

# The Recorder

Nov. 14, 2024

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## Annual Drag Ball Packs Alumni Hall



Professional and student drag queens.

Photo by Elijah Hernandez

By Jayden Klaus  
Lifestyle Editor

This year's drag ball at Central Connecticut State University, emceed by Drag Queen Ambrosia Black, filled Alumni Hall with excitement and pop music last week.

Co-hosted by the Pride Club and Devil's Den @ 10, the drag ball was meant to give

students the opportunity to see and enjoy a drag performance and engage with the LGBTQ community on campus in an open and fun environment.

Many students showed up to see the performances and cheer them on. So many people came that the Student Center workers staffing the event had to bring out additional

chairs for everyone to sit in. Students had been encouraged to dress up in costume and several did, giving the event a Halloween party vibe. Food and drinks were also available so students could chow down as they watched the performances.

As the host of the event, Black introduced all the per-  
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## Veteran: "Just Remember With Us"

By Yvonna Rodriguez  
Staff Writer

For some veterans of the people who have served in the military, Veterans Day brings up a whirlwind of emotions, both good and bad, relating to their time spent serving and the life they've lived after getting out of the military. Each veteran has a different military experience, which helps shape their view on life, including how they view Veterans Day.

For Chris Berry said that, Veterans Day is a time to reflect on his service with his fellow soldiers and for them to all catch up with each other.

"It's an excuse for us to get together," Berry said. "If you have families, if you have kids – I, I have kids – , if you have other stuff going on, Veterans Day is the one day that you're like, there's no excuse in the world that's gonna prevent you from coming out with your boys."

Berry, of New Britain, enlisted in the Army in May of 2008 after graduating high school.

He was deployed twice, once to Iraq and once to Afghanistan. Throughout his military career, Berry did many things, including performing military funeral honors.

Berry said being out of the army has changed the way he sees Veterans Day compared to when he was actively serving. What he once saw as a headache, he now sees as an important day of remembrance, he said.

"We make something outta it," Berry said. "We make the most of it."

Depending on what one's military career looked like, Veterans Day could look different to them, Berry said. Different factors, like losing fellow soldiers while serving, will change one's perspective on the holiday, he said.

Berry said that instead of civilians celebrating veterans more, veterans needed to celebrate each other more.

"We need to recognize each other," he said. "What are we doing to make each other feel appreciated?"

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## Donald Trump's Election: Connecticut Residents React

By Deanna Prescott,  
Editor-in-Chief

While some Connecticut residents said Wednesday that they are upset about the results of Tuesday's Presidential election, others said they are optimistic about former president Donald J. Trump's return to office.

Trump, a Republican, was declared the winner of the election early Wednesday morning, meaning he will become the 47th president of

the United States on Jan. 20, 2025. The Associated Press reported that Trump's victory in Wisconsin put him over the threshold of 270 electoral votes he needed to beat the Democratic Vice President Kamala Harris.

Gavriella Hernandez, a Central student from East Hartford, said she was not surprised by the outcome.

"America typically regresses instead of progresses," said Hernandez, who added that

immigration was an important issue to her. "I didn't want to vote for the candidate that wants to do mass deportations."

The mood on Central's campus Wednesday was at times somber and at times, angry while some happy Trump supporters were evident.

Shortly after noon, a young man was wearing a red tie and a "Make America Great Again" hat in the Elihu Burritt

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Joseph Matis, New Britain.

Photo by Elijah Hernandez

About

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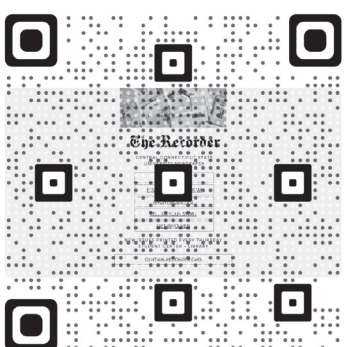
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SCAN FOR MORE



# The Increasing Cost of Special Education for New Britain Schools



Photo by Eary Banushi

By Eary Banushi  
Staff Writer

**N**EW BRITAIN – Some local officials are attributing the rising cost of special education in the school district to the increasing number of students identified with special needs, some of whom require specialized services that are only available at schools and facilities outside the district.

According to the budget for the 2024-2025 school year,

the school district is spending \$10.3 million to pay for student outplacements, a 24.3% increase from the \$8.3 million that was allocated for outplacements last year.

Superintendent of Schools Tony Gasper said the district spends about a third of its budget on special education despite students with special needs making up less than 20% of the total student population.

“Special education is probably somewhere around a third of the total school district budget, when you calculate all of the staffing, the outplacements and such,” Gasper said. “When you look at 17 or 18% of the students having identified special needs but it being roughly a third or more of our budget, you can see why it becomes such a cost driver.”

According to the budget, the money being spent on paraed-

ucators increased by \$130,740 from \$5.6 million last year to \$5.7 million this year. Gasper said more money is being put towards special education as more students are coming into the school system with learning disabilities and behavioral issues.

“We’re seeing a very strong rise and an acceleration of students on the autism spectrum,” Gasper said. “What that means is a greater portion of our budget is being shifted towards special education. We’ve had to hire additional paraeducators as well because the behaviors and the disabilities that we’re seeing coming in this year have been notable.”

Nathan Ziegler, the district coordinator of pupil services, said that 129 students were currently being outplaced, which is slightly less than at the same time last year. Despite this, Ziegler said more students are waiting to be outplaced.

“October of 2023, we had 133 students outplaced and seven pending,” Ziegler said. “Currently we have 129 outplaced, but 31 pending... The number of students outplaced were statistically similar, but

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## Veterans

Berry said that Veterans Day tends to be a forgotten holiday and that some people tend to not see the day as more than a day off. He said that people shouldn’t be afraid to approach veterans in public, especially on Veterans Day.

“Just remember with us,” he said.

Similar to Berry, Jason Strickland, of Wethersfield, said he uses Veterans Day

not only as an opportunity to reach out to those he served with, but as a time of reflection.

“I view Veterans Day as a time to reflect on people who have served during wartime,” he said. “The courage one needs to have to serve and selfless sense of duty to the country.”

Strickland enlisted in the Army in 1991 when he was a freshman in college. Strickland He served for 25 years

and was deployed to Iraq in 2004.

For Strickland said that, Veterans Day brings up a bunch of emotions.

“When Veterans Day approaches, my mood is slightly somber,” he said. “I think of the people we losts and the sacrifices made.”

Over the years, the way Strickland has celebrated Veterans Day has changed. When his kids were younger, he often attended Veterans

Day celebrations held at their school. He also would attend celebrations at the grade school where his wife teaches. at.

Strickland said that Veterans Day has lost emphasis over the years and that its importance needs to be brought up in school. He said that schools should celebrate the holiday more, and that education about veterans should be shared at all levels of schooling.

Have a story that needs to be told?  
Tips or leads that should be investigated?  
Email us at [editor@centralrecorder.org](mailto:editor@centralrecorder.org)  
or fill out the contact form on our website  
[centralrecorder.org](http://centralrecorder.org)



CCSU Student Ciara Gregory

Photo by Jahshua Hardy-Everett



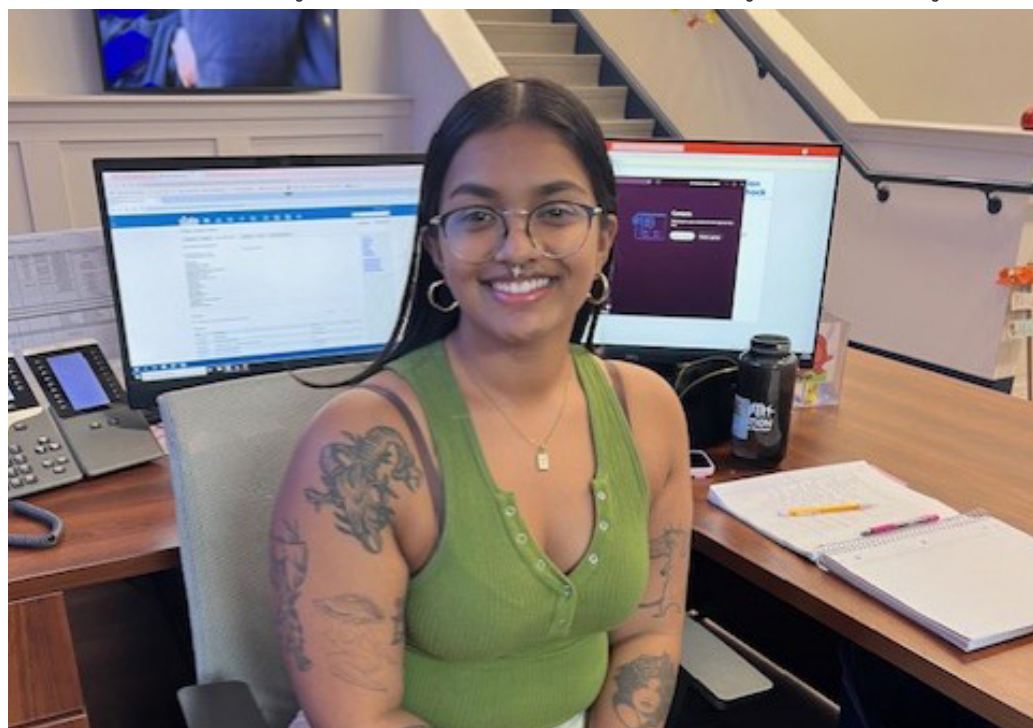
CCSU Student Ethan Roy

Photo by Jahshua Hardy-Everett



CCSU Student Tyrek Marquez

Photo by Elijah Hernandez



CCSU Student Thalia Singh

Photo by Jahshua Hardy-Everett

# Election

Library at Central. As he headed into an elevator, a woman stuck up her middle finger in his direction. He didn't notice the gesture.

Another Central student said she was shocked that Harris lost to Trump.

"I definitely wasn't expecting it at all," Emily Fagan from Plainville said. "It definitely made me feel a little bit nervous, but it is what it is."

But Brian Garrow, a Somers resident and Central student, said he is looking forward to the next four years.

"Personally, I'm pretty happy with it," Garrow said. "I grew up in a pretty conservative town, so that's always how I've voted."

Central student Thomas Burnett said that the publicity for Harris was not as effective as it could have been.

"The Harris campaign ran

on the idea that we will win," Burnett said. "Not a platform that motivated people to get out and vote, which I feel cost her and the Democratic party a lot of potential voters."

Some on campus, including Tyrek Marquez, a Central student from New Britain, said that voters are not educated enough.

"The frustrating part is that people who aren't informed get to be a part of the decision process when they don't even understand what they are voting for," Marquez said.

Ciara Gregory, a Central graduate student from New Britain, said too many voters were blind to Trump's flaws.

"I cried when I woke up this morning," she said. "The people backing him only see what they want. They don't care about what he's done."

Another Central student from New Britain, Ethan Roy,

saw wider implications in Trump's victory.

"I am saddened that the nature of freedom and the right to choose is in jeopardy," he said.

The election results made Thalia Singh, a Central student from New Britain, realize that her view of politics is somewhat isolated.

"My belief system is a small bubble because residing in New Britain, people think the same as me," she said. "But in a broader perspective, the history of racism and similar, it is jarring."

Miguel Pagan, a Central student from New Britain, said he woke up Wednesday morning and looked at his phone hoping that Harris had won. Still, he added, "I'm tempted to see how he does and we need to back him. He can always be mad at something, but as long as they do the work, you can't

hate that."

Beyond the campus, Connecticut residents had a range of reactions to Trump's election. Joseph Matis of New Britain said Harris faced sexism among some voters.

"America is more sexist than it is racist," Matis said. "Based on the election results not only for Kamala Harris, but Hillary Clinton as well, shows we probably have to wait another 50 years before a woman is president."

Matis added that Trump's return to the White House will likely benefit wealthy Americans.

"He's definitely going to keep making more money for people who already have crazy amounts of money," Matis said.

Clare Bransfield, a Guilford resident, said that she was stunned by Trump's victory.

"The results are not what I

was looking for, and I am so shocked this is the opinion of so many people," Bransfield said. "I thought the country was ready and excited for our first woman president."

Luke Hauser had a more muted response.

"I was indifferent," he said. "I did not want either candidate, honestly. Let's see what this man can do for our country again."

But Tyler McLain of Bethany, who attends Castleton University in Vermont, said he was pleased that Trump won.

"I felt relieved this morning that a strong leader is in control," McLain said. "Affordable housing for me coming out of college is something I want to see in the future."

*Ben Daddio, Chike Onyiuke, Jahshua Hardy-Everett, Eary Banushi, James Studley and Elijah Hernandez contributed to this story.*

## New Britain

this time, we have more students pending.”

Laura Jacobson, an assistant professor of special education at Central Connecticut State University, said that she doesn't know if the number of special education students is increasing or if school districts are getting better at identifying them.

“We have numbers that are escalating, and there's absolutely no question about that in terms of the number of kids being identified [with special needs],” Jacobson said. “I think it's important to know that we don't know that we weren't under-identifying originally.”

Anthony Cane, a member of the Board of Education, said the cost of providing for special education students can range significantly based on their needs.

“It could be simply a matter of we have to have a paraeducator working with them one on one, or it could be that we have to send them to a spe-

cial needs school,” Cane said. “Some of those special needs schools could cost the district up to a quarter of a million dollars per student.”

Cane said students with special needs often have an Individualized Education Plan, or IEP, that legally requires a school district to provide the student with whatever support is deemed necessary, no matter the cost.

“Some of these students have needs that New Britain is not equipped for,” Cane said. “If the IEP says that the service that he needs can only be provided by Oak Hill, or maybe a program out in Pomfret, or Greenwich or Springfield... we have to send them there.”

Tina Santana, a member of the Board of Education and mother of four children with special needs, said better communication between schools and families could help save money by preventing unnecessary efforts to understand a student's needs.

“The relationship with the family really has to be restored so that we are understand-

ing what the child is like at home and outside of school to support education in school,” Santana said. “The money that we spend trying to figure out what's going on with the kid when we really could have just said ‘Hey Mom and Dad. What do you see at home? What can we do?’”

Cane said one of the ideas being considered to reduce the cost of special education and to keep students in New Britain is to turn an underutilized school into a special education facility. He said the facility would not only save the district money but could also generate revenue.

“Dr. Gasper has been looking at ways in the future to bring some of those kids back by creating some of these programs in-house,” Cane said. “We discussed one of our schools that is being underutilized. Is that a good location? What would it cost? What services can we provide at that school? What kind of renovations? What are we going to do with the kids that are currently there?”



Photo by Eary Banushi

## OPINION: Elections Don't End Friendships - Your Attitude Does

By Nicholas Dest, Contributor

Following the presidential election, an apparent uprise in criticism has sparked conflict within social groups, leaving true friends quarreling as to why politics take precedence over their relationship.

These disputes mainly occur on platforms such as Instagram, X and Fizz—an anonymous forum app tailored towards university students.

A recent anonymous post on Central Connecticut State University's Fizz Social, which garnered 1,100 upvotes, said, “I don't want to be friends with you if you voted for a racist sexist rapist.”

Albeit most upvotes on Fizz are artificial, the sentiment among posts like these—and there are plenty more—is extremely concerning considering the number of interactions they attract.

No matter which president is being alluded to, we can immediately disregard this and similar statements as fallacious, since neither presidential candidate resemble the traits mentioned.

This apparent immaturity, naivety and close-mindedness in voters who cannot seem to grasp the concept of acceptance leads us to believe that the protagonists of this wildly scathing friendship-ending madness are only shooting themselves in the foot, by abandoning those who probably know more about politics than they do.

Although morals and political stances may seem interconnected at surface level, they surely are not. Relationships are formed, maintained and culminated on a moral basis, with the most passionate relationships possessing symmetric moral compasses.

By contrast, politics resemble a mere fraction of one's morality—if any—since political views focus on policy, governance and societal structure, often with economic implications being a primary factor for decision making. Moral views are derived from one's personal beliefs, including justice, compassion, and integrity, despite any political or economic implications.

Establishing and terminating friendships based on the latter is far more important than focusing on politics, but a lack of understanding between the two is contributing to unnecessary altercation among groups.

Whether this ignorance is intentional or inadvertent, those judging others based on one-dimensional attitudes are a testament to their self-destructing nature, destroying anyone and anything in their path that dares to oppose their beliefs.

## Maria's Place 'Stuff the Pantry' is Collecting Donations

By Madison Musco  
News Editor

Maria's Place, the on-campus food pantry, is asking for donations of toiletries and laundry supplies this fall.

President Zulma R. Toro said that the pantry has seen a significant increase in visitors since its opening, making it vital to the well-being of students and faculty at Central.

“During the spring 2020 we

have only 179, something like that. Visits last year for the academic year, 2023-2024, we have over 1500 visits.”

Toro said the pantry is open Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and no appoint-

ments are required.

Donation boxes can be found throughout campus in most academic buildings, residence halls, the Student Center and library.

The entrance to Maria's

Place is located behind Robert C. Vance Academic Center, in the back parking lot.

Toro said that the out-of-sight location is so that students and faculty who need the pantry have privacy.



The AcaBellas



Bleach



Ambrosia Black



The AcaBellas

Photos by Elijah Hernandez

# Drag

formers before they took the stage, hyping up the audience and talking with various audience members about their costumes. The queens who performed were Clementine Cool-Aid, Bleach, Onyxx and Black herself. All of them were energetic and engaging as they danced to songs by Selena Gomez, Chappel Roan, Lady Gaga, Miley Cyrus and more.

A few students also performed in drag as Roxy Red, Azerine Miint, La Muse and Alley Bee J and were very

well received by the people watching. The audience was encouraged to vote in a poll for their favorite student performer to win a prize of a \$100 Amazon gift card. At the end of the night, the results were announced with Alley Bee J as the winner. All the students who performed got gift bags prepared by the Pride Club as a thanks for their participation.

Central's acapella group, the AcaBellas, also got to take the stage in an intermission, singing "Pink Pony Club" by Chappel Roan and "Boy-friend" by Dove Cameron.

This served as a nice break for the queens before delivering their next performances. The final performance was a group number between Clementine, Bleach and Ambrosia to "Bang Bang" by Jessie J ft. Ariana Grande and Nicki Minaj. Being the final performance of the night, the audience cheered them on the entire time and gave them a standing ovation at its completion.

The performers had an infectious energy that the audience ate up at every turn. People were cheering and clapping to boost up the drag performers and let them know that they

were doing great. People even gave the performers money at the recommendation of Ambrosia.

Student Jenna Carfora said the drag ball was much more than she had expected it to be. She said she had never been to a drag performance before and all the performers did great, especially the student performers.

"I had a lot of fun," Carfora said. "This was phenomenal to watch."

Kaiah Talbot, another student, also said the ball was a great experience. She said the crowd interactions that Am-

brosia did in between numbers were fun and created an entertaining environment at the event.

"Everyone did amazing," Talbot said. "It was a blast."

Pride Club president Cathal Leone said the event was really fun and had a much higher turnout than last year's. He said that both the professional and student performers did well in their performances the entire night.

"They all were spectacular," Leone said. "I'm so glad we chose them."

# OPINION: High Expectations Ruin Your Viewing Experience

By Jayden Klaus

Lifestyle Editor

Expectations are a fascinating thing. You believe in an outcome for the future and await to see whether or not it comes to pass. They can be positive or negative and vary in their strength. Expectations can have benefits, as they show how strongly you care about something. But there is a darker side to having expectations, especially when it comes to pieces of media like movies or TV shows.

Disney has not been doing well with their movies in the past few years. From the decline of the Marvel Cinematic Universe, to the backlashes against the live-action adaptations of previous movies, people have taken issue with many recent films. Not all of these films are great, but they are not completely terrible either, despite what many people have been saying online. The expectations for these films greatly affect how they are perceived.

“Wish” absolutely suffered from this. What was supposed to be a movie celebrating Disney’s 100th anniversary, ended up being a lukewarm

attempt at best. The movie was just mediocre, but not according to people online. On YouTube, I have seen dozens of videos ranting about how disappointing “Wish” was, how awful Disney is right now and that they feel let down by the company. But Disney is not completely to blame for how their films are seen. Part of that lies with the audience and what they expect to see from Disney.

Yes, Disney has released multiple incredible movies, and with the company being such a cultural juggernaut, it is no surprise that people will expect Disney movies to be great. After all, since they have made so many, why would they not continue to do so? But now when a new movie comes out, people go see it and then complain about it relentlessly. It is almost sad to see people hype themselves up so much, only to get the rug pulled out from under them.

For all of the great work of Disney and other creative companies, they still have flaws and can still mess up when it comes to making entertainment for audiences. They cannot achieve perfec-

tion every time that we want them to. It should be okay for studios to make a piece of media that ends up being mediocre or even bad. Even then, it might wind up being vindicated years later for what it was able to do. That is the case with cult classics. It is a disservice to studios and audiences themselves to create really high expectations for a piece of media.

The higher you set your expectations, the harder the disappointment is going to hit if they are not met in the way that you want. If greatness is not guaranteed, why do we act like it is and then complain when we realize it is not? It almost becomes a self-fulfilling prophecy where audiences create their expectations, demand they be met, and then bemoan studios when they fail to do so in their eyes.

In order to prevent this type of disappointment from happening to us over and over again, we should lower our expectations a lot.

Having expectations for things comes naturally to everyone. I have experienced it too. For example, my experience of seeing “Hadestown.”

Although I can say for certain that it did not land with me and it probably would not have in the way I wanted it to, I suspect I was even more disappointed in it than I otherwise would have if I did not expect it to blow me away like other musicals have.

It is natural to have expectations for things, as that is inevitable no matter how hard you try. You will always expect things from stuff, even subconsciously. It is important to moderate your expectations, though. You should not let them become so big that you create a separate version of the story in your head that does not match what the story actually is or will be. Sometimes the story cannot and or will not live up to what you want it to be, and it should not necessarily be faulted for that.

Having little to no expectations for a piece of media can lead to being surprised by the quality of a piece of media. You may realize that it is much better than you anticipated, simply because you did not have much in mind for it. I have seen it happen with DreamWorks’s “Trolls Band Together.”

The “Trolls” franchise has never achieved the level of acclaim as some of the other DreamWorks properties. But when the third installment came out, it took the Internet by storm and received massive praise in my observations. Many people found enjoyment in something that may have previously dismissed or given little thought, only to find it to be something they really liked. This just goes to show that having lower expectations for something can allow you to enjoy something for what it is.

Expect to see what you know for certain will happen and let yourself be surprised by the rest. I have found that the surprise, unexpected elements make the experience all the more fun to enjoy.

It is okay to feel upset when your expectations were not met or were betrayed in some way. A lot of media is disappointing and does not go how we the audience wants it to. That does not mean that your expectations not being met reflects on the overall quality of that piece of media. Just accept that things are not always going to go your way and criticize constructively.

## Oreo Mug Cake



Photo by Jayden Klaus

By Jayden Klaus, Lifestyle Editor

Mug cakes are an easy way to bake a tasty treat with a few ingredients and not a lot of effort. This Oreo mug cake only uses two ingredients and is cooked in the microwave, making it the perfect sweet treat for students living in their dorms or those needing a quick cake fix. The flexible nature of the recipe means that anyone can customize it to suit their tastes.

Ingredients:

- 1 package of Oreo cookies (any kind)
- Milk (any kind)
- Chocolate chips (optional)

Directions:

1. In a microwave-safe mug, crumble 6-7 Oreos into small pieces. The smaller they are, the easier it will be to mix.
  2. Add in about 5 tbsp of milk.
  3. Mix into a cake-like batter. If the mixture is too crumbly, add in milk until it achieves the proper texture. If the mixture is too watery, add Oreos until a suitable texture is achieved.
  4. Add in chocolate chips and more Oreo pieces (optional).
  5. Microwave at standard power for 1-2 minutes or until top is firm and dry.
- Remove from microwave and let cool to desired temperature.

Enjoy!

By Jayden Klaus, *Lifestyle Editor*

Angel food and devil’s food are two of the most classic kinds of cake. Being opposites, I was curious to see what would happen if I fused them together. The result is an airy yet decadent cross between heaven and hell, befitting of purgatory. This recipe uses boxed cake mix, but the batters can be made from scratch.

Ingredients:

- 1 box of Betty Crocker Angel Food Cake mix
- 1 box of Duncan Hines Devil’s Food Cake mix
- 3 eggs
- 1/2 cup of vegetable oil
- 2 1/3 cups of water

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees Fahrenheit.
2. Lightly grease a 9 x 13 baking dish.
3. Mix eggs, oil, 1 cup of water, and Devil’s Food Cake mix in one large bowl until smooth.
4. Mix 1 1/3 cups of water with angel food cake mix in a separate large bowl until smooth.
5. Alternate pouring some of the devil’s food batter and angel food batter into the pan.
6. With a fork, slowly swirl the batters together.

# Purgatory Marble Cake



Photo by Jayden Klaus

7. Bake for about 35-40 minutes until the top is dry and a toothpick inserted in it comes out clean.
8. Let cool in pan on a wire rack for 15 minutes before removing from pan.

Enjoy!

## SPORTS

Presented by the Robert C. Vance Endowed Chair to Journalism and Mass Communications and the CCSU Journalism Department:

# What’s Next for Women’s Basketball?

As the college season tips off, a panel of women’s basketball journalists and executives looks back at the remarkable year that was — and explores where the game is going in 2025.

**Nov. 18, 5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.**  
**Alumni Hall, Student Center**

Emily Adams



The Hartford Courant

Elle Duncan



Kelly Backus / ESPN Images

Johanna Goldblatt



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CCSU

## Blue Devils Men’s Basketball Takes Badgers by Storm

By Chike Onyike  
*Staff Writer*

The Blue Devils played their third game of the season against the Vermont State Johnson Badgers. Led by

Head Coach Patrick Sellers, Central won this out-of-conference matchup.

The Blue Devils defense scored 19 points in turnovers, 22 from the paint, and a whop-

ping 29 from the bench in the first half while Jayden Brown dominated without missing a single shot from inside the three-point line.

Davonte Sweatman led with ten turnover points and Abdul Momoh wasn’t far behind.

“I think it’s just reputation,” Sweatman said. “There’s nothing more to it. There’s no secret to it. There’s no god glory like I came out; made

shots. It wasn’t luck. I put the work in so when I come out to the court, I could be in the big shots.”

The final score ended 117 to 68, in favor of the Blue Devils. Head Coach Patrick Sellers said he credits the offensive with being smart with the ball and knowing when to shoot.

“Well, we have this thing called hitman money man,”

Sellers said. “And if you’re open on the catch, shoot it if you’re open. You don’t like that shot; you pass it to the next guy it’s a money man. We’ve talked about it at clinics.”

The Blue Devils next game comes in Boston when they travel to face the Northeastern Huskies.

# Men's Basketball Falls Short at Providence

By Ari Kinder

Contributor

The Central Connecticut State University men's basketball team started off the season with a 59-55 loss on the road against Providence College on Monday, Nov. 4.

Going into the game, the Blue Devils were undersized but started off playing fundamentally sound defense and denying the bigs inside. With Providence's height advantage, they came out of the gate applying pressure on both guards Joe Ostrowsky and Jordan Jones.

They both did a great job taking care of the ball and using the full court pressure to their advantage by attacking the hoop, moving the ball around and taking pull up mid-range shots.

Forward Jayden Brown, who had limited playing time due to early foul trouble, did a great job of moving around

the perimeter, keeping the bigs moving and going downhill to get a tough finish around the rim. Within the first half of the game, Central made Providence turn the ball over 11 times which lead to 8 fast-break points.

Forward Abdul Momoh and the rest of the team did a great job of crashing the boards and boxing out in the first half. Momoh also had a ferocious block to close out the half strong. Jones ended the half leading the team with 15 points.

The second half of the game started off gritty with players crashing the boards, diving on the floor to make plays and playing hard.

Ostrowsky and Momoh worked well together off of the pick and roll, with both players scoring a few times to keep Central in control of the game.

The Blue Devils continued to play great defense for the majority of the half, but a few broken plays and early fouls allowed Providence to stay in the game.

Central guard Devin Haid was a spark, making a couple of tough shots to keep the Blue Devils ahead, followed by Jones getting a late bucket and Ostrowsky playing great defense late in the half.

However, it wouldn't be enough to maintain the lead as Providence would go on a 10-2 run in the last 2 minutes of the game as the Blue Devils struggled to score, resulting in a hard-fought loss with the score being 59-55.

With the loss, the Blue Devils fell to 0-1 on the season. They are on the road again for their next game against Saint Joseph's University on Friday, Nov. 8.



## CCSU SCOREBOARD

### Nov. 1

NEC Championships

- Men's Cross Country 1st of 9
- Women's Cross Country 1st of 9
- Women's Swimming at Southern, 138-82 win
- Women's Swimming at Wagner, 126-95 loss
- Volleyball vs. Le Moyne, 3-1 loss

### Nov. 2

- Football vs. Wagner, 24-14 win
- Volleyball vs Le Moyne, 3-0 loss

### Nov. 3

- Men's Soccer at LIU, 1-0 loss

### Nov. 4

- Men's Basketball at Providence, 59-55, loss
- Women's Basketball at Minnesota, 89-48 loss

### Nov. 7

- Men's Soccer vs. Stonehill, 3-2 win
- Women's Basketball vs. Manhattan, 78-64 loss

### Nov. 8

- Volleyball vs. Stonehill, 3-1 win

### Nov. 9

- Football at Stonehill, 21-17 win
- Volleyball vs. Stonehill, 3-0 loss

### Nov. 10

- Women's Basketball at UMass., 66-60 loss

### Nov. 11

- Men's Basketball vs. Vermont State Johnson, 117-68 win

# Women's Basketball Halted in Home Opener

By Ari Kinder

Contributor

Starting the home season opener off vs. Manhattan College was no easy game, and the Central Connecticut women's basketball team knew that going into it. Despite losing 78-64 on Thursday, Nov. 7, there were some takeaways from the game that could turn out to be good in the long run.

Already without their veteran guard Belle Lanpher, guard Meghan Kenefick was looked at to be the leader tonight. Posting a double double with 15 points and 10 rebounds, Kenefick knows what the team has to work on to improve.

"We lacked energy and

communication; our offense is going to come from our defense," Kenefick said.

"Offensively we just need to move the ball more and find the open shots."

Off to a slow start in the first half, the Blue Devils came out swinging in the second, cutting down the lead multiple times and continuing to fight. Freshman guard Selina Monestime, who put up 15 points and 7 rebounds, said she isn't happy about the outcome of the game but is looking forward to the team meshing together.

"We have everything, the potential, the talent, and the energy," Monestime said. "We

just need to consistently put that together."

The Blue Devils did not shoot the best from the 3-point line, making only 3 of their 9 attempts. Head Coach Way Veney said it's just about running the offense right to get those shots.

"We have to fix some things offensively," Veney said. "I don't think it's a lack of ability to shoot the ball, it's just about us getting shots that make sense."

With the loss at home, Central fell to 0-2 on the season. Their next game is on the road against the University of Massachusetts on Sunday, Nov. 10.