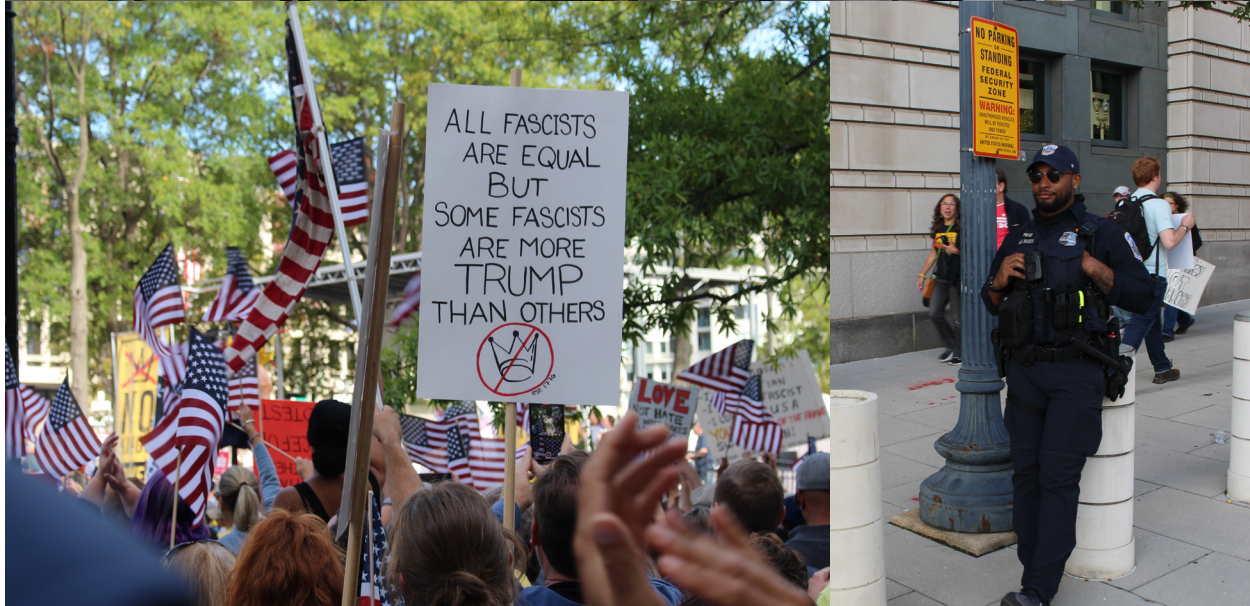


THE RECORDER

October 23, 2025

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The Recorder in D.C.: No Kings Protests

By **Elijah Hernandez**
Co-Editor-In-Chief

In a domestic movement often characterized by the overwhelming magnitude of participants involved, the “No Kings Protests” took place on Oct. 18 in all 50 states.

The protests were in disapproval of the current administration amid tumultuous times with the government shutdown, an increase in uncertainty and social division among other factors.

In the 2,700 events that took place, more than seven million people were present and falling for a change against what they deemed to be a rapidly evolving authoritarian regime, according to the No Kings website.

From Spike Lee to Bill Nye, the Science Guy, these protests had larger implications than just going out in the streets and fighting for what’s right.

Some protesters said it was a rebellion against the degradation of Constitutional Rights under the current administration.

How did President Donald Trump respond? He used AI-generated imagery to create a scene where he was flying above protesters in a fighter jet dropping feces on the protesters.

Protesters had signs concerning anti-authoritarian messaging, comparing the current administration to Nazis, pro-humanitarian efforts, environmental protection sentiments, Trump’s questionable past and so much more.

Senator Bernie Sanders was a guest speaker at the event, and his sentiments were poised to sway the crowd’s emotions to get them invested in his message.

See *No Kings* on Page 2

Photo Credits Elijah Hernandez, The Recorder; over 100,000 people at the D.C. protests

About

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News Editor

Elijah Hernandez

Sports Editor

Marcus Saunders

Social Media Editor

Jameson Lynch

Copy Editor

Nathalia Blair

Photo Copy Editor

Ian Yale

Staff Writers

Nicolina Coronis
Nicholas Dest
Noah Gavin
Kyle Zarnoch

Contributors**Co-Editors-in-Chief**

Elijah Hernandez
&
Marcus Saunders

Meetings

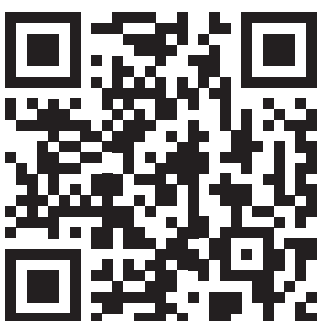
Thursdays at 3:00 p.m.
Recorder Room
Student Center

THE RECORDER OFFICE

Student Center
1615 Stanley Street
New Britain, CT 06050

860-832-3744
editor@centralrecorder.org
CentralRecorder.org

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SCAN FOR OUR LINKS

No Kings Continued

Photo Credits Elijah Hernandez, The Recorder; over 100,000 people at the D.C. protests

"We have a president who sues and intimidates the media, who wants no criticism of him and his policies and undermines the First Amendment of our Constitution, the very foundation of our democracy," he said. "Our country is in danger when he threatens to arrest or imprison political opponents who stand against him. It is in danger when we have a president who undermines freedom of thought and dissent in our colleges and universities."

With each statement, a wall of boos could be heard from miles away. But when Sanders changed his rhetoric, so did the responses.

"My fellow Americans, we rejected the divine right of kings in the 1770s, we will not accept the divine rights of Oligarchs today," he said. "Throughout the history of our country, when Americans have stood up and fought for justice, they have prevailed. When they set off to fight King George, they were told it was impossible, but they won. Abolitionists fought to end slavery; they were told it was impossible, but they won. Women fought for the right to vote; they were told it was impossible, but they won. Brothers and sisters, they did it then, we can and will do it now." The morale shift left a lingering electric cadence of woos that shook the ground with each statement. Sanders was there

not only to protest, but to offer hope in what seems to the protestors to be bleak times.

Emiliano Sanchez, an event organizer, said the diversity at the protest was refreshing to see, especially in the current political climate.

"It was great to see just how large the crowd was. It's nice to know how many people feel the same way," he said. "I see people of all ages here, people of all walks of life, and Bernie [Sanders] gave a great unifying speech. But all-in-all a lot of good energy so people seem to be turning the tides."

Sanchez said the importance of broadcasting their voice lets others who have a similar mindset know they are not alone.

"Just getting the press coverage and letting people know, letting people see that a broad majority of Americans aren't okay with what's happening," he said. "Most people don't have an appetite for what this administration is gunning for. Yes, they have their base, but they're generally not popular."

When it comes to some of the things Sanchez disagrees with, the utilization of certain law enforcers seems to be counter intuitive to him.

"Most Americans don't like the direction the country's going, we

can see it in our wallets every day, we have National Guard and DHS on the streets, things are still expensive and we still don't get paid a lot, and all of our tax dollars are going to Israel or Argentina or somewhere else," he said. "We usually speak out about the presence of the National Guard and ICE here and in Chicago, as it's something that we feel very much is unnecessary. It made people feel less safe, because this whole crime wave people talk about, not a lot of citizens here recognize that. But we do see federal agents on the streets; they're often found harassing someone or standing around wasting our tax dollars, and that's best-case scenario."

In preparation for the protests, Metropolitan Police Officer Harrison Baden said events like these are a regular occurrence, but their top priority is everyone's safety.

"People protest in D.C. every week, so it's something that we're used to," he said. "We're pretty prepared for protests, especially for ones this big, that preparation happens months in advance. We just try to make things go as peacefully as possible, let the people speak their minds, do what they need to do, and make sure they safely make it home."

The importance of younger representation at these events is becoming the forefront of par-

ticipation strategies, and Brandon Knight, being a part of Gen Z, talked about the importance of not just showing up but preserving the moment in time.

"I'm just documenting the people around, documenting the entire feeling and emotional weight of the protest," he said. "I really like seeing other people using their voice for something good and just the sheer amount of people here coming together speaks volumes to what this means to people."

When it comes to art, Knight said its impact lasts generations and it's pivotal to understanding where humanity is in history.

"Art in that factor is tremendously important; it's a window into what people are feeling," he said. "I think it's really cool to see everyone's individual expression, and it's still all aligned with the same message. We're at a point where this is completely unacceptable."

"He's trying to put death to art. Art is the spirit of humanity," he said.

Have a story that needs to be told?
Tips or ledes that should be investigated?
Email us at elijahh@my.ccsu.edu
or fill out the contact form on our website
centralrecorder.org

Central Helps Transfer Students Feel at Home

The Headcount Enrollment data has been released for the fall 2025 semester, and Central Connecticut State University has 866 transfers just from other Connecticut school, according to CCSU's Institutional Research and Assessment.

CCSU's New Student Programs Office held an appreciation day event on Monday, Oct. 20 for National Transfer Student Appreciation Week.

The event was held in the Student Center lobby and invit-

ed transfer students to come to the table to learn about resources, share their transfer stories and enjoy a free donut.

The event took place from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and 3 to 5 p.m. and was attended by New Student Programs assistant Meliana Prado.

Prado hoped the transfer student recognition event would encourage transfer students to learn about new programs or share their path to CCSU.

"[I hope to] capture any transfer

By Noah Gavin
Staff Writer

student that may not have attended a transfer orientation," she said. "Just to give them more information about the resources we have available for them on campus, and also to celebrate the unique journey they took to come here."

When offered the opportunity to host this event, Prado was very excited and jumped on it.

"We never really celebrated our transfer students on campus, at least not like this," she said. "I just wanted to do a simple event, like a grab-and-go where we can offer them donuts, as well as tell them about upcoming events they can attend here on campus."

Prado also welcomed transfer students to bring a shirt from their former university to trade in for a new Central shirt.

"It's just a way of bringing the student community together and kind of giving them a better sense of belonging on campus," she said.

Students expressed how important it is for transfer students to feel welcome and accepted on a new college campus—including Nanette Addow, a finance major who transferred from Norwalk Community College.

"Being a transfer student, and even being a new student in gen-

eral, being in a new space, you could feel lonely that first year," she said. "But there are a lot of leadership opportunities here, and you just find your people, and you [will] find your community. You get to enjoy yourself."

Addow said it is essential for students to feel this sense of community to be successful at a university.

"You can't do well with your classes if you aren't well with yourself," she said. "[Students should] feel at home so they can perform at their best. I feel like I've felt that at CCSU."

Another transfer student, social work major Ariana Lebron, transferred from Champlain College in Vermont. She said she likes that Central creates a nice welcoming feeling for new students.

"I feel more acceptance here. It's a very different environment from my previous college, where the community [felt] very divided and didn't really socialize with each other," she said. "Here I would say it's the exact opposite; people do a lot more events and are just much more social in general."

Lebron also said the university does a good job helping transfer students feel academically welcome.

"I'm transferring as a sophomore, and I just switched my major too," she said. "The advisors here do a really good job in making sure

that we feel welcome and making sure we're on the right track for whatever major we are going to."

Psychology major JC Castro, who transferred from Manchester Community College, said CCSU has a supportive community.

"During the first few weeks I got lost a lot, so I would ask people where certain things are, and they were really helpful with that," he said.

For many students at Central, finding a sense of belonging is valuable, which comes with building a community that is connected and resourceful. Hunter von Hollen, a manufacturing engineering technology major, knows this well. Being close with transfer students, he tries to help them engage with the community. Von Hollen said for one of his friends, this has helped his friend come around to join campus life more often.

"He's found his group, and he's found his spot and I'm really happy for him for that," he said.

Gradually, he saw his efforts had paid off. He said utilizing networking skills can support a healthy lifestyle and positive engagement when involving oneself in a community. Connection is what turns a campus into a community and a new environment into a place of belonging.



Photo Credit Noah Gavin, The Recorder; donuts & merch



Photo Credit Noah Gavin, The Recorder; Meliana Prado showing off pride for CCSU's Transfers

This Week's Campus Events

CAN x IRC Six Flags Fright Fest Trip, Oct. 24, 5 p.m

Student Circle

Beach Clean-up, Oct. 25, 12 p.m.
Hammonasset Beach State Park

Commuter Candy Grab, Oct. 28, 2 p.m.

Student Center Lobby

ASO 13th Annual Fashion Show Tryouts, Oct. 28, 7 p.m.

Welte Auditorium



Commuter Column



On the Road to Success During Midterms

By Nicolina Coronis
Staff Writer

As midterm week unfolds, the rhythm of campus changes. Commuters fill the library, Student Center and quiet corners of campus, turning every spare moment into study time. For them, success during midterms isn't just about mastering the material. It's about mastering commuting.

Midterm season has arrived and with a busy class schedule, homework and time to study, how does this all fit into a commuter's day at Central Connecticut State University?

CCSU offers tools to help students make it through their toughest exams. With resources like the writing center to help with those

lengthy English papers or tutoring to perfect those math skills. If it's not content you need help with, the learning center can teach you all about time management and tips for test-taking to lower those stress levels.

Mckenna Dalek reflects on the benefits of studying on campus.

"I feel like at home there's definitely a lot more distractions. Here [CCSU], there are definitely places that I can go that will be quieter than my house," Dalek said.

Finding a quiet place to study is the first step for commuters who study on campus. Dalek found a couple of spots that work.

"I usually pick certain areas in the student center. Honest-

ly, if there are rooms open in the journalism department, I'll do that too," she said.

Dalek also shares that the preferred method of organization for midterms is a "To-Do" list on the phone. Keeping track of assignments and exam schedules is crucial to time management. Especially when you have to account for a daily commute.

Laura Strick, a junior at CCSU, has an hour-long commute to campus. Strick often studies at the library or the student center, but balancing assignments and daily responsibilities can be difficult as a commuter. Staying organized is key.

"I have a planner, so I plan everything ahead, and I always try

to wake up early," Strick said.

Waking up early, she added, helps her make full use of the day and allows time to sit in traffic without worrying about being late. However, information on campus resources hasn't been publicized enough for Strick to know where to go if she ever needed them.

The Learning Center is located in Willard-DiLoreto, room D316. As well as exploring the CCSU website, under the tab "Tutoring and Mentorship," you can find a link to all the academic resources that the school offers.

For CCSU commuters, midterms may test patience as much as knowledge. But with a coffee in hand, a good playlist for the drive, and a few favorite study spots on campus, they're proving that dedication doesn't

need a dorm room to thrive.

Tips for the road to midterms include: Use campus resources! Tutoring, writing center, or quiet lounges. Make a "To-Do" list to track exams and assignments. Plan commute times around study sessions. Don't underestimate coffee breaks; they're part of the process so if you study in the Elihu Burritt Library, make sure to stop by Starbucks for your midterm fuel.

Dow Jones

46,397.89
(+81.82)

+0.18% ↑

S&P 500

6,688.46
(+27.25)

+0.41% ↑

Nasdaq

21,165.00
(+68.86)

+0.30% ↑

Russell

2,131.18
(+1.24)

+0.05% ↑

VIX

16.28
(+0.16)

+0.99% ↑

Finance Column

WalmartGPT: The Privacy, Practicality, and Economy Behind AI Shopping

By Nicolas Dest
Staff Writer

Searching used to be the way we shopped. In today's world, we just ask.

The days of scrolling through endless product pages may be close to an end. This fall Walmart is letting shoppers talk their way through the aisles, with the help of ChatGPT as a personal assistant.

Walmart customers will have the ability to purchase items directly through ChatGPT. Announced on Oct. 14, shareholders found the news enticing, with Walmart's

stock (\$WMT) up roughly 5%.

Walmart CEO Doug McMillon said that incorporating AI into shoppers' lives will make grocery trips more convenient.

"There is a native AI experience coming that is multi-media, personalized and contextual."

Whether this experience is truly "native" will be up to shoppers, as adding an extra layer of back-and-forth with AI might seem unnecessary.

Noah X. Tucker, a Central Connecticut State University student and ChatGPT Plus subscriber, said he feels uncomfortable with AI peaking into his everyday life.

"I feel like it would be a waste of time. I also don't want AI knowing what I'm shopping for," he said.

With Walmart agreeing to share valuable customer data with OpenAI, the parent company of ChatGPT, privacy concerns are inevitable. Search trends, purchase

histories, and browsing patterns will all be available to the AI giant.

As these systems digest and learn from the shopping habits of millions of Americans, they won't just understand what we buy, they'll begin to understand why.

Once that shift happens, the success of products may depend less on traditional supply and demand curves and more on OpenAI's secret algorithm. The partnership between Walmart and OpenAI isn't merely a new checkout chan-

nel, it's a new economic model.

Granted the obvious privacy concerns and questionable practicality of having AI shop for us, algorithms could very well become the new invisible hand guiding modern consumer behavior.

Stop & Shop Partners With CCSU to Fight Student Hunger

By **Elijah Hernandez**
Co-Editor-In-Chief

Communities are held together by those who put forth effort to helping the people around them have a better day than yesterday or establishing relationships that last generations.

Stop & Shop has partnered with Connecticut State Colleges and Universities to bring meals and opportunities to those facing food insecurity during an event hosted by CCSU on Oct. 21.

With a donation of \$200,000 to the CSCU system, the Regional Retail Communications Leader of Stop & Shop Stephanie Cunha said the initiative is crucial to empowering students.

“You can’t focus on doing good in your classes if you’re focused on being hungry,” she said. “During a super stressful week like mid-terms, we don’t want students to worry about where their next meal is coming from. Through these programs, we’re serving hope to students who are working hard to make a better future for themselves and their families.”

In her address, Cunha brought up statistics pertaining to food insecurities, particularly in the CSCU ecosystem.

“The statistics around students with hunger are staggering. Twenty-seven percent of students here at Central reported skipping a whole day of meals because they couldn’t afford meals. An entire day of meals,” she said, “A spring 2024 survey found that 28.1% of college students have eaten less due to not having money.”

Stop & Shop serves more than 270 schools from pre-K through college across five states, and donated not only the large sum of money, but also 1,000 care packages for each of the four CSCU universities.

Besides donations and statistics, President Zulma Toro informed the administrators and general managers in attendance about the history of Maria’s Place pantry, and the significant impact it’s had on CCSU students.

“I would like to share the story behind our community food pantry Maria’s Place. This is a very special place named after Maria Alvarez, who was a cherished colleague who worked at the university for over 30 years,” she said. “Her deep commitment to students and helping those in need has resulted in a beautiful program that honors her public service. This year marks

ten years since Maria Passed away... we are honoring her support and the pantry’s mission.”

CSCU Interim Chancellor Dr. John Maduko said this collaboration is for the students to reap the benefits.

“This partnership with Stop & Shop is significant, it’s huge, it’s a game changer, because it allows us to fulfill our mission,” he said. “We are a student-centered system of institutions where our students and their success and their learning is at the core of everything we do.

Maduko added that mitigating a large stressor for the students is the goal of the initiative.

“When we think about students that are either from underserved communities, or [are] parents, military, or individuals with disabilities, things compound,” he said. “Whether it be the price of going to college, the price of transportation, housing, you name it. Being able to take care of food insecurity really addresses the overall wellness of our students.”

Cunha said students have the opportunity to change for the better.

“Let’s work together to make sure no student goes to school hungry,” she said.

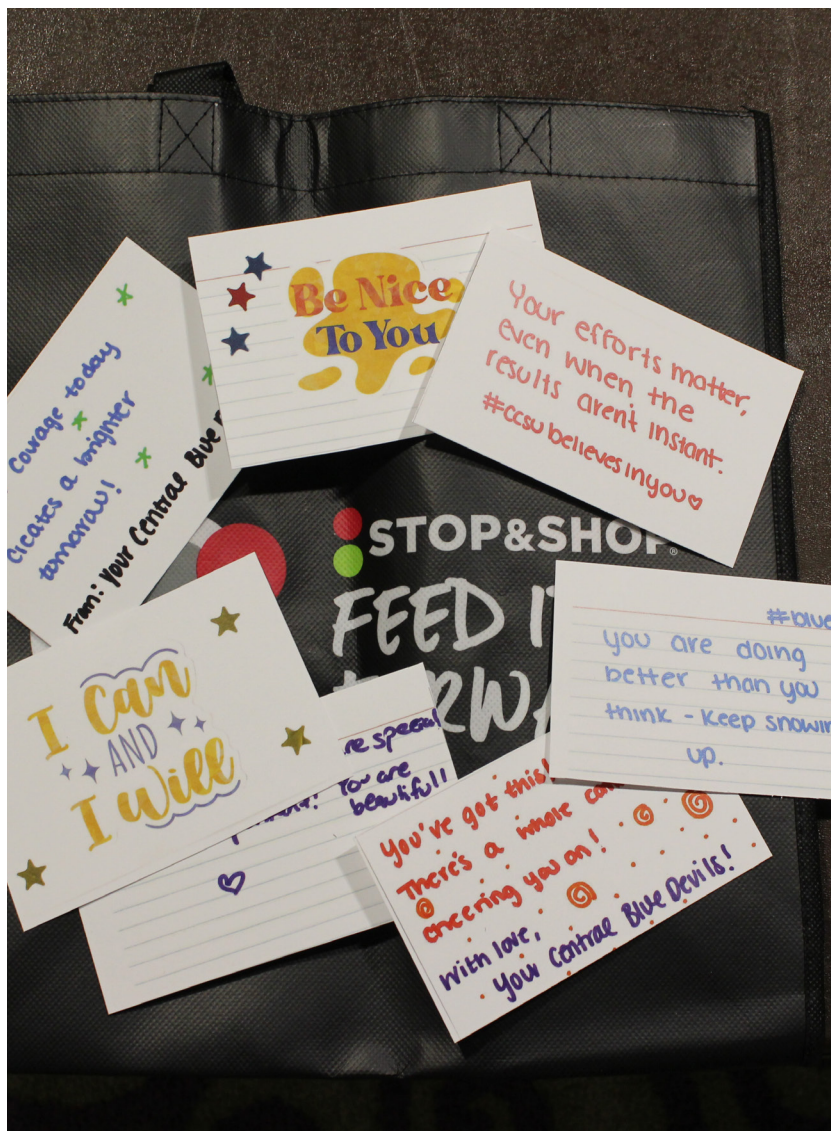


Photo Credit Elijah Hernandez, The Recorder; (1) CCSU peers wrote encouraging messages, (2) an efficient line of volunteers, (3) a group photo with all parties involved



Hollywood vs. Underdogs: Dodgers & Blue Jays Set Stage for A Can't-Miss World Series Showdown

By Kyle Zarnoch & Noah Gavin
Staff Writers

INTRODUCTION:

Two franchises separated by history and style will collide for baseball's ultimate prize when the Los Angeles Dodgers meet the Toronto Blue Jays in the 2025 World Series. For Toronto, it marks the end of a 32-year wait. For Los Angeles, it's another chapter in an already dominant dynasty defined by power, pitching, and postseason success.

This matchup has everything baseball fans could hope for: star power on both sides, two teams peaking at the right time, global attention and a clash of contrasting styles.

The Dodgers enter as heavyweights, stacked with depth and experience. The Blue Jays stand as the upstart challenger, fueled by youth, swagger and the belief that their time has finally come.

Their paths to October glory couldn't have been more different. Toronto clawed through a grueling seven-game series, surviving multiple elimination games and riding clutch performances from Vladimir Guerrero Jr. and New Britain native George Springer. Their emotional, grind-it-out run through the American League bracket captured the sport's attention.

Los Angeles, meanwhile, made it look routine. The Dodgers swept the Milwaukee Brewers in the National League Championship Series and dropped only one game across three playoff rounds. With a dominant rotation anchored by Blake Snell, Yoshinobu Yamamoto, Shohei Ohtani and Tyler Glasnow, Los Angeles combines elite pitching with relentless lineup depth, a formula built to smother any opponent.

DODGERS PREVIEW

Dodgers: Built for October, Designed to Repeat

The Dodgers enter the World Series as baseball's model of consistency, making their fifth trip to the Fall Classic in the last decade. Talent isn't new for Los Angeles, but the combination of depth, discipline and preparation makes this year's roster

arguably their most complete yet.

Los Angeles has dominated the National League postseason, dropping just one game while posting an intimidating team ERA of 2.45. The offense has been equally potent, averaging 4.6 runs per game with a team OPS of .770 and 13 home runs.

Ohtani has been the spark, batting .220 with five home runs, nine RBI and a .967 OPS across 10 games, a constant threat at the plate. Mookie Betts (.293) and Freddie Freeman (.231, 4 doubles) have provided steady veteran production, while Teoscar Hernández (.268, 4 HR, 11 RBI, .888 OPS) has arguably been L.A.'s most dangerous bat this October. Tommy Edman (.286, 2 HR, 6 RBI), Enrique Hernández (.306, 4 doubles, 4 RBI) and Will Smith (.286) have delivered key hits, supplying relentless offensive depth that wears down opposing pitchers.

The starting rotation has been the team's backbone. Blake Snell

has emerged as the ace, posting a microscopic 0.86 ERA with 28 strikeouts in 21 innings, a 0.52 WHIP and a .090 opponent batting average. Yoshinobu Yamamoto has matched that efficiency, recording a 1.83 ERA over 19.2 innings with 18 strikeouts. Glasnow has been equally dominant, posting a 0.68 ERA across 13.1 innings with 18 strikeouts, while Ohtani has contributed on the mound with a 2.25 ERA and 19 strikeouts in 12 innings.

Manager Dave Roberts also boasts a bullpen built to close games. Alex Vesia has a 3.86 ERA in seven outings, Blake Treinen has appeared in seven games with one save, and Roki Sasaki has emerged as one of the postseason's most reliable relievers, providing length and stability with a 1.13 ERA over eight innings. When L.A. relievers execute, the Dodgers control games from start to finish.



Photo Credit Major League Baseball; Ohtani hitting a homerun

World Series 2025 Capital One		
SCHEDULE		
LA	FOX 8:00 PM GAME 1 FRI, OCT 24	Jays
LA	FOX 8:00 PM GAME 2 SAT, OCT 25	Jays
Jays	FOX 8:00 PM GAME 3 MON, OCT 27	LA
Jays	FOX 8:00 PM GAME 4 TUES, OCT 28	LA
Jays	FOX 8:00 PM GAME 5 WED, OCT 29 *IF NECESSARY	LA
LA	FOX 8:00 PM GAME 6 FRI, OCT 31 *IF NECESSARY	Jays
LA	FOX 8:00 PM GAME 7 SAT, NOV 1 *IF NECESSARY	Jays

Photo Credit Major League Baseball; the schedule for the World Series

BLUE JAYS PREVIEW

The Blue Jays won the American League pennant on Oct. 20 and earned a trip to the World Series for the first time since 1993.

The win was backed by Springer's three-run home run in the seventh inning that gave the Blue Jays a come-from-behind victory after trailing 3-1.

The entire series was a comeback for Toronto, which lost the first two games at home to their opponent, the Seattle Mariners.

The Blue Jays responded with strong offensive showings in Seattle, and Guerrero earned American League Championship Series MVP honors after batting .385 with three home runs in the series.

Toronto is now preparing to host the Dodgers on Friday, Oct. 24, as the Blue Jays hold home-field advantage.

Home-field advantage will be one of Toronto's keys to the series. The Blue Jays need to build on their

momentum coming off the ALCS win by taking at least one if not both games in Toronto before the series shifts to Dodger Stadium.

Guerrero was elite in the ALCS, and combined with Springer, the Blue Jays already have some strong hitters in their lineup. Guerrero has been excellent in the postseason, slashing .442/.510/.930 and he needs to stay hot.

The Dodgers have a strong pitching rotation, and the Blue Jays are going to need all the runs they can get. Shortstop Bo Bichette is expected to return to the Blue Jays lineup for the World Series, his first game back from a five-week-long absence.

Bichette adds his regular-season batting average of .311 and could cause some extra trouble for the Dodgers. However, the shortstop the Blue Jays have been using in his absence, Andrés Giménez, has had a solid postseason, posting a .764 OPS and hitting two home runs.

It will be interesting to see how

manager John Schneider chooses to use Bichette in the World Series games. Schneider may opt to keep Giménez on the field to ensure Bichette's injury does not flare up and result in costly fielding errors, using Bichette instead as a DH or pinch hitter in key moments.

One major question mark for Toronto is its bullpen. The Blue Jays' bullpen posted a 4.11 ERA in the regular season, ranking 16th in the league. They also struggled against Seattle in the ALCS, posting a 6.00 ERA for the series.

To face LA's elite lineup, the bullpen needs to clean up those mistakes and protect late-inning leads. Toronto must rely on depth from its starters to keep



the bullpen out of the equation for as long as possible.

Shane Bieber has been a great pitcher that Toronto hopes to get depth out of. He went 2-0 in the ALCS with a 2.45 ERA. Kevin Gausman has also been important in game depth for the Blue Jays, striking out 10 in a six-inning performance in Game 2 and going seven innings in Game 5.

The Blue Jays need their starters to go deep and keep games close against the Dodgers, whose lineup can score in bunches.

The Blue Jays lineup won't be able to win a slugfest with the Dodgers' hitters. There's no doubt Toronto enters the series as the underdog, but this could be an advantage.

The Blue Jays have had fewer days off than the Dodgers,

and in baseball, that rhythm can sometimes help teams stay sharp. They can ride the momentum from their pennant win and play freely, with nothing to lose and everything to prove.

Striking early will be pivotal. The Jays' lineup can get electric in a hurry—as shown by their 10-run single inning in Game 4—and Igniting that kind of offense will give them their best chance to win. They'll need it, because the Dodgers lineup won't have any trouble answering back.

Photo Credit Dean Runtz, Seattle Times; George Springer Game 7

best to quiet a Dodgers lineup featuring multiple threats throughout the order. The bullpen battle could also prove decisive, with Los Angeles boasting more reliable depth and proven late-game options.

Zarnoch's Prediction: Los Angeles will win the World Series in six games. Toronto may push back in two close games, fueled by home-field energy and timely hitting, but the Dodgers' four victories will be statement wins defined by dominant starting pitching, power from the middle of the order and a bullpen that shuts the door late.

In the end, Los Angeles' balance, depth and postseason experience should prove too much for a Toronto team still learning how to close on baseball's biggest stage.

Gavin's Prediction: Dodgers in 6, MVP: Mookie Betts. This series is going to have a few more games than most think. The Dodgers have a great lineup, but the Blue Jays can hang around in games and have elite hitters themselves capable of breaking out at any moment.

HOW THE DODGERS WIN

For Los Angeles, the path to another title is clear: play to their identity. Dominate the strike zone, control the pace of games and let their lineup depth wear down Toronto over a long and grueling series.

Neutralizing Guerrero early will be key. If the Dodgers can limit his damage, the Blue Jays' lineup becomes far more manageable. Expect manager Dave Roberts to mix matchups, using left-handers out of the bullpen strategically to slow Guerrero's impact later in games, or the third and fourth time through the order.

The Dodgers also need to take at least one of the first two games in Toronto. Doing so would shift momentum and allow them to close the series at Dodger Stadium, where they have been nearly unbeatable.

When Los Angeles controls the count and limits free passes, few teams can keep up. The Dodgers have proven they can outpitch, outhit and outlast any opponent. Against Toronto, that combination could again prove victorious.

WRITERS PICKS



ZARNOCH
LAD 4-2

GAVIN
LAD 4-2

MVP: Teoscar Hernández

MVP: Mookie Betts

Photo Credit Kyle Zarnoch, The Recorder; our writers picks

KEY MATCHUPS

The defining battle of this series will be Los Angeles' elite starting pitching against Toronto's explosive offense. Vladimir Guerrero Jr. has been otherworldly this October, hitting an absurd .442/.510/.930 with six home runs and 12 RBI in 11 games. However, facing Snell, Yamamoto and Glasnow in succession presents a different challenge, as the Dodgers' mix of velocity, breaking stuff, and command will test his timing and approach.

On the other hand, Toronto's pitching depth will be tested against a Dodgers lineup that rarely slumps. Kevin Gausman (2.00 ERA), Shane Bieber (4.38 ERA) and Trey Yesavage (4.20 ERA) will need to be at their absolute



Photo Credit Major League Baseball; World Series matchup

Fueled by Family, Grounded by Gratitude: Malachi Wright's Story at Central

By **Marcus Saunders**
Co-Editor-In-Chief

Even though being a Division I athlete takes a lot of sacrifice, Malachi Wright doesn't see it that way. He believes his family are the ones that sacrificed for him and is taking full advantage of his opportunities with a positive mindset at Central Connecticut State University.

Wright is a senior linebacker on the football team and has spent four years at Central. He attended West Haven High School and completed a postgraduate year at Choate Rosemary Hall.

He credits his parents for playing a large part in getting him to where he is today. Whether it was bringing him to practice, buying him equipment or traveling to his peewee football games, they always looked out for him.

The days are long, and the only time he gets to rest and relax is on Sundays. During the season, his weeks include 5:50 a.m. Monday meetings, 6:40 a.m. meetings, film study, practice, lifting, Friday walk-throughs, traveling for away games and game day on Saturday—before doing it all over again the next week.

For him, it's not just during the season—he also works hard in the summer.

"I woke up at 4:20 every morning and drove to New Britain with some of my teammates [to

work out]," he said. "I could have been doing anything else, [and] that motivates me."

During tough stretches of the season, Wright continues to remind himself that others face harder challenges.

"My problems aren't as deep," he said. "So I try to push forward for them and my teammates."

Goals are very important to him, and he keeps some near his locker for motivation, inspiration and to stay on the right path.

Nothing is guaranteed, whether it's getting paid to play, gaining fame or getting a chance to go pro, but that doesn't stop him from doing what he loves and reaping the benefits he has earned.

"Getting the free education, meeting new people, [building] connections and lifelong friends," he said.

He emphasized how important it is for him to go to school for free.

"I'm [going to] graduate with a degree for free," he said. "No student debt, no loans or anything like that, which I'm 100 percent thankful for."

What motivates him is his family, teammates and himself, and he said you really have to want it. He also does it for his peers at his old high school who weren't

able to have a college experience.

Wright felt that CCSU was the best option for him because he clicked with the coaches, appreciated their honesty and also loved the team's culture, which is to "Show up on time with a good attitude," led by their head coach, Adam Lechtenberg, who always preaches it.

His favorite part of Central athletics is the number of people he gets to meet.

Balancing sports with his classes hasn't been a challenge because he understands that he chose to be a student athlete and knows what comes with it. His main focus is making sure he eats after practice and before classes to replace all the calories he burns.

When he's not on the field or in the classroom, he likes to watch movies, study game film and hang out with friends.

Wright is set to graduate in spring 2026 and doesn't take the opportunity he was given for granted. His parents and friends introduced him to football and guided him along the way, and he followed through with his hard work to give himself a better future.



Photo Credit Joesph Cappello, CappVisualz; Malachi Wright (8)

CCSU SCHEDULE

Women's Soccer

October 23 – @ Le Moyne 6 PM

October 26 – @ Stonehill 1 PM

Women's Swimming & Diving

October 24 – @ New Hampshire 5 PM

October 25 – @ New Hampshire 11 AM

Men's & Women's Cross Country

October 24 – vs. CCSU Mini Meet 4 PM

Men's Soccer

October 23 – @ Chicago State 7 PM

Women's Volleyball

October 24 – @ Le Moyne 6 PM

October 25 – @ Le Moyne 1 PM

October 28 – vs. Stonehill 6 PM

