

The NEW HAMPSHIRE

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UNH president hosts town hall, announces second semester plans



Photo courtesy of UNH

By Ben Domaingue
STAFF WRITER

University of New Hampshire (UNH) President James Dean announced the official cancellation of spring break,

but promised there would be a couple of extra days off built into the calendar during the upcoming spring semester.

President Dean and other members of UNH faculty held a virtual town hall on Zoom on Oct. 13 during which they

answered questions from the UNH community and additionally gave an overview about the spring semester and what spring classes would look like. To view the recording of President Dean's remarks, you can go to the media section of the UNH website. Dean said he believes UNH has a good chance to make it to the end of the in-person fall semester Nov. 20.

"I will say many people were skeptical of our ability to pull this off and I do want to emphasize how proud I am of the university community's efforts to make this work. Faculty, students and staff have all stepped up to show our determination and to show our resilience," Dean said. He also thanked the town of Durham and Town Administrator Todd Selig for their support this semester.

In regards to spring break, Dean said "Our plan is to begin classes on February 1st,

which is one week later than had originally been scheduled. Unfortunately, we're going to have to eliminate spring break, as it's just too risky to send everyone away and then one week bring everybody back. We are planning to schedule a couple of small breaks during the semester and will be publishing the final schedule soon."

Dean also announced that the university is currently making plans to hold the spring graduation ceremony for the class of 2021 at Wildcat Stadium in May with reduced seating and social distancing. They are also planning to hold separate commencement ceremonies for students who graduated in the spring of 2020 when UNH wasn't able to hold any ceremonies. Dean said they will be sending more information about this to both classes in the near future.

"It does look like we may be able to compete in some

winter sports," Dean said, after he mentioned that he has talked to athletic staff, athletic conference commissioners and fellow university presidents about the possibility of winter sports. He continued, "This will of course depend on our ability to keep our student athletes safe, both in practice and during any competitions with other teams." He also mentioned that visiting competitors would be subject to the same strict testing requirements as UNH students. Dean also said they will be making announcements soon on the possibility that football might be played in the spring.

The town hall then shifted to housing over winter break, as Senior Vice Provost for Student Life Kenneth Holmes confirmed that UNH students can submit a request to housing

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Sununu, Feltes discuss plans and policies ahead of election

By Anna Kate Munsey
MANAGING EDITOR

As the election approaches with less than three weeks to go, many first-time voters feel stressed, overwhelmed, or unsure of the voting process and who is running for each district, seat, and party. This article will focus on the gubernatorial race in New Hampshire, the candidates and their positions on issues students are affected by or care about. This is not exhaustive, so be sure to do your research before voting. Some good sources are campaign websites, fact-checking sites, other news organizations and other sites tracking politicians and the 2020 race.

New Hampshire is one of only two states where governors serve two-year terms. Gov. Chris Sununu is currently serving his second term, and state Sen. Dan Feltes is hoping to turn the Governor's office blue again.

Also on the ballot is Darryl Perry, the Libertarian Party's nominee for governor.

Feltes is currently the Senate Majority Leader in the NH State Senate, where he has served for three terms. Prior to this, Feltes was a legal aid



Photo courtesy of the Chris Sununu Campaign

attorney with N.H. Legal Aid Assistance, where he represented low to middle income families, veterans and seniors, directed the Housing Justice Project and more.

Prior to his time as governor, Sununu owned and directed Sununu Enterprises and was chief executive officer of Waterville Valley Ski Resort. He worked on the New

Hampshire Executive Council for six years before he was elected governor. His father John H. Sununu was Governor of New Hampshire and White House Chief of Staff under George H. W. Bush, and his brother, John E. Sununu was a U.S. Representative for New Hampshire's first district and a U.S. Senator.

Both candidates discussed

their thoughts on the University of New Hampshire (UNH) campus reopening plans.

Sununu said the system has worked as planned, and while there have been incidents of the coronavirus (COVID-19) they have been manageable. He acknowledged the national recognition UNH's testing facilities have received. "As we go forward, everyone must

remain vigilant to ensure we can continue operations safely. This includes wearing masks, maintaining social distancing, avoiding crowds and maintaining hand hygiene," he said in an email with The New Hampshire.

Feltes said that he doesn't believe it was appropriate for the university to require the signing of a waiver. "I think anybody's rights should maintain, including students. Obviously, they're going through the process and it remains to be seen, but it [their reopening plan] was much more of a plan than Chris Sununu did for our local schools, which was nonexistent."

One issue on which the candidates differ pretty significantly is gun control law or gun reform.

In regards to gun reform and gun control, Gov. Sununu does not support making changes to existing Second Amendment gun laws in New Hampshire. He cited the state's "tradition of responsible firearms stewardship," according to WMUR.

Feltes has supported "common sense" gun safety measures, including several

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Weather according to weather.com

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The next issue of TNH will be published on

Thursday, October 22, 2020

But you can find new content daily at

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CORRECTIONS-----

IF YOU BELIEVE THAT WE HAVE MADE AN ERROR, OR IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE NEW HAMPSHIRE'S JOURNALISTIC STANDARDS AND PRACTICES, YOU MAY CONTACT EXECUTIVE EDITOR JOSH MORRILL.

TOWN HALL

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to remain in their apartments or dorms over winter break and students can leave their belongings in their rooms if they want to. Holmes said that students must request and notify the housing office by Oct. 23 regarding remaining on campus during the break. He also asked students to reach out to him about any ideas for activities next semester as the university is currently working on safe activity ideas for the spring semester. Holmes additionally said for spring semester “the move in process will be very similar to the fall except not as extensive,” as students will have to pick time slots and days on which to move in.

Senior Vice Provost for Research, Economic Engagement, and Outreach Marian McCord confirmed that UNH will be offering testing for those who remain on campus in the time period between Thanksgiving and the start of the new semester. She said, “there may be a short break [in testing] over the

Christmas holidays, we haven’t determined the schedule for the lab during that time yet.” She said they haven’t worked out details for the lab schedule for next semester yet. She said students will be tested twice the week of Nov. 16 before leaving campus, or they will continue testing if they remain on campus during the break.

McCord additionally discussed UNH’s monitoring of student testing and said that if a student is not handing in their tests twice a week on the days they are supposed to, they will get a 24-hour warning on their Wildcat Pass before it is made invalid if they don’t complete their testing. She also said that they publish all their data on the UNH coronavirus (COVID-19) dashboard on the university website. Dean then added that UNH updates the dashboard every day.

President Dean additionally discussed some of the financial challenges UNH is facing.

“The costs of testing, cleaning, protective equipment and lost revenue from the shortened

semester run into the tens of billions of dollars. We have instituted the COVID enhanced retirement program and many faculty and staff have actually signed up for this. Our most recent figures are that 201 staff and 44 faculty have requested early retirement. You may also know that our senior leadership team has taken pay cuts in order to reduce expenses.”

Dean then discussed the need for UNH to hire more professors and that UNH is looking to reduce expenses in other places as well. He also said there will probably be some reimbursement for possible fees that haven’t been used, but he doesn’t know exactly what those will be at this time. Dean additionally promised to make sure UNH was hiring a diverse staff. He said he is currently working with the Chief Diversity Officer Nadine Petty to do this along with creating a new system to address racism and bias incidents at UNH and increase diversity in staff, faculty and students.

In response to concerns

lately about a UNH professor posing as a woman of color on Twitter, Dean said, “to repeat something we’ve previously announced, the faculty member is currently on leave and not in the classroom.” He continued that UNH takes situations like this seriously and has launched an investigation into the matter.

With spring semester approaching, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs Wayne Jones said that UNH has now implemented a new system of tags on classes when they register that will tell them whether the class is in-person, a hybrid or online. He also said that enrollment of new students has gone down under 1%. However, while the number of people in undergraduate studies has slightly decreased, there has been an increase in the number of students going into master’s programs at UNH.

Jones also mentioned that UNH had a lot of early interest so anyone thinking of applying to UNH should do so early. He also explained that UNH faculty will have more resources

open to them next semester and there will be more training for professors to use online and hybrid learning tools. Jones said across all UNH campuses about 65% to 70% of classes have some level of face to face modality to them, and this will likely remain the same in the spring as long as the coronavirus case levels remain the same. President Dean also mentioned there are two committees dedicated to working on improvements to online and hybrid learning for the spring semester.

President Dean also encouraged UNH community members to get their flu shots as soon as possible. He mentioned that he has already gotten his and explained that there will be flu clinics available for students soon. He also mentioned that he believes the likelihood of getting a vaccine for COVID-19 during the spring semester is low so UNH will continue with its current modes of operations for the upcoming semester.

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that would close background check loopholes, HB 514 that would create a waiting period after purchase and HB 564 that would ban guns from schools property, creating “gun-free zones.” All three bills were vetoed by Sununu.

Both candidates outlined their work and efforts around diversity, equity and inclusion in New Hampshire.

Feltes emphasized that many policy areas are related to racial justice, and how many laws and regulations disproportionately affect communities of color. He cited his management of the Housing Justice Project and work with the Manchester NAACP among other groups, working against housing discrimination in New Hampshire. In the State Senate, Feltes worked on criminal justice reform and bail reform, which he said disproportionately impacts communities of color. Additionally, he believes the criminalization of marijuana has been a “disaster” and had particularly adverse impacts on communities of color.

As governor, Feltes would create an Office of Racial Equity to identify policies that have a disproportionate impact on communities of color, including health care, economic, and criminal justice disparities. “The first step in combatting systemic racism is acknowledging that it exists, and Chris Sununu fundamentally won’t even do that,” said Feltes.

In an email with The New Hampshire, Gov. Sununu said he has made diversity and inclusion a priority in New Hampshire since his first term. He cited his creation of the first Civil Rights Unit in the NH Department of Justice (DOJ) and the Governor’s Council on Diversity and Inclusion. This year, Sununu established the COVID-19 Health Equity Response Team to look into the virus’s disproportionate

negative impacts on vulnerable communities. Following the death of George Floyd, Sununu formed the New Hampshire Law Enforcement Accountability, Community, and Transparency Commission with hopes of reforming the state’s law enforcement system. Additionally, Sununu signed an executive order with numerous police reform measures, including mandatory body camera use for state police. Sununu also established a Public Integrity Unit within the DOJ to look into cases of police misconduct.

Health care access as well as reproductive health care have been one of the biggest policy conversations this election cycle, and the New Hampshire gubernatorial race is no exception.

Sununu has called himself “pro-choice” but has some limitations - including opposing taxpayer funding of abortions. While on the Executive Council, Sununu voted in favor of funding Planned Parenthood in 2011 and 2014 and against in August 2015 following controversial videos of national members of Planned Parenthood. After these videos were debunked, Sununu voted again in favor of funding Planned Parenthood in 2016, according to WMUR.

Feltes also labels himself “pro-choice,” and as governor would “protect a woman’s right to a full range of reproductive services including safe, legal abortion.” Feltes, Vice-Chair of the Senate Finance Committee, believes “states are more important now than ever in protecting women’s health care and reproductive freedom, Dan worked to ensure that the state provided resources for women’s health centers that were losing funding because of the Trump administration’s unjust Title X Gag rule... Dan has fought for Planned Parenthood every step of the way,” according to his campaign website.

In terms of climate and the

environment, both candidates have prior experience.

Sununu, a former environmental engineer, has worked to ban offshore gas and drilling along the NH seacoast, filed lawsuits to hold companies accountable for pollution to the environment, supported expanded access to net metering and issued an executive order in preparation of the development of offshore wind technology, and more, according to his campaign website.

Feltes has also worked on clean energy, including his role as Vice-Chair of the Energy and Natural Resources committee in the state Senate. Feltes has also worked to expand net metering in the state, delivered the state’s first community solar measures, promoting clean energy jobs and more. “We need to do everything we can at the state, local, and federal level to combat the climate crisis — and turn this crisis into an opportunity to create thousands of good paying jobs with good benefits,” according to the campaign website.

Both Sununu and Feltes explained issues or accomplishments that were important to them, and why they were seeking the role of governor of New Hampshire.

“I’m not running to be governor, I’m running to serve as governor to look out for working people and working families, and to make sure that the issues and values we just talked about are advanced,” said Feltes. He emphasized the importance of the issue of paid family and medical leave. He believes this policy is particularly critical during the pandemic - to take care of yourself and family without risking your job and “economic livelihood.” He said that Sununu has vetoed paid family leave insurance bills twice and noted that Sununu auctioned off a copy of one of his vetoes of paid family and medical leave insurance at a Republican fundraiser last

July “to the highest bidder.” “That gives you an indication of what he thinks about paid family and medical leave insurance which is critical to attracting and retaining young families, it’s critical to dealing with COVID, and its critical to dealing with our opioid public health epidemic,” said Feltes.

“We’ve put a great team together for this state, and provided the leadership necessary to guide New Hampshire through these unprecedented times. Many of our biggest challenges still lay ahead, and in 2021 New Hampshire will need the management experience to promote businesses, keep New Hampshire safe, and invigorate economic opportunity for families... Others just talk, I believe in results. Let’s keep getting the job done,” said Sununu. He cited the return of \$180 million to NH municipalities for infrastructure including bridges, roads and safer schools, which is more than any administration in history, according to Sununu. He also noted his vetoes on income tax, and stop of additional gas taxes and toll increases. “We will balance our budget and man-

age our state finances the right way, without any new taxes,” he said.

There has not been much recent polling on the gubernatorial race in New Hampshire – potentially because the state primary was only about a month ago.

The Real Clear Politics (RCP) projection has Gov. Sununu leading the race by 19.7 points. According to RCP, there have only been three polls done on the New Hampshire gubernatorial race since the state primary on Sept. 8. The UMass Lowell poll from Sept. 17 to Sept. 25 had Sununu up by 26 points, the UNH poll from Sept. 24 to Sept. 28 had Sununu up by 18 points, and the Emerson poll from Sept. 30 to Oct. 1 had Sununu up by 15. Feltes seems to be potentially narrowing the gap between himself and the incumbent. There is no reported polling for the past two weeks. If past elections are any indication, the polling doesn’t tell the story, and much can change - in either direction - between now and Nov. 3.



Photo Courtesy of the Dan Feltes Campaign

TNHdigital.com

Pappas, Shaheen discuss student voting at Freedom Café



Ben MacKillop/TNH Staff

Students and community members at Freedom Café discuss student voting with Rep. Pappas and Sen. Shaheen in “Get Out the Vote” event.

By Ben MacKillop STAFF WRITER

On Monday, over two dozen University of New Hampshire (UNH) students and community members gathered outside the Freedom Café in Durham for an event featuring Sen. Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH), Rep. Chris Pappas (D-NH), and New Hampshire State Representative and UNH alumnus Cam Kenney.

The “Get Out the Vote” event started with the introduction of Kenney who spoke to his experience as a young voter in college and his experience legislating in the New Hampshire House of Representatives.

Kenney spoke about voting rights for students and his personal experience in Concord where he asserted that Republicans are seeking to pass bills to “discourage voting and disenfranchise voters.”

After his brief speech, Kenney introduced Rep. Pappas who immediately echoed Kenney’s thoughts on voting rights in N.H. and the important role of young people in the election.

“If America’s young people use their voice at this point in history, we can turn the tide,” he said. “You [young people] get the need for an inclusive future that allows all people to get ahead.”

Pappas highlighted many policy goals that are on the line

in this election for Democratic voters, including the preservation of the Affordable Care Act, protecting rights for LGBTQ people, and raising the minimum wage.

Pappas then introduced Sen. Shaheen saying that she is “an inspiration to me as a young person running for office.” Shaheen immediately turned her attention to her and her colleague’s Republican opponents this fall, highlighting the changes in domicile law passed by New Hampshire Republicans in 2018, which could affect out-of-state college students’ abilities to vote in New Hampshire. Shaheen went on to claim that Democrats’ opponents are “nothing but clones

of Donald Trump.”

Shaheen then spoke about what she considers the three biggest challenges facing voters in the election: the state of the pandemic, the economic collapse as a result of the pandemic, and racial injustice throughout the country. She also brought attention to the current Supreme Court nomination process, stating that the Affordable Care Act and reproductive health care are on the ballot as a result.

Shaheen ended her speech by reaffirming the power that young people, college students especially, have in the outcome of the election.

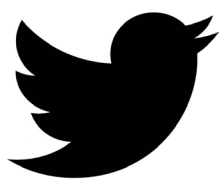
“If you turn out to vote you change the election,” she said.

“Your voice, your vote is going to make a big difference.”

All three lawmakers encouraged students to elect Democrats up and down the ballot and encouraged them to motivate their friends and peers to do so as well.

Pappas is running for his second term as representative from NH-01 against Trump State Department appointee Matt Mowers. Shaheen is running for her third term as senator against army veteran and businessman Corky Messner. Kenney is seeking his second term as one of the youngest representatives in the N.H. state legislature.

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Student voting information for N.H. elections



Shawn Latulippe/TNH Staff

By Evan Edmonds
STAFF WRITER

Election Day is 19 days away and college students at schools such as the University of New Hampshire (UNH), Dartmouth College and Keene State College (KSC) are taking advantage of absentee voting and registration options on their respective campuses to ensure their voices are heard in the upcoming election.

There is one more absentee registration day at UNH's Huddleston Hall and it still has space for registration. Students who want to learn more can visit the UNH Votes webpage for the details, as well as register for the remaining date on Oct. 24, from noon to 4 p.m. Both UNH and the town of Durham are encouraging students to make use of these opportunities to ensure their vote gets cast in the safest manner possible in light of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

Over 60 students were registered early and around 100 got absentee ballots at the first early registration event at Huddleston Hall on Oct. 8, according to Durham Supervisor of the Checklist Ann Shump. She said some of the students received their ballots and took them, while others were returning theirs early, already filled out.

Students who sign up will have the option to decide what they would like to do with their time, whether they want to pick up the ballot on campus, drop one off, or fill it out in the same instance and turn it in to town officials.

Kathleen Roberts who works with a national nonpar-

tisan voter protection group called Voter Protection Corps said she "recommends strongly" that students utilize the opportunities afforded to them on their respective campuses for early registration. Roberts said that getting the registration done early at the very least can help omit interferences on the day of the election and ensure that every student's voice is heard.

Regional Press Secretary (N.H. and Va.) of NextGen America, Dan Bristol, said the process is going well at the other schools in the area, with KSC already finished with their absentee registration process and Dartmouth with more events to come, similarly to UNH.

With so much focus being on the presidential election, Bristol said students should make sure they are still filling out the entire ballot. "The further down the ballot, the more likely that candidates' decisions will impact students' lives." He said those lower ballot votes are very important for making change.

In past election years, NextGen America has provided rides to the polls for UNH students, but in the midst of the pandemic, it is yet to be determined if those same opportunities will be provided. Bristol said there will be updates on that when it's decided, but NextGen has partnered with the New Hampshire Youth Movement, who are running rides to the Town Clerk's office every Friday until Election Day. Students can register for a time slot at mobilize.us and learn more about the rides - which leave from Holloway Commons every half hour.

Uber and Lyft are also offering discounts on rides to the polls (a maximum \$7 from Uber and 50% off any ride up to \$10 from Lyft) on Election Day.

Poll Worker Program Officer from the nonpartisan group the New Hampshire Campaign for Voting Rights, Reed Walker, emphasized the idea of "making a plan" with peers to vote to help each other commit to the process and hold each other accountable. He said for first timers that "it's a very cool first time to vote - you'll be talking about it [this election] for the rest of your life."

Roberts also suggested the idea of "taking a pledge" or "making a plan" with fellow students, friends or loved ones. Committing to vote with a group of people rather than by yourself increases voter turnout, she said.

"Tripling" is another method of increasing voter turnout. It is the idea that an individual who plans on voting, commits to talking to three friends about voting, holding them accountable

The New York Times writer Tina Rosenberg mentions in an opinion article a man named Ken Stanley, a political consultant in Ohio, who "led a randomized trial of polling place vote tripling on the Oberlin College campus during the Ohio primary in March." His results found that turnout was almost 8% higher among the amount of people who would receive reminders and additional encouragement to vote - according to Rosenberg, a one percent increase is typically valuable.

"Tripling" and "taking the pledge" are both voter turnout

methods with the same core purpose: ensuring as many people as possible get their vote out and their voices get heard. Connecting with friends about voting helps encourage responsiveness on Election Day, said Bristol.

The process of these two techniques is not exclusive to political parties, rather they are techniques that can be used by students to encourage their peers to do their part. Regardless of which candidates students support, holding themselves and their peers accountable can make an impact.

Due to the nature of the COVID-19 pandemic, Walker said, with their typical demographic (often individuals 60 years old or more), there is a nationwide shortage of poll workers. In order for this to be the safest and fairest election possible, local towns need younger poll workers - college students specifically - to help out.

Walker said local towns, including Durham, are looking for anywhere between 100 and 150 workers to sign up, and/or be added to a waitlist, to ensure that even if there are late cancellations, the polls will have an adequate number of workers. There is no prior experience needed, although poll workers need to be registered to vote. In order to get a fair collection of people, Walker believes help from republican registered students would be important to balance out the typically left-leaning nature of college campuses, as well as an emphasis on independent voters to keep the polls as neutral as possible.

Walker said they are looking for people with curiosity about the democratic experience. It

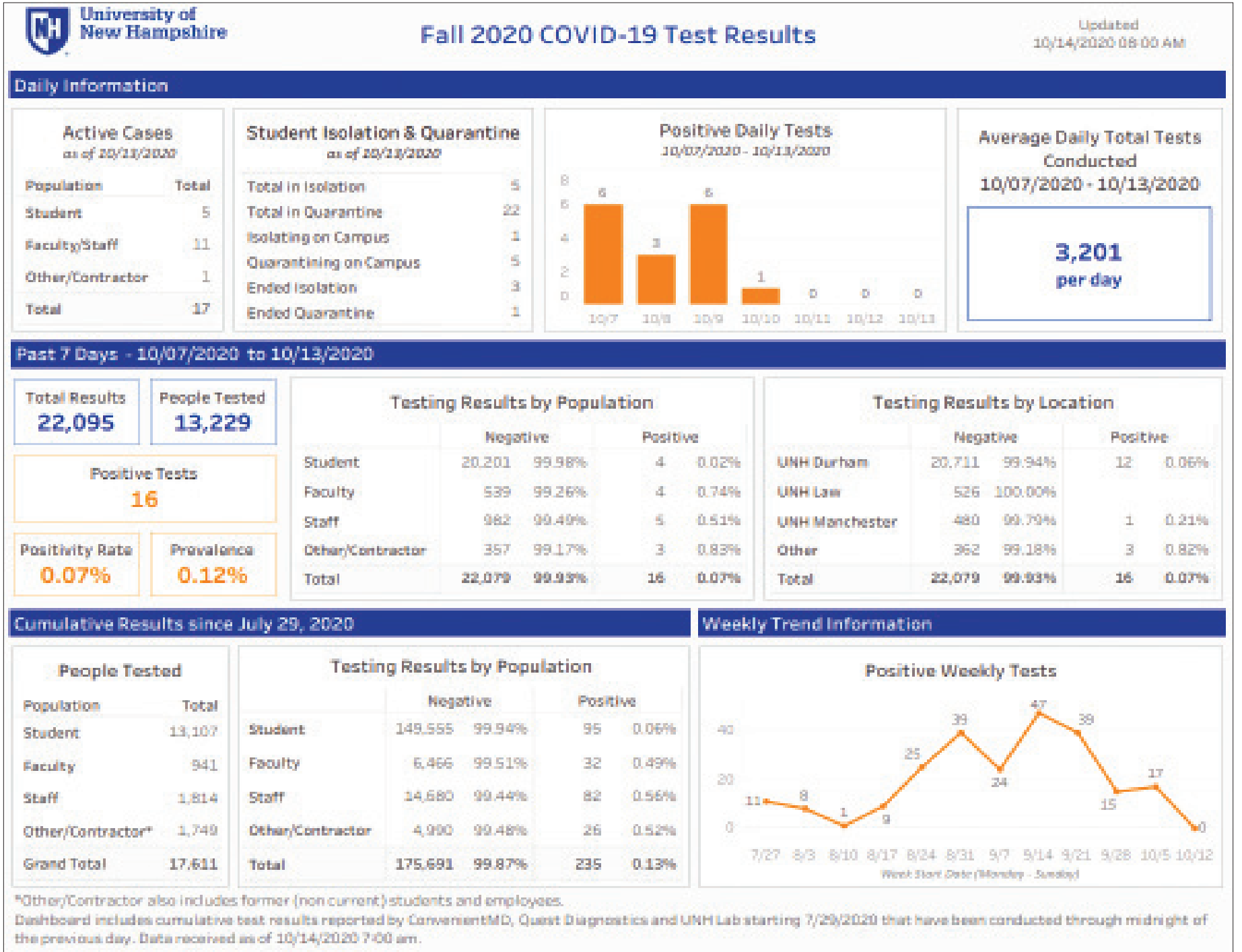
is an interesting learning experience for students, he said, who are given the opportunity to learn the ins and outs of voting in this country.

To learn more about the polling process or about how to volunteer, students can visit powerthepolls.org to sign up. Students interested in learning additional information about being a poll worker can contact the Durham Town Hall directly. The first training event takes place on Oct. 22, so poll locations are looking for sign-ups in the next week.

As Oyster River High School prepares to register and see thousands of voters on Election Day in the midst of a pandemic, students can use the opportunity to register in person at the town hall located at 8 Newmarket Road in Durham. The state of N.H. does have same-day voter registration, however early absentee voting is encouraged. The town hall is open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on weekdays. If students are unable or feel unsafe registering in person, they can contact the Durham town hall to request an absentee registration packet.

The general election is on Tuesday, Nov. 3, at Oyster River High School located at 55 Coe Drive in Durham. The town anticipates long lines and crowds, so students are encouraged to do their part and register to vote beforehand if they plan on voting in person on the Election Day, or vote by filling out an absentee ballot and returning it to the Town Clerk's office by 5 p.m. on Nov. 2, or by mail. It is recommended to send absentee ballots by mail by Oct. 23, per the Voter Protection Corps.

COVID-19 testing at schools around New England



Courtesy of the University of New Hampshire
 These are the most recent COVID-19 results updated on Oct. 14 at 8:00 am from the University of New Hampshire.

By Ben Domaingue
 STAFF WRITER

The University of New Hampshire (UNH) created a new coronavirus (COVID-19) processing lab in response to the pandemic, which has received national praise.

The lab at UNH has been online since Aug. 24, and with its partnership with Quest Diagnostics and ConvenientMD, over 160,000 tests have been processed since July 29.

Sen. Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH) recently visited UNH's COVID-19 lab.

"I was very impressed both with the state of the art lab itself, the equipment itself, the way it was put together and the short time they were able to put it together," said Shaheen.

In an interview with The New Hampshire, Shaheen dove into further detail on UNH's lab. "It's the kind of strategy that needs to be broader. Not just in NH, but in the country."

Building on this, one of

Shaheen's primary takeaways was the flexibility built into the lab.

"They talked about the fact that they can expand the testing if they can partner with other places," she continued.

"I've been working since back in May to try and ensure that we can have additional funding to have the supplies," said Shaheen in regards to working to expand this model to other schools around the country.

In the Health and Economic Recovery Omnibus Emergency Solutions (HEROES) Act, the House of Representatives allocated \$47 billion for higher education funding. The Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act allocated \$14 billion towards higher education, of which UNH received approximately \$11 million.

Shaheen has positioned herself as a proponent of the HEROES Act, believing more must be done for higher educa-

tion.

"When we passed the CARES Act... that did not go far enough. In the House bill, there is \$47 billion. We have to provide additional help," she said.

Even with UNH's new COVID-19 lab, University System of New Hampshire (USNH) Chancellor Todd Leach outlined finances in an interview with NHPR, stating that USNH is facing a \$70 million deficit.

Students around New England are facing new COVID-19 restrictions as testing protocols. Jess Guertin, a psychology major at the University of Massachusetts (UMass) Amherst, expressed her safety concerns over returning to campus.

"I don't know how safe I'd feel, if I were in a dorm I'd feel extremely unsafe," said Guertin.

UMass Amherst tests its students twice a week, much like UNH.

"They are strongly encouraging us to get tested twice a

week, so I'm getting tested twice a week," she said.

Unlike UNH, UMass Amherst does not currently have a lab on campus to process student test results.

"They're pretty good on updating us on who is positive. I don't know if their lab is open yet," said Guertin.

Similar to UNH, the University of Vermont (UVM) has protocols in place in order to keep their campus open.

Katie Henry, a junior physics and dance double major at UVM, described her experiences at her college.

Much like UNH, UVM has a hybrid model they follow, with some classes online and some in person.

"I have over half of my classes in person on campus, and the other half are online or remote," explained Henry.

UVM students are tested half as much as UNH students.

"I am tested for COVID-19 every Wednesday. Students test once a week."

Even with the limited testing protocol, Henry feels UVM made the right choice in reopening, and is optimistic with students participating in on-campus activities.

"I feel a hell of a lot safer on UVM's campus than I would on other college campuses," she said.

According to The Vermont Cynic, UVM's student-led newspaper, UVM's target start date for the spring semester is Feb. 1. Henry is optimistic that UVM can reach that goal.

"I feel like we're on a good path to get there," she said.

Universities in New England have each established rigid protocols in order to keep students, faculty and staff safe. Unlike numerous schools in the south such as the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill (UNC) that have had to shut down within days of reopening, many schools in New England remain on track to contain COVID-19 and finish their academic semesters in person.

Pappas, Mowers talk pandemic, policing, and climate change in NH-01 debate



Ben MacKillop/TNH Staff

By Ben MacKillop STAFF WRITER

On Wednesday Oct. 7, NHPR hosted a debate for New Hampshire's 1st Congressional District featuring incumbent Democrat Rep. Chris Pappas and challenger Matt Mowers.

In the debate's opening statements, Mowers, who previously served in the Trump administration's Department of State, wasted little time on pleasantries and quickly attacked Pappas' support for a Washington D.C. income tax. He asserted that Pappas has "undermined our law enforcement" and claimed that Pappas is "benefiting from \$1.5 million in dark corporate special interest money" for his campaign.

Pappas pushed back, establishing his roots as a New Hampshire native and small business owner as well as highlighting his record in Congress.

The first debate topic surrounded the federal response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Mowers accused Pappas of "playing politics" by blaming the response on the presidential administration, while Pappas claimed that Mowers is an "apologist for the Trump administration's failed response."

The topic shifted as Mowers brought up a concern that Pappas has voted with Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi 100% of the time during his two years in Congress. Pappas corrected this claim and touted that it is

a "false statistic" because Pelosi, serving as Speaker of the House, has only voted "a few dozen times," while Pappas has voted over 900.

Pappas' claim is mostly true as Nancy Pelosi has voted 79 times while Pappas has been in Congress compared to his own 900-plus votes. Of these 79, he has voted in agreement with Pelosi 100% of the time.

The topic shifted to taxes as Mowers claimed that Pappas supports "the largest tax hike in American history," pointing to the Biden campaign's plan to cut the standard deduction which had been increased under the 2017 tax cuts. Pappas responded by further solidifying his plan to raise taxes on the wealthy and never on working class Americans.

The conversation moved to racial disparities in health care as a result of the pandemic.

Pappas spoke of statistics that Black people in New Hampshire are six times as likely to be hospitalized due to COVID-19 as white people, and four times as likely for Hispanic people. Pappas pushed increased funding and availability for the Affordable Care Act as a solution. Mowers cited his own credibility as a health care policy adviser.

Mowers was asked directly for his thoughts on President Trump's debate night comments on white supremacy to which he responded, "White supremacy, neo-Nazism, name any hate group they have no space for dialogue in our coun-

try, we need to call out extremism on all sides." He then went on to say, "I wish the president was clearer in what he said to denounce them, I absolutely do."

The topic then changed to racial injustice in policing. Mowers pushed for increased training for police, funding for body cameras, and banning chokeholds. He then attacked Pappas for voting to end qualified immunity as a part of the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act. Pappas responded, claiming that Mowers was only trying to "inflammatory conversation" and that he "refused to do nothing" on the issue.

Manchester police unions who endorsed Pappas in 2018 endorsed Mowers in this election, specifically surrounding this issue.

As the conversation shifted to health care, Pappas attacked Mowers for his previous work with pharmaceutical companies, which Mowers described as "high impact work" on issues like HIV/AIDS and PTSD treatment.

On the topic of climate change, the candidates had some agreement on the banning of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances PFAS (long lasting industrial chemicals that pollute water supplies) and holding China and other "bad actors" accountable for their polluting. Pappas voiced support for green infrastructure funding while Mowers advocated for market-based solutions.

Both candidates voiced support for a free and fair election, as well as commending New Hampshire local officials and the United States Postal Service for their hard work in ensuring a fair election.

The final question of the debate asked the candidates if they supported the electoral college. Pappas responded that he believes in "one person one vote" and that the president should be elected via popular vote. Mowers voiced his support for preservation of the Electoral College claiming that it "protects New Hampshire's role in the election" by giving rural areas a voice in the electoral process.

Following the debate, The New Hampshire followed up with Congressman Pappas on some of the key points to the debate.

On the topic of qualified immunity, Pappas affirmed that while he does not support ending qualified immunity, which keeps government officials from being liable for constitutional violations, and did not approve of it being in the George Floyd Act, he voted for the bill anyways in order to take a stand on the issue.

As for climate change, Pappas further made his point that "the cost of climate change is too great," and that the issue should be looked at from an economic standpoint, creating new jobs in green infrastructure in the process.

Pappas also added that the high costs of college and stu-

dent debt is paramount to the success of young people in the country and promoted policies, such as increased federal funding for college and capping interest rates to make student debt less daunting.

The New Hampshire also asked Pappas for his opinion on the current Supreme Court nominee and whether Democrats should use extreme measures such as court packing or ending the filibuster to rebalance the court. Pappas suggested that "the people should vote before a Supreme Court Justice is confirmed," and claimed the current nomination is outrageous as it seeks to "repeal the Affordable Care Act and take away a woman's right to choose."

Pappas explicitly stated that he does not support packing the court but would rather pursue polices to protect the rights of those who could be victimized. The Mowers campaign did not respond to a request for an interview, but their press briefing after the debate claimed a decisive victory over Pappas with Mowers stating that he will "fight for New Hampshire, not Nancy Pelosi."

Pappas is currently leading Mowers 49% to 41% in a recent Saint Anselm's College poll. Pappas is looking to solidify his popularity among college students while Mowers is looking to close the gap with less than three weeks until the Nov. 3 election.

CaPS virtual Career and Internship Fair recap

By Aqeel Hisham
STAFF WRITER

Career and Professional Success (CaPS) at the University of New Hampshire (UNH) held the highly anticipated Career and Internship Fair last Wednesday, Oct. 7. More than 100 employers attended the fair, but unlike in past years, the fair was held virtually through Handshake instead of in person.

In an interview with The New Hampshire earlier this semester, Director of Marketing, Communication and Engagement Tyler Wentworth, and Director of Employer Relations Raina Sprague talked about their preparation and expectation for this event. However, most students did not know what to expect other than the virtual event “guide” that was sent in an email to all students from CaPS.

“Everything is different,” said Sophia Moe, a senior majoring in business administration with a dual option in finance and informational system and business analytics. She explained that in the past years, conversation with employers would be lengthier which would result in a higher chance of securing a job or an internship, but with a set interviewing time, it is difficult to do that.

Even though it was a virtual event, Moe said that her preparation for career and internship fairs has always been the same. “I always double check my resume, study about the companies that I would like to meet and be professionally dressed,” she said.

However, the 10 minutes allocated for one-on-one time was



Aqeel Hisham/TNH Staff

simply not enough for Moe. “I am a senior and I have to look for a job after I graduate,” justified Moe. Responding to the one thing that she would change, Moe said, “I wish I had more time, maybe 15 minutes instead?”

On the bright side, Moe was impressed with how everything went. “Employers actually did check my Handshake profile, and they’ve never done that, not that I know of,” she said. Moe added that having her one-on-one sessions with employers on Handshake has actually led her to making more connections with potential employers on profes-

sional social media platforms.

Environmental engineering student Garry Yapto was intrigued with the idea of the fair being done virtually and wanted to try it out. He explained, “I figured that the one-on-one session would be a quick way to bond with the employers.”

The whole experience felt strange for Yapto, mainly because he had never done a virtual one-on-one session with an employer before. In addition to that, Yapto also experienced some technical issues that disrupted him from focusing during the one-on-one session. “For some reason, the

camera on my laptop wouldn’t show my face and even though I have a strong WiFi connection, it was a little bit laggy,” he added.

In terms of preparation, Yapto did what he would have exactly done for any interviews. But when asked about the one thing that he would change, he said that he would recommend the one-on-one session to be longer. “It is kind of short to introduce yourself, get to know the employers and actually talk about the company. I would say at least 20 minutes will be good,” he added.

All in all, Yapto described the fair as a “really good experi-

ence.” Though the one-on-one is only 10 minutes, Yapto said that it actually allows students to get good quality time with the employers. “It is not like the physical event where employers get distracted by other students or you’ll see one employer talking to three students,” he explained.

Matthias Page, an ocean engineering student, was one of the many students that chose not to attend the Career and Internship Fair this semester. Due to his intense academic schedule this semester, Page simply could not find a suitable time to attend the fair. “The online classes are taking a bulk of my time,” he added.

Additionally, Page also felt that the list of employers was not very diverse. “It is a decent list, but nothing for my major. It’s mostly geared towards mechanical and civil engineering students,” he added.

The number of students that attended the Career and Internship Fair had decreased but CaPS has been working on more initiatives to provide students the best experience for their professional development. Wentworth said that CaPS had already learned a lot in this semester, and he is optimistic that events in the spring semester will have different alternatives that will cater to all students. “One thing about the spring semester is that we will have a lot of options; if Plan A doesn’t work out, we have Plan B and so on,” said Wentworth in the previous interview.



Aqeel Hisham/TNH Staff

TNHdigital.com

UNH ranked 9th “coolest school” in U.S.



Photo courtesy of Micky Bedell

By Shawn Latulippe
DESIGN EDITOR

The University of New Hampshire (UNH) was listed ninth for sustainability efforts on the Sierra Club’s “Top 20 Coolest Schools 2020.” Before the ranking, struggles with the coronavirus (COVID-19) safety protocols like increased plastic bag and container use were discussed, along with the sustainability innovations that the 20 schools on the list have achieved despite the recent adversity.

The article by Katie O’Reilly, the adventure and lifestyle editor at Sierra magazine, on Sept. 27 described actions schools across the countries were taking to earn their top 20 spot.

Before her rankings she stated, “in the 14 years since Sierra started ranking colleges according to their eco bona fides and environmental commitments, one thing has become clear: Governments and businesses would be

wise to take their cues from higher education. That’s because achieving carbon neutrality, divesting from fossil fuel companies, and incorporating sustainability into both campus operations and gen-ed curriculum have all become practically ‘de rigeur’ in academia.”

O’Reilly continued, “this year, a record 312 institutions participated in our annual Cool Schools rankings—a remarkable feat, given the fact it’s been a school year like no other. Beyond having to suddenly pivot to virtual learning and community-building because of the coronavirus pandemic, many schools had to backtrack. Those that had phased out plastic bags and takeout containers, for example, found themselves having to bring them back to comply with COVID-19 safety protocols. Despite such setbacks, the schools on this list have shown incredible resourcefulness as they have innovated new ways to maintain—and in many cases, further—their sustainability ob-

jectives. Please join us in congratulating the following 20 tremendously cool schools. They’ve nearly mastered the most crucial subject of all.”

And this “most crucial subject” UNH strives to master with its sustainability projects and “\$56 million in ESG (environmental-, social-, and governance-based) qualified investments, and all new gifts to the university are now automatically invested in the ESG pool,” said O’Reilly.

UNH earned a score of 84.30 and the number one school, the University of California, Irvine received a score of 89.95.

She continued, “the newly launched B-Impact Clinic trains students in the methodology of B-Corp certification and matches them with local companies seeking help in becoming certified, re-certified, and/or in assessing and improving their social and environmental performance.” UNH launched the B Impact Clinic in the spring of 2019 in partnership with the New Hampshire Busi-

nesses for Social Responsibility.

“The school serves as the hub for a sustainability network called Food Solutions New England, through which it has created a 21-Day Racial Equity Challenge—including trainings, readings, and videos designed to facilitate conversations about equity in the food system—now used by other universities and major NGOs too,” wrote O’Reilly. “In addition to continued efforts to reduce its carbon footprint (59 percent reduction since 2001, to date) UNH is one of a handful of campuses tackling its nitrogen footprint, in order to protect water and air quality as well as to mitigate climate change. Students and faculty recently developed a nifty combined carbon and nitrogen footprint analysis tool, the Sustainability Management and Analysis Platform (SIMAP), which has more than a thousand users from campuses across the globe.”

The UNH College of Life Sciences and Agriculture (COL-

SA) dean Anthony Davis expressed his excitement at the new rating for sustainability. He explained that this rating should serve as something to push UNH to incorporate more sustainability measures and continue to combat climate change. “I think it is great to be recognized! With this comes the responsibility to innovate and to use that ranking not just as a point of pride and recognition but as a credential to help our communities adopt more sustainable practices. We need to self-educate in the life cycle of materials and products we use every day – from food containers to cell phones to everything else, and then we need our students to be empowered to take principles of sustainability and incorporate them into their lives and jobs as they leave UNH.”

UNH was listed in the Sierra Club’s top 20 schools in 2019 as well, but held the fourth spot that year.

UNH Sustainability Stats & Facts

- Main campus is powered by 100% renewable energy
- All campus buses use 100% alternative fuel
- UNH has reduced greenhouse gases by 50% since 2001
- 300 faculty members do research on sustainability
- Wildcat Stadium & Whittemore Center are zero-waste facilities

All facts according to the University of New Hampshire sustainability webpage

Please



Recycle

Ramon's quality service keeps customers coming back

By **Melanie Matts**
CONTRIBUTING
WRITER

With the closing of on-campus coffee shops Albert's, Corner-Stone, Zeke's Café, and Dunkin', students and faculty have turned to local small business Ramon's Coffee Cart.

Located on Academic Way across from Parsons Hall, Ramon's is in a convenient location for students and faculty to swing by before or after class to get their caffeine fix. Ramon's has been open for 15 years at the University of New Hampshire (UNH), according to business owner Ramon Valdez.

Ramon's offers a wide breakfast menu which includes bagels, coffee, and a variety of different breakfast sandwiches. "Bagels and iced coffee are always a hit," said Valdez.

Sophomore Cassandra Eppler agreed, speaking on the quality of the food and service at Ramon's. Eppler said, "Yeah, the bagels are banging, but the conversation and customer service is what really keeps me going back."

Eppler was not the only student extremely fond of the overall experience at Ramon's. Sophomore Emma Donigian, a regular customer at Ramon's during both her first year and sophomore year said, "I know everything's real, and it's a family owned business so that's a big thing."

While students make up a majority of Ramon's customer demographic, plenty of faculty also choose Ramon's rather than heading downtown. David Ripley, professor of music at UNH, has developed a close relationship with owner, Valdez.

"My go-to order is the coca mocha," said Ripley. "Coca mocha" stands for a coconut coffee with mocha. Both Ripley and

Valdez joked about this signature drink, and Ripley shared his special nickname for his go-to, the "choo choo," which both he and Valdez use.

Ripley said he continuously comes back to Ramon's because "it's right here, it's good, and I love Ramon!"

In past years, faculty and staff have made up a sizeable portion of customers at Ramon's. However, much of this customer base has vanished as the university turned to hybrid classes for its fall semester. Valdez said that he has not had "as much faculty as I did last year. A lot more students, but a real lack of professors now."

In previous years, faculty made up a majority of Ramon's early hour business, the crowd between 7 a.m. and 9 a.m. This year, the breakfast crowd "starts at 9:30 or 10, where before at 7 I was busy, and I stayed busy," said Valdez.

With the overall reduction in customers due to hybrid classes at the university, Valdez has temporarily modified his menu and hours of operation until he can start producing the business he has had in previous years. The new hours of operation are from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m., where Ramon's previously would stay open until at least 2 or 3 in the afternoon.

Along with the new business hours, Ramon's also cut back on some of its menu items. "I took out pretty much all the lunch food until I can see a better turn over," said Valdez.

Despite business being down since the start of the academic year, Ramon's remains on its feet due to its regular customers. Customers can stay updated and find out more information on Ramon's Coffee Cart by following Ramon's on Instagram, @ramonsfoodncoffee, and liking them on Facebook, @Rramon's Food & Coffee Cart.



Photo courtesy of Ramon's Instagram account (ramonsfoodncoffee)



Melanie Matts/TNH Staff

Rutman lecture focuses on upcoming election

By **Steve Tedeschi**
CONTRIBUTING
WRITER

On Monday night, the College of Liberal Arts (COLA) at the University of New Hampshire (UNH) held one of two planned lectures on the 2020 election as part of the Rutman Distinguished Lecture Series on the American Presidency.

The first lecture, titled "The 2020 Election: What Might Happen and What it Might Mean", was moderated by award-winning journalist and filmmaker Callie Crossley, from Boston, M.A. It also featured former Boston city counselor, mayoral candidate, and UNH '99 alumnus Tito Jackson; UNH assistant professor of political science Emily Baer; and UNH history professor Kurk Dorsey.

Jackson, Baer, and Dorsey answered questions from Crossley throughout the hour-long lecture, with topics ranging from the Supreme Court, the coronavi-

rus (COVID-19) and health care, the economy, and former Vice President Joe Biden and President Donald Trump.

Crossley opened the lecture with polling numbers from the PEW Research Center on some of these hot button issues.

Taken back in August, the polls indicated that 79% of Americans list the economy as their top priority, with health care coming in second at 68%, the appointment of a new justice to the Supreme Court third at 64%, and concerns over the coronavirus (COVID-19) coming in fourth at 62%.

Polling included data split between supporters of Trump and Biden on the issues as well, with the economy being the top priority of Trump supporters at 88%, and health care at number one amongst Biden supporters, with 84%.

"As we've heard in the Supreme Court hearings, and all along [the campaign trail], the Democrats are really hitting hard on health care, and the coronavi-

rus outbreak, as a central piece [of their strategy]," Crossley said. "Is this going to be a winning issue for them as it was in 2018?"

Dorsey responded in agreement, saying, "I think that's why they're trying to make the whole Supreme Court nomination fight about getting rid of Obamacare."

"I think Obamacare only keeps getting more popular as, for instance, people lose jobs, and they realize that the idea of having health care through your employer is going away, probably. I think President Trump continued to undermine his own campaign by allowing the [Supreme Court] debate to focus on the Obamacare law right before the election," Dorsey continued.

"This is why the polls seem to be moving half a point a day in favor of Biden," he said.

Baer agreed as well, indicating that "over 40% of congressional ads in 2018 focused on health care, and Republicans who tried to repeal and replace Obamacare were placed on the offensive."

"I would absolutely expect both Joe Biden and congressional Democrats to focus on this issue, and it is overwhelmingly a winning issue for them," Baer said.

Jackson pushed the conversation a bit further, saying "I believe that running on this health care issue as a base, and then connecting it back around to issues of loss in jobs and the issues we're having in the economy is absolutely a winning strategy."

Crossley stated that the August polls did not mention climate change at all, however a new set of polls released last week did. The numbers showed that seven out of ten Biden supporters consider climate change very important, while only one in ten Trump supporters do.

"Think about that," she said.

Dorsey drew contrasts between past and modern-day Republican leadership on climate change, saying, "We can look to Teddy Roosevelt or even [Richard] Nixon who understood that environmental activism is both

good for the country and good politics."

"There's been this general sense that the science behind climate change and evolution is really all fiction," he continued, "and it ties in with the ways that which social media has divided this country, into 'do you get your source of information from one place or one place else?'"

"It's really a striking shift," he concluded.

Crossley indicated that while members of Congress may not be open to working with one another on the issue of climate change, both younger liberals and conservatives view the issue differently.

After the lecture came a brief Q and A session with the audience before the panelists and moderator signed off.

The second lecture in the series titled "The 2020 Election: What Happened and Why" is on Tuesday, Nov. 10, from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., and is open to the public on Zoom.



15 October 2020

A snapshot into the UNH Photography Society

By Caitlin Staffanson
STAFF WRITER

Social distancing guidelines due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) offer students the hope of safety and protection during a global pandemic. However, many student organizations on campus are struggling to get new members and provide existing members with the social interaction they desire.

Rebekah Alpert, president of the University of New Hampshire (UNH) Photography Society said the one thing COVID-19 has changed is the “people; we don’t have that many people.” The organization in years past has had about 10 to 15 active members, but this year they only have five – just enough to keep the organization running. Alpert said that advertising their club virtually has been a major challenge for the organization and has not drawn in many new members.

The UNH Photography Society meets over Zoom now, so people do not get the chance to see their meetings take place in the Memorial Union Building (MUB) and ask about what they do and how to join.

The UNH Photography Society was started in 2017 by a group of friends. This group of friends slowly let the club dissolve and were using it more as a time to see each other rather than an organization focusing on photography. Alpert took on the role as president during the spring semester of 2020 with a goal of being more inclusive and providing members with the resources and activities they want.

Members do not need to know how to take photos or

even own a camera to join; phone cameras are allowed for the projects the organization works on. Existing members will help educate a new member on how to use a camera and take a photo, if needed or wanted.

Prior to COVID-19, members would attend a meeting each week. They would learn about a topic or theme of photography and then they would take photos displaying the technique learned. The meetings were from 3 to 4 p.m. in the MUB, so many lessons revolved around indoor photography and lighting.

Now, the organization meets virtually on Friday’s at 3 p.m. on a bi-weekly basis. One week consists of a virtual meeting talking about a theme or topic of photography and then the members practice this theme or skill during their “off week” by taking a photo walk. The photo walk allows the member to practice this skill and later share their work at a virtual meeting. This cycle then repeats itself.

Due to the pandemic, Alpert said the few members that remain typically do the photo walk alone, but they do have the opportunity to attend a scheduled socially distanced photo walk. The scheduled photo walk takes place on the Saturday in between the bi-weekly virtual meeting at 3 p.m.; however, members typically go out on their own.

Another difference Alpert has noticed is that the members seem to practice taking photos of the theme/skill before it is discussed. This is the opposite of how previous semesters were run.

“I think it gives more of an

inclination for people to learn the skill on their own, instead of it being more lesson based,” said Alpert. “To me it seems like more of a way to have fun with photos versus last semester where it was more of a lesson and then take photos

based on that lesson.”

COVID-19 is affecting all student organizations in a different way, for the UNH Photography Society, the five members are hoping to continue to grow and expand their organization. To keep up with

some of their work or get in contact with the group, follow @unhphotographsociety on Instagram or reach out to Alpert via their Wildcat Link page.



Photo courtesy of @unhphotography

Mini review: “Razia’s Shadow”

By Cee Annis
ARTS EDITOR

I’ll say it now, “Razia’s Shadow” was criminally underrated when it was first released and its fade into obscurity was unjust. Like clockwork, this album from 2008 finds itself back on my playlists in time for October, despite it neither being creepy nor spooky. Still, something about its swelling orchestrations and dramatic rhyming lyrics makes it encapsulate the feeling of autumn like no other for me.

“Razia’s Shadow” was created by Thomas Dutton

of Forgive Durden and was co-written by his brother, Paul Dutton. Thomas Dutton’s vocals feature heavily in the main characters of Ahrima and Adakias while the rest of the cast features many alternative stars of the era, including Max Bemis of Say Anything, Aaron Weiss of mewithoutYou and Brendon Urie of Panic! at the Disco.

I wish I could say that the story was stronger, but many of the characters only appear for one song, making strange and abrupt disappearances (the most obvious is when Doctor Dumaya just disappears completely after his one

song.) I still find it emotionally compelling despite these flaws, and occasionally get teary-eyed at the ending chorus years after I first heard this album. Maybe that’s just because it’s an important album to me; after all, it was where one of my senior quotes came from for my high school’s yearbook.

“Razia’s Shadow” is available to stream through Spotify.



Photo courtesy of Fueled By Ramen

Reel World Issues - Theaters, Pandemics and Streaming

By Allison Musitano
STAFF WRITER

It's strange to imagine a world without movie theaters. They seem so quintessential to the American experience - refreshing air conditioning chilling you year-round, reclining seats that seem to get fancier every few years, popcorn with the somewhat frightening but undeniably delicious cocktail of salt and "butter" (I still remember being asked if I wanted real butter for an extra fifty cents). Yet like many things during this pandemic, most of us have had to do without a trip to the movies for quite some time. And with more movie theaters closing down across the country including Newington's own Regal Cinema, it seems like we will all have to wait even longer.

During quarantine and the pandemic, many people turned to another avenue for entertainment: streaming. Already a growing pastime among most people, it seemed to be one of the last pillars of normalcy amidst everything. But among the trickle of platform-original releases and

the same old comfort shows came a gamechanger: new cinematic releases available right away for streaming. At first, it seemed like an act of desperation for those in Hollywood, one way to somewhat salvage box office sales hindered by the pandemic. Yet all it took were some trolls to prove them wrong - that is, Universal Studio's kids' film sequel "Trolls World Tour." According to the Wall Street Journal, the film managed to earn \$100 million in three weeks through digital rentals on streaming platforms, generating a larger profit than the first Trolls movie's domestic run made in its first five months. The film's characters may be small, but the attention it brought to the hidden potential of streaming was anything but.

Other film releases ended up following suit as the pandemic persisted, with perhaps one of the most notable examples being the long-awaited filmed version of the Broadway musical "Hamilton." Although the musical itself reached peak excitement from all audiences when it was released back in 2015, its reprise on Disney+ reignited people's interest over

the summer. And this has been only one of Disney's streaming strategies in light of COVID-19. At the beginning of the quarantine in March, the company decided to add "Frozen II" to its streaming catalog on Disney+ three months ahead of schedule. Then in September, the company decided to release its much anticipated live-action remake "Mulan" on the streaming service as well - for an additional \$29.99 alongside the Disney+ monthly fee.

Yet this decision proved to be less than beneficial for Disney as the film received a negative reception for a variety of reasons that went beyond disappointed and nostalgic fans of the original animated movie. Some of the heaviest criticisms levied against the live-action "Mulan" film includes the filming location in the Xinjiang region, where there have been allegations of internment camps and human rights abuses, along with leads Liu Yifei and Donnie Yen's stating their support of the Hong Kong police on social media amid protests for democracy.

However, this has not stopped Disney from continuing to add cinematic content

to its service. Although films such as "Black Widow" have had their cinematic releases pushed up to 2021, other films such as Disney/Pixar's anticipated animated film "Soul" will debut on Disney+ instead of in theaters. As the pandemic continues, so does Disney's ever-changing game plan.

These successes for streaming only continue to complicate matters even more, particularly for the traditional theater experience. Well before the pandemic, streaming services like Netflix were met with disdain by those in the film industry. Traditionalists in the industry resented streaming titles being in the running for Best Picture at the Oscars. Yet for some such as renowned director Stephen Spielberg, his reasoning was somewhat more sentimental, as seen in correspondence between the director and the New York Times in 2019:

"...I feel people need to have the opportunity to leave the safe and familiar of their lives and go to a place where they can sit in the company of others and have a shared experience — cry together, laugh together, be afraid together — so that when it's

over they might feel a little less like strangers. I want to see the survival of movie theaters. I want the theatrical experience to remain relevant in our culture."

Over a year later, this statement feels true and morbid at the same time, given its original context. It is like the dinosaurs worrying about rising sea levels while an unsuspected meteor was careening towards them. With the pandemic, we have lost, at least for now, this space to come together, with its own eccentricities built into the experience. The optimist in all of us may want to say movie theaters will definitely return, but if the pandemic and state of the world have taught us anything, it is that nothing is certain anymore. Still, all we can do during these troubling times is help stop the spread of the virus and yearn for that Hollywood ending we desperately crave - the one where good conquers evil and where we can return to buying that somewhat dubious popcorn we love so dearly.

"Incognegro" - A vivid and immersive read

By Isabelle Curtis
STAFF WRITER

In his graphic novel, "Incognegro" author and University of Oregon professor Mat Johnson shines a light on the history of race relations in the United States and questions the foundations of the racial divide.

Johnson grew up as a "Black boy who looked white" in a predominantly Black neighborhood during the height of the Black Power movement in the 1970s. Johnson often felt alienated from his peers because of his perceived whiteness. These feelings of isolation would lead Johnson and his cousin, who was also light-skinned, to fantasize about how they could turn their appearances into an asset.

"We would 'go incognegro,' we told ourselves as we ran around, pretending to be race spies in the war against white supremacy," explained Johnson.

Johnson's childhood fantasies of going "incognegro" would be largely forgotten until his college years when he first learned about Walter White, who headed the NAACP from 1929-1955. During the early 20th century, White spent much of his time going undercover as a white man in order to report on the lynching occurring in the southern United States. White investigated 41 lynchings, eight race riots and two cases of widespread unpaid

Black labor during this time. White would later become one of the main inspirations for Incognegro's main character Zane Pitchback.

However, it wasn't until the birth of Johnson's twins in 2005—one of whom appeared African American and the other traditionally European—that the story for "Incognegro" really started to form in his mind.

"[The twins were] two people with the exact same ethnic lineage destined to be viewed differently only because of genetic randomness," said Johnson. "From there, the story found itself."

The story of "Incognegro" follows Zane Pitchback, a "white passing" African American who goes undercover to report on lynching in the South during the 1930s. However, it is during one of his undercover missions that Zane gets caught up in a murder investigation.

The setting of the novel is vivid. The use of 1930s slang in the dialogue in particular immerses the reader into the culture of the era. I also believe "Incognegro" uses the mystery genre to its advantage by not only creating an engaging storyline for readers to follow, but also underlining its overall theme of disguises. Disguises come in many forms in "Incognegro," many of which I will not list here for fear of spoilers. However, by showing the ease in which Zane blends into white society—the only modification he needs to make is hot-pressing the kink out of

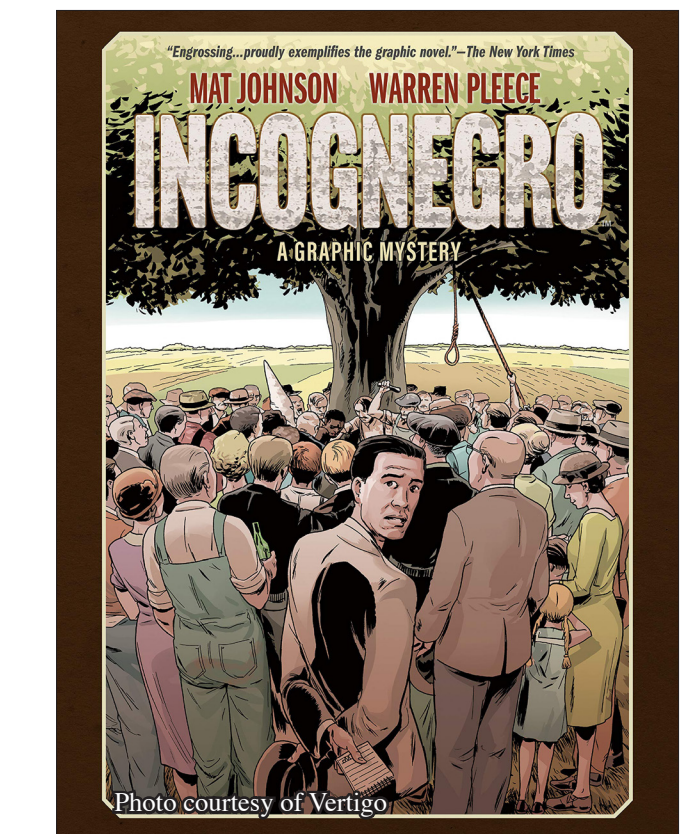
his hair—the novel continually questions the audience's perception of what constitutes race.

I think the best example of the novel's stance on race as a social construct can be found in one of Zane's early monologues: "That's one thing that most of us know that most white people don't. That race doesn't really exist. Culture? Ethnicity? Sure. Class too. But race is just a bunch of rules to keep us at the bottom. Race is a strategy. The rest is people just acting. Playing roles."

The artwork for "Incognegro" by Warren Pleece only elevates the story. The black and white color palette and panel placement is so packed full of meaning that you could write an entire paper about one page. I may be speaking from personal experience.

Nevertheless, the issues discussed in "Incognegro" are heavy ones and may be triggering to some audiences. However, I believe it's important that Johnson and Pleece did not shy away from depicting the truth about a horrifying part of American history. More than 4,500 Black men, women, and children were lynched by white mobs between 1877 and 1950, according to the Equal Justice Initiative. America has largely ignored this long history of the racial violence with the first monument to commemorate Black lynching victims only opening in 2018.

For many, the form of anti-Black violence of the modern



era has become the deaths of unarmed African Americans at the hands of the police. This issue has once again garnered national attention after the death of George Floyd sparked protests around the world.

"It was a modern-day lynching," said historian, cultural critic and author Arica Coleman in an interview with National Geographic. "[George Floyd] was lying helplessly on the ground. He's subdued. There's the cop kneeling on his neck. This man is pleading for his life. To me, that is the ultimate display of power of

one human being over another. Historically, you could be lynched for anything."

"Incognegro" remains a relevant read as it provides a snapshot of a period of racial violence in American history; a violence that still remains today. As it is said: it's important to know where we've been, so we know where we are going.

Newsroom Opinions:

Amy Coney Barrett's Confirmation Hearings

Julia Stinneford (News Editor)

The Senate hearings on the potential confirmation of Amy Coney Barrett have been troubling. Coney Barrett displayed ignorance of

correct legal terminology for LGBTQ individuals, refused to comment on a president's duty to a peaceful transfer of power, and could not

name the five freedoms protected in the First Amendment. She forgot about the right to seek redress, interpreted in part as the right to protest.

The partisanship displayed by this SCOTUS appointment and others under Republican leadership has been astonishing, and will lead to

dramatic consequences if Coney Barrett, who is clearly not qualified, is appointed to the bench. All I have to say is: vote.

Katie Hoppler (News Editor)

There are many aspects of Amy Coney Barrett's potential appointment to the Supreme Court that concern me, but the topic the worries me the most are health care and the likely appeal of The Affordable Care Act (ACA). If appealed, millions of Americans will lose coverage and become disconnected from a system that favors corporate Americans instead of working fami-

lies.

Access to healthcare has never been more critical, and the fact that conservatives like Coney Barrett are considering taking it away from millions of citizens is absurd. We are literally in the middle of a pandemic that has killed over 200,000 Americans. In a report released in June, the CDC stated that access to healthcare, even telehealth, signifi-

cantly improves patients' outcomes with the coronavirus (COVID-19) <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/telehealth.html>. Without coverage, these telehealth calls could cost hundreds of dollars, something that millions of Americans who are financially struggling because of COVID-19 cannot afford it. Repealing the ACA could take away a service that has

the potential to save someone's life.

I remained on my dad's health insurance when I went to college. I currently cannot think of any person my age who is not on their parent's insurance plan right now. Because of the ACA, children can be on their parents' health insurance until they are 26, but this will go away if the law gets appealed, and young adults would need to

buy their coverage. This could be catastrophic for young Americans who are already crippled by student debt, high unemployment, and an altitudinous cost of living.

All these issues are tied to Coney Barrett's potential appointment and should be issues that are on the American people's ballot, not put into the hands of the Senate.

Anna Kate Munsey (Managing Editor)

Coney Barrett is an originalist - a judicial philosophy popularized by her mentor, the late Justice Antonin Scalia. During Tuesday's confirmation hearing, Barrett explained originalism. "I interpret the Constitution as a law, that I interpret its text as text and I understand it to have the

meaning that it had at the time people ratified it. So that meaning doesn't change over time. And it's not up to me to update it or infuse my own policy views into it," she said.

The opposite of originalism is the idea of a "living constitution" that acknowledges society's

evolving needs, values and progression over the past several hundred years. For example, women were not given a constitutional right to vote until 1920, 133 years after the Constitution was ratified.

Even Founding Fathers such as Thomas Jefferson had qualms

with a literal interpretation of the Constitution. "Laws and institutions must go hand in hand with the progress of the human mind," he wrote in a letter in 1816.

Times change, people evolve, and the highest court in the land should acknowledge and rule according to this.

Barrett's judicial philosophy, applied by a conservative majority Supreme Court, would take us (literally) hundreds of years backwards, when our country is crying out to move forward.



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From the *Editor's Desk...*

Choosing precedent over partisanship

For the past week, the United States Senate has held Amy Coney Barrett's Supreme Court confirmation hearing.

Barrett would bring a lengthy resume to the superior court, as she has served as a judicial law clerk under the late justice Antonin Scalia in 1998. She also has built herself into an award-winning professor at her alma mater, the University of Notre Dame, as well as serving on the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit since her confirmation in 2017.

If confirmed, Coney Barrett would be the fifth woman to be appointed to such position.

The 48-year-old mother of seven's admittance would bring about a multitude of concerns for the Democratic Party including whether existing contraceptive, abortion and climate rulings will be overturned.

Also, at the Oct. 14 hearing, New Jersey Sen. Cory Booker raised questions about how Coney Barrett would handle cases involving racial disparities in America. He cited a 2008 blog post written by the nominee that displayed her thoughts on the U.S. Sentencing Commission reducing sentences of 20,000 Americans charged with drug crimes (many of whom were Black). Booker went on to say that she never said that the original sentences were "unjust" and that she only questioned why the resentencing initiative was happening in the first

place.

So, with those concerns in conjunction with this being President Trump's third Supreme Court nomination during his term, many have come to the conclusion that if elected, Joe Biden might try to "court pack."

Essentially, court packing is the act of adding more justices to the Supreme Court than currently are seated.

This phenomenon has come to the forefront because of the Democratic Party's concern over whether Trump's nomination of Coney Barrett will sway the panel of justices to a majority conservative leaning position.

In an interview with WKRC-TV in Cincinnati, Ohio, Biden said that he's not in favor of court packing. "I've already spoken: I'm not a fan of court packing, but I don't want to get off on that whole issue. I want to keep focused,"

Despite this claim, Biden's running mate Kamala Harris told POLITICO, "We are on the verge of a crisis of confidence in the Supreme Court...We have to take this challenge head on, and everything is on the table to do that."

Court packing sets a precedent that could have dangerous consequences. The nine-justice body has been in place since 1869, and the only times this number has changed (usually to 5 or 10 justices) it was for a partisan advantage. Changing this number in 2020 could create a series

of quests to modify the Court to shift towards a particular view, and this process would distort the its function in the republic of our Constitution.

The purpose of the Supreme Court is to be the court of last resort for citizens looking for justice. Also, considering its power of judicial review, it plays an essential role in checking the power of each branch of government.

Court packing has already been taking place in the Supreme Courts at the state level. Arizona and Georgia added judges to their bench in recent years after Republican leadership passed court packing bills.

This created a precedent in the state that partisan advantage takes priority over fair judicial review. That is something the U.S. as a whole shouldn't adopt, no matter what issues arise.

A solution to this issue is to consistently hold public office and control nominations in that respect. Adding justices isn't the answer. The Supreme Court is not a political pawn that should be manipulated based on the political leanings of a particular administration, but rather it should be utilized as the non-biased institution created to uphold the law, and to ensure the civil laws and liberties of all citizens.

Josh Morrill
Executive Editor

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Butler becomes one of James' toughest Finals foes



PHOTO COURTESY OF WALLY SKALIJ

Los Angeles Lakers forward LeBron James (right) defends a pass sent from Miami Heat forward Jimmy Butler (left) in the 2020 NBA Finals.

By Cameron Beall SPORTS EDITOR

LeBron James has gone head-to-head with about 10 different future Hall of Famers in his four NBA Finals wins against the Oklahoma City Thunder, San Antonio Spurs, Golden State Warriors and Miami Heat. However, Kevin Durant, Tim Duncan, Kawhi Leonard, or even Stephen Curry didn't put up the fight that his most recent Finals foe did. After landing on his third different team in three seasons, Jimmy Butler can now hang his hat on being the toughest opponent that James had to overcome on his way to a Larry O'Brien Trophy.

The fifth-seeded Miami Heat pushed the top-seeded Los Angeles Lakers to six

games before James and Anthony Davis finally sent the NBA community home from their "bubble" after a hundred-plus days of being locked away. While James and the Lakers dominated games one, two and six, Butler's performance in games three, four and five was a sight for sore eyes and deserves to be recognized.

In the series Butler averaged a cool 26.2 points, 8.3 rebounds, 9.8 assists, 2.2 steals and 0.8 blocks all while playing an average of 43 minutes per game. The Marquette University product put the franchise on his back as Bam Adebayo only played meaningful minutes in the final three games of the series and Goran Dragic returned for game six; both missed multiple games to injury. Butler led the team in

each of these categories and it wasn't particularly close.

His 43 minutes per game edged rookie Tyler Herro by about nine minutes. Butler beat out Adebayo in points and rebounds by about 11 and two respectively, while tying the big man with 0.8 blocks per game. Herro's three assists per game couldn't sniff the 9.8 that Butler recorded per night. If Dragic is taken out of the equation due to his lack of playing time in the series, Butler beat out Duncan Robinson by an average of 1.4 steals per night.

These numbers beat out what Durant and Russell Westbrook did in the 2012 Finals. A year later Duncan, Leonard, Tony Parker and Manu Ginobili put together more of a team effort when they fell short to the King. In the infamous

2016 3-1 comeback Curry and Klay Thompson were far from the individual performance of Butler in 2020.

The 2020 Heat may not have been James' toughest opponent that he's had to overcome as the 2015-16 Warriors own the record for most regular season wins; however, it's tough to argue that Butler wasn't the greatest individual performer that James went through.

What separates him from the pack isn't the numbers – although impressive – it was his willingness to not be pushed over by the Lake Show without much help. When Durant made it to the finals, he had Westbrook and James Harden by his side. When Leonard was ascending into a star, he had one of the greatest "big threes"

of all time alongside. Curry was on the greatest regular season team of all time. Butler was on a fifth-seeded team with a rookie as his running mate for much of the series.

When it came to crunch time everybody in the world knew the ball was going to end up in Butler's hands and there was nowhere for him to hide. He didn't have a future Hall of Famer to pass the ball off to for the final shot. Without many expectations, Butler and the Heat stole two games from the best current duo in basketball and nearly forced a game seven. It's not outlandish to think that if Butler had forced a seventh and final game, he would've received votes for the Bill Russell Finals MVP no matter the outcome.

Patriots schedule changes after week 5 postponement

By Brackett Lyons STAFF WRITER

Foxborough, MA. – There was no football in Foxborough this past weekend as the New England Patriots had their game against the Denver Broncos rescheduled to next Sunday after a fourth positive COVID-19 test within the Patriots organization. The game had previously been moved from Sunday afternoon to Monday following more positive tests earlier in the week.

The Patriots played a day later than scheduled last week

against the Kansas City Chiefs after quarterback Cam Newton tested positive. The decision to still play the game after Newton's test forced the Patriots to fly to Kansas City on the day of the game on two separate planes; one plane was for those who had come into close contact with Newton. Despite the precautions, the virus spread and reigning Defensive Player of the Year Stephon Gilmore tested positive last Wednesday. Two more players joined Gilmore and Newton on the COVID-19 reserve list.

The league decided to close

the Patriots facility on Wednesday and Thursday of last week, but Patriots head coach Bill Belichick reportedly made the decision to remain closed on Friday. In an interview on WEEI's Ordway, Merloni and Fauria Show, Belichick was asked about the decision to close the facility.

"Everybody is doing the best they can and we're trying to make good decisions for the health and safety of everybody involved with the team," noted Belichick.

The Patriots reopened their facilities late last week and

Newton was officially removed from the team's COVID-19 reserve list on Wednesday. After remaining asymptomatic and turning in two negative tests at least 24 hours apart Newton is eligible to return to practice.

The league has been forced to juggle multiple games as a result of multiple outbreaks among teams. The Patriots will now lose what would have been their bye week to fit in the Broncos matchup and the Broncos will have their week six game against the Miami Dolphins moved to accommodate the delay.

For this to work, the NFL has made numerous changes to the schedule that will be sure to aggravate the teams involved. The NFL seems to prefer this tango of moving parts needed to keep a 17-week season as opposed to adding a week to the end of the season for COVID-19 related makeup games. The result is multiple teams losing their scheduled bye weeks and a huge logistical shift for many organizations. If all goes well the Patriots will kick off against the Broncos on Sunday at 1 p.m. ET on CBS.

SPORTS

Reid, Engaras selected in NHL draft

By Shaun Petipas
SPORTS EDITOR

On Wednesday Oct. 7 the National Hockey League (NHL) draft took place and the University of New Hampshire (UNH) saw a couple of their own come off the board to a pair of NHL franchises. Defenseman Luke Reid and forward Filip Engarås were both drafted last Wednesday night in the sixth round.

Reid was the first Wildcat off the board in the sixth round going to the Nashville Predators 166th overall. Reid is about to start his freshman season after playing for the Chicago Steel in the United States Hockey League (USHL) from 2018 through 2020. Reid totaled four goals and 34 assists for 38 points through 105 games. He is coming off a year in the USHL where his team claimed the regular season title. While playing in the World Junior A Challenge, Reid was named to the U.S. Junior Select Team where he helped his team win a bronze medal. The six-foot defenseman is looking to bring his talent to the Whittemore Center.

Reid's new teammate, Engarås, was drafted just three picks later by the Edmonton Oilers at pick 169. Engarås is a returning junior for the

Wildcats. Last season Engarås netted eight goals and seven assists for a total of 15 points.

Engarås played three seasons for Skellefteå AIK in Sweden and was a captain for two of those years. Over that time, he posted 28 goals and 28 assists amounting to 56 points in 93 games for the U-20 team. He also appeared in 19 games for the Sweden International junior team. During those 19 games he potted four goals and three assists for seven total points.

"We are very excited for both Filip and Luke," said UNH head coach Mike Souza. "The Oilers and the Predators each drafted a prospect that they can be very proud of. Our coaching staff is excited to share in their development."

UNH now has six current NHL draft picks on their 2020-2021 roster. They join senior goalie Mike Robinson, senior defenseman Benton Maass, junior forward Angus Crookshank and junior goalie Ty Taylor. Robinson is the highest draft pick out of the six. He went 86th overall to the San Jose Sharks in 2015. Meanwhile, Maass was drafted in 2017 as the 182nd pick overall by the Washington Capitals. In 2018, Crookshank was taken 126th overall by the Ottawa



PHOTO COURTESY OF DAVE O'BRIEN

UNH junior center Filip Engarås protecting the puck against the Providence Friars defense

Senators and Taylor was taken 214th overall by the Tampa Bay Lightning.

With Reid and Engarås being drafted, they join the

long list of past draftees from UNH's program. They are the 94th and 95th players drafted from UNH to the NHL. They are hoping they can eventu-

ally follow in the footsteps of James and Trevor van Riemsdyk, Brett Pesce, Warren Foegele and more recently Max Gildon.

Filip Engaras

Class: Junior
Position: Center
Draft Pick: 169
Hometown: Stockholm, Sweden



Luke Reid

Class: Freshman
Position: Defense
Draft Pick: 166
Hometown: Warman, Saskatchewan



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