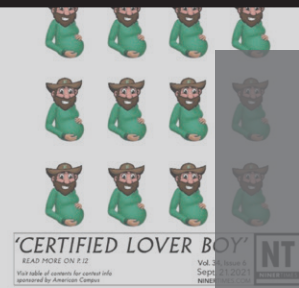




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YEAR

IN

REVIEW

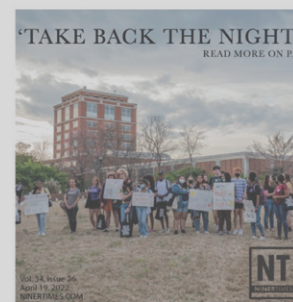
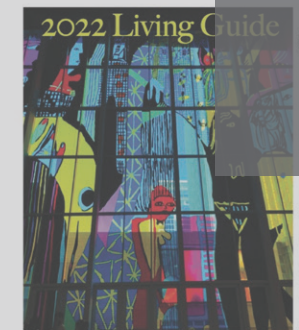


Photo by Niyathi Sulkunte

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The Niner Times staff wants to thank you for looking to us for your news every week. Please continue to read online at ninertimes.com all summer and look out for our Niner Nation Guide publishing in May.

See you on the stands every Tuesday next fall!



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2021-22 YEAR IN REVIEW

Highlights of the biggest stories at UNC Charlotte during the 2021-22 school year

by Madison Dobrzanski
News Editor

UNC Charlotte sexual misconduct lawsuit settled

Although this story was written in July, its effects were seen in multiple news stories during the school year.

The Title IX lawsuit against UNC Charlotte history professor Dr. Robert McEachnie was settled for \$40,000. The lawsuit began after a former student made allegations of the professor causing “emotional distress through predatory behavior, threats to academic success and sexual assault.”

The professor was reported to contact the student through social media sites. McEachnie’s defense was the vagueness of the current Improper Relations Policy at UNC Charlotte.

Since this story ran, the University limited McEachnie’s classes to online, and he may no longer be on study abroad trips.

University rebrands to “Charlotte”

On Aug. 19, 2021, the University announced a rebranding and began to be referred to as “Charlotte.” The formal name has remained “the University of North Carolina at Charlotte” or “UNC Charlotte;” however, the informal and casual name is “Charlotte.” The change came after years of debate over the term “UNCC” because it seemed to confuse some people.

The rebrand also came shortly after Charlotte Athletics announced a logo rebrand in June 2021, which uses the same “All-in C” as the University rebrand.

The day of the rebrand, Inside UNC Charlotte published a page that said, “Hi, we’re Charlotte. Nice to meet you.” This page explained the reasons behind the rebrand, listed possible questions people may ask and publicized the new logo for the University.

Since the announcement, UNC Charlotte merchandise has changed, and

University websites have shifted from “uncc.edu” to “charlotte.edu.”

Provost Joan F. Lorden retiring

On Aug. 30, 2021, Provost Joan Lorden announced her decision to retire in June 2022. She has been with the University as the provost and the vice chancellor for academic affairs for 18 years.

According to the University Leadership Website, Lorden serves “a role in which she provides leadership and oversight for academic and research programs, enrollment, academic support, and information technology.”

Her main reason for retiring is to have more time to herself. However, she also thought the timing was right to make this decision, considering recent changes in administration and the drafting of the University’s strategic plan.

Senator Jeff Jackson Town Hall at UNC Charlotte

On Nov. 15, 2021, in the Star Quad, approximately 100 people attended a town hall to listen to Jeff Jackson, a senator in the North Carolina state Senate who is campaigning for the United States Senate Democratic Candidate for North Carolina.

UNC Charlotte was one of 14 college town halls Jackson held across the state following his 100-county town hall campaign that he completed within 87 days.

Jackson will be running as the Democratic nominee for the U.S. Senate and in the primary elections in November 2022.

UNC Charlotte welcomes new chief diversity officer Brandon Wolfe

After a thorough search, UNC Charlotte hired an inaugural chief diversity officer (CDO) and associate vice chancellor for diversity and inclusion. On Nov. 1, 2021, Dr. Brandon Wolfe began in his new role. Wolfe’s position works closely with Chancellor Gaber to

ensure diversity, equity and inclusion on campus.

“While we know that Charlotte is relatively diverse and we’ve done well in some areas, we can be better. This is our opportunity to leverage our standing to facilitate an even greater sense of institutional excellence and take our place as a state, regional, national and global leader,” said Wolfe.

UNC Charlotte announces new student tailgating space

An anonymous donation of \$10 million led to the announcement of a three-acre outdoor complex that will provide space for student gatherings, including tailgating football games. The announcement came on Feb. 1, 2022, and the area should be open in time for the fall 2022 football season.

This announcement came after the Charlotte 49ers accepted an invitation to the American Athletic Conference (AAC).

Geology class postponed after Zoom incident

A student in a Zoom Geology 1200 course displayed a gun on Jan. 18, 2022, resulting in the delay of in-person classes for the course.

After investigating the student involved conducted by the campus police and Associate Dean of Students and Director of Student Accountability Dr. James Lorello, the class resumed in-person instruction.

Car break-ins occurring on the south side of campus

In April 2022, many cars were broken into on the south side of campus and directly off of it. On April 15, 2022, alone, over 20 vehicles were found broken into in the South Village parking lot.

A Niner Notice was sent to help prevent the break-ins.

“Park in well-lit areas if possible. Lock your vehicle when you leave it. Remove

all valuables from your vehicle. If you must leave valuables in your car, place them inside your trunk and out of view. Immediately report suspicious activity by calling 704-687-2200 or using the LiveSafe App.”

UNC Charlotte Day of Remembrance is to be held on April 29

UNC Charlotte hosted its third annual Day of Remembrance to recognize the campus shooting on April 30, 2019, which took two students’ lives and injured four others.

To remember the tragedy, UNC Charlotte held events on April 29 and 30.



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STUDENTS' EXPERIENCES AT THE CAMPUS SALON

The Niner Times speaks with students about their experiences with The Campus Salon located in the Popp Martin Student Union

by Lorenza Medley
Staff Writer

The Campus Salon, located in the Student Union, has been open to students, faculty and staff for about 12 years.

The salon's website advertises that their stylists work on all hair types ranging from straight to curly. Benita Kamalandua, fourth-year, visited 'The Campus Salon' in August 2021 to straighten her hair. She describes her hair as thick and kinky type 4c hair. Type 4c hair has tighter curls and requires more time to detangle and style. The curly hairstyles featured on the salon's website were looser curl types.

She scheduled a same-day appointment on campus because her regular hairdresser required an appointment ahead of time and was more expensive than the campus salon. The visit resulted in Kamalandua's hair being tangled, matted and breaking apart. After the appointment, Kamalandua went to her

regular hairdresser, where she cut her hair from armpit length to shoulder length.

"I already could tell it was going wrong," said Kamalandua. According to Kamalandua, the stylist did not detangle or section her hair and concentrated the blow drier on her right side, which sustained more damage.

The stylist told Kamalandua that her hair type would never be straight. "It was like they were blaming my hair," said Kamalandua.

She received a \$20 refund for the service. "I was so mad at myself for not speaking up while I was sitting in that chair," said Kamalandua.

Annalisa Smith, a first-year, also had a bad experience at the salon. She made a same-day appointment to dye her hair red. The stylist told Smith it could cause damage to dye her hair from dark brown to blonde because

bleach would be needed for color to show.

Smith described her hair as a strawberry blonde color when the stylist was finished. After the appointment, she bought a box of red dye and dyed her hair herself. "It would have been fine if I wanted to be blonde, but I didn't," said Smith.

Smith left a complaint but said she should have waited for a black hairdresser. "They should have more black hairdressers," said Smith.

James Braman, second-year, is a long-time salon client and is satisfied with their service. "It's very well done for what I would think a university salon would be like," said Braman. Since his first year at the University, Braman has been going to the salon.

Braman describes his stylist as very helpful. "She's always willing and helpful to give me

advice if I feel like I need tips," said Braman.

Kamalandua and Smith said the salon should hire more black hairdressers or hairdressers who have experience with natural hair. "Having people who specialize and have proof that they work with type four hair would be a good thing," said Kamalandua.

Owner and Master Stylist of The Campus Salon, Katie Douthwright, said in a statement she was not made aware of the issues Kamalandua and Smith had. "I do not hire people directly out of school," Douthwright said. "And they do have to do a live interview in front of me prior to me hiring them."

According to Douthwright, clients who are unsatisfied with the service will be offered a redo, treatments or a refund. "We're almost 97% of the time able to make the customer happy by redoing their hair with another stylist," said Douthwright.

PERIOD POVERTY INITIATIVE LAUNCHED WITH FREE MENSTRUAL PRODUCTS

The restroom dispensers will have free menstrual products available in women's and gender-neutral bathrooms

by Jessica Ceballos
Asst. News Editor

Free menstrual products are now available through 10 dispensers installed in bathrooms supported by the American Medical Women's Association (AMWA) at UNC Charlotte to raise awareness and fight for their "Period Poverty Initiative."

Four of the 10 dispensers were installed on April 18, 2022, in the Student Union and the Student Health Center. There are three dispensers in the Student Union. One dispenser is in the first-floor women's restroom by the elevator. The second is in the gender-neutral restroom by the theater. The third is in the second-floor women's restroom by the elevator. There is also a dispenser in the Student Health Center in the second-floor women's restroom. By May, the six remaining dispensers will be installed in UREC and Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS).

AMWA created this initiative to bring awareness to period poverty. Period poverty is not being able to afford menstrual products every month. According to the AMWA national website, "Periods are often associated with shame and stigma, as well as poor menstruation education. Around the world, children miss school while menstruating due to lack of access in addition to cultural or social stigma that they may face. In other countries, 2 out of 3 girls may avoid school because they have not been educated about their period."

Each of these dispensers will have a QR

code that will collect data via survey for the dispensers. The hope of AMWA's pilot initiative is that the data will show the need for more of these dispensers on campus and in every building and bathroom. The data collection will occur in the fall 2022 semester, as most students will not be on campus over the summer.

According to Dr. Christine Reed Davis, associate vice chancellor of student affairs and dean of students, the buildings are split up into state-owned and university-owned buildings. Since each of these buildings is managed differently, AMWA needed to go to each building manager to propose a budget and plan for installing these dispensers.

According to Tyler Sytsma, project coordinator, the Charlotte Green Initiative fund funded the dispensers. Facilities management installed the dispensers and worked with Sytsma to get them up as quickly as possible.

According to BMC Women's Health, "14.2% of women had experienced period poverty ever in the past year; an additional 10% experienced it every month."

AMWA used BMC Women's Health's study and data to create a plan and a budget to propose to various administrators and faculty members at Charlotte to get the dispensers in the bathrooms. The initiative is helping to make sure women aren't caught unprepared.

AMWA wants Charlotte to recognize the

weight of the 'Pink tax,' 'Tampon tax' or 'Period tax.' Tampons and pads are considered luxury items that are taxed rather than a necessity. According to the Tax Foundation website, North Carolina has a 4.75% tax, where menstrual products are included in the state's sales tax base. The highest state's sales tax included in base in California at 7.25%. The price of a regular box of tampons is an average of \$11, and a box of pads is \$9.

The initiative began with the idea of installing dispensers of free menstrual products on campus to address the problem of period poverty, according to Vice President Ainella Rysbayayev.

Lyudmila Grodsky, the former president and founder of AMWA, Krishna Majithia, the current president, and Rysbayayev, have been all working together to lead the initiative.

Sytsma hopes that the initiative will destigmatize the issue on campus and that the program will catch on and not be a second thought when it comes to construction or reconstruction on campus when installing these dispensers.

"I think it will start more conversations about what health services should be accessible to a campus population," said Sytsma.

"I think this is a perfect example of our students seeing a problem, taking action, collaborating with administrators on how to solve the problem, presenting a solution, and

creating something that will outlast them as students on their journey," said Davis.

On April 19 at 6 p.m. in Denny 220, AMWA hosted a Period Packing Party where they packaged menstrual products in paper bags to distribute. The packing was done quickly with the volunteers' help.

AMWA is also hosting tabling in front of the Student Union to bring awareness of the dispensers. In addition, the organization has posted flyers in many buildings on campus. The flyers contain a brief overview of the initiative and information to bring education about period poverty.

"We created the Period Poverty Committee to allow our members an opportunity to get involved with this issue," said Majithia.

The next step for the initiative is to reach out to the Student Government Association (SGA) Student Body President, Tatiyana Larson, to gain support. Through SGA, AMWA hopes to move the initiative forward in reaching Chancellor Gaber and gaining her support. Ross suggested that AMWA should also reach out to specific tampon and pad brands such as Tampax, Kotex, Always and Playtex to help support the initiative.

"This has been a neglected topic on our campus, which is why we're so passionate about it," said Grodsky. "If we have toilet covers, why do we not have menstrual products for women who need them every month, and it's not an option for us?"

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OUR YEAR BACK

How the return to campus affected the University community

by Hiral Patel and Isaac Naylor
Opinion Editor and Asst. Opinion Editor

Photo of student studying in Union
by Jade Suszek

The pandemic made life operate on online autopilot for the University community. Zoom classes and Canvas submissions were the electronic banes of existence for most Charlotte students and staff. Admissions were down, and graduations were postponed. This year has typified the ongoing journey to overcome burnout and reconnect with the campus community face-to-face.

In-person instruction has inspired more thought-provoking discussions in the classroom. Although students had their faces covered like bandits with face masks, the physical presence of a professor has made lectures more effective and interactions easier.

The reopening of campus life has brought friends and colleagues back together from their digital slumber. Rather than flagging professors through Zoom functions like online inmates, students can finally raise their hands and speak directly to their instructors and peers.

“I would’ve missed out on so many life lessons if I had spent this semester behind a laptop screen,” fourth-year Charlotte student Omar Yasim said. “People usually associate universities with academics when, in reality, it’s about the parts of life you gather from other people. That’s where real growth begins.”

The pandemic forced all students rooming on campus to return home in March 2020. This mass exodus off campus became a headache for parents and students. The pandemic robbed students of having a genuine college experience while robbing parents of their peace and quiet at home.

Commuter students no longer drove to a destination. Many low-income students had to make the difficult shift from education to early employment.

According to data last updated this year from the UNC system, UNC Charlotte, in the 2018-2019 academic year, surpassed its goal of graduation rates among low-income students. However, the University has underperformed every school year since the initial outbreak of the pandemic in 2019.

For example, UNC Charlotte produced 2,594 low-income graduates in the 2019-2020 academic year, below its goal of 2,774 graduates. Just one year earlier, the University exceeded its goal by 22 low-income graduates, producing 2,654 over

their goal of 2,632.

Low-income enrollments are also down at UNC Charlotte. Although COVID-19 was not the root cause behind this downward metric, the pandemic-induced shutdowns only worsened the trend. In fall 2018, low-income enrollments peaked at 8,649 students. However, that number dropped to 8,274 in fall 2019 and 8,064 in fall 2020, representing a 7% decrease in just two years.

Even though low-income admissions have weathered a slight decline, UNC Charlotte still enrolls some of the most low-income students in the UNC System—both first-generation college students and transfer students.

Transfer students to UNC Charlotte from other institutions suffered a 4%

drop in admissions in the 2019-2020 academic year compared to the year before.

However, the transfer rate bounced back one year later. According to data from the UNC system, UNC Charlotte receives the most transfer students in the UNC System, totaling approximately 50% of the student population.

The pandemic did not only impact enrollments and graduations; COVID-19 even brought the world of sports to a sudden halt.

All sporting events, practices, and ticket revenue in 2020 were frozen until the year after. Most tailgates and after-parties were rescheduled for 2021, and some were canceled indefinitely. Careers on the court, on the field, and in the arena evaporated seemingly overnight, leaving many student-athletes to wonder when will they be able to return.

Luckily, we were able to resume all sports a year later in 2021, bringing together alumni who may have also missed our campus. Turnout at sports games exceeded pre-pandemic levels. According to ESPN, our last football game of 2019 against Marshall Thundering Herd had an attendance turnout of 10,526 fans. However, our last football game in 2021, also against Marshall Thundering Herd, had an attendance turnout of 13,211 fans.

After having a disruptive past two years, returning to campus has been a blessing to every student, faculty member, and alumni.





Isabella Perryman *Copy Editor*

CHEERS TO NINER TIMES

While I only came on a little under a year ago, I feel like I've been here a lot longer. I've spent every Thursday and Sunday evening learning what it means to be part of a news organization. As an English major, it's not something I ever thought I would be doing, but I've learned so much about myself and my ambitions past this organization. As copy editor, I've reflected on my passion for writing and storytelling; being the last polishing pair of eyes has meant so much to me, and I'm so happy to be passing this to my assistant, AJ. I would not have survived this last semester without him, and I'm also so grateful to have worked with everyone in this office. This position has meant the world to me and has allowed me to grow into someone who is much more sure of herself, especially when it comes to writing and editing. I'll always keep AP style in my heart, no matter how much it hurts me as an English major to remove oxford commas, and I will cherish the articles I had the opportunity to write during my time here. Niner Times is special. It allows students to come in and learn important processes, make mistakes, learn from those mistakes and start again. Thank you to Niner Times for giving me a chance to be a part of something bigger, and cheers to the real world mercilessly approaching.



April Carte *Editor-in-Chief*

THE BASEMENT THAT'S FULL OF MEMORIES

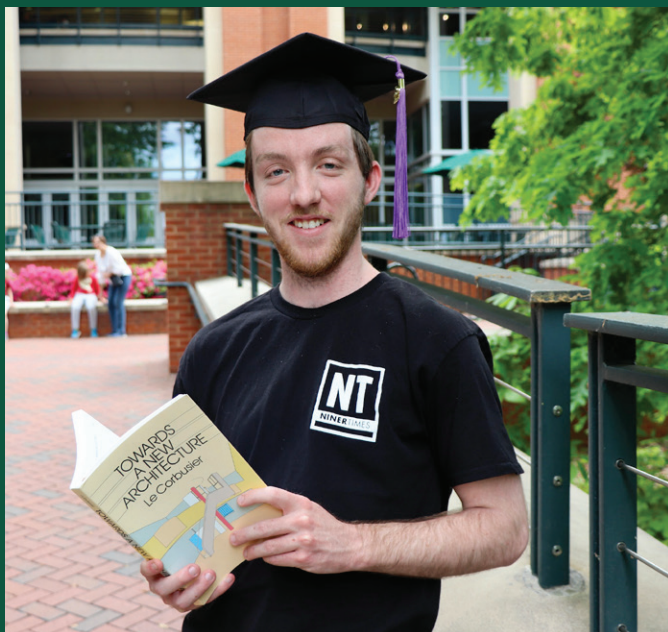
A lot of people don't know that the Niner Media offices are located in the bottom level of the student union. In fact, one of the most awkward experiences is getting in the elevator with someone, and after they realize it's going down, not up, and see the back elevator door open, they look at you like you're committing a crime. But, what we're doing down here is far from a crime — unless you consider hysterical belly laughs to be one. This "basement" is my home. A home I didn't know existed for a while but that I'm so thankful I found three years ago. It holds some of the best memories and some of the hardest-working student journalists you'll ever see. The office is —well, I guess was— my home away from home, away from home. It was the place where I felt most productive, even if some days productive meant online shopping. I'm sure most of my friends will argue I did more shopping than journalism. But really, my passion and love for the Niner Times was at its highest when I was surrounded by such amazing people, all sharing a love for being a journalist, and a damn good one at that. I'm going to miss this place more than I can write in any given word count. The office was my safe space, especially on the hard days when school felt overwhelming and real-life felt... real. I'm going to miss spending Thursdays and Sundays, and Mondays and Wednesdays, and Fridays in the office. And contemplating the times when I wanted to just sleep in the bean bag chair in my office instead of going home at four in the morning. Thank you to my staff for making my one and only year as editor-in-chief the best ever. I wish we had more time together.



María Solano *Video Editor*

BIG CAMERA ENERGY IS LEAVING THE BUILDING

I remember when I picked up our Niner Times video camera and how novice I felt with the microphone in my hand for the first time. Four years later, I feel like the video section is my baby. I have helped to bring it up to life with content that I would've never imagined if it wasn't for this newspaper, and I'm so proud of all the hard work that my team has put into this section. Thanks to all of the times I've been on the sidelines recording every move of our sports teams and the times I've been to Uptown with the camera bag, I don't see myself doing anything else. But, I wouldn't have been able to keep my sanity if it wasn't for my assistant video editor, Beth. The amount of time and work she has put into this section will never go unnoticed, and I'm so proud of us for working so well together. I truly wouldn't have done it without her. This newspaper will always be valuable to me, and I'm so thankful for everyone that has allowed me to pick up the camera and cover their stories. Here's to becoming an even greater videographer in the real world and my big camera energy to keep growing!



Tyler Trudeau

Digital Media Editor

A CHALLENGING YET REWARDING SIX YEARS

I will always treasure my time as part of the Niner Times. When I began my college experience as a shy, quiet freshman some six years ago, I stuck my foot in the door of a lot of different clubs and organizations from the 49er Running Club to the Film Club, desperately searching for some way to spend my free time outside of my rigorous architecture studies. While many of them fell by the wayside as I moved into sophomore year, I managed to stay on with the Niner Times as a writer for the next three years of my undergraduate education. Occasionally writing about movies, music concerts and the criminally underrated Netflix Marvel shows, some of my favorite stories were ultimately the ones that intersected with my architecture education. Dissecting various architecture exhibitions and other similar events way more than I normally would, it was because of the Niner Times and a team of dedicated and encouraging editors throughout the years that I strived to put myself out there and write about more challenging topics beyond what I was ever used to. Moving into my graduate education, I took on a higher position with the paper as the digital media editor, challenging myself to contribute to the organization beyond being just a writer. While my education certainly got increasingly more difficult and time-consuming in these past six years, I will also value the moments when I could just sit down, turn my brain off and write. Thank you to all the friends I've made and the editors who guided me along the way!



Jake Pierce

Assistant Arts & Culture Editor

GOOD TIMES, GOODBYES AND LOOKING FORWARD TO WHAT'S NEXT

My involvement in the Niner Times helped me grow in a number of ways, many of which I could have never predicted. I had the privilege of working alongside an incredibly passionate group of people, many of whom I consider great friends. I got the opportunity to take the passion that I've always had for writing and turn it into an outward-facing medium for the first time ever. I once even got to ramble on for nearly 3,000 words about "Paper Mario: The Origami King," (sorry copy editors). In all seriousness, as this chapter of my life comes to an end, I'd like to take a moment to give a few heartfelt shoutouts to some people who truly deserve them. To my fellow Niner Times editorial staff, it has been a true pleasure getting to know each of you. The passion that many of you showed daily served as a huge motivator for me to keep working and improving my own writing skills. To the Arts & Culture team of staff writers, seeing you all put your unique and diverse voices into practice has been a true joy, and I couldn't be prouder of the section we've cultivated together. Finally, to all the Niner Times readers, I hope that I was able to provide content that was entertaining, informative, and maybe even got a few laughs now and then. Without our audience, Niner Times would not be the successful and time-tested publication we know today, so thank you all for helping to keep us motivated to create the best content possible. I could fill a novel with all I want to say, but I'll close with this. Cheers to whatever comes next in our journeys, and my deepest congratulations to my fellow graduating class of 2022.



Bradley Cole

Sports Editor

A NEW ROAD

I came into this position knowing little to nothing about leadership and what this position would entail. Being an editor was always scary to me, and I always wanted to stay in my comfortable staff writer position. I took a leap of faith, and I'm glad I did. After three years with this paper, it's changed my life in so many ways. I'm grateful for the memories made and the lessons learned. Starting in the pandemic definitely made things weird, but I'll miss this place. The Niner Times has made my college experience what it is. Before it, I never felt like I had a place in college. I have met lifelong friends in just these few years. Getting to write about the stories of different athletes has been an honor and something I never took for granted. It has been an outlet for me to get away from the stressful things in life. I am looking forward to using these lessons in the next stage but will never forget where I came from. Years from now, I will cherish these days and can't thank the readers enough for making this all worthwhile. Cheers.

Niyathi Sulkunte

Photo Editor

MY CONSTANT IN THE CHAOS



I distinctly remember the past photo editor promoting the photo section during a meeting I was attending my freshman year. I went up to her after the meeting to talk about joining as a photographer. She gave me directions to go to the Union and press LL on the elevator to get to their weekly Thursday meetings. I was quite nervous and confused the first time, but very soon, that elevator journey became muscle memory. Every Thursday, I went down to the basement of the Union. First, I went as a photographer. Then, I went as the assistant photo editor. Finally, I went as the editor of the photo section. A simple love for taking pictures turned into a four-year commitment with an amazing organization. I have met so many kind people and learned so much. I will never forget the creative icebreakers or the way we could all easily go off on tangents during meetings. This organization has allowed me to grow so much as a photographer, leader and person. I never expected to fall in love with the Niner Times, but here I am, four years later, saying goodbye to the organization that was my constant throughout these past four years of chaos.

Elizabeth McGuire

Assistant Video Editor

SIGNING OFF



The summer before my junior year, I ran into a former Niner Times editor who teasingly remarked that everywhere she went, I was there with my news camera. To her, that was a casual comment, but to me, it was one of the coolest things anyone's ever said to me. The day I joined the Niner Times, I decided to jump in with both feet before I had time to doubt myself. So I signed up for the news section, picked the biggest story on the storyboard and never looked back. I quickly transitioned from news writer to videographer to video editor, but my desire stayed the same. I wanted to shape my identity around being a storyteller. I wanted to be known as the girl with the camera who was always there to film, interview and get stories out there. A lot of things got in the way of that my last couple of years. But when I'm sad about what could've been, I think back to moments like that summer when I felt like I'd truly accomplished my goal and became who I wanted to be. I think about the hours spent with María, my head video editor and one of my best friends, as we and our team produced video content from scratch and created an award-winning section we will always be proud of. Thanks for the opportunity and memories that I will cherish forever. From the Niner Times, this has been Elizabeth McGuire.



Madison Dobrzenski

News Editor

THURSDAYS ARE FOR NT

Anyone that has known me over the past five years knows two things about me: I love "Grey's Anatomy," and I love the Niner Times. Every Thursday for five years now has been dedicated to Niner Times meetings and new "Grey's" episodes. Almost every Sunday has been spent doing my favorite thing in the world—making a newspaper. When I got to college, my favorite thing was probably hanging out with my cat or sleeping. But through the many years and different positions that I've had at the Niner Times, I have seen a hobby become my skill, career aspiration and passion. Instead of loving sleep, I've lost countless nights of sleep, staying in the newsroom, trying to make every edition as good as it can possibly be. I've become delirious from over caffeinating myself and staring at InDesign for hours. Hell, when I was editor-in-chief, I slept in the office more times than I care to mention. Through all this work, I've also met amazing people that have taught me so much about myself. In all of my positions, I've encountered immense amounts of self-doubt and insecurity about my skill or intelligence. When I questioned myself, the Niner Times staff reminded me that I am qualified, capable and in my role for a reason. Imposter syndrome was no match for the friends I had. There's a saying in student journalism: student first, journalist second. I'll be the first to admit I was never great at following that mantra. It's probably why I'm not graduating in the traditional four years. There were nights when I should have focused more on homework than the paper. There were classes I missed due to sleeping in after late nights in the newsroom. College has been challenging for me, and now that the end is in sight, I want to make this clear: I'd do it all again. After five years, I still haven't had enough time in that newsroom. I blinked and now it's over. They say time flies when you're having fun, right? Guess I'll have to find a new way to spend my Thursdays.

MEMORABLE MOMENTS

Charlotte athletic's top five moments of the season

by Bradley Cole
Sports Editor

The 2021-22 athletic season was important for the Charlotte 49ers in many ways. Coming out of the 2020-21 year, where the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic put a strain on events and the teams, this year was a return to normalcy.

After a memorable season for the athletic department, the Niner Times sports staff ranks the top five moments from the athletic season, as voted on by staff members.

5. Octavia Jett-Wilson winning player of the year/dominant season

When Charlotte women's basketball player Octavia Jett-Wilson announced she was coming back for one more season last offseason, the expectations couldn't have been higher for the 49ers and Jett-Wilson herself. The fifth-year guard racked up awards all season during the 49ers' Conference USA Championship run.

Jett-Wilson started all 32 games while averaging 19.1 points per game and earned C-USA player of the week three times. She added C-USA player of the year to her award list while making C-USA First Team and winning the MVP award for the conference tournament.

From start to finish, Jett-Wilson put on one of the most entertaining individual seasons throughout Charlotte athletics.

4. Charlotte's move to the AAC

Coming in at number four isn't just one moment, but still a memorable move as Charlotte announced on Oct. 21 that

they are heading to the American Athletic Conference. After being in C-USA since 2013 in their last stint, the 49ers are joining one of the top conferences outside the Power Five conferences.

The move will bring more exposure, recruiting advantages and money in the future for the program.

"This is a moment of celebration for Niner Nation and the culmination of years of hard, strategic work to position us for championship-level success," Athletic Director Mike Hill said. "As Charlotte's hometown team, our membership in The American provides us with an incredible platform to grow our program as well as share the remarkable story of our extraordinary institution and city."

How much the move will change the landscape of the program will be told in due time.

3. Chris Reynolds becoming Charlotte 49er passing leader

Charlotte football's Chris Reynolds has become a household name for fans as he came to the 49ers as a walk-on but is now considered one of the best quarterbacks to play for the school.

This season, Reynolds broke the school record for all-time passing yards in a win against Gardner-Webb. Sep. 11, 2021. With 7,726 career yards, the signal-caller put on a great season while also earning Third Team All-Conference USA (Phil Steele), Conference USA All-Academic Team and was a 2021 Burlsworth Trophy semifinalist.

Reynolds is coming back for one more season and has a chance to add to his laundry list of awards.

2. Charlotte football earning first Power Five win over Duke

Charlotte had never beaten a Power 5 team before the 2021 season but had the golden opportunity to do so when it hosted Duke to open this season.

In a back and forth thriller, the 49ers

found themselves down late in the fourth quarter. However, an 11-yard Chris Reynolds pass to Shadrick Byrd iced the game, and thousands of fans rushed the field as the 49ers made history.

At number two, this moment is not only one of the best but most memorable of the season.

1. Charlotte women's basketball winning regular season and conference tournament

Charlotte's women's basketball team had one of the best seasons from start to finish for the athletic program. After struggling with Power 5 teams to start the season, the 49ers won five games in a row to C-USA play.

The 49ers would go on to only lose three games in conference play and won the conference regular-season title. With wins over Rice, North Texas and Louisiana Tech, Charlotte won the conference tournament title to book a trip to the NCAA tournament.

Even though the 49ers lost to Indiana in the first round of the tournament, Charlotte finished 22-10 with plenty of hardware to show off.

Three Honorable Mentions

3. Bailey Vannoy breaking the school record for homeruns

2. Charlotte softball win over No. 6 Virginia Tech

1. Charlotte men's indoor Track & Field winning C-USA Championship



Photo of Charlotte women's basketball team after their conference championship courtesy of Conference USA

7 QUESTIONS WITH MIKE HILL

Athletic Director Mike Hill shares his thoughts on the athletic season and his plans for the future

by Bryson Foster
Asst. Sports Editor

The Charlotte athletics program is coming off a year of firsts and accomplishments. As the season comes to an end, there is much to take away from action-packed moments. Athletic Director Mike Hill sat down with the Niner Times to reflect on the year and where he sees the program going in the future.

Bryson Foster: What are your overall thoughts on the athletic season?

Hill: When I look at the totality of our program, we made good strides last year. We had our highest number of NCAA postseason teams ever with four, and we still have a chance to do that this year, but it will be more of a challenge, so we're waiting to see how we finish out. We're not where we want to be yet, but I also feel like we are continuing to climb up the mountain to build a championship-level program for our sports.

Foster: You have mentioned before that we are in a better spot than we were five years ago; what do you feel has made athletics better?

Hill: I think we have amazing coaches. The coaches and student-athletes make the magic happen, and it's our job to put incredible people in positions to succeed. I'm proud of the job we've done in either trying to support coaches who were already here when I arrived four years ago or were some of the hires we've made. You look across the board, and we've had some successful coaches join an already successful staff. It does boil down to having great coaches and student-athletes committed to a common goal. We've established our expectations pretty clearly so that there's alignment, and I think alignment is key. When we have

alignment, you have a chance for great success... We are clearly on the rise, and the ultimate goal is to be a championship-level program for all of our students.

Foster: What aspects of athletics do you feel have been the strongest this year? Also, Where do you see the program growing in the next two to five years?

Hill: I want to acknowledge our fans. Our student-athletes and coaches struggled with the pandemic, we had limited attendance last year, and we couldn't enjoy the atmosphere they provide. To have our fans back in the stands this year made an enormous impact. The fact we had a capacity or near capacity crowds at every football game this fall speaks to the passion of our fan base, particularly our students. I think our students have been incredible. They're just tremendous fans, and we rely heavily on their support, and we need their passion. There's no greater tribute to our overall athletic program

than the fact that we were invited to join the American Athletic Conference. It's a very strong conference, and we were selected because of the passion of our fan base, the support of our city, the strength of our campus and the strength of our athletic program. In the next five to 10 years, you'll see Charlotte as a part of a conference that will push the envelope to be viewed as a power-five league.

Foster: What areas do you believe athletics can improve on?

Hill: I think we've got to continue to grow our fan base. We have a phenomenal fan base here, but we also have to grow our donor base to support the program financially. We understand how this works; they will support you, but they also want to see you win. We've got to win at a higher level and in the sports that draw the most eyeballs. We're on our way there, but we're still on a journey, and the goal is to get to the end of the

journey quickly and start holding up trophies again to energize our fan base.

Foster: Why do you feel that appearing at sporting events and giving a face to the athletic director position?

Hill: I want to support our student-athletes and our coaches. While I can't be everywhere all the time, I've tried to be there as much as possible to support all of them. I think that knowing their athletic director is present, engaged and paying attention. If I'm on the road, I promise you, I'm on my phone, checking the scores, watching the stream, or sometimes I'm at an event, and there's another one going on simultaneously. I can't be in two places at once. From a fan perspective, I also believe that's important. It's hard for me to ask fans to show up and support teams if I'm not there. I need to make sure that I'm present and that people find me accessible. I try to be a transparent leader. I try to be engaged because I represent Niner Nation in many ways, and I have a responsibility here as a steward of this program.

Foster: How would you describe your relationships with the program's coaches?

Hill: Our coaches are the lifeblood of this program, and they're the ones who are the face of their programs in a lot of ways. Coaching is tough, and it's harder than ever right now. It's essential that the coaches feel supported authentically. Coaching can be lonely. You're the face of the program, and you're talking to booster groups, you're recruiting and you're at games. It never ends. It's during the tough times when that relationship matters the most. Everybody texts the coach after a win, but not many people text the coach after a loss, and to me, that's when coaches



Photo of Charlotte fans storm the field after defeating power-five opponent Duke
by Chris Crews

need to hear from you. It's essential to feel supported, and that's why it's important to me that our coaches know I care about them as people and their roles. That's the only way I know how to do business. When you can create a unique culture between your head coaches, your athletic director and your athletic staff plays a big part in the overall success of a program.

Foster: What is your top athletics moment of the year?

Hill: The top moments to me would be watching women's basketball cut down the nets after beating Louisiana Tech in the C-USA Championship. It was just an incredible run. They had three tough games at the tournament, which could have gone either way, particularly in that

championship game. Seeing the joy on the faces of the young women and coaching staff was special and meant a lot. I'd be crazy not to talk about how we started the year. The win over Duke in football was an absolute all-timer for us. It was our first chance to host a power five and ACC school, and we won that game on national television on a Friday night. It

was an amazing scene and environment. I was proud of the job that our football team, Coach Healy and the staff did that night. Those are two moments that stand out for me. I was able to attend in person and able to celebrate that.

Leaps and bounds

Charlotte's Maci Bunting is leaving an impact with the track and field team

by Brad Tepper
Staff Writer

Maci Bunting has been a high jumper for Charlotte track and field for five years. She has left a lasting impact on the team, and she hopes she has created lifelong relationships with teammates and coaches while leaving a legacy.

After graduating last May, Bunting decided to come back for a fifth year. This season she has left a legacy on the sport that she loves. Bunting feels that she has taken strides this year while proving herself.

"This year has proven that I stayed here for the right reasons," said Bunting. "It wasn't just to stay in school longer and decide what I wanted to do with my life. It was something that I truly did for my love of the sport. I love high jumping; it's something that has been a big part of my life for so long."



Photo of Charlotte's Maci Bunting in the midst of a jump
courtesy of Maci Bunting

Bunting started high jumping in middle school and continued into her junior and senior high school years. Bunting didn't realize track and field would be a path for her in college until her high school coach mentioned it. After that conversation, she knew she wanted to do track and field in college.

"I seriously had no idea that that was even possible for me. When I knew that was something that I could do, I immediately was like, yes, I want to do that," said Bunting.

Bunting soon realized that Charlotte was where she wanted to go during her recruitment. Multiple factors drew her to the program, and she fell in love with what the university had to offer.

"I knew on my official visit that I would choose Charlotte. The atmosphere, people, experience and the wonderful reputation of the athletic program all drew me here," said Bunting.

In Bunting's five-year career with the 49ers, she has many accomplishments. Still, she considers her 1.70m, 5'7" outdoor personal record and being part of the 2019 outdoor team that won the Conference USA (C-USA) championship her most significant feats.

"That was super awesome to experience with my team and the people who

were like older brothers and sisters to me because I was still pretty young on the team then," said Bunting. "That was huge because it was also a few days after the shooting had happened on campus. I can speak for my entire team, that day that we put all our hearts and souls out there to compete for our school after that tragedy happened."

Bunting has grown as an athlete and, most importantly, as a person during her time at Charlotte. She will take multiple life lessons away from her tenure with the team, including hard work and perseverance.

"I have those bad days where I'm just like, 'Why did I choose to do this?'" said Bunting. "This is not going well for me. I don't want to be here.' But those bad days remind you how hard you have to work. When you have good days, they remind you why you have to go through the hard times."

Perseverance has helped Bunting reach new heights in her collegiate career.

She believes that trusting the process is crucial and has been rewarding.

"When I finally cleared 5'7", that was rewarding because I was able to say, 'Okay, this is why I'm here.' I'm glad that I pushed through those bad days, and I was able to stay with it and trust the process through it," said Bunting.

Bunting credits former teammate Sydney Blue for helping instill a positive mindset in her. Bunting reflects on how Blue was one of her greatest inspirations on the team and the relationship they shared.

"She [Blue] had a positive attitude and outlook on everything," said Bunting. "She was always the first one there to

pick me up. When I was beating myself up at times, and when I thought that maybe track wasn't for me, she always came up to me and said, Maci, you've got this. You're here for a reason."

The family aspect is what Bunting will miss most about Charlotte's track and field. This year, she has given back by being a mentor to the next generation.

"I wanted to give my teammates somebody they could come to, somebody who's been through what they've been through," said Bunting. "I want to make sure that I led with my team, that foundation that we are a family, and that we are there for one another."

Bunting's dedication to track and field, her teammates and school have become significant parts of her. Even though her days of competing are coming to an end, she has left a legacy at Charlotte.

"I believe in leaving things better than you found them," said Bunting. "I want to make sure that my team gets that community feeling. Making that effort and bonding and ensuring that we're still a loving and supporting team is something that I want to leave behind."

Bunting and the Charlotte track & field team still have work to do as they will compete in the Liberty Twilight Qualifier on Wednesday, May 4. The team will also compete in the C-USA Championships from Thursday, May 12, through Sunday, May 15. Bunting looks to finish her college career strong in these events.

FORGOTTEN TABLE MANNERS

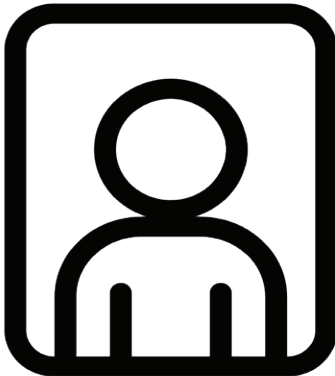
Niners share stories and experiences from working in the service industry

by Bethany Ivan
Staff Writer

Since we were kids, our parents have always taught us basic manners at the dinner table, such as the simple words, 'please' and 'thank you,' and when going out to eat, to be respectful and polite to the waiter or waitress. But respect and those simple words are never enough for people that go out to eat. Inconveniences such as being understaffed, items being overpriced, not having a certain item on a menu and/or in stock, or simply the bar being closed cause customers to take their frustrations out on the employees.

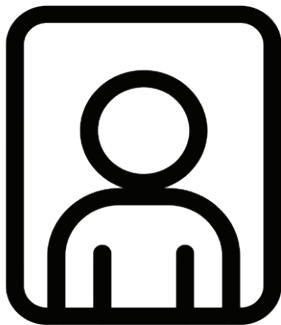
We asked students at UNC Charlotte to share their experiences of working in the restaurant and service industry to elaborate on the treatment of employees and the bizarre reactions of customers.

Anonymous, third-year



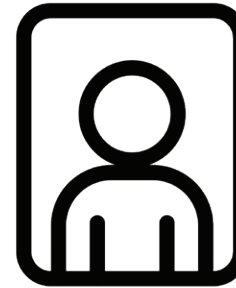
I work as a hostess and one night, a woman and her young daughter came in, and we told her the estimated wait time, which she was okay with. After a couple of minutes of waiting, she asked if she and her daughter could sit at the bar to eat. I knew instantly that her daughter was too young to sit at the bar but still asked her mother how old she was and she told me she was 10-years-old. I told her no because our restaurant has a policy that only people ages 13 and up were allowed to sit and eat at the bar. She got upset, and in the worst attitude, she told me to get the manager, who explained the policy to her, which she rebuffed and said was stupid and that she did not understand the policy. Our manager told her not to shout at him and to talk to him like he was a person. She threatened to call corporate and walked out.

Anonymous, third-year



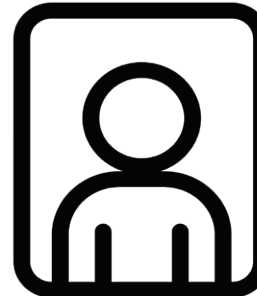
I was a cashier at Pizza Hut. A family came in and ordered a lot of food to dine in. I read back their entire order, and they said I got it all. Once I brought the food out to their table and went back to the cash register, the father came storming to the cash register while I was helping another customer, yelling that I forgot their garlic bread, how I should be fired and am a terrible employee. When I put the order in and gave them the garlic bread, he came storming back again, yelling that there was no cheese on it, even though it was a completely different menu item.

Anonymous, third-year



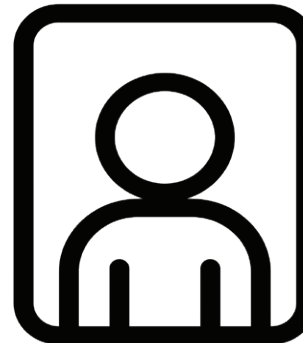
I worked in a bakery, and a customer came in looking for a cake the day of, and [we] told them we would need 48 hours in advance. [The customer] complained that we didn't have a chocolate cake with cream cheese frosting and then asked for the cake in our display that was about to be thrown out due to it being a day over the sell date. She complained that it was still there, asked for the cake then demanded to talk to the manager to get a discount.

Jade Suszek, first-year



As a photographer, I've had my fair share of horrible customer service experiences. I took graduation photos of three college seniors, and they took their disappointment in the photos out on me because they hated their outfits and realized I was young, so they could take advantage of me. They argued with me for days over refunding them for good-quality photos. The moral of the story: I learned to make contracts so I can attempt to have one less reason a customer feels like they are rightfully owed anything.

Anonymous, third-year



When I was a server at an Asian restaurant, a customer treated me and another server horribly and complained about the littlest things, such as the lack of staff and a drink refill. When I was accommodating another table, the customer angrily called me over and told me to get the manager all because his sesame chicken was not sweet enough, and he began to overreact. With all of these being said, please remain respectful to people who work in the restaurant and service industry. No one should be treated terribly for the inconveniences of the workplace, nor should customers react irrationally. To all restaurant and service industry workers: we appreciate everything you do.

THE BEST GAMES OF MY COLLEGE YEARS

Looking back on the best virtual experiences I had as a Niner

by Jake Pierce
Asst. Arts & Culture Editor

For everyone who is graduating this semester, myself included, a lot is about to change. Many of us will be beginning what will hopefully be long and fruitful careers in our fields of choice. Others still will be experiencing what it is like to live on their own for the first time (or “adulting,” as the cool kids call it). Whatever changes might be coming for me as I move into this next phase of my life, one thing that is likely to remain as unwavering as ever is my fascination with video games. Gaming is such a unique and diverse (albeit sometimes painfully expensive) hobby that I don't see myself losing interest in anytime soon. There are many game franchises and characters that I have known for almost two decades at this point, a truth that was almost physically painful to type. Yet, despite all that time passing, many of the games that are releasing today still manage to place time-tested ideas into wonderfully creative and fresh packages. The last few years have indeed been pretty spectacular for gaming. And so, as I prepare to say “so long” to our beloved Charlotte campus, I figured I would sound off one last time by leaving a list of my favorite games and top recommendations from each of the four years I've been at UNC Charlotte.

2019: “Pokémon Sword and Shield” (Nintendo Switch)

For anyone who's followed my content at Niner Times, this may be the most unsurprising choice imaginable, but I still stand by putting this as my top game of 2019 for a number of reasons. While it's by no means perfect, the things that Generation Eight of this illustrious franchise excels at are well and truly nailed here. The initial story may feel a bit dull and simplistic, but the game truly opens up all of its possibilities after the credits have rolled. While some of the more linear areas feel a bit too simple, the more open Wild Area, the Isle of Armor and the Crown Tundra remain incredibly fun to explore alone or with friends, even years after release. Furthermore, the online play system here is the best and most streamlined that it has ever been. Trading, jumping into random link battles or even participating in ranked battles has never been easier. Finally, new multiplayer



Photo of Pokémon Sword and Shield
courtesy of Nintendo

additions like Max Raid battles and Dynamax Adventures proved to be incredibly addicting, and have provided me and my friends with hours upon hours of good times and laughs. “Pokémon Sword and Shield” is, for better or worse, a multiplayer focused game. Single players are sure to still find enjoyment here, but this trip to the world of Pokémon really comes to life with friends, and has provided some of my favorite multiplayer memories of my time as a Niner.



Photo of Paper Mario
courtesy of Nintendo

For many reasons, which I will not be going into here, I'm willing to bet that 2020 was a tough year for a lot of people. However, at a time when I was starting to feel really beaten down by everything going on in the world, a game came along that was so relentlessly upbeat and charming that I couldn't help but have a big, goofy smile on my face every time I played it. “Paper Mario: The Origami King” is an absolute masterpiece from the fine folks at Intelligent Systems. It merges the best parts of older games in the series like 2004's “Paper Mario: The Thousand Year Door” and more recent entries like 2016's “Paper Mario Color Splash” into one glorious package which sports gorgeous visuals, expertly crafted environments to explore, insanely fun puzzle-based combat and (most importantly) one of the greatest fully-orchestrated soundtracks to ever grace a video game. Longtime fans and newcomers alike owe it to themselves to pick this one up, just be prepared for an absurd amount of paper puns.

2021: “Ratchet and Clank: Rift Apart” (PlayStation 5)

The “Ratchet and Clank” series is one of the few non-Nintendo franchises that I have a lot of fond childhood memories with, and looking at how far the series has come from its relatively humble beginnings in 2002 is always incredibly impressive to me. While there have been multiple attempts to inject new life into the series at



Photo of Ratchet and Clank
courtesy of Sony Interactive
Entertainment

various points, last year's “Ratchet and Clank: Rift Apart” might just be the most impressive platformer I have ever played from a technical perspective. Putting the increased horsepower and Solid State Drive of the PS5 to great use, “Ratchet and Clank: Rift Apart” builds itself around a fascinating concept of opening portals that instantly transport players between different environments. This allows for some of the most creative action set pieces and chase sequences that I have ever seen, making the game feel like a full-on thrill ride at certain points. Combine this edge-of-your-seat gameplay with beautiful visuals, an incredibly well-written narrative and tons of charm and polish, and you have a package that stands out like little else available currently on Sony's newest machine.



Photos of Gran Turismo Sport
courtesy of Sony Interactive
Entertainment

2022 (So Far): “Gran Turismo Sport” (PlayStation 5)

We aren't even halfway through 2022 yet, and the gaming scene has already delivered more than a few genuine hits. However, none have been quite as impressive for me as Polyphony Digital's “Gran Turismo Sport.” The racing simulator franchise that has been part of Sony's star lineup for over 20 years has made its current-gen debut with style, boasting an impressive list of technical features, a mind-boggling amount of content, eerily accurate control and physics and breathtaking photo-realistic visuals. The presence of micro-transactions may be a turnoff for some, but in my experience, they are completely avoidable and have little to no bearing on the primary experience. “Gran Turismo Sport” has always had a bit of a special place for me, as it has always been one of my favorite games to play with my dad. Thankfully, this new addition to the franchise will keep us and many other mechanically-inclined gamers around the world tearing up the track for years to come.

I mentioned before how there are a lot of changes ahead, both for myself and everyone else who finds themselves on the edge of graduation in just a few short days from this publication. It's been fun for me to spend the last little while reflecting on all the memories I've made along the way during my college journey, and these games (and the people I played them with) played a big role in that journey. So, with this reflection out of the way, all that's left to say is cheers to whatever memories (and yes, games) are still waiting for me in the years to come.

MOVIES TO WATCH DURING FINALS WEEK

Films that will help you destress and relax

by Jack Hale
Staff Writer

Well, it's finally that time of year again, when stress is at its highest. And while it might be ridiculous to even think about watching a movie rather than studying or writing a paper, we all need to find time to relax and de-stress. But nobody wants to watch a deep and philosophical movie that will leave you thinking about it for days on end during finals week. This is the week for movies you can just put on for dumb fun entertainment to forget about all of the finals and essays. Here are some of my favorites that I will be looking to watch.

"The Raid: Redemption" (2011)

Warning: this is not for the faint of heart. This Indonesian action film is filled with nonstop brutal violence and focuses more on that than the story itself. It's always nice to see an action movie that doesn't take itself too seriously. While the dialogue is very rough, the unbelievable action choreography more than makes up for it. Watching these merciless fights is the perfect escape and an incredible de-stressor.

"Raiders of the Lost Ark" (1981)

Arguably the best adventure film of all time, it's almost impossible to watch this movie without having a stupid grin on your face the whole time. It is the definition of a popcorn flick with great action set pieces, such a fun story and the perfect blend of humor. While some prefer "The Last Crusade" (such as myself), the original just has something special to it.

"Rocky" (1976)

What better film to watch when you need that confidence and motivation to crush that final? "Rocky" will forever be a timeless film filled with heart thanks to Sylvester Stallone's iconic performance and great screenplay. While we have seen this story a hundred times in other films, seeing the one that truly kicked off the sports genre is really special. The fight scenes are so much fun to watch, and Rock Balboa is truly one of the most endearing characters of all time.

"Scott Pilgrim vs. the World" (2010)

One of the most entertaining movies of all time, in my opinion, "Scott Pilgrim vs. The World," is consistently hilarious in both its jokes and visual humor. The fight scenes are surprisingly well done, and the story keeps you engaged with great characters. Director Edgar Wright literally brought the comic book to life, and is a great watch for nearly every occasion.

"South Park: Bigger, Longer & Uncut" (1999)

Probably my favorite comedy of all time, the "South Park" movie holds up incredibly well and remains hilarious throughout multiple viewings. It has the classic dumb humor that the show is known for, along with so many ridiculously catchy songs and such an absurd premise that only "South Park" could pull off. The social satire is still relevant over 20 years later, making it an even more enjoyable watch. It is so underrated and is the perfect movie to just shut your brain off and relax.

"The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie" (2004)

What better way to get away from the stress of finals than to throw it back to a childhood favorite? The nostalgia always hits hard when I watch this movie, but it's not just the nostalgia that makes it enjoyable. It is legitimately funny with a great story and an all-time great song at the end with, "Goofy Goober Rock." One of the worst feelings is revisiting favorite movies from your childhood, and it ends up being terrible, but that just is not the case with "The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie."

"Superbad" (2007)

I mean, do I really need to explain? Arguably the best teen comedy of all time, "Superbad" is the epitome of dumb fun entertainment that has continued to stay funny with its incredibly raunchy humor 15 years later. With so many iconic and classic moments, it is impossible not to have a good time with this movie.



Congratulations!

To Student Niner Media's Graduating Students

Reem Abnowf, Jonathan Alo,
Abena Atiemo, Cecilia Atwood,
April Carte, Kathryn Caudill,
Bradley Cole, Ashley Conde,
Bailey Dopfel, Madison Dobrzanski,
Andrew Fitzgerald, Kelly Gilbert,
Jay Halverson, Diego Haro,
Kevin Ku, Olivia Lawless,
Alyssa Lopez, Elizabeth McGuire,
Lorenza Medley, Vishal Nair,
Isabella Perryman, Skyler Parrow-Strong,
Anusha Reddy, Megan Reid,
María Solano Rodriguez, Morgan Sims,
Niyathi Sulkunte, Tommy Tighe,
Tyler Trudeau, Rebecca Waterson,
and Likhita Yegireddi

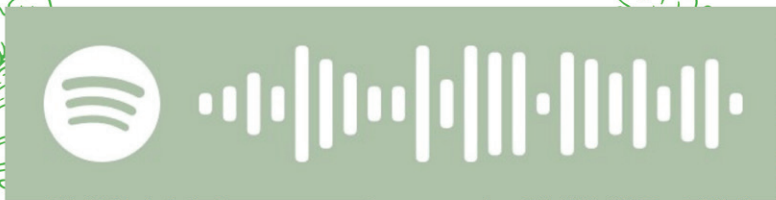
We wish you all the best
in your future careers!

PLAYLIST OF THE WEEK:

our parting gift to you



THE '22 NT STAFF



Student Niner Media

LEADER OF THE MONTH

April



JUSTICE SILVER

Congratulations to Justice Silver, our April Student Niner Media Student Leader of the Month. Justice is the manager of Uptown Audio, our podcast network. During his time in this role, Justice has launched three new shows and has grown the network's social media presence. He frequently goes above and beyond to assist with promotions for the entire department. Bravo, Justice, for a job well done!

welcome
HOME

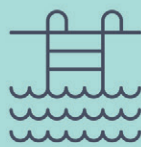
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