



## School News

### Interviewing Mrs. Vaillancourt

By: Maren Ettrich

*Over the 2 week winter break Mrs Vaillancourt went to Hawaii and got to watch a live volcano explode close to a hotel she was staying at.*

#### Question 1# : Where did you go to see the volcano? Also was the purpose of your trip.

Mrs. Vaillancourt : I went to Hawaii to visit my in-laws, but my mother-in-law got a hotel on a military base and that is where we saw the volcano.

#### Question 2# : Who saw the Volcano with you, and how did they feel about it?

Mrs. Vaillancourt : My husband and my mother-in-law saw it because my father-in-law had to work. My mother was kind of nervous because she heard about the accidents that happened with this volcano. But they both thought it was very cool.

#### Question 3# : How did you feel when you saw the volcano?

Mrs. Vaillancourt : I was really excited and started running like a little kid. But my mother-in-law was nervous because she heard about people's show melting off.

#### Question 4# : How would you rate your trip and why?

Mrs. Vaillancourt: I would rate it a solid 7 out of 10. I say this because I wish we looked into the trip and bid more reasher on the trip.

#### Question 5# : Would you do it again?

Mrs. Vaillancourt: I would hands down do it again. But I would look into it more and book more things to do.

### Agriscience Happenings

By Eve McCorkle

This week in the agriscience class, the students are moving on to a new unit to start the new year. They have just started learning about what animals can give us more than just food. For example, the class learned that cows can make paint, candles, cosmetics, etc. The students also learned that pigs can make matches, putty, buttons, and even glue!



To help them learn about this they played a game that had cards with words on them and they had to find out how all the words they got related to one another. It took a little while and some were giving up for a second but then they all started to get it. They put the pieces together and they figured out the answer! In the end, the words were all by-products of a cow. By-products are everyday items you can make from animals other than just using the animals for food.

The class will be moving more into depth with this topic and finding more information about this topic. Overall, this is a very interesting topic to learn more about so stay tuned if you are interested!

Photo Creds:  
Cute Pig Cartoon Images – Browse 218,937 Stock Photos, Vectors, and Video | Adobe Stock

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Everything But the...Animal By-Product Resources | Farm Credit of the Virginias

## *School Spotlights*

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### **Senior Spotlight**

**By Silas Campbell**

Ingrida Morkevicius is a fun and friendly person. She has many friends and comes from a large family. I was very excited to interview her.

I asked Ingrida what are you doing after high school? She replied, she wants to go to a four year college and study or major in history, but she doesn't know where yet. When I asked her what her favorite thing is about high school, she said she likes seeing her friends. Next I asked her what her favorite class was and she responded she only likes art.

Then I asked her what she does in her free time, and she remarked, she likes to scroll on her phone and talk to her college friends. I asked her what her favorite drink was and then she shared she likes coffee, Diet Pepsi, and Dr. Pepper. I asked her what her favorite food was and she said she loves Pink Beet Soup and saltines. Lastly I asked her this question: Where do you like to travel? She answered the question by saying that she likes to travel to Lithuania to see her family.

Ingrida will be missed by many people at Hamilton when she graduates this year. Fortunately, we have the rest of the school year to enjoy her company and to get to know her better.

### **Senior Spotlight**

**By Silas Campbell**

Lena Harnik is a well-known student here at HCS. I have known her for a few years now. I met her when I was in 9th Grade. I had the

opportunity to interview her this week for the Emerald Press. This is what I learned from her.

I asked Lena what do you do in your spare time? "I like to make a lot of art and I also like to knit," she said. Next I asked her, what do you like about being a senior? "I like the freedom and I get more control of my time." Then I asked her "What is your favorite holiday?" She replied, "Christmas! I like being with my family and I like the food." And then I asked her this question, "What are you doing after you graduate next year?" She declared, "I want to be an art teacher." Second, or penultimately, I asked her the following question, "What's your favorite class?" "I like art class," she announced! Finally I asked her, "Where do you like to travel? " "I like to visit cities where you can do more things, but it's nice to come home!" she responded.

Lena will be missed next year at Hamilton. It was so much fun to interview her for the Emerald Press! I will wish her good luck when she goes off to college next fall! I will miss her.

## *Local news*

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### **Weekly Weather Preview**

**By Cheyanne Bennett**

Next week looks to be cold and mostly cloudy, with some sun in certain areas and at certain times throughout the day. But overall, it's going to be a chilly week, so make sure you stay warm!

**Monday, January 13th, 2025:** Mostly cloudy with some sun at random times with a high of 27 degrees and a low of 14 degrees with winds at 5 to 10 mph.

**Tuesday, January 14th, 2025:** Mostly cloudy with a high



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of 19 degrees and a low of 9 degrees with winds at 10 to 15 mph.

**Wednesday, January 15th, 2025:** Cloudy with a high of 16 degrees and a low of 9 degrees with winds at 10 to 15 mph.

**Thursday, January 16th, 2025:** Cloudy with a high of 19 degrees and a low of 9 degrees with winds at 10 to 15 mph.

**Friday, January 17th, 2025:** Mainly cloudy with a high of 20 degrees and a low of 11 degrees with winds at 10 to 15 mph.

**Saturday, January 18th, 2025:** Cloudy with a high of 24 degrees and a low of 17 degrees with winds at 10 to 15 mph.

**Sunday, January 19th, 2025:** Cloudy with a high of 25 degrees and a low of 17 degrees with winds at 10 to 15 mph.

I hope you all had a great week!

Photo credit- The Weather Channel

Info credit- The Weather Channel

## *US News*

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### Trump Appeals to Supreme Court

By Michael Hayden

Back in May of 2024, President Elect Donald Trump was convicted on 34 felony counts of falsifying business records in order to pay out hush money to Stormy Daniels. His sentencing by Judge Juan M. Merchan was scheduled for this Friday, January 10. However,



Trump's legal team has sought to postpone his sentencing on the grounds that it will be a barrier to him as he takes office later this month, on January 20. New York courts refused to postpone, so this Wednesday, the team took their appeal up to the US Supreme Court.

Lawyers John Sauer and Todd Blanche are arguing that the Supreme Court's July decision that protects US presidents from criminal prosecution for official acts (previously used to defend Trump against prosecution for inciting the January 6 riot) may also apply to this case despite the fact that the falsification of business records took place before Trump was elected for the first time. They are currently attempting to not only postpone sentencing, but also to overturn Trump's conviction entirely. This appeal to the Supreme Court is an incredibly important one because, for the first time in American history, it will set clear boundaries on what president immunity (which has never been well defined) does and does not apply to.

Photo by Yuki Iwamura via AP News

### Things You May Have Missed This Week

By Dorothy Disha

This week has been chaotic! From coming back from winter break, to the golden globes, and finally to the ban of 'TikTok'. Here's a small recap of things you may have missed this week.



- Shark Tank's Kevin O'Leary claims he wants to buy Tiktok's U.S. assets, to "save" Tiktok.
- Donald Trump has called to rename the Gulf of Mexico to the "Gulf of America."

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- Actress and singer, Zendaya has been confirmed engaged to former co-star Tom Holland.
- “Die with a Smile” By Bruno Mars and Lady Gaga is the first number-one single of 2025.
- Nicki Minaj is being sued by one of her former tour employees for assault.
- Walmart has reported that they would be selling “Birkin Dupes” for 75 dollars.
- Simone Biles was named “Sports Personality of the Year” by Sports Illustrated.
- LeBron James’s son, Bryce James, has committed to playing basketball at the University of Arizona.
- “Squid Games” season two, is officially Netflix’s biggest launch with 68 million views in the first four days.

Photo Credits- People.com

## *Global News*

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### **Canadian Prime Minister Steps Down**

**By Maren Ettrich**

On Monday, January 6, 2025 in the morning the Prime Minister of Canada, Justin Trudeau, made the hard decision to step down from his role. Justin Trudeau became the Prime Minister of Canada in 2013. Trudeau was born December 23 1971, and raised in Canada. Trudeau was a former teacher before taking the role of being the Prime Minister in 2013. Before Justin Trudeau became the Prime Minister, there were 23 Prime Ministers, 22 men and 1 one woman. Trudeau has done many great things, like free child care for Canada. He also has stood up for Canada throughout his role as Prime Minister of Canada. In this article I will be discussing why

he is stepping down and what this means for Canada.

Now the biggest question that remains is why he is stepping down? Well, there are many reasons for this. The biggest is that there is a lot of pull from former president Trump. Trump, who was the president of the United States, lost in 2020 and won again in November of 2024. He has said that once he gets into office he is going to raise many prices for Canada. He also joked that



he is going to make a part of the United States, which made many Canadians, including Trudeau, very upset with this joke. Another

reason why he is stepping down is because he believes that his vision and idea for the future is not what Canada needs right now. But that another person could come and benefit Canada in a way that he can not. He also believes that climate change would be handled better by someone else. With all of these reasons being put in front of him is the reason he made this hard choice.

Now, what does this mean for Canada and their people? Some people are asking is Canada really going to become a real state in America? Well, the answer to that is that he is going to step down as soon as someone is willing to take his place. So as of right now, many men and women in Canada are trying to take over this role. So people in Canada are waiting to hear the news of their new minister. The answer to whether Canada really is joining the USA is a no. Well, at least not right now. Canada is still going to be a whole different country from the USA, no matter who is in charge of leading it.

Source : CNN  
Photo Credit : CNN

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## Tibet Earthquake

By Cheyanne Bennett

On Tuesday, January 7th, 2025 at approximately 9:00 AM, an earthquake hit Tibet's holy Shigatse city having a magnitude of 7.1 and having a depth of approximately 6 miles, said the US Geological Survey. Earthquakes are pretty common in this region and the Earthquake that hit Tibet on Tuesday morning has been one of China's deadliest earthquakes they have experienced in recent years.

Approximately 95 people have been confirmed dead and there also has been approximately 130 people that have been confirmed injured after this major earthquake that hit a region of Mountainous Tibet near Mount Everest according to the State of China. Many people in Nepal and some parts of India have felt Tremors from this earthquake. Videos have been published by China's state broadcaster showing many destroyed houses and collapsed buildings.



Info credit-bbc.com  
Photo credit-Euro news

## Entertainment

### Winter Ball 2025

The 2025 Winter Ball is coming up on **January 25th!** The dance will take place from **8 pm to 10 pm** in the school cafeteria. Tickets are paid at the door: **\$15** single, **\$25** for couples. We hope to see you there!

## Brands Word Search

By: Pyper McEwan

### Word Search

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| K | T | S | C | L | S | R | U | B | N | M | G | N | L |
| N | N | U | L | R | O | D | I | S | M | U | A | E | U |
| E | M | N | E | I | P | H | E | O | U | A | S | S | L |
| M | L | D | N | N | E | U | E | E | O | N | R | A | U |
| M | N | E | A | N | I | F | M | L | L | E | E | H | L |
| U | V | R | H | V | O | K | A | A | H | K | E | G | E |
| K | L | A | C | I | D | N | E | C | S | O | A | C | M |
| O | E | R | N | A | G | K | E | C | A | R | H | R | O |
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NORTH FACE  
GUCCI  
SKECHERS  
DIOR  
LULU LEMON  
ADIDAS  
CHANEL  
PUMAS  
REEBOK  
VANS  
UNDER ARMOUR  
NIKE

## Recipe of The Week

By Rhiannon Murray

As the beginning of the New Year has sprung on us, it can only mean one thing. New hobbies and habits! One personal goal for 2025 is to bake and cook more often. As a pretty inexperienced cook I knew I had to start with something on the smaller side. I chose to make some delicious chocolate chip cookies if I do say so myself. Below is attached the exact recipe that I used for the cookies. I thought if anyone else would like to follow along on this journey with me, each week I will select, make, rate, and share each recipe!!

**Recipe site :** Joy FOOD Sunshine

**Ingredients :**

- 1 cup salted butter softened
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 1 cup light brown sugar packed
- 2 teaspoons pure vanilla extract
- 2 large eggs
- 3 cups all-purpose flour

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- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- ½ teaspoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon sea salt
- 2 cups chocolate chips (12 oz)

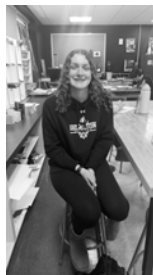
## Instructions :

1. Preheat the oven to 375 degrees F. Line three baking sheets with parchment paper and set aside.
2. In a medium bowl mix flour, baking soda, baking powder and salt. Set aside.
3. Cream together butter and sugar until combined.
4. Beat in eggs and vanilla until light (about 1 minute).
5. Mix in the dry ingredients until combined.
6. Add chocolate chips and mix well.
7. Roll 2-3 Tablespoons (depending on how large you like your cookies) of dough at a time into balls and place them evenly spaced on your prepared cookie sheets.
8. Bake in a preheated oven for approximately 8-10 minutes. Take them out when they are just barely starting to turn brown.
9. Let them sit on the baking pan for 5 minutes before removing to a cooling rack

## Owl of the Week!

By: Rihanna Dye

This week Cameron Cleveland is our Owl of the Week! Cam plays Varsity basketball and varsity volleyball and plays for a volleyball club team from Syracuse! Cam had an outstanding season this year for volleyball. She ended the season with 64 sets played, 153 kills, 35 blocks, 182 digs, 10 assists, and 27 aces! Cam gave us three quick and easy pieces of advice on how to excel at your sport!



1. “Work hard”
2. “Be coachable”

## 3. “Get extra reps”

These are great pieces of advice! Stay tuned for next week's advice with someone new!

## What Happens to Celebrities' Outfit?

By: Pyper McEwan



Everyone knows celebrities have crazy good outfits, but have you ever wondered what happened to the outfits after? There are many events celebrities go to every year and

many pictures get taken and still they always have a new outfit on. There are many different places where they put their outfits, some are put in storage, and some outfits are put out on display. Some outfits are even auctioned off to other people.

There is a lot of work put on the designers of all of these outfits, trying to make the “new best thing” such as making an original outfit for the celebrities to wear. Some of the looks celebrities are wearing are very hard to make. There is a lot of time and effort put into making these outfits. The first thing that happens to a red carpet outfit after the event is the cleaning process. This process involves dry cleaning, but sometimes it also involves wet cleaning, and using a vacuum and brush to clean off the outfit.



Info: CNN  
Photo: CNN

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## Favorite Christmas Presents

By Gavin Rutledge

Christmas is almost everyone's favorite holiday, so I decided to go around and ask students and teachers of HCS what their favorite present was that they got. There were a variety of answers ranging from sports equipment, furniture, to music items.



Mrs. Kowalski - Chicken overalls

Frank - New couch

Carlo Amann Burns - Tv, watch movies in my room

Joey Burnham - Guitar Amp, because it sounds good

Dom Mensche - New baseball bat, because I liked andres' bat last year so I bought a similar

Hero - Socks

Brayden Pretre - Jordan 3s, because I like shoes.

Marcos - Jordan, because I like shoes

## Opinion

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### Texas Rep. Kay Granger Retires

By Michael Hayden

81-year-old Texas Representative Kay Granger has been missing from Washington since



July 24 - or had been, until just before Christmas. Granger is the Chairwoman Emeritus of the Appropriations Committee, and as such responsible for the US's discretionary spending; however, amidst the recent debates over the federal government's spending bill for the coming year, Granger was conspicuously absent. On December 20, her voters in Fort Worth finally got the answers to their many questions about where she's been when *The Dallas Express* verified that she is, in fact, in an assisted living facility. Her son, Brandon Granger, confirmed two days later that she has been struggling with dementia.

Despite her clear inability to represent her district and her committee, Granger aides did nothing to help find a suitable replacement for her. In fact, by permanently closing her office before Thanksgiving, a month and a half before the end of her term, they seem to have been actively trying to conceal her illness until her scheduled retirement - thereby robbing her district of its voice in Congress until she was finally replaced by Craig Goldman last Friday, January 3, more than five months after Granger cast her last vote.

This isn't the first time something like this has happened. Just two years ago, concerns were raised that California Senator Dianne Feinstein, 89 years old at the time, was no longer fit to serve. Colleagues of hers who had known her for 15 years said that she needed to be reintroduced to them multiple times in one conversation. Several of her staff anonymously confirmed to the *San Francisco Chronicle* that, while she had good days and bad days, this was typically of her bad days. The idea of an upper age limit for elected officials was brought up in response, but nothing ever came of it. Feinstein died in office about a year later.

A coworker of Feinstein's said, as a protest to the attempts to persuade the Senator to step aside, "It shouldn't end this way for her. She

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deserves better.” While I don’t agree with the sentiment, the words are true: she should have had a dignified, willing retirement. However, that would have meant retiring earlier, before her mental state began to decline. Full retirement age in America is 66; I would implore our politicians to give themselves the dignity of retiring at a reasonable age.

Photo: Kay Granger by J. Scott Applewhite via AP

## Movie Review - Sonic 3

By Rhiannon Murray

Over the glorious two week long winter break, I decided to attend the movies with some friends. Because we were running late, per usual, the only movie showing was Sonic 3. Previously I did not know there were multiple Sonics, let alone 2 other ones.

Adey and Dylan prior to attending number 3, had seen the other Sonic movies. Myself and Gavin went in



blind, first mistake. We got into the movie theater with our very few snacks, popcorn and Buncha Cruncha of course. Mistake number 2, we missed the first 10-20 minutes of the movie. For someone who has watched the other two movies, this was not a huge deal, but I didn’t know the hedgehog had made it off the mobile game onto the big screen. Third mistake, the movie was terrible. At one point in the movie Doctor



Egghead and his recently found grandpa were dancing around lasers, in the oddest positions ever. The whole grandpa plot was so odd and

made zero sense in the movie. Another horrific part of the movie was when Sonic, Knuckles, Tails were in some cafe, with the creepiest animatronic workers ever. Overall this movie was so bad, I don't think I will be watching one or two or four, which is supposed to be released in 2026. Not to mention we watched it in some special HD

with heated chairs, that didn’t work, and a better screen, supposedly. This extra dumb theater ran me for over \$30.

### Ratings :

Adey - 2/10 I went and watched the first two, and those were really good! This movie however, was TERRIBLE. There were random scenes of singing and dancing, which there was none of in the first two, and the plot line was so hard to follow. It was quite literally the most confusing and random movie I have ever seen. Lastly, I spent 17 DOLLARS to watch it, and the heated movie theater seats didn’t even work. Very bad experience.

Rhi - 1/10 This might have been the worst movie I’ve ever watched in my life. The characters were terrible, the plot line was one the worst in any movie ever. I would not watch again. Only points came from the movie theater selling me Buncha Cruncha, which was a 100/10.

Dylan - 2/10 This movie was not great at all. The Grandson and grandad had a very odd relationship, and the hedgehog family somehow expanded at the end of the movie.

Gavin H - bad 1/10

## Album Review

By Dom Mensche

*Album Review is an overview of albums released by popular artists, and they are rated by professional music analyst Dominick “Metro” Mensche*

This week's review will be on the album *WHAM* by Lil Baby.



Lil Baby's latest album, *WHAM*, released on January 3, 2025, was a great way to kick off the new year. This collaboration has gathered a ton of attention, with many listeners, including yourself, highlighting it



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as a favorite. The collaboration between Baby and various featured artists explains why he is one of the hottest artists to this date.

Travis Scott's contribution to "Stuff" not only enhances the track but also serves as a promising indicator of his creative direction. His performance here has generated excitement and high expectations for his forthcoming projects. In recent months, Travis has hinted at being "back in album mode" and expressed enthusiasm about new material he's working on. In an interview with visual artist George Condo for *Cultured Magazine*, mentioned, "I'm back in album mode" and "amped" about the new material that he's working on.

Given the strength of his feature on "Stuff" and his recent statements, I have high hopes for Travis Scott's upcoming album. His ability to innovate and deliver captivating music suggests that his next project will be eagerly anticipated by fans and critics alike.

## Sports

### Girls Varsity Basketball

By Eve McCorkle

Recently, the girls varsity basketball team traveled to Fayetteville-Manlius to go up against their girls team and they also traveled to Cooperstown over break to play in their winter tournament.



In the game with FM, the girls showed up. Even though FM was some great competition they were still in the game mentally which definitely kept them in the game. The girls ended up winning forty-five to thirty-six. Great win girls!

In the winter tournament at Cooperstown, the girls started by playing Unatego High School.

They were also very good competition yet our girls did not give up a fight. The girls were connecting, moving the ball well and using what they had very well. Sadly, the girls fell just short losing forty-nine to thirty-eight. The next day the girls went back to Cooperstown to play Delaware Valley. This team was some great competition as well to get the girls ready and moving. The girls played very well and put great effort into this game. Yet, the girls just fell short losing fifty-three to forty-eight.



After these games, the girls got right back to work during practice, just three times the work they were before. The girls are ready to get back out there! Great effort girls and let's bring home a win tomorrow night! The girls play at Cazenovia on Wednesday, January 7th, 2025. Good luck girls and give it your all!

Photo Creds: Hamilton girls hoops knocks off LaFargeville in battle of defending section champs - syracuse.com

### Returning Champs!

By: Rihana Dye

Keeping the win streak alive, the girls JV brought home another Cooperstown Holiday Tournament win over Christmas break! The girls battled a hard-fought first game against Unatego, going into overtime and winning 40-31. The girls secured the Tournament win against Delaware Academy the next day winning 38-21. This is the JV's second tournament win in a row! Winning last year and again this year, sets the bar high for next year and seeing their perseverance in both of those games sets the bar high for the rest of the regular season games! Make sure you come and support both of our girls basketball teams whenever you can.



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## Caz Hockey Recap

By: Dylan George

Over the two-week break, the Cazenovia hockey team played four games and finished with a record of 3-1-1. On Friday, December 20th, the Lakers played against Broome County in a blizzard at the Farm's outdoor rink near Binghamton, NY. The Lakers overcame a three-goal deficit and won overtime 5-4.



Then the Lakers traveled to play in the Cortland-Homers annual Christmas tournament; on December 26th, the Lakers faced Syracuse City Cougars in the Semi-final game where they could come away with a win 3-2. Unfortunately, the Lakers faced off against CBA-Albany in the final and fell short 4-3.

On Monday, December 30th, the Lakers played against the Clinton Comets, winning 5-3; Dylan George had one assist on the night. In the final game over the holiday break, the Lakers faced off against Syracuse again, but this time, it was in a league match. The team battled hard but ended the game in a 2-2 tie; Ezra Stahlberg had 30 saves on 32 shots. The team's overall record now stands at 5-4-1.

Photo Credit: Dylan George

## Boys Basketball

By: Gavin Snyder



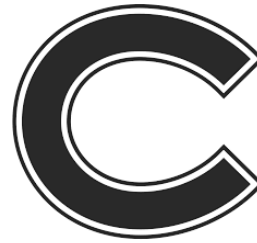
Last Tuesday the boys' basketball team played against Sauquoit Valley and won to boost their winning streak to seven and zero. Each quarter was a breeze, but by the half, Hamilton was up 57-13. The team was then able to easily finish out the game with a score of 85-26. Leading scorers were Caleb

Neuenschwander at 21 points and Teddy Freeth and Luke Langel trailed with both having 19.

*Photo credit : Bryce*

## Colgate Sports News

By: Dylan George



Over the holiday season, Colgate sports continued to shine, although there were fewer games due to the students going home for break. Many of the teams, like Men's and Women's hockey and Men's and Women's basketball, started their league play, and here are a few of the results of these tough league matchups.

**Women's Hockey:** The Colgate women's hockey team traveled north to play two tough ECAC opponents this past weekend. On January 3rd, the Raiders traveled to Canton, NY, to play #10 ranked St. Lawrence, where they fell short 3-2. Kristýna Kaltouková and Neena Brick scored goals, and goaltender Hannah Murphy had 17 saves on the night. On Saturday night, the Raiders took a short bus ride to Potsdam, NY, to face off against the #6 ranked Clarkson Golden Knights, where they were able to come away with the win 4-2. Emma Pais led the team with two goals, and Sara Stewart and Kaia Malachino each added a goal. Goaltender Hannah Murphy had 35 saves in the win. The Raider's record now stands at 17-5-0, and they look to continue the success when they face off against #5 ranked Cornell Big Red this weekend.

**Women's Basketball:** The Colgate women's basketball team started their league play this past week, and unfortunately, they fell short in both games. On Thursday, January 2nd, the team traveled to West Point, NY, where they faced off against a tough Army team. In a 56-38 loss, Morgan McMahon led the team in points with 13. Then, on January 5th, the team hosted

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the Bucknell Bison, where they fell short 51-34. Leading the team in points on the night was Anne Bair with 12. The team's record now stands at 10-5.

**Men's Basketball:** The Colgate men's basketball team has had two league matchups, and their league record is 1-1. On January 2nd, the Raiders hosted Army, where they secured their first league win 71-59. Leading the team in points was Jeff Woodward with 17. Then, on January 5th, the team traveled to Bucknell, where they fell short in a 66-60 loss. Leading the team in points on the night was Sam Wright with 16. The team's overall record now stands at 4-11.

The Raiders look to continue their success, whether on the basketball court or the Ice, this upcoming weekend, when they will continue their league matchups.

Photo Credit: Colgate Athletics website  
Information credit: Colgate Athletics website

## Things Going on in the MLB

By James Hanmer

As of January 9, 2025, Major League Baseball has seen several notable developments: Justin Verlander Signs with the Giants Veteran pitcher Justin Verlander, 41, has agreed to a one-year, \$15 million contract with the San Francisco Giants. After a challenging 2024 season with the Houston Astros, where injuries limited him to 17 starts and a 5.48 ERA, Verlander is set to embark on his 20th MLB season. He and his wife, Kate Upton, will be relocating to San Francisco for this new chapter.

David Wright Advocates for Pete Alonso's return to the Mets. Former New York Mets captain David Wright has expressed his desire for free agent Pete Alonso to remain with the team for his entire career. Wright, who spent his entire MLB career with the Mets, emphasized the pride

associated with such loyalty. Alonso recently declined a seven-year, \$158 million extension, making his future with the Mets uncertain.

Chicago Cubs' offseason moves: The Chicago Cubs are actively exploring roster enhancements.

*(Info credit-espn)*

## The Patriots and Bills Game(?)

By James Hanmer

The New England Patriots concluded their 2024-25 NFL season with a 23-16 victory over the Buffalo Bills on January 5, 2025, at Gillette Stadium. Rookie quarterback Joe Milton III led the Patriots' offense, completing 81.5% of his passes and demonstrating improved accuracy and decision-making. Wide receiver Kayshon Boutte achieved a career-high 117 receiving yards and a touchdown, contributing significantly to the team's offensive success. On the defensive side, cornerback Alex Austin excelled by allowing only one catch for negative yards while covering Buffalo's first-round receiver.

Despite the victory, the Patriots finished the season with a 4-13 record, missing the playoffs for the third consecutive year. The win also had implications for the upcoming NFL Draft, as it cost the Patriots the first overall pick, dropping them to the fourth position. Shortly after the game, the organization announced the dismissal of head coach Jerod Mayo, who had completed his first season.

*(Info credit-espn)*

# Emerald Press

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