



ELECTION 2020



UConn students speak about their voting experiences

The Daily Campus News section spoke to University of Connecticut students who voted in-person on Election Day and who turned in their ballots early via absentee ballot. They spoke of the importance of casting their votes and how the presidential election will impact themselves and their peers. Here's what they had to say.

"I casted my vote via absentee ballot, and I feel voting in this election is important because of the chaos surrounding our country right now. Exercising our right to vote determines the outcomes of these elections and those outcomes directly affect thousands of people **including the UConn community.**"
-Brittany Jimena, seventh-semester biology major

"This is my **first time voting** in a presidential election, and it meant so much to me to be able to do something so small that could change our future. It felt so empowering to vote!"
-Hayley Andros, seventh-semester elementary education major



"I am voting this election because I feel **it's my duty as an American citizen** and if I didn't then I'm losing my chance to be heard. There's too much going on in the world right now to be silent."
-Sydney Brewer, third-semester psychology major

"I've voted in every election and primary since 2018, the year I was first eligible to vote, and **I intend to not break that streak ever.** I think it's very important, not just for the sake of the federal level, but also at the local level, where we have had some crucial races in my town."
-Thomas Longo, fifth-semester accounting major



"There was definitely a surprising intensity to this election. I would have voted regardless of the situation but every where I looked, teachers and students and companies were all pushing the importance of this election. When I voted, I felt relieved because that pressure was finally gone. It was a completely unique experience to anything I expected, and I honestly have no idea what will happen with the results but **I am glad I was able to be part of it.**"
-Erin Hopkins, third-semester nursing major

"I think it's important for eligible voters to vote in all elections but this one was especially important. As a woman in the LGBT community, it's no exaggeration to say that **my rights are on the line** this election. I was proud to cast my ballot for the candidate I believe will help and protect Americans the most."
-Bridget Didona, third-semester biological sciences and environmental sciences major

"Voting in a presidential election didn't feel special, but that could be because **I am not excited about the candidates.** I voted because politicians will care about the opinions of people who vote and showing my demographic votes will be helpful in the future."
-Tim Schafer, third-semester computer science and engineering major

For more, see ELECTION, p. 2



Students who live at the University of Connecticut voted at Mansfield Community Center. COVID-19 social distancing restrictions were set and masks were required. PHOTOS BY MAGGIE CHAFOULEAS, ASSOCIATE PHOTO EDITOR, ALEX LEO, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER, WILL CRONKITE, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Biden wins Connecticut, states begin to call winners

by Jake Kelly
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Tuesday was Election Day in America. While the presidential election has been highly divisive, there has been a strong focus on senate races as Democrats work to gain the majority.

7:50 p.m.: The New Yorker projected a Biden win in Vermont and Virginia and a Trump win in Kentucky, West Virginia and South Carolina, minutes before the first round of polling concluded. This gave Biden 16 electorates and Trump 22.

The Washington Post concurrently reported Biden winning Vermont, as well as New Hampshire, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Maryland, Delaware and D.C. despite 0% of reported results. Trump was given Indiana, Kentucky and Oklahoma. The Post projections awarded Biden 44 electorates and Trump 26.

8 p.m.: Polling concluded for many states. Some key states in the midst of being counted were Georgia (Biden leading 49.5%), Florida (Trump leading 49.6%), North Carolina (Trump leading 62.9%), New Hampshire (Biden leading 57.1%).

The Post showed Arizona, Wisconsin, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Nevada, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Texas at 0% projection.

8:10 p.m.: From WFSB Channel 3, the Associated Press reported Biden winning Connecticut, giving Biden 7 electoral votes. This win was confirmed around 8:30 p.m.

At the time of writing, Mae Flexer (D) is leading Jessica Alba (R) for Senate District 29. Julie Shilosky (R) is narrowly leading (D) incumbent Brian Smith for State House District 48.

A cease and desist order was served to the city of Stamford town clerk from the CT Elections Enforcement Commission. This order was given based on evidence the Stamford Clerk of office was violating statutes 9-10c. It will force the acceptance of applications and/or provide absentee ballots "set for applicants with unforeseen illnesses/physical disabilities occurring within six days immediately preceding the close of polls at the November 3, 2020 General Election."

9:30 p.m.: Washington Post reports that in Kentucky, Mitch McConnell (R) has won over Amy McGrath (D). In Colorado, John Hickenlooper (D) is the projected winner over Cory Gardner (R), leading at 57.5%. In North Carolina, Cal Cunningham (D) is narrowly leading Thom Tillis (R) by 1.2%. And in a Georgia special election, David Perdue (R) is leading handily over Jon Ossoff (D).

Election coverage will be continued over the next few days.

COVID-19 Tracker
CONFIRMED CASES AT
UConn Storrs
as of 8:47 p.m. on Nov. 4
*positive test results

14

Current
Residential
Cases
(positive/symptomatic)

225

Cumulative
Residential Cases*

196

Cumulative
Commuter Cases*

30

Staff Cases*

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Mental health matters



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Ashley Allison
[@ashleyrallison](#)
THANK YOU, POLL WORKERS!

UConn students on why they voted, and their thoughts on the voting process

ELECTION, cont. from p. 1

“I **thought the line was going to be really long**. That’s what we’ve been seeing all over social media and stuff. But I guess because the town is smaller ... that’s [why it was] really short.”

-Cristal Arguello, fifth-semester urban and community studies major

“I voted in this election because I think I have to. I also want to prove to the gov-ernment that young voters are in fact voting and that **they need to listen to what we want too**. Personally, I think that if Trump wins this election, it’s probably the end of American democracy.”

-Basil Coleman, a third-semester computer science and psychology major

“I voted in the election because I understand that I have a **duty to help elect a responsible and compassionate leader** who we can look up to in unprec-ededented times like these. I know my one vote is small, but it was incredible to see so many people (old and young) lined up at the polls this morning, and I felt pride in knowing that together all of our individual voices will be heard to create a brighter future for us all.”

-Allison Appel, third-semester pathobiology major

“This is a **big election**. I voted freshman year for something else, but it was really dif-ferent, the line was just horrible. This isn’t what I was expecting, so it’s good.”

-Leticia Quintillo, fifth-semester marketing major

“I voted because I’ve always known that young adults have been underrep-resented at the polls. I think the voting experience is a key aspect of what it means to be an American, so it’s really important. This was my first presiden-tial election, so **it felt really fulfilling** to finally have a direct contribution!”

-Victoria Kostour, fifth-semester molecular and cell biology and psychology major

“I think it’s really important to go out and vote, even if your own vote doesn’t individually matter because [sic] report the **demographics** of how many peo-ple support which party and where.”

-Nicole Suza, seventh-semester allied health sciences major

“I voted because it’s my right as an American to participate in our democracy. I also voted because I **want to see change** in our country, especially as a young adult my future is probably the most impacted by this decision and since it’s my first presidential election I definitely made an effort to get my absentee ballot in on time.”

-Hannah Aseltine, seventh-semester mechanical engineering major

“Voting is important to me because I am a social worker, a student, a member of the LGBT+ community, a woman and a person living with a disability. Voting is important to me because I am an outdoorswoman, a person who **believes that all lives were created equally**, yet many are undeserved and led to believe that this is their fault.”

-Michaela Woods, seventh-semester social work major

Travel restrictions in Connecticut reinforced just weeks before holidays

by Naiela Suleiman
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Anyone traveling to Con-necticut from any state other than New York, New Jersey and Rhode Island are directed to self-quarantine, according to Governor Ned Lamont’s execu-tive order.

Lamont’s Executive Order No. 91 includes 42 states across the country that have been issued a level three health notice from the Center for Disease Control (CDC).

Massachusetts is the only state on the list directly neigh-boring Connecticut, which can affect out-of-state students when traveling home for the se-mester.

“All affected travelers shall self-quarantine for a period of 14 days from the time of last contact with such Affected State of such Affected Coun-try,” Lamont’s executive order said.

There is a testing alternative for students who cannot quar-antine or need to travel for the holidays.

“An Affected Traveler is ex-empt from the self-quarantine requirement if he or she has had a test for COVID-19 in the seventy-two hours prior to ar-

Anyone traveling into Connecticut from any state other than New York, New Jersey and Rhode Island must quarantine.

Governor Ned Lamont’s Executive Order No. 91 includes 42 states across the country that have been issued a level three health notice from the Center for Disease Control.

Massachusetts is the only state directly neighboring Connecticut.

rival in Connecticut or at any time following arrival in Con-necticut,” Lamont’s executive order said. “And the result of such COVID-19 test is negative, and such Affected Traveler submits written proof of such negative test result to the Com-missioner or her designee.”

A travel health form is re-quired for anyone entering Connecticut from one of the identified states. Failure to submit the form may result in a penalty of \$500.

Hannah Aseltine, a seventh-semester mechanical engi-

neering student from Massa-chusetts, already has a plan to get home safely.

“I don’t have a lot of plans to leave my house when I return, especially during Thanksgiv-ing because I am coming back a week after to my apartment in Storrs,” Aseltine said. “I am planning to get tested within two days of leaving home to Massachusetts.”

Aseltine said she will opt for the testing alternative between UConn and her hometown.

“I am going to get tested be-fore going and if it happens

to be positive I will stay in Storrs, but because I am get-ting tested, I won’t be strictly quarantining,” Aseltine said. “I will probably be at home either way just like a typi-cal quarantine, but I won’t be locked in my room away from family.”

Aseltine said she will prac-tice the same protocol before returning to Storrs for the fi-nal weeks of the semester.

“I am not sure yet if UConn is offering testing when I re-turn but even if they’re not, campus will not really be open

so I know that the people most at risk from me bringing any-thing from home will be the people in my family pod when I am in Storrs,” Aseltine said.

As for Massachusetts, Asel-tine said the state is observing similar travel restrictions.

“I know Mass. was doing a 14-day quarantine if you’re coming from out of state as well throughout the year,” Aseltine said. “I’m not sure if that’s still the case but I don’t plan to go anywhere much so I think the bulk of that is between me and my family.”

The Daily Campus

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George Floyd’s brother rallies voters on Election Day

NEW YORK (AP) — The murmurs spread quickly among the poll workers late Tuesday morning at a Brooklyn neighborhood station: George Floyd’s brother was present.

A few came up to Terrence Floyd, whose brother George died at the hands of Minneapolis police, sparking protests for racial justice across the nation. “Keep the fight going,” one Black woman urged. Others asked to take their photos with Terrence.

Since the death of his older brother on May 25, Terrence has been thrust into a spotlight he did not seek. A 42-year-old school bus driver in New York, Terrence is normally a quiet man, deeply attached to his three children. But now, he feels under constant pressure to relay his brother’s voice — especially on this Election Day, when, as he sees it, race and racial justice are on the ballot.

“Ever since then, I’ve felt like he was talking to me,” he says of George’s death. “He was saying, ‘Little bro, just speak for me. Walk for me. Love for me. Get these people to understand what happened to me can happen to anybody.’”

On Tuesday, Terrence’s black hoodie and face mask included the words “I can’t breathe,” “Justice for George,” and “8:46,” the number of minutes and seconds

authorities initially said a white officer held a knee to his brother’s neck until he became unresponsive.

After famously urging calm as anger spilled onto the streets over his brother’s death, Terrence planned to spend Election Day following up on a less-noticed part of his emotional plea to protesters: please vote.

The names George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery and Rayshard Brooks, all killed by police or vigilantes, re-energized the Black Lives Matter movement this year and put race and justice at the center of the election. As voting wraps up coast to coast, their loved ones awaited signs that their public grief and loss of anonymity weren’t in vain.

Former Vice President Joe Biden has promised racial justice and reforms, while President Donald Trump has stuck to a stern “law and order” rhetoric. After a summer of protests, about half of voters call racism a “very serious” problem in U.S. society, AP VoteCast polling found. But compared with the pandemic and the economy, relatively few voters — about one in 10 — deemed racism or law enforcement the country’s top issue, the polling found.

The Floyd family has helped the Biden campaign

get out the vote. On Sunday, Terrence joined his sister, Bridgett Floyd, and other family members for a rally with Biden’s wife, Jill Biden, in Tallahassee, Florida. Last month, Bridgett appeared in a campaign ad for Joe Biden.

Like most of America, Terrence was anxious on Tuesday.

“Tuesday is so important,” said the Rev. Nicolas O’Rourke, the Pennsylvania organizing director for the Working Families Party, which focuses on systemic racism. Philadelphia became a hot spot in the wake of the fatal police shooting of Walter Wallace Jr., a Black man whose family members had requested mental crisis intervention on Oct. 26.

“While communities are at varying points on the reform spectrum ... it’s pretty clear there is a unilateral agreement that something needs to shift,” he said.

By early afternoon, Terrence, along with his attorney Sanford Rubenstein and civil rights activist Kevin McCall, were driving around Brooklyn in their SUV with a loudspeaker and a microphone, looking for potential voters. But there were no lines at a handful of schools and community centers.

Perhaps most people had already voted early, Terrence thought. And hoped. Maybe they had already heeded the

message about the importance of voting.

“I never really wanted to be political and tell people who to vote for, because everybody has their own decision, their own opinions,” Terrence said. “But I do say, ‘Wake up, use your eyes, pay attention to what’s going on.’”

Just after 1 p.m., they parked across the street from the Brooklyn Museum, which has been serving as a polling location. Outside of the building, a small marching band sang, drummed and blew wind instruments. They paused to allow Terrence a moment to speak.

“If you don’t vote, you cannot complain when something goes wrong,” he said, using a loudspeaker and microphone. “I’m out here to let y’all know that I voted, because I can’t talk the talk, if I don’t walk the walk.”

More than a dozen people had stopped to hear what Terrence had said and, when he concluded, the band resumed playing.

“Don’t forget to vote!” he chanted in rhythm with the band.

Tuesday marked exactly 155 days since Terrence visited Minneapolis, where his brother died. On June 1, in the wake of arson, looting and other violence that spread to cities nationwide, Terrence begged for calm.

“Let’s switch it up, y’all. Let’s switch it up. Do this peacefully, please,” Terrence said at a June 1 press conference in Minneapolis.

That same day, the president threatened the nation’s governors with deployment of the military to states, if leaders did not quell violent unrest.

“My administration is fully committed that, for George and his family, justice will be served,” Trump said in remarks from the White House Rose Garden. “He will not have died in vain. But we cannot allow the righteous cries and peaceful protesters to be drowned out by an angry mob.”

That day in June, Terrence canceled previously scheduled interviews with TV news networks. He was overwhelmed.

His surviving brothers and sisters have become much closer over the last several months, Terrence said. His 17-year-old son, Amaree Floyd, learned of his uncle’s passing by seeing the viral video of the officer kneeling on his neck.

“I had to really talk to him about channeling his anger,” Terrence said. “I said, ‘Put that anger into your schoolwork. Put that anger into making a difference, talking to your friends about what’s going on. I can’t reach your friends, but you can.’”



Terrence Floyd, brother of George Floyd, waits to speak at a Get Out the Vote Rally outside the Brooklyn Museum, Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2020, in New York. PHOTO BY FRANK FRANKLIN II/AP



Terrence Floyd, brother of George Floyd, second from left, waits to vote with Sandy Rubenstein, left, and Rev. Kevin McCall, Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2020, in the Brooklyn borough of New York. PHOTO BY FRANK FRANKLIN II/AP

Parties fight for control of governors’ posts, legislatures

(AP) Efforts to battle the coronavirus pandemic have put the nation’s governors in the spotlight while state legislatures are poised to determine redistricting, abortion, health care and other super-charged topics.

Both are on the ballot this year in races that have been overshadowed nationally by the presidential race but have drawn intense interest and massive spending in their states. Across the country, 11 states are electing governors and 35 are picking state lawmakers this year.

Missouri and Montana have the nation’s most interesting races for governor, while Democrats are hoping to gain control of more state legislative chambers after Republicans scored huge wins in 2010. That put them in charge of drawing congressional and state legislative maps after that year’s Census, a process that kept them in control in most of those states throughout the decade.

In most states, legislatures and governors have a role in drawing congressional and legislative maps, a process that starts after the U.S. Census delivers its decennial count at the end of this year.

Control of governor’s offices and

legislatures also will determine much of how coronavirus-related restrictions and recovery efforts go.

If an increasingly conservative U.S. Supreme Court throws out the right to an abortion or portions of the Affordable Care Act, the new policies could be set state-by-state.

Republicans are mostly in defensive mode, trying to keep offices they hold now. But there are exceptions.

In Montana, the Democratic and Republican governors associations and the campaigns themselves have contributed more than \$24 million to a governor’s race to fill the seat of Democrat Steve Bullcock. U.S. Rep. Greg Gianforte, a Republican, and Democratic Lt. Gov. Mike Cooney are vying for the position.

The best chance for Democrats to pick up a governor’s seat is in Missouri, where incumbent Republican Mike Parson is being challenged by Nicole Galloway, the state auditor. That race has some echoes of the race for president; Parson, who has resisted mandating mask usage, tested positive for the coronavirus in September as the state’s case total started to surge.



In this June 1, 2020, file photo, Terrence Floyd sits silently in the spot at the intersection of 38th Street and Chicago Avenue in Minneapolis, Minnesota, where his brother, George Floyd, encountered police a week earlier and died while in their custody. PHOTO BY BEBETO MATTHEWS/AP

Postal Service says it can’t meet judge’s ballot order

(AP) The U.S. Postal Service on Tuesday said it could not meet a federal judge’s order to sweep processing centers for undelivered mail-in ballots, arguing that doing so would disrupt its Election Day operations.

U.S. District Judge Emmet G. Sullivan of Washington, D.C., gave the agency until Tuesday afternoon to search 27 facilities in several battleground areas for outstanding ballots and send out those votes immediately.

The order came after weeks of bruising court decisions for an agency that has become heavily politicized under its new leader, Postmaster General Louis DeJoy. DeJoy, a major GOP donor, made a series of controversial policy changes in the summer that delayed mail nationwide, fueling worry about the service’s ability to handle the unprecedented crush of mail-in ballots. At the same time, President Donald Trump has base-

lessly attacked mail voting as fraudulent throughout his campaign.

In its response to the judge’s order, the Postal Service said it had already conducted rounds of morning checks at all its processing hubs. Further, the agency said has been performing daily reviews of all 220 facilities handling election mail and planned another sweep hours before polling places closed Tuesday.

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► Editorial

The Connecticut (De)Commitment

Last year, it was announced the University of Connecticut would guarantee free tuition for Connecticut students with household incomes less than \$50,000 through a program called the “Connecticut Commitment.” At the time, UConn’s vice president for enrollment planning and management Nathan Fuerst said of the program, “We are sending a loud message to Connecticut students: Not only do we want you at UConn, we want to make your degree affordable.”

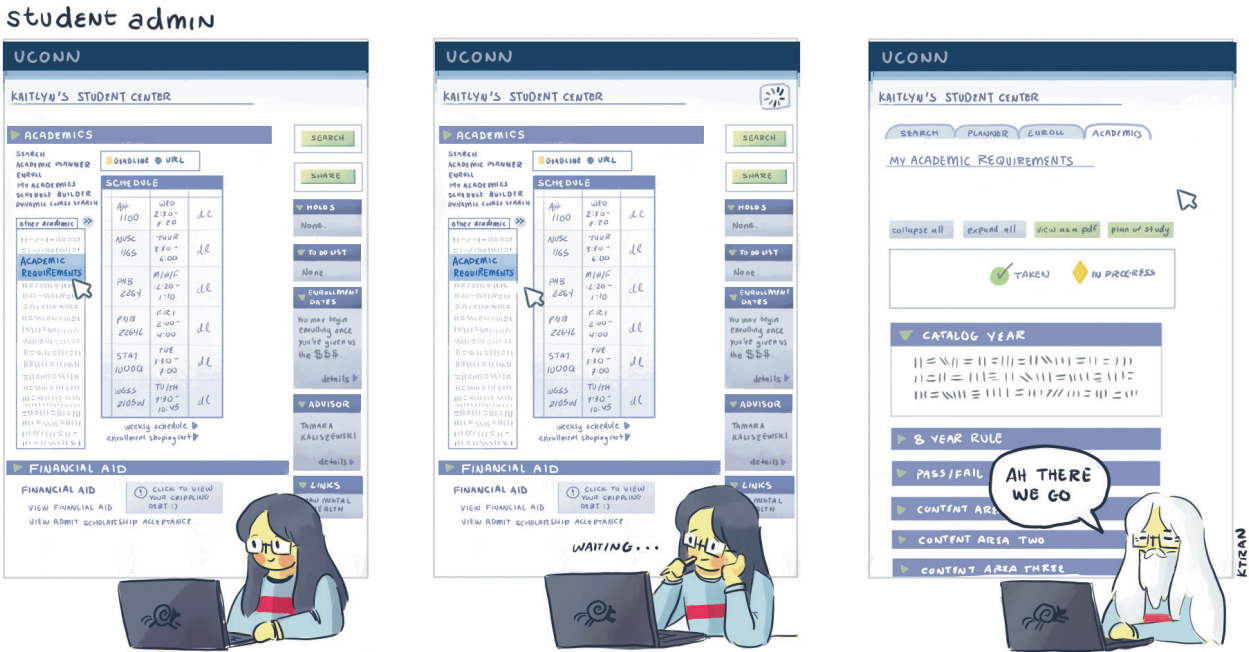
Last week, the university announced that it would be pausing the Connecticut Commitment.

As UConn faces historically massive budget deficits, reports of program cuts are expected. The university cites “financial fallout” and an inability to raise enough funds from private donors as the basis for pausing the program.

In their announcement from last week, the university asserted that despite the pause in the program their “commitment to financial need, affordability and accessibility only grows.” It is difficult to reconcile the validity of this claim with the stated purposes and aspirations of the program in its inauguration last year. These stated purposes and aspirations conceded issues of transparency and presented the program as being a necessary and highly important first step toward increasing accessibility to higher education in the state. President Thomas Katsouleas described the program’s role in expanding accessibility to “high quality and affordable education” as being “critical.” Fuerst said the goal of the program “goes beyond affordability” to “also provide transparency and better predictability for parents and prospective students.”

Yet in the university’s announcement last week, Fuerst said pausing the program “does not dilute” the university’s commitment to “providing strong aid.” If the university’s commitment is not at all diluted by pausing the Connecticut Commitment, then how could the program have been considered so monumental in its inauguration? If the program was created to provide “better predictability,” and if the program was created to serve those on whom the burden of an economic crisis would fall most heavily, should it not be a shock that it is one of the very first aid programs to be put on pause for lack of funding?

The pausing of the Connecticut Commitment likely will not be the last announcement of program cuts in the months to come. Faced with a growing budget deficit as the university remains unable to fully open next semester and as the country faces an economic crisis, difficult decisions will have to be made. Yet with economic decisions, as well as social and cultural decisions, the university always has a choice of whether to oppose with great force or to replicate the patterns of burden that crises unequally apportion to different subsets of society. In the stark inconsistencies with the university’s communications at the onset of the program and last week, the university has sent a profoundly mixed message of where it stands.



CARTOON BY KAITLYN TRAN, STAFF ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS



by Harrison Raskin
ASSOCIATE OPINION EDITOR
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Reality Check: The United States is not a democracy

These difficulties are only exacerbated by the insanely long time it can take waiting in line to finally access a ballot.

U.S. presidential candidates consistently oppose popular social programs which would benefit the vast majority of American voters. Due to the pervasive influence of corporate and elite donations in politics, the Democratic and Republican governments repeatedly preside over wage decreases, poverty increases and declining quality of life for the wide majority of Americans because funding them would draw money from business subsidies and tax breaks for the wealthy. This is the greatest form of voter suppression — one in which we’re made to understand that our votes cannot change our loss of life at the hands of whatever government we elect.

But unfortunately for our country’s proponents, the absence of democracy in the U.S. is not due to voter suppression, policy trends or flaws in election administration. Vast segments of U.S. society are simply denied the right to elect their government officials.

Millions of undocumented Americans are denied the right to representation in a society which benefits from their labor and culture. Millions of American felons are denied from electing the government which determines their quality of life and their access to basic constitutional rights within the American penal system,

even as their labor remains exploited by public and private prisons alike. Literally, the land the entire country is built upon belonged to 12 million Indigenous Americans killed in the genocide required to remove them. Indigenous Americans did not have the right to vote until the 1960s, long after their population, sovereignty and autonomy had been greatly stripped away.

This country is not a democracy. The U.S. is an oligarchy, whose government today speaks and legislates on behalf of centuries of wealth generated from colonialism, genocide, conquest, slavery and the exploitation of “free” workers. The victor of this election will hold one of the greatest positions of power in the world but they will not have a popular mandate or the right to rule, and we will have no reason to allow their illegitimate leadership to continue.

We need a government which is of, by and for the people. The main obstacle to this at present is the two-party duopoly on politics which has confined policy to an ideologically narrow window, marginalizing the interests of the vast majority of people living here for the benefit of the wealthiest, most powerful Americans. The time has never been more ripe for independent political institutions under the complete control of democratic majorities of working Americans.



Mental health matters

by Anika Veeraraghav | WEEKLY COLUMNIST
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There is a lot going on in the world around us.

From the pandemic to politics, it can be a lot to handle. It can get overwhelming to constantly hear about COVID-19 cases going up, political tensions in the U.S. and abroad, the continuing fight against systemic racism, human rights under attack worldwide and refusals to do more to combat climate change. It is upsetting, but it’s information we hear every day. All of this bad news can take a toll.

It is important to remember to take care of our mental health now more than ever. Especially with COVID-19 cases rising and more restrictions under consideration, life can become extremely isolating rather quickly. In Rhode Island, there has already been a rise in people seeking help to manage mental health.

There are multiple parts to properly taking care of our mental health. One, there is still a stigma surrounding the importance of mental health care; two, resources must become available and accessible for everyone; and three, even if we do not seek professional help for mental health care, it is still important to prioritize it ourselves.

According to the Mayo Clinic, the stigma surrounding mental health care and mental illness can prevent people from seeking proper treatment. Although the attitude toward mental health has drastically improved in recent years, there is still a ways to go.

In order to combat this stigma, one easy thing to do is to educate yourself and others regarding mental health

care and mental health illnesses. It is important to remember the brain is an organ in the body as well, and these mental illnesses have physiological and neurological bases. Why should these illnesses be treated any differently from a disease of another organ?

have proper access to it. Although this is not something we ourselves can fix, it is important to be aware of this and call for action in ways we can.

We as individuals must also learn how to prioritize our own mental health. Yes, a large part of it is a shift of the work and school schedules we have; everyone must start recognizing that mental health is important and

Understand that you are not alone; if you reach out to others, you may find your peers are also having trouble dealing with their mental health and therefore you can work together to improve it.

Once the stigma surrounding mental health decreases and is eradicated, it is possible more resources for mental health care become more available.

It is also important to look at mental health care from an intersectional standpoint — depending on our identities, we face different struggles, and these problems must be addressed differently. Studies have shown Black men are at higher risk for mental health issues like depression and anxiety due to societal factors such as discrimination and unemployment. However, due to a lack of therapists in certain communities, the cost of care and stigma, many of these individuals do not receive treatment.

In general, there are many people who do not have access to proper mental health care due to lack of therapists nearby with openings, practices incompatible with a specific type of insurance and costs.

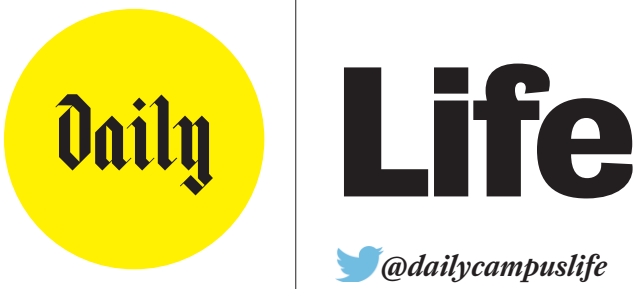
This should not be happening. Mental health is important, and everyone who needs mental health care should

employers and educators should make changes in their respective environments so that people are less stressed and are empowered to take care of their mental health.

However, there are things that we can all do as well. The first thing is to just remember to take care of yourself. Even if this is something as setting a reminder to disconnect from work and school for 15-30 minutes, it can help. Something else that can help is to reach out to friends and family. The COVID-19 pandemic can be extremely isolating, with everyone cooped up at home for a significant part of the day; by remaining in contact with others, you may perhaps feel a bit less isolated. Understand that you are not alone; if you reach out to others, you may find your peers are also having trouble dealing with their mental health and therefore you can work together to improve it.

Not adequately caring for your mental health can be detrimental in the long run. If it is something you yourself can handle, start prioritizing it. Otherwise, seek professional help and work to educate others about mental health struggles. Remember: Your mental health matters.

Even if we do not seek professional help for mental health care, it is still important to prioritize.



‘NOW WHAT?’ series kicks off with Election Night social media analysis

by Gino Giansanti, Jr.
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To say that Election Day 2020 has been long anticipated by the American people would be a hilarious understatement, as weeks, months and even years of campaigns, debates and political discussions have led to Tuesday. Once the polls closed on Nov. 3, many people were left to wonder what happens next.

To accommodate this, the Humanities Institute of UConn has brought professionals from various disciplines to host a series of sessions titled, “NOW WHAT?” UConn professors and staff members are facilitating themed conversations addressing the election’s implications in various issues and for various groups. Some of the upcoming topics include higher education, American Jews, Latinx youth and emotional wellbeing.

To kick off the week, the School of Fine Arts Department of Digital Media and Design hosted a live social media analysis session from their Social Media Analytics Command Center. Following a pre-show panel discussion, DMD students actively followed what was trending on all social media platforms and posted their findings on the SMACC Twitter account.

The panel discussion included both staff and students, with associate profes-

sor of digital media business strategies John Murphy moderating the event. Each panelist discussed a different aspect of social media, looking at who and what was being talked about worldwide.

“Twenty-four percent of the conversations surrounding voting have the word ‘fraud,’ ‘voter fraud’ or any-

ACCORDING TO MCCONNELL’S DATA, OVER THE PAST 30 DAYS, 913,000 OF THE CONVERSATIONS SURROUNDING THE PRESIDENT HAVE BEEN NEGATIVE, COMPARED TO THE 412,000 NEGATIVE CONVERSATIONS ABOUT BIDEN.

thing else relating to fears and uncertainties about the voting system,” Rosalie Garcia, a seventh-semester digital media and design student, said. “We can see that Americans are increasingly nervous about the mail-in system in particular because he [Donald Trump] has cut funding for USPS.”

Christina McConnell, a seventh-semester digital media and design student, discussed which candidate has been more prevalent on social media.

“Donald Trump is dominating overall conversation with over 6.2 million results that have been engaged with over five times,” McConnell said.

McConnell said that just because more conversations have been about Trump, this does not mean all conversations have been positive. She explained that sentiment has driven the conversations on social media.

“There’s a clear edge for Joe Biden in terms of sentiment,” McConnell said.

According to McConnell’s data, over the past 30 days, 913,000 of the conversations surrounding the president have been negative, compared to the 412,000 negative conversations about Biden.

“Joe Biden realized you can’t beat Donald Trump on social media,” Murphy said. “Let the whole campaign be about Donald Trump. This is a referendum on Donald

Trump, and that’s what we’re seeing on the social data.”

Not all conversations have remained in the United States, as Jeremy Pressman, associate professor of political science, pointed out that many other nations will be watching our election closely.

“The world has different views about Donald Trump as Americans do,” Pressman said. “We see a split among our allies, but it’s partly related to their relation with the Trump administration.”

The United Kingdom, for example, favors Biden over Trump by 76%. This is interesting because the U.K. is currently led by the Conservative Party, whose ideology aligns with the GOP.

The largest driving force behind the presidential campaigns have been the candidates’ character, with the candidates’ personal lives being examined more so than the policies they support.

“It 100% comes down to personality in the presidential race,” McConnell said. “It’s not a norm. Even when you’re looking at specific senate races, those did have key issues.”

Is this a new trend in American politics? Will presidential candidates continue to always be judged by their public persona?

Of the four panelists, three of them believe Joe Biden will be elected president of the United States based off

of their collected data. Only time will tell whether such projections will be correct.

“IT 100% COMES DOWN TO PERSONALITY IN THE PRESIDENTIAL RACE. IT’S NOT A NORM. EVEN WHEN YOU’RE LOOKING AT SPECIFIC SENATE RACES, THOSE DID HAVE KEY ISSUES.”

CHRISTINA MCCONNELL, SEVENTH-SEMESTER DMD STUDENT AT UCONN

NOVEMBER’S SENSATIONAL STUDENT BRESCIA DOVER

by Kate Luongo
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I love meeting people brimming with passion that shines and glitters behind everything they do. Passion you can see and feel, just by being around them.

This is how I would describe Brescia Dover.

November’s sensational student is an incredible artist who captures beauty and emotions through her documentaries and photography. Not only does she dazzle behind the camera, but she is also a business partner, musician and, of course, a university student.

Her inspiring storytelling talent and unique style make Dover’s work one of a kind. Read on to get to know this queen with a camera.

Kate Luongo (DC): If someone was meeting you for the first time, how would you introduce yourself?

Brescia Dover: Hi! My name is Brescia. I was born in Utah but grew up in sunny and warm Arizona. I am 22 years old. I was named after a beautiful city in Italy where my dad lived for a while. I was lucky enough to visit Brescia, Italy when I was 20 years old and I think about going back to see that city almost every day.

KL: What university do you go to/what is your major?

BD: I am finishing my senior year of college at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, Arizona, with a bachelor’s degree in creative media and film.

KL: Can you tell me a little bit about your daily life as a student? It is your ideal Saturday evening. What are you doing for fun?

BD: The daily life of a senior

in college looks a little something like this for me:

1) Starting my days with something like breakfast and exercise. (Maybe even just a walk at the park, or a YouTube workout video clip.)

2) Attending classes or checking in on my online classes. I like to make sure I never fall behind, and I always have my eye on what is next.

3) Another big thing for me is setting up meetings with professors who I admire. I like to try and get input on my schoolwork from professors who inspire me. Taking up office hours or tutoring when needed is a must for me!

4) I also recently combined forces with my mom, who is a photographer, and we run a film and photo company! I spend time in my day in between classes to dedicate time to growing our business on social and by connecting with others.

5) The last and most important part of my day is taking time for me. Whatever that looks like ... writing, dancing to my favorite music, going for a drive in the mountains or simply sitting on my porch and watching the sunset! Student life gets stressful; taking time for me is the best gift I could give myself!

When it’s all said and done, an ideal Saturday night for me looks like a nice meal with my boyfriend, or maybe a night out with my girlfriends! Quality time with the ones I love is most important to me.

I love being creative. When I get down time to do something for fun, I usually turn to creating an artsy short film or

styling a unique self-portrait shoot. Singing and playing my guitar is a close second.

KL: When did you first get into filmmaking? Do you remember your first documentary?

BD: I first got into filmmaking when I discovered the simple editing software on all Macs, which is iMovie. We had a desktop computer that my brothers and I shared growing up, and once I found out how to edit clips together from our little camera, there was no going back. I launched Brescia Dover Productions in my high school years, where I created films for weddings, small business and more. I started getting recognized and then realized I could really impact people with my work.

For Christmas, my parents would get me things that helped me to create more videos. Like my own computer and my first DSLR camera! I’ll never forget the excitement that I felt when my videos started to look more “professional.” In November of 2014, I created my first documentary. This documentary was actually a self-documentary called, “My Survival Story through Anorexia.” It was about my story of living with Anorexia as a little girl, and how I made it through my eating disorder. I posted this documentary on YouTube, and within months I had reached thousands of people and helped them simply by sharing my story. The fun thing about this documentary was that I filmed, edited and starred in it!

KL: How do you balance filmmaking with your studies?

BD: What is great about my



Brescia Dover’s workspace for online classes features a laptop, hard drive and notebook. Dover is a senior at Northern Arizona University studying creative media and film. PHOTO PROVIDED BY AUTHOR

major is that I get to do what I love within my studies! I get to create films that I can look back on and be like, “Oh yeah! I remember making that in college!”

KL: How would you describe your style in one word?

BD: In one word, my filmmaking style is purposeful. There is a reason I do everything I do while shooting and editing. Before I start filming, I always establish my purpose for that film/video.

KL: What music are you currently listening to?

BD: I am literally, right now listening to a two-hour playlist that helps with writing stories ... I found it on YouTube! But most days, I listen to some of my favorite artists like Lauv, John Denver or Taylor Swift.

KL: Has creativity/filmmaking ever helped you get through something hard?

BD: Creativity and filmmaking have helped me get through multiple challenges in my life.

One of these challenges was being diagnosed with Hodgkin’s Lymphoma Cancer at the start of 2019. I shared my story through a documentary on YouTube, and it helped me to be open and honest with my journey and where I am today. But being creative in general, is my form of expression! Whenever I feel down, I turn to my creative headspace to help cheer me up.

KL: What is your dorm/apartment like? Can you describe your ideal study space?

BD: I live in a town home that faces the Northern Arizona mountains. I love it here and will ALWAYS be a mountain girl! Opening my windows to get natural light in and cozying up on my little couch is my ideal study space.

KL: What are your future plans after college (no pressure!)? Did your time at university influence this decision?

See DOVER, p. 6

BRESCIA DOVER

DOVER, cont. from p. 5

BD: After college I will be working on becoming a storyteller for film! I ultimately want to be a screenwriter and be one of the people behind the films that we watch on the big screen. It seems to really be about who you know, so I am working on connecting with others in the film industry now to get to the point where people start to know me!

BD: I will continue working

with my mom however on growing our company, Brescia and Suz! We are a mother and daughter film and photo company who specialize in weddings and special occasions! We are based out of Arizona but are excited for any opportunity to travel and do destination weddings! We love working together and LOVE meeting new people and documenting their stories through film and photo. I'll even drop our website and social media here:

www.bresciaandsuz.com

Instagram: @brescia.and.suz

KL: What is your main goal as a filmmaker? Is there something you want your viewers to take away from your videos?

BD: My main goal as a filmmaker is to tell a meaningful story. I want to create things that leave an impact on people. Things like talking about mental illness and ending the stigma around it. These are things that I am passionate about.

I want my viewers to feel an underlining message behind each film I make. Even if the film's message is something as simple as love, like a wedding video I make ... I want the viewer to really feel the love and be able to say that they could see it through my film.

KL: Do you have any advice for students seriously pursuing a hobby/passion during university?

BD: To any students who

want to pursue a hobby or passion during university, go for it! It has made all the difference in my life to do what I enjoy, to be creative and do something that I know I can impact others with. Usually when we do things that we are passionate about, others notice and fall in love with whatever it may be that we are pursuing! Prioritize what matters most to you and chase the things that fuel your creativity!

NETFLIX'S 'HOLIDATE' IS HOLI-BAIT

by Sarah Goodman
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Last Wednesday, the romantic comedy holiday film “Holidate” was released on the digital streaming platform Netflix for audiences to enjoy this coming holiday season. The movie stars “Scream Queens” star Emma Roberts and Australian eye candy Luke Bracey as romantic co-leads portraying

lovelorn singles. “Holidate” is likely to entertain viewers weary of romantic antics inspired by the holiday season as well as those who enjoy cheap laughs, but the film itself is a shining example of forgettable holiday rom-com schlock.

Emma Roberts portrays Sloane, an embittered single woman only mildly south of 30 living in a world where such over-25s are nothing but beldam spinsters. Though

Sloane’s social environment is necessary to catalyze the plot, the exaggerated drama of her adult singlehood can make the film’s supposed 2020 Chicago setting seem a bit anachronistic. To avoid the meddling of her family and friends, Sloane enlists the Luke Bracey-portrayed Jackson to serve as her eponymous “holidate:” a platonic, non-carnal date for holiday celebrations. As the film progresses, the pair predict-

ably experiences romantic tension. In a moment of levity from the otherwise mind numbingly dull film, Sloane tips against the fourth wall, saying, “Every romantic comedy in history [always has] some fake reason the stars can’t be together when you know they’re going to be together from the poster.”

However, the romantic tension in “Holidate” does not deserve to be consummated and only does so because the genre begs it to. The Australian professional golfer Jackson remains in Chicago for a year with no viable explanation and is inexplicably always window shopping at the mall so the plot can have him coincidentally run into Sloane. Though Sloane begins expressing romantic attraction to Jackson before he does and is anguished by his initial rejection, the third act’s conflict is unprecedented in that she suddenly castigates his efforts to court her. Their “romance” and its ensuing strife is inorganic and contrived. Perhaps the film would have been better off maintaining friendship of the leads so as to properly satirize the societal expectations that gave way for the concept of a “holidate” in the first place, rather than caving in to boring cliché.

The comedy of “Holidate” is an unpretentious hit-or-miss. Its biggest laughs come from its candid discussion of gender relations and holiday expectations. When Jackson receives clothing as a present that is incorrectly sized, he refers to it as “a present and a project.” After Sloane complains about the physical upkeep she is expected to maintain in relationships, a married character responds, “Best thing about marriage: no more waxing.”

Still, a lot of the jokes fail to land due to their obvious forced nature. For instance, Sloane’s use of the word “cockamamie” is repurposed in the final act for comedy, but the scene in which it was originally used is so forgettable that it appears as if the writers were reaching for any humorous content. Additionally, there is a crude laxative gag with no foreshadowing or build up as to how laxatives were even mistakenly consumed.

This film best functions as background noise for when you are doing your laundry and do not have time to comb through Netflix’s catalog for better holiday movies.

Rating: 1/5



Netflix releases trailer for “Holidate.” In the movie, Emma Roberts and Luke Bracey star as a couple falling in love while celebrating the holiday season in Chicago. IMAGE COURTESY OF NETFLIX

'ROGUE CITY'

A CONFUSING ACTION FILM WITH MINIMAL ACTION

by Zachary Wisniefsky
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One of Netflix’s newest additions to its library of content is a French action film, written and directed by Olivier Marchal, “Rogue City.” Though it calls itself an action film, it is difficult for me to classify it as one. This is much more of a crime drama, however, that misidentification of genre is the least of this film’s issues.

To start, this movie has problems from the first act. The first problem is the number of characters involved in the plot.

Movies with large casts can be successful; films by legendary director Martin Scorsese often have tons of characters, but it requires setup in the opening act or some other film device. Scorsese often employs a voice-over by the main character to quickly introduce minor characters and provide necessary background information for the audience. However, his films also have fairly long runtimes, so Scorsese uses the longer-than-usual first act to introduce characters and situations.

The issue with this film is that it does neither of those things. Being under two hours in length, there is little time to introduce all the necessary characters in the first act. That being said, with the time they had, they did a poor job introducing them anyway. Many characters have major roles in the storyline and by the time you’re in the third act, you barely know their

names and titles. To make this film more successful, they should have slowed down or rewritten the opening to more effectively introduce all the characters.

As discussed earlier, this film is not an action film, but rather a crime drama. There is very little action, and when there is, it plays out very quickly. Only one scene takes its time with the action, but unfortunately that scene takes place in complete darkness. Much of the runtime is used to explore the dramatic elements of the film. This film really needed more action and less drama. The action scenes were well-choreographed but rushed through. The allocation of runtime to action and drama needs to be different in order to fix this film.

However, even those problems are not the main reason this picture doesn’t work. The main reason is because of its characters and plot. The main protagonists of this film are completely unlikeable. A film can be successful with an unlikeable protagonist, like Paul Thomas Anderson’s “There Will Be Blood” and David Fincher’s “The Social Network,” but with those films usually a supporting character serves the role as a person the audience is rooting for. This film does not have that. None of the key characters are likeable and that really takes the viewer out of the experience. The people the film makes you root for continuously make unethical decisions (it also makes it worse that it is cops making these choices), so

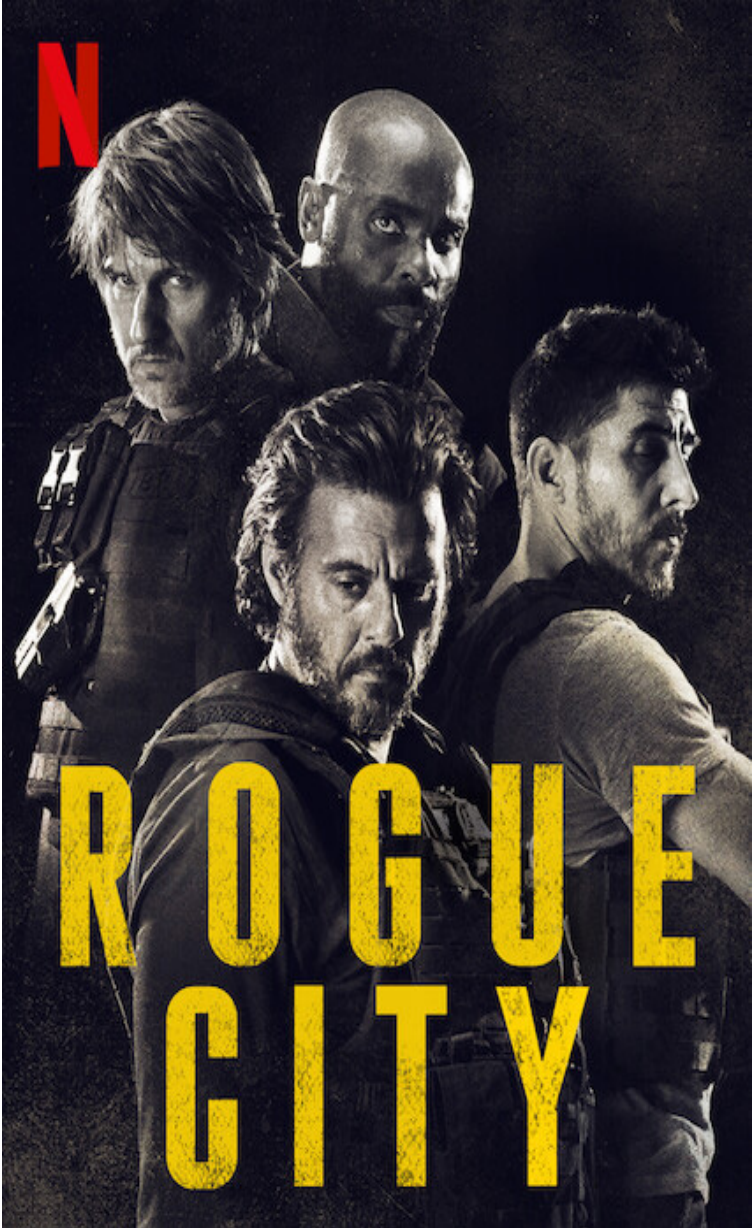
as time goes on, you stop caring about the fate of any character. This makes the picture difficult to watch.

The plot issues stem from the fact there are too many characters with too little setup. The plot is very convoluted and difficult to follow. The scenes feel unconnected and poorly constructed at times. There are many themes in the storyline, but the overall story just doesn’t make much sense. There is a somewhat strong main theme, but the thematic storyline does not do a very good job delivering that theme. The film needs a moral protagonist or side character to deliver the thematic message more effectively, but that would require many plot changes.

In terms of positives, the visuals are pretty solid. The lighting is quite good in many scenes and the shot composition is fairly decent. That being said, there are some odd stylistic choices throughout the film. For one, the police headquarters looks like a rundown, unfinished basement, which certainly gives the film an interesting tone, though might not be so realistic. Also, one scene has a character putting his children to bed, but based on the lighting it seems like it’s three in the afternoon. These stylistic choices make the film all the more confusing.

In conclusion, this film struggles with a multitude of things and has little that evens out the negatives. Thus, this film does not earn a recommendation.

Rating: 1.85/5



Netflix releases cover art for “Rogue City,” a French action film reminiscent of a crime drama. IMAGE COURTESY OF WIKIPEDIA

Photo provided?

BIG BRAIN ENERGY

Exploring the use of art therapy for healing

by Taylor Harton
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Last weekend, my fraternity hosted a virtual event where we were tasked with coloring Halloween images to send to a local senior center. I couldn't remember the last time I had picked up crayons or markers, but boy am I glad I did. Sitting at my kitchen table coloring pumpkins and witches for three hours straight was the most therapeutic experience I've had in a while — and I am not the only one who believes that.

Art therapy is a field that examines how making art — drawing, coloring, sculpting, etc. — can help individuals cope with depression, anxiety, trauma and other mental health troubles. Art therapists are specifically trained in helping patients tap into their emotions and cultivate their creative processes, according to GoodTherapy.org.

You do not need to be a professional artist to participate in this form of therapy. In fact, your creations do not have to look anything like what an expert would make so long as your art can help you further examine patterns in your cognitions or emotions that can help you better understand yourself and what works for you, according to an article on VeryWell Mind.

"As clients create art, they may analyze what they have made and how it makes them feel," the article said. "Through exploring their art,

people can look for themes and conflicts that may be affecting their thoughts, emotions and behaviors."

Art therapy can also be effective for children afflicted with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), given that population tends to think more visually and can benefit from unique forms of communication and relaxation in a world often not suited for their needs, according to art therapist Theresa Van Linth, who spoke with Artsy in 2018.

"Verbal communication, she [Van Linth] noted, 'doesn't allow them the flexibility that they need to show to us how they see things, which is different,'" the article said. "In contrast, communicating visually — be it through drawing with markers or sculpting with clay — offers opportunities to process the world in a more open-ended, flexible, and sensory way."

In 2009, A'ja Booth was diagnosed with focal segmental glomerulosclerosis, which occurs when scar tissue forms on the glomerus of the kidneys, which help filter waste out of blood. She developed kidney failure, and spent months in the Children's Hospital of Michigan, where she was introduced to art therapy through photography, according to CHM's website.

"Taking photographs and using an Aja's own words to describe it was a nonthreatening way for her to safely communicate through images what was going on in her

treatment," the article said. "It provided her with the power and control she needed to express herself and her journey."

Booth created an entire photo scrapbook documenting her multi-year experience in the hospital, including her treatments and final kidney transplant. She hopes to publish the book to alleviate the fears of other kids her age undergoing treatment.

Lyn Sanderson, a writer for Zavesti, discussed in an article how she has benefitted from art therapy and encouraged her own friends to embrace the craft as a way to alleviate their mental health problems.

"In addition to the relaxation which flows in from complete absorption in your creative process; the pleasure of exploration and discovery also engenders mental rejuvenation," Sanderson said. "The many stimulating challenges of art — how to paint luminous water drops, choosing the right values for depicting aerial perspective, how to create transparent color washes in watercolor — induce a sense of accomplishment and happiness."

Jon Harguindeguy, an Iraqi war veteran from California, was diagnosed with PTSD in 2011 after bouts of binge drinking, nightmares and other concerning symptoms engulfed him after his return from Iraq. He told KCET in 2016 art therapy, offered through the VA hospital under Awaken Arts, saved his life. He discussed his most popular painting "Let Go"

and how its design helped him better process his emotions.

"I put a face on my trauma and began to understand my emotions," Harguindeguy said. "I was just getting into sobriety and needed to represent all that fueled my alcoholism leaving my body. It was the pain, hate, anger, guilt and depression that I dragged back from my time in service being released through a final scream."

Harguindeguy now serves as the program director for Awaken Arts in the Greater Los Angeles area, according to his LinkedIn page. He received his bachelor's degree in fine arts from Loyola Marymount University in 2019.

Despite anecdotes of its benefits, art therapy is still not a widely known form of treatment and is often coupled with other types of therapies like cognitive-behavioral therapy for maximum benefit. In the state of Connecticut, you can become an art therapist by completing a master's program in art therapy (includes classroom and clinical hours) or a related field and holding a credential with the Art Therapy Credentials Board.

"Human beings are innately creative, and all you need to do to complete an art therapy activity successfully is to be honest with yourself and your emotions," Mary Ann Cohen, a long-time art dealer for MAC Fine Art, said. "Once you unleash your creativity, your inner artist will quickly wake up."

"I was just getting into sobriety and needed to represent all that fueled my alcoholism leaving my body. [My painting 'Let Go'] was the pain, hate, anger, guilt and depression that I dragged back from my time in service being released through a final scream."

JON HARGUINDEGUY,
IRAQI WAR VETERAN
AND PROGRAM DIRECTOR
FOR AWAKEN ARTS



GET TOASTED

USING UP LEFTOVER HALLOWEEN TREATS

by Olivia Hickey
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It's November. The skeletons and costumes have returned to storage and the trek to Thanksgiving break and final exams continues. What's left behind? The candy. Whether you bought a surplus anticipating trick-or-treaters, or waited until Nov. 1 to buy bags of seasonal candy for half-off, you may find yourself with excess treats. Why not incorporate them into some breakfast staples to make brunch a little bit sweeter? I did some experimenting in my kitchen with some of my remaining treats. Here are the results:

Chocolate chunk pancakes

For this first dish, I used one of the mini Hershey's chocolate bars for a twist on chocolate chip pancakes.

Ingredients

Pancake mix, with ingredients needed on the box

Mini chocolate bar (You can add/subtract as much as you'd like; I won't stop you.)

Whipped cream (for topping)

Chop up the mini bar into small chunks.

After making the pancake batter following the directions on the package, pour some of the batter into a nonstick heated pan.

Sprinkle some of the chocolate chunks on top of the batter in the pan. When the pancakes begin to rise on the sides, flip the pancake over.

Once the pancake is cooked, remove from heat and place on a plate.

Repeat the process until complete. Top the pancakes with some whipped cream and remaining chocolate shavings as garnish.

One chocolate bar is enough to create three pancakes — or four, if the remaining chocolate isn't used as garnish.

Kit-Kat and banana french toast

This recipe was also improvised. I have lots of seasonal Kit-Kats leftover in my house, and I had some ripe bananas, so I thought, "Why not try to make an influencer-inspired food?" The result: A very sweet and interesting take on french toast.

Ingredients

Two slices of bread

One large ripe banana

Two average-sized Kit-Kat bars (Again, I'm not looking if you decide to add another one or two.)

Two eggs

Syrup and powdered sugar (for topping)

Shred your Kit-Kat bars, and put the shavings into a bowl.

Beat your eggs in a bowl and pour onto a plate. Sprinkle a generous heap of the chocolate shavings into the eggs and mix.

Mash the ripe banana in a separate bowl. Add the crushed Kit Kat pieces in and stir.

Lay the two pieces of bread onto the egg plate and flip them to let the slices soak up the egg mixture.

In a heated pan, place the two pieces of coated bread and let one side cook.

Once the bottom half of both bread slices are cooked, flip them over and put a tablespoon of the banana mix on each cooked side. Close them together to make a sandwich.

Cook both sides of the bread slices. Make sure to press down on them to allow the slices to stick together.

Once cooked, put the french toast on a plate and drizzle some syrup and powdered sugar on top!

Hot chocolate

Ingredients

One cup of milk

One mini chocolate bar (If you want more chocolate flavor, go for it.)

Heat the measured milk in a small saucepan.

Once warm, toss the unwrapped chocolate bar into the saucepan, stir and let it melt.

Once the chocolate is melted, take the saucepan off the heat. Let it cool down before pouring and serving.

Still have leftover Halloween treats and no appetite for them? Why not donate them?

Why not donate them? Organizations including Operation Gratitude put care packages together for service members and their caregivers. Some dentist offices collect candy and donate it as well. You could even check with local charities to see if they are accepting donations. Be sure to follow coronavirus guidelines when dropping off donations.



Left over Hershey's chocolates from trick-or-treating can be used to make chocolate chunk pancakes. Serve with maple syrup for extra sweetness. PHOTO COURTESY OF CANDY.COM

Still have leftover Halloween treats and no appetite for them? Why not donate them?

Organizations including Operation Gratitude put care packages together for service members and their caregivers. Some dentist offices collect candy and donate it as well. You could even check with local charities to see if they are accepting donations. Be sure to follow coronavirus guidelines when dropping off donations.

Opinion StudyBreak

Photo of the Day | Workin’ the polls



UConn students voted at the Mansfield Community Center on Election Day. Voting booths were provided, and social distancing restrictions were in place. PHOTO BY ASHLEY ANGLISANO, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Band with an electrical symbol in their logo
 - 5 Youngest woman to serve in the U.S. Congress, familiarly
 - 8 Aromatic herb
 - 12 Church divide
 - 14 Rapping MD?
 - 15 Mariano Rivera's record 652
 - 16 *Person to emulate
 - 18 LGBTQ part, briefly
 - 19 Wavelike pattern
 - 20 "Eighteen Wheels and a Dozen Roses" singer Kathy
 - 21 Arafat's gp., once
 - 23 *Thanksgiving condiment
 - 26 Nigerian pop star
 - 28 Brief moments
 - 29 Notable times
 - 30 Summer beverage
 - 33 "___ Tu": 1974 hit
 - 35 *Effective remedy with little downside
 - 39 Spoken
 - 40 Trickeries
 - 43 Tel ___
 - 47 Brown and blonde
 - 49 Cream or Nirvana
 - 50 *A high-profile trial might become one
 - 54 Red Sox rivals, on scoreboards
 - 55 Literally, French for "again"
 - 56 Perot of politics
 - 58 Memphis tourist street
 - 59 Engineer, brakeman and conductor ... and what the ends of the answers to starred clues comprise?
 - 63 Gillette razors
 - 64 Carrier to Tokyo
 - 65 Hotel patron
 - 66 Lays down the lawn
 - 67 Time out?
 - 68 Palm gadgets, briefly

11/4/20

By Mike Peluso

- DOWN**
- 1 Swiss river
 - 2 Corp. tech exec
 - 3 Internet connector via phone line
 - 4 Jazz singer Laine
 - 5 Venomous snakes
 - 6 Tram load
 - 7 Disney frame
 - 8 "No Exit" dramatist
 - 9 Personal user pic
 - 10 Lake on the French/Swiss border
 - 11 Op-ed pieces
 - 13 Send out
 - 15 Alone, at a party
 - 17 Christian sch. in Tulsa
 - 20 Whitman "53-Down" subject
 - 21 23rd of 24
 - 22 Supérieur, par exemple
 - 24 Company with spokes-elves
 - 25 Hose color
 - 27 LAX posting
 - 31 Star quality?
 - 32 The Red Baron, for one
 - 34 Canon initials
 - 36 Colombian metropolis

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

11/4/20

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Sudoku

	8			2			4	
9	4		1	6			5	
		6	8			3		
	5		6	1	4		8	
		7				5		
	3				7			2
	7			3			1	

DYK?

- Saint Lucia is the only country in the world named after a woman.**
- A BABY SPIDER IS CALLED A SPIDERLING.**
- A BABY OCTOPUS IS ABOUT THE SIZE OF A FLEA WHEN IT IS BORN.
- A sheep, a duck and a rooster were the first passengers in a hot air balloon.**
- In the 16th Century, Turkish women could initiate a divorce if their husbands didn't pour coffee for them.**
- While trying to find a cure for AIDS, the Mayo Clinic made glow in the dark cats.
- A swarm of 20,000 bees followed a car for two days because their queen was stuck inside.**
- HONEYBEES CAN RECOGNIZE HUMAN FACES.

Point/Counter: Is Tottenham a title contender?

TOTTENHAM, cont. from p. 12

DS:
The main reason why Tottenham managed to somehow screw up their chances had been because of a lack of depth in the squad. Because of this, players like Harry Kane and Heung-Min Son were heavily relied on in almost every game they played. Now that Spurs finally have a coach that is financially backed by chairman Daniel Levy, Harry Kane's backup is loanee Carlos Vinicius while Son's is Steven Bergwijn when playing as a winger, or Giovanni Lo Celso when he plays as an attacking midfielder. While both Bergwijn and Vinicius are still fairly new to the club, they've proven to be talented players prior to their transfers to Spurs. It's only a matter of time that both adjust to the Premier League. This can also be said about Matt Doherty being the backup to Serge Aurier.
As for their center back issue, it's the last piece of the puzzle that Jose needs to fill in after the transfer of Jan Ver-

tongen and recent injuries with an academy-made Japhet Tanganga. Despite making a deadline day purchase of Joe Rodon from Swansea, the youngster seems to be a player to be used later on. Eric Dier was on Mourinho's watchlist while at Manchester United, but trying to utilize him as a center back after being a defensive midfielder under Pochettino has proven to be a bit of a challenge. But come the winter transfer window, Tottenham might make another push for Milan Skriniar after not being able to secure him in the summer. This gives Dier a chance to get more time to rest and turn into the player Mourinho wanted to get when they signed him.

SGO:
No doubt you raise good points, especially when mentioning the recent transfer business done by Mourinho and the board. Additionally, Bergwijn has proven to have an immense impact in the attack, using his pace to get in behind and cause havoc in the final third. Equally important is right winger Gareth Bale; al-

though his days as a starter are numbered, he can still have a massive impact off the bench, once again supporting your point as it relates to the squad's depth.
However, this season we are going to find out what the team is made of. Ultimately, if Kane and/or Son get injured, will the team fail to have the mental fortitude to push through and overcome hardship? Yes, they do have exceptional replacements and great players on the bench, but will it matter to them? Clearly, this is a football club that is toxic, as the first sight of adversity causes them to fold. Mourinho is attempting to create a different atmosphere in the dressing room, but can it really be achieved in just over a year? I highly doubt it.
Ultimately, I hope Mourinho brings a title to one of the more historic sides in English football. However, do I believe it will happen? No. Spurs will have to show a complete change in character and mentality to prove to me they have what it takes to once again attain silverware.



Tottenham's Ben Davies, left, gestures with teammates Moussa Sissoko, right, and Pierre-Emile Hojbjerg following the English Premier League soccer match between Tottenham Hotspur and Brighton & Hove Albion at Tottenham Hotspur Stadium, London, Sunday, Nov. 1, 2020. PHOTO BY MIKE HEWITT/POOL VIA AP

Arenado, Gordon each win 8th Gold Glove; Betts gets 5th



In this Sept. 11, 2020 photo, Colorado Rockies third baseman Nolan Arenado throws to first during the first inning of the team's baseball game against the Los Angeles Angels in Denver. Arenado won his eighth consecutive Gold Glove on Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2020. PHOTO BY DAVID ZALUBOWSKI/AP

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Colorado Rockies third baseman Nolan Arenado won his eighth consecutive Gold Glove and right fielder Mookie Betts snared his fifth in a row on Tuesday, his first with the World Series champion Los Angeles Dodgers after four with Boston.
Kansas City Royals left fielder Alex Gordon also won his eighth Gold Glove — and fourth straight — in his final major league season.
Chicago Cubs first baseman Anthony Rizzo earned the honor for the third straight year in the pandemic-shortened season and fourth time overall. He was joined for the first time by Cubs shortstop Javier Báez.
Cincinnati catcher Tucker Barnhart won for the second time and first since 2017. St. Louis second baseman Kolten Wong won for the second year in a row, six days after the Cardinals allowed him to become a free agent rather than exercise his \$12.5 million option for 2021.
St. Louis left fielder Tyler O'Neill, Atlanta pitcher Max Fried and San Diego center fielder Trent Grisham were first-time winners in the National League.
Gordon and Cleveland catcher Roberto Pérez were the only players to repeat in the AL. They were joined by seven first-time winners, including Indians second baseman César Hernández. The others were Seattle first baseman Evan White and shortstop J.P. Crawford, Texas third baseman Isiah Kiner-Falefa and right fielder Joey Gallo, Chicago White Sox center fielder Luis Robert and Los Angeles Angels pitcher Griffin Canning.
The 36-year-old Gordon announced his retirement in September. He joined Hall of Fame outfielder Roberto Clemente and first baseman Wes Parker (both in 1972) as the only position players to win a Gold Glove in their last big league season, according to Sportradar.
Gordon, Hernández, White and Wong earned \$18,519 bonuses, prorated portions of \$50,000. Arenado and Robert earned \$9,259, prorated portions of \$25,000, and O'Neill earned \$3,704, a prorated portion of \$10,000.
Perez's 2021 salary escalated by \$250,000 to \$5.75 million, and Barnhart's by \$250,000 to \$4 million.
Gold Gloves are presented annually by Rawlings. Because of the shortened season, the awards were based on the Society for American Baseball Research's Defensive Index. From 2013-19, the index was about 25% of the total, with the rest voting by major league managers and up to six coaches per team.

Wirfs, Winfield contribute to success of 1st-place Bucs

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — If you're compiling a list of reasons why the Tampa Bay Buccaneers have emerged as one of the top teams in the NFL, don't forget to include a pair of high draft picks brought in to help Tom Brady be successful.
Tackle Tristan Wirfs has helped solidify an offensive line protecting the six-time Super Bowl champion quarterback and opening holes for an improved rushing attack featuring Ronald Jones and Leonard Fournette.
Safety Antoine Winfield Jr., is quickly making a name for himself, too, as part of a stout defense that forced two more turnovers to key a 25-23 comeback victory over the New York Giants on Monday night.
Winfield, the son of former NFL cornerback Antoine Winfield Sr., sealed the win by breaking up a potential game-tying, 2-point conversion pass in the end zone with 28 seconds remaining.
The second-round draft pick from Minnesota initially was called for pass interfer-

ence, but the flag was picked up after officials huddled to discuss the play.
"The ball hit Antoine in the back. To me, it was no pass interference. I thought it was a good call. I don't know why it took so long" for officials to pick up the flag," coach Bruce Arians said.
"He's been consistent since the day he's gotten here. He verbalizes so much out on the field, which most rookies just will not do — even second-year players," Arians said. "He's a baller He's got it in his bloodlines, and there's no stage that's too big for him."
The Bucs feel the same way about Wirfs, a first-round pick drafted 13th overall out of Iowa. Like Winfield, he's been a starter since Day 1.
"He's just a really smart player, a very, very gifted athlete, also. He's had some of the best pass rushers in the league up against him," Arians said. "(Khalil) Mack got him a couple of times, but other than that he's held his own every single week."

WHAT'S WORKING

Brady threw for two touchdowns and zero interceptions against the Giants, helping the Bucs rally from a 14-3 deficit by scoring on five straight possessions (two TDs, three field goals) before taking a knee to end the game. Over the past six games, Brady has 17 TD passes vs. one interception.

WHAT NEEDS HELP

Arians attributed the team's slow start against the Giants to sitting around much of the day, waiting for a primetime start in an empty stadium.
You're on primetime, you expect to come to the stadium and have a ton of energy ... from the fans and everything else. This year's so different," Arians said.
"To sit around, get there and it's like, 'Is the stadium really even open?' The lights are on, but (there isn't) anybody there," the coach added. "You've got to bring your own energy and we did not do a good job."

STOCK UP

TE Rob Gronkowski caught a TD pass from Brady for the third straight game Monday night. It was Gronk's NFL-leading 81st TD reception since entering the league in 2010.
That's three more than Jimmy Graham and six more than Antonio Brown, who was activated from the reserve/suspended list on Tuesday.
Brown was ineligible to play while serving an eight-game suspension for multiple violations of the NFL's personal conduct policy. He signed with the Bucs last week and is set to practice for the first time on Wednesday.

STOCK DOWN

The Bucs were just 4 of 12 on third-down conversions on Monday night, however Arians was not overly concerned.
"Each game is so different. I think our explosive plays lead to more touchdowns, but our third-down conversions in this ballgame, obviously, were not very good,"

the coach said. "We had some potential guys open, we just didn't make the plays. I think it's been really solid. We've been in the 50 percent range for three or four weeks until (Monday)."

INJURED

WR Chris Godwin (broken finger) didn't play against the Giants, however he hasn't been ruled out for next Sunday night's home game against New Orleans.

KEY NUMBER

Six, as in victories at the season's midpoint. The 6-2 start matches the franchise best through eight games. The team also started 6-2 in 1979 and 2002.

NEXT STEPS

First place in the NFC South will be on the line when the Saints (5-2) visit Raymond James Stadium on Sunday night. New Orleans won an earlier meeting between the division rivals 34-23.

Throwback Photo of the Day | GOAAAAL



A UConn field hockey player winds up to score a goal against Quinnipiac in a game on Sept. 15, 2018. The Huskies won this game 8-0 to move their record to 7-0 on the season at the time. FILE PHOTO/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Breaking down the 2020 NBA bubble teams

NBA, cont. from p. 12

Phoenix Suns
Play-in record: 8-0
Missed Playoffs

The “bright future Suns” look to finally be shining bright following their undefeated bubble performance in the play-in games. Even though they missed the playoffs, they did literally everything they could do in the bubble to try and steal a spot, but ultimately could not get the extra help they needed from the Memphis Grizzlies or the Portland Trail Blazers. Devin Booker ascended into superstardom in the bubble, and DeAndre Ayton has started to prove his worth after being drafted over Luka Doncic in 2018. On top of this, Cameron Johnson looks like he will be a solid player for the Suns to possibly replace Kelly Oubre. Ricky Rubio has had a mini resurgence in Phoenix, and the tank commander Cameron Payne seems to have flipped the script and looks like a backup quality point guard in the league. With the No. 10 pick in the draft this year with plenty of mid to late lottery talent, the Suns could come up with another huge steal that would propel them into the playoffs for the first time since 2010.



Damian Lillard of the Portland Trailblazers runs up the court with the ball in a game against the Memphis Grizzlies in the 2020 Orlando bubble. PHOTO COURTESY OF @TRAILBLAZERS ON TWITTER

Philadelphia 76ers
Play-in record: 4-4
Playoff record: 0-4, Lost in first round

Coming into this year, the Philadelphia 76ers were looking like a possible NBA title contender, with a stacked lineup of some of the NBA’s best scorers in the past few years. However, through a combination of injury, terrible coaching and just general lack of effort, the 76ers fell to the sixth seed in the Eastern Conference, and without All-NBA guard Ben Simmons,

sadly and quietly got swept out of the playoffs in round one. Following this failure, head coach Brett Brown was fired and replaced by former Los Angeles Clippers head coach Doc Rivers. However, despite a coaching change, the 76ers may still be in trouble as they look to fill out a roster plagued by horrible contracts and draft busts. Both Al Horford and Tobias Harris have two of the top five worst contracts in the NBA right now, and stars Ben Simmons and Joel Embiid have weaknesses in their game that they refuse to work on,

limiting them to specific roles, and forcing the front office to fill the holes with below average role players. Coach Rivers will try to turn this team around but if he cannot, we can expect the 76ers to make a huge move regarding one of their stars in the next couple years.

Portland Trail Blazers
Play-in record: 6-2
Playoff record: 1-4, Lost in first round

Damian Lillard said he wanted to give the Trail Blazers a “true

opportunity” to make the playoffs this May, so when he entered the bubble with a chance to claim the eighth seed in the West, he didn’t disappoint. He carried the Blazers to a 6-2 play-in record, defeated the Grizzlies in the play-in game to claim sole possession of the eighth seed, and even handed the Lakers a loss in the first game of round one, before being eventually defeated in five games. It was a storybook ending to a season riddled with bad luck and injuries, and it added to the legacy of Lillard’s already storied career. With all of this said, the Trail Blazers still have much work to do if they want to consider themselves a true contender. Their defense was among the worst in the league last year and showed itself in the bubble as they constantly blew large leads in the fourth quarter, leaving Dame to come up big with his trademark threes to get them the win. They need to get better on the defensive end if they want any shot at getting to the finals, but without many trades that will make a team bite, their best chance is hitting on a guy in the draft to fill their forward needs for them. For now, the Blazers are a frisky sixth or seventh seed until they can find some defensive depth to back up their productive offense.



Los Angeles Dodgers pitcher Julio Urias celebrates after defeating the Tampa Bay Rays 3-1 to win the World Series in Game 6 Tuesday, Oct. 27, 2020, in Arlington, Texas. PHOTO BY ERIC GAY/AP

The economics of baseball

BASEBALL, cont. from p. 11

A market is made up of buyers and sellers. In this case, the MLB is the seller, the fans are the buyers and the players make up the labor. The players benefit as a direct result of how much money they contribute to the cumulative MLB revenue pool. When the capital gains from non-baseball-related income streams supersede on the field baseball profitability, it directly limits bargaining power for the players themselves, reduces their salaries and subjects them to almost monopsony-like labor leverage. A monopsony is defined as a market situation where there is only one major employer. In this case, the MLB has access to the entire pool of labor. This limits the negotiating power of those in the labor market, resulting in fewer work benefits and sometimes reduced pay. Consequently, the MLB Players Association has said the average player salary has now dropped in back-to-back seasons and will only dive further with the novel coronavirus stalling attendance revenue altogether. It is very difficult for unions such as the MLB Players Association to combat this disparity in league profits to benefit themselves because they are contributing less and less to the net income of the business. It is critical to understand that baseball players are highly specialized athletes that

train their whole lives to get to the big leagues. They are not overly flexible in their marketable skill sets which further reduces their negotiating power when the excitement of their game is generating less revenue.

The MLB makes boatloads of money from side deals such as from “selling BamTech for a massive windfall, partnering with casinos, Korean conglomerates and various other corporate partners.” These sponsorships, television media and supplemental business engagements currently make up over 70% of net revenue.

This statistic begets an important question: Why would foreign companies take such an interest in the MLB over more popular American sports?

The heavy reliance of the MLB on corporate endorsement makes the league a perfect gateway for foreign corporate entities to access the American consumer market. The league divides this money into a central fund revenue that helps compensate for unsuccessful franchises and prevents franchise values from plummeting. Forbes estimates that about \$2.76 billion was reallocated around the league as part of this revenue sharing plan in 2018. It is critical for the league to protect franchise net values because this serves as a key metric in enticing more corporate investment, especially those from foreign nations.

With the NBA experiencing

difficulty in foreign relations, the NFL not gaining footing abroad and American soccer not even being in the same stratosphere of other leagues, baseball has seized a financial opportunity through the scope, not magnitude, of its following. Baseball, even with its declining popularity, is more global of a sport than people realize, but this opportunity seems to only be benefiting the owners in the present.

As the business model of the MLB continues to incentivize investing in creating more corporate connections rather than prioritizing the quality of baseball on the diamond, fans become the biggest losers. Coca-Cola canceling its sponsorship with the MLB for the 2020 season is simply a grim microcosm of what is to come if the power players in baseball don’t get back to catering to the fans that drive the industry forward. Once fans stop tuning in, the economic system of baseball collapses. Fan engagement is the bottleneck in the MLB owner’s game, but it is doubtful they really care about preserving baseball for generations. For example, Jeff Loria, former owner of the Washington Nationals and Miami Marlins, nearly tanked both organizations financially while maintaining his own golden parachute. These teams are merely short-term investments to cash in on for the owners, but what does that mean for baseball, its culture and its fans?



Tottenham's Harry Kane scores his team's first goal from the penalty spot during the English Premier League soccer match between Tottenham Hotspur and Brighton & Hove Albion at Tottenham Hotspur Stadium, London, Sunday, Nov. 1, 2020. Tottenham has proved to be a potential contender in the Premier League this season. PHOTO BY MIKE HEWITT/POOL VIA AP

by **David Sandoval**
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The 2020-21 Premier League season kicked off in a more unusual state than before. For instance, Everton had a little stint at the top of the table while Manchester United sat in 15th. But after their questionable season last year, Tottenham Hotspur now sits in 3rd after beating Brighton on Sunday. Because of their form so far, many have brought up one question: Can Tottenham become title contenders? This week, David Sandoval and Sebastian Garay-Ortega debate on this question.

David Sandoval:
Tottenham have been the “banter” club over the past several years, I won’t deny it. After a

lack of transfers in the past, bottling their chances of winning the 2019 Champions League final and not winning any trophies since 2008, Spurs needed something to change. This turned out to be Mauricio Pochettino getting sacked and Jose Mourinho, one of the most successful managers in the sport, to take the spot. Mourinho knew exactly what he was getting himself into upon his arrival last November, and in the Winter and Summer transfer window, Mourinho brought in key players to get Spurs a trophy. Some of these players include Steven Bergwijn, Sergio Reguilon, Matt Doherty, Pierre-Emile Hojberg and the return of Gareth Bale. All of these players filled in positions the North London club have long needed.

Since the start of the 2020-21 season, some of these players have been main starters and have proven themselves to be vital to Mourinho’s project. Hojberg has played in every Pre-

mier League game he’s been in since his transfer and has had a 90% pass accuracy as well as 96 touches per game. In the case of Reguilon, he’s only played three games, but has won 60% of his tackles and has a 79% pass accuracy so far. Not too bad for a defender who just joined a couple of months ago. Whatever new tactic Mourinho’s been instilling on his players, it’s clearly working. If the performance of not only Hojberg and Reguilon but of senior players like Harry Kane and Heung-Min Son continue to flourish, I don’t think Premier League fans should brush off Tottenham having a chance of winning the league.

Sebastian Garay-Ortega:
April 18 2016, Dele Alli rounds then Stoke City goalkeeper Jack Butland; all he has to do is tap it into the back of an empty net. Although the odds were on his side, he missed and missed badly, smashing the ball against

the outside of the post, rolling out of play for a goal kick. This anecdote is a perfect example of what Tottenham Football Club is all about, no matter how close they get to glory, they always seem to mess it up. Ironically, 2016 was the last time Spurs had a legitimate shot at winning the English Premier League, and not only were they contenders in the first two months of the season, but throughout the entire campaign, sitting right behind leaders Leicester City until May 2, when they blew a 2-0 advantage against bitter London rivals Chelsea at Stamford Bridge, thanks to goals from center back Gary Cahill and left winger Eden Hazard, respectively.

A “double whammy” indeed; The beautiful game has chosen to be brutal to The Lilywhites, who have not been champions of England since 1960-61. Be that as it may, Tottenham finally have a chance to begin a new era under the special one, Jose Mourinho,

and end the curse that haunts fans on a daily basis. Despite the optimism I am relaying, I highly doubt Mourinho’s men will be able to pull it off. The team relies heavily on striker Harry Kane and winger Heung Min-Son, and that’s an understatement; without them, they truly look like a lost squad that loses their ability to break a defensive block, or put it into the back of the net.

In addition, some aspects of the backline still do not convince me. Particularly, center back Eric Dier seems to switch off during crucial moments of the match, or simply makes petulant mistakes that puts them in a bad position. Moreover, Mourinho does not have a reliable right back. Although Matthew Doherty and Serge Aurier are solid, they aren’t excellent fullbacks, something that is especially needed in this day and age.

See **TOTTENHAM**, p. 9

Baseball on the Brink: Is MLB’s economic structure sustainable?



In this Oct. 27, 2020 photo, Los Angeles Dodgers’ Mookie Betts, right, hits a home run against the Tampa Bay Rays during the eighth inning in Game 6 of the baseball World Series in Arlington, Texas. Betts could become the second player to win the MVP award in each league. PHOTO BY SUE OGROCKI/AP

by **Karthik Iyer**
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America’s trademark game is in trouble. In most successful sports leagues, there is a strong positive correlation between league success and consumer engagement in their market. With Major League Baseball (MLB) revenue breaking records and reaching \$10.7 billion league-wide in 2019, how can league popularity be declining? How can the average age of a baseball fan be 57 years, roughly 15 years higher than other major sports and increasing every year with dismal interest rates among young people? Has the MLB proved that an entertaining product on the field is not a part of their bottom line? In other words, is baseball dying?

Aside from the fact even baseball greats like Sandy Koufax and Don Drysdale have stated on numerous occasions the sport they love is hard to watch currently, the business of baseball has also been displaying some subtle but alarming warning signs.

A few telling reasons for such harsh criticism from both avid fans and critics alike are statistics that depict how a third of all at-bats ended in strikeouts, high-risk maneuvers like hit and run usage hovering around all-time lows, the pace of the game being horrifically slow and crowd hype being absent at live games due to increasing numbers of empty seats. In 2018, per game attendance dropped to its lowest point since 2003 and then 2019 followed it up with another 14% decrease. A big part of this de-

cline in attendance and general fan engagement is the distribution of talent around the league which creates sparsely distributed pockets of baseball interest around the country at best. The lack of legitimate parity in the league, due to insufficient salary cap regulation, has killed competition, resulting in teams routinely losing more than 100 games in the season and driving away more potential fans in an already dwindling market. Teams who are not able to generate fan interest because of the lack of talent on their rosters are now looking for other revenue streams, namely corporate sponsorships, and it is working to the benefit of the league and the detriment of the players and fans.

See **BASEBALL**, p. 10

Games to watch for NFL’s Week 9

NFL, cont. from p. 12

Patriots at Jets

Remember all those legendary Jets/Patriots matchups? Yeah, this won’t be one of them. But what it could do is have serious implications on draft positions. That’s right — there’s actually talk the Jets could win this game. Yes, they’re probably the worst team I have ever seen, but it still takes a lot more than just being bad to go 0-16. It takes some really, really bad luck as well, at least historically. It wouldn’t be the craziest thing for them to stumble into a win. After all, that would be the

most Jets thing to do, wouldn’t it? They would totally win a meaningless game to screw up their draft position.

Is it likely? Not in the slightest. But I just don’t think it’s out of the realm of possibility. The Patriots have been in a downward spiral, it’s a divisional rivalry and it’s on Monday Night Football. That just sounds like a recipe for something weird to happen.

Prediction: Still, I’m not going to predict it. It COULD happen, and that’s why I’m really intrigued about this game, but I’d be an idiot to actually pick the Jets. I’ll go as far as saying MAYBE they’ll put up a fight, but that’s it. 23-17, Patriots win.



New England Patriots quarterback Cam Newton (1) leaves the field after an NFL game against the Buffalo Bills Sunday, Nov. 1, 2020, in Orchard Park, New York. The Bills won 24-21. PHOTO BY JOHN MUNSON/AP

Daily

Sports

NFL games to watch Week 9

by Jorge Eckardt
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After finally seeing an improvement in COVID-19-related absences, the NFL got hit by another spike with the Green Bay Packers revealing Monday that rookie running back A.J. Dillon tested positive for COVID-19. Now, their Thursday night contest against the 49ers is in jeopardy.

That's obviously a game to keep an eye on, but here are three others.

Seahawks at Bills

The Seahawks, at 6-1, are a very good football team. There's even an argument for Seattle being the best team in the NFL, with the only real challengers for that spot being Pittsburgh and Kansas City. Star quarterback Russell Wilson is probably the leading MVP candidate at this point of the season, and his two receivers Tyler Lockett and DK Metcalf are both playing like top-10 pass catchers in the league. Even their defense, despite giving up by far the most yards per game, is only giving up ninth-most points per game. It's not ideal by any means, but they're doing a solid job of bend don't break. When you pair it with their explosive offense, any game is winnable.

The Bills, at 6-2, are masquerading as a very, very good football team. They got off to a hot start in the first four weeks, going 4-0 by beating the Jets, Dolphins, Rams and Raiders. The Jets are horrible, and while the other three

teams are solid, only one is currently in playoff position — the would-be seven-seed Rams. They then got manhandled by both the Titans and the Chiefs in back-to-back weeks, failing their first real tests against clear Super Bowl contenders. Then, they beat the Jets 18-10 in Week 7, which yes, it's a win, but that is the smallest margin of victory against the Jets all season. This past week, they beat the spiraling Patriots 24-21, once again coming way too close to losing to a team they easily should have blown out of the water. They very well could have lost that game too if Cam Newton had not fumbled in the red zone with under a minute left in the game. It almost certainly would have at least gone to OT. I am really curious to see if Josh Allen, who has looked flat-out bad his past four starts, and the rest of the Bills can compete with an actual top team.

Prediction: They won't. I really don't have any confidence in Allen, and while his stat line may look fine at the end of the game due to how poor the Seattle defense is, he won't be able to keep up with Wilson and the Seahawks. 37-24, Seahawks win.

Saints at Buccaneers

Antonio Brown is back. After serving an eight-game suspension for a violation of the NFL's personal conduct policy, he's set to make his return in Week 9. He's also teamed up with Tom Brady again, forming a three-headed monster in Tampa Bay at wide receiver with him, Mike Evans and



Buffalo Bills quarterback Josh Allen (17) is tackled by New England Patriots' Ja'Whaun Bentley (51) during the second half of an NFL game Sunday, Nov. 1, 2020, in Orchard Park, New York. PHOTO BY JOHN MUNSON/AP

Chris Godwin. For now, it might just be Brown and Evans, as Godwin is dealing with a fractured finger and his status for Week 9 is up in the air. Either way, reports say Brown looks great. Per FantasyPros, head coach Bruce Arians said "he is already in meeting and working with strength staff, in great shape and ready to go next week."

This is also a battle for the

top spot in the NFC South, with the Bucs sitting at 6-2 and the Saints right behind them at 5-2. It might not only be the return of Brown; it could also be the return of the Saints' star wideout Michael Thomas. Thomas has missed almost the entire season, catching just three passes Week 1 and not touching the field since. His status is still unknown, but it's possible we see two star wide-

outs making their return in the same game.

Prediction: I think it'll be a really close, back and forth game, but the Bucs are just the more explosive team. I think the Saints are better in the long run, but I just have a feeling about Tampa here. 35-30, Bucs win.

See NFL, p. 11

NBA Bubble Recap Part 3: Breaking down each team's bubble performance and future

by Dylan Haviland
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The 2020 NBA season has finally wrapped up, and the bubble champion Los Angeles Lakers has emerged victorious. In a truly bizarre year that saw the season stretch 355 days from start to finish, basketball fans were treated to some of the best basketball you could ask for. With so much basketball over the past three months, it can be hard to remember all of the great moments and breakout stars; but it is crucial to keep these in mind as we move into the 2021 season and the futures of each bubble team. Here's part three of my four-part series breaking down each team from the Orlando bubble.

Oklahoma City Thunder

Play-in record: 4-4
Playoff record: 3-4, Lost in the first round

You can't ask for a better season if you are the Oklahoma City Thunder. You traded away your franchise players in Russell Westbrook and Paul George, took on an aging Chris Paul and you still made the playoffs and were one game away from moving into the second round. Shai Gilgeous-Alexander looks to be a legitimate future star, and you robbed the LA Clippers of all of their first-round picks for eight years, which may end up be-



Lu Dort of the Oklahoma City Thunder dribbles the ball in a game against the Houston Rockets in the first round of the 2020 NBA playoffs in the Orlando bubble. PHOTO COURTESY OF @OKCTHUNDER ON TWITTER

ing high lottery picks if they lose George and Kawhi next year. Now Chris Paul's value is higher than it's been in three years despite his very large contract, potentially allowing the Thunder to add even more draft capital in the following years. The future for OKC is so bright you need sunglasses to look at it, and they have plenty of routes to go to make this team a contender

now or for the future. You can use Paul's contract and some of the picks to get a younger superstar from a team looking to rebuild, or you can hoard picks and trade up in the draft for the next generational star. On top of this, late round picks will help the Thunder fill out the bench with young and inexpensive role-players, allowing the team to replace some of the larger deals

like Dennis Schroder and Danilo Gallinari. In the end, Oklahoma City has, in my opinion, the highest upside of any team in the NBA for the next five years to return to title contention.

Orlando Magic

Play-in record: 3-5
Playoff record: 1-4, Lost in first round

With the Detroit Pistons finally committing themselves to a rebuild, the Orlando Magic are now the poster child of mediocrity in the NBA. After finishing the season with a 33-40 record and looking to former all-star Nikola Vucevic and a disappointing Aaron Gordon to give them any spark offensively, the Orlando Magic finished with the eighth seed and exited rather uneventfully in five games to the Milwaukee Bucks. The problem with this team is they don't have the young talent needed to raise them into legitimate playoff contention, and after consecutive years of late lottery picks and misses, the team has glided comfortably into an O.K. but not great position in the Eastern Conference. This is not to say they don't have avenues to get better. If youngsters Mohamed Bamba and Jonathan Isaac fill out into stars, then we will see them move up into a much more competitive role in the East. However, if this doesn't happen and the Magic continue to settle into mediocrity as the Pistons did for much of this decade, then we can be assured in counting out the Magic in the playoffs for the foreseeable future.

See NBA, p. 10

WHAT TO KEEP AN EYE ON THIS WEEK

Games we're watching this week

vs.

Donald Trump

Joe Biden

Teams we're paying attention to

Athletes we're paying attention to

Josh Allen

INSTAGRAM OF THE DAY

JAMES BOUKNIGHT

JERRY WEST AWARD

PRESEASON WATCHLIST

@uconnmbb James Bouknight named to the 2021 Jerry West Award Watch ☺️ #WestAward #ThisIsUConn #PullTheSled

TWEETS OF THE DAY

Mike Mavredakis @MMavredakis Exit polls are starting to come in, you know what that means. That's right - mint chocolate Milano cookies.

UConn: It's Coming @NoEscalators Election day: tougher than a long weekend at your in-laws.

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