



CONFIRMED 2021 COVID-19 CASES AT UCONN STORRS
as of 8:47 p.m. on Sept. 23 *positive test results

4 Current Residential Cases (positive/symptomatic)

4 Cumulative Residential Cases*

4 Cumulative Commuter Cases*

11 Cumulative Staff Cases*

Feel Good Friday: UConn to return to Rentschler after almost two years

by **Colin Piteo**
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On Saturday, UConn Football will return to Rentschler Field at Pratt and Whitney Stadium for the first time since Nov. 23, 2019. This will mark a return after a year and a half defined by COVID-19 and its effect on large gatherings.

At the beginning of the pandemic, all UConn football games during the 2020 season were canceled. This decision left ripples throughout the UConn community as the UConn Marching Band and the UConn cheerleading team were also moved away from Rentschler Field and towards laptop screens and spaced-out gatherings.

Both organizations experienced a host of challenges during the 2020 season, primarily of which was trying to connect and practice given the circumstances.

Samantha Breault, the spirit coordinator and head cheerleading coach at UConn, said the UConn cheerleading team faced difficulty in trying to cultivate a cheerleading team during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"We started outside at the begin-

ning of the semester, we actually practiced on the depot campus for a while, we maintained social distancing for a good amount of time, we kept our masks on at all times, we increased hand washing policies, the whole nine yards," Breault said. "It was definitely a solemn experience to not have game day and to not be surrounded by fans"

Dr. David Mills, the director of the UConn Marching Band said following a year of band on Zoom, it would be hard to attract new and returning members alike.

"Bringing people into the band was the hardest part because we didn't know what to tell them. We didn't have the information and things were still changing. The unknowns were tremendous," Mills said.

According to internal estimates, Mills expected the band membership to drop by about 20 to 25%. Thankfully, this did not happen and the band only ended up shedding about 10% from the 2020 season. Mills credited the band's success in recruiting to the enthusiasm of his returning members and their will to bring the band back after COVID-19.

See FOOTBALL, p. 2



The Huskies lose to the Bulls 22-48 during a game in October 2019. The UConn Football team will return to Rentschler Field for the first time since November 23, 2019, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. FILE PHOTO/ THE DAILY CAMPUS

Gelfenbien Commons reopens to full capacity after a year and a half of Grab & Go dining



Towers dining hall offers Halal food in the back of the food court, like stromboli served at the station in January 2020. Gelfenbien Commons reopened to full capacity this semester with a need for more student workers. PHOTO BY MAGGIE CHAFOULEAS, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF/THE DAILY CAMPUS

by **Henry Kulp**
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Gelfenbien Commons dining hall has reopened to full capacity for the first time since it closed in March 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, according to Thomas C. Dowd, area assistant manager of Gelfenbien Commons and Nosh Kosher Kitchen.

Transitioning from only offering Grab & Go food for the past year and a half to having full-capacity dining for the Fall 2021 semester has required completely

restarting many parts of Gelfenbien's operations, according to Dowd.

"It has been like opening a brand-new unit," Dowd said.

The dining hall had to be completely restocked, and the number of staff had to be drastically increased from four back to the pre-COVID-19 norm of 60 by bringing back previous workers and hiring new ones, according to Dowd.

Although many workers, including the student manager, have returned, Gelfenbien is still looking to hire more workers, accord-

ing to Dowd.

He encouraged any students looking for an on-campus job to consider working at the dining hall.

"If there are any students looking for work, come see us, we would be glad to have you join our team at Gelfenbien," he said.

The reopening process has faced several challenges related to Gelfenbien's design and uncertainty about UConn's pandemic guidelines.

See DINING, p. 2

UConn School of Business awarded \$2M grant



A photo of the school of business. The school was awarded a \$2 million grant to develop and operate an advanced manufacturing center. PHOTO BY ERIN KNAPP, ASSOCIATE PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

by **Aiza Shaikh**
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Last week, the University of Connecticut School of Business became one of just four programs in the U.S. to receive a \$2 million grant for the development and operation of an advanced manufacturing center, according to a press release.

Interim President Dr. Andrew Agwunobi, Lt. Governor Susan Bysiewicz, Sen. Richard Blumenthal and other UConn administrators formally announced the grant at the Graduate Business Learning Center in Hartford.

The five-year grant was awarded by the U.S. Department of Commerce's Minority Business Development Agency. The MBDA is a federal agency working to increase the growth and global competitiveness of minority-owned business enterprises.

"This is an exciting collaboration between partners and stakeholders in several states and Puerto Rico," Agwunobi said. "The project's purpose is to provide technical, business development and manufacturing assistance to minority-owned businesses ... to help them expand their capacity to grow and operate efficiently."

Aside from Connecticut, advanced manufacturing centers can also be found in Arizona, Maryland, Texas, Kentucky, Florida and Washington D.C.

"We are excited to be part of an initiative that supports such an important objective for our state and region's economy," Agwunobi said. "This is one of only four such grants being awarded nationwide, so it represents a significant opportunity for Connecticut to demonstrate leadership in the 21st century economy."

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The tempest of freshman year

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The weekly food review column is back!

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UConn gears up to face Rutgers

Tweet of the Day

Chris Moxley
@ChrisMoxley19
Excited to watch #our UConn Huskies

News

Football and marching band return to their home field

FOOTBALL, cont. from p. 1

“Our returning members who were so dedicated to the band put everything into doing that and they wanted to make it back,” Mills said.

Mills then spoke about the difficulties of this upcoming season, especially with regard to the pandemic.

“The other thing that has made it so difficult this year was having so little time, with basically two new classes and two years off, we had over twice as much to do in half the time,” Mills said.

Breault stated the UConn cheerleading team faces similar challenges as well as a new sense of excitement for the new experience.

“There were definitely some nerves coming into the season. I think those practices we had kind of eased some of the nerves so they got to figure out what was going on before all the fans were there. But, I think there is a whole new sense of excitement too,”

Breault noted. “I’ve always found as a coach that freshmen are so excited for that first game because it’s an experience you’ll remember your whole life and so to get to see half of the team have that excitement again is something that is really cool.”

Breault said that despite the challenges, she expects the UConn cheerleading team to make a triumphant return to Rentschler Field on Saturday.

“They are extremely ready to go. They have... a drive in them that, and I’m not saying teams before haven’t had that drive, but they’ve had something taken away from them and so now to have that back I think they’re excited, driven, and have a whole new passion behind them,” Breault said.

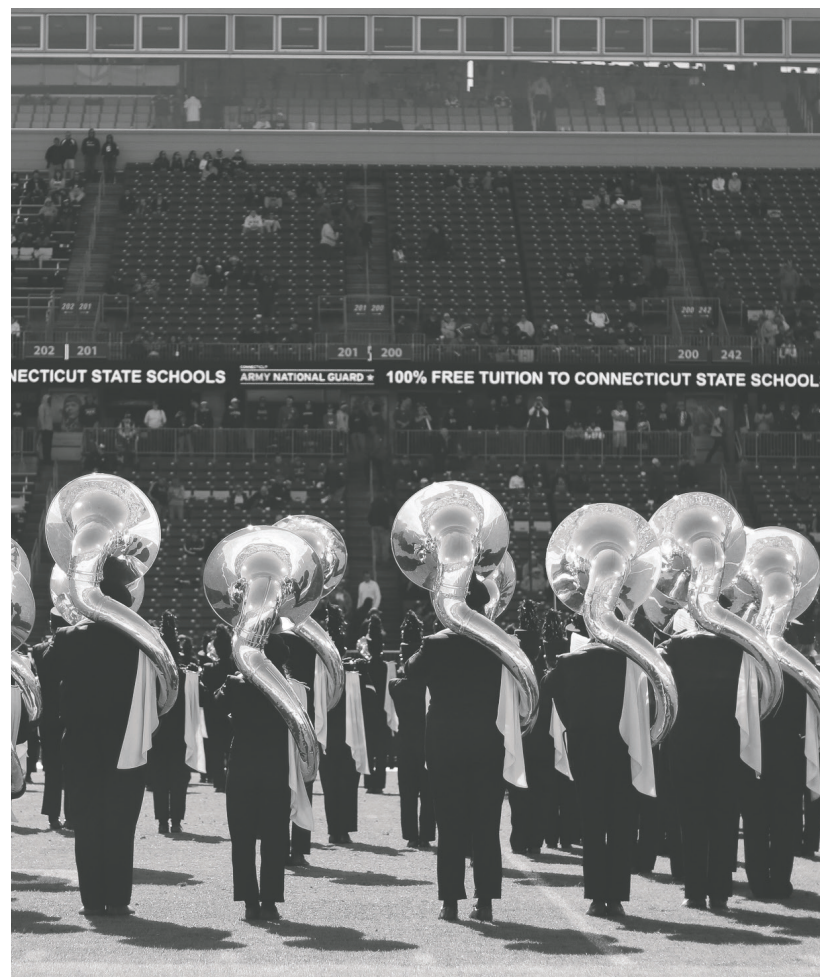
Dr. Mills likewise reflected on the enthusiasm he saw in this new crop of students and his new mission as the director of the UConn Marching Band.

“For me, this is my 47th year as band director. That’s a lot of

years. In my dreams, I always said, let’s just get everything up to the end and then we’ll have the best band ever and then I’ll retire. But when this happened, I realized the much more important ambition than having the best and biggest possible band is perpetuation, and bringing this band back into existence,” Mills said. “So going through this was probably my greatest mission, more than a couple more clicks on the dial of achievement level.”

He also added that fans should not expect any less from the UCMB this Saturday despite the restrictions still brought on by the pandemic.

“The good thing is, because we need to be spaced and getting the three sections there, it’s going to be a lot more comfortable for the band. It looks super and will sound stronger, so even though in the stands we are going to have 30 people less, we’re going to sound bigger and look bigger than ever,” Mills emphasized.



The marching band performs at a Huskies football game during a Saturday in October 2019. PHOTO BY MAGGIE CHAFOULEAS, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Dining halls go back to normal following pandemic

DINING, cont. from p. 1

Before knowing that dining halls would be able to reopen to full capacity for the fall 2021 semester, the staff at Gelfenbien had planned to create a one-way serving line running through the dining hall. Although other dining halls had previously operated this way, the layout of Gelfenbien meant that plan would decrease available space, according to Dowd.

“Due to the unique serving areas at Gelfenbien, we were going to be limited in which ones we could use,” Dowd said.

Anticipating students’ feelings about returning to the dining hall was also a challenge.

“Part of our worry leading up to the re-opening [sic] was how the students would react. Would the students be comfortable returning to full service? Would they be comfortable eating in the unit,” Dowd asked.

Despite challenges, Gelfenbien has been busy since reopening and the staff continue to pay

attention to changes in UConn’s pandemic guidelines, according to Dowd.

“The situation is fluid, tomorrow the guidelines can change. Our job, along with the students, is to make sure we do our best to prevent those changes from happening in a negative way,” Dowd said.

Dowd credited the dining hall staff with making the reopening successful.

“But we are blessed at Gelfenbien to have a very dedicated staff. They have performed at the highest level. I cannot explain my appreciation for the work the staff has put

in,” he said.

Dowd also explained both he and the staff are excited to have a large number of students back in the dining hall.

“I have heard: ‘This is awesome, it is good to be back and busy,’ many times in the last few days and I could not agree more!” he said.

“If there are any students looking for work, come see us, we would be glad to have you on our team at Gelfenbien.”

THOMAS C. DOWD
AREA ASSISTING MANAGER

California families relay harrowing escape from Afghanistan

EL CAJON, Calif. (AP) — When Yousef’s wife and their four children boarded a July 15 flight in San Diego to attend her brother’s wedding in Afghanistan, they were looking forward to a month of family gatherings. It was long overdue — the coronavirus pandemic prevented them from traveling earlier.

Their return ticket was Aug. 15, two days before their children’s school year began in the San Diego suburb of El Cajon.

But the Afghan-American family found themselves dodging gunfire and trying to force their way into the crowds of thousands ringing the airport in Kabul after Afghanistan’s government collapsed and the Taliban seized power.

Yousef’s wife and children were among eight families from El Cajon who found themselves trapped after U.S. troops raced to evacuate Americans and allies and then left the country. Yousef asked that only his first name be used because he still has family in Afghanistan who could be at risk.

All but one of the families got out with the help of the Cajon Valley Union School District and Republican Rep. Darrell Issa, whose district includes El Cajon, a city with a large refugee population. The families had traveled on their own over the summer to see relatives and were not part of an organized trip.

Several of the families, accompanied by Issa and school officials, spoke to reporters Thursday for the first time since they returned, recounting their harrowing experience.

The parents described running with their kids as gunfire whizzed overhead. One father said he was beaten by the Taliban. They said they were blocked at Taliban checkpoints.

They said they are grateful to be back but their children have suffered nightmares, and they worry about the family that was unable to get out, along with countless others still stuck there, including distant relatives.

“My kids are now safe at home right now thanks to God and all of you,” Yousef said.

But he asked people not to forget about so many others, including U.S. citizens, green card holders and Afghans who are at risk for helping the American government. He held in his hand a folder that he said contained the documents of 30 people who qualified for a special immigrant visa and should be in the United States but are still in Afghanistan, desperate to escape.

President Joe Biden has said between 100 and 200 Americans were left behind when U.S. troops completed their withdrawal Aug. 31, many of them dual citizens. The

State Department has given no estimate for the number of green card holders nor the number of Afghans who remain who helped the U.S. government during the 20-year war and were recipients of a special immigrant visa to come to the United States.

Issa said he believes the number to be much higher for U.S. citizens and the others. Many of the families he helped get back to California in the past week are green card holders. Some are U.S. citizens.

“We’re delighted to have these kids back in school and their parents united, but we also know that there’s a lot more work to do,” Issa said.

Yousef said he felt helpless being in California, thousands of miles away, fearing the life they had built would come to a halt and his wife and children would be trapped in the country ruled by the Taliban. He, his wife and children are all U.S. citizens. They came to the United States on a special immigrant visa after Yousef worked for the U.S. government in Afghanistan.

After they failed to get into the airport on Aug. 15, his wife and kids returned to their relative’s home.

Yousef alerted his family from El Cajon that the U.S. Embassy in Kabul was advising people not to go to the airport because of threats.

The Daily Campus

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Why was Ida so devastating as it flooded the Northeast?

NEW YORK (AP) — “How can something like this happen?”

The plaintive question posed by a Queens resident whose neighbors drowned was on the lips of many after the remnants of Ida furiously swept through the Northeast.

Several dozen people — from Maryland up to Connecticut — were killed Wednesday night and Thursday morning. Elected officials expressed shock at the severity of the deluge, but the National Weather Service as early as Monday had cautioned that Ida could bring flooding to the New York City area. By Tuesday, the National Hurricane Center had increased the urgency of the warning, heralding the potential for “significant and life-threatening flash flooding” and river flooding throughout the region.

So, why didn't anyone see it coming?

Well, some did. Over the weekend, National Weather Service Director Louis Uccellini and other meteorologists started seeing an eerie similarity to 1969's Hurricane Camille, which killed more than 100 people in Virginia with 20 inches (50 centimeters) of rain long after making landfall in Mississippi.

“We collectively were aware of this possibility. These discussions were started even before the storm made landfall in Louisiana,” Uccellini told The Associated Press.

Despite this, the press conferences and loud warnings from public officials that accompanied storms like Sandy or even last month's Henri were mostly absent until the brunt of the storm was upon the region.

Pennsylvania suffered first, with flash flood warnings issued in an area that included two poorly rated dams Wednesday afternoon.

“I know that today, many people in

Pennsylvania are hurting. We experienced a historic storm here all across the commonwealth,” Gov. Tom Wolf said at a news conference Thursday. “A lot of Pennsylvanians will be dealing with very hard emotions today.

Flash flood emergencies — which are pushed to cellphones — are the most extreme alert the National Weather Service has, reserved as an 11th-hour attempt to get people to seek safety after catastrophic flooding has begun. But many in harm's way in New York didn't flee, whether because of the time of day, the lack of warning by government officials, the lack of resources to find shelter — or a disregard of the many alerts that filter through cellphones on a daily basis.

Asked how last night's subway disruption and the deaths of at least 11 people in New York City could have been prevented, city and state officials stressed the unprecedented amount of rain that fell between about 8:50 and 9:50 p.m. and the grim reality of climate change.

Mayor Bill de Blasio said initial estimates indicated a minimum rainfall of 3 inches (8 centimeters) over the course of the day — but more than 3 inches fell in just one hour, breaking a city record.

“Records were broken, but what is fascinating is that the records that they broke were literally set a week before. That's what we're dealing with now, my friends,” New York Gov. Kathy Hochul said during a Thursday briefing. “People have been warning for decades that the effect of climate change and what it would do to our communities. It's happening right now. It is not a future threat.”

New York City's environmental protection commissioner, Vincent Sapienza, said the city's sewer system isn't really equipped to handle any-



The lights of Times Square in New York are reflected in standing water Thursday, Sept 2, 2021, as Hurricane Ida left behind not just water on city streets but wind damage and severe flooding along the Eastern seaboard. PHOTO VIA AP

thing over 2 inches (5 centimeters) an hour without trouble.

City Council Member Justin Brannan, a Brooklyn Democrat, said it's not that the sewers were poorly designed — “the problem is they were designed 100 years ago,” he tweeted.

De Blasio touted a \$2 billion investment in fixing sewer problems and other infrastructure issues in southeast Queens in the wake of Superstorm Sandy, but said much more needs to be done to temper deadly flooding throughout the city. The city has until September 2022 to spend federal disaster relief funds from Sandy.

“This is a tragically, very longstand-

ing problem. And one of the things that became clear was we were going to have to make an extraordinary investment to address it. That investment is having impact, but it's not complete,” he said.

But the weather service was sounding alarms. On Monday morning, federal forecasters warned of 3 to 6 inches (8 to 15 centimeters) of rain. They increased that to 3 to 8 inches (8 to 20 centimeters) of rain in forecasts on Tuesday, also increasing their extreme rainfall forecast to “high risk” — something that rarely happens.

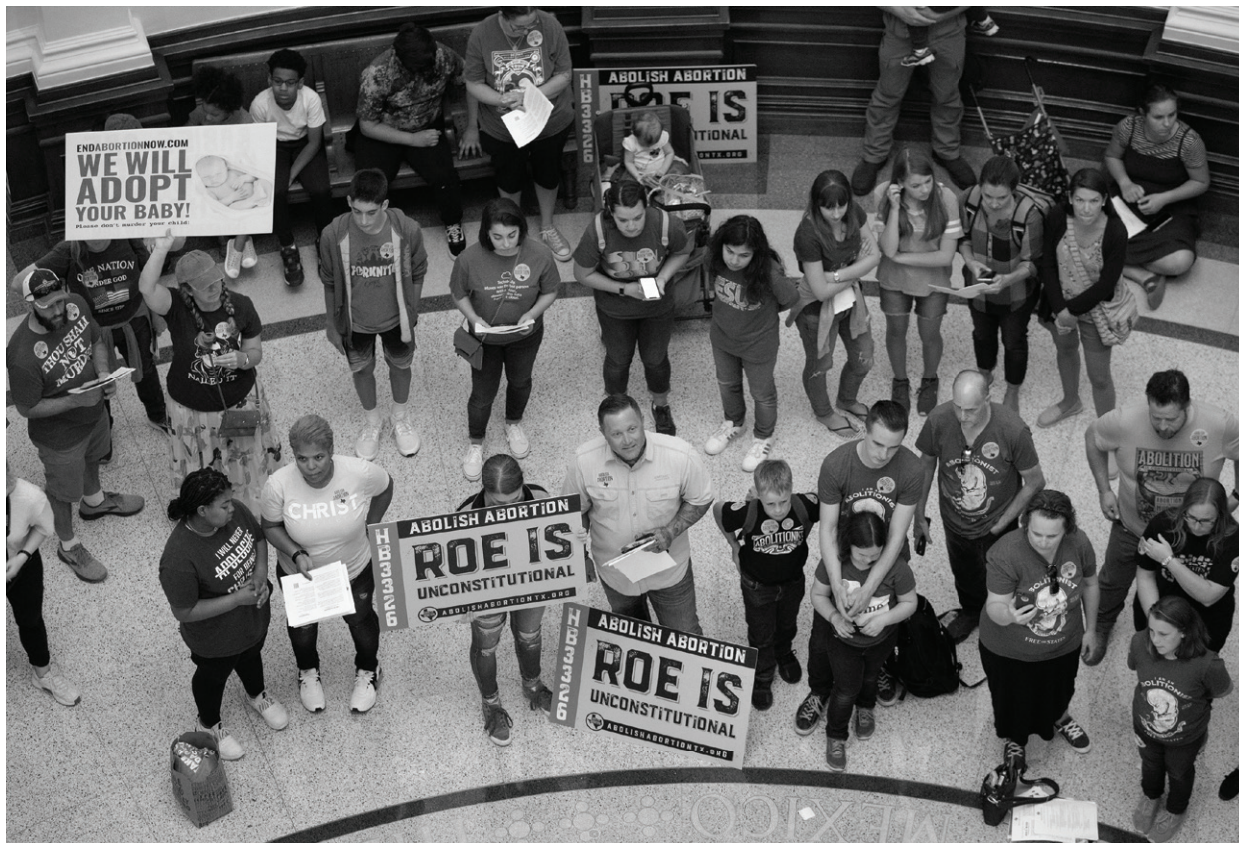
The trouble is that after Sandy, officials talked about getting better infrastructure ready for climate

change-charged storms, said Columbia University climate scientist Adam Sobel.

“Nearly a decade after Sandy, after a lot of planning and effort at the state and local level on resilience to extreme weather events, one might have hoped, in an alternate reality (where, for example, the MTA weren't chronically under-funded), that we might have seen a bit more progress on keeping water out of the subways, for example,” Sobel said in an email.

What were once 100-year floods now happen far more often — some subway stations flooded scarcely two months ago, courtesy Elsa.

New Texas abortion law pushes women to out-of-state clinics



Pro-life demonstrators gather in the rotunda at the Capitol on March 30, 2021 while the Senate debates anti-abortion bills in Austin, Texas. Even before a strict abortion ban took effect in Texas this week, clinics in neighboring states were fielding more and more calls from women desperate for options. PHOTO VIA AP

(AP) — Even before a strict abortion ban took effect in Texas this week, clinics in neighboring states were fielding growing numbers of calls from women desperate for options.

An Oklahoma clinic had received more than double its number of typical inquiries, two-thirds of them from Texas. A Kansas clinic is anticipating a patient increase of up to 40% based on calls from women in Texas. A Colorado clinic that already had started seeing more patients from other states was preparing to ramp up supplies

and staffing in anticipation of the law taking effect.

The Texas law, allowed to stand in a decision Thursday by the U.S. Supreme Court, bans abortions once medical professionals can detect cardiac activity, typically around six weeks. In a highly unusual twist, enforcement will be done by private citizens who can sue anyone they believe is violating the law.

“There's real panic about how are they going to get an abortion within six weeks,” said Anna Rupani, co-di-

rector of Fund Texas Choice, one of several nonprofits that help pay for travel and other expenses for patients seeking out-of-state abortions. “There's this fear that if I can't get it done in six weeks, I may not be able to get it done because I may not be able to leave my job or my family for more than a day.”

Traveling for an abortion may be impossible for women who would struggle to find child care or take time off work. And for those without legal U.S. status along Texas' southern border, traveling to an abortion clinic also entails the risk of getting stopped at a checkpoint.

Fund Texas Choice is among the groups seeking to expand a network that helps women in Texas and other places with restrictive abortion laws end their pregnancies in other states. It already has seen more women reaching out. The organization typically handles 10 new cases per week

but received 10 calls from new clients just Wednesday, when the law took effect.

The phenomenon is not new. Women have been increasingly seeking out-of-state abortions as Republican legislatures and governors have passed ever-tighter abortion laws, particularly in the South. At least 276,000 women terminated their pregnancies outside their home state between 2012 and 2017, according to a 2019 Associated Press analysis of state and federal data.

The trend appears to have accelerated over the past year. Abortion clinics in neighboring states began seeing an uptick in calls from Texas after Gov. Greg Abbott banned abortions in March 2020 for nearly a month under a COVID-19 executive order.

The number of Texans seeking abortions in Planned Parenthood clinics in the Rocky Mountain region, which covers Colorado, New Mexico, Wyoming and southern Nevada, was 12 times higher that month. In California, 7,000 patients came from other states to Planned Parenthood clinics in 2020.

The number of Texans getting abortions in Kansas jumped from 25 in 2019 to 289 last year. The Trust Women clinic in Wichita accounted for 203 of those procedures in a three-month period. Those patients traveled an average of 650 miles (1,000 kilometers), Trust Women spokesman Zack Gingrich-Gaylord said.

“Last year was a dress rehearsal,” he said, predicting similar numbers under the new Texas law.

One woman discovered she was pregnant just as Abbott's emergency order banning abortions was lifted. She and her partner had lost their jobs in San Antonio during the pandemic.

“We didn't know which way the world was going to go with everything shut down and no change in sight,” said Miranda, who spoke on the condition that only her first name be used for fear of harassment and intimidation. “The last thing I wanted to do was be pregnant.”

She struggled to find an abortion clinic that could help her. An online

search led her to Fund Texas Choice and the Lilith Fund, another organization that offers financial assistance to Texans seeking abortions. They offered to pay for a flight to New Mexico.

“It's so comforting because it's like someone saying, ‘We got you. Let's take care of this together,’” Miranda said.

Eventually, she found an appointment at a clinic in Dallas, a five-hour drive away. The groups helped with gas and lodging, aid that will be even more important with the new law, Miranda said.

“To be able to help me in a time of need when I had nothing, not even a job — that's something I think a lot of women would benefit from if they knew those options were there,” she said.

Trust Women Wichita clinic director Ashley Brink said the phones have been busier than normal this week with potential patients from Texas and beyond. Women also have been calling from Louisiana and Alabama who would typically get abortion care in Texas but are having to travel even farther.

The clinic typically sees 40 to 50 abortion patients in a week and now is expecting an additional 15 to 20.

At Trust Women's clinic in Oklahoma City, 80 appointments were scheduled over the past two days, more than double the typical amount, co-executive director Rebecca Tong said. Two-thirds were from Texas, and the earliest opening was three weeks out.

“Oklahoma has just barely enough clinics for the amount of people here,” Tong said. “If anyone is thinking, ‘Oh, they can just go out of state, it'll be so easy,’ a lot of clinics in the Midwest and South, we don't do abortion care five days a week.”

Oklahoma providers also face the potential for abortion restrictions similar to those in Texas in a matter of months.

In recent months, 15% of patients supported by Cobalt, an abortion access advocacy group in Colorado, were from out of state, president Karen Middleton said. She expects that number to keep rising.

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Freshman: Brave the tempest

by Arman Chowdhury
ASSOCIATE MANAGING EDITOR
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My freshman year, I never made it to a cappella rehearsal on time. While I was thrilled to be part of a South Asian-themed music group with my peers, I had an inconvenient habit of either showing up late, or not realizing rehearsal was happening at all. A hangout with a friend once abruptly ended when I saw the time and darted from our dormitory to the music building across the street.

My attendance issues were so dire that I eventually had to attend a meeting with the group's board to discuss them. I was distraught. I loved the group and took it seriously, and was frustrated by how rehearsal times always seemed to slip my mind. At the meeting, they remarked on my clear dedication to the group, but still the issue remained: I needed to come to practice.

Struggles are expected in the first year, when freshmen are losing the keys to their rooms (only to be surprised by the hefty lock-out fees), losing their way around campus or frantically searching

for their classroom in the maze that is the Gant Science Complex (as I have done many times and still do).

In the case of my a cappella group, thankfully, an older member offered to help. We got lunch in Whitney Dining Hall, and as we sat, she pulled out her laptop and showed me around her Google Calendar. She showed how she put in her weekly schedule for all the weeks of the semester. After that lunch, I promptly made a Google Calendar of my own.

I started showing up to practice on time. I set my Google Calendar so I received two notifications before rehearsal, one half an hour before, and another 15 minutes before. Getting to rehearsal was easy; I hardly had to think! I just needed someone to, as the saying goes, teach me how to fish.

The adjustments of freshman year bring their own challenges. Notably, for the past two years those have been compounded by additional struggles brought on by the pandemic and virtual classes.

Adjustment is challenging, but it is temporary. For me, as I hope other seniors can say, too, the challenges I faced my freshman year helped me grow into the capable student I am today, with an impeccable Google Calendar. I am proud as I look back on four years singing, learning and writing that I will truly miss. To the freshmen: Take care of yourself. Find mentors. Brave the storm. This, too, shall pass.

"My attendance issues were so dire that I eventually had to attend a meeting with the group's board to discuss them."



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



Life

 @dailycampuslife

Holli eats.

**Hollianne Lao brings
back The Daily Campus'
signature food column.**

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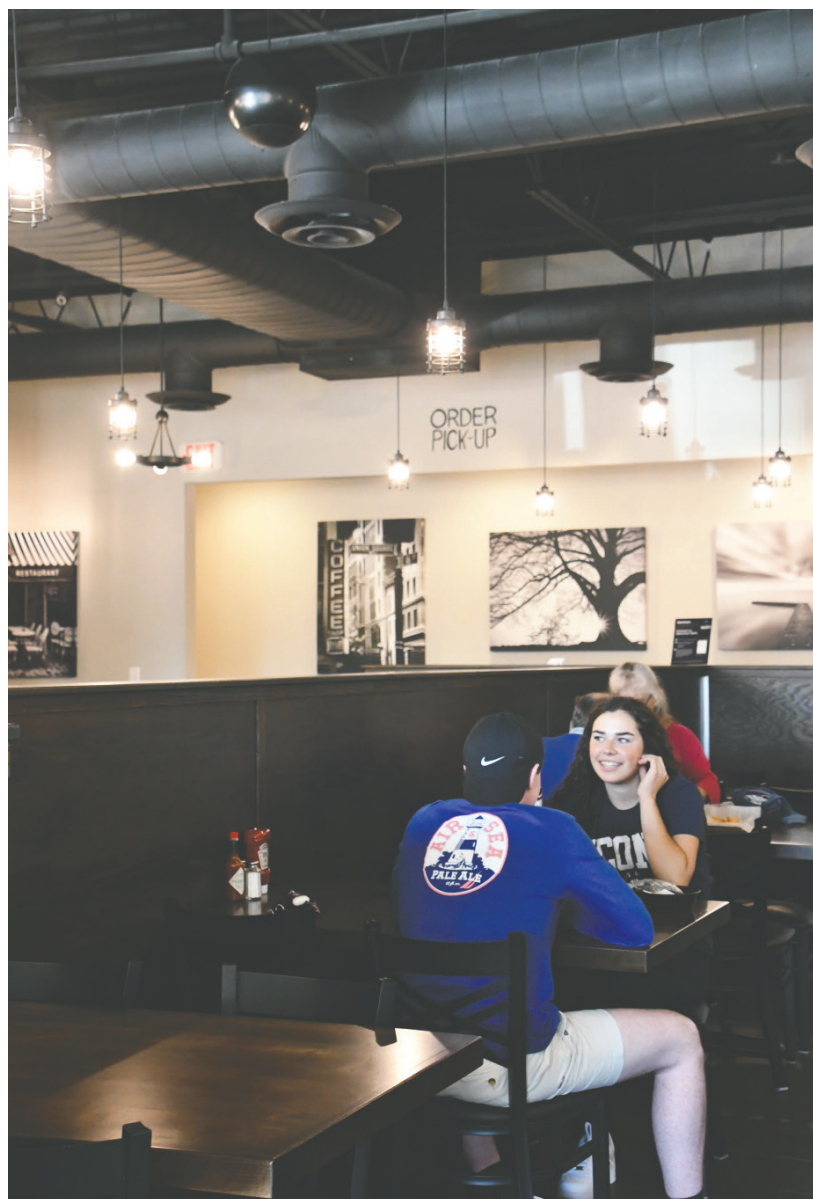
ROUND CAMPUS

Restaurant Roundup

by **Hollianne Lao**
LIFE EDITOR
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The beginning of the semester always carries the excitement of returning to campus and reuniting with fellow Huskies, settling into a new schedule and visiting our favorite places. This school year's return was long overdue, and the UConn community returns Storrs welcoming back the hustle and bustle of campus life. A big part of campus life is the food — sure, lining up for Grab 'N Go and being told they ran out of half of the ingredients definitely seemed annoying at the time, but I've truly come to miss my classic chicken and chipotle ranch wrap with a big chocolate chip cookie. Dining halls are not open to outside guests, but they can now seat at 100% capacity. Storrs Center has said farewell and hello to a few businesses amidst the pandemic — 7-Eleven, Dave's Deli, Bonchon and Geno's in the former category, and Fresh Fork Cafe in the latter. Special shout-out to CrossRoads Café, a plant-based UConn café in the Wilbur Cross building, which I will feature in the coming weeks as a student-led initiative.

In a spiritual successor to my selection of Storrs Center food offerings, I'll be looking at some other places to eat around campus the UConn community can enjoy now they're back on campus.



Fresh Fork Cafe

Located in the unit next to Price Chopper and previously housed by Bonchon, this UConn alum-owned casual eatery adds some variety to the typical college fare of pizza, wings and sandwiches — which we love, but when you realize there are not many options to eat near campus, you desire what you don't have. As the name suggests, the cafe boasts a menu made with fresh ingredients, as well as attention to detail and care for the community. The selection includes all-day breakfast, sandwiches, pasta, salads and smoothies, and many of the items can be made vegan, vegetarian or gluten-free if they aren't already. Students are always looking for more places to do work and grab a bite, and the cafe offers that change of scenery.

Be sure to check out my interview with Matt Tetrault (CLAS '08) and my review of the cafe that we'll be publishing in the next couple of weeks — in the meantime, check out what Fresh Fork Cafe has to offer!

ORDER: Fried chicken sandwich, tofu bahn mi, seasoned fries, strawberry and banana smoothie

Hops 44

You might have passed by Hops 44 on the way to campus, situated next to Toast Four Corners. Originally known as HopKnot with a speciality of pretzels and cheese to eat with their beers on tap, the restaurant still serves classic bar food — with fun flavor twists — to pair with their drink selection. With the decor and set-up, it's a cool place to enjoy some drinks and dinner with friends or family in a lowkey setting.

ORDER: Knot Your Mama's Fries, chicken bacon ranch stuffed pretzel, The Smash pretzel flatbread, Cloudscape IPA



UConn students enjoy dinner at the Fresh Fork Cafe located in Downtown Storrs. The recently-opened eatery features an entirely gluten-free and vegan menu upon customer request.

PHOTOGRAPH BY JULIE SPILLANE, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Tea More Cafe

Don't be fooled by its name - what actually shines at this cafe is the food. This Storrs Center selection is cute, comforting and has a great selection of northern Chinese cuisine for reasonable prices. There is a good amount and variety of Chinese and Asian-inspired restaurants in the area that have their own merits, but I feel that Tea More doesn't get enough love for what it offers. Most of its entrees come in a solid portion of rice and protein, along with broccoli and a crispy spring roll - not thick and soggy, like some Chinese-American spring rolls. They offer some familiar Chinese-American dishes, like honey spareribs, crab rangoons and shumai, as well as more authentic offerings like mala tang - spicy hot pot soup with noodles - braised pork and black pepper beef. Consider Tea More when you get a Chinese food craving.

ORDER: Crispy chicken outlet with curry, eggplant with garlic sauce and sesame chicken

Chuck's Steakhouse and Margarita Grill

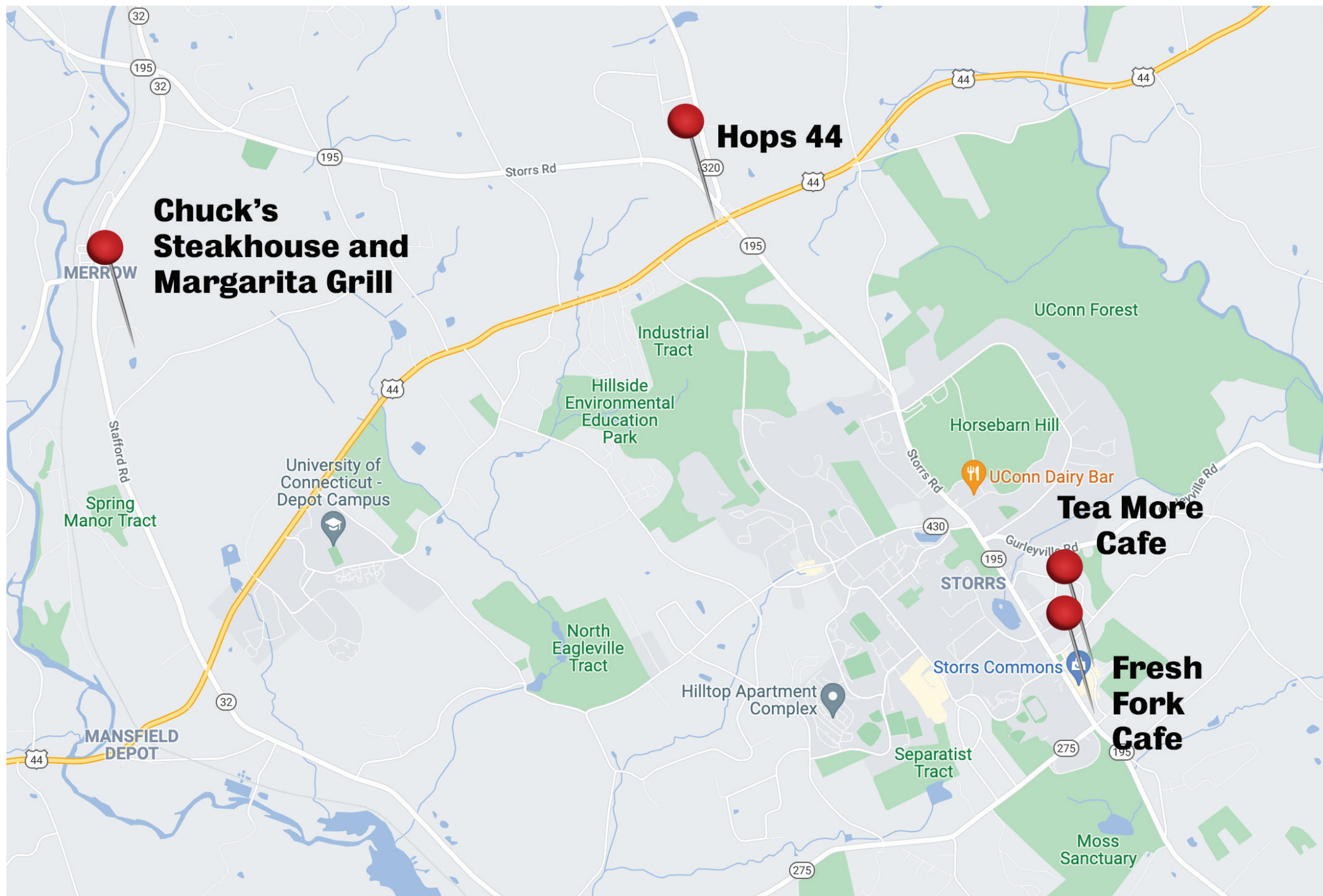
More affectionately known as Chuck and Margs to the greater UConn community, this Mexican-inspired restaurant churns out flavorful food and the titular drinks in a fun atmosphere that also works well for events and gatherings. None of us have tried the steak or seafood on the grill options, but everything my friends and I have ordered from there so far has been delicious, and in gargantuan portions (which evens out the slightly higher prices compared to other restaurants in the area).

ORDER: Super burrito, black bean/skillet baked enchiladas, nachos bandido, mango margarita, white peach sangria



A meal at Chuck's Steakhouse and Margarita Grill. For the first Holiests of the semester, Life Editor Hollie Lao recommends ordering the super burrito and a mango margarita at this Mexican-inspired restaurant.

PHOTOGRAPH VIA GOOGLE IMAGES



Opinion StudyBreak

Photo of the Day | Is it spooky season yet?



A student dressed up as a sheet ghost with sunglasses poses in front of some graffiti in the abandoned court area behind the Northwest dining hall October 2020. PHOTO BY SOFIA SAW-CHUK, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Wind instrument's flared end
 - 5 Asian noodle
 - 9 "As if!"
 - 14 Smoothie ingredient
 - 15 Endangered Pacific bird
 - 16 Big name in games
 - 17 You might take a day trip on one
 - 18 Suffragist Carrie Chapman ___
 - 19 Evening course for many college students
 - 20 2013 Mark Wahlberg war film
 - 23 Comb
 - 24 NBA player since 2013
 - 28 Warning on some serving containers
 - 30 Previously owned
 - 31 Great Plains tribe
 - 32 Homeland Security org.
 - 33 Passed unremarkably
 - 35 Info on rap sheets
 - 36 Not hiding much
 - 38 Prefix with -logue
 - 39 Minimal, with "of"
 - 41 Proposal amt.
 - 42 1960 Melina Mercouri rom-com
 - 47 Long Island university
 - 48 Coat for Santa?
 - 49 Epitome of anxiety ... or what's hidden in three puzzle answers?
 - 54 Bishop in "Alien" films, for short
 - 57 Pokémon species whose final form is Alakazam
 - 58 "Fancy seeing you here!"
 - 59 "TODAY with Hoda & ___"
 - 60 Winter air?
 - 61 Slinky, e.g.

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
14					15					16				
17					18					19				
20				21					22					
			23				24				25	26	27	
		28					29							
	30						31				32			
33			34		35				36	37				
38			39	40						41				
42			43				44	45	46					
47							48							
			49				50				51	52	53	
54	55	56					57				58			
59							60				61			
62							63				64			

By August Miller 9/3/21

- DOWN**
- 62 With "over," request for room
 - 63 Spanish muralist
 - 64 Skater Michelle

- DOWN**
- 1 Cry out loud
 - 2 Call back?
 - 3 Stretched out
 - 4 Citrus soft drink
 - 5 Free from shackles
 - 6 Treasured by
 - 7 Airing
 - 8 Sinus-clearing aids
 - 9 Some former inmates
 - 10 Lead the cast of
 - 11 Omelet choice
 - 12 "___ you serious?"
 - 13 Succeed
 - 21 Command before "Stay," maybe
 - 22 Video hosting service with a big YouTube presence
 - 25 Too adorable
 - 26 It's a plus
 - 27 Approaching
 - 28 ___ lands
 - 29 Turnips, say
 - 30 Was optimistic

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

C	A	C	H	E		V	O	L		M	A	S	T	S
A	T	H	O	S		A	H	A		A	S	C	O	T
B	R	I	L	L	O	P	A	D		R	H	O	N	E
O	I	L	Y		F	O	R	E		S	T	O	N	E
T	A	D			F	R	E	N	C	H	O	P	E	N
			S	P	A	S			A	Y	N			
E	S	T	E	S		A	R	T	S		S	A	T	
T	H	A	T	S	T	H	E	W	A	Y	I	T	I	S
S	Y	R			R	I	C	O		A	G	I	L	E
			D	E	A				I	M	A	M		
T	A	X	E	X	P	E	R	T	S		U	T	A	
O	P	T	I	C		T	O	O	L		S	L	I	M
P	R	I	C	E		H	O	N	E	S	T	A	B	E
P	I	L	E	S		E	K	E		C	U	T	I	N
S	L	E	D	S		L	S	D		I	D	E	A	S

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- 33 Actress Rowlands
- 34 Complained about
- 35 Common sights at kids' soccer games
- 37 Pet lizard's basking spot
- 40 Nobelist Niels
- 43 Weather-affecting current
- 44 Kind of shark
- 45 Margarita order
- 46 Notable index, with "the"
- 50 It's found among the reeds
- 51 Site for DIYers
- 52 Trendy smoothie seed
- 53 Pottery basic
- 54 Supplies the tunes, briefly
- 55 "Parks and ___"
- 56 Artist Yoko

Sudoku

6			4		9	8		
	9		1	7				
								3
		1				5	4	9
8				9				1
9	5	4				6		
2								
				4	8		5	
		9	6		3			2

Solution to Thursday's puzzle 9/3/21

9	2	4	6	5	3	7	8	1
1	7	5	8	2	4	3	6	9
6	3	8	1	7	9	5	4	2
4	8	3	9	6	7	1	2	5
2	9	6	3	1	5	8	7	4
5	1	7	2	4	8	9	3	6
7	5	9	4	8	6	2	1	3
8	4	1	5	3	2	6	9	7
3	6	2	7	9	1	4	5	8

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit sudoku.org.uk

DYK?

A shrimp's heart is in its head.

A SHARK IS THE ONLY KNOWN FISH THAT CAN BLINK WITH BOTH EYES.

FACTS COURTESY OF NIEHS.NIH.GOV

Newton, Peterson, Bell and Gurley among unsigned big names

NEW YORK (AP) — They were once at the top of the NFL — league MVPs, All-Pro, Pro Bowlers and faces of franchises.

With the regular season about to kick off, they're now at the front of the unemployment line.

Cam Newton, Adrian Peterson, Le'Veon Bell, Todd Gurley and Richard Sherman are just some of the big-name players without jobs as teams prepare for Week 1.

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Peterson,
Le'veon Bell,
Todd Gurley
and Richard
Sherman are
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Some players might be waiting for the right opportunity. Meanwhile, teams might be holding off on adding a veteran before the season begins while assessing their rosters — and financial situations.

But for other players, their time in the NFL as productive playmakers might have unceremoniously

come and gone.

Here's a look at some of the more recognizable — and accomplished — players still waiting for a call:

CAM NEWTON

A surprise cut by New England on Tuesday, the 2015 NFL MVP lost out on the starting job to rookie Mac Jones. He started 15 games for the Patriots last season and showed glimpses of the dynamic playmaker he was in Carolina. But he finished with eight touchdown passes and 10 interceptions in what was easily the worst full season of his career.

ADRIAN PETERSON

The fifth-leading rusher in NFL history is 36, but told SportsTalk 790 in Houston in July that he's still aiming to play at least another season. "My body feels strong," Peterson said. "I still feel young. I still feel good." The 2012 NFL MVP had a solid if unspectacular one-season stint in Detroit last year, running for 604 yards and seven touchdowns.

LE'VEON BELL

Just a few years ago, Bell was arguably the best all-around running back in the league, a do-it-all playmaking force for Pittsburgh. Then he sat out the entire 2018 season while in a contract dispute. Looking to rejuvenate his career — and reclaim his place among the NFL's elite — Bell signed with the Jets in 2019, but fizzled before being cut after two games last year. Kansas City signed him, but he wasn't much of a factor; he was active but didn't play in the Super Bowl.

TODD GURLEY

Gurley, who's only 27, put up video game-like stats in three of his first four seasons with the Rams, including running for 30 touchdowns and catching 10 TD passes in 2017 and '18. Concerns about his left knee cropped up when he struggled in the 2018 playoffs and again the following season, when he had just 857 yards rushing. Gurley signed with Atlanta last year and showed only flashes, running for a career-low 678 yards while sharing the backfield with Brian Hill and Ito Smith.

RICHARD SHERMAN

Once a key piece of Seattle's "Legion of Boom" defense, Sherman was arguably the best cornerback in the league in his prime. He spent the last three years in San Francisco as a still-solid player when healthy — he missed 11 games last season with a calf injury. While still conceivably able to help a team's secondary even at 33, Sherman's playing future is uncertain. He faces legal issues stemming from his arrest in July on accusations of drunkenly crashing his SUV in a construction zone and trying to break into his in-laws' suburban Seattle home.

LARRY FITZGERALD

It appeared 2020 would be the last season for Fitzgerald, who has played all 17 years of his NFL career with the Arizona Cardinals. That sentiment seemed to be cemented two weeks ago when the 38-year-old Fitzgerald told SiriusXM he was focused on be-

ing a radio broadcaster. "I just don't have the urge to play right now," he said. But could he have a change of heart with the season about to start? Second only to Jerry Rice in career receptions and yards receiving, Fitzgerald could certainly help a team that thinks it's one receiver away — or give Cardinals fans one final hurrah.

FRANK GORE

The No. 3 rusher in NFL history might have finally reached the end of his likely journey to the Pro Football Hall of Fame. But the 38-year-old running back has defied odds his entire career, recovering from multiple knee injuries to become one of the league's most productive performers out of the backfield. He finished with 653 yards last season to lead the Jets in his one year in New York. If he stills wants to carry the ball, it's tough to count him out.

DAVID DeCASTRO

The 31-year-old guard was a consistently reliable blocker in nine years for the Steelers while being selected an All-Pro twice and making six straight Pro Bowl trips. DeCastro dealt with a few injuries last season that limited him to 13 games and he needed offseason ankle surgery. He was released by Pittsburgh with a non-football injury designation and retirement seemed likely. But with so many teams needing O-line help, a healthy DeCastro would give someone an immediate upgrade.

ROBERT GRIFFIN III

RG3 hasn't been a full-time starting quarterback in several

years, but he was an experienced backup the last three seasons in Baltimore. The 31-year-old QB joined ESPN as an NFL and college football analyst, but has a clause in his contract that would allow him to still join an NFL team looking for a veteran — if he chooses to leave the booth.

DEZ BRYANT

The former Cowboys star wide receiver missed the 2018 season with an Achilles tendon injury and then was without a job for all of 2019. He made his return to the NFL last year, joining Baltimore as a complementary receiver in the Lamar Jackson-led offense. Bryant caught six passes for 47 yards and two TDs in six games, hardly superstar numbers. But at 32, he still believes he could help a contender looking for one more piece to the offense.

ALSHON JEFFERY

The former Bears star had six straight seasons in which he caught at least 52 passes and had at least 789 yards receiving. Calf, hip and foot injuries limited him to just 43 catches in 10 games in 2019 with the Eagles. He spent the first eight games on the sideline last season and finished with just six catches in seven games. Healthy again, the 31-year-old Jeffery could give a team a big-bodied third-down and red-zone target.

OTHERS STILL OUT THERE

DT Geno Atkins, WR John Brown, CB Quinton Dunbar, DE Trent Murphy, CB Josh Norman, OT Russell Okung, OT Mitchell Schwartz, WR Golden Tate, DE Olivier Vernon.

US draws 0-0 at El Salvador in World Cup qualifying opener

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador (AP) — The United States showed promise but no ability to finish in its pandemic-delayed World Cup qualifying opener, drawing 0-0 at El Salvador on Thursday night in the type of Central American stadium that repeatedly has stymied the Americans.

Both teams created few chances before a boisterous yet polite sellout crowd of about 30,000 that started filling Monumental Estadio Cuscatlán, Central America's largest, about 8 1/2 hours before kickoff.

The U.S., trying to rebound from its failure to qualify for the 2018 World Cup, failed to win its sixth straight road qualifier dating to 2016 (two losses, four draws).

Qualifying was delayed a year by the pandemic, and a compacted schedule has teams in the final round of North and Central America and the Caribbean playing 14 matches in seven months. The U.S. hosts Canada on Sunday in Nashville, Tennessee, and plays at Honduras on Sept. 8.

Three of the eight nations in regional finals qualify for next year's tournament in Qatar and fourth place advances to a playoff. But there rarely are easy games for the U.S. in Central America.

Riot police with helmets and shields were in front of the stands. Fans, most wearing blue home jerseys, were separated from the field by yellow chain-link fencing. Many held up the lights on their mobile phones, as if it were a rock concert.

Fireworks started during El Salvador's national anthem and kept exploding for the first five minutes.

Miles Robinson had the best chance in the first half, putting an open header over the crossbar in the ninth minute from a Gio Reyna free kick.

Eriq Zavaleta's header from Marvin Monterroza's corner kick was stopped by diving U.S. goalkeeper Matt Turner in the 57th. Weston McKennie couldn't get his head solidly on Reyna's cross in the 73rd, then crossed to Kellyn Acosta for a header that was punched away by diving Mario González in the 76th.

McKennie and DeAndre Yedlin were given yellow cards for fouls in the second half. A second yellow in another game would cause a one-game suspension.

It had been 1,424 days since the 2-1 loss at Trinidad and Tobago ended the Americans' streak of seven straight World Cup appearances. Yedlin was the only holdover in the U.S. lineup from that night.

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Coaching his first qualifier, Gregg Berhalter didn't have star attacker Christian Pulisic (regaining fitness after testing positive for COVID-19) and goalkeeper Zack Steffen (back spasms), who remained in Nashville. Turner, who made his international debut in January, was in goal.

The U.S. lineup averaged 23 years, 282 days, the fourth-youngest in a qualifier in the modern era. It included nine players making their qualifying debuts, all but Yedlin

and central defender Tim Ream, who was on the bench in Couva.

They were joined by Robinson in central defense, left back Sergiño Dest, Tyler Adams, McKennie, Brenden Aaronson, Reyna and Konrad de La Fuente in midfield, and Josh Sargent heading the attack.

El Salvador was led by coach Hugo Pérez, who had 73 appearances for the U.S. from 1984-94 and scored in a 1-0 qualifying win over El Salvador in 1989. He recruited nephew Joshua Pérez, a teammate of Pulisic and Adams at the 2015 Under-17 World Cup, who had three goals in the first two rounds of qualifying.

Also on El Salvador is Alex Roldan, a brother and Seattle Sounders teammate of U.S. midfielder Cristian Roldan. Sitting in the stands, their mother wore an El Salvador jersey and their father a U.S.A. shirt.

The U.S. is ranked 10th, its highest since 2006, after winning the CONCACAF Nations League and Gold Cup, and El Salvador is 64th. Los Cuscatlecos have reached just two World Cups, in 1970 and 1982, and the U.S. has 18 wins, six draws and one loss in the matchup, which includes an 18-game unbeaten streak (15 victories). The U.S. had won the most recent meeting 6-0 in an exhibition in December.

Notes: In other games, Mexico beat visiting Jamaica 2-1 on Henry Martin's 89th minute goal. Alexis Vega scored for El Tri in the 50th, and Shamar Nicholson tied it in the 65th. Canada came from behind to tie visiting Honduras 1-1 in Toronto on a 66th-minute goal by Cyle Larin. Alexander López put the visitors ahead with a penalty kick in the 40th minute after Tajon Buchanan fouled Andy Najar. Panama was held to a 0-0 draw by visiting Costa Rica. ... CBS broadcast its initial U.S. qualifier and had its commentators call the game from a New York studio rather than on site, though it did have a sideline reporter in the stadium.

Beamer looks to control his emotions in South Carolina debut

COLUMBIA, S.C. (AP) — South Carolina coach Shane Beamer counseled his team this week not to let emotions overwhelm them in their season opener with Eastern Illinois.

"And I told the guys," Beamer recalled with a grin, "I'm in the same boat."

The emotions and excitement are off the charts this week for Beamer, the son of Virginia Tech great Frank Beamer, as he prepares for his first game as a college coach Saturday night.

"I love to be the coach who could say I was so focused on the game," Beamer said. "But that's a bunch of crap. Excited, I can't wait."

It's been a long time coming for Beamer, 44, who was a South Carolina assistant for Steve Spurrier from 2007-2010 before joining his dad's staff with Hokies. The younger Beamer had stops at Georgia under Kirby Smart and, most recently, at Oklahoma under Lincoln Riley before accepting the Gamecocks job last December.

It hasn't been easy to get to this point. Beamer had to make 14 hires for his 10-man staff after several coaches accepted the job, then moved on to other schools.

His latest staff upheaval may have the biggest impact on the football as one-time grad assistant Zeb Noland was named starting quarterback against Eastern Illinois. Noland was on the field prepping players in mid-August when expected starter Luke Doty suffered a mid-foot sprain and Noland turned in his whistle for a helmet and shoulder pads.

Eastern Illinois, of the FCS's Ohio Valley Conference, played its ninth game since Feb. 21 when it opened the 2021 season with a 26-21 loss at Indiana State last week.

Panthers coach Adam Cushing said his team didn't make the critical plays that lead to wins and the

week has been spent tightening things up.

"We're going to play a heck of a team out there in South Carolina, but we're focused on us," Cushing said.

Some other things to watch when Eastern Illinois plays South Carolina:

MULTIPLE QBs

Shane Beamer said while Noland will start, backup Jason Brown will see the field as well. Brown, like Noland, is a transfer from an FCS program in St. Francis, Pennsylvania, and has worked hard to earn a shot at playing in the Southeastern Conference.

SEC LEADING RUSHER

Kevin Harris, the junior tailback who led the SEC in rushing yards last year, is expected to play after undergoing a procedure on his back. Harris has missed much of the preseason because of it. But Beamer said this week that the dynamic Harris, who had 1,138 yards and 15 touchdowns last week, will be available to face the Panthers.

GAME PLANNING

Eastern Illinois coach Adam Cushing said there were plenty of unknowns in prepping for South Carolina because of its first-year staff. Cushing said despite his pedigree as an assistant, it's hard to know for sure what Beamer's offense and defense and special teams style will look like as a first-time coach.

"It's a little bit of guessing game," he said.

FULL HOUSE

South Carolina is planning on a full, SEC-style experience with a packed stadium and pre-2020 tailgating as fans return to the stadium after the limits of 2020 due to COVID-19. The school is encouraging fans to wear masks indoors except for when they're eating or drinking.

Sports

Photo of the Day | Volley to victory



A UConn women's volleyball player screams for joy after the Huskies defeat Dartmouth College 3-1 at Gampel Pavilion on a Friday in September 2019. They continued their winning streak over to the following day, defeating Providence College 3-2. PHOTO BY SOFIA SAWCHUK, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

No Drop-Off: Bama loses a bunch of stars to NFL, still No. 1

ATLANTA (AP) — In the circle of college football life, Alabama sends another hefty batch of future stars to the NFL and still begins a new season as the top-ranked team.

The No. 1 Crimson Tide will get an early read on the latest group of five-star recruits Saturday against No. 14 Miami at the Chick-fil-A Kickoff Game in Atlanta.

Alabama is coming off one of the greatest seasons in college football history: 10 straight wins against an SEC-only schedule, a shootout victory over Florida in the league championship game, and blowouts over Notre Dame and Ohio State in the College Football Playoff to earn coach Nick Saban his record seventh national title.

Saban, of course, has long since put 2020 in his rearview mirror. He said Miami "is a big game for our players to sort of establish the identity of what's this team going to be."

"It doesn't matter what we've been in the past," he added. "It's all about what we do in this game."

Alabama had a record-tying six players selected in the first round of the NFL draft, eight of the first 38 overall picks, and a total of 10 players who heard their names called.

Any other team would be in full rebuilding mode after such staggering losses — which included Heisman Trophy-winning receiver DeVonta Smith, star quarterback Mac Jones, dynamic running back Najee Harris and SEC defensive player of the year Patrick Surtain II.

But this is just business as usual at Alabama, which has built perhaps the greatest dynasty in college football history by hoarding many of the country's

top recruits each year.

The Tide's offense is now led by sophomore quarterback Bryce Young, a highly touted Californian who'll be breaking in a new group of playmakers.

"I think the realistic approach is we have a lot of new players on offense, and it's a work in progress to get all these players to develop to be productive and consistent performers," Saban said. "We're working hard on that."

Miami heads into its third season under coach Manny Diaz, who guided the Hurricanes to an 8-3 mark in 2020 but has yet to show he can compete consistently with the nation's top programs.

Miami's only victory over a ranked team came early in the season when the Hurricanes knocked off then-No. 18 Louisville, which wound up finishing 4-7.

The Hurricanes went 0-3 against their other Top 25 opponents, including blowout losses

to ACC champion Clemson (42-17) and North Carolina (62-26).

It will be intriguing to see if Miami has made any progress when it faces the most elite program of all.

"All we have to do on Saturday is find a way to be one point better than they are," Diaz said. "They have accomplished a lot of things that have not been accomplished at historic levels in college football."

Some things to watch for when Alabama faces Miami before an expected full house at 73,000-seat Mercedes-Benz Stadium:

BAMA'S NEW QB

If anyone is expecting a drop-off at quarterback after the loss of Jones, now starting for the New England Patriots, it's worth noting that Young is the highest-rated quarterback to sign with Alabama in the Saban era.

Before he even started a single game, Young already was raking

in close to seven figures in endorsement money, according to Saban.

"I have confidence in the players that we have," the coach said. "We just have players that don't have as much experience as we had a year ago."

YOUNG'S TARGETS

Even though four Alabama receivers have been first-round draft picks in the last two years, the Tide is hardly hurting in that department.

John Metchie, who had 55 catches for 916 yards last season, will be joined by transfer Jameson Williams, a speedster from Ohio State. Freshmen Agiye Hall and Ja'Corey Brooks also are expected to make an immediate impact.

KING OF MIAMI

Hurricanes quarterback D'Eriq King completed 64% of

his passes last season and is surrounded by myriad offensive weapons.

Receiver Mike Harley (57 catches, 799 yards) and tight end Will Mallory give King a couple of veteran targets. Charleston Rambo, a transfer from Oklahoma, could also play a big role in Miami's passing game.

King can beat you with his legs, as well. He's rushed for 32 touchdowns in his college career.

"It's rare that you see a quarterback that can run as great as he can, and can pass and control the game," Alabama linebacker Will Anderson Jr. said.

GETTING THEIR KICKS

The one area where Miami might have an edge on the Crimson Tide is the kicking game.

Lou Hedley is one of the nation's top punters. If family ties are any indication, the place-kicking duties should be in good hands with Andres Borregales.

His brother, Jose Borregales, kicked for Miami last season as a graduate transfer, winning the Lou Groza Award.

"We feel like we have the best group of specialists in America," Diaz said.

GRAND OPENINGS

Miami is trying to do something no other Alabama opponent has managed since Saban arrived in Tuscaloosa:

Beat the Tide in an opening game.

Saban is 14-0 in openers with Alabama, winning by an average margin of nearly 29 points and more than doubling opponents in total yards.

The Tide has also won 14 straight games in Atlanta and is 6-0 in Chick-fil-A Kickoff games.



Alabama defensive lineman Justin Eboigbe (92) and linebacker Will Anderson Jr. (31) celebrate after a missed Notre Dame field goal attempt in the first half of the Rose Bowl NCAA college football game in Arlington, Texas. PHOTO BY MICHAEL AINSWORTH/AP

NBA tells teams vaccinated players won't need regular tests

(AP) — Fully vaccinated NBA players and coaches are not expected to be subject to regular coronavirus testing this season, the league told its teams Thursday.

Exceptions to that policy will include situations such as a player or coach showing symptoms generally associated with the coronavirus or being exposed to an unvaccinated player who tests positive for COVID-19.

Those who are not fully vacci-

nated will need to be tested on all days involving practice or travel and likely will be tested twice on game days. They'll also have to wear masks at team facilities and during travel.

And everyone, regardless of vaccination status, will be expected to submit to an antibody test before the season "to better identify individuals with a limited or waning immune response to vaccination," the league said.

It is still unclear if players will

need to be tested on off days, the league said.

Players, vaccinated or not, who return a positive or inconclusive test result again will be required to isolate immediately. It would likely be for 10 days if those test results are eventually confirmed as positive.

Teams will likely have to arrange seating in almost all situations — travel, meals, meetings, even locker-room setups — to

ensure that players who are not fully vaccinated are not seated directly next to another player.

Earlier this week, the NBA told teams that in response to local regulations in New York and San Francisco teams, they would be required to be vaccinated unless exemptions for medical or religious reasons apply. The league also told teams that visiting teams would be exempt from those requirements in both cities

but that the rules would apply to home teams, meaning the New York Knicks, Brooklyn Nets and Golden State Warriors.

The league has already told teams that anyone working within 15 feet of players, coaches and referees this season must be fully vaccinated. NBA referees who work games will also be fully vaccinated this season.

Training camps begin on Sept. 28.

Cross Country: Huskies look to start strong in Marist Invitational

by Dylan Haviland
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The University of Connecticut women's cross country team will start another season this Saturday as they travel to Poughkeepsie, New York to run in the Marist Invitational. The Huskies enter the year as the best team in the Northeast Regional poll of the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association, and are ranked No. 23 in the National Top 30 Preseason Poll.

The Huskies will be led by All-Big East runners: seniors Mia Nahom and Randi Burr, and sophomore Jenna Zydanowicz. They will be supported by returning seniors Celia Chako, Kate Daley, Emma Krebs, Sarah Leatherwood, Kate Romanchick and Alyssa Kraus, junior Caroline Webb and sophomores Caroline Towle and Rachael Woodruff. UConn will also welcome six new runners to the team this year: Danielle Adams, Megan Perrota, Madison Reylea, Monica Strain, Chloe Thomas, and Melissa Zammiti, who will all look to make impacts in their first year and help lead the team to a Big East Championship.

The Huskies will look to improve on their second place finish in the Big East Championship last season with a strong start in New York. Over the past few years, the team has gotten off to very successful starts, placing in the top three two of the last three years. They will look to continue this trend with a competitive placement on Saturday.

Looking to continue series dominance, UConn men's soccer welcomes Rhode Island Friday night

by Jacob Sondik
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Looking to build on the resounding success achieved in its season-opening win against Bryant, the University of Connecticut men's soccer team hosts the University of Rhode Island on Friday night at Morrone Stadium.

This is the 38th meeting between these New England foes, with the Huskies (1-0) leading all-time 25-10-2. They are protecting their home-field nicely, winning 15 of 19 meetings while welcoming the Rams to

Storrs. UConn has dominated its matchup with Rhode Island, not only winning their last showdown in Kingston 3-1, but coming out victorious in their four meetings since 2015, along with a 14-game winning streak against the Rams that dates to the early 1980s.

Led by Okem Chime and his two goals, the Huskies were quick to get on the board first last Friday night against Bryant, with the star freshman scoring two minutes into the contest — one of thirteen shots UConn registered in its opener, six of which were on the goal. UConn will look to carry this strong offense

momentum into Friday's matchup with the Rams (1-1).

Rhode Island is looking to build on its victory against Central Connecticut on Aug. 30, as the Rams took care of business winning 2-0. URI started off its season offensively cold, failing to register a goal in its opener against Hofstra. It was a mix of youth and experience for Rhode Island in its win against CCSU, with freshman Rafa Villanueva and senior Patrick Agyemeng finding the back of the net to help their squad find the win column for the first time.

The key for the Huskies to contin-

ue their New England dominance over next-door neighbor Rhode Island is to replicate the same aggressive approach on offense that jump-started their opening win last Friday night, combined with a solid defensive showing that saw Bryant only register four shots on graduate student goalkeeper Jahmali Waite. Waite recorded his first clean sheet of the season, turning away all three shots that the visiting Bulldogs could get on target last week.

Kickoff is at 7:00 p.m. at Morrone Stadium this Friday, Sept. 3.



UConn men's Soccer hosts Providence College at Dillion Stadium in Hartford in October 2019. The game went to overtime with the score of 1:1, but Providence scored the game-winning goal just a few minutes into overtime. FILE PHOTO/THE DAILY CAMPUS

UConn women's soccer hopes to rebound against University at Albany

by Stratton Stave
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This Sunday at 4:00 p.m., the Connecticut Huskies women's soccer team will face the University at Albany at Bob Ford Field in Albany. UConn is looking to notch its third win of the season, while UAlbany attempts to get its first.

UConn hopes to avoid a repeat of its loss to Boston College, where things fell apart early when they allowed two goals in the game's first 25 minutes. This upcoming game should provide a better match-up for the Huskies based on the Massi Computer Rankings, which places UConn at No. 86, compared to UAlbany at No. 205. Despite the large ranking differential, the site only has the Huskies as a one goal favorite over the Great Danes if the teams played on a neutral field.

Thus far this season, UAlbany has been unable to gain any momentum. The Great Danes have a record of 0-2-1, losing games to a strong Hofstra team as well as Central Connecticut. Their sole tie

of the season was against Cornell, ranked No. 193. Their scheduled game against Quinnipiac University on Wednesday, Sept. 1 was cancelled due to the heavy rains from the remnants of Hurricane Ida.

The Great Danes were picked to finish at No. 5 in the America East this fall — a conference recently dominated by Stony Brook University.

UAlbany is led by senior forward Jasmine Colbert, who won America East Striker of the year in 2020 — a season where she netted five goals and added an assist in just nine games played. This season has been a bit slower so far for Colbert, who has only scored once and has no assists in her three contests. She does lead the way for the Great Danes in shots, collecting seven of the team's 25, including a season-high of four in their opening loss against Hofstra.

Another player to watch out for is fifth-year senior goalkeeper Sophia Chen, who was a top performer for UAlbany last year. The goalie led the conference in total shutouts, but has had a bit more trouble

keeping the ball out of the net this season. Chen has allowed two goals in each of the team's three games so far while collecting a total of 13 saves overall.

For the Huskies, the player to watch is Isabelle Lynch. Lynch was UConn's leading goal scorer last year as a junior, but has not converted thus far this year. She has historically been most impactful when used as a spark off the bench, but she has started the last two games. How Coach Margaret Rodriguez uses Lynch should be interesting and could alter the direction of the game.

It will also be interesting to see if star midfielder Jessica Mazo will suit up. Mazo was named to the preseason All-Big East team but has not played since the season opener at Central Connecticut.

This match will be critical for both teams. UAlbany is looking for its first win of the season, hoping to defend its home turf against a strong visitor, while UConn will be looking to get back in the win column after a tough defeat. The game can be viewed on America East TV.

Spanish broadcaster pulls Yanks' Sterling from flooding car



New York Yankees broadcaster John Sterling sits in the booth before the Yankees' baseball game against the Boston Red Sox at Yankee Stadium in New York. PHOTO BY BILL KOSTROUN, AP

NEW YORK (AP) — Yankees broadcaster John Sterling was helped out of his flooding car by Spanish radio play-by-play man Rickie Ricardo on Wednesday night after Sterling got stuck trying to drive home after a game.

Sterling and Ricardo both called New York's game at the Los Angeles Angels from Yankee Stadium because the radio crews have not resumed traveling with the team as part of COVID-19 protocols.

Ricardo told WFAN on Thursday the 83-year-old Sterling was the first to leave the stadium after the game concluded around 10 p.m., while Ricardo stayed later for a Spanish postgame show.

Ricardo said when he finally left the park, the lobby at Yankee Stadium had water up to his ankles, and he encountered several closed and flooded streets as the East Coast was pummeled by the remnants of Hurricane Ida. The storm killed at least 12 people in New York City, including one who drowned in a car and 11 more in basement apartments, police said.

Sterling's broadcast partner, Suzyn Waldman, called Ricardo as he was trying to find a route to his

home in New Jersey and told him that Sterling was stuck in his car on River Road in Edgewater, New Jersey, just over the George Washington Bridge.

"I've seen how bad it gets flooded on River Road in Edgewater, and with the kind of rain we had, I can only imagine," Ricardo said. "So I said, 'Suzyn, I'm on my way. I more or less know where he lives. I'll figure out where he's at and see what I can do.'"

Ricardo called Sterling and kept him on the phone until he found him in one of roughly 25 vehicles stuck in flooding that covered the tires of most cars. Ricardo, who drives a Jeep, pulled up behind Sterling's car and helped him get out of the vehicle. He said it took them an hour to find a clear path to Sterling's apartment about a half-mile away, but he eventually got Sterling there safely.

TV broadcaster Michael Kay also said he had trouble getting home Wednesday, tweeting that he planned to wait out the storm at Fordham University in the Bronx. He also tweeted photos of the outfield at Yankee Stadium completely underwater during the game.



The UConn Huskies wins with a final score of 3-0 in a game this past March 2021 against the Villanova Wildcats. Isabelle Lynch (22) scored 2 goals, with the first at 36:52 and the second goal at 76:18 assisted by Jacqueline Harnett (41). Kess Elmore (7) also scored at 62:10 with an assist by Jada Konte (21). FILE PHOTO/THE DAILY CAMPUS



Sports

UConn field hockey set for big matchup against No. 15 Rutgers

by Jonathan Synott
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Fresh off an opening weekend, the Huskies look to improve upon their record against a tough opponent, the No. 15 ranked Scarlet Knights, in their home opener.

In their illustrious 44 year history, UConn has led the way, going 31-2-1 since their first matchup in 1977. Currently, they

In their illustrious 44 year history, UConn has led the way, going 31-2-1 since their first matchup in 1977.



The Huskies win against the Quinnipiac Bobcats with a final score of 8-0 at a home game this past March 2021 FILE PHOTO/THE DAILY CAMPUS

are riding a big win streak of 15 games. Their most recent bout took place back in 2019, when the Huskies beat the No. 19 Scarlet Knights 2-0 at home. Their last loss came way back in 2001, when UConn fell 2-1.

Rutgers has seen some success early on, going 2-0 in their first two games. They have a plethora of scoring options, with six different Scarlet Knights putting the ball in net so far. The offense runs through senior midfielder Milena Redlingshoefer, who has

one goal and a team-high of four assists. The midfield and back line are going to have their work cut out for them in this match.

Despite UConn playing ranked teams up to this point, the lack of goal scoring may be a concern. In their first two games, they have averaged one goal a contest. Losing last year's top scorer Sophie Hamilton, the rest of the offense needs to capitalize on its

opportunities to win some crucial games. While defense will play a big factor, you can't expect to win every game 1-0. Their next game is against a Rutgers squad that put up eight goals in their first two outings, including three against No. 12 Duke. If they expect to beat the Scarlet Knights for the 16th time in a row, they are going to have to put the ball in the net.

Speaking of goals, expect pre-season all-conference midfielder Abby Gooderham to emerge as a top scoring option sometime soon. She leads the team in shots with six - double the next Husky. Her shots-on-goal percentage is an even .500, but she has yet to score a goal. In her last season played, 2019, she posted eight goals and nine assists, so look for her to contribute heavily

to this offense as an improved sophomore.

Recently, keeper Cheyenne Sprecher was named to the season's first Big East Weekly Honor Roll, due to her successful weekend, where she had 13 saves and a 0.722 save percentage. She is going to need to keep up her excellent play, as she and the Husky defense will be busy keeping the Rutgers offense at bay for 60 minutes.

The game will be played at

If the Huskies can walk away from three contests against ranked opponents, having won two of them, that would definitely be a success.

6:00 p.m. today at the George J. Sherman Sports Complex, right in the heart of campus. This will definitely be a good game to watch, as it sets the tone for the rest of the season. If the Huskies can walk away from three contests against ranked opponents, having won two of them, that would definitely be a success, especially for a team trying to find some consistent scorers before conference play.

Preview: UConn football takes on Holy Cross

by Evan Rodriguez
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Football is finally back in Huskyville this Saturday as the UConn men's football team takes on the Holy Cross Crusaders at Rentschler Field. The Huskies are looking to rebound successfully after a dreadful loss at the hand of Fresno State last Sunday. The last time the Crusaders and Huskies met was on Aug. 31, 2017, where the Huskies took the 27-20 victory.

There are certainly a few things to look at going into this first home game for the Huskies. After head coach Randy Edsall confirmed the starting quarterback position is now set, Jack Zergiotis' spot is now secure at quarterback for the Huskies. It will be interesting to see how the sophomore returns to play after a less-than-encouraging performance last week. Perhaps one of the fascinating storylines for UConn is that of starting running back Kevin Mensah. Mensah, who grew up in Worcester, will look to help the Huskies beat the Crusaders and his former high school coach, Mike Pucko. Though the Huskies were looking to run two starting running backs at the start of the season, the team decided to go in a different direction, opting to solely use Kevin Mensah, pushing Nathan Carter out of his starting position. The receiver core remains the same for

the Huskies, other than the move of Cameron Hairston into the starting lineup and the move of Jahkai Gill into the backup position.

The Husky defense remains the same and looks to vastly improve after its last game. Durante Jones and Diamond Harrell remain at safety for the Huskies, while Tre

The Huskies are looking to rebound successfully after a dreadful loss at the hand of Fresno State last Sunday. The last time the Crusaders and Huskies met was on Aug. 31, 2017, where the Huskies took the 27-20 victory.

Wortham and Jeremy Lucien start at cornerback. With an encouraging performance from the special teams unit, Devontae Houston is the primary kick returner for the Huskies, while Cameron Ross is the punt returner.

This will be Holy Cross's first

game of the season. The Crusaders boast a lineup including sophomore quarterback Matthew Sluka, who won Patriot League Rookie of the Year in 2020 and was a finalist for the Jerry Rice Award in 2020. With 12 of its 15 All-Patriot selections from the spring 2021 season returning, the Crusaders have an assortment of talent including defensive lineman Benton Whitley, linebacker Jacob Dobbs, and defensive back John Smith. With such an impressive lineup, they will be a difficult matchup for the Huskies.

With such an impressive array of talent taking Rentschler Field, it should be a very entertaining matchup. Kickoff is at noon and will be televised on the CBS sports network.

Kickoff is at noon and will be televised on the CBS sports network.



The Huskies lose to the University of Houston Cougars 17-24 on a Saturday this past October 2019 after two touchdowns by Matt Drayton (88) and Art Thompkins (1). FILE PHOTO/THE DAILY CAMPUS

UConn SCOREBOARD

Woman's Soccer Sunday

vs.

1 vs. **4**

UPCOMING GAMES

vs.

Women's volleyball, Friday, 2 p.m.
Storrs, CT

vs.

Field hockey, 3 p.m.
Lowell, MA

INSTAGRAM OF THE DAY

GAME WEEK

12:00 PM PRATT & WHITNEY STADIUM SEPTEMBER 4

UConn vs. Holy Cross

@uconnfootball
HOME OPENER!!
@pwstadium

TWEETS OF THE DAY

Yankee Fan @GKoz777
UConn should just quit football- they are awful, the coach is awful- put the money into other sports that are successful.

UConn Women's Basketball @UConnWBB
Welcome back Huskies, we missed you!

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