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CONFIRMED 2021 COVID-19 CASES AT UCONN STORRS

as of 6:14 p.m. on Oct. 21 *positive test results

6

Current Residential Cases
(positive/symptomatic)

36

Cumulative Residential Cases*

28

Cumulative Commuter Cases*

41

Cumulative Staff Cases*

FEEL GOOD FRIDAY: 'UConn Fit Checks' Instagram page spreads positivity

by Amanda McCard

CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT

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A new Instagram account featuring stylish outfits has emerged as a way for University of Connecticut students to express their senses of style and spread positivity.

The @uconnfitchecks page was created by Gavin Vitale, a first-semester digital media and design student. Students send "fit checks," or pictures of their outfits, to the account to be posted.

Vitale's inspiration for the account came from other UConn-related Instagram pages that he believes contribute to a happier atmosphere at the university.

"I was inspired by many of the other 'uconn posts' Instagram pages, like @uconn.sleepcam and @uconn_grass. Their posts never fail to make me smile and always boost my mood," Vitale said via direct message on Instagram. "I realized there was nothing stopping me from creating an account and making others smile, too."

Vitale said he loves seeing and complimenting others' creative outfits in real life, and he hopes his Instagram page allows for students to engage in this exchange of fashion inspiration and kindness on a larger scale.

"Whenever I'm walking around campus, I love admiring everyone's unique fashion sense and

style. And anytime I get a chance to compliment someone on their outfit, it's crazy to see how fast their face lights up. Essentially, I want to do the same thing with @uconnfitchecks," Vitale said. "I'm hoping that with each new post, there'll be more people hyping the outfits up in the comments, spreading good vibes and all around, just making people feel good!"

"I realized there was nothing stopping me from creating an account and making others smile, too."

GAVIN VITALE

The page has been well-received by UConn students, according to Vitale, who was surprised by the number of photos that have been sent in since his first post on Oct. 8.

"So far the general reaction has exceeded anything I was really expecting, and it's been amazing how many people have DMed the account pictures of their outfits," Vitale said. "I can't wait to hopefully see the account grow so that it can reach more people and spread more positivity."

UConn to open enrollment for spring semester

by Maya Donchez

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University of Connecticut students are beginning to plan out classes for the spring semester. The process of enrolling starts with an advisor meeting, followed by signing online for an allotted enrollment appointment time to select courses.

Making an appointment with an advisor can be completed on Nexus. This website was designed to enhance communication between students and advisors. According to UConn's Registrar Office, these appointments are required for all students.

UConn's Knowledge Base website states that pick times can be found under "Manage Classes" in the Student Administration System. After logging in, students will have to look for their enrollment appointment, which is the time assigned to pick classes and virtually build a schedule.

Pick times begin incrementally between Oct. 25 and Nov. 10. En-

rollment will not close until 10:30 p.m. on Jan. 31, giving students enough time to add, drop or swap classes at the beginning of the semester. This information can be found on the Office of the Registrar website.

Students must make sure there are no holds on their account before beginning this process. Holds can be found under the "Action List" section of the Student Administration System.

In an email, Jennifer Gattilia Tibbets, the assistant registrar in charge of records and enrollment services, provided some important information to consider when building a schedule.

She suggested students review their "academic progress by running an Academic Requirements Report." Tibbets said this should be done before choosing classes.

"If you are not able to register the moment registration opens or if you are unable to get your preferred schedule right away, that is okay!" Tibbets said.

See ENROLLMENT, p. 2

Sustainable Northwest Science Quad construction on schedule



The Northwest Science Quad is under construction in the northwest portion of campus, with completion scheduled for an unveiling for the fall 2022 semester.

PHOTO BY ALEX LEO, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

by Benjamin Albee

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The Northwest Science Quad currently under construction is on track to be unveiled for the fall 2022 semester, Michael Schrier, Storrs campus architect and director of design and STEM projects for University Planning, Design and Construction, said in a Zoom interview.

The site is located between King Hill Road, Hillside Road and Alumni Drive. Seen by project contributors as an example of sustainable development, the 15-acre Northwest Science Quad has been under construction since 2020. According to Schrier, the new construction will be a "real centerpiece" of the University of Connecticut's campus and its sustainability goals.

The Quad includes a 198,000 gross square foot science facility

(Science 1), a Supplemental Utility Plant (SUP) and a 175-car parking lot.

"More than half of the site was previously developed as parking lots," according to the 2020 UConn Today article, "Construction Kicks Off on UConn's Transformational New Science Quad."

Science 1 is certified Gold for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Protection (LEED), joining the Student Recreation Center, Werth Tower and Oak and McHugh Halls as UConn's fifth LEED Gold-certified building, according to the Office of Sustainability.

The building's 520-kilowatt photovoltaic array provides 14% of its energy, attaining the rest from UConn's cogeneration facility, the Central Utility Plant (CUP), according to Schrier.

The CUP "reduces CO2 (greenhouse gas) emissions by an estimated 30,000 tons each year ver-

sus emissions from fossil-fueled power plants serving the regional electric grid," according to UConn Facilities.

The role of the SUP is to connect Science 1 to the CUP, improve its electricity distribution system and support its utility use including steam, water, electricity and emergency power, according to Schrier.

Mike Dietz, professor of natural resources, said in an interview that he "weighed in on [the advanced sustainability of the project] very early on." His academic focus is on stormwater management, as UConn is ill-prepared for storms that will likely gain in intensity as the planet warms.

"Getting rid of the sea of parking has a really big benefit," Dietz said regarding the new site's stormwater management infrastructure.

See SCIENCE QUAD, p. 2



The above is a visual of the planned construction for the Northwest Science Quad. According to campus architect Michael Schrier, the project will be a "real centerpiece" of the University of Connecticut Storrs Campus.

PHOTO COURTESY OF UCONN TODAY

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Support your kids from the sidelines not the spotlight



INSIDE MECP | PAGE 5

All about UConn's Middle Eastern Cultural Programs



WOMEN'S SOCCER | PAGE 12

Huskies' Thursday game against Providence College

Tweet of the Day

DHunter

@HuskieHunt008

@UConnFootball Did all the football players agree to do this?

News

Senator asks Facebook CEO to testify on Instagram and kids

WASHINGTON (AP) — The senator leading a probe of Facebook's Instagram and its impact on young people is asking Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg to testify before the panel that has heard far-reaching criticisms from a former employee of the company.

Sen. Richard Blumenthal, D-Conn., who heads the Senate Commerce subcommittee on consumer protection, called in a sharply worded letter Wednesday for the Facebook founder to testify on Instagram's effects on children.

"Parents across America are deeply disturbed by ongoing reports that Facebook knows that Instagram can cause destructive and lasting harms to many teens and children, especially to their mental health and well-being," Blumenthal said in the letter addressed to Zuckerberg. "Those parents, and the twenty million teens that use your app, have a right to know the truth about the safety of Instagram."

In the wake of former Facebook product manager Frances Haugen's testimony early this month, Blumenthal told Zuckerberg, "Facebook representatives, including yourself, have doubled down on evasive answers,

keeping hidden several reports on teen health, offering noncommittal and vague plans for action at an unspecified time down the road, and even turning to personal attacks on Ms. Haugen."

Blumenthal did offer, however, that either Zuckerberg or the head of Instagram, Adam Mosseri, could appear before his committee.

"It is urgent and necessary for you or Mr. Adam Mosseri to testify to set the record straight and provide members of Congress and parents with a plan on how you are going to protect our kids," he told Zuckerberg.



In this May 1, 2018, file photo, Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg delivers the keynote speech at F8, Facebook's developer conference, in San Jose, Calif. Sen. Richard Blumenthal, D-Conn., who heads the Senate Commerce subcommittee on consumer protection, called in a sharply worded letter Wednesday, Oct. 20, 2021, for Facebook founder, Zuckerberg, to testify before the panel on Instagram's effects on children.

PHOTOGRAPH BY MARCIO JOSE SANCHEZ/AP

New science quad update

SCIENCE QUAD, cont. from p. 1

Before the construction of Science 1, the parking lots of the area left 13.8 acres of effective impervious area, according to Dietz. He said the design of this building includes landscaping that reduces the inaccessible area by at least 2.2 acres by use of pervious pavement, low-mow areas and five bioretention areas, including indigenous shade trees.

While the construction may be an uneasy sight, "over the long haul, [it's a] super efficient building with sustainable materials, [and] net benefits to heat and cooling," Dietz said.

Additionally, the site is built with locally sourced gravel, recycled steel and Forest Stewardship Council sustainable certified wood, according to Schrier.

While project managers praise the Northwest Science Quad's sustainability features, some students

are concerned about the effectiveness of this kind of sustainable development. Michio Agresta, a fifth-semester natural resources major, said in a phone interview he feels UConn should address sustainability before focusing on additional construction projects.

"I do see the merit in increasing science education, but as a massive public research institution I find it irresponsible to use LEED to attract new students, invest in further development and increase our energy demands when we can't even fulfill international sustainability requirements to fight climate change," Agresta said, historian and treasurer of UConn Collaborative Organizing and president of UConn's Fridays for Future branch.

The international sustainability requirements are the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change reports, which state that net-zero carbon by 2040 results in higher probability of limiting warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius.

This is the threshold the IPCC outlines to prevent the most significant effects of climate change.

While still relying on fossil fuels to meet the increased intensity of energy demands by the Northwest Science Quad, it is designed to increase energy efficiency in many ways. LED lighting, high performance energy movement, heat recycling and air handling strategies that recover waste heat all reduce the building's carbon emissions, according to Schrier.

The site also includes bike racks, electric vehicle charging stations and open space to improve UConn's sustainable transportation. Dietz said he hopes the space is useful for students while also serving as an environmental positive.

"I hope that it performs [like] we think it's going to, that it meets our expectations and becomes a nice space for students to use here on campus as a positive environmental benefit, and carries us into the future," Dietz said.

Enrolling in spring courses

ENROLLMENT, cont. from p. 1

Lastly, Tibbets warned about the technological difficulties that often arise on the Student Administration System.

"StudentAdmin gets quite a workout during registration and sometimes moves slower than usual when appointment blocks

first open up," Tibbets said. "Know that this is common and all students are experiencing the same delay, the system will catch up and you will be able to register."

The Academic Center for Exploratory Students (ACES) is a resource for students. Julie Lynch, the assistant director of ACES, gave her own take on the process through an email interview.

She suggested students "have some alternative courses already in mind in case some classes don't work out."

Lynch provided one last piece of advice to students, saying, "[They should] be sure they are selecting the appropriate campus when adding classes to their schedule."

Additional information and helpful tips can be found on the ACES website.

CONNECTICUT LOCAL NEWS

Connecticut employers add jobs for ninth consecutive month

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP) — Connecticut's unemployment rate continued to drop in September as state employers added back jobs for the ninth consecutive month.

The state Department of Labor reported Thursday that unemployment was 6.8% in September, down from 7.2% in August and 8.3% in September of 2020. Employers added an estimated 4,700 jobs to the economy last month, according to the report.

Patrick Flaherty, the director of the department's Office of Research, said the state has now regained just over 70% of jobs that were lost as a result of the pandemic lockdown in March and April of 2020.

"Construction has now regained all of the jobs lost during the pandemic," he said. "We are going in the right direction and anticipate continued progress."

PATRICK FLAHERTY

"There are thousands of good paying jobs with benefits out there and employers are hiring quickly — in some cases on site at job fairs and other event," she said. "It's a great time for workers to strengthen their skills, get into the market, and even start a whole new career."

Redistricting panel picks 9th member, hopes to meet deadline

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP) — The panel of state lawmakers charged with redrawing Connecticut's legislative and congressional district lines has once again chosen a former state senator who also served as a state auditor to be its ninth, tie-breaking member.

Kevin Johnston of Pomfret, who had the same role during the 2011 redistricting process, was chosen unanimously Monday by the Reapportionment Commission. Unlike in 2011, the members said they hope to meet their Nov. 30 deadline to finish redrawing the lines, despite what's been a truncated process due to the late release of U.S. Census data during the pandemic.

"We have quite a bit of work to do. But I think working with goodwill we can get there," said Senate President Pro Tempore Martin Looney, D-New Haven.

In 2011, lawmakers couldn't reach agreement on the congressional district boundaries and the Connecticut Supreme Court ultimately named a special master to redraw the lines. Nathaniel Persily, a political science professor at Columbia University, submitted his revised plan in early 2012.

Johnston served 18 years as a state auditor and 20 years in the General Assembly representing northeastern Connecticut.

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Big changes in White House ideas to pay for \$2 trillion plan

SCRANTON, Pa. (AP) — In an abrupt change, the White House on Wednesday floated new plans to pay for parts of President Joe Biden's \$2 trillion social services and climate change package, shelving a proposed big increase in corporate tax rates though also adding a new billionaires' tax on the investment gains of the very richest Americans.

The reversal came as Biden returned to his hometown of Scranton, Pennsylvania, to highlight the middle class values he says are at the heart of the package that Democrats are racing to finish. Biden faces resistance from key holdouts, including Sen. Kyrsten Sinema, D-Ariz., who has not been on board with her party's plan to undo Trump-era tax breaks to help pay for it.

"This has been declared dead on arrival from the moment I introduced it, but I think we're going to surprise them, because I think people are beginning to figure out what's at stake," Biden said in a speech at Scranton's Electric City Trolley Museum, his first visit home since becoming president.

Negotiations between the White House and Democratic leaders on Capitol Hill are underway on what's now a scaled-back package but would still be an unprecedented federal effort to expand social services for millions and confront the rising threat of climate change. It's coupled with a separate \$1 trillion bill to update roads and bridges.

Biden and his Democratic Party have given themselves a deadline to seal agreement after laboring to bridge his once-sweeping \$3.5 trillion vision preferred by progressives with a more limited focus that can win over party centrists. He has no Democratic votes to spare for passage in the closely divided Congress, and leaders want agreement by week's end.

The newly proposed tax provisions, though, are likely to sour progressives and even some moderate Democrats who have long campaigned on undoing the 2017 GOP tax cuts that many believe unduly reward the wealthy, costing the federal government untold sums in lost revenue at a time of gaping income inequality.

In the mix: At least \$500 billion to battle climate change, \$350 billion for child care subsidies and free pre-kindergarten, a new federal program for at least four weeks of paid family leave, a one-year extension of the \$300 monthly child tax credit put in place during the COVID-19 crisis, and funding for health care provided through the Affordable Care Act and Medicare.

Administration officials spoke with congressional leaders on the tax alternatives, according to a per-

son familiar with the private talks and granted anonymity to discuss them. The changes may be needed to win over Sinema, who had objected to plans to raise the rates on corporations and wealthy individuals earning more than \$400,000 a year, said the person and several others.

As it stands, the corporate tax rate is 21%, and Democrats want to lift it to 26.5% for companies earning more than \$5 million a year. The top individual income tax rate would rise from 37% to 39.6% for those earning more than \$400,000, or \$450,000 for married couples.

Under the changes being floated that 21% corporate rate would stay the same.

However, the revisions wouldn't be all positive for big companies and the wealthy. The White House is reviving the idea of a minimum corporate tax rate, similar to the 15% rate Biden had proposed earlier this year. That's even for companies that say they had no taxable income — a frequent target of Biden who complains that they pay "zero" in taxes.

And there could be a new billionaires' tax, modeled on legislation from Sen. Ron Wyden, D-Ore., the chairman of the Finance Committee, who has proposed taxing stock gains of those with more than \$1 billion in assets — fewer than 1,000 Americans.

Sinema has not publicly stated her position, and her office did not respond to a request for comment.

Another key Democrat, conservative Sen. Joe Manchin of West Virginia, has said he prefers a 25% corporate rate. He has been withholding his support for the bill with additional objections to its provisions on climate change and social services.

On the call with the administration and the White House, Wyden said he "stressed the importance of putting an end to America's two tax



President Joe Biden speaks about his infrastructure plan and domestic agenda during a visit to the Electric City Trolley Museum in Scranton, Pa., Wednesday, Oct. 20, 2021.

PHOTOGRAPH BY SUSAN WALSH/AP

codes, and finally showing working people in this country that the wealthiest Americans are going to pay taxes just like they do."

The possible shift comes as Democrats appear to have made progress uniting themselves, ready to abandon what had been a loftier package in favor of a smaller, more workable proposal the party can unite around.

In the mix: At least \$500 billion to battle climate change, \$350 billion for child care subsidies and free pre-kindergarten, a new federal program for at least four weeks of paid family leave, a one-year extension of the \$300 monthly child tax credit put in place during the COVID-19 crisis, and funding for health care provided through the Affordable Care Act and Medicare.

Likely to be eliminated or shaved back: plans for tuition-free community college, a path to permanent le-

gal status for certain immigrants in the U.S. and a clean energy plan that was the centerpiece of Biden's strategy for fighting climate change.

"Nothing is decided until everything is decided," said Rep. Pramila Jayapal, D-Wash., the leader of the Congressional Progressive Caucus after a morning meeting of House Democrats. "We're just trying to get it done."

Democrats are growing anxious they have little to show voters despite their campaign promises and have had trouble explaining what they're trying to do with the massive package, made up of so many different proposals.

It's a tall order that was leading to an all-out push Wednesday to answer the question — "What's in the damn bill?" — as a press release from Sen. Bernie Sanders, the independent from Vermont, put it.

Nikolas Cruz pleads guilty to 2018 Parkland school massacre



Gena Hoyer, right, hugs Debbi Hixon during a court recess following Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School shooter Nikolas Cruz's guilty plea on all 17 counts of premeditated murder and 17 counts of attempted murder in the 2018 shootings. Wednesday, Oct. 20, 2021, at the Broward County Courthouse in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. Hoyer's son, Luke Hoyer, 15, and Hixon's husband, Christopher Hixon, 49, were both killed in the massacre.

PHOTOGRAPH BY AMY BETH BENNETT/AP

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. (AP) — Nikolas Cruz pleaded guilty Wednesday to murdering 17 people during a rampage at his former high school in Parkland, Florida, leaving a jury to decide whether he will be executed for one of the nation's deadliest school shootings.

Relatives of the victims who sat in the courtroom and watched the hearing via Zoom broke down in tears and held hands across families as Cruz entered his pleas and later apologized for his crimes.

"Today we saw a cold and calculating killer confess to the murder of my

daughter Gina and 16 other innocent victims at their school," said Tony Montalto. His daughter was 14 and sitting outside her classroom when Cruz shot her at close range numerous times. "His guilty pleas are the first step in the judicial process but there is no change for my family. Our bright, beautiful, and beloved daughter Gina is gone while her killer still enjoys the blessing of life in prison."

The guilty pleas will set the stage for a penalty trial in which 12 jurors will determine whether Cruz, 23, should be sentenced to death or life in prison without parole. Given the case's noto-

riety, Circuit Judge Elizabeth Scherer plans to screen thousands of prospective jurors. Jury selection is scheduled to begin on Jan. 4.

Cruz entered his pleas after answering a long list of questions from Scherer aimed at confirming his mental competency. He was charged with 17 counts of murder and 17 counts of attempted first-degree murder for those wounded in the Feb. 14, 2018, attack at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, located just outside Fort Lauderdale.

As several parents shook their heads, Cruz apologized, saying, "I'm very sorry for what I did. ... I can't live with myself sometimes." He also added that he wished it was up to the survivors to determine whether he lived or died.

Parents scoffed at Cruz's statement as they left the courtroom, saying it seemed self-serving and aimed at eliciting unearned sympathy. Gena Hoyer, whose 15-year-old son Luke died in the shooting, saw it as part of

a defense strategy "to keep a violent, evil person off death row."

She said her son was "a sweet young man who had a life ahead of him and the person you saw in there today chose to take his life. He does not deserve life in prison."

Anthony Borges, a former Stoneman Douglas student who was shot five times and severely wounded, told reporters after the hearing that he accepted Cruz's apology, but noted that it was not up to him to decide the confessed murderer's fate.

"He made a decision to shoot the school," Borges said. "I am not God to make the decision to kill him or not. That's not my decision. My decision is to be a better person and to change the world for every kid. I don't want this to happen to anybody again. It hurts. It hurts. It really hurts. So, I am just going to keep going. That's it."

Cruz's attorneys announced his intention to plead guilty during a hearing last week.

Following the pleas Wednesday, former Broward State Attorney Mike Satz recounted the details of the murders. Cruz killed 14 students and three staff members on Valentine's Day 2018 during a seven-minute rampage through a three-story building at Stoneman Douglas, investigators said. They said he shot victims in the hallways and in classrooms with an AR-15 semiautomatic rifle, sometimes returning to the wounded to kill them with additional shots. Cruz had been expelled from Stoneman Douglas a year earlier after a history of threatening, frightening, unusual and sometimes violent behavior that dated back to preschool.

After Satz finished, the judge had to compose herself for several seconds before she began speaking again, her voice breaking.

The shootings caused some Stoneman Douglas students to launch the March for Our Lives movement, which pushes for stronger gun restrictions nationally.

Since days after the shooting, Cruz's attorneys had offered to have him plead guilty in exchange for a life sentence, saying that would spare the community the emotional turmoil of reliving the attack at trial. But Satz rejected the offer, saying Cruz deserved a death sentence, and appointed him

self lead prosecutor. Satz, 79, stepped down as state attorney in January after 44 years, but remains Cruz's chief prosecutor.

His successor, Harold Pryor, is opposed to the death penalty but has said he will follow the law. Like Satz, he never accepted the defense offer — as an elected official, that would have been difficult, even in liberal Broward County, where Democrats outnumber Republicans by more than 2 to 1.

By having Cruz plead guilty, his attorneys will be able to argue during the penalty hearing that he took responsibility for his actions.

As at any trial, prosecutors will present evidence of the shooting, including security video that reportedly shows many of the killings in graphic detail. They will also be allowed to show evidence that Cruz had long planned the attack and made threats through cellphone videos. There will be testimony from students and teachers who were in the building, including some who were wounded.

"Today we saw a cold and calculating killer confess to the murder of my daughter Gina and 16 other innocent victims at their school."

TONY MONTALTO

Prosecutors will also present testimony from the victims' parents and spouses to demonstrate the toll the deaths have had on families and the community.

The defense will then present mitigating evidence that will likely include testimony about Cruz's life, including his long history of mental and emotional instability, his father's death when he was 5 and his mother's death four months before the shootings, when he was 19.

To impose a death sentence, all 12 jurors must agree. If they do, Judge Scherer will make the final decision.

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► Editorial

Where is UConn on fossil fuels?

Earlier this October, researchers at the University of Connecticut received a grant for upward of \$2 million from the Department of Energy's Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy to remove the harmful greenhouse gas sulfur hexafluoride, or SF6, from the United States energy grid.

This grant is promising and furthers an important national goal in sustainability. However, grants like this raise obvious questions about UConn's relationship between its status as an institution of higher education and research, and the processes of decarbonization. First, we should ask: Why do scholars at UConn pursue research and grants focused on removing pollutants from the United States environment at large while neglecting opportunities to decarbonize right here in Storrs?

We should remember that, in spite of touting its status as a "Cool School" according to rankings provided by the Sierra Club, UConn is still powered by fossil fuels. Ignoring the fossil fuels required to transport people and goods to and from campus, most of the electricity on campus is provided by our co-generation Plant, which is powered from the combustion of natural gas. It is somewhat paradoxical when UConn researchers study the removal of greenhouse gases while using infrastructure, buildings and tools powered by fossil fuels.

We should think globally, but we must act locally. Our first concern as a community focused on decarbonization should be the use of fossil fuels to power life on campus, followed closely by the relationship between UConn and industrial fossil fuels at state, regional and national levels.

Unfortunately, UConn fails on both fronts. While in some areas UConn pursues research surrounding emission capture and renewable energy, it also holds massive connections to regional fossil fuel industries. Every year, hundreds of stem majors graduate from UConn, many of whom become engineers and scientists working at companies developing fossil fuel infrastructure. Some of UConn's other significant industrial connections are contractors for the United States military, which emits an overwhelming amount of the United States government's carbon emissions as well as more carbon than most countries.

The UConn Foundation, which "solicits, administers and invests private funds" for the university, continues investing funds in enterprises intent on extracting, developing or in other ways profiting from the combustion of fossil fuels. The foundation is worth almost \$463 million, and only under 2% of this amount is invested in fossil fuel or related industries. These investments persist alongside the planned divestment from fossil fuels of more and more university foundations, some of which are far larger than ours.

Our aim in this editorial is not to criticize or marginalize the efforts of research in carbon capture or emission mitigation. Instead, we hope to scrutinize UConn's broader relationship to fossil fuels. As the urgency of the climate crisis increases in coming decades, the UConn community should pay attention to when the institution is genuinely pursuing sustainability versus simply benefitting from the appearance of doing so.

MY FAVORITE BAKED GOODS:



COMIC BY CARLIE KUBISEK, ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Support your child from the sidelines, not in the spotlight

by Maddie Papcun
 WEEKLY COLUMNIST
 maddie.papcun@uconn.edu

There are many reasons why parents may, and should, want to get involved in their child's education. According to Johns Hopkins University, good communication between parents and teachers is linked to a reduction in student absences. Additional research shows successful parent involvement improves student behavior. Furthermore, the best predictor of academic achievement in students is the extent to which parents and other family members encourage learning at home and involve themselves in their child's education overall. Obviously, we want parents to be engaged in their child's school lives so they have the at-home support needed to be successful in the classroom. However, issues can arise when parents become overly involved in their child's education.

One of the best examples of taking parental involvement in education to the negative extreme would be an angry parent screaming at a school board meeting about some minuscule issue that bears very little (if any) impact on their child's schooling in the first place. In 2021, this looks like parents furiously yelling at Board of Education members in front of a crowd, whether it be about mask mandates in schools or the teaching of critical race theory in the classroom. Such a sight is all too common nowadays. In fact, the National School Boards Association asked President Joe Biden and the federal government in a letter at the beginning of October for help investigating threats against school board members and educators stemming from parental anger over such hot topics. Thus, the NSBA requested that the U.S. Department of Justice, FBI, Department of Homeland Security, Secret Service and its National Threat Assessment Center better assess the risk level public schoolchildren, educators, school board members and campuses face.

The fact that the NSBA is begging for protection from enraged parents is unfortunate. These angry outbursts are only detrimental to students in the long run, and funny videos of angry parents yelling in supposedly-civil meetings or protesting outside their child's school speak volumes. Simply put, these parents are taking the focus off the children and their educations and placing it on themselves.

It's not that I think these parents are genuinely trying to harm their kids. I choose to believe they personally think they are doing the right thing.

It's not that I think these parents are genuinely trying to harm their kids. I choose to believe they personally think they are doing the right thing.

The way to get involved in your child's education is to join the PTA. Additionally, you should read the correspondence teachers are likely sending out and ask them what the students are currently learning about. Turn your home into an extension of the classroom by practicing the skills being taught at school. Respectfully attend school events with your child. However, outlandishly protesting simple policies (like mask mandates that only have the intention of protecting your child) just to make a scene does not benefit your child. Yes, you should be your child's first and biggest advocate. But that requires focusing on what is actually best for them — not small things you personally have a disagreement with. Support your child and their education from the sidelines rather than the spotlight. Don't make it about you.





Life

@dailycampuslife

The foundation of the Middle Eastern Cultural Programs

by Zachary Wisniewsky

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This week marked the launch of a new initiative on campus, the Middle Eastern Cultural Programs.

The Daily Campus connected with two members of the MECP team via email: program supervisor Neda Izadi and student co-ordinator Irene Soteriou.

"The [MECP] strive to foster connections between students, promote the education of Middle Eastern culture, celebrate the intersectionality of identities, and advocate for the professional development of students," Soteriou explained. "MECP aligns itself with the University's diversity commitment of cultural centers to provide vital resources in support of the social, behavioral, and cultural needs of students."

The creation of this initiative has been a long time coming since it was a multi-year effort to get the ball rolling on the process.

"This process was initially spearheaded by students in the Middle Eastern Students Association (MESA), a club that exists on campus for Middle Eastern students," Soteriou said.

Verbal support for the creation of a Middle Eastern Cultural Center or Program ensued

from MESA's advocacy, but the project fell apart as the administration changed and MESA executive board members graduated."

The work of two recent graduates jumpstarted the foundation of the program: Mateen Karimi and Noor Taweh. Karimi and Taweh both led research projects in 2020, which delved into the effects of a lack of a designated space for minority students and the benefits such a space provides. Their research brought the idea of developing the MECP back into the limelight.

"[Taweh] and [Karimi] teamed up [with] Lana Kareem, the former Vice President of the Middle Eastern Student Association, [and I]. Both [Kareem] and I had been advocating for a more formal space for Middle Eastern students on campus since our first year on campus, and this partnership allowed us to work with other students to finally achieve our

collective objective," Soteriou stated. "Together, we formed comprehensive proposals and

Office of Diversity and Inclusion agreed to approve the creation of a formal space for students at the Storrs Campus.

This space became the Middle Eastern Cultural Programs of today."

The creation of such a program will have dramatic effects on the UConn community by connecting peers, empowering students and celebrating diversity.

"Our hope is that the MECP will develop into a space that Middle Eastern students at UConn can consider to be a second home — a space in which they create lifelong friendships and form priceless memories," Soteriou said. "Exploration of one's identity has come to constitute a fundamental element of the college experience, and yet post-9/11 societal dynamics have in many ways deterred a significant number of Middle Eastern students from comfortably doing so ... It is our hope, therefore, that the

existence of a formal space in which students are encouraged to connect and celebrate their diverse cultures will have the effect of empowering more Middle Eastern students to find greater community and more proudly embrace their identities."

Izadi elaborated on the program's potential by saying, "This is a very unique program at UConn [as] many universities do not have a [program like the MECP]. [W]e can make a connection with other schools [throughout the USA] or even abroad [by] sharing our experiences with them."

Izadi and Soteriou hope other students appreciate the MECP's potential.

"[W]hat I am perhaps most excited about [with MECP] will be the community that I hope will come from it," Soteriou said. "All of my friends who are active in their respective cultural centers, from AACC to PRLACC, attest to having formed what they feel to be a second family through their experiences. I am really looking forward to seeing this same dynamic develop within the MECP."

To get involved with the Middle Eastern Cultural Programs, email them at mecp@uconn.edu, follow them on Instagram [@uconn.mecp](https://www.instagram.com/uconn.mecp), and visit their website <https://mecp.uconn.edu/>.

COME SHOW OFF YOUR HALLOWEEN COSTUME AT 'MISCHIEF AFTER DARK'

by Edison Escobar

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Looking for a place to show off your Halloween costume this year? Want to attend a concert the week before Halloween? Look no further than "Mischief After Dark," a costume party and concert hosted by the University of Connecticut's WHUS Radio.

The costume contest and concert will take place Friday, Oct. 22 at 7:30 p.m. in the Student Union Ballroom. Those looking to attend can reserve a ticket before the event and are allowed to enter the event as early as 6 p.m. Those who do not reserve a ticket must wait until 7:30 p.m. to enter the ballroom. Tickets for undergraduate students are free, while their guests who do not attend UConn can buy tickets for \$5. Ticketholders can pick up wristbands to enter the concert before the show starts.

A live music concert will kick off the event, followed by the costume party. The opening act will be the alternative band Believe It, It's Easy. The band's 2021 self-titled album can be found on Spotify and Apple Music. The main act will be R&B musician Orion Sun. For those looking to check out some of Orion Sun's music before the concert, his 2020 album, "Hold Space For Me" and recently-released single, "Concrete," can be found on Spotify and Apple Music. The event will end at 11 p.m.

Mischief After Dark returns as an in-person affair after being held virtually in the fall 2020 semester. Last year's three-part virtual event featured New Haven musician Chad Browne-Springer as well as a "Night of the Living Dead"

watch party. There will not be any snacks or refreshments available at this year's event due to COVID-19 restrictions.

WHUS events coordinator Cecelia Klotzer shared information about Mischief After Dark over email with The Daily Campus. The first-place winner of the costume contest will win a small trophy, Klotzer said. She explained that the contest is meant to be more fun than competitive. Klotzer encourages students to get creative with costumes to win first place, so put away the ghost sheets and scream masks if you hope to win the contest.

"We have a Mischief After Dark concert every year," Klotzer said. "We have had a costume contest in the past, but it does not happen every year, this was just for fun. Students should attend because the concert is free! It is an amazing opportunity to listen to live music and hang out with your friends."



The poster for "Mischief After Dark," WHUS' Halloween concert. The event will take place at 7:30 p.m. in the Student Union Ballroom. After "Orion Sun" and "Believe It, It's Easy" perform, there will also be a costume contest for attendees.
PHOTO COURTESY OF WHUS RADIO

FREE WITH UCONN ID
\$5 WITHOUT

The UConn Sexperts help bring awareness and education to campus

by Abigail Bonilla
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University of Connecticut Student Health and Wellness hopes to raise awareness about safe sex, both physically and mentally, on campus through the UConn Sexperts and through their sexual health program. With nine peer educators, the Sexperts offer multiple opportunities on campus addressing this topic, including education programs and workshops for the UConn community.

"The Sexperts is a diverse group of passionate volunteers who promote sexual health and wellness on campus," Emma Stierle, a fifth-semester women's gender and sexuality studies, said in an email correspondence. She serves as the Sexperts workshop development committee chair and GloveBOX coordinator. "In my committee, we focus on creating programs and workshops for the UConn community about sexual health. In our meetings we also facilitate conversations about current sexual health topics and try to integrate our learning into our work. The team environment is also amazing; everyone is supportive, focused on inclusion, and full of amazing ideas on how to serve our fellow students. I am so proud to be a part of such an awesome group!"

Many of the Sexperts' programs allow clubs or organizations to sign up for training in order to become better educated on the importance of sexual well-being.

"The Sexperts are always looking for opportunities to increase the scope of students we can reach," Jessie Gentilella, a third-semester human development and family sciences major, said. She serves as the Sexperts' strategic partnerships committee chair. "We offer collaborative events wherein we work with another group or organization on campus to create an event that both discusses something sexual health related while combining the interests or needs of the other group. There are so many wonderful on-campus organizations that we work with or would love to work with. For example, we are currently working on putting together a Sexual Health Fair in which we'll be partnering with organizations from the state of Connecticut as well as within the UConn community."

GloveBOX, one of the Sexperts' programs, launched in 2019 and provides students with a box of safe sex supplies. On-campus students have the option to get their box delivered to their dorm mailrooms, while off-campus students can pick up a box on a scheduled pickup date. Cassy Setzler, a health and wellness specialist at Student Health and Wellness, and the staff supervisor of the UConn Sexperts, spoke on the mission of the GloveBOX program.

"Our overarching goal for GloveBOX was to enhance the availability, accessibility and acceptability of safer-sex products at UConn," Setzler said. So far, the GloveBOX pro-

gram has filled over 1,000 orders. "We really wanted to provide a service that not only provides quality products for free to students, but also does so in a way that is accessible to all. [We] take students' varying levels of comfort seeking out

supplies into consideration."

"Be safe and have fun! There's no

right or wrong answer in pleasure just make sure you enjoy yourself!" Shannon Hanggodo, a sixth-semester molecular and cellular biology student, said. She serves as the

Sexperts' campus communications committee chair.

"If anyone is interested in creating a joint event, or even just reaching out to connect, they can email sexperts@uconn.edu," Gentilella said.



Sex can be a difficult subject to talk about. The goal of the UConn Sexperts is to provide an anonymous and judgement-free space for students to ask sex-related questions.

PHOTO COURTESY OF UCONN STUDENT HEALTH AND WELLNESS

'The Next Thing You Eat': A fun, informative twist on the classic foodie show



With the rise of food delivery services like DoorDash, Postmates, Grubhub, Uber Eats and others, the food options are endless. The upcoming Hulu show "The Next Thing You Eat," hosted by David Chang, gives a closer look at the food industry today via investigations of multiple establishments.

PHOTO COURTESY OF IMDB

by Jordana Castelli
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With a mother who attended the Culinary Institute of America and an Italian father, you could say I'm a massive foodie. Food is what brings our family together, and one of my favorite activities to do with friends and loved ones is going out to eat. When I heard Hulu was coming out with its newest show, "The Next Thing You Eat," I jumped right on it.

I went into the show not knowing much, but I can safely say it wasn't what I was expecting. I thought it would be about differ-

ent cuisines and yummy things one could eat (hence the title), but I was pleasantly surprised when the host, David Chang, delved into the business side of the restaurant industry. The first episode, "Delivery: Rise of the Machines" discussed how COVID-19 impacted the food industry and everyone and their mother was ordering delivery. Chang and his team take known foodie topics, such as delivery, breakfast or burgers, and put an informative, current spin on it.

I don't know about you, but when I get takeout I rarely want to go pick it up. Now imagine yourself living in New York City where almost every restaurant is either

on GrubHub, Uber Eats, DoorDash, Postmates or any of the other millions of food delivery apps. You, while on your couch and in your pajamas, can choose from numerous options and then proceed to wait for a bag with your food to be delivered to your door. Pretty amazing when you dissect it, right? Well, here's the thing that Chang sheds light: very few food delivery apps are profitable. In fact, in the first episode, an Uber Eats employee admitted they aren't even breaking even.

I found it effective that Chang went to actual restaurants and explained his points of conversation by using real-world examples. In

the first episode, he visits an establishment where instead of having an employee work the fryolator, it has a robotic hand. This machinery ensures all chicken nuggets are cooked to perfection while simultaneously placing other food where it needs to go. It was interesting and eye opening to see how fast technology is advancing in all sectors of life, including cuisine.

Overall, I really enjoyed "The Next Thing You Eat." While it wasn't what I expected, I was pleasantly surprised. It was an informative twist on the classic foodie show and taught me so many things I never knew. On top of that, I have a great appreciation

for works of media that make a noticeable effort to discuss their topic in the context of relevant times. For example, when talking about delivery drivers, Chang and his crew touched upon the impacts of the coronavirus pandemic on the restaurant industry and how takeout was the only option for months on end. It was refreshing to see a show that didn't swipe COVID-19 under the rug, but rather discussed its effects on society. If you love food and need something to watch, I definitely recommend checking out "The Next Thing You Eat" on Hulu.

Rating: 4 out of 5 stars

Hollieats: Fantastic food at the Fenton



The Fenton River Grill offers a versatile food options, whether celebrating or taking a break from the dining hall. The restaurant can be a bit pricey, but writer Hollianne Lao describes a positive experience. PHOTO COURTESY OF THE FENTON RIVER GRILL ON FACEBOOK

by Hollianne Lao
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Although I enjoy the food offerings around campus and think we should do our best to support them, I'm not inaccurate in saying there are just not that many options to choose from near UConn. So when I get the chance to try a restaurant that's new to me, I can't help but feel more excitement than probably necessary. Last Thursday night – hence my hiatus from writing last week, sorry fellow foodies – I was fortunate enough to dine at the Fenton River Grill in Mansfield, named after the river that runs through the town. The new American restaurant has a comfortable but classy atmosphere, making it a versatile option for date night or a celebratory meal. Although its food and drink options, along with an ambience that could swing casual, seem to make the Fenton a solid dining option for students who want to venture a bit outside the radius of campus, I will be honest – the restaurant is a bit pricey. However, the quality of the ingredients, the attention given to the menu, and its specials and drinks make the Fenton River Grill worth the splurge.

Restaurants that have daily specials always catch my eye because when I eat out, I want to try something unique to that place or for the time of year. Fortunately, the Fenton has daily lunch and dinner specials with beer on tap, drinks, small plates and entrees offered every day. When I visited, the entree specials were buffalo chicken mac and cheese, blackened swordfish, a quinoa dish and a fourth one I can't recall. The drink specials were a

pumpkin pie margarita and a Mexican mule.

Half of our party attempted to order the swordfish dish (\$32) with basmati rice and mango salsa, but unfortunately, they only had enough for one meal. So, I ordered my backup option off of the regular dinner menu, the Faroe Island salmon. The dish is made with tomatoes, olives – I ordered it without olives – capers, white wine, garlic butter, parmesan polenta and broccoli rabe for \$28. The salmon was succulent, flaky and juicy, although I wish it and the parmesan polenta had a tad bit more seasoning. The garlic butter, capers and tomatoes made for a savory side that wasn't too heavy.

Once swordfish was off of the table, I had been torn between ordering the salmon and the braised short rib dish (\$29) made with Hosmer root beer, whipped potatoes and julienned vegetables, which a few members of our party ordered. However, since I usually go for the beef options at restaurants – because we rarely eat it at home – and I had been craving salmon for weeks, I don't regret my decision! It just means I'll have to visit again to try the short rib!

Our party ordered the crispy brussel sprouts with tamari lime dressing (\$10) and pork and kimchi dumplings with Asian slaw and sriracha lime aioli (\$12). Similar to the polenta and salmon, I wish the brussel sprouts had a bit more salt, although I enjoyed the balsamic glaze and the dressing. The pork and kimchi dumplings were definitely yummy, but I feel like for \$2 a dumpling, they were pretty overpriced. Another appetizer on the menu that caught my eye were

the Irish nachos (\$14), house potato chips dressed up like traditional nachos.

I was pleasantly surprised by the size and diversity of the drink menu, which had multiple options I wanted to try: a spicy tamarind mule (\$11) with Smirnoff spicy tamarind vodka, Hosmer's ginger beer and fresh squeezed lime juice; the gin basil smash (\$10) with Bombay Sapphire, freshly squeezed lemon juice, simple syrup and fresh basil served on the rocks; and the ginger sol (\$11) with Tito's vodka, canton ginger liqueur, fresh squeezed lemon juice and ginger simple syrup. As you can tell, refreshing and spice are two flavor profiles common among these options.

My friend had made a similar gin drink recently, so I opted for the mule. It was perfectly balanced: the ginger and tamarind offered a strong but not overpowering spice, while the lime and ginger were refreshing and masked the usual sting of the vodka. The cocktails all ranged \$9 to \$11, which isn't bad, since other places charge upwards of \$12 for cocktails, and the mule I tried was probably one of the best cocktails I've ever had.

Although the Fenton River Grill is a bit extreme for a college budget, I would say

it's worth your money if there's something on the menu you want to try – and I suspect there probably is. If you want to try it out but not break the bank, try visiting during lunch for less expensive options!

Rating: 4.5/5

The Faroe Island Salmon is a menu offering of the Fenton River Grill. Lao notes that the dish, served with tomatoes, olives, capers, white wine, garlic butter, parmesan polenta and broccoli rabe was "succulent" and "juicy."

PHOTO BY HOLLIANNE LAO, LIFE EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS



The Fenton River Grill boasts many appetizer options, including crispy brussel sprouts, pork and kimchi dumplings, Irish nachos and more.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE FENTON RIVER GRILL ON FACEBOOK

Opinion StudyBreak

Photo of the Day | Time's up



The Clothesline Project, organized by the Women's Center's Violence Against Women Prevention Program, honors survivors and remembers victims of sexual assault and relationship violence on Fairfield Way, Thursday afternoon, Oct. 21. The project, which has been running for about a decade, featured t-shirts created by survivors hanging from a clothesline, as well as a board where passersby could leave messages for survivors. PHOTO BY SOFIA SAWCHUK, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Crossword

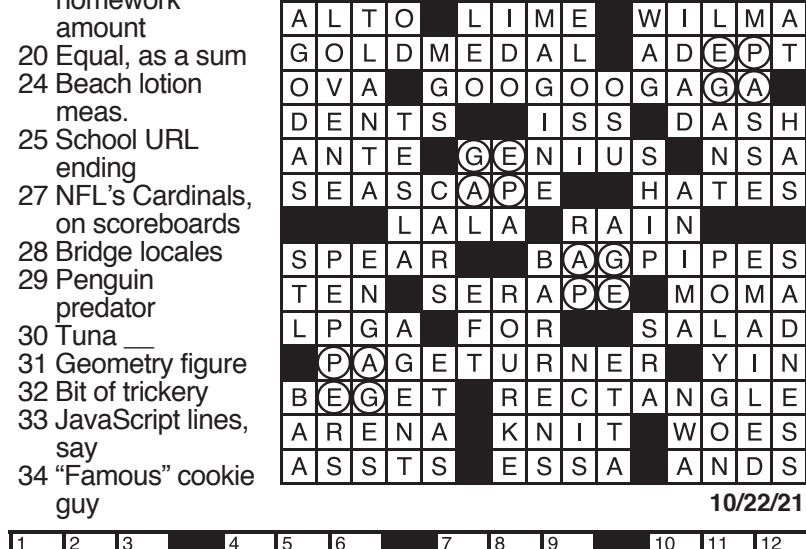
Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

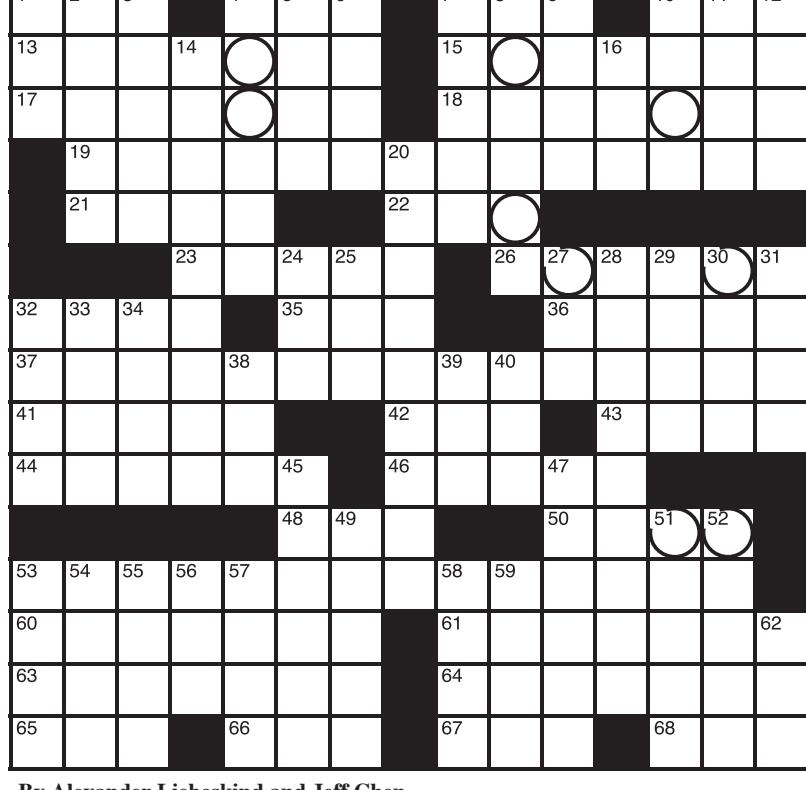
ACROSS

1 Spec. for tires
4 Alphabetical lunch
7 Show stoppers
10 PC component
13 Close to a delivery
15 Searches, like a pig does for truffles
17 Attending
18 Starts up again
19 *Failed-delivery words
21 Perfect spot
22 Lease alternative
23 Bond, say
26 Home of Triple-A baseball's Rainiers
32 Order to leave
35 Eyeball inducer, perhaps, briefly
36 Not seen as much
37 *Arrives back at square one
41 Worship
42 Dubai's fed.
43 Information
44 Diddles (around)
46 __ opposite
48 Granola bit
50 Folk tail?
53 *Bamboozled ... and what the circled letters, when connected in the proper sequence, can be?

60 Incredulous response to an unexpected revelation
61 Oxford campus
63 Blow off some steam, maybe?
64 Many a door opening
65 Neruda wrote one to "things"
66 Many a golfer's aim
67 Naval initials
68 46-yr.-old satire



10/22/21



10/22/21

DOWN

1 Wilbur of "Charlotte's Web," e.g.
2 It might keep you up
3 "Fine, you got me"
4 Many air rifles

By Alexander Liebeskind and Jeff Chen
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Sudoku

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Fallout from Jon Gruden emails leads to diversity questions

(AP) — Every week for the past two seasons, NFL players take the field wearing social justice messages on their helmets, and "It Takes All of Us" and "End Racism" are stenciled in the end zones as part of the league's Inspire Change platform.

But actions often speak louder than words.

The fallout from Jon Gruden's emails has many questioning what it will take to really change the culture in the NFL.

"I can't say that I was surprised at all that that kind of dialogue is happening behind the scenes," three-time Pro Bowl safety Malcolm Jenkins said on the AP Pro Football Podcast. "I think that we understand the culture of the NFL and we can put 'Inspire Change' logos all over the field and create logos all we want, but until you actually change what leadership looks like, you can't expect to change the culture."

In a sport with about 70% of the players Black, more than 80% of head coaches (27 of 32) and general managers (also 27 of 32) are white. Among principal owners, only Jacksonville's Shad Khan and Buffalo's Kim Pegula are members of minorities.

"In the case of Jon Gruden, obviously it's very disappointing to the people who respected him, look up to him and the man he was to our league," Jenkins said. "But I think if we focus only on Jon Gruden, then we miss the bigger picture, which is that he was able to exist like that because the culture around him accepted it. When he sent those emails, nobody raised a red flag, nobody brought it to anybody's attention. It was a normal thing."

"And I think that's the culture behind the scenes that we need to change. And so again, we can clap our hands at all of the pageantry that we've done now as everybody's kind of come to this social justice narrative, but until you start to see a change in leadership, whether it be more Black coaches, more Black GMs, a diversity in ownership, then I don't know how



Denver Broncos free safety Justin Simmons leaves the field after an NFL football game against the Las Vegas Raiders, Sunday, Oct. 17, 2021, in Denver. JACK DEMPSEY/AP

we expect the culture of the NFL to change."

Troy Vincent, a six-time Pro Bowl cornerback, former president of the NFL Players Association and current NFL executive vice president of football operations, agrees with Jenkins.

"A key learning from working on these issues over the past three decades is that diversity is a fact, inclusion is a choice," Vincent told the AP. "Collectively, a necessary decision to be made is that inclusion matters. Inclusion, whether that is race, gender, sexual orientation, age or otherwise, leads to better decisions, outcomes, and impact. Malcolm is spot on. These recent public revelations are a call for culture change and taking action."

Denver Broncos safety Justin Simmons says the NFL has made prog-

ress in recent years, but more needs to be done.

"Guys in the locker room talk about that stuff, man," Simmons said about racist views coming from people in leadership positions. "I think that's why it's important that we've been putting a spotlight on (it) in the past few years, especially in the NFL. We have the logos on the backs of the helmets and in the backs of the end zones. I think that's why it's important to have different cultures in those positions, right? Because you're not getting it all from one set of any type of person."

"And so, obviously qualified, you've got to be qualified to be in those positions. But I think that's why it's important: you get different backgrounds, you get different opinions,

you get different things glowing in that aspect of it. So, yeah, guys talk about it."

Hall of Fame wide receiver Jerry Rice played for Gruden in Oakland after leaving the San Francisco 49ers. He said he was "shocked" to hear Gruden expressed racist, homophobic and misogynistic thoughts in emails he wrote from 2011-18 to then-Washington club executive Bruce Allen. At the time, Gruden was an ESPN analyst between coaching jobs.

"It goes against everything that we've been trying to change," Rice said.

The NFL has not publicly released what is in the 650,000 emails the independent investigators collected during an investigation of sexual harassment and other workplace con-

ditions at the Washington Football Team. Gruden resigned last week as Las Vegas Raiders coach after his demagogic comments were reported.

NFL Players Association chief DeMaurice Smith has called for the league to release every email from the investigation.

On Thursday, Rep. Carolyn B. Maloney, Chairwoman of the Committee on Oversight and Reform, and Rep. Raja Krishnamoorthi, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Economic and Consumer Policy, sent a letter to NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell requesting documents and information regarding the investigation and the league's handling of it.

"The NFL has one of the most prominent platforms in America, and its decisions can have national implications," the chairs wrote. "The NFL's lack of transparency about the problems it recently uncovered raise questions about the seriousness with which it has addressed bigotry, racism, sexism, and homophobia — setting troubling precedent for other workplaces. The Committee is seeking to fully understand this workplace conduct and the league's response, which will help inform legislative efforts to address toxic work environments and workplace investigation processes; strengthen protections for women in the workplace; and address the use of non-disclosure agreements to prevent the disclosure of unlawful employment practices, including sexual harassment. We hope and trust that the NFL shares the Committee's goal of protecting American workers from harassment and discrimination."

Jenkins said "transparency" will "expose the culture of the NFL."

"We have a long history, obviously, in this country of things being white-dominated. ... and we've never really about-faced from that type of environment or that culture, especially when it comes to the very top decision makers in the league," Jenkins said.

Washington has many new faces entering critical season

(AP) — Major college football is settling into a strange period with lame duck memberships and frayed allegiances that could last another season or even two as conferences sort out the latest shifts and turns of realignment.

The American Athletic Conference on Thursday became the latest to act in the trickle down effect from Texas and Oklahoma's announced move to the Southeastern Conference.

The American is adding UAB, UTSA, Rice, North Texas, Charlotte and Florida Atlantic to replace three schools that are leaving for the Big 12 Conference — eventually.

"I think they will definitely take great advantage of the exposure and the platforms that are going to be provided by this conference," AAC Commissioner Mike Aresco said. "So we look forward, down the road, and we're not certain when they're going to come in yet. That's still to be decided."

Pinning down an ETA for the AAC's new additions is complicated because the conference doesn't realistically have room for the newcomers until the outgoing schools have left.

Those within the AAC believe 2023 is a realistic target for the transition to a 14-team conference after swiping six schools from Conference USA.

But it all starts with Texas and Oklahoma. The Longhorns and Sooners are contractually obligated to the Big 12 until July 2025. The SEC has made it clear that while it is looking forward to having Texas and OU on board, the league is also fine with waiting until then.

Breaking the contract would cost Texas and Oklahoma tens of millions of dollars in exit fees paid to the Big 12, but it is understood that everybody involved would benefit from not stringing

out this broken relationship for three more seasons.

The Big 12, after all, already has replacements lined up. The conference in September announced BYU and three AAC powers, Cincinnati, Houston and UCF, would be joining — eventually.

BYU, an independent in football with other sports in the West Coast Conference, is preparing to join the Big 12 in 2023. The three American schools are required to give the conference 27 months' notice and pay \$10 million exit fees. The Big 12 said it expected them to join by no later than summer of 2024. And it left the door open to add more schools down the road.

"We're living in a very fast-changing athletic environment, and we will be at 14 for a while, we will drop back to 12, and as there are targets of opportunity or as there are situations that dictate that we change composition, we'll be prepared to do those things," Big 12 Commissioner Bob Bowlsby said in September.

Aresco conceded growing to 14 was a way for a conference that has become a feeder league for the Power Five to be prepared for future poaching.

"We decided that there was strength in numbers," Aresco said. "We also looked around and said you know there are some schools that we might be interested in later on, why not, you know, think about taking them now?"

C-USA and the Sun Belt are next up in realignment. With only eight remaining members, Conference USA needs to both protect its assets and add on. A request for comment from Conference USA Commissioner Judy MacLeod was not immediately returned.

The Sun Belt continues to publicly say it will explore its options, but Commissioner Keith

Gill told AP the conference is feeling no pressure to act now that the American has made its move.

"There is no timetable," Gill said.

He declined to comment on reports the 10-football member Sun Belt is eyeing some of C-USA's remaining schools such as Southern Mississippi, Marshall and Old Dominion along with FCS powerhouse James Madison.

No matter. The map is unlikely to be redrawn for 2022, which means another full season of potentially uncomfortable moments that have already started to play out.

Earlier this week, Bowlsby told The Austin (Texas) American-Statesman newspaper Oklahoma and Texas secretly planning to leave the Big 12 felt like a "personal betrayal." He added the Longhorns' recent issues in football had nothing to do with the conference in which they play.

No. 3 Oklahoma is on target to play in yet another Big 12 title game in December. A seventh straight conference championship for the Sooners could make for an awkward trophy presentation with the commissioner at AT&T Stadium in Arlington, Texas.

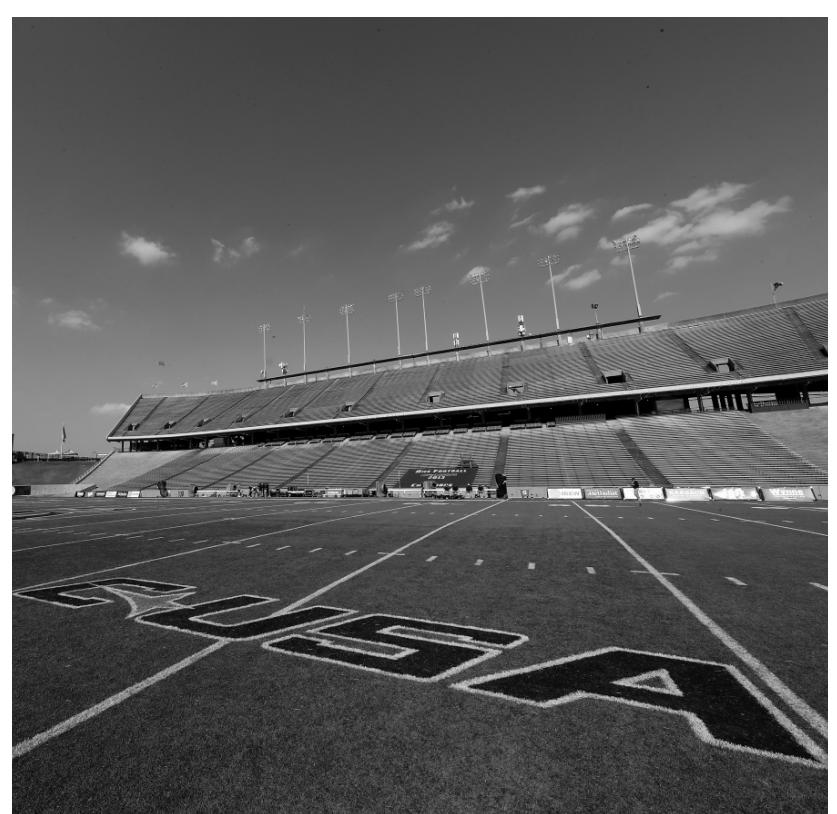
Same goes in the American, where No. 2 Cincinnati is positioned to be the first team from outside the Power Five to make a serious run at the College Football Playoff.

Aresco did not attend Cincinnati's game against Notre Dame earlier this month, but is not about to disown the unbeaten Bearcats.

"Cincinnati if, you know, we don't know what's gonna happen, but if they make the playoffs or they do something remarkable, they will have done it in the American Athletic Conference," he said.



In this Dec. 5, 2015, file photo, the American Athletic Conference logo is displayed before during the championship NCAA college football game between Houston and Temple in Houston. AP/MATT PATTERSON



In this Sept. 6, 2019, file photo, the Conference USA logo is displayed on the field Rice Stadium before an NCAA football game in Houston. AP/MATT PATTERSON

Sports

Photo of the Day | Between the boards



UConn junior Coryn Tormala carries the puck up the ice during a 5-3 game with the Huskies defeating the Merrimack College Warriors on Oct. 17 at the Mark Edward Freitas Ice Forum in Storrs. Five different Huskies scored to lead the UConn women's hockey team to the win, helping the Huskies improve their record for the season to 6-0. PHOTO BY SOFIA SAWCHUK, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Men's Soccer: UConn faces first ranked opponent of the season with showdown against Providence

by Cole Stefan
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The University of Connecticut men's soccer team, fresh off a thrilling 1-0 victory against Seton Hall that saw it bury the game-winner with 15 seconds left, takes on a ranked Big East foe in its penultimate weekend match of the season.

Sophomore Ben Awashie has been on fire as of late. In his last three games, he has picked up three goals, including the game-winner for the Huskies on Wednesday. He will look to continue his master series against some high-stakes competition.

Next up is defending Big East Freshman of the Week Mateo Leveque, who is up to 22 shots with two goals and four assists to boot. Leveque has been a massive contributor, as his corner kicks consistently find the back of the net.

The numbers Leveque has been putting up are almost perfectly aligned with sophomore Jayden Reid. Reid also has two goals and four assists, but on just 13 shots. Not to be outdone though, Reid always plays like he is qualified enough to teach a masterclass, and ranked opposition gives him a great chance to prove this once again.

The midfield is a nice balance between offense and defense. The physical play of junior captain Ahdan Tait, senior captain Felix Metzler and sophomore Kai Griese is the stuff of nightmares for opposing teams, as proven by their combined eight yellow cards.

Up front, freshman Okem Chime is up to 19 shots on the season and is itching to get his name on the score sheet after an impressive start to his collegiate career where he scored three goals in as many games. He's had a sensational freshman year thus far and is taking great shots that have been close to finding the net. With a perfect shot this weekend, Chime can continue to lead the charge on offense and get his first goal of the season.



UConn Freshman Giancarlo Vaccaro (17) approaches a Monmouth player dribbling the ball during a game in which the Huskies defeated Monmouth 1-0 in the second half of overtime, on Sept. 11 at Joseph J. Morrone Stadium. PHOTO BY SOFIA SAWCHUK, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

There's also sophomore Moussa Wade, who fires shots out of a cannon. He has a team-leading 28 shots and seven shots on goal that goes along well with his two goals and four assists. Senior Dominic Laws, freshman Scott Testori and sophomore Giancarlo Vaccaro, all of whom have one goal each, have been critical to the offense as well. You never know when they are going to break out, and their chances of having a standout performance are increasing.

On defense, sophomore Thomas Decottignies is back in action and accompanied by freshmen Bjorn Nikolajewski (one assist) and Guillame

Vactor (one goal) as well as sophomore Josh Morgan. Together, this defensive unit acts like security guards, making sure that nothing gets too close to their goalkeeper and into the back of the net.

Goalkeeper Jahmali Waite is a reasonably steady brick wall. His two saves from Wednesday's clean sheet puts him up to 30 on the season while allowing just nine goals. With some of the saves he has been making, the ranked opposition is going to have a hard time getting anything past him.

That ranked opponent is the No. 16 Providence Friars (8-2-3, 4-1-2 Big East), who followed their monumen-

tal upset win against Georgetown with a 2-1 loss to the Butler Bulldogs on Oct. 16.

One of the reasons Providence is ranked is due to the incredible talents of the Big East's version of U.S. Men's national team star Christian Pulisic, Brendan McSorely. McSorely has been dominant all season as his six goals are tied for second in the conference with Marquette's Lukas Suneson and Xavier's Karsen Henderlong.

Up front, he is also joined by sophomore Gevork Diarbian, who has two goals and four assists to his name, as well as a team-leading 28 shots. Together, these two sophomores leave

the defense in the dust and with more questions than answers. If the Huskies want to have a fighting chance, they need to shut these two down.

Providence also has a strong midfield. Like the forward position, juniors Lucas Garcia (four assists) and Paulo Lima (two assists) have been a dynamic duo that defenses must keep their eye on. Both studs have four goals each and know how to attack from point-blank range. If you aren't shutting down one duo, it's because you're focusing on the other.

Graduate student Davis Smith (four goals and four assists) is another name to look out for because he knows how to contribute and can sneak in a nasty goal or two when the defense is not looking. Even with him out of the picture, the priority belongs to the two juniors.

Graduate student Simon Triantafillou (one goal and four assists) and senior Christopher Roman (two goals and three assists) have also been huge contributors to a great midfield group. The main focus of this match easily belongs to the midfield. Whoever can better use their balance of offense and defense is going to win the game.

On defense, graduate student Malcolm Duncan, freshman Cole Dewhurst, junior Adam Riis and senior Miguel Candela (one goal and one assist) have reliably kept the back of the field free of any stray balls that may want to find the net. Their defense was a key reason why they were able to shut out Georgetown.

The other half of that reason belongs to sophomore goaltender Lukas Burns. Burns has been amazing thus far, allowing 13 goals while making 40 fabulous saves. No matter what save he is making, Burns knows how to get the job done and will look to quiet a warm and energetic Husky offense.

UConn has dominated the all-time series and will look to even up their record against Rhode Island Saturday at 7 p.m. The game can be viewed via FloSports with live stats provided by StatBroadcast.

Washington St looks to improve after breaking losing streak

(AP) — It took some prompting but Washington State coach Kyle Smith finally acknowledged that being picked to finish eighth in the Pac-12 was a disappointment.

After all, the Cougars figure to be improved from the team that surprised doubters by finishing 14-12 last year, the program's first winning season in nine years.

"We'll find out. That's why we play the games," Smith said at Pac-12 media day. "We don't in-

vest too much in (the polls), but we do feel like we were competitive last year."

"Hopefully, eighth will be a little chip on our shoulder," Smith added. "We've had some success. ... We have some things to build on. We just got to be consistent and keep building."

Smith noted the Pac-12 is on an upswing, sending numerous teams deep into the NCAA Tournament last spring.

The Cougars are clearly also improving. Last season, they beat five teams that earned berths to the NCAA Tournament, including UCLA, which made the Final Four, Oregon State and Oregon.

Smith was joined at media day by newcomer Tyrell Roberts, a transfer from Division II UC San Diego, and sophomore forward Efe Abogidi, who was named an All-Pac-12 preseason honorable mention. Abogidi was one of

two Cougars to start all 27 games while averaging 8.9 points, 7.2 rebounds and 1.3 blocks.

Also back is veteran Noah Williams who was selected to the preseason first-team. Williams finished his sophomore season leading the team in total points with 381 while scoring 14.1 points per game.

"Our depth is really good," Roberts said. "We have a lot of options. It's going to take some time for us to jell because we're so new, but once that comes together, I believe in us 100%."

Smith said Roberts brings exceptional quickness and leadership qualities.

"He's got the DNA to win," Smith said. "He can score and obviously there's going to be a transition I'm sure, but we've had a wonderful summer together."

The Cougars also landed senior Michael Flowers, a transfer from South Alabama who averaged 21 points per game last season.

"He's instant offense," Smith said. "Whether he's starting or coming off the bench, I think he's going to be a guy you're going to have to account for on the scout. He addresses some of the issues we had last year, as far as ball-handling. He's a good ball-handler, a good scorer, but he's more than just that."

Field Hockey: Huskies look to pick up fourth ranked victory



The Huskies dominated their matchup with the Boston University Terriers snatching an 8-0 win on Oct. 10, at the George J. Sherman Family Sports Complex. UConn freshman Sophia Ugo had a fantastic offensive outing, snagging her first career hat trick while five other Huskies were able to connect with the back of the net. PHOTO BY SOFIA SAWCHUK, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

by Jonathan Synott

ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

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After a 1-1 weekend split including a tough loss to No. 8 Maryland on Sunday, the No. 18 UConn field hockey team looks to bounce back against Big East rival Georgetown and No. 20 UMass Amherst at home.

This season, the Huskies (8-8, 4-1 Big East) have been on a roller-coaster ride, beating up teams they were projected to while suffering the wrath of a brutal non-conference schedule. When most of the matchups are against teams like No. 5 Northwestern and No. 6 Syracuse, it's hard to get the proverbial ball rolling over a stretch of games. Every one of UConn's eight losses came at the hands of a Top 25 squad, according to the NFHCA Coaches Poll. Half of those games were lost by only one goal, a testament to the Huskies' fight and talent, even against tough competition.

While UConn has a plethora of scoring options at any given moment, the team's goal leaders are Sophia Ugo, McKenna Sergi and Claire Jandewerth, tallying eight, seven and six goals apiece, respectively. Ugo leads the Huskies in

points with 18, while she and Abby Gooderham have taken a team-high 37 shots each thus far.

UConn has been fairly dominant on the defensive end this year, ranking No. 12 in the nation in shutouts with six. The unit is led by graduate student and former Big East Defensive Player of the Year Cheyenne Sprecher, who is ranked No. 16 in the country in save percentage.

Georgetown (8-7, 2-3 Big East) has experienced an up-and-down season full of streaks. After starting the season 2-0, the Hoyas immediately succumbed to a four-game losing streak, only to win four of their next five. They are currently trending in the downward direction, losing their last contest to Saint Francis in a penalty shootout. Their only ranked games were against conference rivals No. 9 Liberty and No. 15 Old Dominion, which were both losses.

The Hoyas, similar to the Huskies, don't have a defined goal scorer. The top strikers on the team are Sophie Towne and Emma van der Veen with just five goals apiece.

UMass (10-5, 3-2 Atlantic 10) is enjoying yet another successful season. While its non-conference schedule isn't as strenuous as

UConn's, it has faced some quality competition and proven its worth. Its last two contests against ranked teams have been fruitful, taking down No. 10 Boston College and No. 11 Saint Joseph's. However, the Minutewomen have struggled in conference play, getting upset by unranked teams like VCU and, most recently, Richmond this past Sunday.

UMass has plenty of scoring options on this squad, with 14 different Minutewomen tallying at least one goal this year. The team is led by graduate student Georgie McTear, who has six goals and 12 total points. Look for her to make an impact in this game, as she has scored three goals in UMass' last four matchups. While the Georgetown game is slightly less worrisome, Sprecher and the defense will have their work cut out for them.

Besides the Huskies going for their fourth ranked win on the year, there is a little extra for the team to play for on Sunday: Senior Day. Unfortunately, the details of the pregame event and a list of which players will be honored are currently unavailable. However, with even more to play for on the table, look for UConn to have a big homestand this weekend.

Women's Hockey: Huskies look to continue unbeaten streak

by Jonathan Synott

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Riding a remarkable start to the season, the UConn women's ice hockey team looks to continue its dominance on Friday as it takes on Merrimack in the quest for a 7-0 record.

This is the second matchup of the year between the Huskies and the Warriors, with Connecticut (6-0-0, 2-0-0 Hockey East) taking the first game by a score of 5-3 last Sunday. The win was a collective effort, as five different Huskies scored and nine different players each earned a point.

UConn has taken care of business thus far, starting out 6-0 in a showing of utter strength and skill compared to its competitors. Its opening series against LIU was a walk in the park, winning both home games by a margin of two apiece. The Huskies maintained their perfect record on the road in Rochester, defeating the RIT Tigers by an aggregate score of 10-5. The team skated by as it traveled up to Maine, defeating the Black Bears in a 1-0 shutout, which brings it to this home-away-home series against Merrimack.

In this opening to the year, the Huskies have established themselves as an elite team in the country, receiving votes in various Top 10 polls. They are among the best scoring teams thus far, racking up the seventh-most goals and assists in the country up to this point. On the defensive end, UConn finds itself ranked No. 9 in the nation in goals against per game.

The Huskies are led by senior Vicki Harkness, who has accumulated a team-high of five goals, as well as two assists. Another key player is graduate student Natalie Snodgrass, racking up two goals and four assists for six total points. Snodgrass has also taken the most shots on the team this year with 35.

Merrimack (0-6-1, 0-2-1 Hockey East) has found itself on the opposite side of the spectrum, starting its year out with a losing streak. Besides UConn, it has dropped games to Minnesota State, Boston University, No. 1 Wisconsin and No. 5 Boston College.

The Warriors are led by juniors Katie Kaufman and Teghan Inglis, who each have three goals on the season. While taking the most shots on the team (21 and 19, respectively), they are also the most efficient scorers among those with more than 10 shots. In the first game of this series, both Kaufman and Inglis found the back of the net. If UConn wants to continue its dominant streak, it will hope to keep both of these shooters at bay.



UConn women's ice hockey captain Natalie Snodgrass sets up to take a faceoff during a game of which the Huskies snagged a win against Merrimack College, defeating the Warriors 5-3 in a late Sunday afternoon game on Oct. 17 at the Mark Edward Freitas Ice Forum in Storrs. PHOTO BY SOFIA SAWCHUK, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Huskies look to carry momentum off previous win

by Evan Rodriguez

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In a football season of turmoil and disappointment, the University of Connecticut football team finally got a win. With a W in the books, the team faces Middle Tennessee State University in a Friday night matchup at Rentschler Field.

Middle Tennessee certainly has not had the best season up until this point. The Blue Raiders are 2-4 on the year and are coming off an embarrassing 41-13 loss to Liberty University. Despite the recent struggles, the team certainly has plenty of bright spots and talent to compete, especially with UConn.

The team brings in Chase Cunningham at quarterback, a redshirt junior who has played well for the Blue Raiders. Cunningham has 973 yards on the year, as well as 12 touchdowns and just two interceptions. The junior has demonstrated mobility and can cause some trouble for the Husky defense.

Middle Tennessee has had difficulty rushing the ball this year, with redshirt

junior Chaton Mobley accumulating just 184 yards on 34 attempts this year. However, with the Huskies' problems on the defensive line, Mobley may be relied on more than usual by the Blue Raiders to win in this matchup.

UConn looks to counter Middle Tennessee in this matchup after the encouraging performance of quarterback Steven Krajewski in last week's 21-15 nail-biting win against Yale University. Krajewski had 199 yards and two touchdowns for the Huskies.

On the rushing end for the Huskies, the team saw an impressive performance from backup running back Kevin Mensah last week. Mensah had 58 yards on just 12 carries, and while he will remain at backup in Friday's matchup, it will be interesting to keep an eye on how the veteran carries last week's encouraging results into Friday.

The receivers have been one of the brightest parts of the team this year ever since the emergence of freshman Keeelan Marion and the freshmen receiving core that came in after the widespread injuries to the Huskies' upperclassmen.

Their entire receiving core will have to be on point in this matchup to contend with the Blue Raiders.

For the injury report, the team has defensive anchor Ryan Van Denmark listed to return in this game — a huge addition for the Huskies, who desperately need his presence. Tight end Jay Rose will miss Friday's competition due to testing positive for COVID-19, limiting Krajewski's receiving options. Cornerback Jeremy Lucien will be a game-time decision after suffering a concussion.

UConn will also host its first LGBTQIA+ Pride game in team history, with each player wearing a gay pride sticker proudly on their helmets. The first 500 fans in attendance will also receive a free rainbow headband, and the Hartford Gay Men's Chorus will sing the national anthem.

With this matchup's general festivities and competitive nature, it won't be a game that Husky fans will want to miss. The game will kick off at 6 p.m. and be broadcast by CBS Sports Network.



UConn football claims victory over Yale for their first win of the season at their homecoming game on Saturday Oct. 16, 2021 at Rentschler Field. The Huskies beat the Bulldogs with a score of 21-15. PHOTO BY INGRID SANTOS RIVERA, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Daily

Sports



UConn freshman Laci Lewis dribbles the ball during a game in which UConn Women's Soccer clinched a 1-0 double-overtime victory versus the Villanova Wildcats on Sunday, Oct. 17, at Morrone Stadium. PHOTO

BY IZZI BARTON,
GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

by Stratton Stave
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On Thursday evening, the University of Connecticut women's soccer team took on the Providence College Friars in a critical game for both teams. The Huskies came into the game in fourth place in the conference, hunting for a key win that would put them in optimal position for the six team Big East tournament, while the Friars entered the contest in sixth place.

The game started off slowly, with neither team scoring in the first half. Soon after the conclusion of the first half in the 47th minute, UConn found some life in the form of red hot sophomore forward Jaydah Bedoya, who drilled her team-high sixth goal of the season to put the Huskies ahead. Sophomore forward Jada Konte paid Bedoya back for her assist in double overtime in Sunday's contest against Villanova, this time as the facilitator. Through some great goalkeeping play by sophomore Kaitlyn Mahoney, the Huskies retained the lead for the next 20 minutes.

Their lead was broken thanks to sophomore midfielder Avery Snead's solo shot — second of the season — to tie things up. Mahoney played things picture-perfect the rest of the way to take things to overtime.

The teams traded shots in overtime, culminating in graduate student Christina Rodgers' boot just over the crossbar with 10 seconds left to keep things scoreless. In the second free period, the Friars gave the Huskies another scare, kicking the ball into the bottom corner of the net, which was subsequently batted away by Mahoney. The game finished scoreless, giving each team a point in the standings.

The Huskies exited this game in fifth place in the conference, after seemingly squandering their best remaining chance to get a win. They were leapfrogged by St. John's, who UConn lost to earlier this year 3-0. Marquette is now one point behind UConn, while DePaul is tied with the Golden Eagles. The Friars sit in an unappealing eighth place position with just two more games to play.

Looking ahead, the Huskies have games

against the top two teams in the conference, which will make it tough to accumulate wins going forward. The Huskies will have to hope for the best and try to draw ties moving forward to hope to get a spot in the tightly contested playoff.

TAKEAWAYS

Mahoney Magic: Mahoney put on another stellar performance, notching a career high 14 saves in a game where each one was needed. Although it wasn't a shutout, Mahoney has emerged as a reliable keeper as of late and will be a much needed asset to keep Georgetown and Xavier off the board over the next week.

Blistering Bedoya: Bedoya has been playing at a torrid place as of late, picking up her seventh point in the past three games. Her chemistry with Konte is evident in the way they've been playing with each other as of late and have emerged as the best two field players on the team. Even if the Huskies don't make the tournament this year, the sophomore duo of Bedoya and Konte will be a fun one to watch for years.

UCONN SCOREBOARD

Women's Soccer
Thursday



1

1

UPCOMING GAMES



Field Hockey, Friday, 1 p.m.

Storrs, CT



Women's Ice Hockey, 2 p.m.

North Andover, MA

INSTAGRAM OF THE DAY



@uconnhuskies
We loved seeing so many @uconnalumni again at #UConnHomecoming! ❤️

TWEETS OF THE DAY

Drew English

@DerekInWichita

I hate UConn, I hate Nova, and I really hate Xavier....but man those still don't come close to Wichita State. Lol.

D

@DimitriValcourt

I think I found my future wife on IG. This gon take an iso, crossover, step back pull up jumper at the buzzer. UConn Kemba Walker type shot

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