

THE RECORDER

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An Open Forum on Central's Polytechnic Fate Continues...

by Elijah Hernandez
Co-Editor-In-Chief

Representatives from the Polytechnic Task Force gave updates on the progress their constituencies have made concerning the Research 2 and polytechnic proposal at an open forum in Davidson Hall on April 8.

With the July deadline inching closer, the seven chairs are part of the proposal process in their own ways.

Some of the goals they are trying to achieve prior to submitting the proposal include taking inventory of the accumulation of resources on campus; creating options for a potential name change; taking feedback from faculty and students to incorporate their input into the drafting process; budgeting with the intention of overseeing the logistics of the transition; and identifying what potential changes to the curriculum may look like.



President Toro speaking on the benefits of the transition, Marcus Saunders/The Recorder

President Zulma Toro emphasized that the proposal is just phase one of the entire process.

"What we are going to submit is the concept and the ideas. We are not going to submit academic programs that are completely better," Toro said. "If you look at what other

institutions have done, for example, California State University, they submitted to the state, and their academic programs are still, some of them, under development. That's part of the implementation. This is the first phase. The second phase will be the implementation itself."

As part of efforts to inform students about what the transition entails, groups like the Student Government Association have created events such as a scavenger hunt to make students more aware of resources on campus. This included a pamphlet of digestible information related to the proposal.

The information included the long-term goal of continuing to provide high-quality education while creating new partnerships that will expand Central's network. It also stated that tuition will not increase based on the proposal being accepted, the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (CLASS) will receive the same level of support it currently receives from the university, it addressed the long-term benefits of a polytechnic institution, and it explained the experiential and applied learning aspects of such an institution.

This rollout of information aims to make students more aware of what the transition may entail, as the university continues working to build favorable public opinion.

However, at the forum, numerous professors and students spoke out to voice their concerns about the transition.

see **FORUM** on page 2

Full Good: Why 'Project Hail Mary' is the Sci-Fi We Need, RIGHT NOW



Ryan Gosling stars in MGM Studios' Project Hail Mary, © MGM/Courtesy Everett Collection

by Eary Banushi
Social Media Editor

It's rare for a movie about the end of the world to feel uplifting, but Project Hail Mary manages to do exactly that. Based on author Andy Weir's 2021 hard science fiction novel of the same name, the film was released on March 20. Directed by Phil Lord and Christopher Miller, it has already climbed to a 94% rating on Rotten Tomatoes, and for good reason.

The film stars Ryan Gosling as Ryland Grace, a middle school teacher and former biologist

who wakes up on a spaceship with no memory of how he got there. He soon discovers the terrifying reality: A microscopic organism called Astrophage is consuming the sun's energy at an exponential rate. If left unchecked, Earth will be plunged into a permanent ice age, leading to total extinction within decades.

The scope of the disaster is staggering. It isn't just our solar system that's affected, but every nearby star. The only exception is the Tau Ceti system, which remains mysteriously unaffected. Through a series of unfortunate

see **MARY** on page 5

ABOUT

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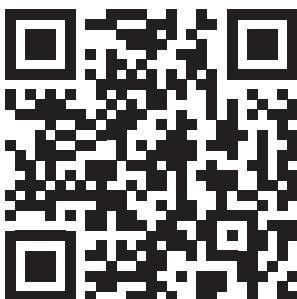
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FORUM continued from front

From asking whether there is a possibility of pushing back the proposal, as the process seems rushed and input has been limited, to recognizing the institution's current shortcomings and bringing attention to changes that need to be addressed, the proposal continues to receive pushback.

But Toro remains optimistic about the future because the transition, to her, is the next step for Central Connecticut State University.

"The fact that the ideas are flowing, that you are engaged

in the process, makes me very happy, because at the end of the day, this is an opportunity for us to decide who we would like to be and how we would like to evolve in the future," Toro said. "I'm asking everyone to rethink what we are doing in such a way that we can engage more students. As with any change, I am not expecting that 100 percent of the people will be supportive to start with; that's not going to happen. But at the end of the day, it's about our students, our communities, our state."



Discussions make the atmosphere tense, with numerous moments of push-back from attendees, Marcus Saunders/The Recorder

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Central's International Studies Program Starts its First Annual Global Festival in Style

by **Lorenzo Gagliotta**
Staff Writer

The International Studies Program at Central Connecticut State University hosted the first event of the Global Festival at the Italian Resource Center in the Elihu Burritt Library on Tuesday, April 7.

Students will be stopping at various cultural centers and international spaces on campus as part of an ongoing festival.

The event will include global exhibits across Central celebrating cultures and languages from around the globe from April 16-20.

Kicking off in collaboration with the Italian Resource Center, "Loretta del caffè," meaning coffee hour, was the first event, closely tying those passionate about Italian American traditions.

Jessica Rutherford and Paul Petterson, associate professor of Spanish and professor of political science, created the first Global Festival, looking to

grow cultural engagement with students.

"The goal is to celebrate Central's excellence in international education by showcasing the great work of our students, staff and faculty at the university," Rutherford said.

With it being the inaugural year of the festival, Rutherford said that it is events like these that allow students to experience international cultures firsthand.

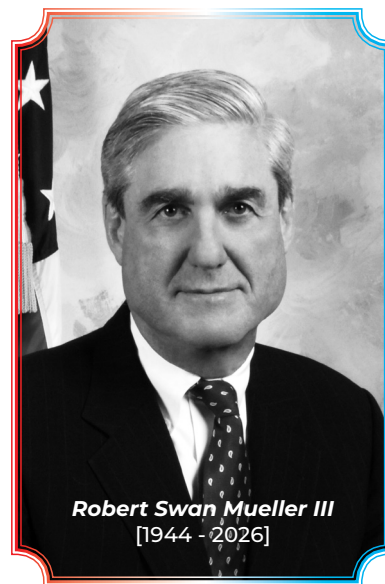
"This kind of engagement moves learning beyond textbooks and helps students understand how cultures influence traditions, communication and perspectives around the world," Rutherford said.

The Global Festival will end with its closing ceremony, held at the Constitution Room in Memorial Hall on Thursday, April 30.



The International Studies Program expects the Global Festival to be a longlasting tradition at CCSU, Lorenzo Gagliotta

REMEMBERING ROBERT MUELLER



by **Liam McCusker**
Staff Writer

fbi.gov

The recent passing of former FBI Director Robert Mueller has sparked a wave of nostalgia throughout the country. His legacy has left an impression on many Americans; thus, discussions of his life fill the void that he left.

Before going into law enforcement, Mueller served in the U.S. Marine Corps. He enlisted in 1968 and served in the Vietnam War, where he earned the Bronze Star for valor and a Purple Heart after being wounded in combat.

Mueller was a public servant for many years, but many people remember him for leading the FBI from 2001 to 2013. He was appointed to the role by then-President George W. Bush just days before the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the United States.

During his tenure, the FBI transitioned from catching criminals after a crime had occurred to proactively working to counter terrorism and gather intelligence. He created specialized divisions to gather, analyze and share critical information with other agencies. He invested in cybersecurity and digital forensics.

However, Mueller's commitment to public service did not end with the FBI. In 2017, he was appointed special counsel to investigate interference from Russia in the 2016 presidential election and potential connections to President Donald Trump's campaign. Over the next two years, Mueller's investigation found that Russia had spread misinformation online and conducted cyberattacks against then-Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton to influence the election in Trump's favor.

They posted political content on social media platforms and hacked emails to make voters see Clinton as less credible. Although the investigation did not find connections between Trump's team and Russia, it concluded that Russian interference had been illegal and had interfered in the democratic process.

Overall, Mueller's life can be seen as a dedication to civic duty and keeping the country safe. From his time in Vietnam to earning one of the highest-ranking positions in the United States government, Mueller showed a strong commitment to serving the public and finding accountability.

His career reminds us of the importance of strong leadership. The impact he had on the FBI and the country will be remembered for a long time to come.

THIS WEEK'S CAMPUS EVENTS

Central Activities Network [CAN]

Devil's Den @ 10 PM: Time Machine

Thursday, April 9, at 9 PM EST

Semesters Cafe, CCSU Student Center

WFCS 107.7 New Britain | Hartford The Edge

Media Board Lecture Series: Robyn Doyon Aitken

Thursday, April 9, at 6 PM EST

Philbrick | Camp Room 120, CCSU Student Center

Africana Students Organization [ASO]

ASO 13th Annual Fashion Show

Friday, April 10, at 6 PM EST

Welte Auditorium

Students for Justice in Palestine & Arab Student Council

Pali-Fest 2026

Wednesday, April 15, at 5 PM EST

Alumni Hall, Bellin Hall, and Blue & White Room

WORST ALBUM IN AMERICA?!?

\$LAYYYTER

by Ron Marq
DeSign and Layout Editor

Slayyyter's third album, 'WORST GIRL IN AMERICA,' was going to be her last, which is surprising given the success of her first two — 'Troubled Paradise' and 'Starfucker' — after her self-titled debut mixtape. Though this album is a self-described 'recession indicator,' a return to the Midwestern impoverished indie rock pop St. Louis roots that 29-year-old Slayyyter grew up on by highlighting the height of Y2K culture at its rawest and realest, inspired by artists of the era like Lady GaGa, Ke\$ha, Justice, 3OH!3, Crystal Castles and The Black-Eyed Peas.

WGIA serves as a recalling of a simpler, trashier time. The album delves into hedonism, love, loss, the double-sided coin of music industry fame and existential dread, capitalism and more three-dimensional aspects of women in modern pop.

The opening track, 'DANCE...,' is a seedy anthem about forgetting your woes and dancing in the midst of blowing off creeps. 'BEAT UP CHANEL\$' and 'OLD TECHNOLOGY' pose wanting expensive material things against nostalgic times when charts and numbers were nothing in comparison to trending on Tumblr.

'CANNIBALISM!' sounds like a live band's dive bar Halloween banger that would be huge if it hit the mainstream airwaves. The iconic song 'CRANK' burns out the speakers and pushes the knob to 11 with a high-energy, upbeat dance track about losing control.

'GAS STATION' follows as a sleazy ballad to a deadbeat man who left his love interest at the titled gas station. 'YES GODDD' is another crown jewel on the album, combining rock and electro for a braggadocio and affirmation filled thrasher that reminds me of Janet Jackson's 'If.'

'UNKNOWN LOVERZ' feels like a chilled Gwen Stefani/Lana Del Rey-inspired love song that sounds like a blunt on a beach day. 'OLD FLING\$' starts up reminiscent of 'Dancing On My Own' about reversing the trope of an old flame with someone else, but now with her.



WORST GIRL IN AMERICA, slayyyter.com

'I'M ACTUALLY KINDA FAMOUS' takes a dialogue-driven turn, with Slayyyter trying to show up a clubgoer while convincing the same clubgoer that she's, as the title suggests, famous. It ties well with the following track, '\$T. LOSER,' that falls in and out of distorted, altered states, genres and moods about thinking of someone else. The final three tracks, 'WHAT IT IS LIKE TO BE LIKED?,' 'PRAYER' and 'BRITTANY MURPHY,' come as a bit of a trilogy showcasing the other side of fame — having it all but feeling empty inside, as if the material things don't amount to what life is all about. 'PRAYER' then delves into Slayyyter's Catholic upbringing and self-reflection as she recites St. Francis' Prayer. The final track, 'BRITTANY MURPHY,' ends with a period signaling multiple ends — the album itself, the untimely end of the life of the title's namesake and the end of the track list. In it, Slayyyter wants to be remembered for the bright star she's proven to be, even if she leaves this world earlier than predicted.

This album takes a run-of-the-mill, trashy pop girl and shows how much more than a passing trend she is. Slayyyter stays true to her roots and her current social standing as a queer icon and powerful musical force, especially with a sold out upcoming tour. \$layyy, queen.

MARY continued from front

circumstances, Grace is chosen to travel across light-years to Tau Ceti in hopes of discovering the secret that could save humanity.

But, as it turns out, humans aren't the only ones trying to save their planet.

While that sounds like a heavy premise, the film avoids the usual doom and gloom of space dramas. Instead, it leans into humor, curiosity and human connection, creating a tone that feels genuinely positive. Much of that success rests on Gosling's shoulders. He balances intelligence with vulnerability and just enough humor to keep things grounded. Rather than portraying a stoic "chosen one" hero, Grace feels relatable. He's often unsure of himself, but driven by a teacher's instinct to solve the problem in front of him.

The film finds its rhythm in the trial and error of the mission. The science, from orbital mechanics to the biology of the Astrophage, never feels overwhelming. Instead, it's presented as a series of puzzles. Watching Grace use basic logic and makeshift tools to solve complex interstellar problems makes you feel like you're learning alongside him, rather than being lectured at.

But the emotional heartbeat of the movie is Rocky. Without giving too much away, Rocky's presence adds an entirely new layer to the story. The chemistry between him and Grace is easily the strongest part of the film. Through sound design and subtle physical expression, their relationship turns what could have been a straightforward survival story into something much more meaningful, about trust, communication, cooperation and a friendship that crosses the boundary between species.

What ultimately sets Project Hail Mary apart is its optimism. In a genre often dominated by destruction and despair, this film chooses to focus on resilience and intelligence. It suggests that humanity's greatest strength isn't just our will to survive, but our ability to work together and adapt under extreme circumstances.

By the time the credits roll, what lingers isn't just the high-stakes outcome of the mission, but the sense of hope built along the way. It's a rare kind of sci-fi story, one that leaves you thinking, but more importantly, feeling.

So, when it comes to Project Hail Mary, it's not half bad. It's full good.



Official theatrical release poster, ©MGM/Courtesy Everett Collection

COMMUTER COLUMN

by McKenna Dalek
Contributor

As prices remain high, Central students have to account for the cost in their daily routines.

Gas prices are continuing to climb, with Central students being affected daily, as about 70% of Central's students are commuters. The cost of college isn't cheap, and with ongoing global tensions, gas now sits at nearly \$4 per gallon. Students at Central now have to make tougher choices when commuting to school or work.

Jaidyn Kollie, a commuter student, said her travels have become more of a worrying factor in her every day, with the increase in gas prices.

"It's gone up so much. It's affected me because I drive here, and it's more expensive to fill up my tank," said Kollie.

Another commuter student, Aiden Vallee, voiced their frustrations with the compounding costs of the college lifestyle.

"You know, it costs a lot to get here, and you know, it's annoying that they're going up because I'd spend more money," said Vallee. Experts said it's unclear when prices will change, but in the meantime organizations like AAA are offering tips to help save gas money.

- Minimize your use of air conditioning. Even at highway speeds, open windows have less effect on fuel economy than the engine power required to operate the air conditioning compressor.
- Plan ahead to accomplish multiple errands in one trip, and whenever possible travel outside high-traffic times of the day.
- If you own more than one car, use the most fuel-efficient model that meets the needs of any given journey.



Current gas prices as of 4/8,
Elijah Hernandez/The Recorder

Beyond the Ring: Women Boxers' Fight for Recognition and Equality

by Keysa Mateo
Contributor

Under the bright lights of a packed arena, two women lace up their gloves after months of training, discipline and sacrifice. Their fight showcases not only skill and endurance but also the ongoing struggle for recognition and equality in the sport of boxing. While men's boxing has historically dominated headlines and financial rewards, women fighters continue to face systemic barriers, from lower pay and limited media coverage to fewer sponsorship opportunities. The history, challenges and progress of women's boxing highlight the legal battles, cultural shifts and grassroots efforts that help female athletes claim their rightful place in the ring.

While professional opportunities for women remain limited, local programs such as Charter Oak Boxing Academy (COBA) and the Central Connecticut State University Boxing Club are helping expand access to the sport. Both programs actively support female athletes by providing inclusive training environments, experienced coaching and equal opportunities for competition and development. "This helps the kids focus and, you know, get their workouts done. It helps them stay away from all the bad things that maybe some negative influences could pull them toward, right? That's another big factor, in my opinion," said Jasmin Sabanovic, head coach of the CCSU boxing club. "We keep them there and help them shine and grow athletically as well as academically, because we don't want them just to be, you know, boxers. We want them to have phenomenal careers, whatever they may decide to do," Sabanovic added.

Boxing has a long history, with men competing as far back as ancient Egypt and Greece, and modern rules taking shape in 17th and 18th centuries in England. Women were largely excluded from the sport for centuries, limited to occasional exhibition matches, and it was not until the late 20th century that professional and amateur women's boxing gained broader recognition, culminating in its Olympic debut at the 2012 Olympics in London. This history demonstrates that women have had to fight not only in the ring but also for the right to be taken seriously in the sport, a struggle that continues today.

The sport's long-standing machismo and the overwhelming number of male boxers have also created challenges at the amateur level, where women often struggle to find opponents. Dejah Ford, a therapist, former amateur boxer and current coach for COBA's female amateur program, said, "When I was younger, there weren't many girls in the sport. I trained for competitions, but I often couldn't be matched because there were no girls in my weight class." Despite increased participation, a significant gender gap remains: According to Zippia boxer gender statistics in the U.S., men account for about 68.2% of professional and amateur boxers, while women make up 31.8%.

Men's boxing has long dominated the spotlight, with legends such as Muhammad Ali, Mike Tyson and Floyd Mayweather earning fame and millions through major fights and media exposure. Women's boxing, in contrast, has struggled for equal recognition, even as fighters like Christy Martin, Kayla Ali, Claressa Shields, Katie Taylor, Amanda Serrano and Cecilia Braekhus have delivered some of the sport's most memorable bouts—Taylor's 2019 fight against Delfine Persoon is a notable example. Male fighters often earn 10 to 20 times more than their female counterparts, though elite women are now beginning to reach million-dollar purses.

According to CBS News, Claressa Shields fighting for gender equality for women boxers: Shields' promoter, Dmitriy Salita, told CBS News, "TV and streaming deals pay men 10 to 20 times more than women. Male boxers typically earn around \$3 million per fight, while female fighters have only recently started reaching seven-figure purses—though some make more, and many still earn far less." While boxers like Shields and Serrano are breaking barriers and gaining recognition, women in the sport continue to face lower earnings, limited media coverage and fewer sponsorship opportunities. Shields told The Associated Press, "We don't get the equal TV time, the equal promotion, equal pay. That's what I've been trying to do with my platform, make sure I get all of that."

The fight against inequality in boxing extends beyond the



Coach Callas with his student amateur boxers: training day at COBA, Keysa Mateo

ring, with legal challenges playing a key role in advancing women's opportunities. In 1993, Dallas Malloy challenged USA Boxing in federal court after being told women did not belong in the sport, ultimately earning the right to compete. By that time, other countries, including Canada, had already lifted restrictions on women competing in amateur boxing. USA Boxing had cited safety and medical concerns as justification for the ban, but advocates within the sport disputed these claims (Historical Database, The True History of Women's Boxing: Dallas Malloy: She Wouldn't Take No for an Answer by Sue T.L. Fox).

Johnny Callas, founder and executive director of COBA, world champion boxing referee and CCSU national champion, said, "Who has the babies? Are you kidding me? Women are stronger and smarter." Callas added that men "can't handle childbirth," noting that women are "wired better than the so-called lesser half of the species."

He has publicly supported allowing women to compete in three-minute Olympic-style rounds, rather than the two-minute format currently used in professional bouts. Cases like Malloy's and the advocacy of figures like Callas highlight the lengths to which legal and cultural battles for equality in women's boxing extend.

Male boxers continue to benefit from historical and structural advantages, including larger talent pools, longer fights and greater market demand. One key difference is round length: while women compete in three-minute rounds at the amateur level, professional bouts are often limited to two minutes. Jahnyah Lumpkin, a junior at the University of Connecticut and assistant coach for UConn's boxing team who trained at COBA for four years in high school, said, "I like fighting three-minute rounds—open-class women and men do—but in the pros, women are back to two-minute rounds, and that's where I raise my eyebrow."

Serrano has fought to break barriers, regardless of the odds. She became the first woman to fight 12 rounds instead of 10 against Dalina Ramos, compete in three-minute rounds instead of two and earn a seven-figure purse—an achievement rarely seen in women's boxing. "Moving forward, if a sanctioning body doesn't want to give me and my fellow fighters the choice to fight the same as the men, then I will not be fighting for that sanctioning body," Serrano told ESPN.

Even with these accomplishments, female boxers still fight 10 rounds per bout with two-minute rounds. Women and their supporters continue to play a crucial role in sustaining the sport, showing up as fans, advocates and participants. Audiences are increasingly drawn to the intensity and skill of women's fights, while grassroots supporters help promote bouts through social media and community events. At the amateur level, coaches,



COBA's goal is to apply the discipline required for excellence in the ring to life, cobaboxing.net

families and local gyms provide essential support, ensuring young female boxers have opportunities to train, compete and stay engaged. Together, this growing base of support helps keep women's boxing visible and moving forward, demonstrating that progress is possible when the community invests in equality inside and outside the ring.

Despite decades of exclusion and inequality, women's boxing has made significant strides, from landmark legal battles to the growing visibility of elite fighters like Claressa Shields and Katie Taylor. Programs such as Charter Oak Boxing Academy and CCSU Boxing Club provide critical support, cultivating the next generation of female athletes. Yet persistent gaps in pay, media coverage and sponsorship opportunities underscore the ongoing struggle for equality.

Many observers note that while progress has been made, women still face barriers both in the ring and in society. Dejah Ford, a former amateur boxer and current coach, said, "There is still more to be done. There's still a fight to be fought in sports, but also across society, in how women are viewed and how women are valued." She added, "Yes, we've made progress, but there's still more work to be done," emphasizing that the pursuit of gender equality will continue. The progress made by women in the

sport demonstrates resilience, skill and determination. It offers a powerful example of how dedication, advocacy and community support can challenge long-standing barriers and reshape a historically male-dominated arena.

Montez Johnson, a professor and associate director of undergraduate advising who helped start CCSU's boxing club, said inequality in boxing remains widespread. He noted that many promoters are still unwilling to invest in female fighters, adding that even champions like Claressa Shields lack the promotional backing routinely given to men.

"Claressa, she's been able to promote herself really well," Montez said. "But if she had more backing, I bet she would be even more out of this world." Advocates such as Jake Paul have helped push progress forward by supporting fighters like Amanda Serrano and publicly arguing that women boxers deserve equal pay and recognition. Montez added, "Females are just as tough and gritty as these other guys. These women are really skillful. If you understand the sport, yeah, women need just as much promotion as men."

Student supporters from the CCSU boxing club have also witnessed inequality in women's boxing matches. Elijah Lovely, a CCSU student and treasurer of the club, said he was heavily invested in the Katie Taylor vs.

Amanda Serrano fight but was disappointed by the judging and officiating. "My complaint wasn't with the fighters in the female match," Lovely said. "I felt like there was a lower quality of refereeing and judging, which didn't seem fair."

He added that both athletes performed at an elite level but were not given the same standard of officiating as men. "Both women were putting up just as strong a fight," he said, "yet they didn't receive the same quality of control in the match."

Nicholas Hernandez, a senior at CCSU and president of the CCSU boxing club, said that women's boxing is as entertaining as—or even more entertaining than—male boxing matches.

"It's something that is male-dominated, so when they come in, they already come in with a sense of having something to prove," Hernandez said. "You can see that in the ring, which is beautiful, because it's almost like a fighting spirit."

He described fighting spirit as beyond all odds you're either doing something that hasn't been done before or trying to prove people wrong.

"That comes out whenever they're fighting," he said. "It's literally the embodiment of everything they're trying to prove in the ring. I think that's almost like an art form."

At the CCSU boxing club, although it's mostly male student boxers, women have joined in the past and have been part of the club. You don't always have to box a match; you can even just come to train and do it as an exercise. The members welcome and look forward to more women joining the club.

Many women who now compete professionally began their careers at local gyms like COBA. Connecticut professional boxer Stevie Jane Coleman trained at COBA as an amateur before transitioning to the professional ranks. COBA, one of the top boxing academies in Connecticut and the leading gym in Hartford, has seen a steady increase in female participation. In July 2021, the gym recorded its largest female training class to date, with several young women preparing for competition. These programs continue to support women and look forward to the growth in women's boxing. As the fight for equality in boxing continues, voices from the community remind us why visibility and advocacy matter.

"I want my girls to see that people care about gender inequality, that it's being noticed, studied and challenged—and that progress is possible," Ford said.



COBA's boxing ring, Keysa Mateo

Blue Devils Struggle Against the Red Storm

by Andrew O' Sullivan
and Kyle Zarnoch
Staff Writer

CCSU ended their first full month of play with a win against the visiting Sacred Heart Pioneers in a high-scoring 12-8 matchup on March 31.

Following a series loss against Northeast Conference opponent Wagner, the CCSU baseball team failed to get back on track as they dropped a home game against the St. John's Red Storm on Tuesday, April 7, with a final score of 9-1.

The game against the Johnnies was Central's first game against a power conference opponent all season, as well as their first matchup against any school from the Big East Conference since playing the Red Storm in March 2025.

St. John's came into the game 14-17 overall but 3-0 in conference play after sweeping Seton Hall in a recent series.

The game began with Central on the mound with pitcher Kyle McDermott starting, and St. John's immediately flexed their muscles with two runs in the first inning before their 2-0 lead was cut in half by the Blue Devils thanks to offensive power by Gabe Pitts and Antonio Ducatelli.

McDermott and St. John's Thomas Harding continued trading blows as neither squad was able to generate any runs throughout the second, third or fourth innings.

The Red Storm, however, got the better of McDermott in the fifth, as they were able to score a run before he was pulled in favor of relief pitcher Bryce Meder. Meder couldn't stop the bleeding as St. John's drove in another three runs to extend their lead to 6-1.

Central's woes on the mound continued as CJ DiBenedetto allowed another three runs after he came in for Meder, extending St. John's lead to 8-1. Mason McCarroll was able to slow down the opposing momentum as he only allowed a single hit while pitching, but the Red Storm pitching continued to be strong. The team put on cruise control on the mound and only gave up four hits to Central.

After McCarroll gave up the game-sealing ninth Red Storm run, closer Noah Terzo ended the game on a high note as he pitched a perfect ninth inning. That wouldn't be enough to change the result, however, as the Blue Devils lost by eight.

Gianno Merlonghi was Central's hit leader with two, and Antonio Ducatelli had one RBI.

Head Coach Charlie Hickey was critical of his team during the loss and emphasized the lack of consistency on either side of the ball throughout the game, as well as throughout the season thus far.

"It's been a struggle for us for a while now," Hickey said.

He added that the team isn't operating on a good formula of play. "That's just the rut we're in right now," he said.



The Blue Devils standing for the National Anthem ahead of their matchup,
Steve McLaughlin

Coach Hickey sang the praises of St. John's and mentioned how a power conference team gave the Blue Devils a "reality check" on Tuesday.

"You got a chance to see the depth of their pitching," Hickey said.

He added that it was stronger than what you see in the NEC.

"They played a couple other kids who are younger, but they've been a quality program for a long time," he said.

Hickey did not have a long list of positives from the game.

"You can either feel sorry about it or you can do something. The other teams in our conference have no sympathy for us. You earn it by going out and playing better," he said. "Until we fix things like throwing strikes and playing defense, we're not gonna be where we want to be at the end of the year."

He also talked about some of the differences between last year's team and this year's team and what the challenges are from the coach's point of view.

"Last year we used to dictate so much because of our offense. It was easier to play when we were up six runs," he said.

Central's next series will be in Maryland against conference opponent Coppin State this weekend, and the team will return to New Britain on Tuesday, April 14, to take on the University at Albany.

CCSU ATHLETIC SCHEDULE

Men's & Women's Track

April 10 @ Connecticut College
Silfen Invitational
April 11 @ UMass

Softball

April 11 vs. New Haven at 1 PM
April 11 vs. New Haven at 3 PM
April 12 vs. New Haven 12 PM
April 15 @ Fairfield at 3 PM



Baseball

April 10 @ Coppin State at 3 PM
April 11 @ Coppin State at 1 PM
April 12 @ Coppin State at 12 PM
April 14 vs. University of Albany at 3 PM

Women's Lacrosse

April 11 @ Wagner at 11 AM