

# The Scarlet

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## Worcester Ballot Breakdown

By **Sophia Lindstrom**  
News Editor

**G**et ready, Clarkies—the 2024 Presidential Election is just a week away! First-time and seasoned voters alike can use the following ballot breakdown for those registered in Worcester to decide how they will vote beforehand. This mock ballot was developed using Ballotpedia, candidate websites, and TuftsNow.

### President of the United States:

Massachusetts voters will have the choice between six candidates and their running-mates. The nominees are Donald Trump and J.D. Vance for the Republican Party, Kamala Harris and Tim Walz for the Democratic Party, Jill Stein and Gloria Caballero-Roca for the Green Party, Chase Oliver and Mike ter Maat for the Libertarian Party, Claudia De La Cruz



*A Massachusetts voter guide for the 2024 Ballot Questions. Photo by Leo Kerz.*

and Karina Garcia for the Party for Socialism and Liberation. Shiva Ayyadurai and Crystal Ellis are running as Independents.

538, which is an ABC project focused on election forecasting and reporting, ran 1,000 presidential election simulations. In these simulations, the Harris-Walz ticket won 543 times, the Trump-

Vance ticket won 453 times, and a tie in the Electoral College occurred 4 times (less than 1%).

Check out Scarlet Staff Member Kennedy Griffin's opinion article about why they are voting third party for President, Staff Writer Marcus Palumbo's editorial about why he's voting for Kamala Harris, and Opinions Editor Gabe

Schmick's article about Trump's tax tariff policy.

### U.S. Senate Massachusetts:

The candidates running for the open U.S. Senate seat in Massachusetts are Incumbent Elizabeth Warren (D) and John Deaton (R). As Warren's challenger in a heavily Democratic state, Deaton is

in for a long, uphill battle. He defines himself as a "successful trial attorney, U.S Marine veteran, cancer survivor, and... a champion for other underdogs". According to his website, his top issue is immigration, specifically Warren's policies and her opposition to this year's contentious immigration bill.

### U.S. House Massachusetts, District 2:

The two candidates running for the U.S. House of Representatives are Incumbent Jim McGovern (D) and Cornelius Shea (I). Shea served in the Marine Corps and then worked for AT&T before becoming a teacher at St. Casimir's Alternative School in Worcester. Shea's top issue is also immigration. He opposes McGovern's decision to vote against the SAVE Act that would have required Americans to provide proof of citizenship

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# The Scarlet

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Established in its current form in 1939, The Scarlet is an entirely student-run newspaper covering Clark University and its campus in Worcester, Mass. Our publication is intellectually and editorially independent of the University.

Our paper strives diligently to serve as both a critical and objective fact-reporting publication and as a platform for student expression at Clark. We value truth, integrity and diversity in our practices and publications. We believe that journalism is a profession built on trust. To earn and maintain that trust with our community, we commit ourselves to these values – and to the promise that we will always seek to deepen their importance.

The opinions expressed in The Scarlet do not necessarily reflect the official position of the University or its faculty or staff. The Scarlet reserves the right to refuse any submission for any reason. The Editors may alter any accepted work or retract it at a later date at their discretion.

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# Editorial: You’re Using “All-Inclusive” Wrong.

By Morgan Martin  
*Sports Editor*

I choose to assume that when Clarkies utilize the term “all-inclusive” that their intentions are good. However, when the constant usage of the term is repeatedly used wrong, I can not make this assumption and have to look at situations as what they really are: damaging.

The term inclusivity refers to the practice of providing equal access to opportunities and resources for people who might otherwise be excluded or marginalized. Therefore, when a club or organization advertises itself as being “all-inclusive”, one would think that they follow the definition of what inclusivity is. This is often not the case.

Throughout my four years at Clark I have noticed that when

a club or organization references itself as being “all-inclusive” what they really mean is they are inclusive for cisgendered and afab (assigned female at birth) individuals only. That is not what inclusivity is. When you alter the definition of inclusivity to refer to the inclusion of “female-identifying people” and then note nonbinary people, you are actually committing more damage than you are resolving.

Latching the word nonbinary into your explanation of inclusivity does not inherently make your club any more inclusive, especially when there is an overemphasis on the specification of a “female” space. Rather, it exposes a lens that only views nonbinary people as “female plus” rather than a separate entity altogether. To further emphasize my point, it appears that only feminine oriented clubs feel the need

to describe themselves in this way. You cannot use nonbinary people as a way of making your club appear welcoming, just be more welcoming - I am looking directly at you acapella groups and club sports.

If you want to actually be all-inclusive, re-educate yourself on the definition of the term and do better to actually make your clubs and organizations a welcoming space for all people, regardless of the way they present themselves or identify. Trans and non-binary people owe you nothing, and deserve better than to be used only as a means to make your club appear more diverse.

## CORRECTIONS:

In Editorial: The State of Freedom of Speech and Protest at Clark FIRE stands for Foundation for Individual Rights and Expression, not Foundation for Individual Rights in Education.

In Worcester’s City Medical Director Wants to Use VR as a Gun Safety Tool The Worcester School Public School Committee did not take a vote against teaching gun education by using virtual reality in Worcester Public Schools.

In Impregnate That Man! A Review of “Alien: Romulus” It is implied that Dan O’Bannon was present for the writing of this film. He passed away in 2009.

The Scarlet regrets these errors.

## WE ARE ACCEPTING LETTERS TO THE EDITOR!

Do you want to talk to The Scarlet  
and our readership directly?

The Editors will consider signed  
letters of 250 words or fewer to be  
published in print and online.



### **What's On The Ballot in Worcester?**

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to vote.

### **Massachusetts Governor's Council District 7:**

According to Mass.gov, the Governor's Council is a council composed of eight elected representatives and the Lieutenant Governor. The council "record advice and consent on warrants" for issues ranging from pardons to gubernatorial appointments (i.e. judges, public administrators). Two candidates, Incumbent Paul DePalo (D) and Andrew Couture (R) are running for this particular seat.

### **Massachusetts State Senate 1st Worcester District:**

Robyn Kennedy (D), the incumbent, is running for this seat uncontested.

### **Massachusetts House of Representatives 17th Worcester District:**

David LeBoeuf (D), the incumbent, is running for this seat uncontested.

### **Massachusetts Ballot Questions:**

Massachusetts voters will have the opportunity to consider the five following policy changes. As a general rule, voting YES will change the current law, and voting NO will maintain things as they are.

*Question 1 – Authorization of State Auditor to Audit General Court:* A YES vote would allow the state auditor to audit the Massachusetts

Legislature. According to TuftsNow, "administrative activities, cybersecurity norms, and purchasing practices" could be subject to audits, but "core legislative functions" would be barred from examination. While other state legislatures are permitted to be audited, instigating this process requires consent from the legislature itself.

*Question 2–Repeal Competency Assessment Requirement for High School Graduation:* Voting YES would eliminate the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) as a graduation requirement for Massachusetts public school students without eliminating the MCAS itself. About one percent of Massachusetts high school seniors fail to graduate due to their MCAS scores. Most of this group includes English language learners or students with learning differences. School districts would be responsible for setting graduation standards "while resisting the temptation to boost graduation rates by setting a low bar," according to TuftsNow.

*Question 3–Unionization and Collective Bargaining for Transportation Network Drivers:* If Question 3 passes, Massachusetts would become the first state to permit Uber and Lyft drivers to unionize. This is expected to both raise the cost of purchasing rideshare services and overall quality standards. The proposal is likely to be challenged

through the courts, as it was in Seattle, WA in 2015. That being said, while rideshare unions are new in the United States, they are common in other countries.

*Question 4–Legalization and Regulation of Psychedelic Substances:* A YES vote would legalize psilocybin, psilocyn, dimethyltryptamine (DMT), and ibogaine—all psychedelic drugs—for recreational and therapeutic/medical usage in Massachusetts. Massachusetts would be the third state to legalize psychedelics but the first to authorize these drugs in therapy centers where applicable. For example, psilocybin has been proven to help treat anxiety in terminally ill individuals when prescribed and regulated. However, DMT and ibogaine can lead to neurological and cardiac

issues. Regulations around psychedelics would be more restrictive than marijuana, also legal in Massachusetts. These regulations come with an increased cost, though, which might encourage more at-home use that could lead to dangerous complications.

Check out our Opinions Co-Editor, Gabe Schmick's, opinions article about why he supports voting YES on Question 4.

*Question 5–Minimum Wage for Tipped Employees:* Voting YES would require tipped workers to be paid \$15/hr rather than the current \$6.75/hr. Tips would be shared between employees at the front and back of the house, which TuftsNow said could equalize pay among employees. Restaurants would likely have to raise their prices on menu items to cover the higher pay,

and this would decrease demand—and tips—at restaurants. This could result in tipped workers being laid off and lowered demand in the market. On the other hand, it could also relieve pressure customers feel to tip.

There it is, Clarkies: a full breakdown of the Worcester ballot. Happy voting!



*The state of Michigan's Vote By Mail sticker. Photo courtesy of Rowan Compton.*



*A pamphlet on voting for question three. Photo by Leo Kerz.*

# Aunt Flow Makes an Appearance...Or Does She?

## Menstrual Equity Alliance in Purchase Freeze

By **Ava Orofino**  
Editor-in-Chief

The Menstrual Equity Alliance (MEA) is a student organization that promotes inclusivity and educates the Clark community on menstrual equity.

Starting originally as a subcommittee of the student council, MEA's main goal is to provide free and accessible products for all menstruating students. Now, they not only focus on providing products, but also education and running donation drives to combat period poverty. But their main goal is still the same as always.

"We are creating a positive environment to discuss menstrual health and break down the stigma that surrounds it," Amelia Clark '26, MEA co-

president of the club, says.

The club is responsible for purchasing and hand-distributing all of the menstruation products on campus. Products are currently available in all dorm halls, with the exception of Dana Commons.

There have been a number of issues with the dispenser locations, according to Clark. Maywood's dispenser had been broken, and then fixed by MEA. Dispensers in the University Center were also removed this summer.

Last spring, the Menstrual Equity Alliance entered a pilot program with Citron Hygiene, which partners with universities to help end period poverty around college campuses. Funded by a grant from Clark University Student

Council (CUSC), the club entered into the monthly subscription, where Citron would install and fill the chosen dispensers.

Through a discussion with Dean Morgan Acosta, the pilot program was installed in the University Center, where there was believed to be the most foot traffic. For the entirety of the spring semester, Citron replaced all of the products in the two dispensers in the building.

Normally, an average of ten students distribute the pads and tampons by hand to all of the dispensers, but with timing and getting access to spaces, especially dorm halls, it has gotten increasingly difficult for them to be able to distribute in a timely manner, especially when the restocking forms keep piling up. Having Citron employees refill and restock the products in the UC pretty regularly helped the club, and the school, out. No one had to wait for a busy student to have some free time to refill basic necessities for Clark students.

"We noticed that the dispensers ran out in the University Center pretty quickly, and it was really nice to see the campus community used the products that were provided through the program"

says Ali Civilikas '26, MEA co-president.

The pilot program continued until the end of the fiscal year, refilling the dispensers monthly with Citron's stalk of Aunt Flow pads and tampons. After little to no contact with Citron, the program ended promptly in May, and Citron had uninstalled the two dispensers in the University Center.

After being told to take a pause until the fall semester started, in mid-July Citron called MEA co-president A. Clark, the primary contact for the contract, and told her that they were at Clark University to take back the dispensers. Due to lack of knowledge about the program ending and because of contract disputes with Citron and SLP, MEA did not have a plan in place yet to replace the University Center dispensers.

Since Citron's contracts were a minimum of three years, MEA was not able to renew. Per SLP and CUSC guidelines, student organizations cannot sign contracts that last over one year. Because of students rotating out every year or so, no student can sign the three-year commitment. Despite this, Clark was still the primary contact with Citron, for a contract she wasn't allowed to sign.

"Clark's campus is

going to be menstruating for more than three years," Clark said. "It's frustrating, because we want this (club) to outlast us (the MEA Eboard)."

After the summer ended, the club jumped right into planning the semester, including trying to get constitutional funding for the club. With their limited budget of around \$2,600 a year, they purchase about \$515 dollars worth of pads and tampons, which evens out to about 1500 pads and 500 tampons, says Clark.

After meeting with Maria-Elisa Gallant, the Associate Director of Student Engagement and Equity, and the CUSC Executive Board it was determined that they could try and pursue constitutional funding in the beginning of September, starting with getting as many quotes as possible for costs of dispensers and restocks.

A few weeks later, the treasurer of MEA received an email from Robin Bozik, Student Engagement Office and Budget Manager, stating that the purchase request for pads and tampons from Aunt Flow could not be processed. With their limited budget, they would need to both supply products for all menstruating students on campus and put on events.

After meeting with Bozik about their failed



Dispenser in Wright Hall. Photo by Morgan Parisse.



# Clarkies Can't Have a Conversation: Gatekeeping & Effective Discourse

By Cyd Abnet  
Managing Editor

In the lead-up to the 2024 election, there has been much 'discussion' among Clarkies about political semantics. A popular topic has been what it means to be a leftist – what the requirements are, who you would vote for if you were one, and whether or not certain people qualify.

This is all good and fine, but a lot of Clarkies involved in this discourse have rarely thought to consider: what if this entire thing isn't about them?

A good portion of college students involved in activism lack the skills to have an effective conversation about difficult topics. There should be no goal of an individual asserting themselves as 'the most right' when having these conversations – the point of talking with others is to listen and understand each other, and to further develop ideas.

There is also some element in these "I'm right" monologues of working towards being 'the ultimate' activist. This often involves telling others that they're not as qualified as you are or as radical as you are, whether implicitly or explicitly. Being a leftist simply means believing in ideas beyond the liberal

or conservative binary of establishmentarian capitalist American politics, with one of the primary goals being to prevent further injustice to oppressed peoples. It is ironic that the people controlling these leftist or otherwise left-leaning narratives on campuses are often white in lieu of voices of people of color or other minority groups – marginalized voices should be at the forefront of a movement focused on liberation. That is not to say white people have nothing to add, but how is a movement supposed to serve a population that isn't at least consulted in decision making?

Providing barriers to including yourself as part of a group, such as saying, "If you don't vote third party, you're not a leftist" or "If you don't participate in protests, you're not a leftist," fail to understand the nuance behind what it means to subscribe to a set of beliefs. Gatekeeping political identities reduces the strength of a political ideology by dividing its members. The only requirement to being a leftist is whether or not you believe in the general premise of preventing fascism, anti-capitalist values and holding views that are considered radical by more centrist liberals.

How you act based on those premises is up to you. For example, two people may believe that eating meat is wrong, but one is vegan and one is vegetarian. They both believe in the same basic principle. However, their practice looks different. This is the same for any belief set.

All of this is not to say that just ANYBODY can be involved in a movement. Sometimes, people do things that are dangerous to those involved or things that are directly against the movement's agenda. However, there should be nothing beyond an agreed set of base beliefs as a requirement. Anything beyond that is divisive and does not contribute to effective action and discourse.



*Menstrual Equity Alliance Executive Board.*

**TOP:** Josie Libonate, Riley Forrestal, Allison Kimball, and Jacqueline Morrill. **BOTTOM:** Ali Civilikas and Amelia Clark. Photo courtesy of Amelia Clark.

purchase process, it was determined that MEA was in a purchase freeze. Therefore, they were not eligible to purchase any menstruation products for campus. According to a Forbes article, 23 percent of students experience period poverty, meaning that they cannot afford to purchase menstruation products for themselves. Clark, or any other college campus, is no exception to that.

"We are trying to get a permanent solution for something that should be free, for something that we should have access to on campus, that honestly the administration should be pushing for... I don't understand why the university isn't funding this." A. Clark said.

As the Menstrual Equity Alliance fights for constitutional funding, they are also fighting for a safe space for menstruating students, similar to the space that Choices has.

Focusing on education and access, this space would be able to provide menstruation products in a location that is easily accessible to all students. Not only would there be single-use products like pads and tampons, but also reusable ones, from menstrual discs to period underwear.

"We usually give out free reusable products when we table at the involvement fair, and students always exclaim how they didn't know those were an option," Civilikas said. "They love them."

The co-presidents say they are in awe of the support they have received from students who love their products, and said it makes them more determined than ever to provide a safe, and accessible space for menstruating students.



# Letter to the Editor: Why I'm Voting for Kamala Harris

**Marcus Palumbo &  
Meridian Stiller**

*Scarlet Staff &  
Contributing Writer*

We are writing in response to a recent opinion piece entitled “Why I'm Voting Third Party.” Of course we broadly agree with the notion that Americans should not be limited to only two options for whom they choose as president. However, we strongly disagree with the author's conclusion that the solution is to vote for a third party in the upcoming presidential election. While we do not believe it was done intentionally or with malice, this article does contain several logical fallacies which we feel it is important to highlight and refute.

First, the author claims that you should not vote for a Democrat because they are not any better than the Republicans. In order to back this claim up, they cite several examples of policy issues where the Democrats claim to be different but have essentially the same policy as Republicans. The author has cherry-picked issues in order to make their case. Of course, it's possible to find issues (such as immigration) where the Democrats are arguably just as right-wing as the Republicans. But, there are also plenty of issues on which the Democrats are actually significantly better.

During the Biden

administration, there have been many positive changes such as increasing healthcare access for transgender people, expanding overtime benefits, creating an Office of Gun Violence Prevention and appointing Lina Khan as FTC Chair where she has led a crackdown on monopolies and large corporations that harm consumers. This included capping the price of insulin at \$35 a month. These are policies that Trump would never enact, ever. We agree that Democrats are very right-wing on many issues, but when you take a big picture look, there are so many vulnerable people who would be dramatically better off with a Democrat as president rather than Trump.

The author also responds to the often repeated argument that voting for a third party is wasting your vote. They claim that voting for a third party candidate is not actually wasting your vote because you're sending a message to politicians that they need to listen to more radical ideas that don't align with the mainstream of either party. However, this is an ineffective form of protest because you risk the people you're trying to send a message to actually concluding that Harris was too progressive for independent voters. This will make them think that they need to run



*Presidential candidate Kamala Harris addressing the public. Photo courtesy of Creative Commons.*



*Presidential candidate Donald Trump speaking at a rally Photo courtesy of Creative Commons.*

more moderate candidates next time, which is exactly the opposite of the outcome the protest was aimed at achieving.

Additionally, we want to strongly caution people against taking the author's advice without considering

a major caveat. If you vote in a state that is solidly blue and has absolutely no chance of being won by Donald Trump, then sure, indulge in this “protest” and vote for a third party. However, if you live in a swing state or red state,

you absolutely **SHOULD NOT VOTE FOR A THIRD PARTY!** Here's why: when the margins are thin, it is absolutely possible for a percentage of people to swing an election by voting for a third candidate who doesn't end up winning.



In a system where either Harris or Trump is going to win (that is just a fact), not voting for Harris, whether by abstaining or voting for a third party, is the same as voting for Trump. We've already established that voting third party isn't even an effective form of protest, but even if you think it is, there is no amount of "sending a message" that's worth electing Donald Trump over, because this country will not survive another Trump presidency. That's what is at stake.

Lastly, the author of the article dismisses fears about Project 2025 on the grounds that Republicans have made big ambitious plans in the past. This is not a reason to take Project 2025 unseriously. Arguably those past Republican strategy plans are a big part of how we ended up with the situation we have now. The author cites Jimmy Carter's implementation of neoliberal policies as evidence that the Democrats are aligned with the right on the issues discussed in Republican strategy plans.

However, that was a very different time in American politics, and Harris has made it very clear that she is opposed to the dismantling of the administrative state and executive branch bureaucracy that Project 2025 advocates.

Unlike in the case of Jimmy Carter, there is no doubt that Harris would keep protections for Federal bureaucrats and agency experts, while Trump has made it abundantly clear he would wipe all of that away in favor of an executive branch that bends to his will alone. He wants to eliminate the Department of Education for crying out loud. When evaluating the Democrats, you have to count not only the actions they do take, but the value of them preserving our country against actions that the Republicans would take.

When the Republicans tell us they want to implement extreme anti-democratic changes, we should believe them. That's why we are voting for Kamala Harris this November.



Donald Trump using his cell phone. Photo courtesy of Creative Commons.

# Why Trump Will Raise Taxes "Bigly"

**Gabe Schmick**  
*Opinions Editor*

Republicans have often lauded themselves as the party of lower taxes, after all George H. W. Bush promised "no new taxes" and look where that ended up. In all seriousness, there has always been this idea that Republicans will lower taxes for Americans. Of course, they are mainly out to lower taxes for the wealthy one percent, but that is another issue and besides the point. The point is in this election the party which has most explicitly called for raising taxes on ordinary Americans is Donald Trump and the Republicans.

Many voters will overlook tariff policy because it is boring and seemingly won't affect the average American because almost nobody can figure out what the hell it is. To put it simply, a tariff is a tax on imported goods. Trump has proposed a universal tariff of ten percent on all imported goods, though recently he has talked about making them as high as 20 percent, not to mention a 60 percent tariff on all goods from China. His reasoning is that this will dissuade companies and Americans from buying products from China and elsewhere, which would incentivize them to buy American made products. This will, of course, hurt the American consumer,



Donald Trump smiles at the camera. Photo courtesy of Creative Commons.

but according to Trump the payoff is worth it because it would reduce the dreaded "trade deficit" and cause a new age of American manufacturing. While American manufacturing is something the government should be supportive of, this goal could easily be achieved through something like state subsidies, something that does not cost the American consumer.

The actual statistics of the plan paint a grim picture on the impact for American families. It was estimated by economist Dr. Paul Krugman that such a massive spike in tariffs would cause the cost of living to go up an average of four percent, although poorer Americans would be hit the hardest with the bottom 1/5 of earners

having their cost of living increase by almost six percent and the top one percent wealthiest earners would only have their cost of living go up 1.4 percent. Trump also is more likely to initiate these plans than other aspects of his draconian platform as he has the direct power to do so given over the past century congress has continually passed legislation to delegate tariff powers to the President. With no barriers in place, Trump could easily enact this plan relatively early in his term.

Regardless of the mundaneness that is tariff policy, American voters should take a closer look at this issue as it may soon have a major impact on your finances.



# Colleges are Censoring Their Student Newspapers. That's Kind of Bad.

**By Sophia Lindstrom**  
News Editor

Several weeks ago, Web Editor Leo Kerz informed The Scarlet about collegiate newspaper censorship that got me fired up enough to reply “I smell an editorial.” Of course, the entirety of Clark University’s student body has been sitting at attention ever since, anxiously awaiting this article’s release. Channel 5 News is actually outside my apartment right now begging on hands and knees for my comment. Or at least that’s what the black mold in JSC is telling me.

This is a tale of two universities: Norwich University, a military university in Northfield, Vt, and Pennsylvania State University in Philadelphia. But these schools have major implications for the future of student journalism.

Norwich University administrators suspended its student newspaper, The Guidon, for the entirety of the fall 2024 semester. According to local publication VTDigger, administrators claimed that students were “unprepared for the challenges and responsibilities of reporting,” and that they were “not satisfied with the degree of academic rigor” in the organization. Patronizing much?

It turns out that in the

Spring 2024 semester, student reporters investigated a series of sexual assault claims, including a Title IX lawsuit filed by a former University employee, that Norwich’s administration was sweeping under the rug. The Guidon called out Norwich University administration for a “lack of transparency” regarding at least two sexual assault allegations that occurred on campus during the 2023-2024 academic year. Then the paper was suspended. Coincidence? Yeah, okay. Sure.

The Penn State situation is a bit more nuanced. The Associated Press reports that PSU administrators removed newspaper display racks after pro-Kamala Harris advertisements were put on them. The papers themselves had no advertisements printed on them, but they were taken away, too. Also, out of the 35 racks that were removed, only three displayed advertisements for Harris. Six held nonpartisan voter registration ads. The others were bare.

The newspaper, The Daily Collegian, claims they were not notified that the papers would be removed. The administration did tell the Collegian’s editor-in-chief that they “potentially” violated the student handbook. “Potentially” is a loaded word. Bigfoot could potentially be real.



“Old Main” building at Penn State. Photo licensed under Creative Commons, courtesy of Penn State.

The sun could potentially blow up tomorrow.

To make myself clear, student handbook violations are serious and should be treated as such. Student newspapers must operate according to their institution’s code of conduct (unless they are independent and therefore not beholden to its rules). But the Associated Press reports that PSU slashed the Collegian’s funding by 100 percent, then expected them to not run advertisements. You can’t run a newspaper without a budget, and expecting the Collegian to not run advertisements under those circumstances is absurd.

Besides, love it or hate it, colleges need student journalists. Myself, Web Editor Leo Kerz, and former

LArts Editor Nic Smith had the opportunity to attend the Nieman Journalism Conference at Harvard University last spring. During the first speech of the conference, the keynote speaker called us America’s future journalists. We heard from The Spelman Blueprint about how they completely rebuilt their publication after it was devastated by the COVID-19 pandemic. We spoke to The Washington Square News at NYU regarding their coverage of the arrest of student protestors. Student journalists report on what is happening in their community. We help each other become published writers and put forth our best work. Joining a paper makes you part

of something bigger than yourself. All of this is far more important than stoking administrators’ egos.

Colleges newspapers, whether at PSU or Norwich University or anywhere else, are where student journalists learn their craft. This means making mistakes. It means making tough calls—and often getting it wrong. But college administrators looking to censor student criticism need to ask themselves if they want students to engage with their communities, take risks, and think critically. If not, America’s future journalists won’t be going into the field with four years of experience. They’ll be going in with zero.





# A Cozy New Study Spot with a Tasty Twist: Kaffe.Inn

By Effie Hossfeld  
Contributing Writer

I'm a college student, and of course, as a college student, it is my civic duty to drink as much caffeine as physically and biologically possible. I may have an addiction, but it's a socially acceptable one. Plus, I haven't had too many heart palpitations yet. When I need a hit of caffeine, I usually drink Monster Energy, much to my mother's dismay.

However, whenever I go to CVS, I always pass a new cafe on Park Avenue. Every time I do, I feel my curiosity grow. It's a Vietnamese coffee shop that's in a sage house with a patio, a white door, and a red sign that says in bright yellow lettering: "NOW OPEN."

The coffee shop is called Kaffe.Inn, and it literally just opened on August 30th of this year.

So, my love of new sweet treats guided me into the door. I opened it up, and I heard calming indie music. Oh my gosh, it was Mitski's "My Love All Mine All Mine." I explored a little, taking copious amounts of pictures of all the cute nooks, crannies, knick-knacks, and paintings.

A barista who was cleaning the table reassured me that I could take my time deciding what to

get. That affirmation truly helped because, as anyone who has seen me order before can confirm, I cannot decide what to order for the life of me.

The atmosphere was friendly and calm. The color scheme of mint green, deep brown, and occasional pops of color courtesy of the flowers and decor lent itself to a quaint feeling.

To me, it felt like I was visiting an old friend's home, especially since the shop used a house as the cafe instead of a standard brick and concrete storefront.

There weren't many people, which is to be expected for a new restaurant. There was plenty of open seating, and I noticed some patrons were on their laptops, presumably doing some sort of work and not playing Papa's Pizzeria.

The owners placed my favorite decor in the middle of the main room. They placed silver coffee kettles right alongside bright green plants. Vietnamese statues of elephants spread across the room on different tables and shelves. And their counter's base reflected the shop with a mirror while covered in primary-colored polka dots.

I ordered a mango milk drink. I personally love sweet drinks and mango. So, the combo of mango and sweet cold



Kaffe Inn on the corner of Downing St and Park Ave. Photo by Morgan Parisse.

foam was perfect for me. I enjoyed the sweetness even more because it wasn't artificial mango, so it tasted genuinely fruity. The foam balanced out the tang of the mango.

It's a very pretty drink, too. It sported bright orange, pale yellow, and white that swirled around the cup accented by the dark green cafe's logo.

If you aren't a fan of fruity drinks, they have other options, such as a classic oat milk latte that my fellow sweet treat

enjoyer expertly described as "pretty good."

The other options on the menu are blended drinks, coffee, most of which is Vietnamese drip, and hot tea. Of course, they have pastries and cakes, too.

The prices of the drinks are, on average, \$5.50, slightly expensive for coffee; however, it makes sense since it is such a new shop with a relatively small customer base.

I encourage my fellow college students not to spend too much money

here despite the immaculate vibes and tasty treats.

I think my favorite part of the visit is seeing the possibilities for growth. As I keep frequenting this shop, as I know I will, I look forward to seeing the collection of trinkets, plants, and books grow. And I'm excited to see how other people react to taking their first sips or bites of their treats.

Kaffe.Inn will certainly grow into itself at 456 Park Avenue, Worcester, Massachusetts.

# Free Buses are Bad, Actually

By Rowan Compton  
Opinions Editor

I don't have a car. I am entirely dependent on public transit and mooching rides from my friends to get anywhere beyond Main South. In the summer of 2023, I had to take buses operated by Worcester Regional Transit Authority (WRTA) for about two and a half hours every weekday. I worked on the opposite side of town at a summer internship with the transit department of the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission. All this to say, I am personally invested in good buses in Worcester.

Free public transit seems like a good idea! Ease of access around your city is one of the most important factors of urban space. On a surface level, free fares increase ease of access by reducing both the amount of thought required to ride public transport, and obviously, it lowers the financial burden to riders.

However, we must consider what the goals of a transit provider are. To me, the goal is simple: to run a system that can provide the most possible riders with the most possible trips. Contrary to popular belief, free fares are not in line with this goal. A fareless system discourages the WRTA from running popular services and forces



WRTA bus crosses Main Street in front of Clark University. Photo taken by Everett Beals.

it into a precarious financial spot, which jeopardizes the long-term future of the organization. Essentially, a free thing is worthless if the thing you get is shit.

Proponents of free fares argue that free fares allow riders to just turn up to a bus stop and hop right on. Riders do not have to worry about having the right change, or a fare card, or anything. This, in theory, allows for more spur-of-the-moment trips, leading to more trips for more riders.

I disagree. This argument assumes a good level of service with frequent buses, which is not what we have. Clark is on the single busiest bus-corridor outside of downtown Worcester

throughout central Massachusetts – Main Street. We have three different bus routes running along this street, all going to Union Station. Yet, often, there are still 30 minutes to an hour in between buses. The low frequency of buses here discourages these turn-up-and-go-style trips. This idea of spur of the moment trips falls apart even further when we consider that almost nowhere else in Worcester receives even this pitiful level of service.

To actually use the WRTA regularly, one must look at a live map of where buses are (which often glitches) and guesstimate how long it would be before the next bus turns up at your stop. Ideally, you could

just check the schedule, but anyone with experience with the WRTA knows those are practically useless.

The argument I hear promoting free fares the most is equity. Proponents claim that free fares decrease the financial burden on those who are likely already some of those facing a difficult time making ends meet. On the surface, this sounds appealing.

However, there are ways to institute free fares for the people who need it AND charge those who can pay. I would suggest that, using census data, you could distribute free fare cards to those who are most likely to use them. Introducing fares for those who can

pay while maintaining the free fares for those who cannot would allow the WRTA to afford to run more service. Essentially, instituting a paid fare system for some and a free system for others allows the best of both worlds: free services for those who need it, and increased services for all. This increase in service would then encourage ridership, leading to a virtuous cycle of fare box revenue.

I hear this argument a lot, particularly from my fellow Clarkies. I would like to remind Clark students that, on average, we are richer and whiter than the average Worcester resident. Frankly, Clark students should be paying fares to



support a system that could then provide better service to those who need it around all of Worcester. Introducing fares in the method I have laid out above would significantly increase transit equity in Worcester.

Currently, with no revenue from fares, the WRTA is completely dependent on funding from the state and federal governments. This funding often comes in large grants for capital funding (new buses, increased stops, etc.). Very rarely, however, does this grant funding support simple operations of the system. Nothing about introducing fares would preclude the WRTA from applying to the same grants they depend on today.

This kind of large but infrequent funding spurts can and has in several instances, lead to a system where the

infrastructure is excellent, but the level of service is quite poor. Fare revenue provides a clear solution to this problem, increased ridership from increased service levels goes to supporting further increases in service. This is how almost all transit systems (and every single very successful system) work.

The best argument for free fares in my opinion, is that of dwell-time. Dwell-time is how long a bus waits at a particular stop to board or de-board riders. If there is a particularly busy stop for instance, the time it takes for all the riders to get on and off the bus would take more time than a quiet stop. In general, the lower the dwell-time, the more efficient a bus system can be. The less time a bus is stopped, the more time it is actually transporting riders to where they need to go.

Fareless buses do significantly reduce dwell-time. Riders do not have to fiddle with change, an app, or their wallets to get on a bus, allowing them to board faster. This is something that the WRTA does quite well actually. At each stop, buses are usually stopped for a pretty brief period of time. That said, the marginal efficiency gain of this is drastically outweighed by the loss in efficiency that low service levels provide.

Public agencies such as the WRTA have a moral obligation to provide the public with the best possible service. By keeping free fares, the WRTA is not providing the most possible riders with the most possible trips. Re-introducing fares for those who can afford it on the WRTA would result in better service, better equity, and a better Worcester.

# To The Theater!

By Paddington Wetlaufer  
*Scarlet Staff*

Halloween draws near, and what better way to spend the spooky season than with some scary movies?

While staying at home (or more likely in your dorm) is how most of us end up watching movies, sometimes the mood calls for something a bit more classic. Let's take a look at three places to experience some old-fashioned cinema charm.

Our first stop is Blackstone Valley 14 Cinema De Lux located at 70 Worcester-Providence Turnpike in Millbury.

With a full array of amenities from candy to pizza, Blackstone is the first choice for many Clark students looking to spend an

evening at the big screen.

Speaking of amenities, the selection of food is a step ahead of other smaller theaters, with fresh pizza, hot dogs, fries, ice cream, and the legendary soda dispenser. That's right, the Coca-Cola "Freestyle" machine that was taken from The Bistro has a few friends in the Blackstone Cinema.

All that does come for a price. During our visit, we purchased two drinks, a large popcorn, and a small Dippin' Dots for \$30. The popcorn was average, the drinks were standard, and the Dippin' Dots were glorious (make sure to get a spoon!).

While the wide food and drink selection may be impressive, the real reason for its popularity is almost certainly its location.



A closer look at a WRTA bus while it passes Clark University. Photo taken by Everett Beals.



Coca-Cola Freestyle machine from the Blackstone Cinema. Taken by Paddington Wetlaufer

"To The Theater!" Continued page 12.



*“To The Theater!”*

*Continued from page 11.*

Blackstone is around a fifteen-minute drive from Clark University’s campus, making it a convenient spot for any film buffs with some extra time.

Next, we’re going to look at Regal Solomon Pond at 591 Donald Lynch Blvd. in Marlborough, Mass. At around thirty minutes away from campus, Regal is not as large as Blackstone, and has fewer in the way of food, only basic candy, popcorn, and a few Pepsi drinks. The prices are a bit cheaper, however the taste of the popcorn is significantly better, and the size of a “small” fountain drink was notable enough to warrant my mother requesting a picture.

If the main part of your cinema experience is the classic movie popcorn, Regal’s is miles ahead with a buttery treat you’ll devour.

Our final leg of the journey is a bit more unconventional. When looking for movie theaters near Worcester, I often stumbled upon

a delightfully quaint location, only to discover it was a stage theater. At Mendon Twin Drive-In at 35 Milford St in Mendon, Mass., what you see is what you get: A big screen.

Like Regal, the drive from campus is about half an hour, and make sure to bring your own car, because that’s where you’ll be seated.

A drive-in might be a bit of an unconventional choice, but if you want a real retro viewing with cotton candy, corn dogs, and giant pretzels, then Mendon’s has you covered. With a main snack shack, an ice cream parlor, and a beer garden, there’s plenty to choose from.

The downside is their size; with only two screens and a short showtime window, they only show four films a night only two times a week on Fridays and Saturdays. While having double features is nice, some may find the schedule a turn-off.

The final verdict? Go watch a movie.



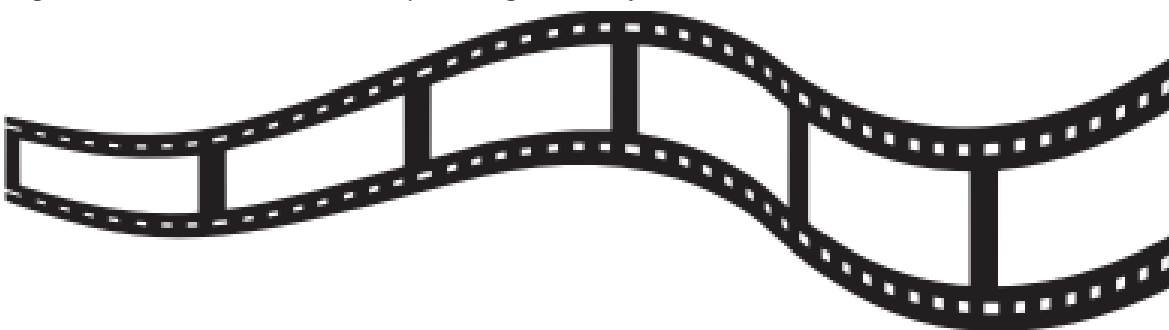
*Blackstone Valley 14 Cinema De Lux interior. Taken by Paddington Wetlaufer.*



*Regal Solomon Pond interior. Taken by Paddington Wetlaufer.*



*Regal’s small soda compared to the face of Paddington Wetlaufer. Taken by Paddington Wetlaufer.*





# A Few More Spooky Anomalies at Clark

By Sam Espach  
*Scarlet Staff*

Well folks, 'tis the spooky season, so I thought I would write a special fear-inducing article for The SCARE-let...

Less than a year ago one of our writers chronicled some of Clark's "Creepiest Corridors" including the pit in the Johnson Sanford Center, Jefferson Hall's medieval elevator, the basement of Estabrook, and the dreaded backstage in Atwood Hall. This article is not spooky in the usual sense, however. The following areas range from hair-raisingly, spine-tinglingly creepy, to a bit dangerous, to just downright weird.

Did you know Dana Commons used to be a cafeteria? Although something tells me animal meat wasn't the only thing sliced in there. The dimly-lit rooms contain a broken conveyor belt, blank shelves with food pantry labels, and a single black couch that, in fact, is actually quite comfortable, so long as you don't think about what else it's been used for. Half of the kitchen is corded off by a locked metal gate. What lies behind it? We may never find out.

While the Dana Commons kitchen is abandoned, a separate terror lies just behind a much livelier dining hall. If you've ever gone to

the back of the Table at Higgins, or are a fan of the 2nd floor dining room, you've probably seen The Elevator. You've heard how it creaks and groans opening its door, like an old man trying to escape from a too soft-chair. If you are especially vigilant, you might even notice the permit expired in June of this year. Rumor has it that every time you enter The Elevator, there is a tiny chance you might never be seen again.

Speaking of elevators, have you ever looked at the floor of the one in Jonas Clark Hall? A trip to the lobotomy chair is not JC's only creepy fright; you can see straight into the elevator shaft if you so choose. A removable metal plate is the only thing separating you from the horrors of the channel below. Legend says that Jonas Clark designed this elevator himself, giving him an easy way to hide

the dead bodies of Clark students: Every time he claimed one of his victims, he would chop off their limbs and squeeze them into the shaft, piece by piece... Okay fine, I made that one up. But if while taking a peek "down under", you ever hear the faint crying of lost souls... Well, just don't say I didn't warn you.

Most people probably won't find the next item scary, but it is the subject of any architectural planner's worst nightmares. This past freshman orientation, when the Class of 2028 took its class photo on The Green just outside Jefferson, the photographer stood on a ledge that, well... didn't really have a door. It's only access point is a small window one must squeeze through (hopefully our photographer wasn't claustrophobic). This sparks many questions, including:



*The Jefferson Academic Center ledge. Photo by Sam Espach.*

Why does this exist? Was the ledge ever meant to be occupied? Who designed it? Why? Did their ex-husband-fellow-architect tragically leave them for a graphic designer back in '95 spawning a grudge against the entire academic field? I believe the real spook here is the inner workings of this person's mind.

Just a stone's toss from the Geography ledge is one of the worst places to be on campus. Carefully watched over by Sigmund Freud, the Red Square contains the sacred tiles which if one steps on they are destined never to graduate from Clark University. Of course, that doesn't stop me from walking on them. To hell with superstitions, I say! My friend jokes—er, I mean, the LEGENDS say that if you walk on it enough times you will graduate a year early. Is this true? Nobody has tried it before—I guess we will find out at graduation.

Rounding out the list is what I believe to be the spookiest, most horrifying place at Clark University. It's so dangerous that authorities had to put signs specifically prohibiting students from entering: The staff elevator at Goddard Library. There is a reason students aren't allowed in the elevator. As soon as the doors close on you, the elevator eats you. My confidential source told me the only way to save yourself from this horrifying fate is to enter a special code in the control panel: A code only the Goddard Library staff can enter, and a code even I haven't been able to ascertain. Otherwise, your body will be found weeks later by an unsuspecting staff member. Let this be a lesson to you all: DON'T USE THE STAFF ELEVATOR!!!



*The old kitchen in Dana Commons. Photo by Sam Espach.*

# Review: “Warriors” Delivers an Innovative Reimagining of a Cult Classic

**By Weslee Tyler**  
*Living Arts Editor*

“The Warriors” (1979) is one of my favorite movies of all time. Based on the 1965 novel by Sol Yurick, which itself is based on the ancient Greek text “Anabasis,” the film tells the story of the Warriors, a fictional New York gang.

After being falsely accused of killing the leader of the biggest gang in the city, the Warriors must fight to make it back home from the Bronx to Coney Island safely in one night. While the movie is a bit campy, it is nonetheless a thrilling and gritty tale of brotherhood and survival against the backdrop of 1970s New York.

Despite a lackluster box office performance and negative critical reviews, the film has developed a massive cult following and was even named in the New York Times “Best 1,000 Movies Ever Made.” This year it has been developed into a musical theater concept album titled “Warriors,” written by Lin Manuel Miranda and Eisa Davis.

Sol Yurick wrote his novel in part as a response to what he saw as an overly-romanticized version of street gangs in “West Side Story,” so it seems only fitting that his story has now been adapted into a musical. Though Miranda and Davis currently have no

plans to bring “Warriors” to the stage, they have not ruled out the possibility. Many other musicals, such as Andrew Lloyd Webber’s “Jesus Christ Superstar” also began as concept albums before coming to Broadway. Miranda, like myself, came to love the 1979 film from a young age and had been toying around with the idea of a “The Warriors” musical since 2009. In 2022 he began collaborating with playwright Eisa Davis (niece of legendary activist Angela Davis) to create “Warriors.” The two created an album with a mix of many different genres and musical influences, including rap, hip-hop, ska and reggae, R&B and funk.

Looking at the cast of “Warriors,” one is blown away by the sheer stardom it boasts. Lauryn Hill takes on the role of Cyrus, a Christ-like figure who seeks to unite all New York gangs before her untimely murder. The opening track personifies each borough of the city with Busta Rhymes as Brooklyn, Cam’ron as Manhattan, Nas as Queens, Chris Rivers as the Bronx, and Ghostface Killah and RZA as Staten Island. “Hamilton” alums Phillipa Soo and Jasmine Cephas-Jones play Warrior’s Fox and Swan. The main villain-Luther is played by Australian punk artist Kim Dracula, an unconventional but

ultimately brilliant choice.

“Warriors” the concept album takes several main departures from the film. Most significantly, the Warriors themselves are women. One of the film’s biggest weaknesses is its misogyny, which both the directors and Yurick believed was necessary to maintain the realism of gang life in New York. According to Miranda, gender swapping the characters, “complicates [the narrative] in a really compelling way,” to which I must agree. Including these female roles allows the album to explore difficult topics of harassment and violence against women quite meaningfully. This is best exemplified in the song “Quiet Girls.” Additionally, the way in which the Warriors face vitriolic hate and doxing from the other gangs is enriched by having their characters be women.

Another divergence from the film comes in the character of Mercy. In the movie, Mercy is the only significant female character; a hypersexual and hypersexualized troublemaker who’s only saving grace is the brilliant performance of actress Deborah Van Valkenburgh. In the album, Mercy is given much greater attention and character development. She becomes a tough although damaged woman seeking escape from her life while also finding community and

solidarity with the Warriors. Instead of the movie’s character, who is at best a love interest and at worst a nuisance, Mercy in the musical has the chance to prove her worth and become a full-fledged Warrior herself. The album explores the sapphic love between her and Swan in the song “A Light or Somethin,” which contains my favorite line of the show, “the light at the end of this tunnel’s got nothing on you.”

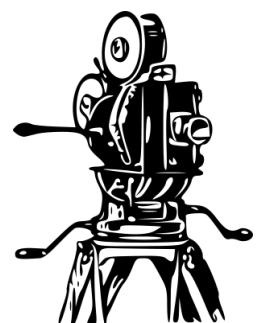
Additionally, the album reframes the central message of the story to be Cyrus’s dream for the future of the city. In the film, Cyrus manages to unite all the cities’ gangs for one meeting and delivers an inspiring speech advocating for all the gangs to stop fighting each other and focus on the real enemy: the cops.

However, after Cyrus’s assassination—which is falsely blamed on the Warriors—his importance and message fade from the story. In the album, the memory of Cyrus remains throughout the whole show. Her—Cyrus is also gender-flipped—followers lament the death of their friend and leader and grapple with how to carry on her vision despite their need for revenge. The Warriors have a climactic confrontation with a police officer in the song “Reunion Square” with the lyric, “You’re the baddest gang in the city...and your color’s

fucking powder blue.” At the conclusion of the album, once the Warriors have made it home to Coney Island and cleared their names, the characters vow to carry on Cyrus’s mission and strive for a more hopeful future.

Musically, “Warriors” is nearly a masterpiece, which is not surprising given the talent and track record of its writers. Miranda and Davis are able to encapsulate an abundance of genres in one album, highlighting the cultural and musical melting pot that is New York City. By showcasing performers from vastly different backgrounds—from hip hop to metal to musical theater—the album delivers a rich symphony of voices and sounds.

Overall, “Warriors” captures the spirit of its predecessor, and is a love letter to the movie that Miranda—and myself—grew up with. It also builds on the film in fantastic ways, modernizing it while grounding the story in the history and music of New York. I would highly recommend that everyone give it a listen, but for the best experience, make sure to watch the film first.





# Oreo Balls: A Dorm Friendly Recipe

By Morgan Martin  
*Sports Editor*

Looking for a quick and easy mid-semester pick me up? Look no further! This recipe is simple, sweet, and dorm friendly! So, take a break from studying to meet up with some friends, watch a scary movie, and enjoy a sweet treat as we enter midterm season.

## Tips and Tricks

In order to not make a complete mess while crushing the oreos (especially in the communal kitchens), place the Oreos into a sealable bag, and then go through the process of crushing them. I typically use a rolling pin, but anything will work for this, just be careful to not puncture the bag. Make sure the Oreos are finely crushed, with only a few large chunks.

Allow the block of cream cheese to soften before attempting to mix the ingredients. Doing so will allow for an easier mixing process. This can be done by leaving the cream cheese outside of the fridge for about a half hour or so to come close to room temperature. Do not microwave or melt the cream cheese.



*The Oreo Balls in a Halloween Theme, made by Morgan Martin. Photo taken by Morgan Martin.*

It is essential to read the package of your choice of meltable chocolate as each brand requires different heat levels and times. If the chocolate burns it will be very difficult to use and alter the taste. Toothpicks are helpful for coating the Oreo balls in melted chocolate. Using toothpicks will allow for the balls to be easily and completely covered. Additionally, the usage of toothpicks will result in less of a mess to clean up afterward.

## Ingredients

36 Oreos, finely crushed  
8 oz of cream cheese - softened  
Approximately 3 packs of Candy Melts or your choice of meltable chocolate  
Sprinkles (optional)

## Instructions

Finely crush a regular-sized pack of 36 Oreos. Mix the softened cream cheese with the crushed Oreos. Shape the mixture into a ball shape, similar to how one would when baking cookie dough. Once the mixture has been separated into numerous balls, place on a tray or plate and freeze for 10-20 minutes.

About 3 minutes before you remove the balls from the freezer, begin melting your chocolate of choice. Make sure to read the package for specific instructions, and be careful to not burn the chocolate in the process. Remove the balls from the freezer and begin covering each one individually with the melted chocolate. Once the ball is completely covered, place back onto the tray or plate and allow them the chocolate to harden\*.

**\*Optional:** Before the chocolate hardens completely, place sprinkles onto the balls for extra decoration. Then, place back onto the tray or plate and allow the chocolate to harden and sprinkles to secure into place.

**Enjoy!**





# Why You Should Be Watching Jon Stewart Right Now

**Allison Rinehart**  
Staff Writer

If there is anything in the United States we do not have enough of, it is political discourse. Ha. But all kidding aside, in a moment when there are so many voices demanding influence and airtime, if there is someone that has been discussing politics for over 20 years, who has hosted a successful show, and continues to work as an activist, such a person might be the one we need right now: he's real, and he's Jon Stewart.

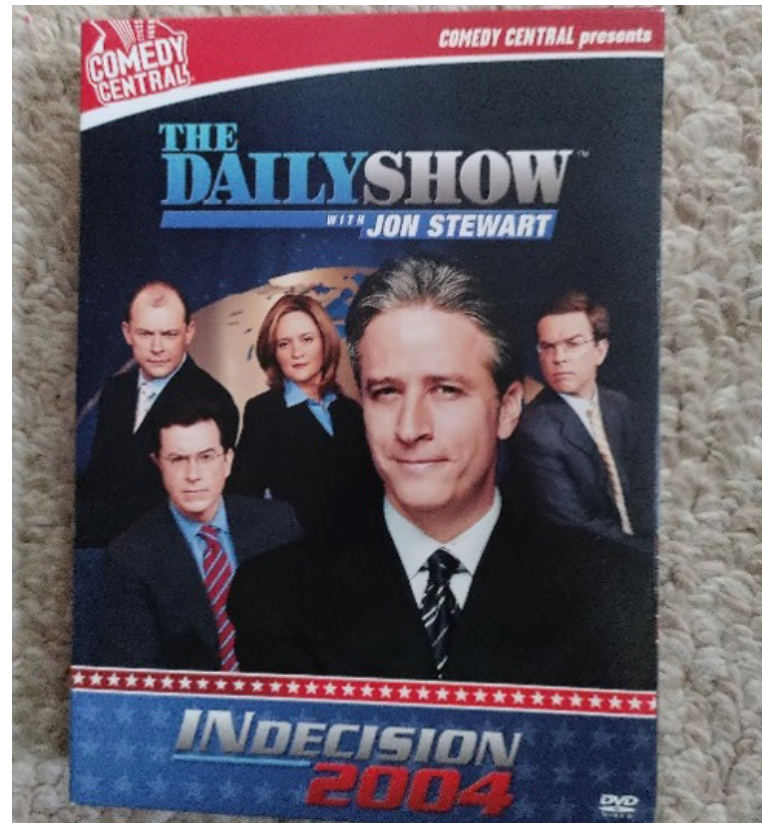
If you don't know who Jon is, here's a quick recap: Jon Stewart, a comedian and sometimes actor who hosted several other talk shows (including one on MTV) began hosting The Daily Show on Comedy Central in 1999. Contrary to popular belief, he was not the first host—that would be Craig Killborn, who hosted from '96 to '98. During Stewart's tenure, the program was built to be a top-down satire of cable news shows, complete with a host, correspondents, and occasional contributors. Many who started out as correspondents on the show turned into veritable stars of their own, you might know about former employees: Stephen Colbert, John Oliver and Steve Carell.

I only became aware of Stewart in the summer of 2019, from coming

across old clips of the show on YouTube. He had an indignant nature against a multitude of targets: the Bush administration, the Iraq war, up into discussing the upcoming 2016 election and the Supreme Court. I felt that he brought a unique perspective to what was going on, and I soon watched every clip I could find. Seeing that Stewart ended his tenure on the Daily Show in 2015, a few years before I became interested in current events, going back to his shows really felt like an education of the popular attitudes of the time.

To today's audience, seeing Stewart at the desk, talking about the news of the day, might seem like a copy of every other late-night host out there right now. But that is taking out history: back in 1999, among the likes of Jay Leno, Stewart was the only one with a completely politically focused show, that specifically criticized the decision-makers of the day.

From 2015 to 2022, Jon's handpicked successor Trevor Noah hosted the show, and it was a relative surprise when Noah announced his departure. Up to the beginning of 2024, the show had been hosted by a cast of rotating guests, like Leslie Jones and John Leguizamo. However, longtime viewers wondered if the hesitancy to pick a new host signaled trouble for the now quarter-



*Caption: My beloved "Indecision 2004" DVD I got at a thrift store "My Beloved 'Indecision 2004' DVD I got at a thrift store."*  
-Allison Rinehart. Photo taken by Allison Rinehart.

century old program.

Then came the news this past January: Jon Stewart had signed on to once again host Monday night shows through the November election (with correspondents like Jordan Klepper and Ronny Chieng hosting Tuesday through Thursday). However, Stewart has kept the door open on whether he might host into 2025, and perhaps continue in a more permanent role.

And here we are now—diving headfirst into another election, twenty years after the one on the DVD. Stewart's weekly monologue usually discusses some aspects of it, including debates and speeches. Admittedly, I had

started to wonder: what is there new to say about politics, and this election, at this point? I felt like we are so inundated with this and that news story, and sensationalist coverage, that it makes me want to think about anything else at the end of the day.

But I think the greatest thing Stewart offers, and

continues to, is his honest and skeptical eye toward the institutional powers of government in this country. No party, politician, or concept is off limits, and viewers can never expect what they might get week to week. I went into these first new episodes wondering if they would be aimed at an older audience (like the one that watched during his original run), or specifically having a "kids these days" attitude. Thankfully, I was completely wrong. Stewart's goals—criticizing what he sees as dishonest politicians, media tactics, and political commentary—are the same as they were 25 years ago.

But this isn't to say viewers should accept Stewart's second coming as a miracle and remove him from criticism. Do I agree with every viewpoint Stewart makes on his show? No, and I don't think he'd encourage anyone to. But what he does makes me think. A little more critical thinking, and skepticism of our leaders is, I think, good for everyone.



*Jon Stewart Speaking to a crowd. Photo courtesy of Creative Commons.*



# A Kraken First: Jessica Campbell Becomes First Female NHL Assistant Coach

By Abbi Gilbert  
Staff Writer

Jessica Campbell thought it was a joke when the Seattle Kraken called offering her the job as assistant coach. Far from a joke, she has made history. An article in USA Today reports that Campbell was hired in July of 2024 as an assistant coach to the Kraken, making her the first full-time female identifying assistant coach in the league’s history.

This is not Campbell’s first assistant coaching job, as she has also made history being the first female assistant coach in the American Hockey League (AHL) in 2022. The USA Today article follows her

journey with the Coachella Valley Firebirds working under Dan Bylsma. Bylsma, a Stanley Cup Winner, hired Campbell for her coaching talents in 2022. Under Campbell’s and Bylsma’s coaching, the AHL’s Coachella Valley Firebirds were able to reach the Calder Cup Finals two seasons in a row. Bylsma has since been named the coach of the NHL’s Kraken in May of 2024 and brought Campbell with him.

Campbell has also held similarly important assistant coaching positions for a wide array of organizations. These teams include the Nürnberg Ice Tigers, which is one of Germany’s professional hockey leagues, and Germany’s 2022 World

Championships Team. While Campbell is making strides as an assistant coach, one should also acknowledge her talents on the ice. Campbell played hockey in college at Cornell University from 2010-2014. While at Cornell Campbell was named the team’s captain during her senior year. From college, she went on to play hockey professionally in both Canada and Sweden.

This is often the case for many coaches in the NHL, playing throughout their life, eventually making it to playing in the NHL themselves, and then becoming coaches within the league. However, this was not the case for Campbell. Campbell’s

unique experience is part of the reason her position in the organization is impressive, as she is not a retired NHL player herself. It is increasingly difficult for the league to get new faces, and Campbell is just that.

Having made her coaching debut in the NHL on Tuesday October 8th, 2024, against the St. Louis Blues, she has continued to prove her coaching skill with the team. This job, that seems so natural to her, was not always in the cards for Campbell.

A CNBC article notes how she quit her job to focus on her dream of being a NHL coach. It wasn’t until the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic that Campbell started to see her dreams

coming to reality. After starting her own business, called JC Power Skating, Campbell was able to get the attention of players who were looking for somewhere to skate during the pandemic. As players across Canada started to hear about her training camp, she began gaining more and more NHL players in her sessions.

After being an organization for over 107 years, the NHL officially has their first female assistant coach in 2024. Having broken barriers before in the AHL, Campbell seems more than ready to take on whatever comes her way in the National Hockey League.

THE NEXT TWO WEEKS IN

CLARK ATHLETICS

Graphic created by Morgan Martin.

MEN’S AND WOMEN’S CROSS COUNTRY

NOVEMBER 2: 11:00AM&12:00PM

NEWMAC CHAMPIONSHIPS

WOMEN’S SOCCER

OCTOBER 30: 3:30PM AT

WHEATON COLLEGE

NOVEMBER 2: 1:00PM VS

BABSON

FIELD HOCKEY

NOVEMBER 2: 2:00PM VS

SPRINGFIELD COLLEGE

SWIM & DIVE

NOVEMBER 2: 2:00PM AT

BABSON

NOVEMBER 9: 10:00 AM

WORCESTER CITY

CHAMPIONSHIPS

MEN’S SOCCER

OCTOBER 30: 7:00PM VS

BABSON

NOVEMBER 2: 1:00PM AT

EMERSON COLLEGE

VOLLEYBALL

OCTOBER 29: 6:00PM AT M.I.T.

NOVEMBER 5: 7:00PM VS MOUNT HOLYOKE

NOVEMBER 9: 11:00AM AT COAST GUARD

& 1:00PM AT BRANDEIS

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

NOVEMBER 9: VS W.P.I \*

NOVEMBER 16: 2:00 PM VS REGIS COLLEGE

MEN’S BASKETBALL

NOVEMBER 9: 1:00PM VS ROGER WILLIAMS

NOVEMBER 13: AT SAINT JOSEPH \*

\*INDICATES THAT THE TIME IS NOT LISTED ON THE CLARK ATHLETICS WEBSITE



# Clark wins 3-2 against Emerson College on October 17

*All Photos by Leo Kerz*



Sofia Scherrer del Llano in position to bump the ball.



Sofia Scherrer del Llano, Winifred Gakidis and Camille Flurry get into position before a rally began.



Sofia Scherrer del Llano, Camille Sterling, and Camille Flurry prepare for the ball to go over the net.



Julia Dopazo sets the ball.



Yvanna Torres gets ready to serve to begin a rally.



Harper Chinn serves the ball.



Sofia Scherrer del Llano and Camille Sterling cheer after a rally.



Outside hitter Camille Flurry spikes the ball over the net during a rally.



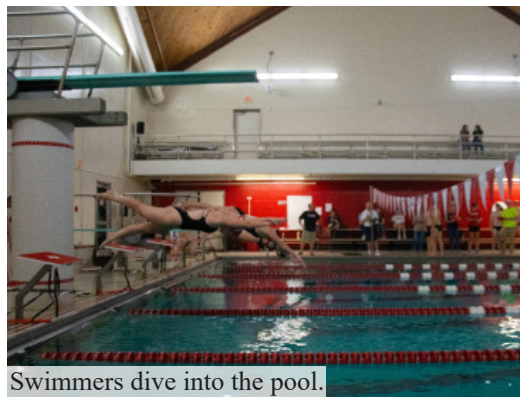
Sofia Scherrer del Llano celebrates with her teammates after winning a rally.



# Swim & Dive Team Kick Off Season With 32nd Annual Red/Black Meet *All photos by Declan Hanscom*



Libby Davidson swimming freestyle.



Swimmers dive into the pool.



Daniel Neau, Owen Powers, Gabe Graphia, Michael Villalba and other team members cheer in a huddle.



Belle Roderick performs a dive.



Josh Forde performs a dive.



Abby Seguin dives in.



Nicholas Cordell and Ivy Joyal.

All photographs taken on Oct. 11 at the Kneller Pool



Sam Bier and Nicholas Cordell race backstroke.



Abby Seguin, Sydney Kochensparger and Michael Villalba Perform relay exchanges.



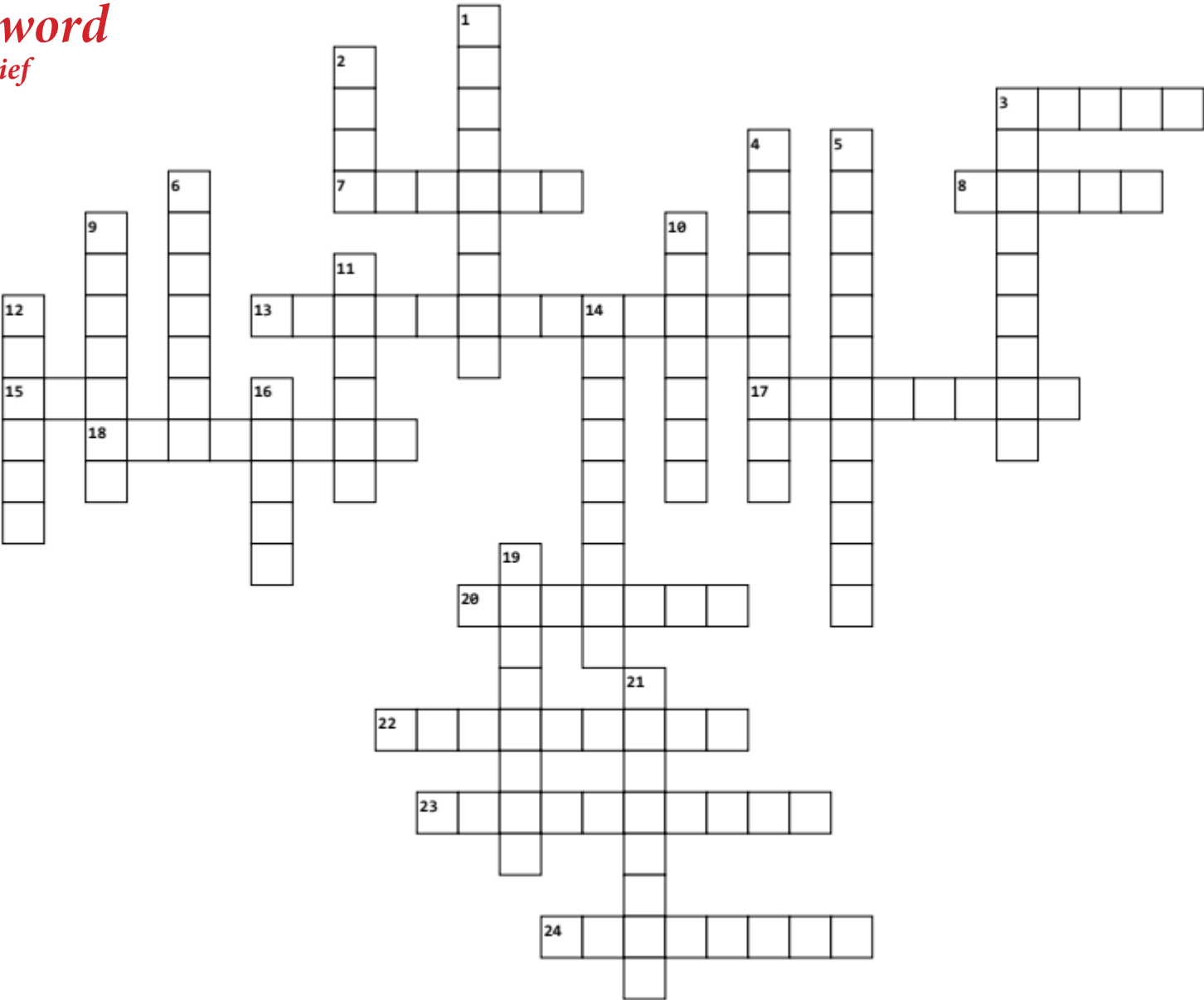
*The Scarlet Crossword*  
*By Ava Orofino, Editor-in-Chief*

**Across**

- 3. an evil spirit
- 7. strange and/or frightening
- 8. witchy city in MA
- 13. 2012 Tim Burton movie with Sparky the dog
- 15. Classic scaring phrase
- 17. examples are “Psycho” and “Halloween”
- 18. dress-up!
- 20. wailing spirit
- 22. yellow, orange, and white sweets for Halloween time
- 23. scooter, of sorts, for witches
- 24. creature that transforms during the full moon

**Down**

- 1. creepy castle guards
- 2. vampire mammal
- 3. dead person's playground
- 4. sisters of film Hocus Pocus
- 5. carved pumpkin with a candle
- 6. creepy-crawlers
- 9. person involved with witchcraft
- 10. sometimes, these are haunted
- 11. a friendly ghost
- 12. small, grotesque mythical creature often used in folklore
- 14. Ghastly gloopy ghost goop
- 16. toilet-paper parent
- 19. witch’s pot
- 21. they do the mash!



**Answers to the Previous Crossword**

<b>Across</b>	<b>Down</b>	12. Todo
7. Pharmaceuticals	1. peacock	13. Trim
9. Rings	2. Fat Bear	16. Dunkin
10. Monopoly	3. Kaffee Inn	17. Gravel
13. Tinder	4. Cactus	
14. Mayflower	5. Heartbreak	
15. Underwood	6. Blackbox	
18. Kitchens	8. Tangled	
19. Padres	10. Magnets	
20. Flannel	11. Freud	

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