

THE HUDSONIAN

THE INDEPENDENT MULTIMEDIA NEWS ORGANIZATION OF HUDSON VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE



“IS THE PRICE DIFFERENCE JUSTIFIED BECAUSE OF THE HALAL/KOSHER LABEL?”

PAGE 4

The much-awaited Halal food is here- but is what’s being served serving students?

LET US KNOW YOUR THOUGHTS...



“THE TYPE OF ARTIST WHERE YOU KNOW WHAT YOU’RE GONNA GET”

PAGE 5

New album may be an up on 21’s flow but his lyricism needs some work...

‘american dream’ is nothing but.



EVENTS

TUESDAY || FEB. 6

10AM-3PM: Discounted Regal Movie Ticket Sales (CTR 210)

10AM-2PM: US Marine Corps Employer Recruitment Table (CTR Lobby)

12PM-1PM: Yoga (CTR 260)

4PM-5:30PM: Discounted Regal Movie Ticket Sales (CTR 210)

WEDNESDAY || FEB. 7

8:30AM-9:30AM: Coffee With President Ramsammy (CTR Lobby)

11:30AM-1:30PM: Club Fair (CTR Lobby)
COME SAY HI TO US!

2PM-3PM: Foreign Language & Culture Club Meeting (BRN 112)

THURSDAY || FEB. 8

10AM-2PM: NYS Unified Court System’s Third Judicial District: Employer Recruitment Table (CTR Lobby)

10AM-2:30PM: Siena College: Transfer Advisor Visit (CTR 290)

12PM-1PM: Student Art League Meeting (ADM, outside Teaching Gallery)

2PM-4:30PM: Black History Month Movie Series: “To Kill a Mockingbird” (CTR 202)

FRIDAY || FEB. 9

9AM-2PM: University at Albany: Transfer Advisor Visit (CTR 290)

Want to submit an event?

Contact
Hudsonian@hvcc.edu

Promotional graphics also available on request!

NEW SECRETARY APPOINTED TO STUDENT SENATE MEET RYAN CONNORS: ENTREPRENEUR, ATHLETE & HONORS STUDENT

CAL MARTIN
Editor-in-Chief

Appointed Secretary of Student Senate on January 29, 2024, Ryan Connors seeks to improve communication between campus leaders and the student body.

Ryan is a freshman enrolled in Business Administration, pursuing a marketing-related career.

Once accepted into the Honors College last year, which covers his tuition, Ryan decided Hudson Valley would be the most economical choice: “I just want to go wherever I can get the best education, with the least money [spent] possible”.

While only in his second semester, Ryan continues to consider debt in his four-year transfer options. Wherever he winds up, Ryan plans to become an RA to cover the room and board, and may look into scholarships for his volleyball background.

Ryan began attending Student Senate meetings in September of 2023, and was voted in as a Senator by his class shortly after.

On his new role on the executive board, Ryan said “I just want to be

able to go over the top, and bring some more awareness to Senate”.

Ryan intends on recruiting new voices to the Senate this term, and learning as much as he can from the senior executives to prepare him for his campaign as Vice President next academic year.

“I want to play the role of Chair of Communications. The actual aspect of Secretary is easy: making the agenda, taking meeting minutes, that’s all that’s actually required.”

Per recent changes to the Student Senate Bylaws, the Secretary becomes Chairperson of the Communication Committee by default.

Ryan already runs the Honors College social media accounts, and plans on revitalizing a Student Senate Instagram account.

Freelancing under his own name, Ryan does graphic, clothing and web design. His design experience is praised in Senate meetings regularly, as many event flyers seen around campus are done by Ryan.

Although Hudson Valley was not the obvious choice for Ryan right off the bat, he now continues a family legacy of campus experiences chang-

ing lives. Ryan’s parents met here at HVCC while pursuing Associates degrees.

Ryan’s other roles on campus include prospective officer of both Entrepreneur Club and Investment Clubs, and a co-founder of Book Club.



Ryan can be reached at r-connors6@hvcc.edu for more information on his clubs and Senate business.

SURVIVORS & HEALTH SCIENCE STUDENTS TALK TRAFFICKING WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR PREVENTION EDUCATION? NOT OUR CAMPUS, IT SEEMS.

CAL MARTIN
Editor-in-Chief

In Nursing student Sydney Clifford’s experience, human trafficking (HT) is “so frequently mischaracterized in the way that we talk about it... If I had a nickel for everytime someone came to me and said, ‘Well isn’t this HT?’ and I had to say, well, no, not at all” she would be rich.

Legally defined under the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000 as “the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, obtaining, patronizing, or soliciting of a person... induced by force, fraud, or coercion” HT is recognized globally as a human rights violation.

The separate statutes for commercial sex versus labor trafficking specify conditions, such as circumstances or the victim’s age, which may alter the legal burden of proof when it comes to prosecution. But according to Sydney, “force, fraud or coercion” are the important factors when considering trafficking in a patient situation.

Force may look like a physical threat, or the victim having no avail-

able escape. Fraud is commonly seen with fake job listings, or pay rate deception. Coercion is more of a murky area, where manipulation of the victim can take many forms- even to the extent where the victim is prosecuted alongside, or instead of, their abuser.

Coercion can include psychological abuse aimed to control a person’s actions and thought processes. Oftentimes, there is overlap between force, fraud and coercion. Physical seizure and withholding of a person’s vital documents like an ID, passport, or visa can be considered force, while the reason given or accompanying verbal abuse by the trafficker can fall under fraud or coercion, respectively.

This situation is only one of countless, but commonly encountered by Sydney during her years working with victims, who “need those documents to go get an apartment and function anywhere else in the world”. “Hudson Valley nurses have a reputation for really knowing their stuff” said Sydney. Indeed, passing rates for the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) at HVCC are above 96%, compared to a statewide average of 84.46%.

But should the scope of education extend beyond exam preparation? Who determines the importance of different specialized health areas, and whether these materials are included? The Nursing and Surgical Technology Department Chairperson, Jodi Dorrough, declined The Hudsonian’s request for interview. According to Dorrough, “trafficking is more of a specialized area” falling outside the scope of education at HVCC, which focuses on “hospital facility care”.

Per NYS Public Health laws, health providers and their “subject facilities” are required to educate themselves and potential victims. “Subject facilities” include workplaces that many Health Science graduates will enter like hospitals, treatment and health centers, or outpatient facilities.

Dean of Health Sciences, Patricia Klimkewicz, stated when declining The Hudsonian’s request for interview that “the majority of Health Sciences students will receive training at their place of employment upon graduation”.

Klimkewicz is correct: **PAGE 2**
GO TO ... TRAFFICKING

LONG STORY
SHORT...

STUDENT FEEDBACK
REQUESTED ON
UPCOMING MAKERSPACE

Cal Martin

An HVCC makerspace is under way, seeking to bring a variety of creative resources to campus.

“A makerspace is a place where people can design and create things in relation to DIY,” said Ultan Gaylord, Vice President of the Engineering Science Club spearheading the project.

As a student-led initiative, members of the Engineering Science Club will serve as volunteers in the upcoming soft launch, set for April of this year.

According to Ultan, “Engineering Science students want [the makerspace] the most, but it’ll be beneficial to everyone”.

Feedback from all student creatives is requested through the QR code survey provided. Aside from 3d printers and basic tools, the makerspace also seeks to include a sewing machine and other items with appeal beyond STEM.

This includes providing a hangout lounge for like minded individuals. Hours for the makerspace will be dependent on the availability of student volunteers.

If you are interested in utilizing or aiding the development of the space, please reach out to the Engineering Science Club, or attend a meeting, hosted Mondays at 2PM in AMZ 101.

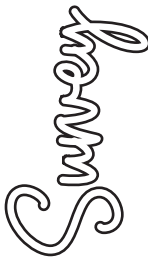


TABLE TENNIS INTRAMURALS TOURNAMENT TO RUN THROUGH MARCH

Cal Martin

Starting February 5th, HVCC students will compete for trophies in a month-long tournament matching up table tennis enthusiasts in a double elimination format.

A matchups list and the tournament games can be viewed in the table tennis area of the Siek Campus Center gaming room.

Competitors must reach out to their opponents via HVCC email and coordinate a time for their match. Priority use of the tennis tables is given to the intramural tournament games.

All results must be emailed to Director of Intramurals, Don Jones: d.jones@hvcc.edu

The Hudsonian wishes the best of luck to all competitors and looks forward to highlighting the winners in early March!

CONT... **TRAFFICKING**

the exact provision under law states that subject facilities must provide “on an ongoing basis, to all subject facility personnel... training in the recognition of indicators of a HT victim and the responsibilities of such personnel in dealing with persons suspected as HT victims”.

These responsibilities differ depending on the suspected victim’s age. For minors, mandated reporting comes into play. For anyone over the age

“THERE’S SO MUCH GRACE THAT SURVIVORS ARE DESERVING OF, AND SOMETIMES IT’S HARDEST TO GIVE IT TO YOURSELF.”

of eighteen, the healthcare provider must make the suspected victim aware of their rights and options available to them.

How much coverage is given to HT depends on the workplace. Students in the Nursing program undertake clinical hours each semester, where they are out in the field interacting with real patients.

No student consulted by The Hudsonian could confirm they received training on HT indicators and the legal aspects of interacting with a suspected victim prior to beginning in a clinical setting.

An article in the Nurse Education Today journal surveyed members of the National Student Nurses’ Association on the coverage of HT in the course of their education, finding that 58.7% of respondents recounted zero minutes of coverage. 49.7% of these students described themselves as having “minimal to some knowledge” on HT.

In the article’s conclusion, the authors state “undergraduate nursing programs are uniquely positioned to address this problem by educating nursing students on HT which will yield improved abilities to identify and care for this population...”

Without proper education of healthcare professionals, these victims go unidentified and remain hidden, compounding their toxic stress, and negatively affecting overall health”.

The results of a similar survey conducted by The Hudsonian reflect this: all respondents but one stated they were “unsure” if they could identify a victim in the field, and two-thirds of respondents stated they would be required to report suspected trafficking to the authorities. The other third stated they were “unsure”.

One Dental Hygiene student stated that their class has “a mandatory reporter training coming up”. It’s unknown whether HT will be covered in this session, but another Health Science student who experienced a “close call” in their past is advocating for coverage.

According to this student, who we’ll call Sam for our purposes, HT “should be just like child abuse” when it comes to the level and time dedication to training.

“I see domestic violence [get coverage] all the time, but HT doesn’t,” Sam stated, referring to both professional and personal life. “Sometimes victims don’t even know they’re victims. It’s

just like an abusive relationship”.

As a teenager, Sam built a bond over several years with an older person. “I thought we were friends,” Sam said. Then came a point where they were sexually “pressured by information [they] had disclosed. It was a loose threat”.

Sam would find out years later that a classmate from highschool came forward about their experience with this same person, who wound up being sentenced, where they remain in jail to this day.

No physical harm was inflicted on Sam during this incident. But the mental and emotional toll remains. “Looking back, I beat myself up a lot. When you’re 14, you don’t know better. You’re small, and [the perpetrator] is a lot larger” in both a physical and maturity sense.

Sydney Clifford, a Nursing student



with a decade of experience in human services, confirms this anecdotally. To anyone struggling with self-doubt, Sydney states “that person’s ability to either be harmful or coercive makes them a very good predator, and that has nothing to do with you. It is not your fault that this person made a choice to harm somebody else...”

“There are so many services out

“SOMETIMES VICTIMS DON’T EVEN KNOW THEY’RE VICTIMS. IT’S JUST LIKE AN ABUSIVE RELATIONSHIP.”

there, and I would encourage anybody that’s in a situation that makes them even question whether it’s appropriate or not to call one of these numbers, to please call”.

Sydney and Sam are the only individuals who reported to The Hudsonian that trafficking did come up in the classroom. But in those cases, it was a brief mention based around a student question, not instructional material.

The National Council of State Board of Nursing (NCSBN) annually conducts their Nursing Knowledge survey, used to determine knowledge gaps of RNs and inform the NXCEL.

In this survey, newly licensed RNs

rated the importance of recognizing HT indicators highest out of all surveyed experience levels, followed by RN educators, with RN supervisors ranking it least important.

If we leave the duty of training to happen in the field, and RN supervisors prioritize it the least, how effective is this approach? Where can Hudson Valley step up to make up the gap? Students already are.

“We as Nursing students come from such an extreme variety of backgrounds, so it’s something that I really take to heart to share my experience,” Sydney said. “I’ve gotten very fortunate in the group of students that I am generally around, where we’re having very expansive conversations around supporting patients and caring for them.”

Key points for improvement on human trafficking education that Sydney would like to see include “Understanding the difference between consensual sex work and HT. Understanding that trafficking doesn’t mean someone was smuggled or physically moved to an alternate location. Recognizing signs of HT can present like domestic violence and how to spot key differences.”

A large part of Sydney’s human service background is just what survivors and students are looking to implement here at HVCC. With the support of victim service agencies, Sydney would visit local colleges and organizations to give presentations on HT indicators and legal responsibility for various professionals.

To those who can affect institutional change, Sydney says, “Call your local crime victim service agency, call your local survivor’s advocate and say ‘Hey, could you come to my Nursing II... lecture for an hour some Monday, and talk about what you do, what you see. Because those are some of the most valuable ways to gain that information... it’s invaluable and often offered at completely no cost”.

“I think a general education class for HT discussion for Health Science students is a great idea,” said Sam, who recognizes that self-education still plays an important role, even if it’s not everything. “Read actual survivor stories, get your information from the source, not Facebook.”

“It is without question that there are survivors on campus. It is without question that somebody is in a situa-

tion that would be under the law defined as trafficking, and they may not even think of it as abnormal” said Sydney.

“There’s so much grace that survivors are deserving of, and sometimes it’s hardest to give it to yourself”, Sydney continued.

Survivors, students and advocates ask why is that grace not given to survivors in kind, by educating the professionals best positioned to recognize and aid them?

THE HUDSONIAN THANKS EACH INTERVIEWEE AND SURVEY PARTICIPANT FOR THEIR TIME AND INSIGHT.

SURVIVORS- YOU ARE NOT ALONE.

Making Cent





Financial guidance & updates in the college sphere

FALL 2024 SCHOLARSHIP CYCLE OPEN:
OFFICE OF INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT
Gigi Ben-Ami

The Hudson Valley Community College Foundation is now accepting applications for scholarships for the Fall 2024 semester. Newly-accepted and returning students are eligible.

The Foundation has over 100 scholarships! Applicants only need to fill out a general application which will automatically match you to opportunities based off of the information provided.

These scholarships are funded by community donors and alumni who want to see students succeed.

The deadline to submit the Scholarship application is March 15, 2024.

Students can go to <https://hvcc.academicworks.com> to apply. Please note you do not need to have a FAFSA in order to be eligible for scholarships. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to scholarships@hvcc.edu or call 518-629-8012.

INTRODUCING HVCC'S BRAND NEW

BOOK CLUB

IF YOU LOVE TO READ
AND ARE LOOKING FOR A COMMUNITY
TO SHARE YOUR PASSION WITH, STOP BY AND
SEE WHAT THE BOOK CLUB IS LIKE!

MEETINGS ON WEDNESDAYS,
3-4 PM IN MRV 235

Please contact a-lee21@hvcc.edu or
r-conners@hvcc.edu with any questions.

INCOME TAX FILING AID AVAILABLE
ON CAMPUS
Cal Martin

Hudson Valley business students who have received tax preparation certification will aid fellow students, faculty and community members to file their income tax returns at no cost.

In partnering with the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program, these trained students will gain valuable experience in preparing both state and federal tax returns while aiding the community.

Interested? Make sure you qualify:

- Annual income of \$60,000 or less
- Did not file for bankruptcy during year of preparation
- Have no rental income
- Have no self-employment deductions (employees, home office, depreciation, etc.)

Your eligibility may depend on other individual qualifying factors. Sessions are scheduled on February 10, 17 and 24 in BTC 216 from 1-4PM and will continue through March. Call 211 to schedule an appointment.

Adjunct Professor in the Business & Criminal Justice Department, Dorinda Bolander, will oversee the service: d.bolander@hvcc.edu

FAFSA DELAY AFFECTS FINANCIAL AID
AWARD PACKAGES AND DECISION DATES
Cal Martin

Further hangups in the 'new' FAFSA introduced for the 2024-25 academic year are pushing schools to delay their decision dates to ensure prospective students are making an informed choice.

Student financial data had an anticipated release date to schools at the end of January, but now is projected to take until March.

This delay on the FAFSA end leaves awarding colleges with less time to prepare aid packages. Pushing back decision dates ensures those reliant on financial aid have a window between receiving their acceptance letters and award offers.

HVCC, with its rolling enrollment, does not have decision dates. Seeking to transfer to a four-year in the Fall? Check each college in consideration for web updates regarding an extended decision date.



RECRUITING FOR SPRING '24

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- \$10 / photo
- \$10 /article <250 words
- \$25 / article >250 words

Drop by one of our meetings or
open house -> for more info:

Mondays in ADM 105, 2PM

Our CTR Office has drop in
hours each Thursday from 11-2

No interview or experience
necessary- we teach you what
you need to know!

Open House

FEBRUARY 12TH, 2024

ADM 105 - 2PM

THE HUDSONIAN
STUDENT PRESS ORG.

Join us for free food and
discuss our membership
opportunities!

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100+ SCHOLARSHIPS

Each academic year, the Hudson Valley Community College Foundation awards over 100 scholarships based on financial need, as well as merit. Be recognized for your work.

TELL US YOUR STORY

All that is required to apply for a Foundation scholarship is a 250 word essay. The minimum scholarship award is \$250.

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Whatever your course of study or educational journey – from computer information systems to dental hygiene – there's a good chance that Hudson Valley offers a scholarship that matches your interests.

DON'T KNOW WHICH SCHOLARSHIP IS RIGHT FOR YOU?

Don't worry, when you complete the general application, you will be auto-matched with all scholarships for which you are eligible.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO APPLY FOR A SCHOLARSHIP VISIT:

<https://hvcc.academicworks.com>
www.hvcc.edu/foundation
scholarships@hvcc.edu



Scan this QR code with your
mobile device to apply today!

FALL SCHOLARSHIPS

Apply from early February to mid-March.
Notifications will be sent to finalists in May.

SPRING SCHOLARSHIPS

Apply from mid-September to mid-October.
Notifications will be sent to finalists in December.

2024-'25 STUDENT ACTIVITIES BUDGET
APPROVED BY STUDENT SENATE
Cal Martin

After several revisions and months of workshopping, Student Senate approved the 2024-25 academic year budget for the Student Activities office.

Changes to the Student Activities budget are largely based on projected enrollment and anticipated staffing changes in the department, including additional student worker positions.

New budget lines introduced will ensure money is allotted to online programming like giveaways, and welcome back events for the Spring semester, just as seen in the Fall.

The changes must be reviewed by the governing entities- Faculty Student Association and the Board of Trustees, before gaining ultimate approval.

Interest Statement: Cal Martin informed the Student Senate budget as a committee member in the Fall 2023 semester.

Editor-in-Chief Cal Martin
c-martin49@hvcc.edu

OPINION



LAYAN RADI
Web Editor

The much-anticipated Halal program has recently been implemented at our campus cafeterias. The pilot, sampling, and advocacy for a more diverse menu did not die in vain. The recent Halal/Kosher menu provides a variety of options: Blondie, Tomato Mozzarella Sandwich, Fresh Fruit Cup, Egg Salad Wrap, Chicken Caesar Wrap, and Strawberry Yogurt. By the end of Friday last week, it was sold out. Nonetheless, it left much to be desired. Partly because of the hiked prices, and partly because of the disap-

pointing options. This topic comes with the innate question of, what is Halal Food? And is the price difference justified because of the Halal/Kosher label? What is the difference between a regular and a halal Blondie? Newsflash: there is none. Students abiding by Halal and Kosher diets could very well still consume some of the regular, cheaper cafeteria options. Does yogurt being labeled as Halal justify a price raise of more than a half? Regular yogurt without the label is still perfectly Halal to consume. This goes without saying for most non-meat options.

“WE WANT OUR CAMPUS TO REPRESENT A PROPER SORT OF INCLUSIVITY.”



After the Fall 2023 Muslim Student Association’s Halal Food sampling, I expected the menu to include different ethnic and regional food options. Some Biryani, a mango-chicken wrap... but instead, we get to choose between two brownies and yogurts, one with the Halal label and one without, with the former carrying a tripled price tag. Of course, the effort and attempt at inclusion are greatly appreciated. Items like the Tomato Mozzarella Sandwich and Halal Chicken Caesar wrap are indeed needed and different from the other menu options previously provided. With all that considered, I suggest surveying the target students and asking for their opinions on future changes and additions to our cafeteria menu. The goal shouldn’t be to just provide more options, it should be providing researched, desirable options, because we want our campus to represent a proper sort of inclusivity. I know I’m willing to pay triple the price of a regular wrap for a seasoned mango-chicken wrap.



ACCOMPANYING PHOTOGRAPHY
by Nigel Addo, Cover & Pg. 4

**2 OUNCES MORE YOGURT,
MORE THAN TWICE THE PRICE?**

THE HUDSONIAN

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
Letters can be delivered to CTR 291 or emailed to hudsonian@hvcc.edu. Letters will be edited for grammar, style, libel and length.

To join **THE HUDSONIAN**, attend our weekly meetings on Mondays at 2 p.m. in ADM 105 and Thursdays at 2:00pm in CTR 291 (Hudsonian Newsroom).



DOMINIC CACCHIONE
Managing Editor

The Super Mario Bros. series has dropped the “New” moniker from its name, signifying the end of an era that began with New Super Mario Bros. for the Nintendo DS. To many fans, this is a welcome change, as we’ve been getting recy-

cled versions of that game since its initial release in 2004. After nearly two decades, a change was well overdue. Super Mario Bros. Wonder, released in October of last year, answers the prayers of many long-time series fans, and is the first truly creative 2D Mario game released in my lifetime. The distinct change in art style is the first thing that’s immediately recog-

nizable about Mario Wonder. Characters’ expressions and actions are a bit more exaggerated and cartoony, making them considerably more animated and lifelike than the cookie cutter, copy-and-pasted style of the “New” Super Mario Bros series. Little touches like Mario’s legs scrambling into a blurred motion when he runs, or his hat popping off of

his head when he jumps into a pipe, though seemingly non-essential, are cute little details that set this game apart from its predecessors. Enemies’ faces will also change to an angry expression as you approach them, or change to reflect their fear if you approach them with a super star or fireball, a very welcome change from the dead-eyed stare of the enemies in the “New” series. Another welcome addition is the inclusion of badges, which add a number of optional effects to the game depending on which one you pick. These effects can range from gaining an extra jump to starting the level with a power-up, and other small changes that give Mario more freedom of movement or bonuses. Badges are invaluable when it comes to beating certain levels and are a fun way to mix things up and deviate from the typical Mario formula. The wonder flower is perhaps the most significant new feature. There’s one hidden in each level, and upon discovering it, the level gets remixed into something entirely unpredictable and new. It provides a fun, unique, and refreshing approach to the classic Ma-

GO TO ... MARIO PAGE 5

THE HUDSONIAN

CONT... MARIO

rio formula, and usually follows some kind of theme specific to the level. Pipes may come to life and wriggle around, stars may fall from the sky, Mario himself may transform into something new, there’s really no telling what the wonder flower may do.

A litany of new power ups, such as the bubble flower and the elephant fruit, add another layer of much-needed variety. The drill powerup returns from Galaxy 2 in the brand new form of the drill mushroom, with much more freedom of control than its predecessor.

Character selection is also at an all-time high, with Princess Peach joining the fray, and Princess Daisy being playable for the very first time in a mainline Mario Bros. title.

Also included are a variety of different colors of Yoshi, and the mysterious side character Nabbit, although these characters function as an “easy mode” for younger or more inexperienced players, as they don’t take damage from enemies.

This is kind of unfortunate, though, as I would have enjoyed the freedom of playing as Yoshi without defaulting to baby mode, but I can’t complain much. At least I finally get to play as Daisy.

The game is a bit lacking in content overall, though, and I found myself with very little to do after beating the

main game, which only took me a few days.

There is a bonus special world that can be played after (or even during) the main game, and while I enjoyed it, it’s very short, and it feels like it’s over as soon as it starts.

Collecting the wonder seeds in each level makes for a fun quest, but most are quite easy to find, and it’s over very quick. Really, the game’s short length is its fatal flaw, and I wish there was just a bit more to justify the 60 dollar price point.

One or two more worlds would have done the trick. Perhaps a future DLC



will rectify this.

2.6.24

Most levels in Mario Wonder are incredibly easy, which is another slight detractor, but at the end of the day, this is Mario, not Dark Souls, not Celeste, not Cuphead. It’s not supposed to be nail-bitingly, controller-smashingly hard.

Fortunately, there are some uniquely challenging levels scattered throughout, with the hardest ones saved for the special world.

That being said, it would have been enjoyable if the game fought back against the player a bit more, but I’m not gonna complain too hard about it. I mean... it’s literally Mario.

Super Mario Bros. Wonder is a breath of fresh air and creativity that the franchise desperately needed. After nearly 20 years of releasing the same game over and over again, it was about time Nintendo took some steps in the right direction.

ALBUM REVIEW: AMERICAN DREAM

21 SAVAGE EQUALLY FAILS AND IMPRESSES WITH LITERAL SHIT

DOMINIC CACCHIONE

Managing Editor

21 Savage has maintained a high profile since his last album as a solo emcee, despite his lack of solo material these past three years.

He’s made an appearance on nearly every major rap album this decade, and it’s easy to see why: his recent feature run has been extremely consistent. His solid flow and cold, threatening lyrics have made him a very in-demand rapper amongst the industry’s biggest players.

However, as the years go on, these features begin to feel very samey, with some fans questioning if 21 is even still capable of switching up his flow. Does his new album, american dream, prove or disprove these claims?

Well, I’d say it disproves these claims to some moderate success. 21 Savage showcases his storytelling chops on some of these tracks, which is rather uncharacteristic of him.

Tracks such as “dark days” see 21 reflecting on his past, his regrets, and his pain, which is a welcome change of pace for sure, but it’s clear that he’s out of his element, and doesn’t possess the level of nuance or the vocabulary necessary to take these

or eye-opening.

However, it’s nice to see 21 momentarily drop the serial killer persona and showcase his genuine, human self, if only for a little bit.

That being said, plenty of the album is just about what you can expect from 21, which I’m sure displeases some fans, but I’d imagine that most others aren’t complaining too much. 21 does come heavy with his signature flow and his typical, violent lyrics, but he’s always been the type of artist where you know what you’re gonna get.

These past few years have seen 21 become somewhat repetitive in his verses, but I believe it’s important to look at how far he’s come as an artist, and how polished his verses of today are when put up against his earlier works. It’s like night and day.

It’s undeniable that he’s made huge improvements as an artist. However, it must be addressed that he may have hit a wall, at least for now, and become something of a one-trick pony.

Highlights from this album include the anthemic and Halloween-core “redrum”, the more bubbly and pop-inspired “n.h.i.e.”

“IT SMELL LIKE GAS, I THINK SOMEBODY POOPED.”

featuring Doja Cat, and the more maximalist and hype track “nee-nah” featuring Travis

concepts as far as they can go, or tell them in a way that’s particularly deep

Scott.

While 21’s flow and wordplay on

“redrum” may not be anything particularly new, it’s still delivered in a polished way that makes for a fun, entertaining song.

“n.h.i.e.” is less threatening than



Nobody wants to hear the word “poop” when they’re bobbing their head to a rap song.

most of 21’s material, and it’s certainly more laid back, with Doja Cat delivering a fun and playful feature (I really like her use of the word “adlib” for her actual adlibs, it may be kinda stupid, but it’s cute and tongue-in-cheek).

“nee-nah” is probably my favorite song, with Travis delivering the most

exciting verse on the whole album, seemingly putting an end to his relatively weak feature run over these past few years.

Many other songs on this album failed to impress me, though. Storytelling songs like the aforementioned “dark days” are a welcome change of pace for 21, but not fleshed out enough to truly hit hard, or elicit real emotion.

The song “pop ur shit” is entertaining, largely for its Young Thug feature (free him), but the line “It smell like gas, I think somebody pooped” is one of the worst rap lyrics I have ever heard in my life. To make matters worse, this line is featured in the CHORUS of the song.

I’m baffled as to why bars about feces seem to be trending, but it never goes hard. Nobody wants to hear the word “poop” when they’re bobbing their head to a rap song. It’s just stupid.

american dream is a bit of a mixed bag. It does little to break ground, but it does take some steps in the right direction, and it contains a handful of really catchy tracks where 21 does what he does best.

I’m not too impressed with this release, but I did enjoy parts of it, and while it’s not particularly good, I’d hesitate to call it bad. Overall, it’s still a fun album, even with its faults.

Let’s just hope that 21 Savage can get Metro Boomin back in the studio for his next outing.

ARTS & LIFE

THE HUDOSCOPE

Just isn’t the same without our previous astrologer...

♊ GUENTHER HALL

♈ CTR GAME ROOM

♉ HONORS COLLEGE LOUNGE

♊ FTZ VENDING MACHINES

♋ MESSAGE CHAIR

♌ LIBRARY STUDY ROOM

♍ BTC LOBBY

♎ DINING AREA CTR

♏ ADM BASEMENT

♐ AMZ ENGSCI LAB

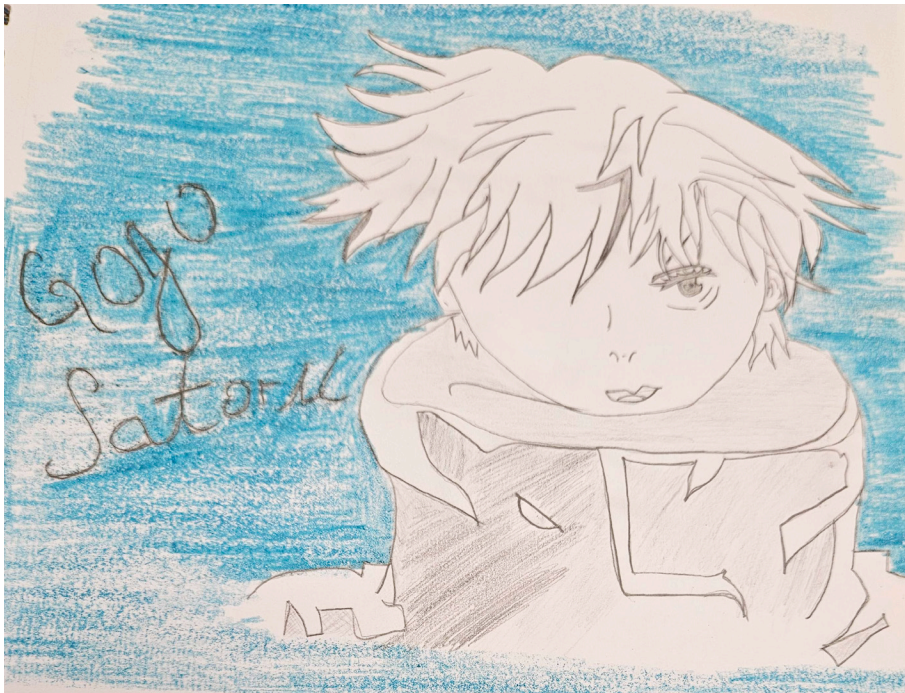
♑ SCI CAFE

♒ YOUR CAR

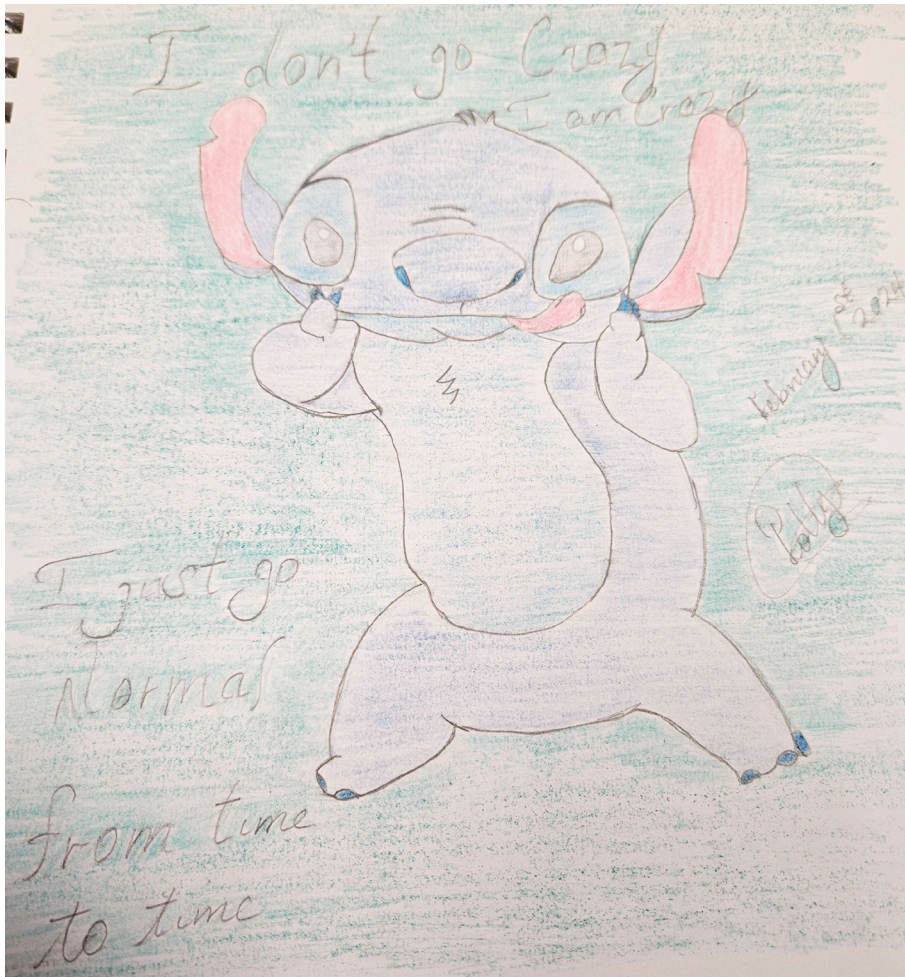


Horscopes will return soon!

FOR NOW, PLEASE ENJOY READING YOUR SIGN’S IDEAL CAMPUS HANGOUT SPOT!



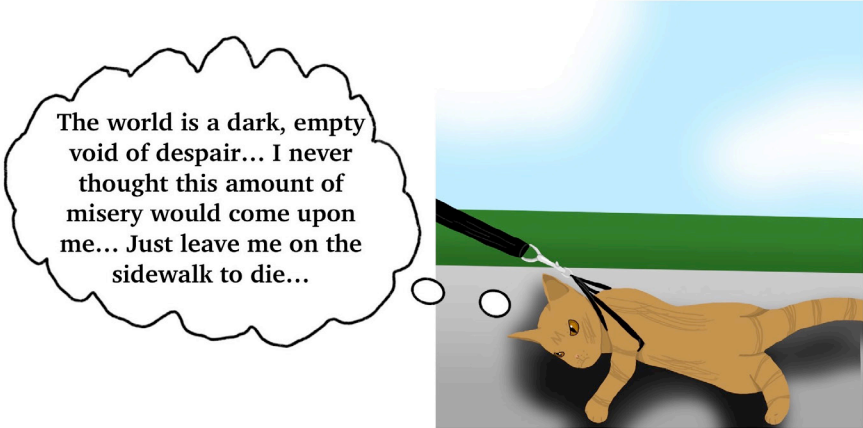
Gojo Satoru Fanart
Rynecia Pollydore



Stitch Fanart
Rynecia Pollydore

“I don’t go crazy, I am crazy.
I just go normal from time to time!”

Cabin Fever
By M.M. Stephens



THOUGHTS IN THE CLOUDS

PHOTO & POEM BY MOJSILDA CINARI

Sometimes it is very strange,
How the clouds move and change their place,
Pushing one another in the sky.
It is strange but beautiful.
A party is created where clouds understand each other,
Everything and every movement seem heavenly and innocent,
It is magical and beautiful because it happens in the sky.
And while in sky this heavenly and peaceful celebration takes place,
On earth, that cruel and evil party takes place.
It is this celebration that happens among people,
Where it blinds people with envy,
Intrigues their minds,
Draining that pure peace and love between them.
Just curiosity...
How could this world be if the land where these devilish creatures dominate,
creatures had few human features?
Why are they not jealous of the sky?
Hm, maybe... despite of these creatures are devilish,
They know that in the sky, apart from the clouds,
There are magical creatures, where the battle with them would always be lost.

*Have a Special
Someone on Campus?*

Shoot an email to Hudsonian@hvcc.edu with confessions, poetry, art, or recipes dedicated to your Valentine!

Deadline for Valentine themed submissions is Friday, February 9th!

Need a last minute valentine to give? Don't worry- The Hudsonian's got you covered in our next issue!