



YOUR INCOMING CLASS

THE CLASS OF 2025 IN NUMBERS

by **Naiela Suleiman**
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The University of Connecticut expects about 3,700 first-year students to move into the Storrs residence halls starting Friday. There are an additional 1,800 first-year students at the regional campuses in Hartford, Stamford, Waterbury and Avery Point, according to UConn Spokesperson Stephanie Reitz.

First-year students will be joined by 660 students transferring to Storrs from other colleges and universities and more than 200 transferring from other institutions to the regional campuses. Returning and transfer students will move in over the weekend. Fall classes begin Monday.

“About 46 percent of the incoming Storrs first-year students are members of underrepresented racial and ethnic groups,” Reitz said.

The figures include 8 percent

who are Black, 19 percent who are Hispanic, 14 percent who are Asian, 0.10 percent who are American Indian/Alaska Native, 0.03 percent who are Hawaiian/Pacific Islander and 4.5 percent who are multiracial.

First-year students will be joined by 660 students transferring to Storrs from other colleges and universities and more than 200 transferring from other institutions to the regional campuses.

“About 60 percent of the Storrs first-year students are Connecticut residents, a trend that has held true for many years,” Reitz said. “Coming from 157 of the state’s 169 towns and cities. They also originate from 42 states and 17 countries.”

Typically, out-of-state students at Storrs represent about 30 percent of the first-year students; but this year that number is 34 percent, and international students only 6 percent due to overseas travel difficulties. About 77% of the undergraduate student body across all campuses will be from Connecticut, a new trend that may become normal for UConn moving forward.

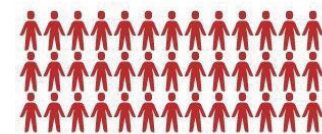
These figures are preliminary, with final numbers determined on the 10th day of the semester.

CLASS OF 2025

UConn's freshman class is more diverse than ever

5,500 FRESHMEN

3,700 new Storrs students and 1,800 new regional campus students join UConn this fall.



42 STATES



17 COUNTRIES

46% STUDENTS OF COLOR

19% of incoming freshman identify as Hispanic, 8% identify as Black, 14% identify as Asian, and 4.5% are multiracial.



REPRESENTING 157 TOWNS IN CONNECTICUT



GRAPHIC BY GRACE MCFADDEN, DIGITAL EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

UConn Rec Center opens for semester with COVID-19 protocols



The UConn Recreation Center is open for the Fall 2021 semester. The center has adapted to COVID guidelines throughout the pandemic.

FILE PHOTO/THE DAILY CAMPUS

by **Jake Kelly**
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The University of Connecticut Student Recreation Center (SRC) will be open to the campus population Aug. 30 with minor COVID-19 protocols in place and on the basis that student fees are paid and Student Health and Wellness (SHaW) requirements are met.

“Masks covering the nose and mouth are still required to enter and remain in the Rec Center, regardless of vaccination status. Masks are required on the pool deck, however can be removed when swimming,” according to the Rec Center website. “Bandanas and masks with exhalation valves will not be permitted to enter the SRC.”

Staff will be cleaning areas of high contact throughout the day and deep cleaning after closing to help prevent the spread of the virus and ensure the SRC remains open. Gym wipe stations are lo-

cated in all fitness areas and studios, so members are expected to wipe down any equipment they use. There will be several hand sanitizer stations throughout the center.

The Rec Center will be open Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Saturday from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.; and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

As of now, the SRC will not be allowing or selling guest passes. The locker rooms, including showers, will be available, but towels are not provided.

Locker use for the day is free, but purchase for individual and overnight use will begin on Aug. 30 in the Administration Suite in Room 103, across from Mango. Sales are open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Any additional questions may be emailed to recreation@uconn.edu. Visit the Rec Center website (recreation.uconn.edu) and social media platforms (@UConnRec on Instagram, Facebook and Twitter) for any new updates.

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Tweet of the Day

MAKING THE MOST | PAGE 4
Reflections on a return to campus

WOW WEEKEND | PAGE 5
A weekend of events planned for incoming students

BACK IN ACTION | PAGE 12
Looking forward to in-person sporting events

Red Rock Café Storrs
[@RedRockCafeStorrs](https://www.instagram.com/RedRockCafeStorrs)
Welcome back everyone. We wish you a safe school year. #uconn #uconnreslife #uconnoffcampus

News

Dining updates COVID-19 guidelines for fall semester

by **Conner Caridad**
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As students return to the University of Connecticut for the fall semester, the University Dining Services has updated the COVID-19 guidelines for its dining locations.

According to the Dining Services webpage, all UConn dining halls at the Storrs campus will open at full capacity for the fall semester and seating will not be limited. However, students are still expected to wear a mask while inside the dining halls and not seated at a table.

Additionally, Grab and Go meals will not be available for the fall semester, and the Buckley Dining Unit on the south end of campus will be closed on Saturdays and Sundays, according to the webpage.

Dining Services announced that as of Aug. 17 it will not accept cash transactions at all its retail locations, except the Dairy Bar. Dining halls on the Storrs campus will not accept cash after Aug. 27.

The cafes at the Avery Point campus and the Law School will also not accept cash transactions when they reopen at the start of the semester.

Accommodations will be made for students in quarantine, according to the Dining Services webpage.

"Students in medical or modified quarantine will have to get their food to go from any of the dining halls," the webpage said. "Students in isolation will receive their food delivered to them from Catering."

Meals prepared 'to go' will also be available for students who are awaiting COVID-19 test results, or those who can't make it to a dining hall because of illnesses unrelated to COVID-19. Students may call the dining facility they normally eat in, ask for the unit manager on duty, and request a meal 'to go.'

Lastly, the only guests students are allowed to bring to the dining halls in the fall are other university students. Parents and outside guests are not allowed.

"If these guest guidelines change at any point during the semester, we will inform the campus community," Dining Services said. Any COVID-19 guidelines may change throughout the semester "based on the health of the campus."

Updates will be continually posted to the Dining Services webpage at dining.uconn.edu.



McMahon dining hall was one of five dining halls open for students during the Spring 2021 semester. This year, Dining Services announced dining halls will be open at full capacity.

PHOTOGRAPH BY ERIN KNAPP, ASSOCIATE PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

ResLife gears up for start of semester

by **Caroline LeCour**
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As students return for the fall semester, University of Connecticut Residential Life is preparing to welcome students alongside combatting COVID-19.

This semester, residential students can expect a few minor adjustments to dorm life to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

According to ResLife, all dorm halls will be at full capacity. Therefore, students can have multiple-occupancy rooms.

Similar to previous semesters,

partially vaccinated or unvaccinated residents must participate in routine surveillance or quarantine protocols. Students who are fully vaccinated are not required to participate.

Currently, 93% of residential students at UConn are either fully or partially vaccinated.

However, all students, regardless of vaccination status, will be required to wear masks while indoors, which includes spaces such as dorm hallways, study lounges and bathrooms.

In addition, Residential Assistants have been trained to prepare previous and incoming students who are new to dorming on campus

to help facilitate a smooth transition to living at UConn.

From COVID-19 protocols to roommate situations, RAs and Hall Directors will be available to answer any questions residential students may have.

ResLife asks that students pay attention to the UConn COVID-19 Dashboard, where the status of the campus will be alerted. This dictates if mask wearing, social distancing and other safety practices are required to follow for the health of the campus.

For more information or to ask a question, students can visit ResLife's website at reslife.uconn.edu.



UConn's Northwest Campus consists of a group of residential buildings. Residential Life says all dorms will be at full capacity this semester, with masking and surveillance protocols in effect.

PHOTOGRAPH BY ERIN KNAPP, ASSOCIATE PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Harris says she urged Vietnam to free political dissidents

HANOI, Vietnam (AP) — U.S. Vice President Kamala Harris said Thursday she raised issues of human rights abuses and restrictions on political activism in her conversations with Vietnamese leaders this week, but offered no indication those talks bore fruit.

"We're not going to shy away from difficult conversations. Difficult conversations often must be had with the people that you otherwise may have a partnership with," she said at a news conference in Hanoi on Thursday.

Harris said she spoke with Vietnamese leaders in particular about the release of political dissidents, but did not describe the outcome of those conversations. Vietnam has faced criticism for restrictions on freedom of expression and on the press and a crackdown on people it deems political dissidents. But Harris didn't respond when asked why the U.S. criticizes China for similar abuses, but is seeking a stronger partnership with Vietnam.

Her comments capped a week-long trip to Southeast Asia during which she met with top officials in Singapore and Vietnam in a bid to strengthen U.S. engagement in the region to counter Chinese influence there. Harris unveiled a number of new U.S. agreements and aid for both countries in ar-

reas including cyberdefense cooperation with Singapore and coronavirus aid to Vietnam, which is struggling with a new surge in the virus and low vaccination rates.

But on Thursday, she turned her attention to issues surrounding civil liberties and human rights in Vietnam. Harris participated in what her team billed as a "changemakers" event with activists working on LGBTQ rights and climate change.

"It is critical that if we are to take on the challenges we face that we do it in a way that is collaborative, that we must empower leaders in every sector, including of course government but community leaders, business leaders, civic society, if we are to maximize the resources we collectively have," she said.

In her news conference, Harris also fielded questions on the chaotic U.S. exit from Afghanistan, but did not respond directly when asked how the U.S. would evaluate success in the evacuation mission. Harris also ignored a question on whether Americans are safer now that the U.S. has departed the country. A suicide bomb attack later Thursday — attributed to the Islamic State group's Afghanistan affiliate — killed at least 13 U.S. service members and many Afghan civilians at the Kabul airport.

The Daily Campus

Printing since 1896, The Daily Campus is the oldest and largest independent student publication at the University of Connecticut. The Daily Campus circulates 2,500 newspapers daily and strives to serve the student body by delivering accurate, relevant and timely news and content, both in print and online at DailyCampus.com. Our staff is comprised entirely of students, with roughly 200 undergraduates gaining professional development while contributing to the daily production of the paper, with positions including writers, photographers, copy editors, page layout designers, graphic designers, advertisement representatives, receptionists, delivery drivers and digital producers. Thanks for reading.

Corrections and Clarifications:

Send Corrections to EIC@DailyCampus.com

Friday, August 27, 2021

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Interim president announces full vaccination requirement for UConn employees

by **Conner Caridad**
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On Aug. 17, University of Connecticut Interim President Dr. Andrew Agwunobi announced in a letter that all UConn Health and university campus employees at all must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 as students return to in-person classes this fall.

"As you are aware, at the University of Connecticut and UConn Health, our primary goal during this pandemic is to keep all employees, students, and patients safe. This is particularly important given the rise of the Delta variant and the upcoming start of in-person classes," Agwunobi said. "To this end, we are writing to announce that in addition to our student vaccine mandate, UConn and UConn Health are now requiring that currently active and new employees be fully vaccinated against COVID-19."

UConn has almost 10,000 full and part-time employees, according to University Spokesperson Stephanie Reitz, all of whom will

have to provide proof of vaccination or request an exemption by Oct. 15, 2021.

According to the new policy that Reitz said is "similar to the policy already in place for students who live on campus and/or have in-person classes," any employee who is granted a vaccine exemption for medical or religious reasons will need to be tested weekly.

Reitz emphasized that the new policy was created by the university "in collaboration with the unions that represent its faculty and staff," such as the American Association of University Professors and the University Health Professionals.

In a UConn Reddit thread, undergraduate students responded positively to the interim president's announcement.

Michelle Shavnya, a third-semester Speech Language and Hearing Sciences major, said that the vaccination requirement "should mitigate the threat that a variant like delta could pose" to the UConn community in the Fall.

Shavnya mentioned that she believes the interim president made the "right decision because students, staff, and faculty will be spending a significant amount of time on campus, it's important for all of them to work together to protect each other."

Still, Shavnya said that one area where the university could improve its COVID-19 response is in the non-medical vaccination exemptions.

"Medical exemptions are totally fine, but it seems like the non-medical exemption guidelines are pretty vague and create opportunities for people to come up with flimsy excuses for refusing vaccination," Shavnya said via direct message. "Still, the vast majority of the student body (and I'm assuming staff/faculty) will be vaccinated, so I don't think the small segment of people that haven't been vaccinated will pose a major threat."

Unvaccinated university employees can schedule a COVID-19 vaccination by calling the UConn Health Vaccine Call Center at 860-679-5589.



Members of the UConn community go to the Hawley Armory to be vaccinated against COVID-19 during scheduled appointments on April 1, 2021. UConn Interim President Andrew Agwunobi announced vaccinations will be required for employees of UConn and UConn Health.

PHOTOGRAPH BY KEVIN LINDSTROM, PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Students excited, hesitant about return to campus life

by **Thomas Alvarez**
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As University of Connecticut students anticipate their return to campus this fall, the world grapples with what the "new normal" will look like while facing a global pandemic and in the midst of vaccination turmoil.

UConn students are both excited for the semester and hesitant to return to on-campus life. Thendral Nagarajan, a fifth-semester physiology and neurobiology major, is skeptical of UConn's ability to keep classes in-person this fall.

"I'm super concerned because other schools have already called off their in-person semester because of the delta variant, and I really hope UConn doesn't do the same," Nagarajan said.

Still, Nagarajan and many others are excited to be reunited with

friends and return to a relatively normal college routine.

"I'm really excited to be back on campus and surrounded by people again. I missed that aspect last year and am looking forward to having that sense of community back," Julia Quinn, a seventh-semester biological sciences major, said, while still uncertain about the continuation of the fall semester with the rise of the delta variant.

"I'm a little nervous about how the new variants are going to impact the semester as things seem to be changing everyday, but I'm hopeful that we will keep our numbers down and enjoy what UConn has to offer," Quinn said.

Jessi Cooper, a fifth-semester elementary education major, spoke about the importance of a more usual college experience and developing in-person bonds. She said these were experiences she missed during the past year.

"This semester, I'm looking forward to enjoying the campus full of

life again, the way it's meant to be," Cooper said. "I'm also looking forward to creating a real bond with teachers and classmates by having in person classes."

Cooper, like many, is concerned about the delta variant and its impacts. She said she also worries about returning to a more usual college experience.

"I'm concerned about the delta variant; there's so much we still don't know, and I'm concerned the readjustment to campus life will be more difficult than I'm prepared for," Cooper said.

Czara Mangahis, a fifth-semester mechanical engineering major, spoke about her academic worries after a year of online courses. She said she worries about most classes, excluding specific courses.

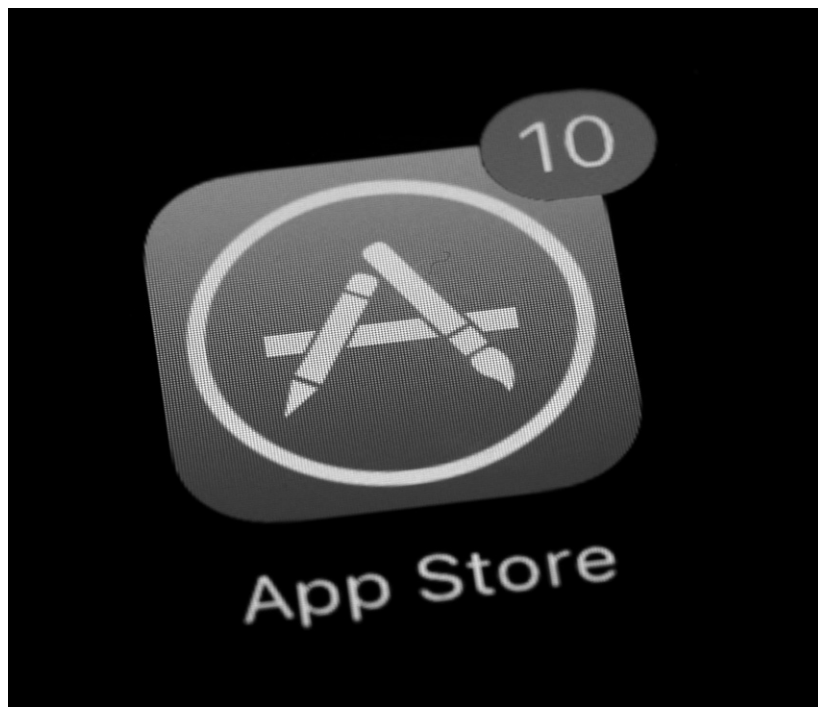
"I feel like my sophomore year of college did not exist because I ... just didn't learn anything, so I feel extremely unprepared for my classes, excluding maybe math," Mangahis said.



Students in Towers residence halls finish doing their laundry on Nov. 12, 2020. Students shared various reactions on a return to campus life.

PHOTOGRAPH BY ERIN KNAPP, ASSOCIATE PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Apple loosens app store payment rules in settlement



This photo shows Apple's App Store app.

PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF AP

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BERKELEY, Calif. (AP) — Apple has agreed to let developers of iPhone apps email their users about cheaper ways to pay for digital subscriptions and media by circumventing a commission system that generates billions of dollars annually for the iPhone maker.

The concession announced late Thursday, which covers emailed notifications but does not allow in-app notifications, is part of a preliminary settlement of a nearly 2-year-old lawsuit filed on behalf of iPhone app developers in the U.S. It also addresses an issue raised by a federal court judge who is expected to soon rule on a separate case brought by Epic Games, maker of the popular video game Fortnite.

Apple announced the news in a "background" briefing with reporters in which it insisted on anonymity for participating executives and would not allow any direct quotations.

Under long-standing Apple rules, makers of iPhone apps were forbidden to email users with information on how to pay for services outside the app, which would circumvent Apple commissions of 15% to 30%.

The concession now opens one way for app developers to more aggressively encourage its users to pay in other ways, so long as the companies obtain consumer consent.

Apple will also set up a \$100 million fund to pay thousands of app

developers covered in the lawsuit sums ranging from \$250 to \$30,000. App developers will get more flexibility to set different prices within their apps, expanding the options from about 100 to 500 choices.

The compromise addresses a concern that U.S. District Judge Yvonne Gonzalez Rogers repeatedly raised while presiding over the high-profile Epic-Apple trial. She openly wondered why Apple couldn't allow developers to display a range of payment options within their apps, much like brick-and-mortar retailers can show a range of different credit cards they accept in addition to cash.

Apple still isn't allowing developers to use in-app notifications to prod consumers to explore different payment options.

But just being able to email users to explain why they should pay outside the app is a breakthrough for developers who have complained about Apple's commissions as a form of price gouging for years.

Richard Czeslawski, one of the app developers that filed the lawsuit Apple is settling, hailed the freedom to email users as a "game changer" in a declaration filed with the court in Oakland, California. App developers "will take full advantage of this change in customer communications as a way to further reduce the commissions paid to Apple," predicted Czeslawski, CEO of Pure Sweat Basketball.

Apple already has been tinkering with its app store commission system in response to legal pressure and mounting scrutiny among lawmakers and regulators around the world taking a harder look whether the company ironclad control of the store is stifling competition and innovation.

Earlier this year, Apple lowered its in-app commissions from 30% to 15% for developers with less than \$1 million in annual revenue — a move covering most of the apps in its store. As part of the settlement announced Thursday, Apple is guaranteeing the lower commission for small developers will be extended for at least three more years.

But the lower commissions don't help the largest app makers like Epic and Spotify, which are the leaders in a coalition trying to topple Apple's so-called walled garden that prevents outsiders from offering other options. Apple maintains it prevents alternative stores from offering apps on its iPhone to protect its own customers' security and privacy while its critics contend the company is simply trying to protect a cash cow that generates billions of dollars in profit annually.

Those tensions are likely to come to a boil when Gonzalez Rogers issues her ruling in the Epic case.

Gonzalez Rogers will also approve or disapprove the proposed settlement announced Thursday. A hearing on that is scheduled Oct. 12.



Opinion

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► Editorial

Let's beat COVID-19 this year

Having killed millions around the world since the beginning of 2020, COVID-19 doesn't appear to be leaving us anytime soon. There is now a fourth wave spreading because of the hyper-transmissible delta variant, which may be twice as infectious as the original strain. Globally, cases are skyrocketing in numbers which not only threaten to infect swaths of the population but also to overwhelm our healthcare systems. Given rapid increases in cases and the increasing potential of further viral mutations, it appears we aren't free of the pandemic quite yet.

At the University of Connecticut, this means we'll have another year influenced by the disease to a great extent. But we can learn from our past mistakes to have the best experience possible in less-than-favorable circumstances.

For UConn, last year was certainly a struggle with COVID-19. While some American colleges went fully online, UConn opened to a reduced residential capacity in August: It was designed to account for social distancing in dorms, classrooms and dining halls. Unlike other universities that opened, UConn did not enact a universal, regular and mandatory testing and isolation procedure. In general, there were many unresolved questions about the efficacy of changing testing policies, and before classes even began there were dozens of cases across campus.

For the entirety of the Fall 2020 semester, UConn's COVID-19 dashboard saw weekly fluctuations in case numbers among students and staff. Dorms were regularly drawn into and out of strict quarantine policies which restricted students' ability to attend in-person classes and work alike. In November, the University did not have the spread of COVID-19 under control — their words, not ours — and put every residential dorm on campus into mandatory quarantine until the end of the residential semester. The entirety of the Stamford campus dorm was also quarantined at another point.

Even in the midst of rising case numbers and quarantines there was no publicized plan or procedure regarding a quantity of cases when UConn would send students home, as many other schools did in response to wide outbreaks and as was discussed by the administration at the beginning of the semester. There were multiple moments when large segments of the student body believed we'd be sent home at a moment's notice. The possibility just lingered in the air to the distaste and uncertainty of the community at large, which relies upon the administration to plan upcoming years and months of our lives.

Apart from university policy, there were countless instances of students breaking social distancing, maximum room capacity and mask guidelines to crowd a dorm room, house or lake. These instances were documented almost weekly and would usually precipitate a spike in cases on campus and administrative backlash, if not specific criminal or academic charges including fines and expulsion from residential life.

As students, our ability to get vaccinated and take precautions against the spread of COVID-19 determine the quality of our college experience. Last year, a worrisome increase in COVID-19 cases meant widespread quarantines, walking across campus to eat at specific dining halls, leaving campus early, taking classes while sick and generally not getting our money's worth out of this hyper-expensive 21st century American college experience. Administrators, on the other hand, must prioritize transparency and community health over financial concerns.

Nobody can say exactly what the remainder of COVID-19's lifespan will be like for UConn, the United States or the world as a whole. Yet, we have a rich history to draw upon. As a community, we must learn from our experiences and mistakes from the past year to pursue a post-pandemic community.

SOCIAL SKILL +0



COMIC BY KAITLYN TRAN, STAFF ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Letter from the editor

by Maggie Chafouleas
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Hello everyone, and welcome to UConn! My name is Maggie and I'm the Editor-in-Chief of The Daily Campus. UConn truly is home for me — this is my fourth year as a student, but I also grew up here in Storrs. I would consider myself somewhat of a UConn expert by now — for instance, I've tried every single flavor of ice cream at the UConn Dairy Bar (let me know if you need a recommendation!).

You'd think that watching sunsets at Horsebarn Hill or scrambling around our hilly campus every semester would get old, but in my experience every year brings new opportunities to challenge yourself and gain perspective. I mean, I started at The Daily Campus as a somewhat timid, amateur photographer, and now I'm a journalism major and the Editor-in-Chief of a paper?

Time flies. If I've learned one thing it's to take advantage of your time as a student — there are so many grants, awards, travel opportunities, professional networks and clubs that can hook you up with fun and free things to do. Who doesn't love free stuff?

You don't have to know what exactly you want to do, so don't stress out about that. But, if you try as many things as you can I can guarantee you'll find something that sticks (for me that was The Daily Campus, of course). I've met so many smart, kind and creative people in the UConn community and I'm so excited to have the Class of 2025 here to join it. I hope that all of you find a part of the community that you love too. Lastly, a quick sales pitch: Come join us at The Daily Campus, if you'd like! Our team of writers, photographers, videographers and more are looking for fresh faces, no experience required. From all of us here — good luck, and hopefully see you soon!

The need to grow forward together this fall

by Zoey England
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Probably speaking for many of us, I can say I certainly didn't picture my college years to be like this. There were some moments along the way when I knew my educational pathways were going to be a bit untraditional, like when I decided to attend a community college first or apply to four-year universities several hundred miles away from where I was living. I just never factored graduating from my two-year program via a YouTube livestream, the immense losses and stress associated with living through a global pandemic or a year of online lectures after transferring to the University of Connecticut into what I envisioned "the college experience" to be.

I know there are plenty of other students at UConn who are in a similar position to myself. In fact, for roughly more than half of our current Huskies, the start of the 2021-22 academic year marks the first time we will be officially on campus as undergraduate students. Maybe you transferred from a community college or another institution while we were online. Perhaps you're a rising sophomore who spent last year entirely virtual, or an international student who was unable to travel to campus. You could have even been 16 years old when the pandemic closed your high school, now recently graduated and ecstatic to leave home for the first time as a rising first-semester student.

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For more Opinion content, see page 8



ILLUSTRATION BY DIONEL DE BORJA, STAFF ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Carson's Commentary

by Carson Swick
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Hello, freshmen. I suppose I should introduce myself. My name is Carson Swick and I am a fifth-semester UConn student studying journalism and political science. Since August 2020, I've been the author of "Carson's Commentary," which gives me a nice platform to cover mainly politics, but occasionally finance and on-campus happenings as well.

Back in January, I covered one such on-campus happening, dealing with a cer-

tain website that UConn upperclassmen have grown to know and love. This certain website is now represented by an orange-and-green icon in my Google Chrome bookmarks bar, because apparently I've unknowingly transferred to the University of Miami Hurricanes since I last updated my computer.

Of course, this website is HuskyCT, the learning management system that UConn uses to handle professor-student communication and the submission of most class assignments.

As most of you incoming

Freshmen, don't blame professors for HuskyCT struggles

freshmen likely spent your final year-and-some of high school learning virtually, using an LMS is probably more familiar to you than when I enrolled in (pre-pandemic) 2019. Sure enough, entire classes were conducted via HuskyCT during the last academic year, elevating the LMS's importance to previously unseen levels.

The merits of this less traditional learning method can be debated another day. But the fact remains that HuskyCT will remain a vital part of all UConn students' experience this fall.

"Okay," you professional high school Zoomers may be wondering, "so what's the big deal?"

My last article on HuskyCT was critical of its most glaring flaw: Courses do not become accessible until the first day of classes listed on UConn's academic calendar. (This semester, that day is Monday, Aug. 30.) As I write this piece two weeks before that date, I am able to visit HuskyCT and see the list of courses I've enrolled in.

See HUSKYCT, p. 8



Life

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WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT WOW WEEKEND

by **Zachary Wisnfsky**

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UConn's Weekend of Welcome team is excited to welcome students back to Storrs with virtually endless events scheduled from today, Aug. 27, to Sunday, Aug. 29, and beyond. First-semester and returning students have a plethora of events to choose from this WOW weekend.

Due to the sheer number of events, it is impossible to detail everything going on this weekend. If you want to seek additional information on WOW-sponsored events, visit Husky WOW online at huskywow.uconn.edu.

Today, students can visit the William Benton Museum of Art from noon to 4 p.m. for an open house. Visitors can enjoy an outdoor scavenger hunt, chalk drawing and a special t-shirt giveaway.

The Student Union will also be hosting several events today. From 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. on the fourth floor, the Cultural Center Open House will feature a scavenger hunt with student leaders and staff available to discuss the resources and activities of the centers. From 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.,

the SU Ballroom will be hosting a welcome event for first-generation students and their families. From 7:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m., the Union will host Late Night and Lawn Games for first-semester students, with crafts, board games and s'mores.

At 7 p.m. tonight, the men's soccer team will take on Bryant at Morrone Stadium, where all students will be welcome.

Tomorrow morning on Fairfield Way from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m., the legendary Jonathan the Mascot will be welcoming students to take pictures.

Tomorrow afternoon, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., the Student Recreation Center will be kicking off its activities with some outdoor sports and fitness.

The Sherman Family Sports Complex will be hosting Playfair, promising a fun, entertaining way to meet new people. The first-semester student session starts at 5:45 p.m., and the third-semester student session starts at 7:15 p.m.

The Student Union yet again leads the way with its WOW programming on tomorrow night, hosting the Sophomore Welcome Event at 6:30

p.m. and the Torch Lighting First-Year Student Convocation Ceremony at 7:45 p.m. Additionally, a movie will be shown at the Student Union Theatre at 9:30 p.m.

At 8 a.m. on Sunday morning, the Rec Center will be hosting Road Dogs, a two-mile run with a focus on meeting new students.

At 9 a.m. on Sunday morning, Gampel Pavilion will be hosting the 13th Annual Learning Community Kickoff, with speakers, games, music, activities and, of course, fun.

At 3 p.m. on Sunday, the Student Union Terrace will accommodate the Honors Reception for first-semester and third-semester students.

Lastly, but certainly not least, the Jorgensen Center for Performing Arts will be opening their doors at 7 p.m. on Sunday night for the Comedy Jam presented by Student Union Board of Governors.

That wraps up the highlighted programming for WOW, but that is by no means everything being offered. Please check the WOW site to see all that the team has put together to welcome both new and returning students to campus.



The typical Weekend of Welcome (WOW) begins with freshman move-in followed by the Convocation Ceremony and an ice cream social, similar to the 2019 WOW pictured above. The Class of 2025 will celebrate their first weekend as Huskies with the traditional candle lighting ceremony at the end of the convocation.

The Benton

Managing the art of a new semester

by **Esther Ju**
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After a year of being in a primarily remote setting, the Benton Museum is ready for its comeback, bringing in new activities, exhibitions and events to spruce up the beginning of a long-awaited return to campus.

The William Benton Museum of Art prides itself on being the University of Connecticut's core sanctuary for avant-garde works. Located right next to the Beaney Café — arguably UC-

nn's coziest cafe on campus — so feel free to throw on a beanie, grow a full beard, lace up some combat boots, grab a coffee and verify your hipsterness by entering the museum's decorated gallery. Of course, one doesn't have to be a hipster to enjoy art. With campus being near full capacity again, the Benton plans for a smooth transition from virtual events back to in-person opportunities, all of which will be open to every student.

In preparation for "Weekend of Welcome" (WOW), the museum will open its doors today, Aug. 27, to host a number of activities. Those who visit from noon to 4 p.m. today, Saturday or Sunday will be able to receive a free T-shirt, hear information about and sign up for the museum's student membership program (which offers two free laptop stickers each semester), engage in sidewalk chalk relaxation and, naturally, explore the museum. To participate, students are required to bring their school IDs.

Additionally, two exhibitions will be open at the start of the

semester. The first, titled "Immigrant Eyes," features works by Connecticut-based photographer Joe Standart, whose 2004 series "Portrait of America" garnered much attention from the New London community. After spending some time in the storefronts of downtown New London, Standart's photographs have found a new exhibition home, where the Benton has installed both indoor and outdoor galleries for viewing.

"The exhibition is inside the museum and also outdoors," Amanda Douberley, assistant curator and academic liaison of the Benton, said. "If you've been on campus anywhere near the museum this summer, you might have noticed these really large scale portraits that are printed on steel panels and installed adjacent to the museum. So we will have a scavenger hunt that students can do in the outdoor part of the exhibition."

The second exhibition, which opens Aug. 31, showcases works by UConn's very own artists. In "2021 Studio Art Faculty Exhibition," studio art teachers from

UConn's Department of Art and Art History will have their media presented through a variety of different concentrations, including graphic design, illustration/animation, sculpture/ceramics and more.

There will be an opening reception for both "Immigrant Eyes" and the faculty exhibition on Thursday, Sept. 9 from 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Just in case you couldn't get enough of Standart's eye-opening works, or you were curious what the artist himself has to say about his photography, the reception will feature a walk-through of the outdoor gallery with the artist starting at 5:30 p.m. There will be music and food, making the event ideal to attend with some friends.

As for whether the museum's digital resource, "The Benton at Home," will still be up and running now that most students are back on campus, Douberley offered an explanation for how certain programs are expected to function.

"We are hoping to have our first Thursday program back this semester and in-person, so

that is the first Thursday of [every] month starting in October," Douberley said. "The museum will be open late and we'll have pet therapy, WHUS DJs in the gallery and also some kind of activity related to the exhibitions. In terms of other programs that would be online, all of our public programs — the studio art faculty artist talks, the panel discussion that we have coming up in October — those are all being planned as hybrid. But we're shifting away from doing something every week like we did last year, with more of an emphasis on some of our in-person programs."

After a year of being in a primarily remote setting, the Benton Museum is ready for its comeback, bringing in new activities, exhibitions and events to spruce up the beginning of a long-awaited return to campus. For more information regarding these opportunities, visit <https://benton.uconn.edu/> or follow @bentonmuseumuconn on Instagram.

(RIGHT) THE BENTON, UCONN'S ON-CAMPUS ART MUSEUM, IS LOCATED IN BETWEEN THE GENTRY AND ROWE BUILDINGS ON CAMPUS.

(BELOW) VISITORS VIEW "THE HUMAN EPOCH: LIVING IN THE ANTHROPOCENE" EXHIBIT AT THE BENTON MUSEUM ON MARCH 4, 2021.

FILE PHOTO/THE DAILY CAMPUS

CLIP ART COURTESY OF PIXABAY



TIPS AND TRICKS FOR A STELLAR FRESHMAN YEAR

by **Jordi Castell**
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The first year in a new setting can be overwhelming. It brings a different atmosphere, a different set of people and new challenges to face. Change can oftentimes bring feelings of discomfort, but as an incoming senior, I can assure you there is nothing to worry about. Over my past three years at the University of Connecticut, I have followed several tips that have helped me academically, socially and personally. Here are just a few things to keep in mind as you embark on this new journey.

Attend the Involvement Fair

The easiest way to become immediately involved is to attend the Involvement Fair. Every Sep-

tember, different clubs on campus set up stands on Fairfield Way where students can pass by and have the opportunity to join. Believe it or not, that's how I got involved with the Daily Campus my freshman year. Not only is everyone welcoming and friendly, but it also gives you an opportunity to meet people interested in all different areas of campus life.

Utilize W & Q Center

UConn has two tutoring centers: the Q Center and the W Center. As hinted at by their names, the Q Center helps students struggling with math-based subjects, while the W Center is for writing help. One can visit the Q Center for direct peer tutoring, review sessions before an exam or the application of new learning tools. At the W Center, student tutors are not only there

to help you with revisions, but can also assist in brainstorming, first draft revisions and more.

Organize Yourself

I am a bit of an organizational freak, but I swear, it really changes the game. I personally use three methods of staying organized that I highly recommend: Google Calendar, a physical agenda and Google Drive. In my Google Calendar, I create a calendar for every single one of my classes and time consuming commitments: work, clubs, hobbies. I then begin to color-code and time-match everything with my academic schedule. On my paper agenda, I keep track of homework assignments and upcoming due dates. This prevents me from forgetting about tasks and getting sidetracked. In my Google Drive, I have everything organized into folders so docu-

ments never go missing. This trifecta is one that works wonders.

Create A Routine

Along with keeping your academics organized, it's also important to live an organized lifestyle. I achieve this by creating routines that work for both my schedule and mental wellbeing. For example, if you are not a night owl, try to block out a few hours in the morning for homework and other tasks. This way, you do not have the burden of completing work when you are not operating at your highest potential. If you have your first class at 9 a.m. and your next at noon, try to find a quiet space where you can stay on campus and be productive. Eventually, your body will become accustomed to checking things off the to-do list during that time.

Prioritize Mental Health

While of course it's important to be trying your best in all areas of collegiate life, it is equally important to prioritize your mental health. Adjusting to change can be difficult, especially in the current state of the world. If you notice yourself starting to burn out or feel extremely overwhelmed, take a step back and take care of yourself first. There's valuable resources available on campus through Student Health and Wellness, such as counseling or mediation services.

A new year in a new place is exciting. While of course it's normal to be nervous, remember that time teaches you everything and every new experience offers you an opportunity to grow.

The decision to study abroad during a pandemic

by Amy Chen

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UConn students planning to study abroad this fall have a lot to consider. Plans for two-week quarantine accommodations, COVID-19 restrictions, more paperwork at immigration, COVID-19 tests, news of COVID-19 variants and online classes are just some of the additional things they will need to contemplate.

Despite not being guaranteed a "normal" study abroad experience due to COVID-19, several students still persisted to apply to study abroad at Sogang and Korea University in South Korea. Both Sogang and Korea University will begin their fall semester on Sept. 1. At an unusual time in history, what do study abroad students have to say about their experience so far even before the semester begins?

"It was my last chance to study abroad before I graduate and studying abroad was something that I dreamed about doing when I was in college," Michelle Li, a seventh-semester molecular and cell biology major said.

Instead of graduating a semester early, Li decided to use it as an opportunity to study abroad.

"I decided to study abroad during this time because I thought it would be best to travel now during my sophomore year, then return to focus hard on my studies," Adriana Hall, a third-semester undecided major said. "With the development of the vaccine, I'd thought that things were starting to get back to normal, too."

She added that despite her experience of traveling from high school, it was the first time she traveled alone so she had to take responsibility to meet deadlines on her own. Hall said she will be attending Sogang University in

Seoul, South Korea.

According to the Korean Central Disaster Management and Central Disease Headquarters, currently, there is a 2% positivity rate of over 1,000 cases a day in Korea. People in the greater Seoul region need to adhere to level 4 social distancing guidelines until Sept. 5.

"At the moment, the guidelines are already affecting the social experience," Li said. "One of the restrictions that are in place right now is that they are only allowing people to be in groups of up to four people before 6 p.m. and groups of two after 6 p.m. Due to this, there isn't really the freedom to hang out with everyone you want to at certain times."

As of Aug. 23, those who are vaccinated, however, can form groups of up to four people in cafes and restaurants after 6 p.m. According to Reuters's COVID-19 tracker, only 35.1% of the population has been vaccinated.

"Although these factors will negatively impact what I can do here, I'm not mad at it at all because it's necessary for the country to lower the cases," Hall said. "I only hope that the people with COVID-19 have a smooth recovery and that their families are protected. On the bright side, the vaccines are slowly rolling out, so I hope that they will be able to reach the 70% vaccinated."

Kanakapriya Chelladurai, a seventh-semester financial management major, adds the importance of asking questions to UConn students who have studied abroad in the past and planning your study abroad experience in terms of how it will affect graduation.

Li added that the application with Experimental Global Learning was fairly easy, but after her acceptance to Korea University, keeping track of the different

deadlines from Korea University was more difficult. She advises students who are looking to study abroad to ask for recommendations early and keep track of deadlines.

"At the moment, I haven't really experienced any culture shock since many aspects of Korean culture are similar to my own culture," Li said. "One example of this is the age hierarchy. I grew up in my Chinese and Vietnamese culture, where people are expected to respect their elders. This is a great contrast to American culture, where age does not determine the amount of respect you get."

Going to a new country is a different experience for everyone. While Li might not have experienced a culture shock yet, Chelladurai noticed some interesting points of difference from American culture.

According to Chelladurai, crane machines are used to move belongings inside high-rise apartments instead of elevators. Chelladurai noticed that most car windows are heavily tinted. She also found WiFi to be very accessible in Korea compared to the U.S.

Despite some of the limitations, COVID-19 may bring, current exchange students are looking forward to meeting friends, learning the language and culture.

"We have already seen how it is affecting us, as orientation was online and many classes are online," Chelladurai, who is studying at Korea University during the fall 2021 semester, said. "Furthermore, many activities the school would have planned for us are deemed tentative if not canceled. It is nice though that the country takes COVID-19 very seriously. The majority of activities we can still do, but just with an added layer of caution."



STUDY HACKS FOR NEURODIVERSE INCOMING STUDENTS

by Samara Karow
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Embarking on the journey that is your college career can be a difficult process, even more so if your brain works differently from a neurotypical's. If you have attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), medication isn't always the solution.

Even if it is, it is still important to learn compensatory skills. Autism, like ADHD, is an immutable characteristic endowed from birth, but unlike ADHD, does not have medication to change it. Still, going to school with autism can be difficult. Here are some tips and tricks I've learned as an upperclassman:

Use your interests as an asset

If you have a neurodiverse way of thinking, you may focus your attention on a singular interesting topic. Autism can allow you to have encyclopedic knowledge

about an esoteric topic. ADHD grants you the ability to hyperfocus, but only if you find the topic interesting. In this way, you can have a leg up over your peers. Professors appreciate when you apply conceptual information to real-world examples, and use associative thinking to demonstrate your understanding of the material. If you like "Bojack Horseman," for example, relate

it to Robert Nozick's work when discussing happiness in your ethics class.

Resist the attention economy

Training your brain to focus on long-form material is not something just required for schoolwork, but also for part of a greater lifestyle you need to cul-

tivate. This can be fun, actually. Watch movies you love, without taking breaks to do something else, like checking social media. Speaking of phones, when you are doing any schoolwork, make sure your phone is in another room; studies confirm having it nearby can actually negatively influence your cognitive abilities. When you are done, you can reward yourself with a few minutes of time on the Twitterverse. You will find that, when following these steps, neurodiverse or not, you will have an easier time focusing on important tasks.

Schedule times to do your homework

You may struggle with executive functioning, whether with physical objects — where did you put your textbook? — or overall time management. Routines are incredibly important; they help you self-regulate and alleviate anxiety, even if they are hard to execute. You won't necessarily have the 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. schedule you had in high school.

You might have a lot of free time in the morning before your afternoon class. Establish a set time to do your homework, even if you want to be more spontaneous and only get it done when you feel like it or have the chance.

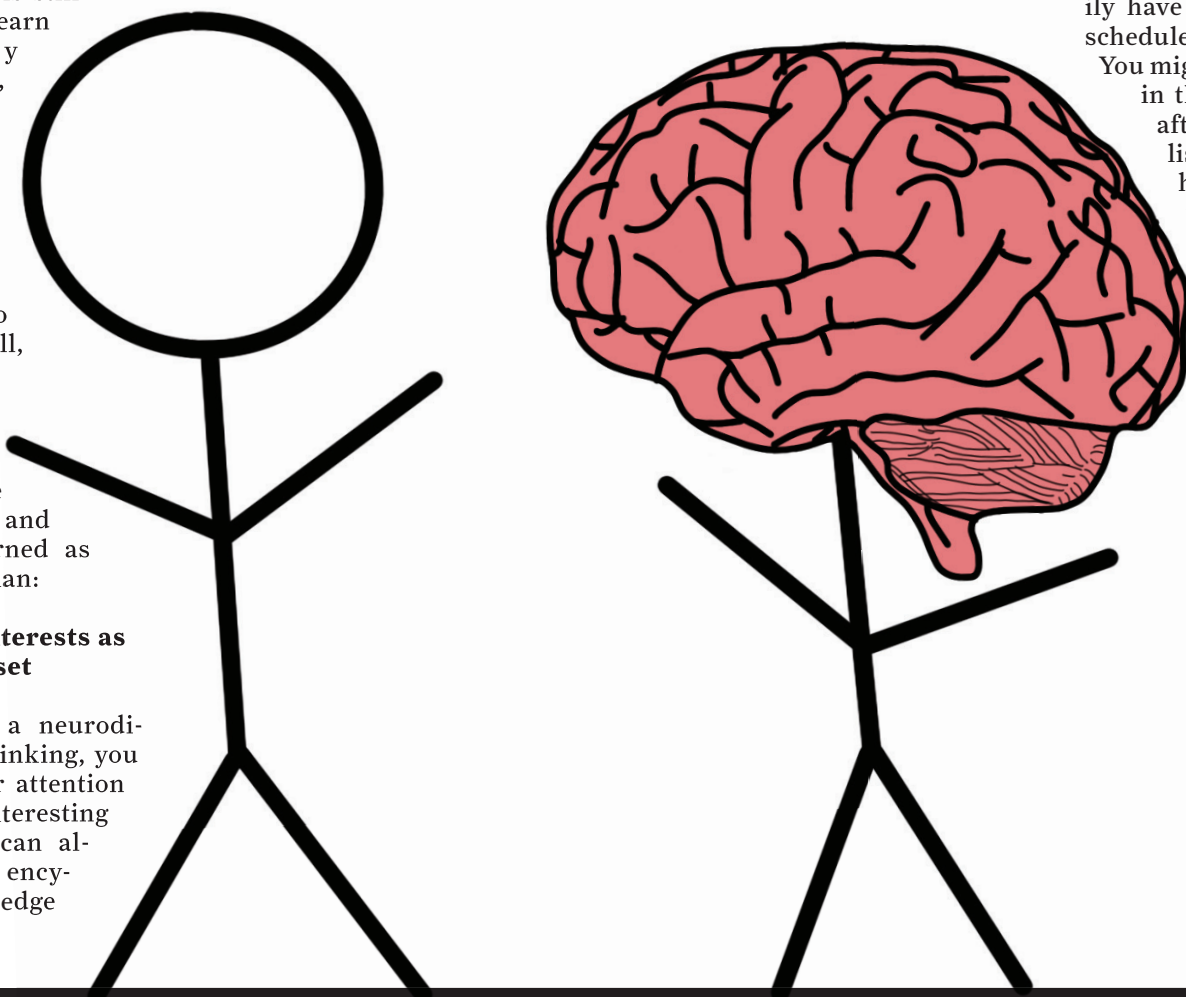
Have conversations with the text

I have a confession: I am a junior in college and I have no idea how to take notes. Because of my autism and ADHD, everything seems important when note taking. I either write down everything or not enough. In the classroom, I still do not have a system, but for homework, my favorite thing to do is write little comments in the margins of the read-

ings as if I'm having a conversation with whoever wrote it. It is so much easier to actively read and write, mid-paragraph, "OP, WTF ARE YOU DOING?!" than to inattentively read an entire text without interacting. No one will see your notes, so do not worry how weird they may seem or how many smiley faces you draw. Besides, when reviewing it for class or pulling quotes for an essay, you can see your reactions and identify important points from the text.

It's always good to self-advocate, whether by requesting accommodations or simply asking for help if you do not understand the information. No professor is going to think you are stupid for asking a clarifying question. It may even help other students, too. Good luck!

If you have attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), medication isn't always the solution. Even if it is, it is still important to learn compensatory skills.



Opinion StudyBreak

Photo of the Day | Welcome!



The Daily Campus Editor-in-Chief Maggie Chafouleas (left) and Managing Editor Brandon Barzola (right) pose in front of The Daily Campus building for their first night producing the newspaper on May 7, 2021. PHOTO BY KEVIN LINDSTROM, PHOTO AND VIDEO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Reconnecting and growing together

GROWTH, cont. from p. 4

From my earliest moments spent on the UConn campus as a prospective student, I was drawn to the immense sense of community students have with fellow Huskies. We help each other and care about each other's well-being. We grow through our mistakes and forgive one another. We laugh while eating Dairy Bar ice cream, eagerly fill Gampel Pavilion to cheer on our basketball teams and get excited to see Jonathan XIV or Tildy. After nearly two years away from this environment, making the return to campus is bound to be a bit awkward for everyone, coming with countless blunders and slipups.

This transitory time does not (and should not) be a lonely endeavor for any member of the UConn Nation. As we settle into our routines on campus, take a few minutes to chat with the person sitting next to you before lecture starts! Go try out a new club or play an intramural sport you always wanted to try, but never actually got around to testing out. If you get lost finding your way around campus, don't hesitate to ask someone

for directions. Approach your floormates if you don't know how to work the laundry machines. After all, imperfections are perfectly natural and an expected part of understanding the environment around us.

Being in-person again is a change for us all. It is critical we utilize this time to set a precedent of kindness, compassion and empathy when interacting with all members of our campus community, be they students, professors, administration or other staff. Be sure to also treat yourself in the same manner, not overlooking the "wins" of the day to instead dwell on embarrassing errors.

I am incredibly excited to finally do many of the things I once took for granted, like sitting in lecture halls for classes, chatting with professors after class, eating in dining halls and meeting up with friends at the Student Union. Most importantly, I am looking forward to learning and growing with you — as a classmate, friend or stranger behind you in line to grab coffee — in the time remaining before graduation, whatever your path to UConn may have been.

I hope you all feel the same.

HuskyCT: Be patient with your professors

HUSKYCT, cont. from p. 4

But when I try to click on any of said courses, I am met with the dreaded message, "You can't access the course right now. Your instructor will allow access when the course is ready. Please try again later."

In plain English: "Thank you Mario! But our princess is in another castle!"

All jokes aside, the fact that I am unable to view any of my syllabi — which each contain a list of required textbooks and scores of important dates — is maddening. But contrary to popular belief, a group of professors conspiring to confuse the poor students not old enough to drink is not to blame for this issue.

There are plenty of professors like UConn Journalism's Christine Woodside, who kindly reached out to me after my first HuskyCT column was published earlier this year.

"As a journalism professor, I do my best to post the syllabus and a video announcement early," Woodside wrote to me in a Feb. 1 email. "There's no reason this can't become the norm for all UConn courses."

I have not taken a course with Woodside, but plenty of my other instructors have gone out of their way to make course materials accessible ahead of time. This burden, though, should not fall on professors — especially those who teach freshmen during their first-ever semester. They are bound to take some time adjusting to college life, and their transition should be made as simple as possible

in this uncertain world with the delta variant lingering in the air.

Two years ago, I thought I had come to UConn well-prepared by planning to check my classes and buy textbooks on Saturday morning of move-in weekend. Upon logging into HuskyCT, I was disappointed to realize this would have to wait until Monday, when I would be more concerned with finding my lecture halls and getting to a good seat on time.

The ensuing organizational battle I fought with myself as the semester picked up lasted well into September, and my grades suffered a bit in the process. I say this not to scare my audience of incoming freshmen, but in the hope that you will share my grievances in a few short weeks.

In terms of the HuskyCT crisis, an end to both the early-semester scrambling and the scapegoating of professors is dependent upon action from this university. UConn should hold professors to the standard of uploading their syllabi and other information to HuskyCT by a certain date, and then promptly make everything accessible to the students exactly one week before classes begin.

Doing so would reduce back-to-school anxiety for everyone and quell the move-in weekend lines at the UConn Bookstore. But most of all, it would allow a smooth transition for freshmen who haven't received a true education since our world went to hell 17 months ago.

Getting involved in college is worth it

by **Isadore Johnson**
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There is rumored to be a beast inside of all of us. Beady-eyed and covered in barbs, the beast cultivates our worst instincts, sowing the seeds of paranoia in our minds. This beast feeds off insecurities and isolation, cherishing anguish and solitude. Many people entering college avoid joining organizations and contributing to campus life because they fear rejection and failure.

Although the fear of getting involved is understandable, one should be conscious not to feed the beast. Getting involved — whether it be in Greek Life, the political scene, multimedia or the table tennis club — is a worthwhile goal. Since involvement

helps one make new friends, interact with diverse perspectives and provides a sense of purpose, failing to put oneself out there is a self-inflicted harm.

The first and most obvious reason to get involved is making friends! As almost everyone knows, friends can significantly enhance all parts of life. It is pleasing to share one's experiences with others and the relationships built up as a result of putting oneself out there are worthwhile. Bill Watterson, author of "Calvin and Hobbes," states it best: "Things are never quite as scary when you've got a best friend." Finding a best friend is a lot easier to do when one is involved. Those who join organizations will likely find students who have similar interests

to them. Even if one struggles to find those with similar interests, refining one's social skills will come in handy. Getting involved increases the number (and probably quality) of interactions one has, which provides more opportunities to learn and empathize. Especially after a pandemic, the desire to feel understood is widely felt. While it may be tempting to consider going home every weekend, especially after the last year of isolation, joining things is a way of strengthening our better angels.

Interacting with a wide variety of perspectives is valuable. Many who come to college come from small towns or big cities. Few, if anyone, have the experiences and cultural context of both. Taking advantage of the opportunity to

better understand others helps one better understand themselves, and why they think and feel the way they do. Furthermore, being in proximity and engaging with different viewpoints, contexts and perspectives allows for intellectual growth. After seeing another perspective, one has a more complete chance to understand why one believes what they do. Activities like the school newspaper or the radio exposes people to perspectives they are better off having heard. Going to different cultural events is also fun! New types of food, dance and music are further reasons to show up to new places. Engaging with people different than you allows you to bridge divides and better understand people's common humanity.

Finally, and most importantly, getting involved provides a sense of purpose. Being able to test out new things allows one to better understand what they want to get out of education. Being granted the chance to test out inklings of different careers allows people to better understand their choices. For example, many people who get involved in college television end up working a similar career after college because they have the experience, knowledge and built-up passion from already having done some.

Getting involved is chicken soup for the soul. It nurtures one's natural need to have deep connections, to self-actualize and to find joy and passion. The beast is anxiety personified, and feeding it involves starving oneself.

Bryant, Ruf help Giants sweep plummeting Mets

NEW YORK (AP) — Kris Bryant launched an early two-run homer, pinch-hitter Darin Ruf broke an eighth-inning tie with an RBI single and the San Francisco Giants beat the plummeting New York Mets 3-2 on Thursday night for a three-game sweep.

Bryant connected in the first inning off Carlos Carrasco for his 24th home run of the season and sixth with the major league-leading Giants since they acquired him from the Chicago Cubs at the July 30 trade deadline.

Pete Alonso tied it with a massive two-run homer in the sixth that chased starter Alex Wood.

Mike Yastrzemski singled against Seth Lugo (3-2) to begin the eighth, and Curt Casali was grazed by a pitch. Ruf grounded a single through the right side to give the Giants a 3-2 lead.

Jarlin García (5-3) worked 1 2/3 scoreless innings in relief. Tyler Rogers got three quick outs in the ninth for his 12th save.

WHITE SOX 10, BLUE JAYS 7

TORONTO (AP) — Luis Robert hit a two-run home run, Carlos Rodón won in his return from the injured list and Chicago beat Toronto.

José Abreu, César Hernández and Eloy Jiménez each hit solo shots as the White Sox earned a split in the four-game series.

Rodón (10-5) allowed two runs and five hits in five innings. Activated off the injured list before the game, Rodón hadn't pitched since Aug. 7 because of a sore shoulder.

Craig Kimbrel finished for his first save with the White Sox, his 24th in 27 chances this season.

Marcus Semien hit two home runs for the Blue Jays.

Chicago's first three home runs came off starter Hyun Jin Ryu (12-7).

ORIOLES 13, ANGELS 1

BALTIMORE (AP) — A day after ending a 19-game losing streak, major league-worst Baltimore got a grand slam and six RBIs from Pedro Severino to rout Shohei Ohtani and Los Angeles.

Ohtani led off the game with a homer, his MLB-leading 41st, but that was the only highlight for the Angels, who have lost five of six.

Baltimore won two games in a row for the first time since July 30-31. Keegan Akin (1-8) picked up his second career win, allowing one run and three hits in a season-high seven innings.

Elvis Peguero (0-1) was charged with five of the six runs the Angels allowed in the fifth inning.

RED SOX 12, TWINS 2

BOSTON (AP) — Chris Sale joined Hall of Famer Sandy Koufax as the only pitchers on record with three immaculate innings, Bobby Dalbec homered twice and Boston beat Minnesota.

Dalbec drove in seven runs and Rafael Devers hit his 30th homer, a two-run shot during a five-run sixth that helped seal Sale's third victory in as many starts since his return from Tommy John surgery.

Sale (3-0) pitched 5 1/3 innings, striking out eight and allowing two runs on two hits. Willians Astudillo hit a two-run homer in the fifth for Minnesota.

Dalbec hit a three-run homer in the second off John Gant (4-8).

REDS 5, BREWERS 1

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Jonathan India hit a three-run homer, Nick Castellanos also went deep and Cincinnati avoided a three-game sweep by NL Central-leading Milwaukee.

Sonny Gray (6-6) allowed three hits in six scoreless innings for the Reds, who still trail the Brewers by 8 1/2 games. Cincinnati holds the second NL wild card spot.

Brewers starter Brett Anderson (4-8) worked 4 2/3 innings before



San Francisco Giants' Mike Yastrzemski, right, hugs Alex Dickerson, left, and Austin Slater after a baseball game against the New York Mets Thursday, Aug. 26, 2021, in New York. The Giants won 3-2. PHOTO BY FRANK FRANKLIN II, POSITION/AP

leaving the game with tightness in his right hip. He was charged with three runs on four hits with a pair of walks and three strikeouts.

PIRATES 11, CARDINALS

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Gregory Polanco turned boos into cheers with the decisive two-run double during an eight-run seventh inning, and Pittsburgh rallied past St. Louis.

Polanco's double put the Pirates ahead for good at 9-7 and was one of six straight hits off reliever Genesis Cabrera (2-5).

The Cardinals led 7-1 midway through the third inning.

Michael Chavis and Colin Moran had four hits apiece for the Pirates. Chad Kuhl (4-6) pitched a scoreless seventh for the win.

INDIANS 10, RANGERS 6

CLEVELAND (AP) — Bradley

Zimmer hit a two-run homer into the second deck in right field to highlight a four-run first inning, and Cleveland beat Texas.

Zimmer's 465-foot blast off Jordan Lyles (6-11) hooked toward the foul pole and landed several rows back in the second deck at Progressive Field.

Reliever Trevor Stephan (3-0) allowed one run in 2 2/3 innings.

Nick Solak and DJ Peters homered for Texas, which is 9-28 since the All-Star break.

MARLINS 7, NATIONALS 5

MIAMI (AP) — Jorge Alfaró homered and singled, rookie Bryan De La Cruz had three hits, and Miami beat Washington.

Elieser Hernández (1-1) allowed two runs and six hits in five innings.

Washington's Juan Soto hit his 21st homer, a two-run shot.

Alfaró capped a four-run first inning with his three-run drive

against Patrick Corbin (7-13).

DIAMONDBACKS 8, PHILLIES 7

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Carson Kelly hit a two-run homer and drove in three runs, Nick Ahmed added a two-run blast and Zac Gallen pitched five strong innings as Arizona beat Philadelphia for the fourth straight game this season.

Asdrubal Cabrera, Josh Rojas and Drew Ellis had RBI singles as the Diamondbacks pounded Phillies pitching for 15 hits.

Gallen (2-7) needed 103 pitches to get through five innings. He allowed just three hits and no earned runs while striking out six.

Jean Segura hit a two-run home run for the Phillies (62-63), who have lost seven of nine to fall 5 1/2 games behind the idle Atlanta Braves in the NL East. The Phillies tried to mount a comeback by taking advantage of two Arizona errors in the ninth inning, but the rally fell short.

Zimmer's 465-foot HR, big innings lead Indians past Rangers

CLEVELAND (AP) — Bradley Zimmer hit a two-run homer into the second deck in right field to highlight a four-run first inning and the Cleveland Indians beat the Texas Rangers 10-6 on Thursday night.

Zimmer's 465-foot blast off Jordan Lyles (6-11) hooked toward the foul pole and landed several rows back in the second deck at Progressive Field before bounding into the lower deck.

Zimmer paused briefly near the batters' box as his towering drive soared from the field of play before starting his home-run trot.

"When you really get one like that, it's hard to take off running," he said with a laugh. "You watch it a little bit and then go on your way."

Indians interim manager DeMarlo Hale asked members of the coaching staff if they had seen a ball hit in that location.

"We haven't seen too many of them," Hale said. "Maybe (Jim) Thome went up there, I think someone said."

Zimmer, who drove in three runs, has the two longest home runs hit by a Cleveland player this season. He hit a 471-foot homer to center field on Aug. 9 against Cincinnati in Cleveland, but couldn't say which was the best accomplishment.

"Oh man, the one tonight felt good, pretty good," he said. "It's hard to choose. They were pretty much the same feeling."

Texas tied the game with two runs in the second and two in the third, but Cleveland put together

another four-run inning in the fourth.

Andrés Giménez's RBI double gave Cleveland the lead. Amed Rosario had a sacrifice fly and José Ramírez and Franmil Reyes added RBI singles as the Indians (63-62) moved past .500 for the first time since Aug. 2.

Ramírez, whose fielding error helped Texas tie it in the third, matched a career high with three stolen bases, and Reyes drove in two runs. Myles Straw hit a leadoff home run in the first and rookie Owen Miller homered in the fifth.

Trevor Stephan (3-0) allowed one run in 2 2/3 innings.

Nick Solak and DJ Peters homered for Texas, which is 9-28 since the All-Star break. Manager Chris Woodward admits there



Texas Rangers starting pitcher Jordan Lyles delivers in the first inning of the team's baseball game against the Cleveland Indians, Thursday, Aug. 26, 2021, in Cleveland. PHOTO BY TONY DEJAK/AP

have been frustrating days, but he has remained positive.

"That's my job," he said. "That's my job is to bring it every day. When it comes to being positive, I'm not always smiling, but I'm always optimistic about moving this thing forward. I have to be. That's my responsibility to the organization and to these players, to the team."

Lyles had his start moved up a day after Spencer Howard was placed in healthy and safety protocols. The right-hander allowed eight runs and nine hits in 3 2/3 innings.

Straw homered on Lyles' second pitch of the game. Ramírez walked, stole second and scored on Reyes' double. Zimmer followed with a Reyes-like drive for a 4-0 lead. Reyes hit a 451-foot home run into the left field bleachers Wednesday.

Jose Trevino and Solak had RBIs in the second. Isiah Kiner-Falefa led off the third with a single and took third when Andy Ibanez singled, extending his hitting streak to 10 games. Both runners scored when Ramírez

booted Nathaniel Lowe's two-out grounder.

ROSTER MOVE

The Indians placed rookie infielder Ernie Clement on the 10-day injured list before the game with an unspecified condition. Clement is batting .227 with two homers and seven RBIs in 36 games.

Right-hander J.C. Mejia was recalled from Triple-A Columbus. Mejia is 1-7 with an 8.75 ERA in 14 games for the Indians this season.

NEW MARK

Third baseman Ryan Dorow made his major league debut and went 0 for 3 with a walk. He became the 24th rookie to appear in a game for the Rangers. The appearance set a club record for a season, one more than in 2014 and 2019.

Baltimore and Miami are the only teams to use more rookies this season with 25.

TRAINER'S ROOM

Indians: RHP Aaron Civale will make a minor league rehab start at Class A Lake County on Friday night. He hasn't pitched since June 22 when he sprained his right middle finger.

UP NEXT

Rangers: RHP Glenn Otto is expected to make his major league debut on Friday night when Texas opens a home series against Houston. Otto has been pitching at Triple-A Round Rock. Texas has six players on the COVID-19 injured list.

Indians: LHP Logan Allen (1-5) will start Friday night in the opener of a three-game series against Boston at Progressive Field.



Cleveland Indians' Franmil Reyes watches his RBI double next to Texas Rangers catcher Jose Trevino during the first inning of a baseball game Thursday, Aug. 26, 2021, in Cleveland. PHOTO BY TONY DEJAK/AP

Sports

Photo of the Day | Reach for the sky



The UConn's women's volleyball team takes on the UCF Knights in its final match of the 2019 season at Gampel Pavilion on Nov 16, 2019. FILE PHOTO/ THE DAILY CAMPUS

What We Missed: A UConn sports summer recap

by Jonathan Synott
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While NCAA seasons ended with our previous school year and will soon pick up again, there were plenty of Huskies who kept themselves busy over the summer. You may remember some big stories, such as James Bouknight getting drafted in the NBA or several former Huskies winning gold at the Tokyo Olympics, but in case you missed these or others, here is a quick recap of an eventful summer for UConn athletes.

James Bouknight



The Huskies take home another win against UCF with a final score of 81-65 on Feb. 26, 2020. James Bouknight was drafted by the Charlotte Hornets in the 2021 NBA Draft. FILE PHOTO/ THE DAILY CAMPUS

One of the biggest questions of the summer was the landing spot for now-NBA athlete James Bouknight. After a breakout freshman season in 2019, followed by near dominance his sophomore year, Bouknight knew it was time to head to the league, declaring for the draft after UConn's first NCAA tournament appearance since 2016.

Expert analysts had him all over the place, with his pure scoring ability placing him as high as a top-five pick in some mock drafts. In the end, the Charlotte Hornets drafted him with the 11th pick in the 2021 NBA Draft, hoping to pair Bouknight with budding star LaMelo Ball in the backcourt.

In the annual NBA Summer League, Bouknight was solid, amassing over 16 points per game on .450 shooting. The coolest story from his summer, though, was when Hornets owner and basketball legend Michael Jordan called Bouknight after an off night to give him some pointers. With lots of young talent around him and the greatest of all time on speed dial, Bouknight could be looking at a bright future in the NBA.

Huskies at the 2020 Olympics

UConn Nation was busy in Tokyo this summer.

Most notably, the USA Women's Basketball team, filled with UConn alumni, cruised their way to a gold medal for the seventh straight time. Team USA went undefeated in Tokyo, winning by no less than nine points in each contest. Former Huskies Sue Bird, Tina Charles, Napheesa Collier, Breanna Stewart and Diana Taurasi all contributed to this top squad. Stewart led all Huskies with 15 points per game while grabbing 10 rebounds per game. She was on the court more than any of her teammates, averaging over 31 minutes each game.

On the opposite side of the tournament bracket, Husky Gabby Williams earned a bronze medal with Team France. In the bronze medal game, she led all scorers with 17 points against a tough Serbia team.

While you were watching USA Women's Basketball utterly dominate the competition, you may have missed another former Husky take home gold in women's soccer. The 2008 grad Stephanie Labbé was a brick wall for Canada along the way to the program's first gold medal. The goalie was crucial for the team's success, not only by starting throughout the tournament but by having some key saves in the final's penalty shootout.

Matt Barnes

Despite fellow UConn Baseball standout George Springer having a solid year with his new team in Toronto, no baseball alum had a better 2021 than Red



LAS VEGAS, NV - JULY 18: The USA Basketball Womens National Team huddles up before the game against the Nigeria Women's National Team on July 18, 2021 at Michelob ULTRA Arena in Las Vegas, Nevada. PHOTO BY STEPHEN GOSLING/ GETTY IMAGES

Sox reliever Matt Barnes. Over the past few seasons, Barnes had been a very middle-of-the-pack reliever, with tons of flashes of potential bogged down by inconsistency. This year, he was able to flip the switch, being the most consistent pitcher on the team for most of the year.



Boston Red Sox relief pitcher Matt Barnes leaves the field during the 9th inning of the game against the Texas Rangers at Fenway Park on August 23, 2021 in Boston, MA. PHOTO BY NANCY LANE/ BOSTON HERALD

His successes culminated in his nomination to the American League All-Star Team, Barnes' first in his big-league career. Soon after, the Red Sox decided to give him a contract extension, locking up what would have been the best reliever in the upcoming free agent market. While he has struggled, alongside the rest of the team, as of late, Barnes will look back on 2021 as his most successful season to date.

Andre Blake

At the age of 30, Philadelphia Union goalie Andre Blake continues to be at the top of his game. An undisputed top-five keeper in the MLS, Blake has registered eight clean sheets in just 17 starts this season. His 53 saves have helped propel the Union to third in the Eastern Conference. The 2020 MLS Goalkeeper of the year ranks among the top five in the league in save percentage and clean sheet percentage.

Just recently, Blake was added to the MLS All-Star team, the third nod in his eight year career. He now is the only three-time All-Star in Union

history. The 2014 No. 1 overall pick is racking up the accolades en route to an attempted second



Philadelphia Union goalkeeper Andre Blake (18) warms up during the soccer game between the Philadelphia Union and Toronto FC on August 4, 2021, at Subaru Park in Chester, Pa. PHOTO BY ANDY LEWIS/ GETTY IMAGES

straight Supporter's Shield for Philadelphia.

UConn Field Hockey ready for a big year

by Jonathan Synott
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One of the most exciting teams to watch every year, the field hockey team looks poised for another successful season.

While they haven't reached a final four since 2017, the Huskies haven't lost their notoriety as a powerhouse program. UConn is fresh off of a conference championship, their ninth straight. Receiving an automatic bid to the NCAA tournament, they won their first game on the road and fell to No. 3 Louisville in the quarterfinals, 1-0.

This season should be an interesting one, namely because field hockey was pushed from the fall season to the spring in 2020. Instead of their normal nine-month break, athletes instead get just three. The tough loss to Louisville should remain fresh in the team's mind as they try to go on a run for their sixth national championship.

The Huskies are already trending in the right direction, as the majority of coaches selected them to win the Big East this season. Right on their tail in the poll is Liberty, who gave UConn their only regular season loss of the year in 2020.

UConn had four players nominated to be on the preseason all-conference team this year. Kourtney Kennedy, Claire Jandewerth, Abby Gooderham and Jess Dembrowski all received that honor, with Gooderham being a unanimous selection. While no Huskies were selected for preseason offensive or defensive player of the year, having a third of the preseason conference team is a great indication that this team will be special.

One of the biggest returners to the team is redshirt senior Cheyenne Sprecher. The star goalie was named to the All-Big East second team at the end of last season, and her sophomore year received All-Big East first team and Big East Co-Defensive Player of the Year honors. She started every game last year for the Huskies and posted a 0.52 goals against average, the best in the country. She looks to improve upon a monster 30 save season last year and help this team to another championship.

One of the biggest losses this year is that of Sophie Hamilton, the team's top scorer in 2020. Heading into her junior year, she decided to redshirt the season. She led the team last year with 19 goals and 15 assists as a sophomore, which awarded her Big East Offensive Player of the Year and First Team All-American honors. While this is a big loss for the team, more opportunities to score should arise for other Huskies, especially preseason all-conference players Jandewerth and Dembrowski, who finished third and fourth in scoring last year, respectively.

This upcoming season will be the second for coach Paul Caddy, who was one of the top assistant coaches in the nation for years before taking over the reins from the legendary Nancy Stevens. It's tough to follow the winningest coach in collegiate field hockey history, but Caddy is up for the challenge. He has been with the program for 21 seasons, mainly



Women's field hockey plays against UMass Amherst on Oct. 1, 2017. FILE PHOTO/ THE DAILY CAMPUS

developing technical skills and recruiting some of the best players in the world. While already accomplishing so much at UConn, Caddy is far from finished.

The Huskies kick off their season at Northwestern on Friday, August 27th, and will come back for their home opener against Rutgers on September 3rd. Key matchups this season include a home battle with Big East runner up Old Dominion and a clash at Liberty. With the George J. Sherman Sports Complex being right in the heart of campus and the team being conference favorites, the field hockey team should be a great team to watch this fall.

In the Shadows: The lesser known UConn sports

by Ashton Stansel
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When people think of the University of Connecticut Athletics Department, most of them think of the basketball team first. Maybe some think of the other popular sports, football or baseball or soccer, but there's a very short list of teams that get recognition and attention from the student body without winning a championship or at least coming close.

The reality is that UConn has far more than just those few teams; the athletics department boasts a total of 19 teams from rowing to golf to football. But it is the lesser known sports that I believe you, the people who make up the incoming class of 2025, should know about. Those are the teams that don't make headlines, that don't necessarily get thought about even while many of them have historically found periods of success.

One underappreciated fall sport is the women's volleyball team. The team achieved an academic award in May of 2021 by the American Volleyball Coaches Association for averaging a 3.3 GPA. They play home games at Gampel, making them easy games to attend for anyone living on campus.

The team goes into this season having gotten two new transfers in Karly Berkland, a junior who played two years at Houston, and McKayla Wuensch, a graduate student who previously played at Wichita State for two seasons. They'll join new recruit Brooklyn Wiedenheft from Nevada who comes to UConn to study Biology and a history of competing in the Junior National Olympics in beach volleyball.

Another sport that is often underappreciated is the women's lacrosse team. They recently announced the hiring of a new assistant coach, Kaitlin Fredrick, who previously worked at Coastal Carolina following a playing career at Ohio State. She'll be looking to help head coach Katie Woods improve on the team's 12-7 record from last season, a run that culminated in a loss in Round 2 of the Big East championship and the first round of the NCAA Tournament.

They'll be playing again in spring, looking to improve and make a run in the tournaments during a year hopefully less marred

by the COVID-19 outbreak. In this time of uncertainty surrounding COVID-19 and what the seasons will look like even with students back on campus, there is no doubt that it will be a different season than last year.

One final pair of teams which should get more attention this season are the ice hockey teams. They're often overshadowed by the basketball or football teams they share their season with, but the women's hockey team showed off last season with a surprise victory over Boston College in the Hockey East Championship.

That was by any definition a successful season; Boston College had lost just 6 games out of 20 in the season while UConn had had a sub-.500 win rate. Many of the players who were a part of that success, including goalies Tia Chan and Samantha Carpentier-Yelle, were instrumental in the successful run.

The men's team didn't have quite as successful a run, going out in a 1-6 loss in the quarterfinals, but they still showed strong performances and ended with a 10-11-2 record. This season, the last to be played on the current hockey rink given a new one will supposedly open in fall of 2022, will be an opportunity for them to build on the success of the strange 2020-2021 season.

The basketball and football teams will always be the most popular; that's a symptom of the success of the sport, if not UConn's teams specifically. But after over a year where people have lacked the ability to attend live sports, hopefully more than just the most popular sports will be appreciated.



The Women's Lacrosse team defeated Marquette 17-14 on April 12, 2017. FILE PHOTO/ THE DAILY CAMPUS

Freshman Introduction: Basketball sensation Azzi Fudd

by Stratton Stave
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For most schools, landing a projected generational talent like Azzi Fudd would be a program-changing event. For a program like UConn's, however, fans hope that Fudd brings the final piece of the puzzle to help the Huskies their first NCAA Championship since 2016.

Fudd, a shooting guard, arrives at UConn this fall boasting one of the most storied high school basketball careers ever. In 2018, she became the first high school sophomore ever to be awarded the Gatorade National Girls Player of the Year.

ORIGINS AND HIGH SCHOOL

Fudd has basketball in her blood; her mother Katie Smrcak-Duffy Fudd played at North Carolina State University and Georgetown before being drafted to the WNBA in 2001. Her career ended early and abruptly due to a knee injury, allowing her more time to focus on training Azzi. As a child, Fudd gained traction in the basketball world quickly, securing her first collegiate offer in sixth grade from Maryland.

Fudd had no trouble succeeding early in high school. As a freshman she scored 24 points per game, a number she would increase to 26 as a sophomore. Shortly after her sophomore season, Fudd was selected to participate in USA Basketball's 3x3 national championship for the second straight year. Early on in the tournament, however, she injured her ACL and MCL, sidelining her for the rest of the tournament and for the entirety of her junior year.

Fudd was able to recover and made it back to the court healthy and ready for her senior year, but unfortunately due to COVID-19, her team was unable to string together a season.

TEAM USA



Basketball player Azzi Fudd speaks at the ESPN Women + Sports Summit held at The Resort at Pelican Hill on October 23, 2019 in Newport Beach, California. PHOTO BY MEG OLIPHANT/ GETTY IMAGES

Along with her other accolades, Fudd has a longstanding history with Team USA, where she has been competing for several years. Her first competition was in the 2017 FIBA Americas U16 Championship, where she became the youngest U.S. women's player to take part in a U16 competition, winning gold as a 14-year-old rising freshman.

In 2018, Fudd competed both at the 2018 USA Basketball Women's 3x3 U18 National Championship and at the U17 World Cup. In those two tournaments, she won silver and gold medals, respectively. On the U17 gold medal team, she was the youngest player on the roster.

This year, Fudd was part of a dominant run alongside fellow UConn freshman Amari DeBerry at the U19 World Cup, where they took gold.

CELEBRITY CONNECTIONS

As is common with star high school players, Fudd has her fair

share of fame and celebrity connections. On Instagram, she has accumulated over 160,000 followers, including NBA Superstars Kevin Durant, Damian Lillard and Stephen Curry.

Curry has a longtime relationship with Fudd; the two met at Curry's basketball camp in 2018. Fudd's invitation to the camp in 2018 made her the first female player to attend after a history of only male prospects being invited. She held her own, winning the 3-point contest against several five-star prospects and even challenging Curry to an additional shootout.

Although Fudd didn't beat the two-time NBA MVP, she still garnered high praise from Curry, who noted, "I think she has more of a textbook jumper than anyone I've seen. Maybe Klay Thompson and Azzi Fudd. ... You go Ray Allen, Klay Thompson, and Azzi Fudd, textbook. You would teach somebody how to shoot with their form."

Another generational basketball star can be found right here in Storrs: Paige Bueckers. Bueckers and Fudd met each other at tryouts for a Team USA squad in 2017. The two guards both made the team, which meant they spent a good chunk of the summer together, and their friendship has flourished ever since.

Bueckers also played a large role in Fudd's recruitment to UConn, utilizing all the tools needed to create a "full court press." She created the "GetAzzi-ToUConn" hashtag on Twitter and even went as far to create a mixtape of her own passing highlights. She then played this video for Fudd and her family to demonstrate how many open shots Paige would be giving Azzi once they teamed up.

Fueled by their longstanding bond and chemistry on and off the court, Fudd and Bueckers will bring intense excitement to Storrs this year, as they team up to try to secure a twelfth national title for the Huskies.



Sports

What I am looking forward to as a second-year UConn student

by Cole Stefan
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With the return of most students to campus, the desire to attend a sporting event in Storrs has never been greater, especially coming off a year where most fans were not allowed at any sporting event. After a spring season where four teams (one of which is playing this fall) won a Big East championship and two more finished as runner-ups, UConn athletics are back.

This will be the first time I will experience a sold-out sporting event on campus. Since I was unable to experience the thrills of being a Huskies fan in person last year, here is what I am looking forward to in my second season, from the fall sports to the spring sports.

I look forward to seeing everyone's faces light up when the Huskies score a touchdown. It could be a beautiful connection between quarterback Jack Zegriotis and either Cam Ross or Matt Drayton. It could be a burst of speed past the goal-line defense from running back Kevin Mensah. After a year off from playing games, these guys are ready to prove that all this hard work was not for naught.

I look forward to taking in the thrills of an intense 90-minute soccer match inside a renovated Morrone Stadium. I am ready to see preseason All-Big East team member Jessica Mazo light up the midfield for the women's soccer team, which had a surprise run in last year's abbreviated season. This year, it is going to be a contender for the Big East crown, and it has most of the conference's number.

I want the men's team to try its hardest and improve off last year's results. The return of head coach Ray Reid is going to improve team morale tremendously, while a large freshman class is going to add crucial depth to every single position. If all goes in their favor, the Huskies will add another incredible chapter to their sporting history.

I look forward to seeing the field hockey team continue to dominate the Big East and contend for a national championship after a quarterfinals loss to Louisville this past spring. Even with the retirement of Hall of Fame coach Nancy Stevens, this team is still a juggernaut and nothing is going to stop them from taking what is theirs.

I am excited to see how the volleyball team performs this season, especially with the return of fans to Gampel Arena to help cheer on the players. Led by preseason All-Big East outside hitter Caylee Parker, they will be able to handle the pressure.

I am incredibly excited to see the dynamic duo of Azzi Fudd and Paige Bueckers take over the basketball court and run the show with the help of great teammates, such as Olivia Nelson-Ododa and Aaliyah Edwards, to name a few out of many. Can the return of fans in Gampel help bring the Huskies back to the promised land for the first time in six years? Hopefully.

I am very much looking forward to a strong freshman class in Rahsool Diggins, Jordan Hawkins, the reclassified Corey Floyd Jr. and Samson Johnson developing its talents on the hardwood. They will blend in nicely

with core players such as RJ Cole and Tyrese Martin in what should be a critical and interesting fourth year for head coach Dan Hurley.

I look forward to seeing the men's hockey team improve on one of their best seasons ever, where they snuck into the Top 20 and were able to host a home Hockey East playoff game. With the return of hockey to the XL Center and its fans, as well as a strong recruiting class, this team, led by All-American senior Jonny Evans, will be a sleeper team in the Hockey East conference as well as the nation.

I look forward to the women's hockey team improving off last year's somewhat surprising playoff run, where they beat Boston College for the first time in six tries all season and nearly beat No. 1 Northeastern. Led by captain Natalie Snodgrass and goalies Samantha Carpentier-Yelle and Tia Chan, this team will make offenses and defenses alike quiver in their skates.

I am looking forward to the response of the women's lacrosse team after nearly winning their first ever Big East title last spring. Despite a hard-fought game with the Denver Pioneers, they were unable to come out on top, but they have the pieces to easily return to a finals game. One huge factor is All-American Sydney Watson, a senior last year. If she returns, then it is game over for most of the Big East.

I look forward to seeing both track and field teams break numerous records. You know the men's team is in good hands when they broke the record for most events won at the Big East championship (12), and most points obtained in that same meet (294, second place finished 168 points behind that). The women's team will look to take the final step after losing the championship lead on the final day of the championship meet. With most pieces coming back, the Huskies will give the Villanova Wildcats a hard time.

I am excited to see the baseball team, led by head coach Jim Penders, compete for the opportunity to at least host an NCAA regional tournament on the road to the College World Series. Although losing former commit Frank Mozzicato to the Kansas City Royals hurts, stars like Christian Fedko and Reggie Crawford will bring a lot of energy and talent to a team that will continue to dominate the Big East.

Trying to stream games last year via the UConn website, SportsLive or other websites was difficult; with the ability to go see the games in person this year, the atmosphere is going to feel very different. It won't be a quiet field where the only sounds heard are the commanding shouts and aggressive movement of the players, or the coaches yelling on the sidelines. Instead, it will be filled with cheers and chants and life.

For all students, especially freshmen, welcome to UConn Huskies athletics. This year is truly going to be a special one for all of UConn's teams. You do not want to miss a single minute of the action, because many of these teams are going to be contending for Big East titles and national championships.



UConn SCOREBOARD

Women's Soccer Wednesday

vs. **2** vs. **1**

UPCOMING GAMES

vs. **N**

Field Hockey, Thursday, 1 p.m.
Evanston, IL

vs. **S**

Women Volleyball, Thursday, 7 pm
Syracuse, N.Y.

INSTAGRAM OF THE DAY

@uconnpd_officercarson
Met some terrific @uconn RA's who were in between training sessions today. Welcome to #carsonscrew

TWEETS OF THE DAY

UConn Women's Soccer @UConnWSOC
Huskies Win! Again!
#KeepClimbing

Husky Highlights @UConnHighlights
November 3, 2007: Tyvon Branch (@tyvonbranch) has this kickoff return for a touchdown in a 38-19 beatdown of Rutgers improving UConn to 8-1

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