



**CONFIRMED 2021 COVID-19 CASES AT UCONN STORRS**  
as of 6:08 on Dec. 5 \*positive test results

**5** Current Residential Cases (positive/symptomatic)

**55** Cumulative Residential Cases\*

**54** Cumulative Commuter Cases\*

**78** Cumulative Staff Cases\*

## USG initiative for additional bottle filling stations



The University of Connecticut Undergraduate Student Government is leading an initiative to install more water bottle filling stations around campus. Left: A UConn student refills their water bottle at one of the water filling stations in the Henry Ruthven Monteith building in Storrs, Connecticut. Right: A water bottle refilling station at the University of Connecticut. LEFT PHOTO BY IZZI BARTON, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS; RIGHT PHOTO BY BRANDON BARZOLA, MANAGING EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

by **Hallie LeTendre**  
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The University of Connecticut Undergraduate Student Government is working to implement more reusable water bottle filling stations across campus to eliminate single plastic bottle use.

The initiative hopes to reduce UConn's negative environmental impact from plastic bottle usage and to provide safe water for students across campus to benefit their health and increase accessibility to clean water.

Chris Bergen, a fifth-semester

mechanical engineering major, had a large role in promoting the initiative and in working with students, USG members and administration to keep the project moving forward.

The idea of adding more reusable water bottle filling stations has been in the works for nearly two years, according to Bergen. The initiative was put on hold last year due to COVID-19, but since being back on campus Bergen and USG have been able to continue working toward their final goal.

"There's a lot of support from within USG for the initiative for environmental reasons, along with

the fact that this is something that students have been wanting for the last couple years," Bergen said.

The project has two main goals, the first being to promote the university's pledge to being environmentally conscious.

"You have 20,000 students here at UConn, if every student were to bring just one plastic water bottle to class every day that would be 20,000 bottles being thrown out every day," Bergen said.

Gary Robbins, professor of natural resources and geology, said he understands the necessity of change in order to decrease single plastic usage.

"If you want to combat single plastic usage, I know of no other alternative other than supplying an alternative water supply," Robbins said.

The second goal that the addition of the filling stations would meet is increasing accessibility to safe drinking water for all students.

"For students living in dorms, they can only fill their bottles in public buildings, besides using a Brita in their rooms," Bergen said. "Having the stations will also make it easier to bring a reusable bottle around and have it be able to be filled wherever you may want."

In order to add the water filling

stations, many different factors of the project were taken into consideration.

The total project is expected to cost around \$75,000. Funds from UConn as well as money from a partnership with Coca Cola have allowed the project's mission to be feasible, Bergen said.

By next semester, it is expected that the project will be underway and the bottle filling stations will be installed across campus.

"My goal for this project is to have a water bottle station in every single dorm, hopefully by next year," Bergen said.

## Students Weigh In: Gampel Pavilion vs. XL Center

by **Samantha Miller**  
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When asked which they prefer, University of Connecticut students would rather have athletic events held at Gampel Pavilion in Storrs rather than the Hartford XL Center, citing ease of accessibility as a main factor.

Julia Russo, a fifth-semester UConn student, said that she prefers Gampel because "It's closer and easier to get to."

*"Gampel is unbeatable. The students, traditions, chants and energy brought to game day just doesn't compare to the XL center on game day."*

EMILY ZARILLI

"You don't have to go through the hassle of getting a ticket for the bus and going on the bus," Russo said. "But I also see why UConn uses the XL Center just for bigger games. I would prefer Gampel as a student."

Ashley Janusonis, a fifth-semester chemistry major, agreed that Gampel is more accessible.

"Gampel is more convenient just because it is on campus," Janusonis said.

Frank Romeo, a fifth-semester finance major, noted another benefit to having an on-campus stadium.

"A lot more students are willing to go to Gampel than the XL Center to watch games," Romeo said.

Emily Zarilli, a seventh-semester allied health sciences major, shared other factors that explain why Gampel is better than the XL Center.

"Gampel is unbeatable. The students, traditions, chants and energy brought to game day just doesn't compare to the XL center on game day," Zarilli said in a phone interview.



The east entry of Gampel Pavilion. When comparing Gampel Pavilion and the XL Center, many students say they'd prefer to attend games at Gampel Pavilion. The travel to games in Hartford is an extra step many don't feel like taking. FILE PHOTO/THE DAILY CAMPUS

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## News

# FAUCI SAYS EARLY REPORTS ENCOURAGING ABOUT OMICRON VARIANT



**Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, speaks during the daily briefing at the White House in Washington, Wednesday, Dec. 1, 2021. U.S. health officials said Sunday, Dec. 5 that while the omicron variant of the coronavirus is rapidly spreading throughout the country, early indications suggest it may be less dangerous than delta, which continues to drive a surge of hospitalizations. Fauci told CNN's "State of the Union" that scientists need more information before drawing conclusion's about omicron's severity.** PHOTO BY SUSAN WALSH/AP

AP — U.S. health officials said Sunday that while the omicron variant of the coronavirus is rapidly spreading throughout the country, early indications suggest it may be less dangerous than delta, which continues to drive a surge of hospitalizations.

President Joe Biden's chief medical adviser, Dr. Anthony Fauci, told CNN's "State of the Union" that scientists need more informa-

tion before drawing conclusions about omicron's severity.

Reports from South Africa, where it emerged and is becoming the dominant strain, suggest that hospitalization rates have not increased alarmingly.

"Thus far, it does not look like there's a great degree of severity to it," Fauci said. "But we have really got to be careful before we make any determinations that it is less

severe or it really doesn't cause any severe illness, comparable to delta."

Fauci said the Biden administration is considering lifting travel restrictions against noncitizens entering the United States from several African countries. They were imposed as the omicron variant exploded in the region, but U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has blasted such

measures as "travel apartheid."

"Hopefully we'll be able to lift that ban in a quite reasonable period of time," Fauci said. "We all feel very badly about the hardship that has been put on not only on South Africa but the other African countries."

Omicron had been detected in about a third of U.S. states by Sunday, including in the Northeast, the South, the Great Plains and the West Coast. Wisconsin, Missouri and Louisiana were among the latest states to confirm cases.

But delta remains the dominant variant, making up more than 99% of cases and driving a surge of hospitalizations in the north. National Guard teams have been sent to help overwhelmed hospitals in western New York, and Massachusetts Gov. Charlie Baker issued an emergency order requiring any hospitals facing limited patient capacity to reduce scheduled procedures that are not urgent.

U.S. officials continued urging people to get vaccinated and to receive booster shots, as well as take precautions such as wearing masks when among strangers indoors, saying anything that helps

protect against delta will also help protect against other variants.

Even if omicron proves less dangerous than delta, it remains problematic, World Health Organization epidemiologist Dr. Maria Van Kerkhove told CBS' "Face The Nation."

"Even if we have a large number of cases that are mild, some of those individuals will need hospitalizations," she said. "They will need to go into ICU and some people will die. ... We don't want to see that happen on top of an already difficult situation with delta circulating globally."

Two years into the outbreak, COVID-19 has killed over 780,000 Americans, and deaths are running at about 860 per day.

More than 6,600 new hospital admissions are being reported daily, according to tracking data from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

COVID-19 cases and deaths in the U.S. have dropped by about half since the delta peak in August and September, but at more than 86,000 new infections per day, the numbers are still high, especially heading into the holidays, when people travel and gather with family.

## TWO YEARS INTO THE OUTBREAK, COVID-19 HAS KILLED OVER 780,000 AMERICANS, AND DEATHS ARE RUNNING AT ABOUT 860 PER DAY.

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

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# Lawyer: Chris Cuomo accuser was disgusted by ‘hypocrisy’



Chris Cuomo attends The Hollywood Reporter's annual Most Powerful People in Media cocktail reception on April 11, 2019, in New York. CNN fired Cuomo for the role he played in defense of his brother, former Gov. Andrew Cuomo, as he fought sexual harassment charges. CNN said Saturday, Dec. 4, 2021, it was still investigating but additional information had come to light. PHOTO BY EVAN AGOSTIN/AP

NEW YORK (AP) — A woman who lodged a sexual harassment allegation against former CNN anchor Chris Cuomo was “disgusted” by what she saw as his hypocrisy and attempts to discredit women who made similar allegations against his brother, her lawyer said Sunday.

The woman's complaint became known shortly after CNN fired the “Cuomo Prime Time” anchor Saturday night. Chris Cuomo had been criticized for breaching journalistic ethics by trying to help his brother, former New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo, beat his own harassment charges.

The woman, who has chosen to remain anonymous, took her allegations against Chris Cuomo to CNN on Wednesday through her lawyer, Debra Katz.

Katz did not give any specifics about the alleged behavior, believed to have occurred before Cuomo joined CNN in 2013. Prior to that, he worked at ABC News.

Chris Cuomo, through a

spokesman, said the charges were untrue. “If the goal in making these false and unvetted accusations was to see Mr. Cuomo punished by CNN, that may explain his unwarranted termination,” the spokesman said.

Katz also tied Cuomo's firing to the accusations, saying in a statement that “CNN acted promptly on my client's complaint and fired Mr. Cuomo.”

CNN suspended Cuomo on Tuesday after learning through documents released by New York's attorney general that his actions in support of his brother were more extensive than previously known. A law firm was hired by CNN to look into Cuomo's actions, Cravath, Swaine & Moore, then determined the network had cause to fire him.

With the new misconduct allegations, the network had little taste for another investigation and CNN chief Jeff Zucker informed Cuomo of the firing on Saturday.

Katz said in Sunday's statement that her client was motivated by Cuomo's statements, regarding allegations against his brother, that he cared deeply and profoundly about issues of sexual misconduct. The woman also believed that Cuomo “played an active role in attempting to smear women” who had accused his brother, she said.

“Hearing the hypocrisy of Chris Cuomo's on-air words and disgusted by his efforts to try to discredit these women, my client retained counsel to report his serious sexual misconduct to CNN,” the lawyer said.

The new misconduct allegation comes after a veteran TV executive, Shelley Ross, wrote a column for The New York Times in September saying Chris Cuomo had groped her at a party 16 years ago, when they both worked for ABC News. Cuomo told the newspaper “I apologized to her then, and I meant it.”

In responding to criticism of

his actions regarding his brother, Cuomo has said that he was simply trying to help him — telling his CNN audience shortly after Andrew Cuomo resigned in August that “it's never easy being in this business and coming from a political family.”

“I never attacked, nor encouraged anyone to attack, any woman who came forward,” Cuomo said on the air. “I never made calls to the press about my brother's situation.”

However, in an email from last March newly released by the New York attorney general, Cuomo told one of his brother's aides that “I have a lead on the wedding girl.” It was in reference to a woman who said in news reports she was uncomfortable with how the governor touched her when they met at a wedding.

Chris Cuomo, in testimony to Attorney General Letitia James' investigators, explained that a “source” had called him and suggested that maybe the accuser

had “been put up to” making the accusation. He relayed that to his brother's aides, however they told him the woman had made her discomfort known soon after it happened.

Cuomo also testified to investigators — a month before he told CNN viewers he had not called the press about his brother's situation — that he had reached out privately to media figures to find out if there would be other accusers.

Cuomo has said he never tried to influence his own network's coverage of his brother's problems, and no evidence has emerged that he did.

His firing leaves a hole in CNN's weeknight lineup. Even while competing in the same time slot with industry heavyweights Sean Hannity on Fox News Channel and Rachel Maddow on MSNBC, Cuomo was generally the most-watched personality on CNN.

Michael Smerconish will substitute for him this week.

# Senate leader, presidential candidate Bob Dole dies at 98

TOPEKA, Kan. (AP) — Bob Dole, who overcame disabling war wounds to become a sharp-tongued Senate leader from Kansas, a Republican presidential candidate and then a symbol and celebrant of his dwindling generation of World War II veterans, died Sunday. He was 98.

His wife, Elizabeth Dole, said in an announcement posted on social media that he died in his sleep.

Dole announced in February 2021 that he'd been diagnosed with stage 4 lung cancer. During his 36-year career on Capitol Hill, Dole became one of the most influential legislators and party leaders in the Senate, combining a talent for compromise with a caustic wit, which he often turned on himself

but didn't hesitate to turn on others, too.

He shaped tax policy, foreign policy, farm and nutrition programs and rights for the disabled, enshrining protections against discrimination in employment, education and public services in the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Today's accessible government offices and national parks, sidewalk ramps and the sign-language interpreters at official local events are just some of the more visible hallmarks of his legacy and that of the fellow lawmakers he rounded up for that sweeping civil rights legislation 30 years ago.

Dole devoted his later years to the cause of wounded veterans,



Presidential hopeful Sen. Bob Dole, R-Kan., speaks to supporter's in LeMars, Iowa, Feb. 10, 1996. Bob Dole, who overcame disabling war wounds to become a sharp-tongued Senate leader from Kansas, a Republican presidential candidate and then a symbol and celebrant of his dwindling generation of World War II veterans, has died. He was 98. His wife, Elizabeth Dole, posted the announcement Sunday, Dec. 5, 2021, on Twitter. PHOTO BY DAVE WEAVER/AP

their fallen comrades at Arlington National Cemetery and remembrance of the fading generation of World War II vets.

Thousands of old soldiers massed on the National Mall in 2004 for what Dole, speaking at the dedication of the World War II Memorial there, called “our fi-

nal reunion.” He'd been a driving force in its creation.

“Our ranks have dwindled,” he said then. “Yet if we gather in the twilight it is brightened by the knowledge that we have kept faith with our comrades.”

Long gone from Kansas, Dole made his life in the capital, at

the center of power and then in its shadow upon his retirement, living all the while at the storied Watergate complex. When he left politics and joined a law firm staffed by prominent Democrats, he joked that he brought his dog to work so he would have another Republican to talk to.

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# SOUNDING OFF

## PRINTING SHOULD BE FREE AT UCONN

by **Sam Zelin**  
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The Undergraduate Student Government of the University of Connecticut rolled out its Husky Print program on Nov. 29, and announced that it will run through finals season, ending on Dec. 19. The program promises to offer 15 pages of free printing to all UConn Storrs students, available at any Wepa printer. Now, my goal here isn't to knock that program, because while I do think offering the equivalent of \$1.20 to all students is lackluster, that's really not the actual problem here. It should not have to fall on USG to slightly better a necessary service for students who already pay thousands of dollars to the university. That service, the ability to print documents and other paper paraphernalia, should be free to all UConn students, and not just for finals, but throughout the school year.

Students pay tuition in order to be a part of UConn's classes and use many other resources associated with the school, but for some reason printers are not included in this. Access to computers is granted to those who pay tuition, so it's clearly not a technology issue. Any class that requires hard copies of anything requires the use of a printer, and just like UConn lends out graphic calculators for use in class, printing should be offered as a resource as well.

If UConn were to offer free printing to students, it certainly would not be the first college to do so. In a statement on University of Chicago's website: "College students will be allotted up to 100 pages of free printing per quarter." That's 400 pages of free printing per year. UConn, assuming the same Husky Print program will be put into ef-

fect for the spring semester as well, is set to offer students 30 pages in total.

Clark University takes free printing allocation further than UChicago does. In a statement from the Clark website, the following is said about printing: "Thirty-five dollars is the equivalent to 500 B&W double-sided pages; \$14 is equivalent to 200 B&W double-sided pages (to provide up to 1200 pages annually). When the allocation is used up, students can still print at a cost of \$.10 per page single-sided or \$.07 per page double-sided page (example: \$.14 for a double-sided page printed on a single sheet of paper)."

**IT SHOULD NOT HAVE TO FALL ON USG TO SLIGHTLY BETTER A NECESSARY SERVICE FOR STUDENTS WHO ALREADY PAY THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS TO THE UNIVERSITY.**

In addition to the fact that Clark offers three times as many pages as UChicago does, the passage above brings up an interesting point; not all printed pages are created equal.

Returning to the USG Husky Print rollout, I want to mention that it was advertised with the wording "All UConn students will get to print up to 15 pages free on Wepa printers until the end of the semester." While this is technically true, it is incredibly misleading as well. Sure, students would be able to print 15 pages free ... if all they

intended to print were 15 black and white, single-sided pages. Color pages are significantly more expensive, and that should have certainly been mentioned, but the amount of sides a page has is a matter UConn needs to deal with immediately. Currently, the Wepa system counts a double-sided page as two separate pages, and charges the patron accordingly. This is nothing short of a rip-off, as a double-sided piece of paper is not at all the same as two pieces of paper. Sure, more ink may be used, even though this isn't the case on every occasion, but one piece of paper being used is half the amount of that resource every time. So, not only does Clark beat UConn's free printing offering by fortyfold, it also understands that it shouldn't be allowed to charge the full amount for two pages when students ask for a double-sided page.

Now to tackle the last elephant in the room: Clark and UChicago are private schools, and the tuition students pay is generally higher than UConn's. Well, to that argument, I present the University of South Florida: A public school that offers three dollars of free printing per day. This is the perfect solution that UConn should go for. Students only use the money up if they actually use the service, and if they need to go over this amount in any one day, they have to pay.

Wrapping it all up, UConn needs to do two things as soon as possible. The first is to fix the pricing of the printing items, namely the double-sided page. The second is to offer a daily allocation of free printing to every student who pays tuition. As for where this money should come from, the state of Connecticut's flagship university should be able to find the funds to support free printing. Again, it's a necessary resource, so there's an obligation to provide.

ILLUSTRATION BY KAITLYN TRAN, STAFF ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS





# Life

@dailycampuslife

## AN EVENING WITH THE BOSTON POPS: 'HOLIDAY POPS' RETURNS TO JORGENSEN

**by Abigail Palmer**  
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The Boston Pops celebrated its 15th holiday season at the Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts on Dec. 4, performing a diverse selection of light classical music spanning numerous continents and decades with modern popular hits and traditional sing-along-worthy Christmas tunes.

"The best way to kick off the holiday season in Connecticut is right here in Storrs with the Boston Pops under the direction of maestro Keith Lockhart," Jorgensen Director Rodney Rock said in his opening remarks for "Holiday Pops: The Boston Pops on Tour."

The lights dimmed as Lockhart briskly walked onto the stage to thunderous applause from the audience. The crowd was alight with enthusiasm and welcomed Lockhart like an old friend. Without any opening remarks, Lockhart took his place at the podium and launched into conducting Adrianus Valerius's "We Gather Together: A Holiday Fanfare." The song's message encompassed the general theme of the evening.

"It is wonderful to be back with this wonderfully supportive audience here at the Jorgensen Center. Thank you for having us, and welcome back to the thrill of live music," Lockhart said after the completion of the first song. "As life slowly returns to normal, it seems appropriate to ask, 'What are we most grateful for this holiday season?' What I'm most grateful for can be summed up in the first three

words of the first song we performed tonight: 'We gather together.' Community is at the heart of the holidays."

The audience was not only treated to music from the Boston Pops, but also the Metropolitan Chorale, a chorus from Brookline Massachusetts led by music director Lisa Graham who accompanied Lockhart's orchestra. At one point, Lockhart even surrendered his baton to Graham and exited the stage as she led her chorus in Michael John Trotta's "Veni Veni Emmanuel." The stage was shared with various guests throughout the evening, including actress Cheryl Singleton, who narrated a story of the Christmas Truce of 1914, and a UConn School of Fine Arts professor who narrated Clement C. Moore's "Twas the Night Before Christmas" as the Pops played in the background.

"It's fantastic," said UConn alumni Matt Breton ('10). "I love the diversity in music too. We've heard some real traditional songs, but we've also gotten a lot of unique arrangements that we've never heard before."

The first half of the show was dedicated to these unique, culturally diverse songs, some of which were arranged especially for the Boston Pops. "México, Ángel y Pastor" seemed to be a favorite of Lockhart and the crowd. The former conducted the orchestra with dance-like movements through the bouncy, brass-heavy Mexican number by Silvino Jaramillo. This was followed by "The Good News Voyage," a medley of African American spirituals — "Go

Tell It on the Mountain," "Rise, Shine for Your Light is Coming" and "Mary Had a Baby Boy" — arranged by David Coleman and accompanied with on-screen illustrations by author and illustrator Ashley Bryan.

After a brief intermission, the concert leaned more into the holiday theme, starting with a jazzy, swinging rendition of "Happy Holiday!" The group continued with this jazz theme for a few more songs, playing excerpts from Duke Ellington's "Nutmacker Suite." The audience was very pleased with "Sugar Rum Cherry," a jazzy take on the familiar "Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy."

After an enthusiastic rendition of "Santa Clause is Coming to Town," the jolly man in red himself made an appearance on stage with an ecstatic reaction from the audience. He exchanged some wise words with Lockhart. The orchestra then launched into "The Twelve Days of Christmas," which was remixed into a medley to the tune of songs including Queen's "Bohemian Rhapsody" and "The Can-Can." This was my favorite song performed all night, and the first to elicit a standing ovation from the audience.

As people filed out of Jorgensen Center, a vibrant sense of community could be felt among the concert-goers, glad to be together and celebrating the holidays. I'm sure each person took with them the sage words from Old Saint Nick earlier that evening: "The holiday season is a pandemic of love and hope, and that we can't do without."



Students, community members and music enthusiasts gather at the Jorgensen Center for Performing Arts on Saturday, Dec. 4 for the annual Boston Pops Holiday Concert. The Boston Pops are a Boston-based orchestra, and they were joined by the Metropolitan Chorale for the performance. PHOTO BY ERIN KNAPP, ASSOCIATE PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

# HOW TRUE IS SPOTIFY WRAPPED?



Spotify releases their annual "Spotify Wrapped" report. The campaign allows listeners to view data of their listening trends throughout the year. PHOTO COURTESY OF SPOTIFY

This is the company's sixth year running the marketing campaign, and it has become a ritual among Spotify users to share their "Wrapped" on social media sites like Twitter and Instagram.

by **Shanice Rhule**  
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The world's leading music streaming service, Spotify, has finally released its annual report highlighting the streaming activity of its users.

Appropriately named "Spotify Wrapped," the campaign presents users' trends through contemporary graphics and trendy lingo used throughout the year. Spotify "wraps up" each user's year on the app, allowing listeners to view their listening trends from the previous months with categories like Most Played Song, Top 5 Artists, and Top Podcast.

This year, users can click through a slideshow, similar to an Instagram story, to view visuals within the Spotify app. Initially, the streaming service started the promotion in 2015 as "Year In Music," but was changed to "Spotify Wrapped" in 2016.

It was expanded in 2017 to include artists and advertisers so they could also view data on streamers who engage in their content. And, in 2018, it was made available on the mobile app, whereas in years prior, users could view their results on a dedicated website.

This is the company's sixth year running the marketing campaign, and it has become a ritual among Spotify users to share their "Wrapped" on social media sites like Twitter and Instagram. While some may be alarmed about certain elements, such as the number of minutes spent listening to music, others are unfazed by how often they play their favorite artists.

Although this feature gives consumers the ability to share their music tastes and explore new genres as well as other media, at some point, one must wonder: Just how precise is Spotify Wrapped?

There have been discussions regarding the accuracy of the company's data collection on social media with one user, @isawstars\_ on Twitter, stating that "it feels like it's only like the first four months of the year."

Others are confused by the use of obscure genre names like "Weirdcore" or "Meme Rap."

According to an article on Newsweek, Spotify begins to track trends Jan. 1 through Oct. 31, ten months out of the year. Brendan Codey, associate director for Spotify's Creator Growth and Program stated the reason for this is solely time constraints and logistics.

"We need to QA [quality assurance] the site and we need to finalize assets for Wrapped, all of which takes a while. You throw Thanks-

giving into the mix as well and we have even less time," said Codey in an exclusive interview with Newsweek.

Listeners might feel conflicted by this, as a new album from their favorite artist released in November or December won't be included at all in this year or next year's Wrapped. In the same context, this data gap can also pose a problem to Spotify's artists and content creators as well.

"After all, if they release a hit album in November (like Taylor Swift's Red (Taylor's Version), which actually resulted in Spotify crashing earlier this month), then all the data associated with this is missing from their annual Wrapped roundup," wrote Newsweek.

Currently, it's not completely clear how Spotify tracks streaming habits but it is known that any track played for 30 seconds is taken into account, including offline streams.

The Daily Campus asked the Reddit community of the University of Connecticut what they thought about their Spotify Wrapped results.

Recorded on Dec. 5 at 12:13 p.m., out of 219 votes:

There were 126 subreddit users who believe Spotify accurately reflects their listening history, 46 disagreed and the rest do not use Spotify. (It should be noted that this subreddit is not only made up of current students of UConn, but also alumni and other users of Reddit.)

@Westporter, a current student in the subreddit, said they use a different application to track their data and that it is pretty similar to what was reported by the popular streaming service.

"I have an app called Spotistats that aggregates the raw data from Spotify, it was pretty close to what the wrapped had me listening to," said @Westporter.

Other online trackers are also popular with Spotify listeners.

One Twitter user, @thecaitlinmarie tweeted, "...also, I use last.fm since it's more accurate and you can actually include the music listened to after October."

In both Spotistats and Last.fm, users can see their most recent listening patterns from the past year based on Spotify data. Other websites that show your most streamed music include Receiptify, which displays your most played songs from the last month, six months or all time. Obscurify analyzes your data to assess your level of obscurity compared to others in your area. It also recommends music based on your current listening history.

Overall, Spotify Wrapped encourages us to keep a record of our lives and to share them with others.

# 'King Richard': The best movie of the year thus far

by Zachary Wisnefsky  
STAFF WRITER  
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In his almost three decades of film stardom, Will Smith has yet to win an Academy Award.

That may be about to change.

Smith's newest movie, "King Richard," is from director Reinaldo Marcus Green. The film tells the story of Richard Williams (Smith) raising his two daughters Venus (Sanjaya Sidney) and Serena (Demi Singleton) as tennis prodigies growing up in Compton, Calif.

There are a multitude of reasons why this film is successful.

First off, Smith delivers what very well may be the best performance of his career. The paternal Williams is a complex character who makes many morally ambiguous decisions throughout the picture, but Smith delivers this to perfection. While another actor may play certain scenes in a superficial manner, Smith really dives into the character,

delivering countless scenes with immense gravitas, brevity and just the right amount of comedic and charismatic touch. After seeing this picture, it is unfathomable to imagine another actor playing "King Richard," which signifies the quality of the performance.

A lead performance goes a long way for a picture, but it isn't all that's necessary to produce a successful product. One key piece of a well-executed film, of course, is a well-written storyline. While the future of the Williams sisters is relatively well-known, the story itself still maintains its stakes. The dialogue of "King Richard" is brilliantly written, with countless clever lines and moments.

The ambiguity of the main character is also executed to perfection, as the film doesn't necessarily take sides with its lead. This overall makes the story all the more interesting and more reflective of real life.

One thing I particularly like about "King Richard" is that it delivers a sequential story. Now not every film needs to be delivered in a sequential order (see "Pulp Fiction" for example), but there are many films that have no need to be non-chronological. Modern biographical films, for some reason, tend to employ

such non-chronological structures more than others. Some work well, such as 2010's "The Social Network," but some may have worked better if they were chronological, like 2007's "Into the Wild." "King Richard" tells a story that is best executed sequentially, even though much of the audience is aware of how the story "ends." The stakes and the weight of the storyline are best maximized with this structure.

If I were to have any complaints about this picture, I would say some of the drama is a bit melodramatic, having varying degrees of quality. Of course, nothing is completely perfect in this regard, but "King Richard" has many sequences of emotion, of which some are successful and others are not as so. Ultimately, since the film is so well-executed in other areas, this doesn't severely impact the final outcome.

Ultimately, due to an all-time great performance from Will Smith, fantastic dialogue and a brilliantly written story, "King Richard" earns a strong recommendation from me. This is most definitely the best film I have seen so far this year. Expect this film to play a major role in the upcoming awards season.



POSTER COURTESY OF IMDB

RATING: 4.6/5

# Opinion StudyBreak

## Photo of the Day | Very merry men



Mermen ornaments are on display inside of Sofia's Mystical Christmas shop within Olde Mistick Village in Mystic, Connecticut on Dec. 4, 2021. PHOTO BY SOFIA SAWCHUK, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

### Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Mexican dip
  - 6 Kitten-lifting spot
  - 10 "Notorious" Supreme Court justice, initially
  - 13 Gold miner's staked-out land
  - 14 Polishes, as text
  - 16 Botch the job, say
  - 17 \*Cage for a bunny
  - 19 Actress Zadora
  - 20 Moody music genre
  - 21 \_\_\_ Grey tea
  - 22 Wasn't feeling well
  - 24 Early bird's reward
  - 26 \*Tool for filling in holes in the wall
  - 29 Blackjack card
  - 31 "Superman" actor Christopher
  - 32 Hooded snake
  - 35 Final Four org.
  - 37 Dutch cheese town
  - 40 \*Bow users' musical ensemble
  - 43 "The jig \_\_\_"
  - 44 Double-reed wind
  - 45 Trio in H2O
  - 46 Barnes' bookselling partner
  - 48 Italian three
  - 49 \*Skin response to fear or cold
  - 53 Applies with a Q-tip
  - 57 Finance whiz Suze
  - 58 Christmas song
  - 60 Rapper \_\_\_ Kim
  - 61 Oral health initials
  - 62 "C'mon, get serious!" ... and an admonition evidently ignored by the starts of the answers to starred clues
  - 66 Part of mph
  - 67 Promised to tell the truth
  - 68 "There's no such thing as a free lunch," e.g.
  - 69 Hosp. triage areas
  - 70 Still-life subject
  - 71 Printer supply

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12		
13						14				15		16			
17						18						19			
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		29	30					31							
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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					65			
66					67							68			
69						70						71			

By Kevin Christian and Andrea Carla Michaels 12/6/21

- 3 Materials partner on a repair bill
- 4 Member of the fam
- 5 Gallic girlfriend
- 6 Indira Gandhi's father
- 7 Grownup
- 8 Racetrack stop
- 9 And so on, briefly
- 10 Answered, as an email
- 11 Lawyer's filing
- 12 Student's mark
- 15 Ice cream drink
- 18 Scotch or masking
- 23 Played the market
- 25 California county that contains parts of Yosemite National Park
- 27 Copy on transparent paper
- 28 "You betcha!"
- 30 Recycle bin item
- 32 CBS forensic series
- 33 NFL tiebreakers
- 34 Multiple Grammy winner featured on "Uptown Funk"
- 35 Prize since 1901
- 36 \_\_\_-Magnon

**Saturday's Puzzle Solved**

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

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- 38 Vaccination spot
- 39 More, in Madrid
- 41 Game with putting
- 42 Lend an \_\_\_: listen
- 47 Is flexible
- 48 You, biblically
- 49 Flip out
- 50 Trial judge's demand
- 51 Between, in French
- 52 Like a designated driver
- 54 Poe's middle name
- 55 Ship's hull region
- 56 More cunning
- 59 Aspiring DA's exam
- 63 Be obligated to
- 64 "Don't delay!"
- 65 Pre-marital (just barely) promise

- DOWN**
- 1 Carpenter's fastener
  - 2 Mission to remember

### Sudoku

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

### Did you know?

**Dead skin cells are a main ingredient of household dust.**

**SUDAN HAS MORE PYRAMIDS THAN EGYPT.**

**The bumblee bat, with a length under 1.5 inches and a wingspan under 6 inches, is the smallest mammal.**

**THE CIRCULATORY SYSTEM IS MORE THAN 60,000 MILES LONG.**

FACTS COURTESY OF READER'S DIGEST

## Utah's 1st Rose Bowl to be against Pasadena veteran Ohio St

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Utah's football program has come a long way since the last time it faced Ohio State.

In 1986, the Utes were a struggling program in the Western Athletic Conference when they went to Columbus and were drilled 64-6 by the Buckeyes.

Thirty five years later, Utah will be making its first Rose Bowl trip as the Pac-12 champion when it faces Ohio State in the 108th edition of the Granddaddy of Them All on New Year's Day.

The tenth-ranked Utes (10-3) defeated Oregon 38-10 Friday to capture their first Pac-12 championship since joining the conference in 2011.

"This is the next step in evolution as a program," coach Kyle Whittingham said during a conference call Sunday. "We had been to the Pac-12 championship game three times but this is the first time we were able to get over the mountain. It was something we had been shooting for and had our sights set on for a number of years."

Some may wonder if the archrival Wolverines and in-state cohort Cincinnati qualifying for the CFP means the No. 7 Buckeyes (10-2) might be in for a letdown, but coach Ryan Day tried to downplay that.

"The goal here is to win championships. We didn't reach that. But we have an opportunity to play in a tradition-rich bowl, and that means a lot," Day said. "I know our guys want to play hard and win that game."

Both programs do have one thing in common — Urban Meyer. The Utes started their climb toward prominence after Meyer was hired in 2003. In his two years

with the program, they went 22-2, including a victory over Pittsburgh in the Fiesta Bowl to conclude the 2004 season.

Meyer took over at Ohio State in 2012 and led the Buckeyes to a national championship in 2014. Ohio State's last appearance in the Rose Bowl was during the 2018 season when it defeated Washington in what would be Meyer's final game on the Buckeyes' sideline after he announced his retirement a couple weeks earlier.

Whittingham is in his 17th year leading Utah and took over after Meyer left for Florida.

"I had been at Utah for eight-nine years, thought I would be the guy (in 2003). I was disappointed Urban got it but it ended up being the best thing that happened to me," Whittingham said. "I got to see the level of organization, how he ran a program and absorbed things that were invaluable."

### UTES ROAD TO PASADENA

Utah started the season by dropping two of its first three games but has won nine of its last 10, including two victories over the Ducks.

Whittingham's squad has played through grief and adversity during the past year after two players died in a nine-month span. Running back Ty Jordan, who was the Pac-12's Freshman of the Year last season, died in an accidental shooting last December. Cornerback Aaron Lowe, Jordan's best friend, was killed Sept. 26 in a shooting during a house party in Salt Lake City.

"I couldn't be more proud of our leaders and the ownership they took. The captains and underclassmen kept things together,"



Utah quarterback Cameron Rising (7) scores a 2-point conversion against Oregon during the second half of the Pac-12 Conference championship NCAA college football game Friday, Dec. 3, 2021, in Las Vegas.

PHOTOGRAPH BY CHASE STEVENS/AP

Whittingham said. "For us to get through it and continue to play at a high level is a credit to our guys."

### OHIO STATE'S ROAD

Ohio State had hopes of appearing in the College Football Playoff for the third straight season and was in the top four most of the season. But the Buckeyes were knocked out of contention with a 42-27 loss at Michigan.

While Utah is a Rose Bowl rookie, the Buckeyes are frequent visitors. The Buckeyes will be making their 16th trip to Pasadena and their second in four years.

### TWO UTE STANDOUTS

Running back Tavion Thomas might have something extra to play for in this game. The sophomore is from Dayton, Ohio, and is tied for the Football Bowl Subdivision lead with 20 rushing touchdowns while averaging 5.6 yards per carry.

Linebacker Devin Lloyd is the only Power Five player with at least 14.5 tackles for loss (22) and multiple interceptions (four).

### MILESTONE SEASON

Ohio State quarterback C.J. Stroud is the first player in Big Ten

history to be named the conference's offensive player of the year, freshman of the year and quarterback of the year in the same season. He passed for 3,862 yards and 38 touchdowns.

### OFFENSE VS. DEFENSE

Ohio State leads the nation in total offense (551.4 yards per game) and scoring offense (45.5 ppg), and is fifth in passing offense (364.9 ypg).

Utah is 12th nationally in total defense (315.4 yards per game) and 13th in yards allowed per play (4.85).

## Historic playoff: Alabama-Cincinnati, Michigan-Georgia

IRVING, Texas (AP) — As college football's postseason evolved from disconnected bowls to the BCS to the current four-team playoff, it never truly embraced the underdog the way the NCAA Tournament does.

From Tulane to Utah, Boise State to TCU and then UCF, the upstarts occasionally got a chance to play a blue blood in a big bowl game, but they never entered the postseason with a legitimate opportunity to win a national championship.

College football finally has its first Cinderella team: Cincinnati has broken the glass ceiling.

The Bearcats will play Alabama in the Cotton Bowl on New Year's Eve after being selected to the College Football Playoff on Sunday. Michigan will face Georgia in the Orange Bowl semifinal on Dec. 31 and the winners will play for the national championship on Jan. 10 in Indianapolis.

Fourth-seeded Cincinnati is the first team to reach the CFP from a non-Power Five conference in the eight-year history of this postseason format. The Bearcats (13-0) won the American Athletic Conference and head into the postseason as the only unbeaten team in the country.

"It's an historic day. It really is. In the world of sports, this is history," AAC Commissioner Mike Aresco said. "This is something probably many, many people never thought they would see."

Previously, no team from a so-called Group of Five conference had ever even come close to making the playoff.

"We don't want to carry the flag for the non-big schools, so to speak, we just want to be us," Cincinnati coach Luke Fickell said.

When the Bowl Championship Series started in 1998, Tulane went unbeaten in Conference USA and didn't even get a spot in one of the glitzy bowl games. Former Tulane President Scott Cowen was among the first to attack the BCS as an exclusionary cartel.

Under then-coach Urban Meyer, Utah went unbeaten as a member of the Mountain West in 2004 and reached the Fiesta



Cincinnati's Bryon Threats (10) celebrates after defeating Houston in the American Athletic Conference championship NCAA college football game Saturday, Dec. 4, 2021, in Cincinnati.

PHOTOGRAPH BY JEFF DEAN/AP

Bowl, but only got to play a so-so Pittsburgh team, meaning the Utes had no shot to finish No. 1.

Boise State created a brand out of being a potential BCS buster during its time in the Western Athletic Conference, winning a remarkable Fiesta Bowl against Oklahoma in 2007. TCU was in the Mountain West when it won a Rose Bowl against Wisconsin in 2010.

Utah and TCU ended up getting scooped up by Power Five conferences. If you can't beat them, ask them to join with you.

The playoff doubled the number of teams that had a chance to win the national title from two to four in 2014, but it didn't seem to help the little guys.

UCF won 25 straight games over 2017 and '18 and never did better than eighth in the selection committee's rankings. The Knights went so far as to declare themselves national champions after they were the only team in

major college football to finish the 2017 season unbeaten.

Cincinnati set the foundation for this year's run by going unbeaten in the regular season last year before losing to Georgia on a late field in the Peach Bowl.

Aresco conceded this run has felt bitter sweet at times for him. Cincinnati, along with UCF and Houston, will be leaving the American for the Big 12 soon.

The Bearcats made history with little debate. Playoff selection committee chairman Gary Barta said there was strong consensus for Cincinnati at No. 4 ahead of No. 5 Notre Dame, which had only one loss — at home against the Bearcats in early October. Ohio State finished sixth.

"This will be a real challenge for us in every way, shape and form," Alabama coach Nick Saban said.

The Bearcats might not have been so comfortably in the field

had things gone differently at the Big 12 championship game Saturday. Oklahoma State, which was No. 5 in the CFP rankings going into the game, came up inches short of scoring a go-ahead touchdown in the final minute of its loss to Baylor.

Saban, who noted he played at Kent State in the Mid-American Conference, said Cincinnati's achievement is a positive development for the sport.

"I absolutely think that everyone who participates in college football Division I level should feel like they have an opportunity to get in the playoff," Saban said.

It is the third time two teams from the same conference are in the CFP and second time it has happened with the SEC. For years ago, Alabama beat Georgia in overtime to win the national title.

As conference leaders consider expanding the playoff from

four to 12 teams as soon as 2024, only two Power Five leagues will be represented this season: the SEC and Big Ten. The Atlantic Coast Conference missed out for the first time. The Big 12 was shutout for the second straight season and the Pac-12 for the sixth time will not have a team in the playoff.

The other big bowl games were also set:

Michigan State (10-2) vs. ACC champion Pitt (11-2) in the Peach Bowl on Dec. 30.

Notre Dame (11-1) vs. Oklahoma State (11-2) in the Fiesta Bowl on Jan. 1.

Pac-12 champion Utah (10-3) vs. Ohio State (10-2) in the Rose Bowl on Jan. 1.

Mississippi (10-2) vs. Baylor (11-2) in the Sugar Bowl on Jan. 1.

Cincinnati's reward for making history is a matchup with the defending national champions at the home of the Dallas Cowboys.

The Crimson Tide is in the playoff for the seventh time after handing Georgia its first setback of the season in the Southeastern Conference title game Saturday.

Alabama (12-1) seemed to be a loss away from being eliminated from playoff contention heading into its game with Georgia. Instead, Bryce Young and the Tide lit up the Bulldogs' vaunted defense to earn the top seed.

Saban's Alabama dynasty has won three playoff championships to go along with three BCS titles since 2009.

Georgia (12-1) managed to stay in the field as the third seed, becoming the second team to lose its conference title game and make the playoff. Notre Dame did the same thing last season, when it lost a rematch with Clemson in its lone season playing in the ACC, a move prompted by pandemic-altered schedules.

The Bulldogs will be making their second CFP appearance when they meet second-seeded Michigan (12-1) in the Orange Bowl. Coach Jim Harbaugh and the Wolverines are in the playoff for the first time after winning the Big Ten for the first time since 2004. Michigan, which went 2-4 last season, is also the first team to make the playoff after being unranked in the pre-season AP Top 25.

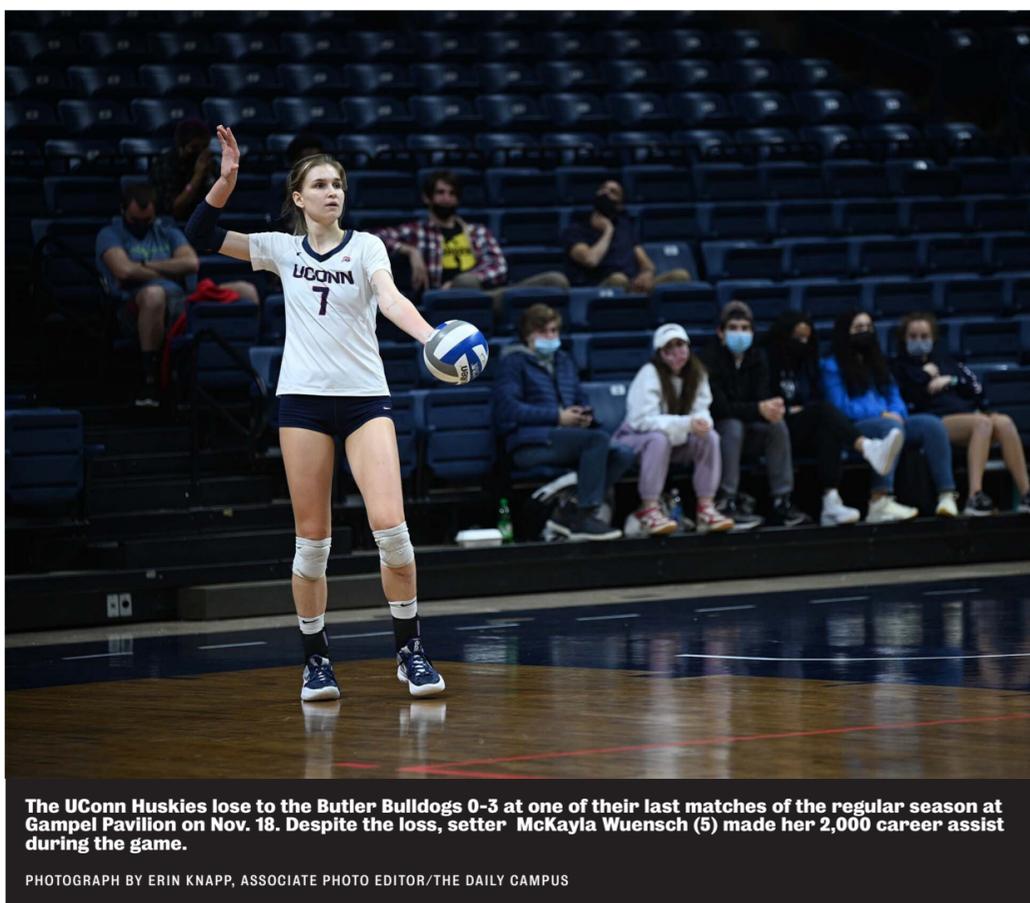
## Sports

Photo of the Day | Go with the flow



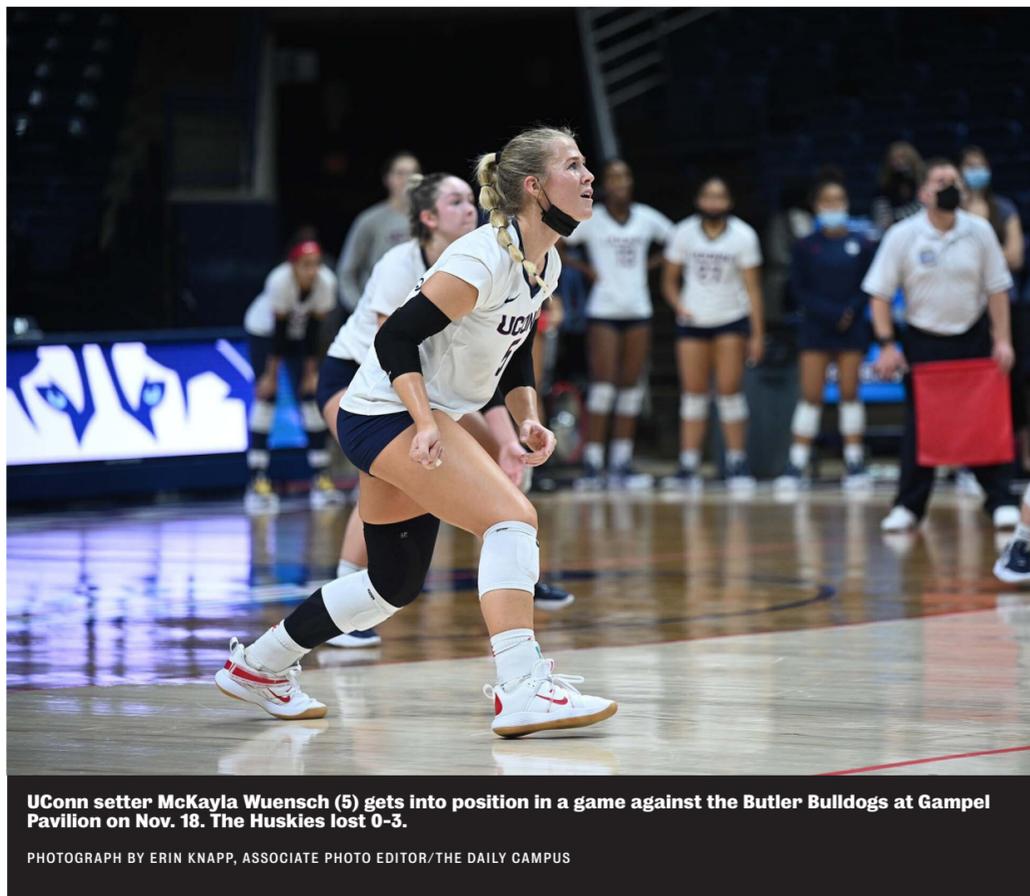
UConn swimming and diving competes against Southern Connecticut State University in the Wolff-Zackin Natatorium on Dec. 4, 2021, Storrs, Conn. PHOTO BY KEVIN LINDSTROM, PHOTO AND VIDEO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

## UConn volleyball wins first 2 series at Championship



The UConn Huskies lose to the Butler Bulldogs 0-3 at one of their last matches of the regular season at Gampel Pavilion on Nov. 18. Despite the loss, setter McKayla Wuensch (5) made her 2,000 career assist during the game.

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



UConn setter McKayla Wuensch (5) gets into position in a game against the Butler Bulldogs at Gampel Pavilion on Nov. 18. The Huskies lost 0-3.

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

by Ashton Stansel  
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Over this past weekend, the UConn volleyball team went to the National Invitational Volleyball Championship (NIVC) for the first time since 1994.

Following a semifinal defeat in the Big East championship, the team, which went into the series with a 21-10 record, headed to Massachusetts to face off against North Carolina A&T State University on Saturday. UConn's 3-0 victory in that game propelled them into another series, this time against Boston College, on Sunday, a challenge that the team also defeated.

On Saturday, the Huskies took on the intimidating North Carolina A&T State University Aggies. The Aggies came into the game with a 20-10 record and a one-game losing streak following their own postseason defeat by High Point University in the Big South Conference Championship. This series was a chance for both teams to improve the narrative around their postseason, since their conference championship hopes both ended in a 0-3.

UConn got off to a hot start in set one, taking an early 12-4 lead on the back of players like senior Caylee Parker and graduate student McKayla Wuensch. The team limited the Aggies' ability to hit effectively and continued to score points en route to a relatively easy 25-12 victory in the first set. That first game set the tone for the rest of the series, as the Huskies proved that at the very least they would not be 3-0'd again.

Unfortunately for the Aggies, they were not quite so lucky. In game two, they gave the Huskies eight of their first nine points via errors, a position that was deeply beneficial for the Huskies as they rocketed to a 9-3 initial lead. Wuensch, determined to continue that streak, showed up in a big way in game two with the start of a 6-2 run that would put the Huskies in prime position to claim the second set with a 25-14 scoreline, only a slight improvement for the Aggies.

Game three was more of a contest. The Aggies claimed a 8-6 lead to begin the set, but they were unable to maintain their advantage in the face of overwhelming pressure by UConn. The Huskies went on a five-run streak, aided by a service ace from Jasmine Davis, which gave them an 11-8 lead. The Aggies went for one final resurgence with a 4-0 run a few minutes later that made it thirteen all, but from there, the Huskies never looked back. Although they did drop more points to the Aggies than in any of the previous games, 19 in total, it wasn't enough and the Huskies claimed a

3-0 win that ended the Aggies' season.

It was the first time the Huskies had won a series at NIVC, and it pushed them on to Sunday when they faced off against Boston College. The Eagles came into the series with a 17-16 record and a two-game win streak following their victory against Delaware State on Saturday.

The Huskies did not get off to the same start as they had against the Aggies. The two teams jostled for position in the first set, with both ending the set with more than 20 points. The Eagles had 19 kills in the first set, more than the Huskies' 13, and were eventually able to squeak out a 25-21 victory that set the stage for a very strong series from both teams.

In the second set, the Huskies relied on strong play from Davis and Kennadie Jake-Turner, who guided the team through a difficult stretch in the middle of the set, when the Eagles took a 12-10 victory off a 5-3 Huskies start to eventually sneak back into the lead. A 6-0 run from the Huskies with the game tied at 19 cemented their victory and a tie in the series 1-1.

In the third set the Huskies once again showed their mettle. They took a lead early once more, before the Eagles snuck in to take back the lead at a 15-13 scoreline reminiscent of the second set. However, the Huskies were undeterred by the swing, coming out of the next media timeout with a 4-0 streak that gave them the lead back, a lead they would keep. With a final score of 25-22, this was the closest set in the series and the closest set the Huskies played all weekend.

The fourth set was a return to strength for the Eagles. They kicked off the set with an 8-4 run and kept the momentum high throughout. Despite a relatively close score, 25-20, the Huskies were unable to mount a resistance to the eventual Eagles win and the series being tied 2-2.

In the fifth set, which due to rules only goes to 15 points, senior Anna Petrova came out to show her team that they needed to keep their season going. She helped lead the Huskies to a 6-3 opening effort, a big margin in a set played to just 15, before being assisted by teammate Taylor Pannell who had three kills in the set. The final two kills, scored by Caylee Parker, cemented the Huskies' second NIVC win ever and moved them on to play another series next Wednesday, Dec. 8th.

They'll be taking on North Florida in the next round. The time of that game is yet to be determined but will be available on the UConn athletics website.

# UConn Huskies battle Notre Dame Fighting Irish

**BASKETBALL, cont. from p. 12**

Nelson-Ododa would finish with a double-double with 14 points and 13 rebounds.

"I thought Liv had a great day today," Auriemma commented. Despite the strong performance, she did foul out with 3:41 left in the game. Auriemma said she is a valuable asset to this team: "We can't afford to have her in foul trouble."

Down 10 at the half, the Irish upped the ante in the third quarter by drawing up the same plays that had kept them close in the first half. For the second straight quarter, their defensive pressures worked as they drew enough fouls to give them the bonus.

Free throws by the Irish's Maya Dodson and Sonia Cintron helped shrink the Husky lead down to seven and gave Notre Dame a competitive chance to pick up their 10th win in the last ten years against the Huskies (for reference, everyone else in Division I basketball has 11 wins in that span).

That was not going to be the case in this chapter of the rivalry, however. UConn shut down the Irish offense in the fourth quarter, limiting them to zero points in the first four minutes and five until the final minute of the game.

The Fighting Irish had no answer for Caroline Ducharme, who dropped 14 points in the fourth quarter, including three three-pointers on five attempts.

"The last few games, I've just been overthinking what I need to do and today I just tried to go out and play," com-

mented Ducharme after her masterful performance off the bench.

Up 18 points and with 38 seconds left, Bueckers, who finished with 22 points and five steals, went down with what appeared to be a leg injury. There was no contact prior to the injury and Bueckers hobbled a little bit before going down. Gampel Pavilion, which was loud the entire game, quieted to a pulp as soon as Bueckers hit the floor.

When asked about the extent of the injury, Auriemma responded that "The doctors did a quick examination ... on the replay, [the knee] probably looked like it hyperextended." Having seen these kinds of injuries before, Auriemma mentioned how "The first thing that goes to your mind is the worst thing ... it hits you in the pit of your stomach."

Nelson-Ododa commented afterward that "We're praying for the best and praying for good news."

She would be carried off by Westbrook and Nelson-Ododa before requiring assistance to take part in the post-game handshakes. The Huskies would go on to win by a score of 73-54.

The Huskies (5-1) will travel to Atlanta, Ga. on Thursday, Dec. 9 to take on the Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets. It will be a homecoming for Nelson-Ododa, who hails from Winder, Georgia, a one-hour trip east from Atlanta.

"It's a business trip, but I'm looking forward to seeing my family and friends" noted Nelson-Ododa.

That game will tip-off at 7:00 p.m. on ESPN 2 and the UConn Sports network. Live stats will be provided by StatBroadcast.



The UConn women's basketball team defeats Notre Dame 73-54 in Gampel Pavillion on Dec. 5, 2021. A ceremony celebrating Olympians who graduated from UConn occurred prior to the game, and many of them were in attendance. In addition, a second ceremony was held during halftime.

PHOTOGRAPH BY KEVIN LINDSTROM, PHOTO AND VIDEO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

# UConn women's hockey outscores Holy Cross 8-1 en route to weekend sweep

by Sam Zelin  
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Returning to conference play after last weekend's Nutmeg Classic, the Huskies kicked off the rest of their season in spectacular fashion, delivering two losses to Holy Cross, one at home and one on the road.

UConn started off the weekend in Storrs on Friday night against Holy Cross, defeating them 4-0. Defensewoman Claire Peterson kicked off the scoring six minutes into the first period with an unassisted goal to put the Huskies up 1-0.

In the second period, UConn took a 2-0 lead two minutes in off a goal from forward Kathryn Stockdale, assisted by forward Amy Landry and defensewoman Alex-Anne Boyer. This lead was added to once more in the period with a score from forward Jada Habisch, with assists by forwards Viki Harkness and Danielle Fox.

The Huskies took a 3-0 lead into the third period, but weren't done there. With six minutes remaining in the game Landry added one more, assisted by Stockdale and forward Kate Thurman.

Both goalkeepers, Megan Warrenner for UConn and Jada Brenon for Holy Cross, played all 60 minutes of the game, with Warrenner making 18 saves and Brenon making 24. While Brenon made more saves than Warrenner, she simply had more

opportunities, as the Huskies outshot the Crusaders 28-18.

Saturday night brought much of the same as the two teams travelled to Worcester, Mass. for a Holy Cross home game. The Crusaders managed to get one into the goal this time, but the Huskies' offense continued to fire on all cylinders, as UConn won the second game 4-1.

The first period was quiet on the scoring front for most of the time, but the silence was broken by Holy Cross forward Darci Johal with three minutes remaining, with de-

fensewoman Grace Johnson picking up the assist.

The 0-1 score persisted until halfway into the second period, when UConn forward Sum-

mer-Rae Dobson tied it up. Peterson and forward Natalie Snodgrass were there for the assist. The tie lasted almost to the end of the period, but UConn found themselves on the power play after a penalty charged to Holy Cross forward Bryn Saarela with less than a minute remaining.

With less than a second remaining in the power play,

UConn defensewoman Taylor Wabick found the net to put UConn in the lead for the first time in the game, assisted by Harkness and Dobson.

In the third period, the Huskies ran away with it again. Only a minute into the third, Dobson scored her second of the game with an assist from forward Morgan Wabick. The score remained at 3-1 until less than a minute remained, when Habisch put the nail in the coffin to put UConn up 4-1, assisted by Peterson and defensewoman Kaitlyn Yearwood.

Megan Warrenner played all sixty minutes once more for the Huskies, making a total of 25 saves on Saturday, while the Crusaders had Madison Beck in the net, who made 32 saves total. Once more, UConn outshot Holy Cross by 10, this time 36-26.

With these two victories, UConn is now 8-3-2 in conference play, and 14-4-2 overall, with 14 more games to play in the season. All of these games will be against Hockey East conference opponents, happening after the Huskies get a month break. UConn's next game will take place on Jan. 7 against the University of Vermont, as they play a weekend series in Burlington.



UConn senior Danika Pasqua (7) skates up the ice during a game where the Huskies swept Holy Cross 4-0, capturing a win on Dec. 3 at the Freitas Ice Forum in Storrs. PHOTO BY SOFIA SAWCHUK, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS



# Sports

by Cole Stefan  
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Previously, the No. 2 University of Connecticut women's basketball team painfully lost to No. 1 South Carolina in a high stakes Battle 4 Atlantis championship game. With no games played between Monday, Nov. 22 and last Friday, the Huskies fell to the No. 3 ranking before being tied for second in the rankings with North Carolina State heading into this weekend's matchups.

An 11-day rest period gave the Huskies plenty of time to fine-tune some mechanics heading into their Big East opener against Seton Hall. They were also going to be battle-tested because of the temporary absence of Azzi Fudd due to a foot injury as well as the unavailability of Aubrey Griffin.

Seton Hall had some key losses to their lineup as well; preseason All-Big East member Andrea Espinoza-Hunter was unavailable for the contest due to a violation of team rules. The team declined to comment on the nature of the rule violation.

Despite having most things in their favor, it was the Pirates that got out to an early lead. Behind a 10-0 run and several buckets by Mya Jackson and Sidney Cooks, Seton Hall led for most of the first quarter and finished it up 17-16. Paige Bueckers was the biggest Husky contributor, as she had nine out of UConn's 16 points.

UConn would outscore Seton Hall 23-6 in the second quarter behind a dominating 12-0 run in the middle of the half. Olivia Nelson-Ododa and Christyn Williams provided support for Bueckers on the perimeter and in the paint.

Seton Hall kept the game as close as they could in the second half, consistently finding an answer to every UConn bucket and playing an intimidating defense, especially in

the third quarter. The Pirates cut the lead down to 12 points in the fourth quarter, but the Huskies closed out the game with a 17-4 run for a 74-49 victory.

Despite the win, head coach Geno Auriemma noted how "We struggle in our offensive sets because we just don't make enough outside shots. So everybody is playing us to put it on the floor and get to the lane."

Bueckers was the star of the show as she had 23 points, nine rebounds and seven assists on 11-18 shooting. Nelson-Ododa had a productive game with 10 points and seven rebounds, while Williams dominated with 17 points of her own. UConn's defense was incredible, as they limited the Pirates to just four scorers, including Lauren Park-Lane's 20 points.

If Seton Hall was the Friday night appetizer, then No. 24 Notre Dame was the weekend entrée. The perfect side dish was a sold-out Gampel Pavilion with a massive crowd pop for both Auriemma and Bueckers.

Both teams played a defensive first quarter. UConn led 16-12 and was outrebounding the Irish 11-8 but had turned the ball over six times.

"We're our own worst enemy ... Our basketball IQ at times leaves a lot to be required," Auriemma noted about the team's struggles early in recent games.

The Huskies and Fighting Irish brought the heat throughout the entire second quarter, whether it was by making incredible turnovers or crashing the boards with a bombardment of rebounds. Nelson-Ododa continued to dominate, adding eight more points and six more rebounds for a first half total of 12 points and nine rebounds. Thanks in part to an 8-0 run and a buzzer-beater by Williams, the Huskies entered the locker rooms up 35-25.

See BASKETBALL, p. 11



## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL:

### No. 2 Huskies sweep the weekend at a major cost

The UConn women's basketball team defeats Notre Dame 73-54 in Gampel Pavilion on Dec. 5, 2021. A ceremony celebrating olympians who graduated from UConn occurred prior to the game, and many of them were in attendance. In addition, a second ceremony was held during half-time. PHOTO BY KEVIN LINDSTROM, PHOTO AND VIDEO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

# UConn rebounds against Grambling State 88-59

by Evan Rodriguez  
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It was an impressive rebound game for the University of Connecticut.

The Huskies, who were in jeopardy of losing to a mediocre Maryland Eastern Team in their previous matchup, defeated Grambling State University in a blowout win 88-59. UConn had many questions to answer, with the most important question regarding the player who would take over on the scoring end for the Huskies in the absence of guard Tyrese Martin and center Adama Sanogo.

"Obviously, we have adjustments that we've got to make," said head coach Dan Hurley.

That option looks to be freshman Jordan Hawkins. The guard gave the Huskies a huge scoring boost in his second consecutive start for the team and tallied 15 points on 5/11 shooting. Hawkins was lights out from three, and the Tigers simply couldn't leave the freshman open as he knocked down shot after shot. With Martin away from the team for the foreseeable future, the freshman sensation will be tasked with contributing a large scoring boost for the team from the shooting guard position.

"I've always been confident in my

shot," said Hawkins. "I've got to step up with guys out, shoot more and knock them down."

Along with Hawkins, point guard R.J. Cole was his usual self, with ridiculous finishes at the rim and getting his teammates involved. The guard finished with 18 points and seven assists in the game, and while he wasn't able to be effective from the three point line, Cole was able to attack the rim, draw several foul calls, and get to the free throw line. Hurley talked about how much of a strength that is for the team.

"That's the sign of a guy that knows how to play great," said Hurley. "His perimeter shot didn't work for him tonight and he didn't have his A game offensively tonight, [but] that's the sign of a guy that is able to use his mind and his basketball IQ to find his way to the type of production that we need from him every night."

The team saw many improvements against the Tigers. Akok Akok, who had a bad stretch of games for the Huskies prior to Saturday's game, accumulated double-digit scoring numbers and four blocks to solidify a great defensive performance for the big man. Isaiah Whaley provided 12 points, eight rebounds, and two blocks for another great performance from the fan favorite forward.

For the Tigers, the team had little offensive firepower other than Cam

Christon. The senior guard had 18 points in just the first half before going down with an injury and staying sidelined for the rest of Saturday's matchup. The Tigers weren't able to replace the production of Christon once the guard went to the sidelines and the Huskies took off from there.

The cherry on top of Saturday's game was the barrage of dunks that UConn had in store for the fans in attendance. The first masterpiece was an alley-oop from Cole to Akok, as the big man completed a difficult dunk to push the momentum toward UConn. Who had the second dunk? Andre Jackson has to be one of the first thoughts that comes to any fan's mind, and the guard threw down a ridiculous one-handed slam that showed off the insane athleticism of the sophomore. The UConn dunk contest was capped off with an electric two-handed jam from freshman Samson Johnson, who has been tasked with more minutes in the wake of Sanogo's injury.

The Huskies now have a reinvigorated energy such that if everyone plays their part, the team will continue to be a huge force against opposing competition. The Huskies take on the 7-1 West Virginia University Mountaineers, a team that has already lost to one Big East opponent, the Marquette Golden Eagles. Could the Huskies make that two losses for the Mountaineers?



The UConn men's basketball team takes on Grambling State on Saturday, Dec. 4 at Gampel Pavilion. The Huskies were up for a majority of the game, and won 88-59. PHOTO BY ERIN KNAPP, ASSOCIATE PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

**UConn SCOREBOARD**

Women's Basketball  
Sunday

vs.

**73** vs. **54**

**UPCOMING GAMES**

vs.   
Men's Basketball, Wednesday, 7 p.m.  
Morgantown, WV

vs.   
Women's Basketball, 7 p.m.  
Atlanta, GA

**INSTAGRAM OF THE DAY**

@uconnhuskies  
UConn Nation understood the assignment #BleedBlue

**CTInsider**  
@insider\_ct  
UConn standout Paige Bueckers injured in win: 'Hopefully we get some good news'

**Steven Y.**  
@UConn\_2018  
I'm suppose to see UCONN next week and Azzi nor Paige is playing.

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