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UNH returns to classes; remains in orange mode

By Evan Edmonds
STAFF WRITER

University President James W. Dean announced this week that the University of New Hampshire (UNH) would return to in-person classes starting Wednesday, Feb. 24, while campus remains in orange mode “until further notice.”

Following a two-week period of spiking coronavirus (COVID-19) cases on the UNH Durham campus, President Dean said in the announcement that UNH has “successfully demonstrated that we can slow the spread.” If the downward trends continue through the next complete testing period on Thursday, Dean said he hopes to return to yellow operations by Monday, March 1.

The switch to orange mode on Feb. 11 was done to slow the impending spread that was reflected in the testing numbers. It was found that the spread was not occurring in teaching spaces, meaning it was deemed safe enough to resume in-person teaching methods while the rest of the orange mode precautions remain in place to continue “slowing the spread.”

Erika Mantz, Executive Director of UNH Media Relations said they didn’t find any evidence of large parties either, but rather it was a “combination of general COVID fatigue and small informal gatherings as the source of the increase,” also cited by Dean in his orange mode announcement video when he said the “overwhelming majority” of the cases were from off-campus Durham students.

Mantz said they continue to work with landlords to encourage students to adhere to public health guidelines. Additionally she said student life staff members have been meeting with



Photo courtesy of the Union Leader

students in off-campus housing to talk about it as well.

On the overall effort to remain safe, Mantz said “students are doing great and committed to complying with the university’s regular testing program.”

Planning for in-person commencement ceremonies in May is still underway, she said, but final plans will be dictated by the most accurate information they have in the spring.

As of Feb. 24, there are 171 positive tests on campus as the results are down to 19 daily positives. The highest point was recorded on February 15 with 385 positives, reaching over 80 positive tests a day on

the 10th and 11th.

It is still recommended that students follow the guidelines and limit gatherings to six people at a time, a “safety cohort,” and it remains important to maintain the necessary safety precautions to stay safe in the pandemic.

UNH cites ‘COVID fatigue’ as the root of the spike in positive cases throughout the month of February. The University of California, Davis (UC Davis) described in a July 2020 report that ‘COVID fatigue’ is the process of becoming careless about COVID-19 and the state of the pandemic.

Being “tired of being cooped up, tired of being care-

ful, tired of being scared,” are all contributors to the effects of ‘COVID fatigue’ and can create the notion that people are growing less and less concerned about the risks of the world around them.

The best ways to combat the fears that come with ‘COVID fatigue’ are strengthening the bases of your personal mental health:

Getting regular exercise is the “No. 1 best thing we can do for coping,” said Kaye Hermanson, UC Davis health psychologist. Any exercise, even a simple walk helps release endorphins and gets out frustration and adrenaline.

Talking is a huge part of

it as well. It is important, Hermanson says, to face the realities of the world around us and share thoughts and feelings about it.

Next, she cites constructive thinking, meaning although people can’t control the pandemic situation around them, they can adjust their ways of thinking: being more compassionate and doing the best you can are examples of this practice.

Lastly, Hermanson lists mindfulness and gratitude, stressing the importance of “being in the moment.” Dreading the past can make it hard to progress into the future.

Faculty Senate hosts Convocation on free speech, truth and civility

By Ben MacKillop
STAFF WRITER

On Friday, the University of New Hampshire (UNH), and Faculty Senate co-hosted a convocation on free speech, truth and civility. The hour-long zoom presentation and question and answer session were a part of UNH’s wider

effort to bring attention to the issues of speech on college campuses and is the first of many similar convocations in the coming weeks.

The program opened with a brief statement by student body president Nicholas Fitzgerald highlighting the need for civility in the wake of the events of Jan. 6, where protests and a riot

took place at the Capitol. President James Dean followed with a brief statement outlining the university’s efforts to promote greater diversity, inclusion, and equity, initiatives while still supporting the rights of free speech for students. Dean affirmed that UNH holds a high standard for protecting free speech (highlighting a high rat-

ing from the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education), but still retains many powers in restricting and organizing different kinds of speech.

The program began with a presentation by John Greabe, a professor and director at the UNH law school, on the constitutional realities and limitations of free speech on a publicly-

funded college campus. Greabe highlighted that while as a public university, UNH cannot stifle free speech among its students, they still retain many ways to control speech. These include restricting the time and place for gatherings, such as

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UNH senior Kevin Larney created an online podcasting, content creation, social media marketing and e-commerce centric brand that discusses current sports and pop culture news.

Video games for socially distanced game nights



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Staff Writer Allison Musitano shares suggestions for a fun, virtual activity to do with friends: a video game night!

Student life in the Orange Mode

News Editor Julia Stinneford put together a guide for student life during the university's "Orange Mode."

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Men's soccer season preview

The UNH men's soccer team's season begins Friday at UMass Lowell. Check out Sports Editor Shaun Petipas' story to learn more.

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34/21
Sunny

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Weather according to weather.com

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CORRECTIONS-----

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having speakers on campus, as long as the university does not discriminate in which forms of speech they allow.

Greabe brings an important point that while UNH is not legally allowed to prevent one type of speech and not another, the university itself, along with its employees, are still allowed to use their own freedom of speech in their actions and events they hold. Because of this, the university is allowed to host events and speakers of their own choosing without consideration for allowing opposing viewpoints, so long as they do not restrict students or student orgs from hosting their own speakers in opposition. Greabe ended by quoting a section from the book “Free Speech on Campus,” which highlighted the different ways the university can and should take action. These included promoting diversity, inclusion, and equity training for staff members and students and promoting these values from the top down.

Greabe was followed by Jan Golinski, a UNH History Professor whose presentation focused on “Post-Truth and Anti-Science.” Golinski began by discussing the rise of misinformation in mainstream news and politics, particularly from for-



Ben MacKillop/TNH Staff

mer president Donald Trump. While Golinski acknowledged the danger of spreading misinformation about different topics, he warned that branding certain viewpoints, such as not believing in climate change, being against vaccines, and not believing in the severity of COVID-19, as anti-science is not accurate and is simplifying the issue at hand.

Golinski explained that while these positions are, in fact, contrary to prevailing scientific notions, they should not be considered anti-science because people who believe in these theories are using the scientific method to try

to disprove what they see as a falsehood. Golinski instead believes that people espousing these viewpoints should not be boiled down to simply being anti-science but rather that they are purposely adopting a different belief in “facts” that better supports their own condition. In this way, branding people as anti-science is actually avoiding the real problem in the spread of misinformation. The last presentation of the program was by Renee Heath, a principal lecturer in the communications department and a co-director of the UNH civil discourse lab. In her presentation she drew from her own

experience as a lecturer as well as her time leading the civil discourse lab in prescribing different ways for us as college students and faculty to have more civil discourse. She highlights the need for uncomfortable conversations around important topics, that when done respectfully to everyone involved can be some of the greatest learning experiences for everyone. She further goes on to explain the differences between speech that is used as a way to push forward a position, potentially in a dangerous way, and speech that is used to provide for discourse or help alleviate

an issue. She also closed by encouraging all UNH students to take a class with the department in order to better understand civil discourse. The program closed with a brief moderator Q&A featuring all three presenters. This convocation will be the first in a series of similar programs throughout the semester highlighting important issues, with coming conversations on topics such as the book *The Case Against Free Speech*, a university wide conversation on African-American women in STEM, and a panel on conspiracy theories and extremism in the United States.

UNH announces new incident reporting tool

By **Hannah Donahue**
CONTENT EDITOR

A new bias reporting tool known as the Incident Report Form (IRF) replacing former tool, ReportIt!, was announced in an email on Tuesday from University of New Hampshire (UNH) President James Dean, Associate Vice President for Community, Equity and Diversity Nadine Petty, and Director and Title IX Coordinator Donna Marie Sorrentino. This new tool is expected to allow reporting for all incidents of bias, including “discrimination and discriminatory harassment, bias, hate, retaliation, bullying and sexual harassment and/or violence that involves any member of the university community,” according to the email.

This announcement comes after many members of the UNH community expressed their concerns about ReportIt! and the Title IX Incident Report Form, such as not receiving proper follow-ups from the university regarding their submission.

The email stated that they “are confident this new Incident Report Form (IRF) will streamline the reporting process and improve follow-up with impacted parties, including those who report anonymously.”

In an email interview with The New Hampshire, Petty said the IRF was developed by the Affirmative Action and Equity Office (AA&EO) in partnership with NAVEX, a company that specializes in user-friendly form creation, as well as UNH community members.

“To address gaps in our process, particularly as it relates to education, guidance, and care of impacted individuals, we created a new Bias Response and Support Coordinator position. Students have told me they are excited about the position and the possibilities it opens up for those reporting incidents of bias, particularly when related to race/ethnicity or LGBTQ+ identities,” said Petty.

In a town hall hosted by Dean and Petty in September, they emphasized that they were working hard to ensure any

reports filed using ReportIt! or by any other modes of communication would be supported from start to finish. However, Tuesday’s email referred to the platform as “outdated” and said that the new IRF will be “user friendly, easy to navigate and compatible with mobile devices, allowing users to upload documents, text messages, photos and videos as well as access additional information and related university policies and procedures.”

“The new IRF allows for a more secure collection of information, easier inter-office collaboration, better communication with impacted parties, better analytic capabilities involving bias trends on campus, is personal device friendly, and allows for reporting parties to provide details of incidents in their own words via a text box with an unrestricted number of characters,” Petty said in the email interview.

These features were originally to be added to ReportIt! sometime in November according to the September town hall but have now been incorporated into the IRF, a tool that has

been in the works for nearly two years.

In terms of the follow-up feature in the IRF, the FAQ page is an “option for those submitting reports to have ability to keep in touch with [the Affirmative Action and Equity Office] team as they respond to the status of your inquiries and provide additional information. This allows access to a portal which allows two-way communication between AA&EO team and reporting parties to ask questions, provide additional details and upload attachments – all while remaining completely anonymous.”

These reports can also be submitted even if the incident doesn’t happen directly to the person reporting it, and whoever submits it is able to sign up and follow updates on the report – anonymous or not.

“The new IRF and the newly created Bias Response Support Coordinator position is a result of us listening to the stated needs of our community members and following through. This is just the beginning. Work continues to be done to improve campus

experiences and to provide education aimed at improving the chances that UNH community members treat everyone we encounter with civility and respect, regardless of gender, political viewpoints, race, sexual orientation, ability status, or any other identity,” said Petty.

UNH has been working to continuously improve its diversity, equity, and inclusivity (DEI), including a list of strategic initiatives and an active document listing projects that are currently underway by UNH faculty and staff.

Totalling seven strategic initiatives, UNH aims to create a more diverse faculty, staff, and student body, an inclusive and welcoming environment for all, especially people of color, and prepare all students to function effectively in diverse settings, at UNH and beyond. They also aim to include issues of racism, diversity, and inclusion in their research, have leadership teams proactively address diversity and inclusion, and create structures to facilitate their initiatives.

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Please

Recycle

Mill Plaza redevelopment proposal faces town criticism

By Shawn Latulippe
DESIGN EDITOR

Durham redevelopment of the Mill Plaza proposed by Colonial Durham Associates (CDA) faced questions from the Durham Planning Board and several Durham residents for not abiding by a settlement which protects the wetland buffer near the College Brook.

The proposal to redevelop the Mill Plaza in Durham, NH, where The Works and Hannaford are currently located, into off campus student housing is currently under review by the Durham Planning Board. The Durham Conservation Committee also weighed in on what developers will need to do to protect the wetland buffer in Mill Plaza.

The wetland buffer is put in place by the town to reduce adverse impacts to the wetland from adjacent developments, like the ones proposed in the Mill Plaza. This buffer is currently not being protected and the plaza owners bulldoze polluted snow into the wetland every year.

Durham resident Diane Chen, who has lived in Durham for nine years and used to work for a real estate investment company, said, “ultimately, they want to make money. And I appreciate that. But I think that there’s a there’s got to be a happy medium.” She continued, “I would like to see the Hannaford store become a real hands on grocery store and move to the back end of the plaza.” Chen also would like to see living facilities open to various Durham residents of all ages as opposed to strictly student housing.

Chen said the planning board has not been listening to the town’s concerns about the project. “They claim to read the letters, but they could be sent in on a weekly basis, but they don’t get any indication, at least in the meetings, that they’re that they’re reading the letters,” Chen said. “And, you know, it’s kind of an open secret that it’s a very developer friendly planning board right now. And, and that, it doesn’t matter how outlandish a proposal you have, if you bring it to the Durham planning board, they’re going to go ahead with it. Because they want to broaden the tax base.”

Durham resident and University of New Hampshire (UNH) professor emeritus Dennis Meadows said “Colonial Durham has zero, zero interest,

in the quality of life for the citizens of Durham. They want to make a high return on their money. Period.”

Former Durham resident, planning board member, town council member and UNH professor Julian Smith said his advice to the town is “To hang tough. Do not allow the shopping center this commercial center of Durham to be turned into student housing. Too much of the town of Durham has been turned into student housing.”

Smith said that CDA owner John Pinto, an investment banker from New York City, has been trying to build student apartments for about 19 years now. Smith also explained that the plaza has issues with not having enough parking spaces for customers currently because the owners have been making money by selling illegal parking spots every semester. To do this legally they would need to get a variance from the town.

Durham resident and UNH professor emeritus Joshua Meyrowitz has pointed to problems within the CDA’s proposal to the council. One problem has been not disclosing to the public everything and not keeping the initial promise to protect the wetland buffer.

CDA needs the planning board to approve of a Conditional Use Permit in order to build the student apartments, which has two conditions related to the environmental resources. Community Planning Consultant Rick Taintor pointed out that Attorney Ari Pollack didn’t mention the Conservation Commission’s recommendation. Taintor suggested that the board review the Conservation Commission recommendations for CDA to make improvements, or enhancements.

At a meeting on Jan. 27, board member James Bubar said, “There was much discussion about invasives and the quality of the stream, but in the end, what was in the Motion was the restoration of the full 75-foot buffer. And, with the exception of the roadway entrance, deep enough through the wetland buffer to allow tractor-trailers to drive in and safely turn out of the buffer, the roadway was out of the buffer – in their mind. And they were very adamant about protecting, well, not really protecting, as much as restoring the buffer, because obviously there is no buffer there today, mostly, there may be 5 feet.”

Pollack said regarding the

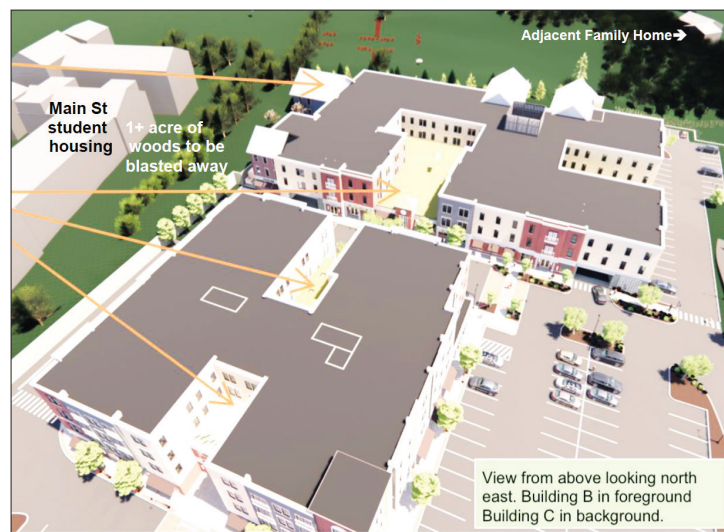
buffer, “We did our best to maximize pervious areas and landscaped areas in the parking field and therefore that has a consequence of spreading the site downward toward the Brook and made our, you know, it limited our ability to do additional restoration.” This limited ability to do restoration is part of some of the Durham town critics of the redevelopment.

Tighe & Bond engineer for the project, Joe Persechino, explained that the proposal had a fully engineered stormwater system, which would provide the benefits of treating the stormwater from the runoff from the Mill Plaza.

Meyrowitz, who lives on Chesley Drive right near the plaza said that the stormwater treatment plan will not be enough to fix the previous damage done to the plaza during a 2002 illegal bulldozing of the eastern hillside. This bulldozing was done by the owners to try to create more parking spots in the plaza, but they bulldozed without the town’s permission and were met with an order to stop bulldozing. Meyrowitz said this bulldozing has caused increased flooding in his home and the homes next door. The proposed stormwater system would collect the regular runoff from the site, but if there were larger storms it would not be built to hold a large excess of water.

Meadows said he suspects that there are many ways to earn a decent return on investment without building several hundred student departments. “What the citizens of Durham would like to see there, we would like to see some green space along the river and along the stream, so they don’t push all this polluted snow in there. We would like to see some space where the community could come together,” he explained. “I’ve lived in Durham for 30 years. When I first came here, the only real community space was the parking lot in front of the Mill Plaza you know, you go over to the shop and run into your friends and you end up spending 20 minutes in the parking lot talking. It would be nice to formalize that, have a place where you can sit down or get out of the weather and so forth.”

Meadows said “I think we should hold them to our standards. And just because we didn’t do it in the past, doesn’t mean we should do it in the future. They did agree and the legal agreement to observe



Courtesy of Colonial Durham Associates.

some of our environmental requirements and now they’re trying to back out of the deal.” Currently there is no buffer on the wetland, which means a lot of snow from the plaza gets pushed into the wetland without a treatment method in place.

A Dec. 2015 legal settlement indicates, in section 1d: “The Revised Application will provide for proposed buildings and vehicular roads outside of the shoreland and wetland buffers such that variances from town ordinances are not required and the buffers are maintained by the property owner.” And in section 1 f: “The Revised Application will have increased natural buffer along the southern property line adjacent to the College Brook; such buffer to be maintained by the property owner in perpetuity.” An increased buffer would not simply maintain what is now there, but actually improve on it. However, CDA has not said they will increase the buffer, they only agreed to give more details on planned plantings and offered a \$25,000 contribution toward Brook restoration.

Chen, Meadows and Meyrowitz also discussed the future decrease in UNH students on the Durham campus. This means Durham will not actually need any more student apartments than it already has. Meadows acknowledged that students would probably like the location of the apartments so close to Main Street, but believes there will not be a need for them in the near future. Meadows said that Trump’s efforts to remove foreigners from the country will also likely cause a drop in international students. Already, he said there is a drop in Chinese students at UNH currently.

A review of 629 schools by the National Student Clearinghouse Research Center found that as of Sept. 10 2020, undergraduate enrollment had fallen 2.5% across all types of higher education institutions, while total enrollment dropped 1.8%. While this could change once the pandemic ends, the trend could continue as more people choose to go to school in online formats.

Chen and Meadows noticed issues with the fiscal impact report that was presented to the planning board about what fiscal impact the housing would have on Durham. Meadows said that it was not an independent report, which does not mean that everything in it was false, but it should have been independent to ensure that the town’s interests were put first. Meadows discussed the interests of CDA and explained that they are not in the town’s interests.

At the meeting on Wednesday Feb. 24, town residents and the planning board brought up concerns about the future of Durham and the importance of having a 75 ft buffer protecting the brook.

Durham resident Deborah Hirsch Mayer brought up the point that the town of Durham is a much bigger entity in comparison to CDA. She said whatever is decided by the planning board needs to hold the town’s future interests in mind. Mayer said, “We can have development in this town that is good for growth, that honors principles of sustainability and ecology that meets our regulations. It’s possible to do that and that has to be at the forefront. What is good for the town of Durham now?” she explained that the values of the town are more important than “the needs of a for profit entity that would like to be part of that, but hasn’t been listening to what the town needs and wants.”

Regarding the parking spaces within the wetland buffer, Durham resident Beth Olshansky asked the board, “If we have 73 extra spaces, why can’t we take 45 spaces out?”

Secretary of the planning board Richard Kelley voiced his concern that in the settlement agreement there is supposed to be an increase in the natural buffer, which is not in CDA’s current proposal.

Kelley said, “I look at this diagram which would provide us with, with the before and after. And there’s not an increase.” He said he sees no reason why CDA couldn’t increase the buffer.

Service worker spotlight: Annette Vachon



Courtesy of UNH Facilities Bulletin, Annette Vachon pictured on left.

By Ben Domaingue STAFF WRITER

Throughout the coronavirus pandemic, the University of New Hampshire's (UNH) Durham campus manages to look as beautiful as ever. Even with the enhanced cleaning protocols due to COVID-19, UNH's Resident Housekeeping Supervisor Annette Vachon keeps a smile on her face under the increased workload.

Vachon has been part of the UNH Housekeeping community since before most current students were born. The time and dedication Vachon puts into her work each day makes an incredible difference within the school, as she creates a safe, clean and healthy environment for students and staff.

Vachon began her career at UNH over 25 years ago, when she worked as a Housekeeper in Spaulding Hall, cleaning labs, classrooms, hallways and restrooms. For over six years, she dedicated her time to keeping Spaulding Hall clean, until she was later promoted to supervisor, moving to manage 11 buildings, including the SERCS, Williamson, Christensen, as well as Upper and Lower Quad.

"It's really changed a lot. The day to day things are... you get people what they need, their gloves or masks and make sure that service requests are entered, and just keep everybody happy."

Even with the pandemic, Vachon notes she has never been short on PPE for herself and her crew.

Though staff can no longer meet in large groups, staff still interact with students, albeit with much less frequency.

"The amount of students I come into contact with is dramatically less. I guess what I'm missing is the students stopping by to tell me about their day or how they did on a test. Same with the hall directors," she said.

In her tenure at UNH, Vachon has always lent an ear to members of the community who she may cross paths with, learning about students within her residence halls and treating them as family.

"I had an RA several years ago on the first floor of Randall," Vachon said. "She used to get very excited after a test and come tell me about her test. It was Animal Science. She would come in and tell me how her test went and if it was hard.

At the end of her year, she told me about the job she landed and how excited she was to do that, so that was really nice."

"We had our Hall Director Gilly Scott who used to be here, we were really close," Vachon added.

Vachon notes a major shift in the university community within the residence halls due to COVID-19.

"Before COVID, it was very community-oriented. You would have a lot of interactions and students would gather in the lounges, study together and spend time together. Now it kind of reminds me of a hotel, you don't see many interactions among students. It's sad, it's really sad. A lot is never full anymore."

Though Vachon notes the loss of community within residence halls due to COVID-19, students still find a way to thank Vachon for her work.

"Students and hall staff in all of the dorms I take care of made posters and post-its and put them on the housekeeping staff's closet doors. They wrote thank you posters, thank you notes, and that was huge. I cried, I just cried and cried. The housekeepers were just so happy - it saved them. The

housekeepers were so happy, it made their day."

Despite her hard work, Vachon's career is only one of many things in her life that she cherishes. In her free time, she opts to spend her time outdoors.

"We go camping. It's on a seasonal site at Gunstock Mountain Resort. I have a motorcycle and my husband has a motorcycle. We do a lot of bike riding around New Hampshire and Maine. The Kancamagus is always fun."

With her passion for biking, Vachon participates in Laconia's annual Bike Week. Beginning in 1916, Laconia's annual Bike Week is the nation's oldest motorcycle rally, where participants ride their bikes across New Hampshire, with their staging location located at Weirs Beach.

"During Bike Week, only motorcycles can drive through the strip by Weirs Beach. You spend a lot of time making friends, people used to have beer, and there's a lot of vendors there to do some shopping."

Even while managing her career and her pastimes, Annette began attending graduate school at Granite State College

for an Operations Management degree to advance her career within UNH. Currently, she is a junior with a 3.65 GPA, taking 5 classes a year.

"I don't know what they could open up for me. I'd like to stay at the University. Maybe something to do with the students - they're so important here," she said of her post-graduation plans.

Vachon maintains an immense dedication to the university and its students, opting to do her homework for her courses during her breaks during her day job. This frees up time for her to spend with her family.

"It's pretty tough," Vachon said. "Time. Management. You can read quite a bit in a half hour. It's relaxing for me to read, it's a good way to have a break."

Though students may feel overwhelmed with the pandemic and school-work, Vachon offered some words of encouragement.

"You have youth on your side. Don't let anything hold you back. If you're afraid of taking a chance, just embrace the fear and go for it. Just do it," she said.

Professors reflect on nearly a year of hybrid learning



Courtesy of the University of New Hampshire.

By Jared Gustafson
CONTRIBUTING
WRITER

Not only has the coronavirus (COVID-19) affected bars, restaurants and small businesses, but it has had a massive impact as well on schooling across the country. A substantial number of schools have switched to fully remote learning or to alternating schedules for students.

The transition from in-person to remote learning was not always smooth, with both students and professors experiencing some difficulties adjusting. Students and professors have been used to in-person learning for their whole lives, but remote learning might be the future for schools and universities across the country.

For almost a year now, much of the University of New Hampshire (UNH) has switched to remote learning because of COVID-19. The

first COVID-19 cases appeared on campus in March of 2020, which led to many others contracting the virus. As a precautionary safety method, UNH decided to shut down the campus and switch to remote learning for the rest of the 2020 spring semester.

“In-person delivery is way more energizing and you can capture the attention of the class way more easily,” said Professor Akdeniz Talay, associate professor of marketing at Paul College of Business and Economics (Paul). “It almost feels like a workout for me after each in-person class since I am very enthusiastic about what I teach. The online environment is inherently not as dynamic. Lifting up the focus, enthusiasm, and the overall spirits of students on the screen can be more challenging.”

Professor Sajay Arthanat, professor of occupational therapy in the College of Health and Human Services, agreed with Talay and said, “Initially

I felt a bit challenged teaching larger classes of more than 30 students, especially to ensure consistent student engagement across the classroom.”

Talay said remote learning has a decreased level of activity and diversity tools that she can utilize compared to in-person classes. Another area to blame for the difficulty of remote learning is the “increased amount of distraction around the students,” said Talay.

“There have been lots of changes. I’m tempted to say that everything had changed,” said Kevin Healey, professor of communication in the College of Liberal Arts (COLA). He said he had to sacrifice methods that only worked in face-to-face settings, such as hands-on and art-based activities.

However, Healey also found that remote learning has its advantages as well. He mentioned that “with a good camera, I can get right up into people’s faces. I’m no longer separated in the way that I am when I’m stand-

ing in a room with 40 students. In a lecture room, I’m always at least 20 feet from someone. But in a Zoom room, I can feel like I’m face-to-face with everyone. So, there’s a paradox with Zoom teaching: we are distant physically, and yet the cameras can create a more intimate experience.”

Arthanat found similar advantages in his online classrooms as well: “Later on, I realized that online teaching has its advantages for large classes in that it provides equal access and flexibility for all students to engage with the instructor.” Arthanat utilizes the chat box in Zoom to get feedback, where that is not available in an in-person class setting.

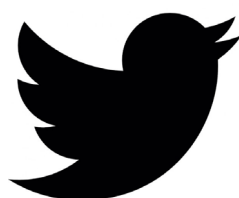
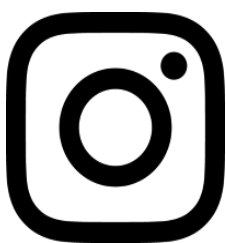
Healey also noticed that students are more likely to talk to each other in breakout rooms rather than in small groups during in-person classes. “Breakout rooms also generate a lot more conversation, I’ve found. Students feel more comfortable talking in small groups without

my direct supervision,” Healey said.

All these UNH professors received training and attended workshops on campus for remote learning. Talay mentioned that the workshops were a great refresher that elevated their skills. While Healey only attended a couple of workshops and focused on learning more about remote learning on his own terms.

These UNH professors have certainly had difficulties switching to remote learning, however, Healey and Arthanat have tried to make the best out of it. They both listed many advantages remote learning offers that in-person classes cannot offer. In the future when and if public safety allows schools to return to in-person classes, professors and teachers around the country can implement more and more remote learning advantages to in-person classes and vice versa.

@thenewhampshire



UNH senior finds success with “Wildchat Sports”

By Josh Morrill
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

To Kevin Larney, sports is more than just a simple hobby or pastime. It's a personal passion that most everyone can form a genuine connection with.

“I think that everyone has a small relationship with sports,” Larney said.

Before the current UNH senior made it to Durham, he worked as a tennis instructor, financial assistant, seafood clerk and an ice cream man, among other jobs to support himself and his education.

When Larney stepped foot in Durham, the eventual marketing major took his impeccable work ethic with him and wanted to do one thing: become a sports broadcaster...until he didn't.

“I always wanted to go into broadcasting, whether it's on TV, or just play-by-play, or whatever it may be, that seemed really was of interest to me,” Larney said. “That's one of the reasons why I came to Durham. To go into sports broadcasting, that sort of realm. As I was working on it more and more, I realized it wasn't my biggest strong suit, and wasn't really something of interest for me, either.”

Despite the subsequent discouragement for the Massachusetts native, his main goal was to find something that he enjoyed working hard for. Fortunately, he had another plan up his sleeve.

In January of 2020, Larney launched Wildchat Sports, an online podcasting, content creation, social media marketing and e-commerce centric brand that discusses the current news in sports and pop culture. His goal was for fans to be able to have an outlet to discuss current events and issues in sports, so Wildchat Sports was born.

Larney was the sports director at UNH's student-run radio station, WUNH (91.3 FM) prior to launching Wildchat Sports, where he oversaw and participated in multiple sports radio talk shows. Larney's decision to name his brand Wildchat Sports was directly influenced by those



Photo courtesy of Yahoo Finance.

reoccurring radio segments, which were coined “Wildchats.”

“I saw the radio station (at UNH) and I thought about sports radio,” Larney said. “I saw it and I said, this is so cool.”

As he found his stride at the university radio station, he realized that his Generation-Z peers flocked to social media plat-

forms like Snapchat, Instagram, YouTube, Facebook and TikTok. A Wildchat Sports inspired light bulb went off in his head to expand the product to more than just the campus radio station. At the platform's earliest stages, Larney just posted his radio shows with his UNH co-hosts, but it quickly expanded to athletes and stars when the university shifted to remote learning in early March of 2020.

Larney first wanted to create a Wildchat Sports blogging ecosystem throughout the UNH sports talk radio and sports media community, but soon realized that an eventual pandemic and remote learning system would put a kibosh to his plan. Soon after, he opened the Wildchat brand to anyone that had passion for the sports and content-creation worlds.

After months of interviews and queries about his platform, Larney estimates that he has over 15 contributors to his website and social media platforms, where most of them either blog, coordinate social media posts or have their own talk shows and podcasts.

“We have some people in Minneapolis, New Jersey, New York, Florida,” Larney said. “I've met and talked to people in California as well, so it's crazy how far we've come.”

From January of 2020 to February of 2021, Larney has produced content with over 60 athletes, influencers and stars including world-class boxer Floyd Mayweather, Carole Baskin from Netflix's “Tiger King,” and NBA sharpshooter J.J. Reddick. His podcasts range from one-minute, one-question segments to nearly hour-long interviews.

Instead of adding generic content, Larney opted to add a twist to his official Wildchat sports podcast. Instead of asking athletes the stereotypical sports-related questions, he flips the script and asks them about pop culture, while asking other stars and influencers about their sports takes.

Larney ensures that he his only method of attaining his guests is through cold emails and through their management.

“All my all the talent that I've had on is all through cold outreach,” Larney said. “So, none of it's from second connections, or ‘this person knows this person.’ It is literally all just like that, what you see on the podcast, that's the first time I've ever talked to them. It's definitely strange because I want to be a podcaster and it's tough to know what you're going to get.”

Currently, the Wildchat Sports Instagram has 965 followers and their two TikTok ac-

counts have over 20,000 followers combined, with over 260,000 likes and interactions.

What inspired Larney to fully commit to Wildchat Sports was his drive to work in the sports world. As a rising senior who lost an internship due to the coronavirus (COVID-19), Larney realized that if he wanted his dreams of working in the sports realm to be realized, he had to dedicate himself to the Wildchat sports brand and all the hard work and networking that came with it.

Larney is scheduled to graduate in May with the rest of his senior class as he plans to keep furthering the digital reach of Wildchat Sports. His hopes are to accelerate his brand to one of the top e-commerce and podcasting brands in the country.

“I wanted to build something that had a story behind it,” Larney said. “So, the concept was something that I always was thinking of, so I just decided to do it.”

To learn more about Wildchat Sports, visit their webpage. You can also follow them on all social media platforms: Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Spotify, Tiktok, LinkedIn, and YouTube accounts. For questions and inquiries, contact wildchatsports@gmail.com.



Photo courtesy of Kevin Larney.

International students discuss their views on American exceptionalism



Hannah Donahue/TNH Staff

By **Jasmine Taudvin**
CONTRIBUTING
WRITER

If you didn't learn about American exceptionalism in school, chances are you understood the concept socially or from the media. The term defines a political ideology that the United States is inherently different from the rest of the world and holds a special place in world affairs.

Former President Donald Trump has been contradictory in his comments on American exceptionalism.

"I don't like the term, I'll be honest with you," Trump said during his 2016 campaign. "I don't think it's a very nice term, we're exceptional, you're not... I never liked the term."

Three years later, after Special Counsel Robert Mueller's investigation found no evidence of collusion, Trump called America "the greatest place on earth."

Regardless of Trump's opinion of American exceptionalism, his presidency brought the term and its validity under scrutiny both nationally and internationally. U.S. relations with foreign countries have soured, and tensions with other global powers have risen, while American participation in global programs – the Paris Climate Accords, the World Health Organization – declined. Broadcast political correspondents questioned how American exceptionalism could recover. Foreign

leaders condemned events in the U.S. that the U.S. had often condemned in foreign countries.

For international students at the University of New Hampshire (UNH), a combination of U.S. and international perspectives shape their view of the concept.

UNH senior Soleha Patel, who grew up in India, said she doesn't have a bad view of American exceptionalism.

"I also don't necessarily agree with it because I think every country is different in its own way," Patel said. "If someone does come up to me and says, 'America's different,' I would be like 'Yeah, for you, and for me my country's different too.'"

After four years of college in the U.S., she said she plans to attend graduate school to become a health care professional.

Patel said before coming to UNH, her main exposure to the U.S. was through the media.

"Because American TV shows are so high in showing teenage pregnancy and drug abuse, and racial profiling... if I go back home and speak to my parents, if they're describing America, that's the first thought that comes to their mind," Patel said.

She also remembered hearing about certain policies during Barack Obama's presidency that she supported, such as the Affordable Care Act ("Obamacare") and immigration policies, that made her views on America more positive. "I knew

America was the emerging superpower nation that had opportunities for people," Patel said. "I knew that it wasn't in the best state, but it wasn't in the worst state either."

Patel said this view of the U.S. changed once she arrived in the U.S. and the Muslim ban began affecting her and her family.

"I had to put my religion on my visa papers, and so I think that changed my view on what America was," Patel said. "When I came here to study my idea was: I want to study, I want to work, I want to live here, but with all those policies being ripped off one by one, my dream just dwindled down to the fact that I would only be able to get my degree, maybe, at the most."

According to the ACLU, the Muslim ban signed in 2017 prevented citizens from seven predominantly Muslim countries from entering the United States for 90 days. Two months later, this was replaced by a similar executive order that excluded those with visas and green cards from the ban. After various court battles, the Supreme Court upheld the executive order in June of 2018. President Joe Biden has since repealed the travel ban.

Since 1973, many American children have watched "Schoolhouse Rock!: America" sing about the United States as a great melting pot of people and cultures. This isn't just a creation myth of America's national identity, according to Patel; she also saw the U.S. as a nation of im-

migrants that welcomed anyone and everyone. When the Muslim ban and the family separation policy went into effect, she said she began to realize the world she knew was changing.

"They took away parents and children from each other," Patel said. "I think that's inhuman enough to be like, 'I don't like America anymore.'"

Patel said many of her friends from India who were initially planning on joining her in the U.S. to study have since changed their minds because they are scared of being international students in the U.S. and scared of being Muslim in the U.S.

Despite her fears, Patel said she's hopeful about the future of America, especially since there is now a woman of color in the White House.

"There's so much debris," she said. "I think Joe Biden is going to have to work really hard to scrape everything off and I don't think four years is enough for that. In some parts of the world, so many people still think America is that one scary nation that people don't want to go to."

Like Patel, UNH junior Surya Ari is also an international student from India. Born in the United States, his family moved back to India when he was nine. Ari said he knew he wanted to return to the U.S. for college.

"I think one point to make was that [when I moved to India] I had realized who I was, so I was aware of my identity as

an American Indian," Ari said. "When I went there, it wasn't a place that I was 100% comfortable with, so I stuck to my identity as an American, to comfort me or whatever. It's the same old diaspora story of 'you're an American in India but you're an Indian in America.'"

Before November of 2016, Ari said he thinks his thoughts on the U.S. were similar to those of many in India. Ari said he would think, "oh wow, they're the superpower, they get to do whatever they want, but they're not 100% evil. They are evil, but like, compared to Russia or China—we couldn't imagine Russia or China being at the top, unlike now where there is a distinct possibility where you could see a China-led world order."

"It's become evident that the benign superpower isn't just a creation of America," Ari said. "Other countries really needed America to play that role." He said he thinks the strength of the United States has allowed other countries to deflect important issues, citing the example of France condemning racism in the U.S. while battling race issues of its own.

Ari said that Trump's presidency has showed him that the U.S. system of democracy was "both flawed and working at the same time."

"As for American Exceptionalism, it showed the weakness of it," Ari said. "Is American exceptionalism dying? Yes. Is it dead? No."

A guide to student life during orange mode

By Julia Stinneford
NEWS EDITOR

On Feb. 11, the University of New Hampshire (UNH) announced it was moving to orange mode of operations due to rising coronavirus (COVID-19) cases, and UNH students are grappling with what facilities are still available to them in the new operational mode.

Since this is the first time UNH has been moved from yellow mode since the beginning of this school year, knowing what parts of campus are available is vital for students to navigate life in orange mode.

UNH Dining is largely unaffected. Director of Dining Hall Operations David Hill said that “no additional restrictions have been put in place” for orange mode, although hospitality services is continuing to follow the guidelines for food service operations put into place by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services.

Both Hamel Recreation Center and the Memorial Union Building (MUB) remain open to students in a limited capacity during orange mode as well. Stacey Hall, executive director of student engagement and development, said that for both buildings, programs that would normally have more than six people are not being held in-person during orange mode, which includes group exercise classes, student organization meetings, and other events with larger gatherings. Additionally, the games room in the MUB is closed while orange mode is in effect.

Hill said, “While orange mode increases restrictions on activities, particularly with other people, it is important for



Photo courtesy of the University of New Hampshire.

each of us to include activities each day to help us manage the stress and anxiety we are feeling.”

She recommended that students take steps to alleviate feelings of confinement and tension with things like walking in College Woods, calling friends, sleeping regular hours, or taking a virtual yoga class.

An important part of campus life is transportation, and while under orange mode, Wildcat Transit and the Campus Connector will “continue

under normal full service” according to their website. The same restrictions from yellow mode, such as Wildcat Pass checks and mask requirements, are still in place.

UNH’s sports are also still going strong under orange mode, according to director of athletics Marty Scarano. “We’ve doubled down on a lot of what we’re doing,” Scarano said, referring to what he characterized as an intense contact tracing network for UNH athletics.

“We’re on top of all our student athletes,” Scarano said. “We’re always reminding them not to convene, not to have gatherings.”

Additionally, he said, “We do everything in absolute lock-step with Health & Wellness.” As such, Scarano said that under orange mode he has reminded coaches to curtail meetings and hold them digitally if possible, as well as redoubling efforts to discourage gatherings among student athletes.

Under orange mode, campus life for many students may be much the same, with the notable exception of being unable to visit other residence halls and apartments. Facilities will stay available to students as orange mode continues.

The UNH administration plans to revisit case numbers and decide whether to continue with orange mode sometime in the next two weeks.

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SCAN ME

Local teen donates album proceeds to cancer research



Photo courtesy of Wolfe Ramsay.

By Isabelle Curtis
STAFF WRITER

Wolfe Ramsay is many things.

A high school senior. A basketball player. A musician.

He now adds album writer to the list with the release of his first full length album “Real Life Psychology” earlier this month. 100% of the album’s proceeds earned from streaming services will be donated to the Jimmy Fund.

The Jimmy Fund, established in Boston in 1948, consists of community-based, grassroots fundraising events and other programs that benefit the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute’s “lifesaving mission to provide compassionate patient care and groundbreaking cancer research for children and adults,” according to the fund’s website.

Cancer research has held a personal importance for Ramsay since his friend Miles Goldberg was diagnosed.

“We were good friends since we were very young,”

said Ramsay. “We went to preschool together, and in sixth grade he was diagnosed with cancer.

Miles was 13 when he passed away from osteosarcoma (bone cancer) in May 2017.

Ramsay’s family has since completed multiple fundraisers for the Jimmy Fund, from running lemonade stands to participating in the Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk. In 2019, Ramsay helped his younger brother Will Ramsay raise over \$20,000 for the fund as part of his brother’s bar mitzvah project.

“The Jimmy Fund is something I’ve been passionate about for a while, so it just felt natural to me. The album was a great way, in my opinion, to promote a fundraiser,” explained Ramsay.

Ramsay has been a music fan since he was young. He grew up surrounded by music with his cousins playing guitar, piano and the drums. Ramsay has also taught himself the guitar and has been playing for five years. However, he got his

first taste of the song-writing process during late middle school and early high school when he and his friends would write parodies and songs for fun.

Then, when Ramsay was 15, he released three tracks (“You Were Right,” “Threads,” and “Need You More”) for the “Art 18-19” EP. In summer 2020, he dropped his first official song collection in the “Think About Me” EP. Ramsay’s initial style focused on the rap and R&B genre with influences from Coldplay, Kanye West and THEY. But the release of his first official album, “Real Life Psychology,” this year marks a shift to a more “alternative-pop fusion” style, according to his website.

“The concept of [“Real Life Psychology”] is explaining the psychology of having changing personal relationships in your life,” said Ramsay. “It’s about the mental side of becoming less close with people who once meant a lot to you. The goal was to tell a specific story that explains these concepts.”

While most of the songs on the album are “more vague and metaphorical,” Ramsay gets more personal in his favorite track “turn back time.”

“It summarizes my current relationship with the person the overall story of the album is based upon,” he explained. “The song is very reflective, honest, and almost nostalgic in a way that many other songs aren’t.”

Ramsay says the COVID-19 pandemic has not disrupted his artistic process because he has a mini recording studio in his room. It has actually given him more time to dedicate to his work. Even with school and basketball back in session, Ramsay finds time for his music.

Ramsay also credits his friend and fellow basketball player, Doug MacGown, for acting as an “approval system” during the lyric writing process.

“It’s good to have another pair of ears to approve of something because not all my ideas are good, and some of

them need to be left behind,” said Ramsay, laughing.

Along with MacGown, Ramsay is thankful for the support he has received from his parents. Ramsay’s album covers and website were all created with his father’s help. Meanwhile, Ramsay’s mother has helped him advertise in the community.

In the meantime, Ramsay continues to wait to hear back from colleges, but is feeling “pretty optimistic about it.” He intends to major in marketing while continuing his music career.

“I don’t need to become famous or anything, but I hope to keep making music that at least some people will listen to and be inspired by themselves,” Ramsay said. “I really like the artistic, lyrical side of it, so I just hope I can get some people to pay attention.”

“Real Life Psychology” is available for streaming across platforms. A donation page for the Jimmy Fund can be found on Ramsay’s website.

UNH students reflect on National Kindness Day

By **Aubrey Benoit**
STAFF WRITER

Feb. 17 was National Kindness Day, making this past week an opportunity for people to spread kindness. I decided to go out of my way to spread kindness to those around me and encouraged my friends and peers at The University of New Hampshire (UNH) to do the same.

In doing this, I was able to experience a genuine kindness from the people around me and value the little things in life much more than I typically would. My friends went out of their way to be nice toward me and we all helped each other

out throughout this week and these incredibly stressful times.

Their actions made me feel like I should do the same. I switched my roommate's laundry, drove a friend around that needed someone to talk to and I took the time to compliment all of my coworkers throughout the day. Being kind to others also helped me be kinder to myself as well. I took care of my body by exercising and going to bed early. I also had a visit at Psychological and Counseling Services (PACS) to take care of my mental health.

I am in awe with how gracious the students at UNH are toward each other and even people they don't know. I hope readers are inspired by how

these young adults are taking care of others and exceeding the expectations of human kindness:

"I was going through a tough time and my new friend Sam covered my shift at work." - Phoebe Keck, junior

"I was feeling sad and my friend Jack picked me up and brought me to McDonald's." - Sawyer Nolan, junior

"I took my friend out for Valentine's Day as she didn't have a date." - Conor Ramsay, sophomore

"I am working at a homeless shelter and it's a great

experience to connect with the clients. They have great stories." - Kelly Lynn, senior

"Someone told me I look like Steve Buschemi. I don't know if it was a compliment or not, but yeah." - Daniel Safsel, alumni

"I was feeling really overwhelmed and then my friend Nate bought me McDonald's and took me to the mall. Also, my mom gave me a back massage tonight because my back hurt." - Stella Aucoin, sophomore

"I drove my friend to an interview because his car broke down." - Avery Vine, sopho-

more

"I bought my friends breakfast this morning and helped one of them with their spanish homework." - Kinsey Oliver, sophomore

"I cleaned my roommate's dishes." - Ryan Morreale, sophomore

"Something my best friend always does for me is she always starts the day by asking how I am and will continue to ask throughout the day. It's just nice to know that someone's thinking about you and is there for you." - Skye Hamilton, junior

Video Games for Long (Social) Distance Game Nights

By **Allison Musitano**
STAFF WRITER

It has been almost a year since life as we've known it, including the ways we socialize with one another, has been changed by COVID-19. Even though some of these challenges have been alleviated thanks to safety measures taken at UNH allowing students to experience some normalcy, challenges such as rising cases, winter weather limiting time outdoors, and the overall state of the country still make socializing with friends difficult. Difficult, but not impossible.

Perhaps we are fortunate that this pandemic has occurred in an age where we are connected now more than we ever were before in an age of technology- and an age of video games. Even if you're not a self-proclaimed gamer, video games can be a fantastic way to connect with far-away friends and family.

So as the vaccines continue to roll out and you continue to do your part to stop the spread, here are some games you and your long-distance loved ones can use to pass the time during these remaining winter days:

"Jackbox Party Packs"

A few months into the pandemic, I eagerly bought several of the "Jackbox Party Packs" and I can confidently say that this may have been my best investment within the past year. Each of the seven "Jackbox Party Packs" comes with five games, usually including at least one game involving trivia, drawing, strategizing, and fast-on-your-feet comedy writing. If you want a game night with a few far-away friends, "Jackbox" is for you! If you want to host a huge hootenanny, "Jackbox," along with its audience feature for many of its games, will still be for you! All you need is one person with a pack,

a screen to view the game, a phone to play with, and you're golden!

One of the catches to the fun-fest that is "Jackbox" is the cost, with most of the packs being priced at \$25-\$30. However, the games often go on sale, sometimes drastically reducing their prices. And although it may be tempting to buy as many packs as you can get your hands on, each "Jackbox" pack stands well on its own.

If you want a gut-busting game night, check out any of the "Jackbox Party Packs" available on Steam, the Nintendo Switch, Xbox, Playstation, and more!

"Scribbl.io"

If you like "Pictionary" and tormenting your friends with your so-so art skills, you might be drawn to "Scribbl.io!" In this simple and quick-paced drawing game, you and others compete to see who can identify the most drawings the

quickest. The way you play can make a difference- sometimes, you'll want to flex your drawing skills, other times (after a hard round) you might just express yourself with stick figures. Either way, the race is on!

Like the rest of the games on this list (for the most part), "Scribbl.io" is free to play! Just hop onto your computer or laptop and start your art!

"Among Us"

If you haven't heard of this game before this article, you might be a bit sus, but here's the gist of it: in this interactive "Mafia" and "Werewolf"-like game, you and your fellow crewmates are tasked with fixing your ship and base, only to be thwarted by the killer imposter among your team. While mostly a strategy game, "Among Us" requires somewhat decent lying and improv skills as well as an assortment of mini-games to play even after your little crewmate has been snuffed by the imposter.

This 4-10 player game is on Steam and PC for \$5 but free to play on your phone if you want to see what the hype is about!

"Nostalgic Games"

Let's face it: many of us are still children at heart. So during these extremely tense times, why not unwind with our friends and revisit some of our favorite childhood video games with our friends?

While some of them as you may recall are stuck behind paywalls and memberships, others over time have become more accessible. For instance, "Club Penguin," which shut down in 2019, has been given a new life through "Club Penguin Rewritten" where you can waddle along with your friends without having to pay those membership fees!

You'd be surprised to find out that a lot of your favorite childhood games are still around today from "Roblox" to "Webkinz," ready for you to play! Just keep in mind that even if you're having a good

time as an adult revisiting these websites, there are still kids who are playing!

"Gartic Phone"

Want a drawing game like "Scribbl.io" but with a bit more spice? "Gartic Phone" may be right for you! A virtual take on the classic game Telephone, you and your friends are tasked with relaying each other's prompts. Starting with a prompt, you are then given someone's illustration, and then your illustration is given to another player for them to title and so on depending on the number of players you have. One of the best features of this game is that you're never limited to a restricted list of prompts. You can type out whatever wild idea comes to you, no matter how ridiculous it is!

Stay strong, and game on!



Design courtesy of Allison Musitano.

UNH student provides creative winter apparel options

By Aqeel Hisham
STAFF WRITER

It's no surprise that the winter in New Hampshire is cold, too cold for some even. Combining that with the longer duration of the cold weather in New Hampshire compared to other states, winter jackets become the main apparel in everyday wear. For the stylish individuals, this means that your outfit often gets covered, hiding your creative form of self-expression.

But what if winter jackets could be more than just plain and boring? What if there's a way that you could customize your winter jacket by adding a touch of your own and still be stylish even though your outfits are being covered by it?

Meet Gianna Salvi, a University of New Hampshire (UNH) marketing student who is taking a modern twist on classic winter jackets. Salvi is currently providing a service to other students where they can customize embroidered designs on their own jackets, making it a personalized and one-of-a-kind item.

Salvi's journey began when

her parents were looking for a women's UNH winter jacket as a Christmas present for her. Although the search reached a dead end, it gave Salvi an idea of buying a new jacket and getting the logo of her sorority, Alpha Chi Omega, embroidered on the sleeve of the jacket, making it a unique piece of apparel.

"After seeing how nice and professional the finished product turned out, I thought it would be cool to get some more embroidered jackets and offer them to my friends and Alpha Chi Omega sorority sisters," said the freshman.

The distinct looks of Salvi's jacket caught the attention of members from other sororities as well, which was the starting point of her small business.

"Some other sororities requested to have their logo added to the jackets, so I took some custom orders over the winter break before I headed back to campus," said Salvi.

Though the Massachusetts native clarified that she did not do the embroidering herself.

"My father is good friends with someone in my hometown that does embroidery and screen printing for youth sports

teams, large corporations and small businesses," Salvi said.

Salvi's initial service for members of the Fraternity and Sorority Life (FSL) at UNH began to grow after she saw how well the UNH logo was embroidered on the jackets. However, Salvi could only purchase the jackets in bulk which resulted in her having more jackets than she needed. She took the opportunity to expand her target market to all UNH students.

For those who are interested, orders can be made by directly contacting Salvi via Instagram at @giannasalvi or through email at grs1026@wildcats.unh.edu. She is currently offering embroidered winter jackets with the UNH Wildcat logo on the chest and paw print on the sleeve design ranging from sizes small, medium and large and in colors black or navy. Priced at only \$100 each, students can strut around campus looking stylish and chic.

Salvi is hoping that she could turn this opportunity into a business one day. Currently, she is considering the idea of getting officially licensed to sell college apparel and getting



Photo courtesy of Gianna Salvi.

an e-commerce site.

"I have to put together a business plan and have a ton of

leg work to do but I'm excited about the potential," said Salvi.

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From the *Editor's Desk...*

An ode to cautionary tales

Recently, N.H. lawmakers have discussed HB 544, a bill that would prevent public and state-funded schools from educating students about both the current and past examples of racism and sexism in America.

After my fairly expressive opinions on race and how it should be viewed in society this month, I feel that it's necessary for me to address this fallacy of a bill.

The premise of the bill is to extract racism and sexism education from schools so that it will prevent racism. While they get a gold star for effort, I'm not sure if any of the lawmakers in favor of the bill have heard of the First Amendment or read the book 1984, but it would be in their best interest to take a gander at them.

Like I have said in recent weeks, many white people in our community in New Hampshire and around the country are very inclusive-minded and are willing to put in the educational and vocational work to become more aware of the power of their words, actions and thoughts.

There are many white people

actual lawmakers that think it's a good idea to prevent the education of sexism and racism in America, while that's the only thing that can fix the very issues that plague our society. There have been no instances in history where less education on a topic created more liberty and freedom for a body of people.

Whether it be in the health care realm, COVID-19 death rates or unemployment rates, Black people have an inherent disadvantage in society. That doesn't mean that they can't succeed. That doesn't mean that they can't overcome those roadblocks. But just because they have the ability to get past them in today's society, that doesn't mean that there isn't still real systemic racism or fragments of it left.

White people on average have about a 5% higher employment rate, they hold far more high-paying jobs (by populations ratio) and there are six times as many white CEOs than Black ones.

With there being predominantly white people in powerful, high-paying positions, it leaves

societal reform.

Ignoring our racist past will not help the problem. That is why history is documented in the first place. That's why there are books. To serve as cautionary tales, which we learn from and use to not repeat our past mistakes. Unconscious racist thoughts may stem from this education, but less information isn't what will aid in the process. More cross-cultural dialogue and racial education is the start of the resolution.

Not educating students about FACTUAL events in history because if they don't know about them, then they might not become a racist is just inexplicable.

N.H. State Representative Keith Ammon (R), introduced the bill and said that it "puts guidelines on what are the limits, especially under the auspices of the state apparatus, what are the limits in presuming that someone was born to be an oppressor, or someone was born to be oppressed because of their sex...If that's the assumption we are going to make as a society, then we are never going to get to unity."

He's basically dismissing critical race theory and saying that being less informed and blindly going through a complex civilization will create societal unity. And he's right. We saw it with Hitler in the 1930s and we're seeing it currently in North Korea, among many other instances in history.

Obviously it will never get to that point because we have so many educational resources at our fingertips at all times, but blocking a basic human right is not going to unify, but instead it will further divide an already fragile racial landscape.

Josh Morrill
 Executive Editor

"With there being predominantly white people in powerful, high-paying positions, it leaves room for the unconscious racist ideals to flourish and go without consequence; which is something that will deeply affect America until it is acknowledged and addressed."

in America that know that they have subconscious biases with race or sex that they don't necessarily believe in but realize that it's an issue that they have to address.

These people aren't the issue.

The issue is that there are

room for the unconscious racist ideals to flourish and go without consequence; which is something that will deeply affect America until it is acknowledged and addressed.

Old, white and middle-class men proposing bills from their secluded lens is not what will breed

Letters policy

We welcome letters to the editor and aim to publish as many as possible. In writing, please follow these simple guidelines: Keep letters under 300 words. Type them. Date them. Sign them; make sure they're signed by no more than two people. If you're a student, include your year, major and phone number. Faculty and staff: Give 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 tnh.editor@unh.edu.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY

Junior Emily Rickwood helping lead UNH to the postseason

By Dan Marshman
SPORTS WRITER

Emily Rickwood didn't always want to play hockey.

Back home in Ontario, Canada she first tried the sport after her dad decided to help coach one of the boy's teams. He begged her to come out for the team, and she eventually agreed. She made the team and from then on, she was in love. Rickwood played for her dad from that moment on, taking on any challenge she faced.

After playing with the boys' team for many years, she had to switch to women's after body checking was introduced. Her hockey career took off from that moment on and her dad's coaching gave her the skills she needed to succeed at the next level.

She played for the junior's team in Canada with her current teammates Nicole Kelly, Paige Rynne, and Lauren Martin. That team went on to win the Esso Cup giving Rickwood and her teammates the mindset that they could win at the next level.

After coming to the UNH campus it was pretty clear for Rickwood that she wanted to be here. The Whittemore Center sealed the deal for her in choosing UNH because of the Olympic-sized ice rink, which is larger than your typical playing surface.

"Seeing all that ice and space made me really want to

play here," explained Rickwood. "It complements my game really well."

Arriving at UNH for her first semester was the moment Emily knew how different this place was than home.

"University in Canada is much different than in America. It was like a movie when I first showed up, but I adjusted to it," she said.

Despite the culture shock of attending college in America, she always produced in her time on the ice. She skated in 37 games during the 2019-20 season and was tied for third on the team in goals. Her experience from her sophomore campaign carried over to her play this season.

Kelly said playing with Rickwood opens up the ice for everyone because of her speed and offensive ability.

"Emily has always been an offensive defenseman and I think that brings out a lot of her talent, her speed and quick decision making," Kelly explained.

Coach Witt noted Rickwood's speed as well crediting her for a lot of their success on the offensive end. Rickwood is second on the 'Cats in assists and first in blocked shots in 2021. Turning defense into offense has been a key aspect of Rickwood's game with her speed from end to end. Kelly said she can always expect a great pass from Rickwood and complimented her ability to make the right play. Most im-



PHOTO COURTESY OF MEGHAN MURPHY

Junior defenseman Emily Rickwood surveying the offensive zone against Boston University

portantly, Kelly said Rickwood always has her back on defense and as a forward, that's the best you could ask of a defender.

Her role has changed this season now that she's one of the veterans on the team. She credited the veteran teammates she had when she arrived at UNH for her growth. UNH head coach Hilary Witt said Rickwood has been a great leader for the team all season on and off the ice.

"Emily has been awesome defensively and as a leader this season," noted Witt. "She's taken a huge leap this year and her growth has been amazing to watch."

Rickwood made it clear she intended to do the same as her teammates did for her by preparing her younger team-

mates to lead the next class of Wildcats.

Coach Witt said Emily's efforts in leadership have shown on and off the ice; showing her teammates what it takes to win. Rickwood has started all 20 games for the Wildcats this season while maintaining stellar academic success off the ice. She was named to the Hockey East All-Academic team twice and she was selected as an American Hockey Coaches Association (AHCA) All-American scholar in 2020.

She is a health and physical education major; however, she hopes she'll be able to continue her hockey career after college. She wants to keep playing hockey and hopefully stay in the system for Canada's national team and play in the

Olympics. If she's unable to keep playing, she's going to use her knowledge and experience to become a coach.

In the meantime, she's focused on helping the Wildcats win more games. The Wildcats take a 6-13-1 record into their matchup against Holy Cross in the first round of the Hockey East tournament. Rickwood said this team is full of talent and can beat anybody on any given night. Coach Witt shared the same sentiment.

"We're definitely underrated and that's okay with me," said Witt.

The Wildcats face off against Holy Cross on Thursday at the Whittemore Center at 7 p.m.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

UNH falls to Maine by 29 points in season finale

By Brackett Lyons
SPORTS WRITER

ORONO, Maine – University of New Hampshire (UNH) women's basketball (5-14, 5-11) fell 82-53 to the University of Maine (16-2, 13-2) Saturday, Feb. 20. UNH had pulled off a win in their first game versus Maine this season, but their third matchup was more akin to their second which ended in a blowout loss.

UNH got the scoring started in typical fashion with a free throw from senior captain Amanda Torres. Torres missed her second free throw, which doesn't often happen for the 80% free throw shooter. Maine responded with four points to take the lead before emerging first-year athlete Adara Groman knocked down a three to tie the game at four.

Maine got four easy points in the paint to take a four-point lead. UNH wasn't able to take back any points of their own when first-year center Paige Cote missed a layup that should have brought the 'Cats within two. Maine sophomore guard Anne Simon got her ninth points with an and-one layup. Most of the Wildcats' defense seemed to be focused on fifth-year guard Blanca Milan. The plan was working with Milan

scoreless, but Simon picked up the slack with ease.

Things spiraled quickly for UNH in the latter half of the first quarter. Maine hit two threes, and Milan came to life for five points. Before the 'Cats could catch their breath, they were looking up at a 24-9 deficit.

UNH looked reorganized to open the second quarter. Milan took home a quick layup, but after that, it was all UNH. Cote got some points from the free throw line, and Groman hit her second three of the day to bring UNH within 10.

The momentum eventually swung back to the Black Bears as the baskets dried up for UNH. Maine's offense came to life, and a three from Simon saw Maine take a 36-16 lead with four minutes left in the half. The 17-0 run was a critical blow to any hopes of a comeback.

Head coach Kelsey Hogan gave an honest assessment of the six and a half minutes UNH

failed to score.

"I think we got tired. Our youth showed... That's a big thing that we'll be working on in the offseason," she explained.

Hogan added that many of the young UNH players haven't experienced heavy minutes previously in their careers and that they'll need to learn how to stay locked in when they're tired.

Torres finally ended the UNH scoring drought with a three, but Maine responded with a three of their own and extended their lead to a daunting 48-21 at the half. The Wildcats played hard but shot a lowly 21.4% from the field. Maine employed a press in the 'Cats backcourt similar to the one UMass Lowell (11-8, 10-6) had so much success with versus UNH last weekend. The Black Bears saw similar results in the first half with a turnover differential of 13-3.

After some baskets from both sides early in the third,

Maine's lead was 56-26. UNH got in the bonus from a succession of three Maine fouls.

Some scrappy defense and an excellent full court run from Groman gave the first-year her seventh and eighth points of the day. Junior Ivy Gogolin was a bright spot for UNH in the third with 10 points in the quarter. Torres got herself into double digits in points with a three. The senior has now had 10 or more points in 13 games this season.

Hogan was once again complimentary to her lone senior on the growth she's shown this season.

"She's put in a lot of work especially in the offseason, just her confidence from that range [has improved] and I was really proud of her especially for that today."

Sophomore guard Helena Delaruelle struggled offensively with only two points on 1-of-11 shooting but grabbed a team-high nine rebounds. The individual statistics were little

consolation with the third quarter ending 70-39.

Torres hit her third three of the game early in the fourth, her most in a single game this season. She finished a perfect 3-for-3 from behind the arc with 16 points total. A Maine layup with a little over two minutes to play gave them an 80-49 lead. This game was the first in which UNH has allowed 80 points since the first game of the season against Boston College (6-10, 2-10), the 'Cats lost that game 80-44. UNH avoided a 30-point loss with some late free throws but were left to swallow an 82-53 loss.

UNH will face the University of Albany (6-9, 5-6) in the first round of the postseason on Sunday. The Wildcats are 0-2 versus the Great Danes this season. Coach Hogan said postgame that the team relies on Torres but will need to step up as a unit to find postseason success.

"Ivy Gogolin is doing a lot for us... But we need to definitely get some more to out of Brooke Kane, Elena [Fiore] as well, we're definitely at our best when it's more a balanced effort for sure," Hogan explained.



53-82



MEN'S HOCKEY

UNH special teams "terrible" in split with Merrimack

By Shaun Petipas
SPORTS EDITOR

University of New Hampshire (UNH) men's hockey (5-13-3) battled Merrimack (4-10-2) twice this past weekend. The Wildcats snuck away with two points from the two-game set by winning in a shootout Friday night after tying 3-3 in overtime.

In the first of the two contests, the Wildcats struck first with a greasy goal from junior forward Jackson Pierson who tipped a puck past the Merrimack goaltender off an original shot from junior forward Angus Crookshank.

The Warriors fought back quickly however, as three minutes later they tied the game on the powerplay from sophomore Ben Brar when he ripped a shot past senior goalie Mike Robinson. The period ended in a tie with Merrimack outshooting UNH 8-5. Merrimack scored on their lone powerplay of the period, meanwhile UNH went 0-for-1.

The second period did not start the way the 'Cats wanted it to as just 23 seconds into the period, Merrimack took the lead as senior forward Max Newton scored another powerplay goal from the top of the faceoff dot. The shot beat Robinson clean over his glove giving Merrimack the 2-1 lead.

The Warriors didn't stop there and extended their lead with a shot from sophomore defenseman Declan Carlile and junior forward Logan Drevitch tipped the puck past Robinson giving them the 3-1 lead. The Wildcats outshot the Warriors

12-8 in the second period but still found themselves trailing by two.

UNH wasn't down two goals for long as first-year forward Cam Gendron fired a wrist shot high glove side past the Warrior goaltender to bring them within one. UNH kept fighting to tie the game up and eventually did with a beautiful setup from Pierson to Crookshank. The Ottawa Senators prospect one-timed the puck in the back of the net and tie the game at three goals apiece.

Overtime was uneventful as neither team could end it and the game headed to a shootout. There, Pierson scored another goal and Robinson came up with multiple huge saves. Senior forward Patrick Grasso ended the shootout with a goal of his own and got the Wildcats the extra point in the Hockey East standings.

Coach Souza was happy with his team's heart in this game after coming back from two down.

"Credit to our athletes for staying with it and coming back. I thought both teams played well, and Merrimack did a great job stretching us out," Souza explained.

He added, "I thought our goalie was very good tonight and we stuck with it and had Pierson make a great play to Crookshank to tie it."

Pierson was one of the best players on the ice for the Wildcats as he scored once in regulation and again in the shootout. He also helped tie the game up with a brilliant feed to Crookshank. Coach Souza had only great things to say about Pierson.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CHINA WONG

Junior forward Jackson Pierson scoring a goal in the shootout to help give UNH the win

"One of the guys said in the locker room Jackson proved again why he's one of the best in the conference," Souza noted. "He's a quiet guy and he got the game puck after and I think he said all of two words, so that's Jackson."

The second of the two games didn't go the way UNH had planned or hoped. The Wildcats fell 6-2 to the Warriors and it was not a game to remember.

When the puck dropped the two teams battled for half of the first until Merrimack finally broke the stalemate with a goal from Drevitch who labeled a shot in the top corner while on the powerplay. Merrimack added on to their lead just two minutes later with a goal from sophomore forward Filip Forsmark. Both Warrior goals were scored on the powerplay and the Wildcats went 0-for-3 on their powerplay in the first frame.

The second period didn't

go the Wildcats' way either as Merrimack tallied another giving them the 3-0 lead. The goal came on the powerplay once again, this time from junior forward Chase Gresock. UNH once again let their extra man opportunity go to waste going 0-for-2 in the second period.

In the third period, the offense exploded and UNH tallied the first goal of the period from junior forward Filip Engåras cutting the Merrimack lead to two. Just a minute later junior defenseman Ryan Verrier buried a shot from the face-off dot to bring the Wildcats within one.

That is the closest UNH got, however, as Merrimack scored three unanswered goals. Newton slapped one past Robinson giving them a 4-2 lead. Not too long after Newton's goal Merrimack scored again coming from sophomore Liam Walsh on the powerplay. The Warriors then put the nail in UNH's coffin with another goal from Brar.

The Warriors went 4-of-4 on their powerplay and UNH went 0-of-6 on their powerplay. The special teams made a clear difference in this one and Souza wasn't happy with the performance.

"Congrats to [Merrimack]. They outplayed and out special teamed us. That was the difference. They were hungrier than we were tonight," Souza said. "We got to get better; it hasn't been good – terrible actually. We have to coach it better and execute better."

With the end of the season approaching, one of Souza's biggest messages is to be playing their best hockey at the end of the year.

"We want to play our best hockey here into March," Souza said. "Our kids are battle tested and know how to play in tight games; I hope that pays off for us."

MEN'S SOCCER

Wildcats look to defend America East Title in 2021

By Shaun Petipas
SPORTS EDITOR

Last time we saw the University of New Hampshire (UNH) men's soccer team they had just lost a heartbreaker to Virginia Tech in the second round of the 2019 NCAA tournament after beating Fairleigh Dickinson (FDU) in the first round. This was only their fourth ever appearance in the NCAA tournament.

The Wildcats had their best season in program history in 2019 with a regular season record of 14-1-3 along with winning their second straight America East title. This was a historic season as they tied the 1994 team after their win over FDU with 15 wins. They also marked the best winning percentage in school history winning at a .868 clip.

The 2019 Wildcats were one of the best defensive teams in the nation only allowing seven goals all season and tallying an impressive 13 shutouts. They

ranked first in the nation with a .0353 goals against average and a big part of that came from their graduate student goaltender Alejandro Robles who is returning for another season with the Wildcats.

Now after missing their usual season in the fall due to COVID-19 the two-time defending America East champs open up the season as the poll leaders in the America East conference. UNH tallied seven first place votes from the coaches. Vermont came in second place in the poll with UAlbany coming in third with two first place votes.

UNH has a roster full of returning players and should be on the same trajectory as the past two seasons. By being at the top of the poll there are expectations for them to remain at the top and win the America East for the third straight season. There should be a large target on the Wildcats' backs, and they should expect to get everyone's best effort.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MEGHAN MURPHY

UNH men's soccer team posing for a picture after winning back to back America East titles

The Wildcats will be without their three top goal scorers from a season ago in Antonio Colacci, Fabian Lutz and Josh Bauer, however. The trio combined for 15 UNH goals and 48 total points. UNH did add three new athletes to the roster for the spring 2021 season. The additions are headlined by graduate student Bridger Han-

sen. Hansen formerly played for Westminster College in 2018 and was named a captain in 2019. During his time there he posted seven goals and one assist. Along with Hansen the team also added sophomore goalkeeper Jassem Koleilat and first-year forward Bruno Piva de Castro.

UNH will kick off their

long-awaited season on Friday, Feb. 26, against the UMass Lowell Riverhawks in Lowell. The team is currently set to host their first game a week later on March 5 against the Northeastern Huskies; the same day UNH football will kick off their spring season.

SPORTS

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The New Hampshire

MEN'S BASKETBALL

UNH secures No. 3 seed in America East Tournament

By Cameron Beall
SPORTS EDITOR

LOWELL, MA – University of New Hampshire (UNH) men's basketball (10-8, 9-6) locked up the No. 3 seed in the America East Tournament with a win over UMass Lowell (8-11, 7-8) in their regular season finale. UNH was able to squeak out a two-point win in the final seconds against the same team that stole home court advantage from the Wildcats a season ago in the final game. The team has now secured a first-round bye and will host a playoff pod in Durham with No. 6 UMass Lowell and No. 7 Stony Brook (9-13, 7-9).

The Wildcats were playing from behind for the majority of the first half as the Riverhawks were able to keep UNH at arm's length for the first 15 minutes of Saturday's contest. It wasn't until 4:35 remained in the first half when the Wildcats were able to tie the game for the first time. This came by way of a layup from redshirt first-year guard Blondeau Tchoukuiengo.

Both sides proceeded to go scoreless for the next three minutes. Junior big man Tayler Mattos put UNH ahead for the first time with just over a

minute to go in the half. The Wildcats found themselves ahead by a score of 29-27 after the first half.

Coming out of the locker room UML hit the first shot of the half and the narrow margin swung back in their favor. The momentum swing came by way of a three-pointer from sophomore guard Kalil Thomas. Thomas ended the afternoon with 12 points and four rebounds.

Just as he did in the first half, Tchoukuiengo helped give the Wildcats an edge with about 10 minutes to play with a three-pointer of his own; the three-ball put UNH ahead 46-45.

The sides volleyed with the lead for the next few minutes until yet another three from Tchoukuiengo gave UNH the edge the rest of the way. The Wildcats never gave up the lead in the final six minutes en route to the 69-67 victory.

Tchoukuiengo appears to be getting hot at just the right time as he put up his best stat line of the season in the finale. The Montreal product recorded a career-high 19 points on 6-of-9 shooting, including 3-for-4 from deep and 4-for-4 from the foul line. He added two rebounds and four assists in the win.



PHOTO COURTESY OF UNH ATHLETICS

Redshirt first-year guard Blondeau Tchoukuiengo finishing a layup among Lowell defenders

The guard's performance paved the way to his fourth America East Rookie of the Week honor of the season. This matches fellow redshirt first-year guard Nick Johnson who also has four under his belt. Between these two, the Wildcats have tallied eight of the 11 possible Rookie of the Week honors this season.

Also scoring double figures for UNH was Johnson and junior forward Nick Guadarrama with 13 points each. Junior transfer student Qon Murphy added 10 points.

UNH's conference record of 9-6 trailed only No. 1 UMBC (14-5, 10-4) and No. 2 Vermont (10-4, 10-4) in the America East standings. The Durham playoff pod will take place in Lundholm Gymnasium the weekend of Feb. 27. No. 6 UML will face No. 7 Stony Brook on Saturday at 1 p.m. The winner will have a quick turnaround as they'll face the Wildcats the following afternoon at 1 p.m.

The No. 4 Hartford (11-8, 8-6) pod will include No. 9 Binghamton (4-13, 4-10), No.

5 UAlbany (6-8, 6-6) and No. 8 NJIT (7-11, 6-10). UMaine was the only school not to make the tournament due to only playing eight America East matchups.

No. 1 UMBC and No. 2 Vermont will be off until the semifinal round where they will take on the remaining two schools.

After losing out on home court advantage a season ago, UNH had to travel to UMBC in the first round where they lost by a final of 73-67.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Wildcats blow past Merrimack in 5-1 victory

By Brackett Lyons
SPORTS WRITER

DURHAM, N.H. – The University of New Hampshire (UNH) women's soccer team (2-0, 0-0) won their second game of the season in style with a 5-1 win over Merrimack College (1-1). UNH's defense left Merrimack on their heels for almost the entire game. Head coach Steve Welham said the team's goal coming into the game was to press Merrimack off the field. They certainly did, with several goals coming from Merrimack turnovers in the attacking third.

The Wildcats were the better team to start the game. UNH had most of the possession and darted into the attacking third thanks to numerous Merrimack turnovers in the midfield. It didn't take long for UNH's pressure to breakthrough. A great tackle by sophomore Whitney Wiley in the midfield left the attacking midfielder with space to run in on Merrimack's backline. Wiley pushed into the box and found the run of senior captain Francesca Picicci on the left. The veteran forward finished the move with

a shot into the bottom corner.

UNH continued to dominate the game following the goal. The 'Cats came close to adding a second in the 8th minute of play. UNH won a corner and had the keeper beat off the header but it grazed over the crossbar. The dominance continued for UNH but without a clear-cut chance on goal. The midfielders easily acquired possession for the Wildcats, but the play wasn't quite crisp enough to earn a goal. The attackers had some trouble coordinating passes, and more than a few attempts at one-touch passes resulted in turnovers.

The best chance since their first goal came in the 25th minute. Another UNH corner found the head of a Wildcat and was directed on target. Merrimack's keeper made a good save, and the rebound was sent over the bar.

UNH looked to finally add their second goal with 14 minutes remaining in the first half. A foul down the right side set up UNH in a dangerous position for a free kick. Wiley stood over it and whipped the ball in toward net with her left foot. The ball was almost surely intended as a crossing

pass but found its way through the defense. Merrimack's senior goaltender Megan Langlois expected contact and was beaten at her far post. UNH was finally able to break through for their second goal on the afternoon.

In the 44th minute, an errant Merrimack pass sent first-year midfielder Anna Hewlett towards the goal. Langlois charged out of her net, but Hewlett beat her with a low cross straight to fellow first-year forward Cassie Jones. All Jones had to do was tap the ball into the open net for her first goal as a Wildcat. This goal put her side ahead 3-0.

With a minute left to play in the first half, UNH wasn't done yet. Sophomore midfielder Rachel Hollywood sent a crosser that looped over the Merrimack defense. Waiting for it was sophomore Shayna Salis whose finish was just as good as the feed from Hollywood. The flurry of late goals gave the Wildcats a 4-0 lead at the half.

To start the second half, UNH picked up right where they left off. Picicci was unmarked down Merrimack's left and avoided an oncoming defender with a quick pass

to Wiley in the middle of the field. Wiley beat her defender with a quick turn and flick of the ball. Without hesitation, Wiley fired a low shot with her right foot. The ball screamed past Langlois' outstretched hand just inside the left post. This was Wiley's second of the match and gave her side a five-goal advantage.

Coach Welham had no shortage of compliments for Wiley's performance.

"She does so many really good things in a game that she can manipulate space. She's added the defensive aspect to her game. She's got an incredibly dangerous left foot... but she's also two footed... she can turn with the ball and she can use both feet," explained Welham.

UNH's perfect afternoon was blemished when Merrimack's sophomore midfielder Hallie Shiers looped what looked to be intended as a cross over the Wildcat's junior keeper Cat Sheppard. Sheppard was slightly off her line and watched as the ball dropped just over her hand as she dove back toward her goal. The goal was the first Sheppard has conceded in the 2021 season after

a shutout against Northeastern that earned her America East Defensive Player of the Week.

The rest of the game was an uneventful affair. Both sides subbed out starters and cruised to the finish. Coach Welham said he was happy to rotate his players with a match versus the University of Rhode Island on Sunday.

"That's always something that you'd like to do, it's kind of like a cool bonus where you can get everybody in and then you can get the starting group off for extra recovery time to take away any excess wear and tear," Welham explained. "So, you can take that group off and give the other group an opportunity to see what they can do."

