



NEERPERFECTION

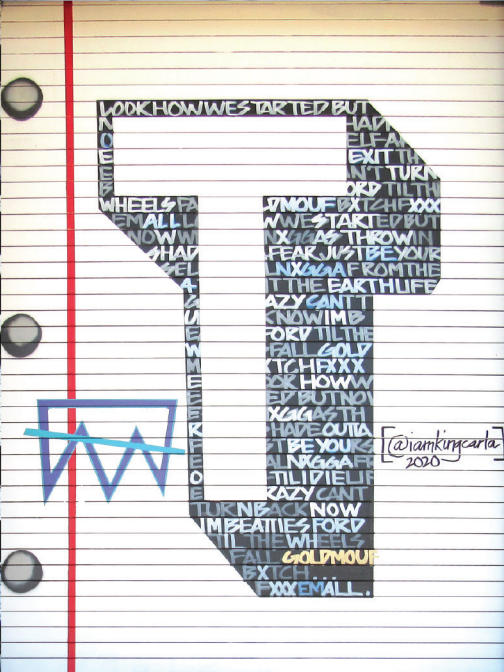
DENER\_2020



DAMIAN WOOTEN



BRUCEQUIXOTE



@iamkingcarla 2020



artbycarla



# NEW HIP HOP MURAL AT CAMP NORTH END

Charlotte hip hop on full display on P.5



Vol. 33, Issue 8  
Nov. 10, 2020  
NINERTIMES.COM

# NINERTIMES

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF  
Madison Dobrzanski  
editor@ninertimes.com

## EDITORIAL

Olivia Lawless MANAGING EDITOR  
Tyler Trudeau COMMUNITY EDITOR  
Megan Bird NEWS EDITOR  
Hiral Patel OPINION EDITOR  
Julianna Peres LIFESTYLE EDITOR  
Anders Hare A&E EDITOR  
Bradley Cole SPORTS EDITOR  
Max Young COPY EDITOR  
Niyathi Sulkunte PHOTO EDITOR  
María Solano VIDEO EDITOR  
Nic Jensen LAYOUT EDITOR

## ASSISTANT EDITORS

Milo Cain, April Carte, Jessica Ceballos, Emily Kottak, Beth McGuire, Brandon Mitchell, Miles Ruder, and Reuben Sanchez

## CONTRIBUTING STAFF

Catherine Sawyers, Ashley Conde, Jake Pierce, Bryson Foster, Amanda Olsen

## COVER ART

DeNeer, G's Mike Wirth, Dammit Wesley, Bree Stallings, CHD:WCK!, OWL, King Carla, Frankie Zombie, Photo by Anders Hare

NEWSROOM 705.687.7150  
NINERTIMES.COM/STAFF  
TWITTER @NINER\_TIMES

## CREATIVE DIRECTOR

James Bourke

## MARKETING STAFF

Ridge Grant and Luisana Gonzalez



LOCATED ON THE LOWER LEVEL OF THE STUDENT UNION

Niner Times • Uptown Audio  
Sanskrit Literary-Arts Magazine  
Media Marketing • Technical

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHARLOTTE  
Kelly Merges NINER MEDIA ADVISER  
Laurie Cuddy BUSINESS MANAGER  
Joshua Wood GRAPHICS & PRODUCTION

# TABLE OF CONTENTS



## NEWS

P.3 Some form of pass/no credit grading system implemented Fall 2020

P.4 UNC Charlotte employees stream money into 2020 campaigns



## OPINION

P.5 Did we vote for better or for worse?



## A&E

P.6 *We are Hip Hop: Charlotte's first letter mural*

P.7 Gameplay impressions: Massive multiplayer Mario mayhem

P.8 A tribute to Sean Connery



## SPORTS

P.9 Not done yet

P.10 Champions



## LIFESTYLE

P.12 Inktober with a twist

READ + WATCH MORE ONLINE AT  
**NINERTIMES.COM**

## POLICE BLOTTER

11/05: Officers responded to the Union Deck in reference to a parking arm gate.

11/05: Officers responded to the Union Deck in reference to larceny from auto. No suspects or witnesses.

VIEW FULL LOG AT  
[POLICE.UNCC.EDU/LOG](https://police.uncc.edu/log)



**NINER MEDIA**  
@UNCCMEDIA



**UPTOWN  
AUDIO**  
@uptownaudio



Photo by Niyathi Sulkunte

# SOME FORM OF PASS/NO CREDIT GRADING TO BE IMPLEMENTED FOR FALL 2020



## NEWS

The University has confirmed that there will be a pass/no credit grading system this semester

by Catherine Sawyers  
Staff Writer

With the support of the UNC Charlotte Student Senate, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Joan Lorden is looking into extending the pass/no credit grading system implemented during spring 2020 to this fall semester. However, details about this policy change are still in the development phase.

“The policy is under deliberation completely, and no decisions have been made,” emphasized College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) advisor Katherine Hibbard.

From Oct. 22-29, the UNC Charlotte Student Senate deliberated whether to support the notion of a pass/no credit grading system for the fall semester. On Oct. 29, the same day the University announced that the system would be implemented in some capacity, the Student Senate approved a legislative act to support a pass/no credit grading system.

Student Senate President Pro Tempore Dick Beekman told the Niner Times that the “Student Government was inspired to start this conversation because of students ... [who] expressed the struggles they faced with the unique challenges posed by this semester...” and he felt obligated to advocate on behalf of a policy that he believes is in the best interests of

students.

Jon Mitchell, Speaker of the Senate, had similar thoughts as Beekman. He said that the Student Government “heard numerous concerns from students regarding difficulties in succeeding in their courses...” which, in turn, prompted “a petition [to start] circulating on Change.org from students advocating for a pass/no credit or pass/fail system.”

The petition has already gained traction with 6,968 student signatures out of an initial goal of 5,000. The petition, started by Kate Cronin, requests that Student Body President Tahliah Sampson, Student Body Vice President Vince Graham and Chancellor of UNC Charlotte Sharon L. Gaber allow UNC Charlotte to “extend their policy of being able to opt-in to a pass/no credit grade substitution to the Fall 2020 semester.”

Mitchell also wanted to make it clear that, although he hopes to have the pass/no credit implemented this semester, the system change is “still being discussed and has not been made into an official decision.” There are still a lot of details that have to be discussed, like what courses or majors might be excluded from the optional grading system.

On Oct. 29, the idea of a pass/no credit grading provision

for fall 2020 was also approved by the Faculty Council, according to an email sent out to students. In the email, Provost Lorden stated that “additional details will be determined and communicated ... in the coming weeks,” and “certain critical progression courses in certain majors will be excluded from the provision.” That list of excluded majors and courses has not been provided yet, but will be presented in the next few weeks.

**“The policy is under deliberation completely, and no decisions have been made”**

Katherine Hibbard  
College of Liberal Arts and  
Sciences Advisor

Hibbard added that CLAS cannot comment on the grading policy because a decision had not been finalized.

“When [misinformation] is spread prior to this finalization, it creates a huge mess for faculty, staff and students,” she added, referring to the social media platform Reddit where students discuss policy changes like this one.

During the spring 2020 semester, students faced a similar

challenge with their course loads when the COVID-19 pandemic forced classes online in March. On Mar. 30, the Faculty Executive Committee voted to create the UNC Charlotte grading policy for Spring 2020: the pass/no credit system. Under this grading provision students were allowed to replace their grades with the pass/no credit or pass/unsatisfactory grading election option in Banner Self Service. At that time, students were allowed to see their grades for a course before deciding whether to replace it with pass/no credit or pass/unsatisfactory with some extenuating circumstances that prevented a grade replacement.

No UNC Charlotte administrator or faculty member has corroborated that the same procedures will be in place for the fall 2020 semester. This is just what happened during the spring 2020 semester.

Schools like UNC Chapel Hill, NC State and ECU have already or are in the process of implementing a pass/no credit system for the fall semester. UNC Charlotte will soon join this list of schools, but there are still many details to be finalized.



## NOW HIRING

- servers
- busboys
- cooks

Flexible hours, No tip sharing.

[arsalco@aol.com](mailto:arsalco@aol.com)  
or apply in person at  
230 East WT Harris Blvd.  
(Behind Walgreens)

# UNC CHARLOTTE EMPLOYEES STREAM MONEY INTO 2020 CAMPAIGNS

Of all UNC System institutions, the UNC Charlotte community was the second largest contributor to Democrats and Republicans

by Megan Bird  
News Editor

UNC Charlotte community members donated at least \$110,084 to political campaigns in 2020, 79.4% of which was directed to Democrats and 3.4% to Republicans, according to data released by the Federal Election Commission on Oct. 22 and compiled by OpenSecrets. This makes the UNC Charlotte community the second biggest political contributor in the UNC System behind UNC Chapel Hill who donated \$574,951 overall.

UNC Charlotte contributed the second smallest percentage of its donations to the Democratic Party behind UNC Pembroke, who directed 89.4% of its donations towards Republicans.

OpenSecrets' data only include donations from students, faculty and staff who listed UNC Charlotte as their employer and those individuals' immediate family members. Numbers are based off of donations of \$200 or more.

UNC Charlotte employees' campaign contributions are up 3.6 times since 2016, and 4.4 times since 2008, while the percentage of donations going to Republicans has increased 1.7% and 0.4% respectively.

Since 1990, UNC Charlotte employees have donated \$255,714, 83% of which was directed towards the Democratic Party and 9% to Republicans. Almost half of

all UNC Charlotte campaign contributions since 1990 were donated this year.

These huge increases in campaign spending are representative of the UNC System in general as well as national trends. UNC System employees contributed \$1.7 million this election cycle, 97% to Democrats and 3% to Republicans, almost three times as much was donated in 2016 and more than any year prior. This dwarfs political contributions in 1990 to just over \$26,000.

The total cost of the 2020 election cycle is estimated by the Center for Responsive Politics to reach \$14 billion, making it the most expensive in history and twice as expensive as 2016.

According to OpenSecrets, Democratic candidates and groups have spent \$6.9 billion this election cycle, compared to \$3.8 billion for Republicans. Democrats' spending falls to \$5.5 billion when excluding spending by billionaire presidential candidates Michael Bloomberg and Tom Steyer.

Political contributions are in part made easier by the rise of fundraising sites like ActBlue and WinRed. Since February 2019, the Democratic platform, ActBlue, has received more than 2,100 donations from UNC Charlotte employees while Republican WinRed has only received 119, according to FEC,

which reports donations of any amount.

UNC Charlotte employees appear to prefer to donate to national campaigns. Since February 2019, 82 contributions were made directly to Biden and 52 were made to Trump. This is compared with only eight contributions directly towards the North Carolina Senate race, all of which were for Democrat Cal Cunningham. While Republican Thom Tillis leads Cal Cunningham, the Senate race is tight and still too early to call.

UNC Charlotte's top contributors to the Democratic Party include economics professor Dr. Louis Amato, part-time English faculty member Henry Doss and economics professor emeritus Carol Swartz. Top Republican donors include engineering professors Dr. John Small and Dr. Howie Fang.

"As an economist, my spending shows what I value," said Swartz. "Biden shares my concerns about fighting the pandemic, minimizing climate change, and ensuring economic opportunity is available to all."

In the end, Biden secured the presidency with key wins in Michigan, Wisconsin, and Pennsylvania—three states that Trump won in 2016. North Carolina has still not been called.

**SAN  
SKRIT**

**SUBMISSION  
DEADLINE:**

**NOVEMBER 20, 2020**

**OPEN CALL FOR  
ART, PHOTOGRAPHY, FILMS,  
SHORT STORIES, AND POETRY**

**SANSKRITMAGAZINE.COM**

# DID WE VOTE FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE?

*A reflection of the 2020 election results*

by Ashley Conde  
Staff Writer



**OPINION**

Nail-biting and anxiety ridden. The 2020 election has been a historic election from President Trump's delusional tweets to having our first woman Vice President. After four days of ballot counting, the Associated Press announced early Saturday morning that the projected president-elect was Former Vice President Joe Biden.

Prior to democrats winning the presidential seat back, Trump falsely and prematurely announced he won the election Wednesday morning while key swing states were still counting legal ballots. Trump has yet to concede and has gone as far as to claim voter fraud with zero evidence to back such claims. During his speech from the White House Thursday, networks began to cut away from Trump's speech as he began to falsely claim the election had been stolen. NBC's Lester Holt interrupted Trump's speech cutting away from the white house to say, "We have to interrupt here, because the president has made a number of false statements, including the notion that there has been fraudulent voting. There's been no evidence of that." Trump continued to express his unhinged rants via Twitter tweeting "I WON THIS ELECTION, BY A LOT!" Twitter flagged his tweets for false claims and since have updated the flagged tweets with a disclaimer saying "This claim about election fraud is disputed."

Meanwhile, following the announcement on Saturday evening President-elect Joe Biden called upon Americans to unite during these unprecedented times and use this to heal the damage Trump dictated the last four years. In his patriotic and optimistic victory speech, President-elect Biden seeks "to rebuild the soul of America, to rebuild the backbone of this nation, the middle class and to make America respected around the world again." The President-elect had taken the stage after being introduced by his running mate Vice President-elect Kamala Harris. Vice President-elect Kamala Harris will be the first woman vice president and the first African American and South Asian American Vice President. Harris has already inspired millions of women and girls across the nation, as she delivered her speech Saturday evening honoring the women that paved the way, sharing the hope young girls will look up to her, and knowing it is possible for

them too. The Biden-Harris win will define the next chapter for America as many of us are hopeful that Trump's defeat is only the beginning for the change that is ahead. As we enter the Biden-Harris era many of us are elated to be able to keep our rights and healthcare which Trump threatened to take away.

In our own state we watched democracy firsthand after North Carolinians voted to re-elect Democrat Roy Cooper as state Governor. Cooper has been a sympathetic Governor as many have praised his handling of the COVID-19 pandemic and his prioritization of safety during his campaign trail opting to hold virtual gatherings, while his opponent Dan Forest continued to hold large gatherings amid the pandemic. Forest aimed to appeal to business owners and parents of public school students who were unsatisfied with Cooper's slow rate of reopening the state and schools. Cooper's win was a huge success for democrats in the state as many had disapproved of Cooper's handling of COVID-19 which had forced small businesses across the state to close their doors for good due to loss of income. Despite the loss of small businesses, the Cooper win allows us to look forward to expansion in healthcare benefits and education budget expansion.

Cooper is not the only democrat in the state to be re-elected, as Alma Adams held her seat for the N.C. 12th congressional district. Adams is joined by four other democrats G.K. Butterfield,

Deborah Ross, David Price, and Kathy Manning who won the seat for their congressional districts. Republicans still hold the majority in our state as eight seats were won by Greg Murphy, Virginia Foxx, David Rouzer, Richard Hudson, Dan Bishop, Madison Cawthorn, Patrick McHenry, and Ted Budd.

As of Sunday morning the race for North Carolina senator has yet to be called. Republican Senator Thom Tillis is up against Democrat Cal Cunningham. Cunningham had a strong chance of winning before having a sex scandal which led to leaked text messages between the candidate and a California strategist. While the race is still too soon to call both Tillis and Cunningham have to be on edge as the race could easily lead to either win. Although Cunningham is still in the center of a sex scandal, he's currently polling just 1.7% below Tillis giving him, a small but, a strong shot at taking the seat from Tillis. Cunningham winning could lead us to having control of the Senate, and possibly lead us into a more tolerant and progressive era that many North Carolinians desire.

After record voter-turnout, the election showed that North Carolinians and Americans are more divided than ever before as urban areas and rural areas have held contradictory views politically and socially. As we move forward regardless of party affiliation we must unite together and hold those in office accountable and find common ground to ensure the future of our state and our nation.

This election has put more pressure on American voters than any other election has before. Americans voted in order to see the nation progress towards their ideal America, yet this election was more than just picking a leader of the free world. Trump's defeat will lead us into a better America. Giving America's reins to Biden-Harris will ensure hope that reproductive rights will stay intact, LGBTQIA+ rights will no longer be threatened by Trump's administration and the 1% will begin to pay appropriate taxes. While the Biden-Harris win has come as a disappointment to republicans, republicans won't have to undergo the same threats and injustices minorities, immigrants, women, and people of color faced during the grueling Trump Presidency.



Biden-Harris sign, photo by Christopher Grissett



PRESENTING

# WE ARE HIP HOP

## CHARLOTTE'S FIRST LETTER MURAL

by Anders Hare  
A&E Editor

Photo of mural courtesy of  
Blumenthal Performing Arts

Various key players in Charlotte's artistic community have come together to unveil the city's first spelled-out letter mural titled "We Are Hip Hop" at Camp North End.

The imposing artwork was produced under the direction of Charlotte creative Bree Stallings and presented by the Blumenthal Performing Arts as "an ongoing celebration and recognition of local hip-hop culture and talent." It features the work of 11 prominent Charlotte artists who bring their interpretation of hip-hop culture from private to public in Charlotte's arts community.

The mural and its official November unveiling are predecessors of the "We Are Hip Hop" festival, a four-day event with performances and installations by hip hop artists and dancers, DJs, spoken word poets, graffiti artists, and more. It is set to kick off in January 2021 at the Blumenthal's Booth Playhouse.

"We spent a lot of time brainstorming and thinking, and one of the words we came up with is that hip-hop is collaborative," Stallings explains. "It's about making things that would've usually happened inside and bringing it outside so b-boying out on the streets, tagging up trains and doing all this other stuff. It's about making the private public and talking about these things and being loud and proud about it."

Originally conceived as a response to murals in other metropolitan cities such as New York City, Chicago and Atlanta, "We Are Hip Hop" plays a part in Stallings' vision of putting the Queen City on the main stage.

"We're not just a mini-Atlanta or Raleigh on the rise. We are Charlotte, and we have this identity space where we're growing from a

smaller to a bigger city and what we are sewing into is what sticks so it feels really exciting to be a part of that narrative creating what will become landmarks," Stallings said.

Highlights of the mural feature tie-ins to rap on the national and local levels from the Wu-Tang Clan to Charlotte MC Elevator Jay. It includes tributes to native rappers that reflect the city's profound culture. King Carla's 'T,' for example, pays homage to famed Charlotte rapper Lute's songs "GED" and the J. Cole and DaBaby-assisted "Under The Sun." She said the latter song is anthemic to the city.

A reenvision of Surf Mitchell's portrait of Elevator Jay by Stallings also brings attention to the roots of Charlotte's ever-expanding hip-hop movement. "It's going to draw people toward his music because they are going to look at it like 'who is that guy,'" Mitchell explained. "He's a well-known artist within our city, and that's good publicity for him."

"We Are Hip Hop" showcases artists' connection to the city, hip-hop and their craft on a multitude of levels. CHD:WCK! seamlessly reconstructs his 'O' as a metaphor for the art of sampling in hip-hop and correlates lyrics from Mos Def's "Fear Not of Man." On the other hand, Frankie Zombie's 'E' is heavily symbolic of his upbringing in the Bronx, NY, and he used his contribution to "talk some things through."

"I use shades of pink to pay respects to Breast Cancer Awareness month," Zombie explained. "My mom was diagnosed with stage four breast cancer and she's still fighting right now, so it was just a moment where I can pay my respect and support the Breast Cancer awareness movement and let

them know we have their back. People that are fighting, people that are still fighting, and I'm letting them know we have their back 100%."

Several creatives behind "We Are Hip Hop" also contributed to Charlotte's lauded Black Lives Matter mural back in June, including Dammit Wesley, 2 G's, OWL, CHD:WCK!, Frankie Zombie, and Marcus Kiser. A co-owner of prominent Charlotte art studio Blk Mrkt CLT, Dammit Wesley believes that these murals will change the game in how city developers view and invest in public art.

"I think this mural specifically is going to encourage more artists and more businesses to acknowledge that public art is good for business," Dammit Wesley detailed. "I think Charlotte will probably see all the hard work that these artists are currently doing to bring national attention to the city and maybe rally behind them and make sure in the future that there is allocated funding behind them to help artists create things to actually highlight the city in ways that they can't."

The mural spotlights a heavily-entangled bond between Charlotte's hip-hop community and the city's growing presence as a world-class city. Several of its artists discussed what they envision the mural's impact will be on the Queen City. "Jobs, opportunities, I think Charlotte should be another jewel in the southern crown of hip-hop," artist and Queens University educator Mike Wirth explained.

Regardless of what the impact "We Are Hip Hop" has on the Queen City, exposure is encouraged. "I see a lot more music videos being shot in this location, that's how I see it," King Carla said. "Own it, remix it, make it yours. That part would be super cool because art can't only be made for preservation. It should be celebrated."





by Jake Pierce  
Staff Writer

## Gameplay Impressions: Massive Multiplayer Mario Mayhem

Photo courtesy of  
Nintendo

Nintendo has released an absolute deluge of content featuring their flagship “Super Mario” character in celebration of the 35th Anniversary of the original release of “Super Mario Bros.” on the Nintendo Entertainment System. At the beginning of October, “Super Mario Bros. 35” made its way onto the Nintendo Switch eShop as a free download for all Nintendo Switch Online members. This title seeks to reintroduce the original gameplay of that classic “Mario” experience back into a modern gaming space, both for players who have fond memories of crowding around their NES consoles 35 years ago and those who wouldn’t be born until much later. With a modern release comes a modern twist, and here that twist is massive online multiplayer functionality.

Make no mistake, at its core “Super Mario Bros. 35” looks and plays nearly identically to that original game, but that tried and true gameplay has been adapted into a “battle-royale” style contest with up to 35 players to be the last Mario standing. Players are tasked with making their way through classic “Super Mario Bros.” stages, all while keeping their timer from ticking down to zero by defeating enemies, collecting power-ups, and doing anything it takes to add more precious seconds to the clock. Players can use a basic, four-option targeting system consisting of random, attackers, lowest time, and most coins settings to send all of the enemies that they defeat as they play to invade the screens of other players. Enemies are flying around between screens constantly leading to situations in which normally safe corridors can suddenly be utterly overrun with Goombas, Koopa Troopas, Lakitus,

and more. It can all get very chaotic very quickly, but thankfully the game’s targeting system tends to take care of offensive play, automatically freeing up players to focus on navigating the absolute lunacy that they are often presented with.

Perhaps the greatest strength of “Super Mario Bros. 35” is the way it rewards skillful play. Defeating more enemies in your game means sending more obstacles to your opponents, making it ever more likely that they will become overwhelmed and get KO’ed. Players who go out of their way to collect coins are also at an advantage, as the game allows you to spend 20 coins to roll a Mario Kart-style item wheel for an extra power-up. Being able to adapt to any situation and keep a level head when surrounded by threats is the real key to victory in “Super Mario Bros. 35,” and the lack of any in-game purchases whatsoever means that concerns of the game creating a “pay-to-win” online ecosystem is not an issue.

Unfortunately, while the gameplay itself may be fantastic, it’s in everything surrounding that core gameplay where “Super Mario Bros. 35” begins to crumble a bit. For an online multiplayer game, this title doesn’t do a particularly good job at making players feel like they’re part of a large, interconnected ecosystem. Matches are entirely one and done affairs, and there’s no way to see the usernames of past people you’ve played with, follow other players or integrate your Nintendo Switch Friend List. There’s absolutely no option for you and a friend, whether through local or online play, to join the same match together. The only hope for something like this to happen would be for you and your friend to join at the exact same time and

pray that the game just so happens to place you in the same room out of potentially thousands.

The game also lacks a sense of progression. Through the course of a match, every player who is eliminated has their current coin total added into a pot, which is then awarded to the eventual winner of that game along with a set amount of bonus coins. However, the only thing that these coins can be used for is to provide yourself with advantages at the beginning of a match, such as starting off the game as “Fire Mario.” This ends up being a moot point though, as not only is it easy to find power-ups during actual gameplay, but the items are also incredibly cheap to purchase. Many players will likely end up with thousands of coins that they simply can’t spend, and when the only thing that completing matches rewards you with is more coins, it all begins to feel a bit aimless.

“Super Mario Bros. 35” is a very novel concept and a fantastic example of putting a modern twist on a time-tested retro base. The gameplay itself is strong, with the fast-paced platforming of the original “Super Mario Bros.” being successfully merged with a simple and intuitive multiplayer battle system. However, this is also a title that I can see a lot of people burning out on very quickly, as there are no real systems at play here to keep competitors coming back for more. If you’re looking for a way to step back to the very beginning of Mario’s storied past, “Super Mario Bros. 35” is certainly worth a download, but the longevity that each player sees from it is almost sure to vary wildly.

A tribute to

# SEAN CONNERY

*“The end of old school Hollywood”*

by Jake Pierce  
Staff Writer

Phot courtesy of  
newsmax.com

Everyone has a film that introduced them to the on-screen legend, Sir Thomas Sean Connery. Many know him as their first James Bond, while others consider him as Jimmy Malone from “The Untouchables” or even as Henry Jones Sr. in “Indiana Jones and The Last Crusade.” He was always an actor that drew in crowds from a variety of tentpole type titles. As an actor, Connery gave of the charisma and “cool man” charm that classic actors are known for. The way he walked and talked hypnotized audiences on the screen, whereas he was a different man off. What no one could deny was that he had a truly undeniable talent and presence both on and off the screen.

In his recent passing, the outcry of love and mourning from those in his community showed just the kind of person he was. Most notably, the current James Bond (Daniel Craig) had nothing but fond memories of the type of person he was. “He defined an era and a style. The wit and charm he portrayed on screen could be measured in megawatts; he helped create the modern blockbuster.” Ever since his younger years, Connery had always considered becoming an actor. He had always toyed with the idea while also considering becoming a professional soccer player. Thankfully advice from fellow actor Robert Henderson steered him on the path that the world knows him for today. For someone who started from such humble beginnings, he really completed a dream had by so many.

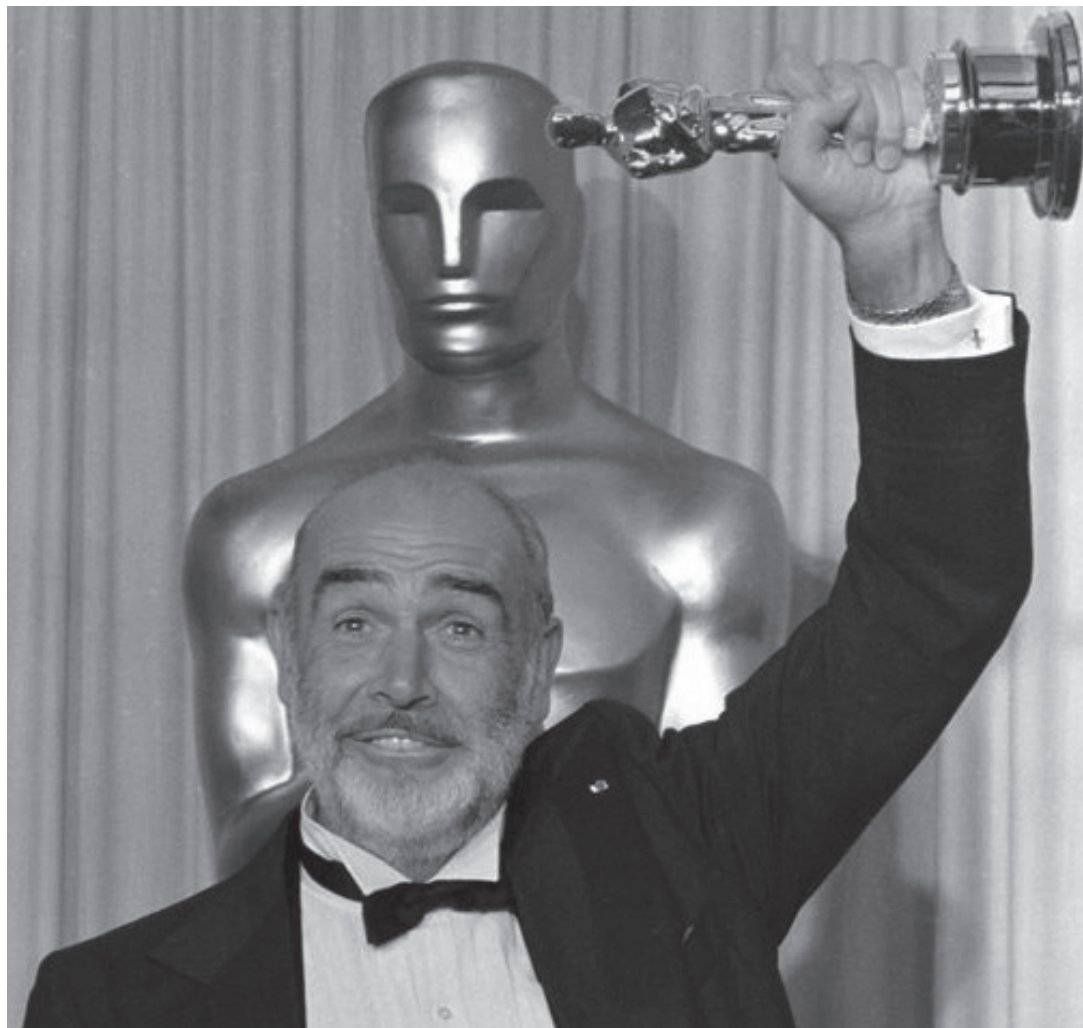
Initially a B-Movie actor, he was someone who never expected the big break he got. What makes his breakthrough onto the man screen so absolutely fascinating is how he skipped one major step. Normally, when an actor goes out for a part, he completes what is commonly known as a screen test. This is where the actor tries out some dialogue (sometimes not being from the part he’s auditioning for) just for the creators to see his look on camera. Well for Connery, a producer on the

film named Harry Saltzman saw his look and gave him the part without a screen test. This was definitely something out of the ordinary, which showed Hollywood that this was someone to watch.

Being known as the actor who starred in the most financially successful James Bond movies, he was picky with his choices. Known in the film world as being someone who only picked roles he was interested in, it allowed him to be more creative. After his last appearance as Bond in

“Never Say Never Again,” he really came forward with choosing films that I came to know him from. He started in his 1988 award-winning performance in “The Untouchables” and continued his growth and maturity as an actor the more time went on. Playing in projects like “Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade” (1989), “The Hunt for Red October” (1990), and “The Rock” (1996) showed his range as an actor.

Winning a total of 17 awards, some of those included an Oscar for best supporting actor, a Cecil B. DeMille award (for outstanding contributions in the entertainment world) and even several British academy awards. For someone so well known in the entertainment world, he kept his social life incredibly private. One of the more surprising and interesting things about the screen legend was that he was only married twice. It’s never clear as to why he divorced from actress Diane Cilento, but he remained married to Micheline Roquebrune until his dying day. Known for being a severely private man, it was until his passing that his diagnosis of dementia was revealed. Connery was a true definition of a universal actor. His career covered a variety of different film roles which showed his massive talent. The range, likeability and general command of the film screen is something audiences will surely miss on the silver screen.



# NOT DONE YET

*A look into the 49ers' 2020 season and what's to come*



by Bryson Foster  
Staff Writer

After five games in the 2020 season, the Charlotte 49er football team sit at a 2-3 record, which was the same record for the team through five games in 2019.

After dealing the COVID-19 issues throughout the season, there's still a lot of season left for the 49ers. See what has happened so far and what's yet to come for Charlotte.

## Road Warriors

Charlotte has been all over the country this year as they have played four of their five games on the road. Due to COVID-19, Charlotte has had two home games postponed. This has resulted in Charlotte being on the road more often.

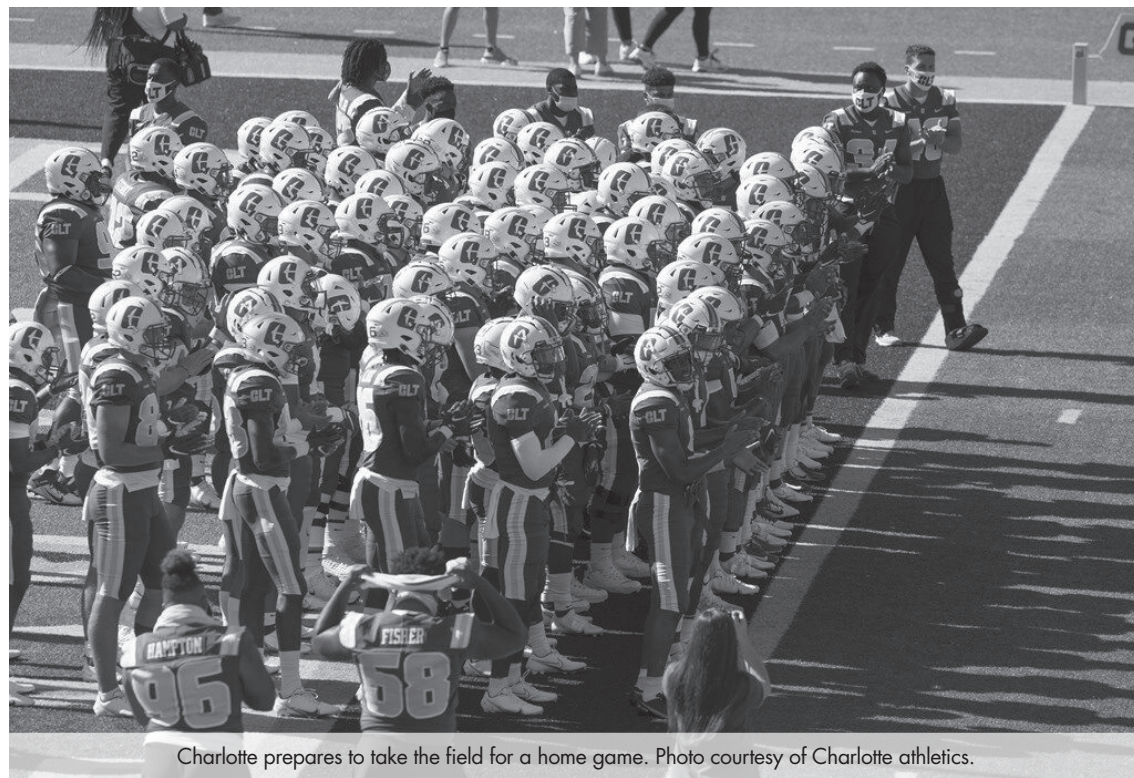
"This is the most adverse time they will ever go through," said 49er coach Will Healy. "Our group has worked really hard to stay positive and move through this situation."

Charlotte has had close bouts on the road in matchups against Appalachian State and Conference USA rival, Florida Atlantic. Charlotte was able to get the first win of the season on the road at North Texas as well. Charlotte is ready to return home on Nov. 14 for a non-conference bout with Gardner-Webb.

## Conference USA Success

Charlotte has played well in conference play so far. The Niners, who boast a 2-1 record in C-USA play, look to continue the success. The Niners have beaten two C-USA opponents so far this season in games against North Texas and UTEP.

"Great leadership has handled this conference slate by saying what can we do



Charlotte prepares to take the field for a home game. Photo courtesy of Charlotte athletics.

to be better," said Healy.

Part of the leadership has come from redshirt junior quarterback Chris Reynolds who has been a huge part of the winning ways in conference. He has thrown for 1,100 passing yards so far this season and 789 of those yards have come in conference play. Reynolds has been a big part of the success with his impeccable play.

The offense can also credit the running back duo of Aaron McAllister and Tre Harbison III for another offensive spark. McAllister, who was given C-USA offensive player of the week honors against North Texas, has delivered.

Charlotte currently sits third in the eastern division of the C-USA conference. They are behind a nationally-ranked

Marshall Thundering Herd football team and the Owls of Florida Atlantic. The Niners will look to fight for a bid at the C-USA title game in the second half of the season.

## Looking Ahead

Charlotte looks to continue what they have been doing so far. The biggest thing that has been key for wins has been the play from the defense. The defense's performance has helped Charlotte to stay in the lead of games.

Redshirt junior defensive back Ben DeLuca has been on a tear. DeLuca currently sits with 41 tackles on the year and can become the record holder for

most tackles in Charlotte football history this weekend against Middle Tennessee. He tied the record on Halloween night against Duke with six tackles, which gives him a total 306 tackles in his 49er career. Transfer linebacker Tyler Murray has been a great addition for the Niners as he has brought in 42 total tackles this season, the most on the team.

Charlotte has shifted some games in their schedule. Charlotte has had their game against Florida International rescheduled after COVID-19 interfered with the first matchup on Oct. 17. That game will now be played on Dec. 5 at Charlotte. The new non-conference bout with Gardner-Webb is set for 12 p.m. on Nov. 14. The 49ers have four total games left in 2020 as of Nov. 8.

The 49ers had to postpone their Nov. 7 game at Middle Tennessee due to a COVID-19 cluster within the Charlotte program. Charlotte hopes to still play that game this season. Seven football players and staff tested positive for COVID-19, the program announced on Nov. 6. The 49ers Nov. 14 game with Gardner-Webb is still on as of Nov. 8.

Even though the record for the 49ers isn't perfect, Healy's squad has gotten through a lot of adversity time and time again. There's still opportunities for Charlotte to head back to a bowl game this season.

"We have seen tremendous progress in this group of guys," said Healy. "When we want to feel sorry for ourselves, we just decide that we can overcome it and be enthusiastic about it."

# CHAMPIONS

## A look back at Charlotte Cross Country success in 2020

by Amanda Olson  
Staff Writer

Charlotte's cross country program took great strides to accomplish the most this year. As global pandemic only allowed the 49ers to race in three total events, they made the best of it.

Charlotte started the season strong with their first meet in Boone, NC. The men's took first place with 18 points, holding all three of the top spots individually. Charlotte's women placed second with 32 points.

In the second meet at the Louisville classic, Charlotte's men placed second while the women placed sixth.

Knowing they were capable of so much more, the teams put their focus into training for what was next.

Charlotte's rounded out their season October 31st at the Conference USA championship.

The men's team chased down the gold, winning the C-USA. The women's team, not falling too far behind, placed second which was good enough for the silver medal.

With this great victory in the books, the name of Charlotte cross country was really put out there, leaving the team, the school and coach Joseph Lynn very proud.

"What an honor it has been to work with this team," said Lynn. "I have a great support system that allows me to operate at the highest level. I know we will continue to grow our success greatly."

### Men's Recap

Although enduring some harsh setbacks along the way due to COVID-19, the men still found a way to push past those grueling boundaries, coming out on top victorious.

Giving it everything they had throughout the entirety of the season, senior Paul Arredondo and sophomore Nick Scudder helped lead the team, driving them to never quit.

For the opening meet in Boone, Arredondo took the first place win with a new PR time of 20:06:58 in the 6.4k race.

At the C-USA championship, Scudder

held the lead, winning the individual conference title. With a time of 23:36:28 in the 8k, Scudder ranked third in school history, and seventh in C-USA history.

The men had a phenomenal season landing with seven all conference runners: Nick Scudder, Paul Arredondo, Brian Picone, Michael Durkin, Avery Cannon, Jacob Gallant, and Finnegan McBride.

"This team has been in the making for years. I knew this was coming and what a fantastic breakthrough it was," said Lynn.

### Women's Recap

Not getting to run in a typical cross country season may have shook things up, but the team adapted pretty well, still excelling on the course to the best of their ability.

"Running together was definitely what kept me sane through it all," said Junior Chandler Horton.

Wanting to inspire the other women, Horton and freshman Louise Lounes provided great leadership for the team. They really sent the standard by never giving up and showing what real dedication this sport takes.

At the Louisville classic Lounes placed first for the team, and gained a new PR of 17:35 for the 5k.

At the conference meet, Horton was Charlotte's top placer, finishing with a time of 21:38:52 in the 6k race.

Although a short season, these women landed with four all conference runners: Chandler Horton, Louise Lounes, Alina Rovnak, and Jade Martin.

The women all agree that this team has really shaped their experience here at Charlotte and they are each so thankful for



Charlotte gets ready for a meet. Photo courtesy of Charlotte athletics.

the opportunity to run and be a part of this team.

Although in the midst of an incredible season, Charlotte's cross country team did have to endure new challenges due to COVID-19, including getting tested three times a week.

"We stay safe at practice by social distancing and wearing masks while running," said Scudder. "We have been doing workouts in smaller groups as well to limit exposure."

Coach Lynn fought hard for the team in the conference meetings over the summer. He made it possible for a safe cross country season to continue, as opposed to getting it cancelled like other schools.

Eight of the men on the team do live together, so COVID-19 did pose a threat to their season when one of the runners tested positive. This left them on all lockdown

according to Scudder and coach Lynn. Then they had to miss the Louisville classic as a consequence.

Although, that didn't stop any of them from pushing that much harder at their next available meet. They took what was given to them and turned it into a higher level of motivation.

"I think that with this pandemic, everyone went into this season with a little bit of uncertainty," said Lounes. "We all still went into the season motivated, never missing a beat whether in workouts or in meets."

This year's NCAA Cross Country Championships won't be held until Mar. 15 after the NCAA decided to move the championships to the spring back in August. Schools will have until Mar. 5 to declare that they want to take part in the championships.

UNC CHARLOTTE'S STUDENT PODCAST NETWORK

# UPTOWN



# AUDIO

LISTEN AT  
[UAPODCASTS.COM](http://UAPODCASTS.COM)



**WALK TO CLASS  
ALL 4 BEDROOMS  
2 & 4 BATHROOMS  
LEASE OR OWN  
UTILITIES INCLUDED  
INDIVIDUAL LEASES  
FREE PARKING**

**STARTING AT  
\$395  
PER MONTH**

## SAVE SOME GREEN



**MOST AFFORDABLE OFF-CAMPUS HOUSING**  
UNIVERSITY TERRACE & UNIVERSITY TERRACE NORTH  
CALL (980) 226-1071 OR COME BY TODAY!  
NEXT TO CIRCLE K, BESIDE UNCC



# INKTOBER WITH A TWIST

## A Halloween movie every single day

by Julianna Peres  
Lifestyle Editor

If there are two concepts that I love more than anything, it's Halloween and art. So, this year, my sister and I brainstormed a series of spooky films for me to watch. Between two jobs, a full course load, and applying to grad schools, for some reason I thought 'sure! There's plenty of time to watch a movie every single day.' Honestly though, the month went much better than I'd expected. Instead of watching a couple episodes of "The Office" (for the thousandth time), I watched a Halloween-themed movie after work. A lot of these films I had never seen before, but I also couldn't resist adding some of my childhood favorites and a few other holiday classics. Here's the list if anyone wants to give it a go for next year:

1. Halloween (1978)
2. Hellions (2015)
3. The Nightmare Before Christmas (1993)
4. Funhouse Massacre (2015)
5. Cry Wolf (2005)
6. Halloweentown (1998)
7. Donnie Darko (2001)
8. Pay the Ghost (2015)
9. Halloweentown II: Kalabar's Revenge (2001)
10. The Addams Family (2019)
11. The Collingswood Story (2002)
12. The Addams Family (1991)
13. Twitches (2005)
14. The Babysitter: Killer Queen (2020)
15. Boo (2005)
16. Flick (2008)
17. All Hallow's Eve (2013)
18. Hellfest (2018)
19. Girl Vs. Monster (2012)
20. Twitches Too (2007)
21. The Addams Family Values (1993)
22. Haunt (2019)
23. Holidays (2016)
24. Gingersnaps (2000)
25. The Corpse Bride (2005)
26. Halloweentown High (2004)
27. Mom's Got a Date with a Vampire (2000)
28. Lyle (2014)

29. Tales of Halloween (2015)
30. Satan's Little Helper (2004)
31. Hocus Pocus (1993)

Any ratings I could give these would likely be a bit biased because I love supernatural horror (and Disney channel movies) but not gore. I would much rather watch "The Ring" than any slasher flick. I'm also not a huge fan of "scary clowns" because I don't really find them, well, scary. "Funhouse Massacre" was by far the bloodiest, grossest one on the list. If you're especially squeamish, you probably shouldn't watch "All Hallow's Eve," "Tales of Halloween," or "Holidays."

The movies, however, were only the tip of the iceberg. I also decided to participate in Inktober. For those who don't know what this is, Inktober

started in 2009 when a popular Instagram artist challenged himself to 31 days of drawing. He said that the reason for Inktober was that he wanted to improve on his artistic habits and thought that it would be like a short-term New Year's Resolution to sketch something out every day at a set time. Unfortunately, since my schedule changes day-to-day, I wasn't able to draw at the same time every day. This led to my first obstacle: finding the time.

Although I planned on using pen and pencil to make my drawings, I wasn't thrilled with the results. So after about one week, I started painting my pictures. This was obstacle number two. Sketching and painting are very different in terms of time, skill and labor. I definitely recommend trying Inktober out with just a sketchbook and

some nice felt tips instead of having to waste globs of paint and ruin perfectly good clothes every day. Once the drawings started to feel like a chore, I took a step back. I gave myself a break for almost an entire week. During that week, I kept watching the Halloween movies and writing short reviews for them on my Instagram stories. But I didn't draw a single thing.

That break is the only reason that I was able to follow through. If I didn't feel like drawing something, I didn't. I found that I'd much rather change course than stick with something that would make me resent having to work on it. Finally, after an incredibly chaotic month, I can proudly say that I've watched almost 50 hours of scary, cute, unsettling cinema and filled more than 30 pages in my sketchbook.

If you're looking to start painting on a smaller scale, I recommend Walmart paints for beginners. I was able to buy 20 small tubes of paint for \$10. The sketchbook I purchased at Barnes and Noble for \$12. Anyone can create their own Inktober whenever, and for however long they want. It's all about what will make you happy.

I still love Halloween and I still love art, but I think that next year I may just do one week of this challenge. Although I did get some pieces that I'm proud of out of it.



Photo of Adams Family Painting by Julianna Peres