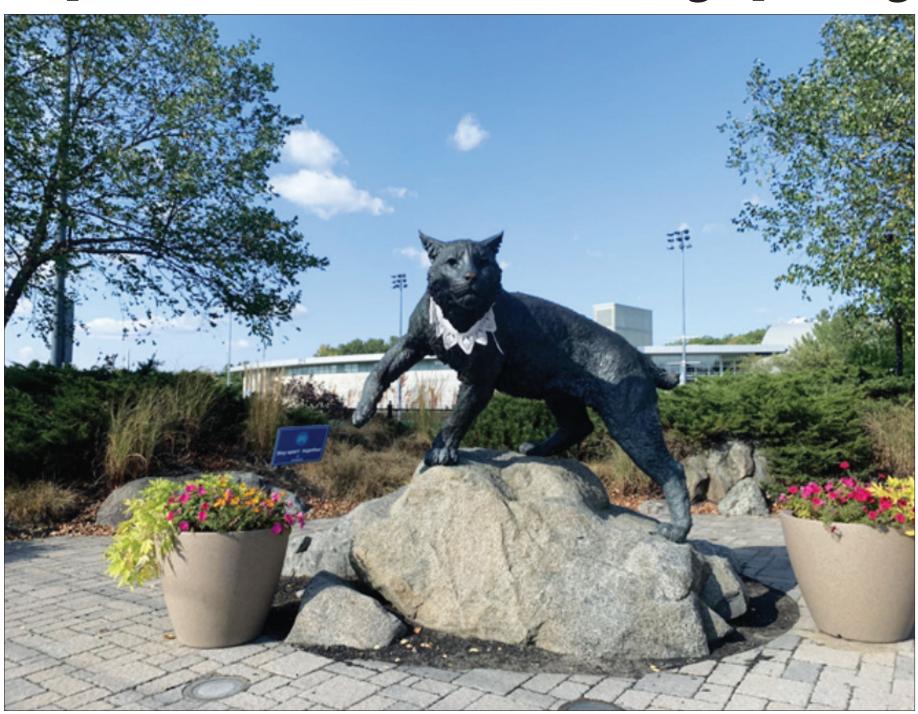


Photo courtesy of the University of New Hampshire

By Chloe Camelio STAFF WRITER

Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg passed away on Friday Sept. 18 from metastatic pancreatic cancer complications. Throughout her career she fought for the rights of women, the disabled, the LGBTQ community, and undocumented people. In the 1970s Ginsburg became involved with the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) where they founded the Women's Rights Project.

President Donald Trump announced on Saturday that his Supreme Court nominee is Amy Coney Barrett, who, according to the Associated Press and Barrett's past decisions on the 7th Circuit Court of Appeals has many opposing views from Ginsburg including gun rights and reproductive freedom.

University of New Hampshire (UNH) political science professor Susan Siggelakis does not believe the death of Ginsburg will affect the election. "I think the Trump supporters will vote for Trump and the extreme left (if they vote at all), Never Trumpers and average democrats (especially women) will still vote for Biden," she said. "For example, when the Senate refused to hold hearings for Obama nominee Merrick Garland, this incident was not even mentioned in the Supreme Court and judicial nominations to lower federal courts have little salience for the average voter.

"Most people cannot name even one justice on the court, one legal opinion or even how many people are on the Court," Siggelakis continued. "Even those lamenting Ginsburg's death have little to no knowledge about any of her legal work before joining the Court or her opinions in the various areas of the law while she was on the D.C. Court of Appeals or on the US Supreme Court itself."

Siggelakis also added that a Supreme Court nominee isn't what drives voters, but rather "issues of economics (taxation, growth, unemployment, international trade agreements) border security and immigration, international affairs (Israel and the Middle East, China), law and order, protection of first and second amendment rights, personal feelings about Trump or Biden's personality or character, climate change."

Siggelakis said she doesn't believe that Trump's nominee can overturn Roe v. Wade. She said many settled precedents are better off left alone, even if justices disagree with how they were decided. Siggelakis also pointed out that some states have statutes in place that would protect abortion rights in those specific states in the situation—"not likely," she said—that Roe v. Wade was overturned.

When asked if she believes if Ginsburg's spot will be filled before the election, Siggelakis said she believes it will because of the amount of support Trump will have from the Senate, espe-

cially because it is a female nominee. She said, "All he needs is 51 out of 100, since the filibuster has been done away with, first, by the Democrats for the lower courts under Obama, and the Republicans for the Supreme Court, and the Vice President can actually cast a tie breaker."

Siggelakis also doesn't believe Supreme Court vacancies have much effect on elections.

"It is normal for a president to want to use every power that is constitutionally vested in him and to try and increase his powers," Siggelakis said in regards to Trump's eagerness to fill Ginsburg's spot.

"Every president since George Washington has done that. Even RBG once said, 'The president is the president for four years, not three and a half.' A s Hamilton said in The Federalist Papers, 'What you want in a Chief Executive is energy and efficiency.' FDR threatened—and had bills drafted—to increase the size of the Court when it kept

striking down acts of the democratic congress in the New Deal. The reason he didn't do it was mainly that he didn't have to in the end; one justice switched his vote so that the legislation began to survive, and soon other justices retired or died. Then he could replace them with justices who were more likely to support his vision of national governmental power over the economy."

Ginsburg's death has been felt on the UNH campus as well. The university shared a picture on Instagram on Sept. 20 of the wildcat with a jabot around its neck, which RBG often wore, with the caption, "Our community mourns the loss of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, who fought for the equal rights of women." The post also included an iconic quote from Ginsburg: "Women belong in all places where decisions are being made. It shouldn't be that women are the exception."

Spilling the tea since 1911

Sexual assault incident reported in Stoke

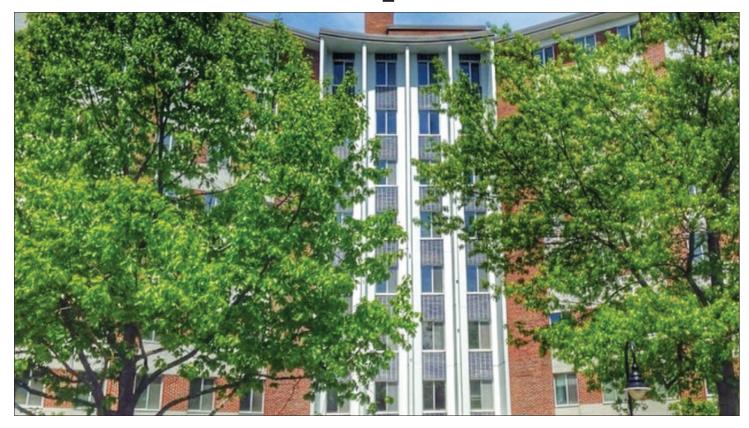
By Anna Kirkpatrick CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The student population of the University of New Hampshire (UNH) was informed of an incident of sexual assault that occurred on the night of Sept. 11, 2020. The UNH Police Department alerted the community of the assault in accordance with the "Timely Warning Notice" clause in the Federal Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act of 1998.

The individual in question was touched inappropriately by two males while she was in a bathroom at Stoke Hall. The fondling-related incident is one of two recent sexual assault cases on campus, the other being a repeated exposure incident.

Stoke Hall is the largest dorm on the UNH campus, housing 595 residents. Each floor has separate male/female restrooms, but the first and eighth floor has an additional gender inclusive restroom. The incident occurred in one of the bathrooms, but it was not reported which floor it occurred on.

UNH has its own Code of Conduct that students are ex-



pected to follow, in conjunction with New Hampshire law, when it comes to sexual assault: "Sexual misconduct includes sexual harassment, sexual assault, and unwanted sexual contact. Furthermore, sexual harassment (including sexual assault and unwanted

sexual contact) is a form of prohibited discrimination."

It is recommended that anyone who witnesses any suspicious behavior should immediately inform the UNH Police DepartPhoto courtesy of the University of New Hampshire

ment. In this case, the UNH Police Department was informed of the incident on Saturday night of Sept. 12, 2020. The email sent out on Sept. 13 to the UNH community stated, "If someone approaches

you or touches you in an inappropriate manner, try to get away and call out for help. Tell someone where you are going, who you will be with, and when you will be back."

NH College Dems talk Supreme Court, Trump

By Shawn LatulippeDESIGN EDITOR

The New Hampshire College Democrats from the University of New Hampshire (UNH), Keene State College (KSC), and Saint Anselm College (SAC), Plymouth State University (PSU) and Dartmouth College came together to discuss the death of Supreme Court Judge Ruth Bader Ginsburg and their hopes for the upcoming presidential and state elections.

They discussed how the future of the Democratic party would specifically affect politics in New Hampshire and the state's Supreme Court on a Zoom call on Thursday Sept. 24.

The group has called multiple times for people to vote, but emphasized that voting alone would not fix all of the problems in the country, including the filling of Ginsburg's position. Her death has been a source of controversy in the country as Republicans are currently attempting to fill her seat before the presidential election and Democrats are push-

ing the Republican-majority Senate to wait to fill her seat until after the election.

The New Hampshire College Democrats spoke about President Donald Trump and his plans to limit reproductive rights for women. They also talked briefly about Trump's past and that he has bragged about assaulting women. They turned much of the focus of the meeting to Gov. Chris Sununu, who has supported anti-choice policies for women's healthcare in the past.

KSC Democrats Treasurer Hope Daley said that "while Donald Trump is trying to put an antichoicer on the US Supreme Court, Chris Sununu is trying to do the same on the New Hampshire Supreme Court. If the Supreme Court overturns Roe v. Wade the only thing protecting a woman's right to choose in New Hampshire is our state Supreme Court and with Sununu as a governor our rights are at risk. Like Donald Trump, Chris Sununu is trying to pack New Hampshire courts with conservative ideologues who do not make science and data driven decisions. Chris Sununu and Donald Trump believe women should not be able to make their own choices and if elected would do anything in their power to stay away from reproductive health access."

They went on to discuss that it is not just reproductive health care at risk. Trump's plan to remove the Affordable Care Act put in place by Obama would also end protections for 572,000 people in New Hampshire with pre-existing conditions. The members of the meeting said that if it is repealed 105,000 people in New Hampshire would be kicked off of their health insurance plans.

Liam Pelosky, the president of PSU Democrats said that it's very important to make clear that Trump and Sununu's policies make it difficult for young people and women to access affordable health care. Pelosky said, "So when Donald Trump tries to put an anti-choice justice on the US Supreme Court Trump's guy through and through Chris Sununu is going to do the same thing here to the New Hampshire

Supreme Court."

"That's why now more than ever we need a governor in New Hampshire that not only talks like he's pro-choice but acts and votes like he's pro-choice and Dan Feltes is that man and that future governor," Pelosky said as a call to action for people to vote for Feltes in the election for New Hampshire governor in November. He continued that Feltes, "would never ever allow insurance companies to refuse a medically necessary abortion, would never allow for the defunding of Planned Parenthood, nor would he ever try to appoint anti-choice justices to lead the New Hampshire Supreme Court."

President of the UNH College Democrats Acadia Spear said, "A few years ago Sununu cast the deciding vote to defund Planned Parenthood and deprive New Hampshire women of not only access to reproductive care but also birth control, STI testing and treatment and breast and cervical cancer screenings. College students who need affordable health care services simply can't

afford the Trump-Sununu agenda which makes reproductive healthcare harder to get."

Spear went on to say, "Sununu is putting restrictions on abortion that make a safe and legal procedure harder or even impossible to access. Sununu recently vetoed legislation that would've required insurance companies to cover abortion services, which are sometimes medically necessary and can be very expensive especially for young people. Just like Donald Trump Chris Sununu will stop at nothing to put reproductive health care out of reach for New Hampshire college students."

They ended the meeting with a call to action to young voters to register to vote and emphasized that protests and social media posts are not enough to change the country. They all concurred that people need to make sure all of their friends are voting in addition to themselves, and make sure they have a plan on how they will vote during COVID-19.

@thenewhampshire







CaPS staff prepares for Career and Internship Fair





Aqeel Hisham / TNH Staff

By Aqeel Hisham STAFF WRITER

The University of New Hampshire's (UNH) Career and Internship Fair will be held differently this year due to the coronavirus (COVID-19). The highly anticipated biannual event that is organized by Career and Professional Success (CaPS) at UNH will take place next Wednesday, Oct. 7, from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. through the Handshake app.

In an interview with *The New Hampshire* (TNH), Director of Marketing, Communication and Engagement Tyler Wentworth, and Director of Employer Relations Raina Sprague of CaPS talked about their preparations, challenges and also advice for students that will be attending the event.

Sprague said that CaPS' stakeholders were heavily involved during their planning process. The process for the fair started right after the shutdown of UNH earlier in spring. "We launched an employer poll right when COVID kicked off because we want to hear from our employ-

ers [about] what's going on in the job market," she clarified.

In addition to that, right around April, CaPS did another employer poll for all of the employers they have been partnering with to ask about their plans and recruiting process. "We want to hear from them directly, it's not a career fair if there are no employers," she added.

CaPS' main priority during the planning process was to make sure that they are equitable to everyone that will be involved. "We want to make sure that our employers can recruit our students whether they're in person, in quarantine at home, or anywhere," she said.

Aside from thinking about students and employers, CaPS also had to determine a virtual option that would help them make this event easier to organize, especially during a pandemic. "We've really researched and tested and decided with Handshake," said Sprague.

In terms of their biggest obstacle to host the career fair this semester, Wentworth said that there were "a lot of challenges with bringing everything online."

However, previous events that were hosted by CaPS this semester have shown that students are capable to adapt to attending virtual fairs quickly.

Moreover, CaPS has been providing students with a tremendous amount of help to prepare them for such events. "We are getting creative on how to educate our students on how this platform is going to work and how students can present themselves professionally," said Wentworth.

On the other hand, CaPS has also been educating employers on how to use this virtual platform. "Handshake releases fair products, new to all of their institutions and all the employers on there," clarified Sprague. Nonetheless, she said that CaPS, as well as employers, have made "great strides" from all of the events that they have had.

Considering the vast transition that CaPS has done in such a short period of time, both Wentworth and Sprague were happy with how the CaPS department at UNH have managed to get through the biggest obstacle which is educating student and employers about this new tech-

nology. "It is really impressive the way that our team has thought through not just the students' experience but the employers' experience too," said Wentworth.

When asked about the range of employers that CaPS are bringing in, Sprague pointed out that there are multiple considerations that take place. It is important for CaPS to know which companies are hiring, and CaPS tries to bring in a variety of companies, not only the big names but also small and medium companies. CaPS is also focused on matching students' needs to employers that are hiring the best they can.

CaPS' most important advice to students is preparation. "First and foremost, it's virtual and it's on Handshake so I would say that students should get familiar with the platform and requirements,' said Sprague. Aside from preparations on the technological aspect, students should also know what they want to say to employers. "The great part about virtual engagement, or these one-to-one sessions is that you have dedicated, uninterrupted time with your employer. 10 minutes is a good amount of time for employers to

get to know you and why you're interested to work with that company," added Sprague.

Wentworth and Sprague are both excited and feeling optimistic about the upcoming Career and Internship Fair next week. "We've had some really great fairs already and experienced Handshake. So to go big with our Career and Internship Fair and try something new that can have a really great impact on our students and employers - this is what we look forward to," said Sprague.

All in all, Wentworth is proud of all the students that are putting an effort to prepare themselves for this event - even in the middle of a pandemic. He is optimistic that this Career Fair will produce great outcomes for both students and employers. Wentworth added, "We are still seeing employers looking to hire and we can't slow down just because some industries and some places aren't hiring as much, but we can't slow down, that's not who we are and that's not what our students need."

Want to be a part of the magic?

Come to our contributors' meetings!

Mondays at 6:30 p.m. on Zoom



UNH student discusses culture, customs and a role model

By Shawn LatulippeDESIGN EDITOR

Mrinal Ganash, a University of New Hampshire (UNH) student from India, discussed his childhood growing up in different parts of India and feeling like an outsider because of the different customs that he learned in those places. He posed the question: "Does India Exist?" and attempted to answer that in his Cultural Connections presentation put on by the Office of International Students and Scholars (OISS) over Zoom on Friday, Sept. 25.

Ganash was born in Chennai, also known as Madras, which is the capital of the Indian state of Tamil Nadu in the southern part of India. But while he was born in the south, he mostly lived up north and explained that there are different languages in the different states of India that separate the subcontinent. He said that the last time he visited India was two years ago.

"I mostly felt like an outsider... because I did speak the language of Hindi and so I was good there but I still had a pretty thick accent and that kind of meant that I still couldn't understand the regional dialect," Ganash said. "I almost always got into some kind of fight when I was like eight or nine. But that was mostly because I was pretty bad at cricket I believe and the other kids were just frustrated at me."

Ganash said, "But there were other times where I felt like an outsider, especially my current best friend is from Northern India and during my time there when I'd go to his house I usually used to play with his PS3... however there was this one festival that we usually celebrated up north called Raksha Bandhan. It's a festival to celebrate brothers and sisters' love. During that time his cousin would usually come to visit him and I can't really go to his house because there would be other relatives present there. And that was the case for the other kids on my block, in my neighborhood so I'd usually sit at home."

He went on, "I always felt kind of alone at those points. It kind of emphasized me being an outsider because as a South Indian I don't usually practice those customs, so it was definitely hard to fit in. But as the years went along I think I integrated myself nicely." He mentioned that many of the friends he made back then are still his best friend's to this day.

He also explained that between the north and south of India, people from the north don't learn all the history of the south and vice versa. He also said that "many people outside of India are often surprised when Indians cannot communicate with each other, and wonder why that is."

This comes down to the fact that the people in different states of India speak different languages. There is the common language of Hindi that most people in India know how to speak but there are also other languages specific to the states in India. He compared these different languages spoken in India to being similar, like French or Spanish, but still completely different languages. He emphasized that one thing that people forget or don't realize about India is that there are different languages, cultures and customs that exist within its borders.

He also explained how different the Northern Indian languages are compared to the Southern Indian languages. He said that where he comes from in the south they speak a family of languages known as the Dravidian languages and up north they speak Indo-Aryan languages. Ganash also mentioned that there are a total of 29 states and there are 22 different languages spoken in India. Tamil is his mother language from Southern India that he speaks.

Ganash explained the his-

tory of India and told everyone that India was never one country. It was similar to Europe in that for most of history it had separate kingdoms that rose and fell. The northern region was open to invasions from the various powers above it while the south and its culture was stretched from Southern India to Singapore. He also said that India was under British Colonial rule but gained independence in 1947.

He then went on to explain how people in different parts of India greet each other.

Most young people say "hi" or "hello" but traditionally speaking, it differs from region to region. He said, "in Tamil Nadu, where I'm from we say Vanakkam and up north it is usually Namaskar or Namaste." But he said all of these greetings are not set in stone and change depending on the state.

"India is obviously known as the spice capital of the world," Ganash said when he introduced the topic of food in India. He continued, "if you're looking at the history, India was very prominent in the spice trade and rightfully so because a lot of intricate dishes are made with these spices and have a lot of uses with food." He said about the northern and southern parts that "both utilize spices to bring out greater flavor in their food." But he said

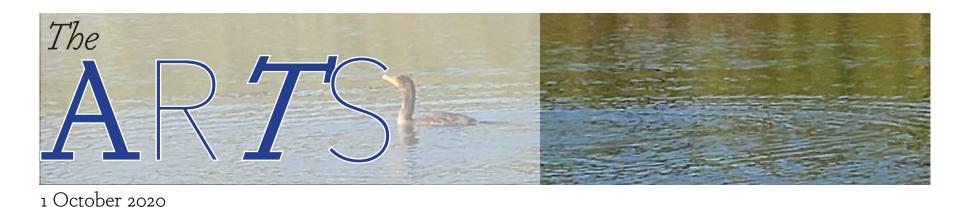
there are some differences in what the food is made from. In the south, the food is rice-based where in the north it is wheatbased.

Ganash additionally showed some pictures of the traditional clothing in the northern and southern states and talked a little about the music there. But he explained that he himself doesn't listen to much music so he doesn't know as much personal information about it. He said that "music from the north can be generally categorized as Hindustani and music from the south can be classified as Carnatic."

Ganash additionally discussed a famous Indian he looks up to, Srinivasa Ramanujam who he said was an "incredible mathematician" and a mostly self-taught one. He discussed the other accomplishments of Ramanujam and said he "independently produced many famous theorems and equations such as the Bernoulli numbers." He went on to explain that Ramanujam is known for Rogers-Ramanujam identities and many more mathematical identities. He also said that, "G.H. Hardy compared him to the likes of Euler and Jacobi."

Newsroom Poll





"Your Leader Could be a Tyrant, How to Tell" 3S Artspace's newest art exhibit

By Caitlin Staffanson STAFF WRITER

3S Artspace, located in Portsmouth, N.H. is showcasing the artistic work of Tatana Kellner in their contemporary art gallery. The exhibit titled, "Your Leader Could be a Tyrant, How to Tell" includes 26 paintings of recent tyrants and their peculiar habits. This exhibit opened in 3S Artspace's gallery on Sept. 11, 2020 and will remain open through Nov. 1. The exhibit was influenced by Kellner's book of the same title which was co-published with Ann Kalmbach back in 2018.

"The artist has a fascinating history that informs her work, but the art itself is very compelling," said Beth Falconer, executive director for 3S Artspace. "I happen to love when somebody's body of work works in this space and this is an exhibit that would not work in every space. The cohesiveness, the monochromatic nature, the visual impact, even before exploring content, hits me personally. When you dig further into it and explore the content of the exhibit, it is very sad, but at the same time quirky. She can almost find humor in tyranny, which not everyone can do. What she is trying to do, I believe, is get the visitor to be curious about knowing more and see the impact of sheer numbers."

Kellner grew up in Czechoslovakia under the communist regime and is the daughter of two Holocaust survivors. She escaped Czechoslovakia in August 1968, after the Russian invasion of the country. By 1969, Kellner and her family settled in Toledo, Ohio and became American citizens. She studied at the University of Toledo, where she received her Bachelor of Arts. She went on to graduate school at the Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) and received a Master of Fine Arts in visual arts.

It was at RIT where Kellner met Ann Kalmbach; after finishing graduate school the two women moved to Rosendale, New York with two other artists, Anita Wetzel, and Barbara Leoff Burge. These four women established the Women's Studio Workshop as an alternative workspace for women artists. Kellner produced art her entire career and after retiring in 2017, she continues to create art full-time.

In her artist statement, Kellner states, "My work reflects on the ever-changing nature of information we are presented with and the unrelenting pace of contemporary life. The news bombardment by various outlets create a culture and atmosphere of urgency that intensely focuses on the present. As one event supersedes another, they blend together to form a fragmented narrative. I try to slow down this deluge by carefully focusing on a specific issue."

Each year 3S Artspace presents an "open call" to artists. This allows artists to submit an application to be reviewed by the 3S committee. Kellner responded to their open call and the committee saw that her work fit the 3S Gallery space and the overall mission of their non-profit organization. The committee's unanimous vote came back as all yes's for Kellner's exhibit. Her 26 monochromatic paintings are accompanied by "wall texts" that describe traits common to all tyrants, as well as the crimes of that particular tyrant.

"Each painting incorporates silhouetted images of each tyrant or dictator with hand stamped text about their

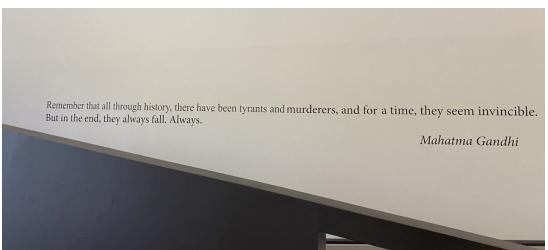


peculiar habits," Kellner said. "In the spring of 2018 I was on a residency at the Bogliasco Foundation, editing the artist's book and while there, I accidentally spilled some ink on the printed pages and really liked the way the silhouetted images started to dissolve, paralleling the history of these tyrants' lives. This inspired me to start these series of paintings. Each painting is created by using a technique that somehow 'tortures' the image - either by soaking or burning. The goal of the exhibition is to function like our memory, where the evil acts of tyrants have often disappeared from our collective consciousness."

For people who cannot attend in-person events due the coronavirus (COVID-19), there is an interactive virtual gallery and an episode of "Museum Open House" highlighting this exhibit on 3S Artspace's website.







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TNH

Getting crafty on Zoom: UNH Knitting Club adapts

By Caitlin Staffanson STAFF WRITER

Adapting to a virtual world amid a global pandemic has become the new norm. Student organizations, like the University of New Hampshire (UNH) Knitting Club are adjusting to virtual meetings instead of their regularly scheduled face to face meetings in the Memorial Union Building (MUB). The UNH Knitting Club now meets once a week, scheduled Fridays from 4 to 5 p.m. via Zoom.

"The knitting club is a place where anyone who knits or crochets, or wants to learn how to knit or crochet, or even practices some other craft can come and really just relax, or learn new stuff, participate in fun events, and occasionally do some charity projects," said Emily Simkins, president of the UNH Knitting Club. Simkins has been the organization's president for the past three years.

This UNH Knitting Club has been around for about 10 years in various forms. The club started as a place to bring your crafts and socialize with people who have similar interests. That mission remains the same today.

"UNH knitting club is like a group of friends hanging out," said knitting club member, Victoria Kapantais. "We all have different majors and are in different years, but everyone is so welcoming and kind. Even if it is your first time coming you will be included in the conversation. Mostly we just chat and work on our projects. It is a very social group."

Prior to the coronavirus (COVID-19), the UNH Knitting Club would meet in one of three conference rooms located in the MUB. Simkins said that typically five to 10 people would show up every week and often they would have one or two people show up asking to learn how to knit or crochet. The group typically works on their own project/craft, but occasionally they plan a group project where everyone can work on creating the same item during their meeting time.

This semester is creating new challenges for the UNH Knitting Club. It has been extremely difficult for the organization to reach out to potential new members. Typically, during their meetings they would post flyers around the MUB, or people would walk by when a meeting was taking place and ask members about the organization; now, the existing members are struggling to find ways to reach out to potential new members virtually.

The organization did have a spot at the university's virtual U-Day and is hoping to once

again host socials and events. Whether those are virtual or in person will depend on CO-VID-19. The organization also enjoyed teaching people how to knit or crochet, this virtual platform is challenging to teach someone a hands-on activity, but the group is willing to try or they will direct new crafters to resources that can help them.

Another difficulty the organization is facing is getting supplies to group members who may not have any. Members have always had the opportunity to get supplies from the organization, but CO-VID-19 has created an added challenge for members to meet and get these supplies to one another safely.

While their normal meetings have been moved online for the time being, the members are adapting to this and enjoying the time they get together. The meetings are scheduled from 4 to 5 p.m., but Simkins said they typically go over the scheduled time because they are all passionately working on their projects while enjoying the company of one another.

"It is a great social opportunity for people of all abilities," said knitting club member, Elisabeth Hunter. "No matter your skill level, you are still welcome."



"Memory Reborn" a workplace dystopia

By Ciarra AnnisARTS EDITOR

Disclaimer: An advanced reader's copy of "Memory Reborn" was given to the newsroom in exchange for a fair and honest review.

At times, Steven M. Nedeau's "Memory Reborn" seems like a grim prophecy about the dangers of virtual reality and its effect on our perceptions and memories, especially when placed in the hands of rich corporations. "Memory Reborn" is a science-fiction novel that I would class heavily as a modern dystopian work. The world set within Darien's microcosm of a workplace certainly fits the mold. Taking place in the near future, the story follows Darien Mamon, a twenty-seven year old who is down on his luck and overloaded with debt (something many of us are well familiar with, though Darien's circumstances are unique.) He has taken a job at the memory storage facility, MemorSingular, but all is not as it seems as he gets wrapped up in a plot to condition and rewrite employees memories.

Plot-wise, it is a twisty novel. Though I could easily guess where some aspects of the story were heading in the earlier chapters, as I went on and perspectives began to shift, it got harder to sleuth out not only where the story was

going, but where character allegiances truly were. My only real gripe with the story was waiting for the twist that the plot summary had revealed to be known to the protagonist. It can be frustrating knowing a plot element that isn't readily told to the protagonist and it isn't revealed within the first ten chapters or so. Having some knowledge of what is happening to Darien, that just made me want to throttle him, since at times it seems like he should be able to put the puzzle pieces together.

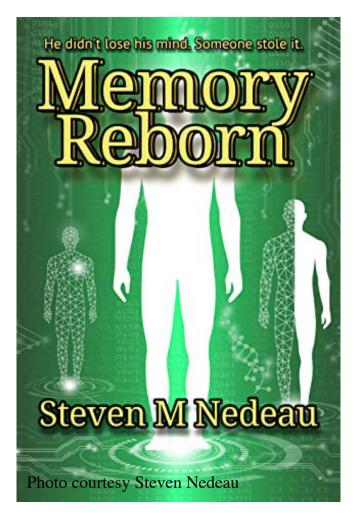
Speaking of strangulation, I wanted to throttle Darien quite a bit, even outside of his lack of knowledge. There are times where he is a major jerk to those around him—though apparently not as much as he was when he was a child. Still, I think the circumstances in which he finds himself are sympathetic enough that you want to root for him regardless of whether or not you actually like him. Like, all around, this situation just sucks. There are still glimmers of the person Darien might have been if certain plot aspects had been different, and I think that raises the question of nature versus nurture on deciding personality, especially considering the role of fear within the overarching

I enjoyed many of the side characters as well, despite

loathing their motivations or alignment or how they talked about women. I particularly liked Lawrence the most during the early parts of the book. But the moments that this morelikable character had in which to shine were usually few and far between, as this was definitely Darien's story. Nancy was another favorite of mine, because she was never afraid to make her opinion known and I do wish that she had popped up more often. I was waiting for her to make her first present day appearance from the start, but I can say I wasn't disappointed when she did show up.

"Memory Reborn" is an enjoyable read that I recommend especially for those who enjoy harder science fiction. It sets the rules down of the technology that drives the plot and sticks by it to the end. If you're looking for a definitive happy ending for the protagonist, I'd check elsewhere. Though I think I know what happened by the end and while I'd class it as a 'happy' ending, Nedeau spoke with me about how he likes to leave his reader questioning about the end and frankly, I'm second-guessing my own interpretation. Question you will.

"Memory Reborn" is available in print and e-book from both Barnes and Noble and Amazon.



TNH

THE NEW HAMPSHIRE Opinion Thursday, October 1, 2020

Takeaways from the first presidential debate

By Ben Domaingue STAFF WRITER

The first presidential debate between Democratic nominee Joseph R. Biden and current incumbent President Donald J. Trump was moderated by Fox News anchor Chris Wallace, and allowed the candidates to spar head-to-head for the first time since the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic began.

Though the debate is intended to inform the American people of the policy positions of each candidate, according to a CBS News poll, most viewers felt frustrated and annoyed.

The debate was organized into multiple sections. The sections were Trump and Biden's records, the Supreme Court, CO-VID-19, the economy, race and violence in American cities and the integrity of the election.

Trump and Biden hold contrasting views on when the Supreme Court nominee should be confirmed. President Trump, who nominated Amy Coney Barrett, is attempting to confirm her before the election.

President Trump supports her confirmation, as he said "we won the election, elections have consequences. We have the Senate, we have the White House."

However, former Vice President Biden believes that "we should wait and see what the outcome of this election."

This nomination has come across as controversial, as the Trump administration is seemingly attempting to rush through confirmation before the election with Senator and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell. When former President Barack Obama

attempted to confirm his nominee Merrick Garland, he was blocked by McConnell.

"The American people should have a say in the court's direction," McConnell said in 2016, in defense of blocking a vote to confirm Merrick Garland.

Trump's nominee comes as an attempt to pack the Supreme Court and to repeal the Affordable Care Act (ACA), long heralded as one of Trump's campaign goals.

Repealing the ACA would strip nearly 30 million people of their health insurance, according to a study by the Economic Policy Institute. In New Hampshire, the number of uninsured households would skyrocket by 190 %, or by 118,000.

Biden has championed expanding the ACA should he be elected, despite over 63% of Americans supporting a single-payer system, according to a poll from Pew Research. Over 88% of Democrats support a single-payer system.

"I am the Democratic Party," Biden said, as his platform is what the Democratic establishment champions. Biden's position on expanding the ACA is in stark contrast to many prospective Democratic voters, who overwhelmingly support a single-payer, Medicare for all system.

Biden has vowed to veto Medicare for All, even if it makes it to his desk. In an interview with MSNBC host Lawrence O'Donnell, Biden said "I would veto anything that delays providing the security and the certainty of health care being available now." Even with the COVID-19 pandemic, where over 5.4 million lost their marketplace insurance according to a study by Families USA, Biden would still maintain



Photo courtesy of the Library of Congress via Unsplash.

the mutual connection between employment and healthcare.

Trump has yet to release his healthcare plan and replacement to ACA

COVID-19 has become a thorn in the side of the Trump administration, with President

Trump opposing a national mask mandate and opposed wearing a mask until July of 2020. President Trump shamed Biden about his ubiquitous mask usage.

"I don't wear masks like him. Every time you see him he's got a mask, he can't be speaking, 200 feet away from when he shows up with the biggest mask I've ever seen," said Trump.

The president sparingly wears a mask, despite overwhelming evidence pointing to ubiquitous mask usage preventing COVID-19 cases.

Researchers at HealthAffair found that mask mandates led to a "marked slowdown in the daily growth rate" with estimates that mask mandates may have prevented "up to 450,000 cases of COVID-19."

Trump has repeatedly opposed a national lockdown, delegating responsibility for containment to the state governments. Many nations such as South Korea, Japan and Hong Kong who have habitual mask usage only dealt with temporary and targeted economic shutdowns, unlike the United States, which has a patchwork of regulations with over 25% of the global deaths from CO-VID-19.

COVID-19 has devastated the United States economy, with a report from the Economic Impact Report stating over 60% of small businesses are slated to shut down due to COVID-19.

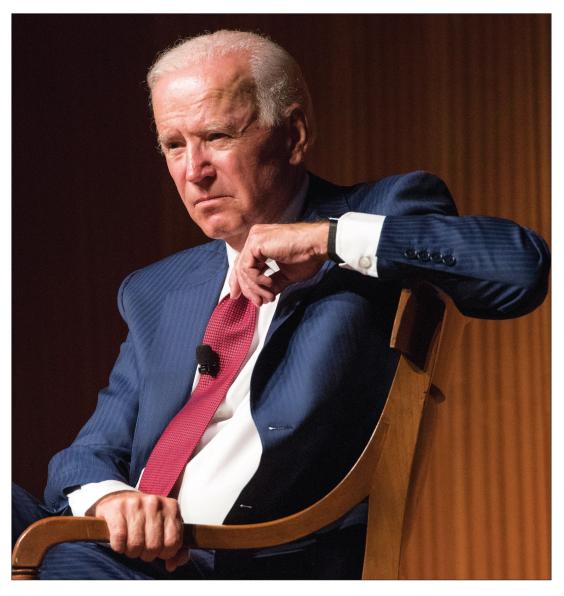
Though the economy has recovered somewhat, even after the Federal Reserve loaned over \$1 trillion a day in April to big banks, and numerous large businesses and numerous large businesses like the Los Angeles Lakers acquired Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loans intended for small businesses, many are still struggling. The extended unemployment of \$600 per week expired on July 26, and Americans have lost their extended unemployment of \$300 per week as of Sept. 5.

Americans have yet to receive a second stimulus check of \$1200, and real unemployment remains at 23.9% according to the US Department of Labor.

Meanwhile, France has committed to paying over 84% of employee's salaries that remain unemployed for up to two years to void mass layoffs, according to *The Financial Times*.

Even still, President Trump is satisfied with his efforts in mitigating a massive economic downturn due to COVID-19.

"[I have] the greatest economy in history and we closed it down because of the China plague."



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From the Editor's Desk...

Civil discourse: an American crisis

This past Tuesday, September 29, the first presidential debate between incumbent President Donald Trump and former Vice President Joseph R. Biden took place at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio.

Various topics were covered including the integrity of the upcoming election, the developing Supreme Court nomination process, the COVID-19 pandemic, the state of the economy and the racial divide throughout the country.

What transpired between the two candidates at this debate was something deeply troubling: an inability to communicate in a civilized manner.

Despite this being expected by many, it was incredibly infuriating for the section of society that wants to make an educated decision on who their vote will go to.

Arguably the biggest hinderance to a productive democracy is the inability or unwillingness to vote. That is the main outlet for citizens to express their opinions and views in an effective way. When the two main candidates can't even have a civilized debate, that doesn't necessarily encourage the American people to express that right.

What might be even more

discouraging is the fact that this behavior mirrors the doings of most people in America.

Since the turn of the century, and even more so since the 2016 election, political discourse among Americans has been largely toxic. The days when liberals and conservatives could sit down and have respectful conversations are nearly gone. Dinner tables across the country are littered with clenched fists and verbal profanity.

A 2016 study conducted by VitalSmarts surveyed 1,866 people about their discourse around the election. It found that one in three of them were attacked, insulted or called various names while discussing political topics.

If the current commander in chief and his potential successor cannot conduct a productive debate, then why should the American people be held to a higher standard?

One major reason for this notorious phenomenon is the fact that every aspect of society has become a partisan issue. Whether it's COVID-19, wearing masks, women's reproductive rights, education or global warming, the left and the right create a divide rather than fostering a solution that's best for the American people.

That might sound naive or

unattainable, but I'm sure our current politcal climate felt unattainble decades ago.

Along with the partisan movement, social media outlets account for a sizeable amount of the blame pie. They have provided a sense of comfortability within their user communities stemming from the rise in "filter bubbles." Essentially, Twitter, Facebook and Instagram use your collected data and prioritize showing you information and content that you agree with and neglect the opposing content.

I know algorithms, money and clicks drive the thought process behind this, but if the American people aren't shown the full menu of political and governmental knowledge, then how are they supposed to chose the best option? There is a responsibility to educate yourself as a U.S. citizen, but it is becoming increasingly more difficult with the agendas of these outlets.

To minimize the normalized but hostile environment around political discourse, America needs a leader. There is no way to totally eliminate the problem, but it starts at the top.

Josh Morrill
Executive Editor

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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 us your department and phone number. TNH edits for space, clarity, accuracy and vulgarity. Bring letters to our office in Room 132 in 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 thh editor@unh.edu.

The New Hampshire Sports Thursday, October 1, 2020 Patriots run over Raiders in convincing fashion



PHOTO COURTESY of Maddie Meyer

New England Patriots running back Rex Burkhead (above) with his arms outstretched after scoring one of his three touchdowns of the day

By Brackett Lyons STAFF WRITER

Foxborough, MA – The New England Patriots defeated the Las Vegas Raiders by a comfortable score of 36-20 on Sunday. The game was close through the first half, but the Patriots pulled away in the third quarter. The running game played a big part with Sony Michel rushing for 117 yards and Rex Burkhead scoring three touchdowns. Cam Newton finished with 162 yards through the air and another 27 on the ground.

The Patriots offense struggled out of the gate with a three-and-out to start the game. On their next possession the Raiders sacked Newton on third down forcing another

It looked as if the Raiders were set to score before running back Josh Jacobs was stripped of the ball in the red zone. The ball wouldn't stay with the Patriots long, how-

ever. Newton was picked off by Raiders safety Jonathan Abram. He was looking for Burkhead but didn't see Abram as the second-year safety jumped in front and ran the ball back to the New England 14-yard line. New England's defense held Vegas to a field goal making it a 3-0 ballgame. There was no more scoring in the quarter as the Patriots failed on each of their four attempts on third down.

The Patriots put a lengthy drive together to start the second quarter. Newton connected with Julian Edelman for 15 yards and got the ball across midfield for the first time. Three straight red zone incompletions led to the drive stalling. Nick Folk chipped a field goal through the uprights to make it a 3-3 ballgame.

On the ensuing Raiders possession, second-year defensive end Chase Winovich got to Derek Carr and stripped the football. New England recovered the ball and turned it into another three points to make it

a 6-3 lead.

After some big runs from Michel to start the ensuing Patriots possession, Newton found Burkhead in the flat where he put a move on Abram and dove into the end zone for the score. It looked like the Patriots could go into halftime with a 13-3 lead, but a few chunk plays and penalties by the Patriots got the Raiders all the way to the New England one-yard line with only nine seconds remaining in the half. Carr floated a play-action pass to tight end Foster Mareau making the score 13-10 at the half. Las Vegas drove 75 yards in 28 seconds.

The Patriots didn't let the Raiders get close for the rest of the game thanks to some impeccable running from Michel including a long run of 38 yards. Burkhead once again had his number called in the red zone and hurdled his way into the end zone.

New England continued to have success in the run game when Michel took off

for a 48-yard run. Abram had trouble keeping up with the New England backs all day as Michel took his turn in making the Raider miss; the Pats knocked in another field goal for a 23-10 lead.

The Raiders pushed into Pats territory and were in the red zone when head coach Jon Gruden elected to kick a field goal on fourth-and-5.

Newton took the chance to extend the lead and methodically marched the offense down the field. Using his arm and legs the Auburn product chewed clock and gained yards to set up Burkhead for his third touchdown of the day. Folk missed the extra point so New England settled for a 29-13 advantage.

The nail in the coffin was delivered by the New England defense when the pass rush got into the pocket for the second strip-sack of Carr. The ball was recovered by Deatrich Wise in the end zone for six more points and a 36-13 Patriots

Carr engineered a garbagetime drive to make the final score 36-20.

Head coach Bill Belichick praised the run game as well as Newton. In the absence of center David Andrews, left guard Joe Thuney filled in for the week three matchup. Michel had nothing but praise for one of the team's most reliable players after the win.

"[Thuney] practiced as hard as he can all week," noted Michel. "Stepping into a new position. Sometimes, you have to adjust and that's exactly what he did, and he did it well."

The Patriots will face the Kansas City Chiefs next Sunday, Oct. 4. at 4:25 p.m. on CBS where they attempt to take down the reigning Super Bowl Champions. Patrick Mahomes and the Chiefs recently embarrassed Lamar Jackson and the Baltimore Ravens by a final of 34-20 on Monday Night Football.

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TNHDIGITAL.COM Thursday, October 1, 2020 The New Hampshire

CAA announces plan for six-game spring football season

By Cameron Beall SPORTS EDITOR

In a Wednesday afternoon press release the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) announced that the conference has a plan in place to move forward with a six-game in-conference schedule set to start in March. This announcement is the first since the CAA postponed the fall season on July 17. The plan also gives the schools the ability to schedule two games that won't count towards the final standings.

The conference will be split into two North and South divisions with each of the school's six games coming within their respective division. At the end of the six-game slate, the conference champion and representative in the NCAA Football Championship will be deter-

mined by the team with the best overall conference record. The split of the two divisions is yet to be finalized but will be announced in the next several weeks.

The season is set to be a seven-week time frame to allow for a built-in bye week for each school. March 6 is the expected start date which would have the regular season wrapping up on April 17.

The two games that schools are allowed to schedule can begin as early as Jan. 23. The games are being advertised as "non-conference" games by the CAA, however, teams are only eligible to schedule with teams within the conference. What qualifies them as "non-conference" is the fact that they won't count towards a team's final conference record.

CAA Commissioner Joe D'Antonio's statement in the press release highlighted the conferences desire to keep players and coaches safe while trying to keep the product as competitive as possible.

'All of our institutions know that today's announcement is simply the first step in the planning process associated with playing football on each of our campuses in the Spring, Joe D'Antonio said. "Each member institution, as well as the Conference office, has additional protocols that must be finalized and approved in order to ensure a safe return to the field. Our goal in creating this unique scheduling format was to implement a competitive model while also trying to reduce the risks associated with travel as much as we could. It's been an extremely difficult and challenging time, but it's nice to be able to give our coaches, student-athletes



PHOTO COURTESY OF CAASports.com UNH football has been a member of the CAA since 2007.

and fans something to look forward to. Health and safety remain at the forefront of every decision we are making, and we are hopeful about getting the Spring 2021 season underway." Teams at the University of New Hampshire have been a part of a phased restart to their practice and training schedule. Teams have just recently been cleared to resume practicing in a limited capacity.

Optimism grows at UNH as hockey season approaches

By Shaun Petipas SPORTS FDITOR

As the students get acclimated to the new normal up at UNH they are desperately missing cheering on their fellow Wildcats on the field or the court. With the postponement of fall sports, it left an emptiness in some of the students' lives but with winter just around the corner they could be back watching the Wildcats on the ice sooner than they think.

The UNH men's hockey team had their season end earlier than they would have liked last year after having a decent year with a record of 15-15-4. The Wildcats seemed to loved home cooking last year going 10-5-2 in the Whittemore Center beating notable teams like Boston College, UMass, Michigan, Northeastern and Providence. But after going 4-9-2 on the road it is clear that the 'Cats need to pick things up on the road to get back to the playoffs.

The men's hockey team has started to get back into the action practicing in two groups and getting back on the ice. Each UNH player is tested to ensure that everyone on the team stays healthy and doesn't infect the rest of the players.

"Our players are all testing

twice a week. We have half the team in one session and half in another," said head coach Mike Souza. "Things have gone well so far; we're taking it one day at a time."

It hasn't come without its hiccups however, as the coach's access to the players off the ice has been limited and has hindered them in teaching the younger players some of the nuances of the game. One way Souza has decided to tackle this issue is to take things a little slower when on the ice.

"What we've tried to do is structure our on-ice sessions to go through things slowly but we also need to make sure we do the right things so we can hit the ground running when we do get up and playing," explained Souza.

Although it's been tough for them to get started, coach Souza had high praise for how things were being handled by administration and the league.

"I'm incredibly proud of the efforts behind the scenes to make the transition, especially for our first-year players, as seamless as possible."

"The athletic department and the university have done a great job and their leadership has been amazing. They're doing everything they can for all the students to have as much as a normal experience as possible and it's been incredible to see," coach added.

However, with no season schedule released yet many are wondering what it could look like if they can get a season going.

"Over the last week or so we've had some real positive conversations as a league. It's probably as optimistic as ever [that games will be played]" said Souza. He continued to say, "I'm all but certain we'll play a reduced schedule this year, but I do think the leadership in the league has done a great job of getting our league in particular back up and running."

Although it may be a strange and shortened season, that doesn't take away from

the excitement building to have UNH hockey back on campus.

It's as simple as Souza says, "Our guys just want to play as I'm sure do all the student athletes. They just want to compete. We're really excited about our players this year, I'm looking forward to it."



JACK BOUCHARD/TNH PHOTOGRAPHER

UNH forward Angus Crookshank scored 16 goals and assisted six in the 2019-20 season.



