



CONFIRMED 2022 COVID-19 CASES AT UCONN STORRS
as of 8:28 p.m. on March 28 *positive test results

11 Current Residential Cases (positive/symptomatic)

327 Cumulative Residential Cases*

328 Cumulative Commuter Cases*

Anti-Black vandalism at Busby Suites

by **Aiza Shaikh**
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A floor of the University of Connecticut's Busby Suites was vandalized with racial slurs on March 3, 2022. According to Black at UConn, an Instagram account that posts anonymous stories of BIPOC students, the vandalism was targeted toward a Black RA.

"It is heartbreaking to hear that Residents Assistants have to deal with harassment and racism from their peers," Black at UConn said in a post Saturday. "It is angering to see how [UConn] has not been transparent with this incident like [they] have promised to be."

Included in the post were images of a door and surrounding walls, with the N-word written on a wall and a door's whiteboard.

UConn Residential Life has since named the vandalism a bias-related incident, and the UConn Police Department has an open and active investigation, said university spokesperson Stephanie Reitz.

According to Reitz, UConn Po-

lice have identified and interviewed suspects, at least one of whom is not affiliated with the University.

"As with any alleged case of bias, UConn Police will conduct a thorough investigation in our efforts to identify those responsible and hold them accountable for their actions," said UConn Police Chief Gerald Lewis. "We continue to support our university partners in providing a safe and inclusive environment in which to learn, work and live."

On March 11, Residential Life addressed the bias-related incident in a letter to Busby residents.

"On March 3, 2022, there was an incident that occurred which is considered to be bias related in nature," read the letter. "This type of behavior is directly against the University of Connecticut's values of striving to create a safe and inclusive community for all students."

According to the letter, Hall staff distributed door tags reading "Hate has no home here" that same week. The letter encouraged Busby residents to place the tags on their doors.

"As you move forward in im-



Alan T. Busby Suites on the UConn Storrs campus, March 28, 2022. Earlier in the month, Busby was vandalized with anti-Black slurs.

PHOTO BY JULIAN PRIETO, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

mersing yourself in the community, please keep in mind that small actions have a major impact," continued the letter.

Residents were also encouraged to hold their peers accountable and reminded that they are responsible

for their guests' behavior.

"If you encounter any other bias related incidents within the community, please do not hesitate to report it through the bias reporting form, call the RA on-duty at 860-234-2183 or call UCPD by di-

aling 860-486-4800," concluded the letter.

The bias reporting form can be found on the Dean of Students Office website and on a list of all campus communications regarding bias reports.



Supreme Court nominee Ketanji Brown Jackson testifies during her Senate Judiciary Committee confirmation hearing on Capitol Hill in Washington, March 23, 2022. The Harvard-educated Jackson is making history, the first Black woman nominated in the court's 233 years.

PHOTO BY ANDREW HARNIK/AP FILE

National News: Confirmation hearings, Biden returns and the China Eastern Boeing 737-800 aftermath

by **Dylan Champagne**
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Last week, Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson answered questions before the Senate Judiciary Committee about her qualifications for the upcoming Supreme Court vacancy by Justice Breyer. Questions included discussions of Critical Race Theory in children's books, the definition of the word "woman" and how she rates her religiosity on a scale, according to a NYTimes article. Other standout moments included Senator Graham's questioning of her rulings on child sex crime cases

and Senator Booker's short discussion about the importance of her historic nomination.

The Senate Judiciary Committee will vote on her nomination April 4, with a full Senate vote expected before Easter. With Republicans unable to muster a majority to block the vote, Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson is expected to become the first Black woman on the Supreme Court.

In other news, President Biden returned from his trip to Europe early Sunday morning. He spent several days meeting with European leaders about the war in Ukraine. His speech Saturday

morning in Poland was a standout moment, where he said President Putin "cannot remain in power," according to an AP article. The Biden Administration was quick to clarify that President Biden does not support a regime change in Russia.

Finally, the second black box involved in the China Eastern Boeing 737-800 crash last week was recovered Sunday according to an article by NPR. It is hoped the second blackbox will help shed some light on the crash that killed all 132 people on board early last week. As a precaution, China Eastern has since grounded all of their Boeing 737-800s, a total of 223 aircrafts.

Staffing shortages and worker's mental health threaten patient safety

by **MIKHAEL THOMPSON**
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In a list of patient safety concerns released by the Emergency Care Research Institute (ECRI) last Monday, staffing shortages and the mental health of healthcare workers are listed as the biggest health risk that patients currently face.

These issues have plagued the healthcare system for a while, but challenges from COVID-19 have exacerbated the issue, according to the report.

"The pandemic has now forced a reckoning with healthcare workers' mental health needs," the list said.

A survey of nurses published February 2021 also found that 35% of nurses experienced poor sleep quality, 28% had heightened anxiety during unexpected events and 24% working in dedicated COVID-19 units reported high levels of emotional exhaustion.

"Shortages in the healthcare workforce and mental health challenges were broadly known and well-documented for years," said Marcus Schabacker, MD, PhD, president and CEO of ECRI. "Both physicians and nurses were at risk of burnout, emotional exhaustion and depression prior to 2020, but the pandemic made both issues significantly worse."

According to ECRI, in addition to COVID-19 related staffing shortages, a high proportion of nurses are at or near retirement age. There are concerns that this proportion will greatly

increase over the coming years.

"Nursing schools are unlikely to be able to supply enough nurses to replace retiring nurses, much less alleviate existing gaps," the list said. "In 2019, 80,407 qualified nursing school applicants were turned away due to insufficient resources."

ECRI experts also said that patients could face even higher risks without intervention. It may even become the new normal for the foreseeable future as staffing shortages leave many patients waiting longer for care.

"Healthcare and government leaders now must aggressively manage these challenges amidst a lingering pandemic and a weakened health system by prioritizing recruitment, retention and clinician resilience," Schabacker said. "As leaders, their most important job is ensuring that patient health and safety are top priorities."

The ECRI suggested a few solutions to these problems with guidelines on how to approach managing them.

According to the list, a solution to combat staffing shortages would be to implement a flexible recruitment and retention program with flexible staffing models, a system designed to respond to staff needs, flexible action plans to deliver safe patient care during staff shortages and conducting staff surveys to improve job satisfaction.

"Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, many healthcare workers have sacrificed their own mental health in order to deliver care. Healthcare organizations now need to support clinician resilience," the list said.

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Huskies take on NC State in stand-off for Final Four spot

Tweet of the Day

UConn Women's Basketball
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breathe in
breath out
IT'S GAMETIME.

News

‘Don’t Say Gay’ bill signed by Florida Gov. DeSantis

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) — Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis signed a bill into law on Monday that forbids instruction on sexual orientation and gender identity in kindergarten through third grade, a policy that has drawn intense national scrutiny from critics who argue it marginalizes LGBTQ people.

The legislation has pushed Florida and DeSantis, an ascending Republican and potential 2024 presidential candidate, to the forefront of the country’s culture wars. LGBTQ advocates, students, Democrats, the entertainment industry and the White House have dubbed the measure the “Don’t Say Gay” law.

DeSantis and other Republicans have repeatedly said the measure is reasonable and that parents, not teachers, should be broaching subjects of sexual orientation and gender identity with their children. The law went into effect just days after DeSantis signed a separate bill that potentially restricts what books elementary schools can keep in their libraries or use for instruction.

“We will make sure that parents can send their kids to school to get an education, not an indoctrination,” DeSantis said to applause before he signed the sexual orientation and gender identity measure during a ceremony at a preparatory school outside Tampa.

The law states: “Classroom instruction by school personnel or third parties on sexual orientation or gender identity may not occur in kindergarten through grade 3 or in a manner that is not age appropriate or developmentally appropriate for students in accordance with state standards.” Parents would be able to sue districts

over violations.

Public backlash began almost immediately after the bill was introduced, with early criticism lobbed by Chasten Buttigieg, the husband of U.S. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg, and condemnation from LGBTQ advocacy groups. Democratic President Joe Biden called it “hateful.”

As the bill moved through the legislature, celebrities mobilized against it on social media, and criticized it at this year’s Academy Awards. Florida students staged walkouts and packed into committee rooms and statehouse halls to protest the measure, often with booming chants of “We say gay!”

The Walt Disney Company, a powerful player in Florida politics, suspended its political donations in the state, and LGBTQ advocates who work for the company criticized CEO Bob Chapek for what they said was his slow response speaking out against the bill. Some walked off the job in protest.

After DeSantis signed the measure, Disney released a statement saying, “Our goal as a company is for this law to be repealed by the legislature or struck down in the courts, and we remain committed to supporting the national and state organizations working to achieve that.”

Throughout debate in the GOP-controlled statehouse, Democrats have said the law’s language, particularly the phrases “classroom instruction” and “age appropriate,” could be interpreted so broadly that discussion in any grade could trigger lawsuits and create a classroom atmosphere where teachers would avoid the subjects entirely.

“The bill’s intentionally vague lan-



Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis signs the Parental Rights in Education bill at Classical Preparatory school Monday, March 28, 2022 in Shady Hills, Fla. The “Don’t Say Gay” bill forbids instruction on sexual orientation and gender identity in kindergarten through third grade.

PHOTO BY JESSICA HILL/AP FILE

guage leaves teachers afraid to talk to their students and opens up school districts to costly and frivolous litigation from those seeking to exclude LGBTQ people from any grade level,” said state Rep. Carlos G. Smith, a Democrat who is gay. “Even worse, #DontSayGay sends a hateful message to our most vulnerable youth who simply need our support.”

Andrew Spar, president of the Florida Education Association, said the law amounts to a political wedge issue for Republicans because elementary schools, especially in kindergarten through third grade, do not teach about these subjects and have state curriculum standards

guiding classroom lessons.

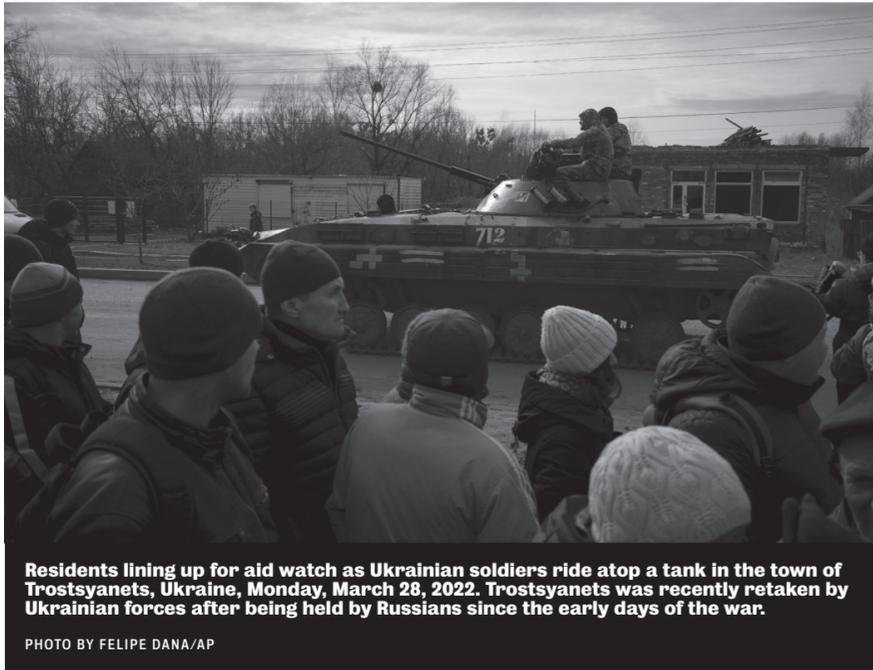
“This bill is based on a falsehood, and that falsehood is that somehow we’re teaching kids inappropriate topics at an early age, and clearly we’re not,” Spar said.

The law’s sponsor, Republican Rep. Joe Harding, has said it would not bar spontaneous discussions about sexual orientation or gender identity in schools but would prevent districts from integrating the subjects into official curriculum. During the bill’s early stages, Harding sought to require schools to inform parents if a student came out as LGBTQ to a teacher. He withdrew the amendment after it picked up attention online.

“Nothing in the amendment was about outing a student. Rather than battle misinformation related to the amendment, I decided to focus on the primary bill that empowers parents to be engaged in their children’s lives,” he said in a statement.

DeSantis signed the bill after a news conference held at the Classical Preparatory School in Spring Hill, about 46 miles (74 kilometers) north of Tampa. At the ceremony, several young children accompanied DeSantis and other politicians near the podium, with some holding signs bearing the governor’s “Protect Children/Support Parents” slogan. DeSantis gave the children the pens he used to sign the bill.

Ukrainians claim to retake ground ahead of latest talks



Residents lining up for aid watch as Ukrainian soldiers ride atop a tank in the town of Trostyanets, Ukraine, Monday, March 28, 2022. Trostyanets was recently retaken by Ukrainian forces after being held by Russians since the early days of the war.

PHOTO BY FELIPE DANA/AP

LVIV, Ukraine (AP) — Ukrainian forces claimed to have retaken a Kyiv suburb and an eastern town from the Russians in what is becoming a back-and-forth stalemate on the ground, while negotiators began assembling for another round of talks Tuesday aimed at stopping the fighting.

Ahead of the talks, to be held in Istanbul, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said his country is prepared to declare its neutrality, as Moscow has demanded, and is open to compromise on the fate of the Donbas, the contested region in the country’s east.

The mayor of Irpin, a northwestern Kyiv suburb that has been the scene of some of the heaviest fighting near the capital, said Monday that the city has been “liberated” from Russian troops.

Zelenskyy warned that Russian forces are trying to regroup after losing the area.

“We still have to fight, we have to endure,” the president said late Monday in his nighttime video address to the nation. “We can’t express our emotions now. We can’t raise expectations, simply so that we don’t burn out.”

Irpin gained wide attention after photos circulated of a mother and her two children who were killed by shelling as they tried to flee, their bodies lying on the pavement with luggage and a pet carrier nearby.

A senior U.S. defense official said the U.S. believes the Ukrainians have also retaken the town

of Trostyanets, south of Sumy, in the east.

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss U.S. intelligence assessments, said Russian forces largely remained in defensive positions near the capital, Kyiv, and were making little forward progress elsewhere in the country.

The official said Russia appeared to be de-emphasizing ground operations near Kyiv and concentrating more on the Donbas, the predominantly Russian-speaking region where Moscow-backed rebels have been waging a separatist war for the past eight years.

Late last week, with its forces bogged down in parts of the country, Russia seemed to scale back its war aims, saying its main goal was gaining control of the Donbas.

While that suggested a possible face-saving exit strategy for Russian President Vladimir Putin, it also raised Ukrainian fears that the Kremlin intends to split the country in two and force it to surrender a swath of its territory.

Meanwhile, a cyberattack knocked Ukraine’s national telecommunications provider Ukrtelecom almost completely offline. The chief of Ukraine’s state service for special communication, Yurii Shchyhol, blamed “the enemy” without specifically naming Russia and said most customers were cut off from telephone, internet and mobile service so that coverage could continue for Ukraine’s military.

The Daily Campus

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Lawmakers hear calls to improve state psychiatric hospital

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP) — Five years after a patient abuse scandal, Connecticut's only maximum-security psychiatric hospital still needs significant improvements to its treatment programs, staff behaviors and oversight, members of a state task force told lawmakers Monday.

Members of the panel also told the Public Health Committee that Whiting Forensic Hospital in Middletown needs to be moved into an entirely new building because the current hospital is inadequately designed for psychiatric care and is in disrepair.

And in a controversial proposal, the majority of the task force members called for the elimination of the Psychiatric Security Review Board, which decides when Whiting patients can be released or transferred to other facilities, and allowing hospital staff to make some of those decisions.

The testimony came during a public hearing held by video conference

on a bill that would make a series of changes at the 229-bed hospital, which houses people found not guilty by reason of insanity, defendants undergoing competency evaluations and other patients. The committee did not vote on the bill Monday.

"We're talking of decades, decades of issues," said Dr. John Rodis, a task force member and former president of Saint Francis Hospital in Hartford. "When you hear of something that's been going on for decades, you have to question where's the accountability."

Rodis added Whiting appears more like a prison than a hospital and "there was nothing about the environment that was nurturing and healing."

The task force was formed in response to the abuse of a 62-year-old patient, William Shehadi, in 2017. Ten Whiting staff members were arrested, several were sentenced to prison time and nearly three dozen others were fired.

In a report issued in December, the panel said Whiting patients cited "a lack of opportunities for recovery, healing, meaningful growth, learning and

vocational advancement" and recommended better programs. Too many patients are kept at the hospital past their discharge dates because of a lack of community programs. And the current building is in disrepair, with patients complaining of vermin, broken equipment and other problems.

"The building ... is something that you imagine [is] a penal detention center of a third-world country."

STATE SEN. HEATHER SOMERS

"The building ... is something that you imagine [is] a penal detention center of a third-world country," said state Sen. Heather Somers, a Groton Republican. "It is so bad, it actually took my breath away how horrible the conditions of someone having to work there or someone actually who is supposed to be there getting help would be placed in."

In a survey commissioned by the

task force of workers at Whiting and other psychiatric facilities on the Connecticut Valley Hospital campus, a majority of the more than 400 who responded said they witnessed staff-on-staff bullying and two-thirds felt their organization was not a good place to work.

The task force recommended more staff supervision and training, and that managers better communicate with staff. It also recommended creating an inspector general's office to review complaints, and strengthen the authority of an existing advisory board that cannot get hospital documents without making a request under public records laws.

State officials who oversee Whiting told the Public Health Committee that numerous improvements have been made at the hospital in recent years including the hiring of a chief executive officer, installation of a camera system monitored by an independent security agency and management changes that have boosted staff morale.

Nancy Navarretta, commissioner of the Department of Mental Health and

Addiction Services, which oversees Whiting, said the hospital is seeking national accreditation and "implemented significant changes in hospital operations to ensure the highest quality patient care."

The proposal to eliminate the Psychiatric Security Review Board drew both support and opposition at the hearing. The bill only calls for a study on whether the board should be eliminated.

Former Hartford police officer Jill Kidik was slashed and stabbed by a woman later found not guilty by reason of insanity and committed to Whiting. The injuries forced her to retire. She told the committee Monday that she opposed eliminating the board because it would leave decisions to release or grant temporary leave to patients to one hospital staff member, and worried victims would not be notified of releases as they are now by the board.

Some patients who testified were critical of the board and its rejections of their requests to be transferred to less-secure facilities.



John Magel pumps gas at a station in Wethersfield, Conn., April 28, 2011. Connecticut Gov. Ned Lamont signed legislation Thursday, March 24 that will suspend a 25-cent-per-gallon state gasoline tax.

PHOTO BY JESSICA HILL/AP FILE

Lamont signs bill suspending 25-cent per gallon gasoline tax

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP) — Connecticut Gov. Ned Lamont signed emergency legislation Thursday that will suspend a 25-cent-per-gallon state gasoline tax from April 1 to June 30 to give motorists some relief at the pump.

The new law also establishes a second sales-tax-free week on clothing and footwear valued under \$100 per item, beginning April 10. That's in addition to the one typically held in August for back-to-school shoppers. Furthermore, the bill provides free bus service between now and June 30.

The Democratic governor signed the legislation a day after it received unanimous bipartisan approval in the General Assembly. Both Democrats and Republicans have said

they hope to pass additional tax cuts later in the session.

"I am appreciative that legislative leaders from both parties successfully worked with my office to get this done, and I think these actions are a good indicator that in the coming weeks we will be able to once again come to a bipartisan agreement to provide more tax relief to the people of Connecticut," Lamont said in a written statement.

Connecticut is the latest state to suspend its gas taxes to give drivers a break from high prices, the result of pandemic-induced inflation and Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Governors in Georgia and Maryland have enacted temporary gas tax freezes and other state legislators are considering similar moves.

Sandy Hook families seek Alex Jones arrest after 2nd no-show

(AP) — Lawyers for relatives of Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting victims asked a Connecticut judge again Friday to order the arrest of Infowars host Alex Jones, after he defied a court order to attend a deposition as part of a lawsuit over his calling the massacre a hoax.

Jones missed both days of a scheduled deposition Wednesday and Thursday in Austin, Texas, home to Jones and Infowars. He cited a health problem that included vertigo and revealed Friday that it was a sinus infection. After he didn't show up Wednesday on the advice of his doctors, Connecticut Judge Barbara Bellis ordered him to appear Thursday, noting he wasn't hospitalized and had appeared in-person on his show Tuesday.

Bellis did not immediately rule on the new arrest request. She rejected

a similar motion by the families' lawyer seeking an arrest order after Jones failed to appear Wednesday. She has set a hearing by video conference for Wednesday next week.

The families' lawyers filed a motion late Friday afternoon requesting that Jones be arrested and detained until he sits for a deposition, be fined \$25,000 to \$50,000 a day until he completes the questioning, be found in contempt of court and to pay their expenses for traveling to Austin this week.

"The plaintiffs subjected themselves to hours and hours of painful questioning by Mr. Jones's lawyers — and Mr. Jones plays sick when it is his turn to tell the truth under oath," Alinor Sterling, one of the families' lawyers, wrote in the motion.

Jones' lawyer, Norman Pattis, called the request "an unprecedented



Alex Jones, "Infowars" host, speaks outside of the Dirksen building of Capitol Hill in Washington, Sept. 5, 2018. Jones defied a Connecticut judge's order to show up for a deposition in Texas, Thursday, March 24, 2022, in a case brought by relatives of victims of the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting against Jones for calling the massacre a hoax, according to the families' lawyer.

PHOTO BY JOSE LUIS MAGANA/AP FILE

overreach" and raised concerns about due process, in an email to The Associated Press.

Earlier Friday, Jones said on his website show that it was "absolutely preposterous" the families' lawyers were trying to have him arrested for missing a deposition because of illness. He said the families' lawyers had delayed depositions in the case several times and he didn't complain.

In November, Bellis found Jones liable for damages, and his testimony is now being sought in a deposi-

tion ahead of a trial later this year to determine how much he should pay the families.

Twenty first graders and six educators were killed in the 2012 shooting in Newtown, Connecticut. The families of eight of the victims and an FBI agent who responded to school sued Jones, Infowars and others in Connecticut, saying they have been subjected to harassment and death threats from Jones' followers because of the hoax conspiracy promoted on the show. Jones has since said he be-

lieves the shooting did occur.

Jones also was found liable for damages in similar lawsuits filed in Texas by relatives of Sandy Hook victims, and also faces trial later this year.

Jones returned to the Infowars studio on Friday for the first time since Tuesday and disclosed on the show that medical testing showed he had a sinus infection. He said he had experienced vertigo, and his doctors initially thought it was a serious heart problem and advised him to stay home and not go to the deposition.

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COMIC BY VAN NGUYEN, STAFF ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

'TURNING RED' MAKES PROGRESS TOWARD NORMALIZING MENSTRUATION



PHOTO COURTESY OF IMDB

by **Anika Veeraraghav**
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Earlier this month, my Instagram Explore page had lots of pictures, trailers and short clips from Pixar's new movie, "Turning Red." The movie was released on March 11 and follows the story of 13-year-old Meilin Lee, a Chinese-Canadian girl who realizes that when she experiences strong emotions, she transforms into a red panda. As a 13-year-old, Meilin faces many of the awkward struggles associated with growing up and entering adolescence.

As is true with most movies, TV shows and any other form of media and pop culture, people found reasons to complain. One such complaint that I found ridiculous came from certain parents, saying that it was inappropriate of "Turning Red" to discuss menstruation in a movie with children as the target audience. According to USA Today, parents took to Facebook to angrily talk about why this movie is inappropriate for children.

One Facebook post read: "We watched all the way to the part where the mom brings in ibuprofen and pads. I am absolutely mortified. Luckily, (my child) was clueless. It's safe to say I've learned my lesson about reading movie reviews before I let my boys watch."

Now, there are a few reasons why I have a problem with these comments. The biggest one, however, is with regards to the fact that menstruation should not be seen as an inappropriate topic, and it is great that Pixar has discussed this topic in a movie, treating it as it is — a normal process.

Menstruation is a biological process that people with a uterus experience. Commonly seen as a "woman's issue," — which also isolates other communities that experience menstruation — it has been treated as a taboo topic. This is quite evident in our own lives; from the time we watch the video about "our changing bodies" in elementary school, people who menstruate are told to hide their menstrual products in small purses, tell teachers they have to use the

bathroom because of a "girl thing" and are told not to talk about their period to any men under any circumstances. In media, such as in TV shows and movies, we commonly see stereotypical "manly" men refusing to buy menstrual products like pads and tampons altogether and those who menstruate view periods as disgusting.

The shame and stigma that comes with menstruation has been ingrained in societies across the world and discussing these topics, especially in movies with younger target audiences, will help get these conversations going. Sex education in general is lacking worldwide and movies like "Turning Red" that openly talk about topics like menstruation normalize it much more, allowing those who menstruate — especially younger people — to understand that this is a completely normal biological process and they should not be ashamed or scared of it.

Although many parents voiced their disapproval with the movie's mention of menstruation, many experts in the fields of clinical psychology, adolescent and pediatric gynecology as well as sex education discussed how helpful this film is in normalizing menstruation by teaching children of all genders that this is a normal process. Stigma around menstruation is still widespread worldwide with people still unwilling to talk openly about periods. This is something that must change, and movies aimed at younger audiences are clearly helping people understand that this is a normal biological process.

"Turning Red" in general brings up a lot of important topics related to growing up, puberty and adolescence that are often not discussed. When media starts these conversations, they are easier to continue as they can be used as jumping points so people can better understand that this is a completely normal process. Menstruation is a perfect example of a topic in "Turning Red" that people feel uncomfortable discussing when this should not be the case. This is a very important subject that must be more normalized, and Pixar has taken great strides in doing so in a way that younger audiences may benefit.

Trophy Hunting: The moral implications of killing animals for "sport"

by **Riya Venkat**
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The Cambridge Dictionary defines "hunting" as "chasing and killing an animal or bird for food, sport, or profit." Now when it comes to debating the morality of hunting, there's an endless pit of conflicting arguments that could be covered. However, if we zoom in on hunting "for sport" in particular, the ethical waters become significantly less murky and a clear answer always emerges: sport hunting is simply unnecessary and highly problematic.

I want to make it clear that we aren't debating hunting out of necessity, food, environmental conservation/population control, or the plethora of other topics that are used as a basis to criticize hunting. This is simply criticizing the act of killing an animal purely for the thrill of it. The sense of enjoyment that people derive from shooting an animal, proudly taking a picture with it, or hanging it up as wall décor strikes me as deeply cruel.

Hunting for sport is killing animals recreationally. When conversations come up with those who are pro-hunting, one of the claims I hear most often is that — "They were going to die anyway, either through the meat industry or other natural predators, so what's the big deal?" Again, it's the principle of the matter in connection with each individual hunter. Regardless of what happens to the animal after it is killed, the act of going out to kill an animal purely as a game and for personal pleasure is difficult to rationalize.

The problem lies in considering taking the life of an animal is an "achievement" to begin with. Trophy hunting regards wildlife as a commodity and renders animals as some sort of play-toy to be conquered and thrown around by humans. It's a highly anthropocentric view of the world — the belief that the purpose of everything in our universe is for the benefit of humans and doesn't exist autonomously.

The main issue I have with sport hunting is that it's so blatantly unnecessary. For most people, humans have evolved past the time when hunting was crucial to survival. Now, hunting for sport is nothing but a pastime for those who can't seem to find a different hobby that doesn't involve merciless killing.

Trophy hunting fanatics are not as niche as they are painted out to be, and one of the most outlandish explanations I've heard is that regulated hunting for sport is justified because the quarry was given a fair chance to escape and earn its freedom with its abilities. If the hunter was skilled enough to shoot game down, then why shouldn't they be proud of their achievement?

This is not a new sentiment by any means: The social aspect and "codes" of hunting for sport has always underwritten the game itself. According to Britannica's historical record for sport hunting and its origins, "the pioneer tradition of 'every man a hunter' persisted until after the frontier closed near the end of the 19th century." Essentially, hunting for amusement wasn't essential anymore and the tradition was only practiced by kings and nobles who had the most leisure time and the wealth to shoot game for reasons other than putting food on the table. Hunting being a lifestyle choice was purported "Under the reign of Francis I during the Renaissance in France and according to Alimentaryum, "Post-hunt banquets were an opportunity to demonstrate social relationships in court." Clearly, the symbolic status of social and economic class throughout history has been inherently attached to trophy hunting.

So, what does all this have to do with hunting for sport today? Primarily, the extensive history around the world and throughout time illustrates the archaic nature of hunting for sport and the outdated traditions trophy hunters continue to uphold. Despite our advancements as a species, some humans seem to want to rewind to a time when society was so heavily divided into classes, primarily defined through what one had to do versus what one could do. And the question that ultimately arises is that just because we can treat hunting animals as a sport, should we? Well, when it comes to trophy hunting, the aspect of cruelty is undeniable, and it reflects on the character of those who decide to take an unnecessary action to kill animals for entertainment. Hunting for "sport" deserves no exception from criticism, and according to me, those who chose to participate in this culture are irredeemable for the basic cruel nature of shooting an animal and seeing its corpse as a trophy to be hung above their fireplace.



Daily Life

@dailycampuslife

UConn podcast Holistic Huskies

SHEDS LIGHT ON MENTAL HEALTH THROUGH INFORMATIVE AND PERSONAL ANECDOTES

by **Jordana Castell**
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We all know of one person who struggles with mental health; that person can even be ourselves. Society has always talked about the benefits and methods of maintaining physical health, and now is the time to incorporate those same conversations in regards to mental health. University of Connecticut's podcast, Holistic Huskies, does just that.

The podcast was created by Serena Verma and Roger Watrous who graduated from UConn in 2021 and Victoria DeTrollo who graduated in 2020 through the UConn Innovate Wellness Challenge.

"They wanted to bring light to real mental health stories of students and faculty at UConn," says lead intern Areej Sayeed.

While the conversation surrounding mental health has definitely progressed over time, there is still a stigma surrounding it. Holistic Huskies works to break this stigma through honest, raw conversations.

"People do not want to talk about mental health because it can be sensitive and 'fake,' which is why Holistic Huskies initiate these conversations to prevent this pre-conception," says Sayeed. "We try to reach out to people with diverse perspectives to get their own personal story, whether it is an athlete, someone from the cultural centers, or nursing advisors."

The Holistic Huskies team specifically chose a podcast as their preferred platform to create an easily accessible resource for all students.

"We have episodes which each have a different theme, so there is also personalized content for those who want to learn about a specific mental health topic and how to handle it," says Sayeed. "There is also a direct connection with the audience because these are the common people's unfiltered stories."

While Holistic Huskies does provide mental health resources, it is not meant to be used as professional therapy. Listeners are able to "learn practical tips to cope with symptoms of anxiety and overcome stress, overall improving their well-being," says Sayeed. Most importantly, they will realize they are not alone.

"Mental health healing is a process, not a destination," says Sayeed. "It is important to emphasize this, which is why the awareness stories comfort people and let them know that they are not alone."

What makes Holistic Huskies so special is that stories from our own community are shared. Rather than listening to a stranger, which can be beneficial nonetheless, listeners are able to hear personal stories from their friends, peers and colleagues.

College can especially be an overwhelming time. Individuals are expected to acclimate to an entirely new environment, make friends, find themselves, succeed in academics and engage in extracurriculars,

all with the pressure of finding a career at the end of it.

"For students, assignments and exams can put a lot of pressure on them to do well, which leads to their mental health being affected," says Sayeed. "For faculty, grading and dealing with students can affect their home life and their careers."

H o - l i s t i c



Hus- k i e s helps with these transitions and struggles by highlighting resources that are available through Student Health and Wellness, if an individual feels they need professional help.

"It is important to shed light on mental health in college because they need to know that there are consultations, individual therapy, case man-

agement and other resources available for them to use," says Sayeed.

Student Health and Wellness also provides many free events for the UConn community, some of which Holistic Huskies participates in.

"One event we participate in is Fresh Check Week, which is the annual suicide prevention and mental health awareness event on Fairfield Way," says Sayeed. "SHaW actively educates students and faculty about mental health topics, including sensitive topics such as suicide prevention."

Starting Holistic Huskies during the beginning of the pandemic, the team had to overcome struggles that accompanied a virtual format. After conducting several virtual interviews, Verma and her colleagues found the interpersonal connection that comes along with talking about mental health lost.

"When talking about mental health in general, you really feel closer to the person and understand their story," says Sayeed. "When talking in person, that connection grows through their storytelling."

They were able to combat this connection lost through Zoom by creating informal and longer interviews. Rather than a strict interview style, individuals were able to feel like they were having a conversation with a friend and, thus, truly open up an important discussion.

As a lead intern, Areej Sayeed is highly involved with Holistic Huskies and has taken many of the skills she has learned to her personal life, including helping others close to her cope with mental health struggles.

"Actively listening has shaped and trained me to deal with these situations, which I will use for the rest of my life," she says. "Hearing the different challenges people face educates me and allows me to empathize with them."

Her and her colleagues are bonded through their education and passion regarding mental health.

"It is amazing that others, including my teammates Morgan and Jake who are also interns on the podcast, are as concerned with the mental health stigma," she says. "It brings us together."

As UConn's community is expanding, Holistic Huskies hope to expand with it and include a plethora of diverse perspectives on campus.

"Our plan for the future is to ultimately interview as many people as we can to gain more interest and educate about the mental health crisis on campus," says Sayeed. "We want to fight the stigma and have important conversations through the episodes we produce."

The team also has plans to hire more interns in the future.

If you would like to get involved with Holistic Huskies, feel free to email them at holistic.huskies@gmail.com, or check out their website.

If you would like to listen to Holistic Huskies, check them out on Spotify.

The reinforcement of gender norms in the caste system

by **Amy Chen**
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Without the enforcement of laws, there isn't change. The Indian caste system, a system where people are ranked based on their social class, was outlawed in 1950, but the hierarchy still exists culturally in India. S Anandhi, a professor at the Madras Institute of Development Studies in India, spoke about class division for the lowest class, the Dalits' and women's rights in a talk titled, "The Pandemic of Castes."

"All of this tells us very clearly that caste and women's rights practices are something that has always been the backbone of maturing and sustaining the caste system in India, and unless endogamy is broken, it is impossible to break the caste system," Anandhi said.

The caste system was developed from the Manusmriti, an ancient Hindu law book that served as the basis of Hindu law in India, Anandhi explained. The Manusmriti determined that there was a rule of hierarchy, also known as Varna. She added that there are four levels of Varna.

Brahmins are highly educated thinkers; for example, teachers, scholars and priests. Kshatriyas, who are known to be leaders, mostly made of warriors and rulers, are next in the hierarchy. Next, there are the Vaisyas, or merchants, landowners and skilled workers. Following the Vaisyas are the Shudras, who are often servants and farmers. Lastly, in the lowest caste are the Dalits or untouchables. They are often forced to do menial tasks like cleaning and sweeping.

"The mobility of castes is very very important, while the caste system may be 2,000 years old and we may



Indian citizens protest the hierarchical caste system that permeates the cultural fabric of Indian society. S Anandhi, a professor from the Madras Institute of Development Studies in India, spoke in a talk entitled "The Pandemic of Castes," highlighting major societal divisions based on class and gender.

PHOTO COURTESY OF DW.COM

say that there have been various ways that there have been intermixing, caste groups have always taken place before the implementation of Manusmriti as a legal text," Anandhi said. "So only when Manusmriti comes in that there has been a forbidding of intermixing of caste."

Anandhi pointed out that Dalits faced gruesome violence throughout the late 20th century. Examples include the Karamchedu Massacre in 1985 and the 1996 Bathani Tola Massacre where women and children Dalits

were killed. Several other massacres against the Dalits also occurred during the 1990s. According to Anandhi, though people tried to demand accountability, culprits did not get punished. From 2020 to 2021, violence against Dalits increased by 9.4%.

"During the pandemic, Dalit children have been denied education not because of the very fact they could not access school, but because no state was willing to make provisions for accessing technology, or in the case of even providing the mid-day meal," Anand-

hi said.

On a daily basis, four Dalits die due to suffocation from cleaning septic tanks. One Dalit is assaulted every hour and many others are subject to other violence, according to Anandhi. Despite the 2013 Rehabilitation Act which banned hiring people to remove unsafe human waste, the law has not been effective and employers were not punished.

"Therefore, we say that caste is pervasive in some sense," Anandhi said. "Which is not only among Hindu, it's

not just an ideology practiced by the Hinduism per se. The division of Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, even Buddhists does exist but the level at which they come into conflict is something that is probably not studied very well. Except for Tamil Nadu where one could see that the converted do have caste tensions, Christians have caste tensions, Sikhs have caste tensions."

Specifically, Dalit women are often denied public wealth and resources. The disregard for Dalit women's rights contributes to the caste patriarchy, according to Anandhi. She added that the caste system plays a crucial factor in gender oppression in India.

"This one particular movement I want to talk about is the Beijing international conference," Anandhi said. "It is during this international conference that Dalit women in large numbers, right at the international forum, very clearly said that our interests do not coincide with upper-caste women's interests in contesting inequality because our experiences in inequality are embedded in caste relations."

According to Anandhi, during the 1970s, Dalit women's reproductive rights were limited because the government wanted to control the population of the lower caste. However, they were seen as valuable when people found out that they can be used to create a market for surrogacy pregnancies.

"As of now, education for Dalit has meant improving the social status, not economic status," Anandhi, said. "Many of them have been able to contest the caste hierarchy in the rural area with some education. The younger generation of Dalits asserts themselves against caste oppression through means of education. Education is the source to contest social status."

A RECAP OF THE *HARD-HITTING* 94TH ACADEMY AWARDS



by Colleen Lucey
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While it was supposed to be the most “normal” Academy Awards since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the ceremony turned out to be anything but. While a series of history-making award recipients walked across the stage on Sunday night, the Oscar for the most shocking moment of the whole night certainly went to Will Smith and Chris Rock, who brought the drama of the movie set straight to the Dolby Theatre.

Smith was nominated for Best Actor in a Leading Role for his performance in “King Richard,” the childhood story of tennis stars Serena and Venus Williams, but his big night was interrupted when Rock made a remark about Smith’s wife, Jada Pinkett Smith, commenting on her baldness, saying she could be in the sequel for “G.I. Jane” — a nod to the 1997 film about a female U.S. Navy Seal, played by Demi Moore, who shaved her head on-camera. This comment came amidst Smith’s open and continued struggle with alopecia, a condition that causes hair loss.

Disliking the comment, the Best Actor nominee stormed the stage and slapped Rock across the face. Smith returned to his seat and shouted at Rock with the



Will Smith slaps Chris Rock across the face after an unwelcomed comment was directed at Smith’s wife on Sunday night at the Academy Awards. The incident captured the audience’s attention both at the Dolby Theatre and around the world.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ESQUIRE.COM

live broadcast being muted due to Smith’s profanity.

The moment left viewers at home confused and the Internet erupted with the trending hashtag #WhatJustHappened. Viewers from Australia posted their uncensored broadcast on Twitter. The audio clearly showed the genuine anger in Smith’s voice. From that moment, viewers turned to Twitter to find memes and insider information to determine if it was real or not.

Following the commercial break, Amy Schumer, one of the evening’s three hosts, returned after their skit of imitating characters from big movies this year.

“I’ve been getting out of that Spi-

der-Man costume. Did I miss anything?” joked Schumer. “There’s, like, a different vibe in here.”

The sarcastic joke was followed by a camera angle of the Smith couple laughing, a moment of relief for the audience.

Smith returned to the stage later that night to accept the Best Actor award for his role as Richard Williams in “King Richard.” The anticipated acceptance speech at the end of the night turned into an emotional breakdown by the 53-year-old actor.

“Art imitates life. I look like the crazy father, like they said. I look like the crazy father like they said about Richard Williams. But love

will make you do crazy things,” said Smith in response to the slap.

The entire night was hosted by Schumer, comedian Wanda Sykes and actress Regina Hall. They made history as the first trio of women to host the Academy Awards.

“This year, the Academy hired three women to host because it’s cheaper than hiring one man,” Schumer jokes.

History continued to be made at the Dolby Theatre, the first show back on Hollywood Boulevard since 2020 and the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, with last year’s subdued affair being held at Union Station.

The movie “CODA,” an acronym for “Child of Deaf Adults” walked away with Best Picture. A monumental moment for Apple TV+ as they are now the first streaming service to win the Best Picture Oscar.

The announcement of the Best Picture winner was followed by a special moment when the entire audience stood shaking their hands above their shoulders, which means applause in sign language. The camera panned to a teary-eyed, smiling audience of Hollywood’s biggest names.

Troy Kotsur won Best Supporting Actor for his role as a deaf father in “CODA.” The deaf actor signed his acceptance speech, expressing gratitude for the opportunity to develop his craft as a deaf actor. Kotsur made history as the first deaf actor to win an Academy Award.

Jessica Chastain earned her first Academy Award for Best Actress for her transformative role as televangelist Tammy Faye in the “The Eyes of Tammy Faye.”

For more of the story visit [DAILYCAMPUS.COM](https://www.dailycampus.com)

Outfits at the Oscars: THE HIGHS AND LOWS

by Joanne Biju
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The 94th Academy Awards ceremony last Sunday was quite the spectacle. Hosted by Regina Hall, Amy Schumer and Wanda Sykes, the event was filled with controversial moments and questionable outfits.

Most notable was Will Smith’s reaction to a joke that hinged upon Jada-Pinkett Smith’s alopecia. Upon hearing Chris Rock make light of his wife, Smith headed to the stage and gave him a solid slap. Not long after, Smith won Best Actor, returning to the stage with a tearful speech, baffling the audience.

Eyebrows were also raised at Hall, who called Bradley Cooper, Timothée Chalamet, Tyler Perry and Simu Liu up to the stage for a PCR test to be performed with tongue. Hall then frisked Jason Momoa and Josh Brolin, joking that it was COVID-19 protocol. While some found Hall’s bit hilarious, others were uncomfortable, pointing out the double standards at play.

Moving on to outfits at the Oscars — there were plenty of diamonds and plenty of flops. Here’s a look at some of the Sunday night’s red carpet wear:

Simu Liu

“Shang-Chi” star Simu Liu looked dashing in his red evening suit from Versace. The gold buttons and red belt across his chest added an extra pop, if the striking color was enough. Adding to the long line of celebrities showing up in red, Liu’s outfit made the hue of the red carpet look pathetic in comparison.

Rating: 10/10

Nicole Kidman

A photo of Kidman mid-jaw drop has become a meme, with the internet claiming it to be her reaction to the now-infamous slap. But, in reality, the actress was just excited to see Jessica Chastain. Not as exciting is Kidman’s Armani Privé gown. While the custom color and bedazzled cape were nice, the ballooning plenum of the bodice was off-putting.

Rating: 5/10

Zoë Kravitz

Showing up to the Oscars in a baby pink strapless Saint Laurent gown, Kravitz’s look exudes elegance. Her hair and makeup channeled Aubrey Hepburn and the soft color was a refreshing change from Kravitz’s most recent outfits on “The Batman” press tour. Albeit simple, the outfit was very fitting for the event.

Rating: 9/10

Zendaya

Zendaya rocked the carpet with the best outfit of the night, a perfect mix of chic and glam. The “Dune” star paired a Valentino Haute Couture cropped and classy white shirt with a custom silver sequined skirt. Zendaya’s simple jewelry truly elevated the look and her hair had an effortless look of magnificence. Add to that her charming smile, and consider the crowd dazzled.

Rating: 10/10

Tracee Ellis Ross

“Black-ish” star Ross wore a vibrant red Carolina Herrera dress with a plunging neckline reminiscent of Olivia Rodrigo’s black YSL dress. The mermaid-style skirt didn’t quite feel right, and the top couldn’t have possibly been comfortable. Ariana DeBose showed up in the same color and a similar top, but her outfit was far more flattering.

Rating: 4/10

Timothée Chalamet

“Dune” star Timothée Chalamet sent fans wild with his Oscars outfit — a black sequined Louis Vuitton suit fresh from the spring 2022 womenswear collection. Wearing the suit shirtless and with white gold rings, Chalamet’s outfit resembled Shawn Mendes’ 2021 Met Gala look, though with far more class.

Rating: 9/10

Andrew Garfield

“Tik Tik Boom” star Andrew Garfield went to the Oscars in a rich burgundy velvet Saint Laurent suit. His ribboned black bowtie enhanced the look, but away from the sunny entrance of the event, the burgundy suit unfortunately looked more like black. However, the pictures snapped of Garfield next to “Spiderman: No Way Home” co-star Zendaya really highlighted the merits of his look.

Rating: 8/10



Simu Liu poses for photos on the red carpet before the Academy Awards on Sunday night. PHOTO COURTESY OF HELLO! MAGAZINE



March 27 - April 2

by **Gino Giansanti Jr.**
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Happy spring, everyone! Though it may not feel like it, spring has sprung and greener pastures will soon be upon us. To celebrate, This Week in History is throwing out the old and bringing in the new — well, not exactly, this is still a history column, after all. But in the spirit of new life and the return of color to the bleak gray hills of Storrs, Conn., we will be celebrating a few moments in history where people rejoiced at the exciting scenic changes around them. So let's dive in!

On March 31, 1889, 133 years ago, the Eiffel Tower was unveiled in Paris, France.

What's springtime without romance and what's romance without the City of Love?

In honor of the 100th anniversary of the French Revolution, the French government planned the 20-year-long Paris International Exposition, with Gustave Eiffel's

Tower as the festival's centerpiece.

While Eiffel may be a household name in the 21st century, his victory in the nationwide architectural competition, cemented a mere rising stardom in the young architect's career. The biggest project on his resume thus far was the skeleton of New York Harbor's new Statue of Liberty.

With the help of 200 construction workers, Eiffel's vision was brought to life in his hometown, standing as the world's tallest manmade structure for more than 40 years.

The tower was originally intended to be torn down following the end of the city's exposition, with a large percentage of Parisians protesting its brash modernity amidst the tidy neoclassical city. The monument, however, became so tied to the city's image and proved so effective as a radio antenna that it was kept. Today, the Eiffel Tower is one of the most visited attractions worldwide, and the undisputed symbol of both Paris and the entire nation of France.

On March 27, 1912, 110 years ago, Japanese cherry trees were planted along the banks of the Potomac River in Washington, D.C.

While New England may boast a modestly scenic spring, spring is D.C.'s time to shine. The more than 3,000 cherry trees that dot the National Mall have come to be the staple centerpiece of our nation's capital. Simple and dignified, it's hard to imagine a D.C. spring without the bright pink of the cherry blossom petals on the banks of the Potomac.

These trees, as scenic as they are, are not exactly native to the Chesapeake region, having traveled thousands of miles before taking root. Eliza Scidmore, a wealthy, well-traveled Washington socialite, was the first to put the cherry blossom tree on her wish list, sending countless letters to several U.S. presidents, pleading for the plant to be brought to her hometown after a luxurious tour of the East Asian coast. First lady Helen Taft, who lived in Japan while her husband

was stationed in the Philippines, answered Scidmore's letters. The duo launched a beautification campaign in the capital city, and Japanese diplomats in New York heard Mrs. Taft's pleas, alerting their bosses in Tokyo.

The Japanese government sent 3,020 cherry trees to the U.S. government, all of which were planted in a 1912 ceremony featuring Mrs. Taft herself and the Japanese ambassador's wife, the Viscountess Chinda, cementing an international friendship that lasted until — you guessed it — 1941.

Fun fact: This shipment was actually a replacement of the first

batch sent two years prior. Mrs. Taft originally received 2,000 trees, yet soon after planting, landscapers discovered the trees were infested with insects and parasitic worms — all of which needed to be burned. Thankfully, the Japanese took no ill will after the U.S. president ordered the incineration of their thoughtful gift.

More than a century later, the cherry blossoms have endured and become a piece of D.C. history, commemorated annually in the National Cherry Blossom Festival which began last week.

Happy spring to all, and to all a good week!



PHOTO COURTESY OF VISITMONTGOMERY.COM

Box Office Breakdown: "THE LOST CITY" FINDS TREASURE

by **Zachary Wisniefsky**
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This week brings yet another interesting entry to the 2022 domestic box office, with two international features holding spots in the top five.

Our new first place film for this week is "The Lost City." This action-adventure comedy starring Sandra Bullock and Channing Tatum grossed \$31 million in its opening weekend, ending "The Batman"'s time atop the charts. With a reported budget of \$74 million, this is not a terrible domestic opening but certainly not a guarantee of profit. As I mentioned in last week's column, "The Lost City" would have likely guaranteed profit with an opening weekend near \$60 million, which they essentially halved. Comedies rarely make more money internationally than they do domestically, which does not pose well for their profitability chances either. The film earned a B+ CinemaScore, which is fairly solid for a comedy film of its stature. Comedies can have long runs, with low drops if well-received. However, only time will tell if "The Last City" will profit.

Coming in second this weekend is "The Batman" with a \$20.5 million gross. With a 44.2% drop from last weekend, the Dark Knight-starring film pushed itself to \$331 million domestically. The drop is a bit on the steep side for its 4th weekend, though it did face competition from "The Lost City." In the fifth weekend, "The Batman" looks to get its first sub-40% drop, though it may be difficult with another bat-themed superhero coming to theaters with "Morbius." That being said, I think "The Batman" will have a strong weekend next week, and will likely close out its box-office run near \$390 million.

In third place this week is a new entry to the domestic charts, the Indian Telugu-language film "RRR." The historical epic opened to \$9.5 million domestically, which is only a few hundred thousand dollars below the opening of "Moonfall" and just

under \$2 million more than "Marry Me." "RRR" hails from Tollywood, which is the nickname for Telugu-language cinema production in India. In terms of tickets sold, India is historically the largest film market in the world. Bollywood (Hindi-language film production) and Kollywood (Tamil-language film production) are other major sources of film production in India as well as smaller markets in other languages. "RRR" is the most expensive Telugu-film ever produced with a budget of \$550 crore (\$72 million). With its \$9.5 million domestically, and a reported \$485 crore worldwide in its opening weekend. This massive opening weekend gross puts "RRR" in a fantastic position to profit. With brilliant audience reception, it would not be surprising to see "RRR" on the charts again next weekend.

Coming in fourth and fifth place are "Uncharted" and "Jujutsu Kaisen 0: The Movie" with \$5 million and \$4.6 million respectively. The former action-adventure film cleared \$130 million this weekend, setting its sights on clearing \$150 million which it likely will by the end of its run, especially with its only 36.1% drop. The anime film "Jujutsu Kaisen 0" dropped over 69%, even while adding over 200 theaters (though it did likely lose screen time at those theaters) meaning its time in the top five is likely over.

Next week brings the release of "Morbius," a Sony Spider-Man Universe film starring Jared Leto as the titular living vampire. The review embargo of the film doesn't drop until this Wednesday, less than 24 hours before its release, which does not pose well for its critical reception. Not even "Spider-Man" or "Venom" fans seem to be clamoring for this film, which does not pose well for its opening. I think the movie will gross around \$30 million this weekend and then will have a steep drop-off due to poor reception.

However, it is entirely possible "Morbius" is well-received and becomes a smash success. That's the fun of the box office; you never know what will happen.



"The Lost City" (center) stole the top spot this weekend at the box office in its opening weekend, grossing \$31 million domestically. "The Batman" (top) and "RRR" (bottom) took the second and third spot, respectively.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF IMDB.COM

Opinion StudyBreak

Photo of the Day | Husky spirit

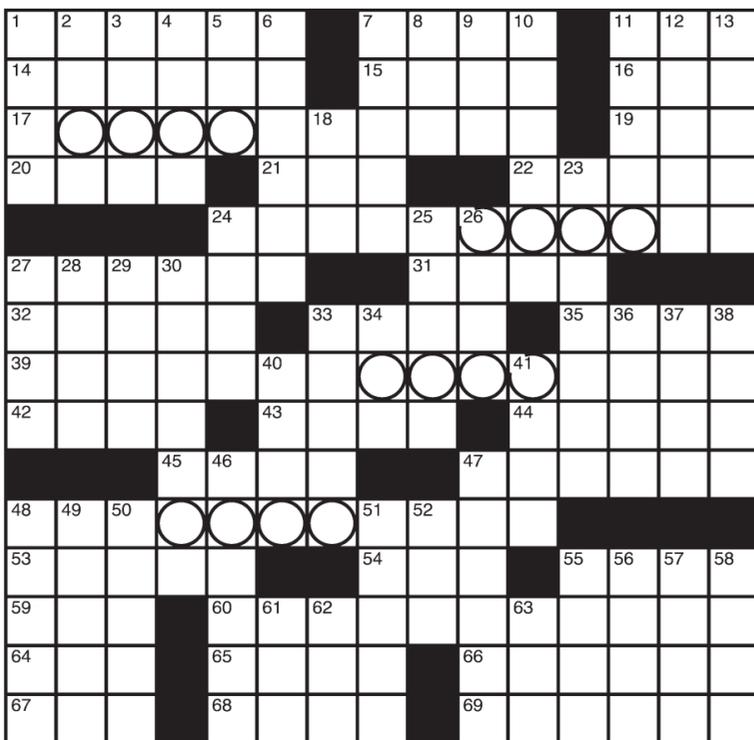


A UConn softball fan shows off their Husky spirit, repping a husky hat and glasses during a game where the Huskies defeated DePaul 7-3 in Burrill Family Field on Saturday, March 26, 2022. PHOTO BY SOFIA SAWCHUK, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Costume
- 7 Word with friendly or interface
- 11 NFL team leaders
- 14 Do very well
- 15 Backsplash piece
- 16 In the style of
- 17 Having the same ability
- 19 Prom rental
- 20 Firefighting aid
- 21 On the __: being broadcast
- 22 In the loop
- 24 Touch and go, grammatically
- 27 Amount to take, in an Rx
- 31 Property claim
- 32 Acting together
- 33 Gardener's bagful
- 35 "Good point"
- 39 "Guilty or not guilty?"
- 42 Back of the neck
- 43 D.C. helper
- 44 Exams for Ph.D. candidates
- 45 Top line on many an application form
- 47 Deny
- 48 1939 Stephen Foster biopic
- 53 "Coco" studio
- 54 Collectible records, for short
- 55 "Roll Tide" school
- 59 Yalie
- 60 Rarely ... or what each set of circled letters is?
- 64 Hoopla
- 65 Brewpub array
- 66 In a scary way
- 67 Dreaming sleep stage
- 68 Preferred brownie piece, for some
- 69 Spanish "You're welcome"



By Rafael Musa

3/29/22

DOWN

- 1 "Conversely," in texts
- 2 "Hmm ... no chance"
- 3 Square root of nueve
- 4 Pillars of Islam count

- 5 "___ had enough!"
- 6 King-jack, e.g., in bridge
- 7 Wombs
- 8 Polite title
- 9 West __: high-end furniture outlet
- 10 Back up, as a backup
- 11 Doha's country
- 12 Words on a jacket
- 13 Jazz woodwinds
- 18 __ for tat
- 23 Stopped running, as a stream
- 24 A long time
- 25 Tapenade ingredient
- 26 White or Blue river
- 27 First light
- 28 Workplace safety org.
- 29 Source of some suds
- 30 Rabbit ears
- 33 Less likely to speak up, maybe
- 34 Ref. work that added "freshperson" in 2021

Monday's Puzzle Solved



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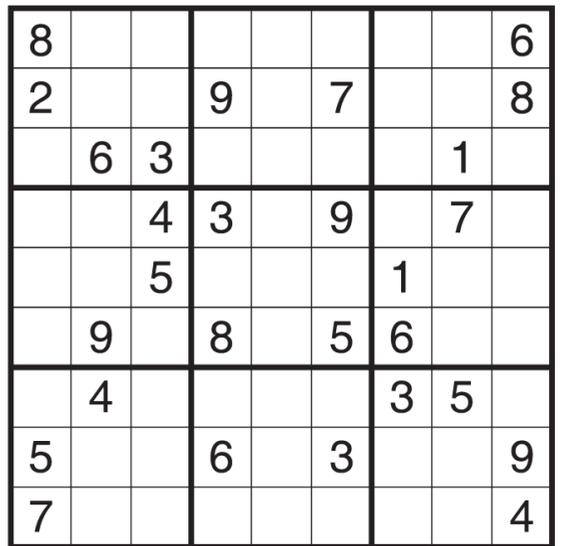
3/29/22

- 36 Narrow inlets
- 37 NCAA Bruins' home
- 38 Site for handmade gifts
- 40 Get under control
- 41 Crowd eruption
- 46 Make fizzy
- 47 Like matryoshka dolls
- 48 Asparagus piece
- 49 Olivia of "House"
- 50 Set theory truth
- 51 "Uncle!"
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COMIC BY VAN NGUYEN, STAFF ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS



Sudoku



Submit a tip



Tee Time with T: Scottie Scheffler is No. 1

by Taylor Coonan
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I have so much to say, but somehow I don't know how to. Scottie Scheffler is the top golfer in the world. This has been such a long time coming, and aside from my admiration, the technical aspects of Scheffler's game should have put him at No. 1 a long time ago. From all of the times that Scheffler was denied titles, victories and larger payouts, this may make it somewhat worth it. Nonetheless, a celebration is in order.

The American golfer officially reached the top on Sunday after winning the World Golf Championships-Dell Technologies Match Play at Austin Country Club in

Austin, Texas. Ultimately, it came down to him and fellow American Kevin Kisner in the final rounds. Scheffler beat Kisner 4 & 3 in the final to earn the title and No. 1 next to his name.

Back in Week 7, Scheffler competed hard at the Waste Management Phoenix Open in order to win that tournament as well. This was his first PGA TOUR win, and little did anyone know that it would be far from his last. Scottsdale belonged to Scottie Scheffler in every sense of the word and he left Arizona that weekend 16-under par, taking a total of 268 shots by the end.

There was never a linear winning streak, however, as Scheffler took the green for The Genesis Invitational the following week but

wasn't riding the high of his last win. Knowing that every course, every tournament is different, he took it all in stride and ended up in a tie for seventh by the final round. With 272 shots, Scheffler was 12-under par for Week 8's contest. He finished in the top 10, and looked good doing it, still keeping his name relevant in the golf world and not throwing away his first title as just a lucky day.

Week 10 solidified Scheffler's success as a professional golfer, proving that he can play and he belongs in the big leagues. In the Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard, Scheffler hoisted yet another trophy. After shooting 5-under par, Scheffler won his second title in the span of four weeks.

While the following event may have deflated his spirits with a No. 55 finish, Scheffler didn't let it bother him for too long. It was onto THE PLAYERS Championship in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida now. This was a tough contest, with so many of the world's greatest coming together to play on the same course simultaneously. The fact that the World No. 1 player at the time, Jon Rahm of Spain, was also tied for 55 in that tournament is very telling of Rahm's decline that I've discussed before, along with Scheffler's eventual rise within the PGA TOUR. They both finished 2-over par with 290 total shots to leave the Florida green.

Heading west worked wonders for Scheffler, as he arrived at the

World Golf Championships-Dell Technologies Match Play and seized the throne; for both the tournament and the world.

In his first 70 PGA starts, Scheffler never had a whole lot to show for his game, no matter how well he played. Now, in his past five tournaments, he's had three wins.

These victories contribute well to his FedEx Cup standings, where he is also at the top. Out of 12 events, Scheffler has earned 2,170 points with his three wins. He also had six top-10 finishes as well.

Scheffler was originally on the field for the Valero Texas Open but has since taken his name out of the competition. This makes the Masters his next event—and it'll be huge.

Duke-Carolina, Kansas-Nova set for epic Final Four showdowns

(AP) — Duke coach Mike Krzyzewski refused to let his players ponder the possibility of facing North Carolina for the first time in the NCAA Tournament after the Blue Devils had punched their Final Four ticket with a win over Arkansas.

They have no choice but to think about it now.

The Tar Heels took care of the last of the underdogs Sunday by rolling past 15th-seeded Saint Peter's, setting up a Final Four for the ages in New Orleans: Duke-Carolina for the first time in the tourney, and in retiring Coach K's final appearance on college basketball's biggest stage. The winner gets Kansas or Villanova for the national championship.

"I saw something that Bill Self said about the regional championship game," Krzyzewski said of his Kansas counterpart, "it really is the biggest game a college coach has to coach, because it gets you into the promised land.

"For me to have that, I guess it's 17 times now, that's a big-time thing for me. I'm so proud of that," Krzyzewski said, "that my teams

have put us in that position and that's what we've won now 13 of them, and whatever happens afterward happens. But it is a heck of a thing. We've won a lot in the tournament, and we've won a lot of games, but Final Fours are big."

The biggest could be Saturday night.

Duke and North Carolina have met 257 times, including in Krzyzewski's final game coaching at Cameron Indoor Stadium, when the Tar Heels spoiled the night with a victory that has helped to propel them to the Final Four.

Yet somehow, the bluest of the bluebloods have never collided in the NCAA Tournament.

"I'm not even thinking about that right now," said Hubert Davis, who played for the Tar Heels in the Final Four and has led them back in his first year as the head coach. "Right now, I'm just so happy for our guys having an opportunity to play in the Final Four. That's the only thing on my mind."

The Blue Devils locked up their spot Saturday night when Paolo Banchero and Co. used a big run

DUKE AND NORTH CAROLINA HAVE MET 257 TIMES, INCLUDING IN KRZYZEWSKI'S FINAL GAME COACHING AT CAMERON INDOOR STADIUM, WHEN THE TAR HEELS SPOILED THE NIGHT WITH A VICTORY THAT HAS HELPED TO PROPEL THEM TO THE FINAL FOUR.

YET SOMEHOW, THE BLUEST OF THE BLUEBLOODS HAVE NEVER COLLIDED IN THE NCAA TOURNAMENT.

to put away Arkansas and send Krzyzewski's farewell tour to the Big Easy. It will be his 13th trip to the Final Four, breaking a tie with UCLA's John Wooden for the most in history, and makes 17 in all for the Duke program. "We knew we

were capable of this, and that's what we've worked for since June," Banchero said. "To finally get to New Orleans and have a chance to play for a national championship is a blessing. I'm just proud of the way we came together."

North Carolina will be making its record 21st appearance in the Final Four, and the four teams headed to the Superdome have combined to make it an astounding 61 times. Together, they have cut down the nets on 17 occasions.

Villanova also locked up its trip to the semifinals Saturday when it beat Houston in a low-scoring slugfest. It's the seventh Final Four appearance for the Wildcats, including one from the 1970s that the NCAA forced them to vacate, and gives Jay Wright a chance to join some rare company by winning his third national championship.

The list that would stand ahead of him? Wooden with 10, Krzyzewski with five and Kentucky's Adolph Rupp with four.

"It feels great to be going back to the Final Four. It never gets old," said Wright, whose 2016 team beat

Kansas and North Carolina on the way to the title and whose 2018 team beat the Jayhawks again in the Final Four before topping Michigan for the championship. "It is a dream of every player and coach in college basketball. It's the ultimate."

The Wildcats will be without Justin Moore, though, after announcing Sunday that their second-leading scorer would have surgery this week for a torn Achilles tendon. Moore was hurt in the final minute of the win over the Cougars.

"This is a tough blow for all of us, not just because of the great player Justin is, but because of what he means to us as teammates and coaches," Wright said. "As one of our captains, Justin has been an integral part of our success."

While the Jayhawks have had plenty of problems with Villanova over the years, their real trouble had been escaping the regional finals. But they had their way with Miami in the second half Sunday in Chicago, relying on their superior speed and athleticism to turn a six-point deficit at the break into a 76-50 blowout.

Ball scores 33 points, Hornets spoil Irving's home debut

(AP) — Kyrie Irving waited all season for a chance to play in front of his home fans, and this sure wasn't the way he envisioned it going.

"Not the result we wanted, I didn't shoot as well as I wanted," Irving said. "Basically none of the things I had hoped for going well tonight just didn't happen, and that's just the flow of basketball."

It went much better for the other point guard.

LaMelo Ball had 33 points, nine assists and seven rebounds and the Charlotte Hornets spoiled Irving's first home game of the season by beating the Brooklyn Nets 119-110 on Sunday night.

Irving misfired for 3 1/2 quarters, finally warmed up to give the Nets the lead, and then the Hornets regained control with clutch 3-point shooting to give them a victory that tied them with Brooklyn for eighth place in the Eastern Conference.

Irving finished with 16 points and tied his season high with 11 assists but shot 6 for 22 from the field. He hadn't been able to play at home this season until Mayor Eric Adams last week exempted athletes and performers from the New York City's coronavirus vaccine mandate.

"It was great to see him out there, good to see the fans excited for him," Kevin Durant said. "Unfortunately we took the 'L' though, but we move forward knowing that we have him here and build on what we have and try to get a win next game."

Miles Bridges scored 24 points and PJ Washington had 18 points and 11 rebounds for the Hornets, who won for the seventh time in eight games. They beat the Nets for the second time in three meetings this season, clinching a potential head-to-head tiebreaker.

Durant had 27 points, eight rebounds and seven assists, playing the entire second half on the second night of a back-to-back. He shot just 9 for 24. Andre Drummond had 20 points and 16 rebounds.

Irving missed 15 of his first 17 shots, but then made two layups and a short jumper to tie it at 104-104 with 4:05 remaining. His two free throws gave the Nets a one-



Brooklyn Nets forward Kevin Durant (7) drives around Charlotte Hornets guard Terry Rozier (3) in the second half of an NBA basketball game, Sunday, March 27, 2022, in New York. PHOTO BY JOHN MINCHILLO/AP

point lead with 3:37 to go, but then the Hornets blew by them with four 3-pointers.

Cody Martin made two of them, with Terry Rozier adding one before Bridges closed it out for the final margin.

"Those last 3s in the end were really clutch I feel like," Ball said, "so it was a great game."

Ball scored 18 points in the third quarter, going 5 of 6 from 3-point range. He finished 7 of 12 behind the arc.

Irving played his first home game since Game 2 of the Eastern Conference semifinals against Milwaukee. It was a pivotal time for the Nets to get Irving back, with Sunday begin-

ning a stretch of eight games to finish the regular season and only one of them outside New York, with six at home and one at Madison Square Garden.

Irving got a loud ovation from the crowd of 18,166, the largest ever for a Nets game at Barclays Center, after resuming his spot as the last Nets player announced during the starting lineups. But he couldn't do anything to get another one early in the game, missing all four shots in the first quarter.

He went to the line early in the second quarter and missed his first free throw. Fans then began applauding as if trying to give him a lift and he responded by knocking

down the second shot for his first point.

Irving then got a 3-pointer in transition to bounce in for a 10-point lead and his first field goal, and the Nets led by 14 before Charlotte trimmed it to 60-56 at halftime.

Ball then came out and hit three 3-pointers in the first three minutes, starting Charlotte off on its 37-point third quarter.

"We know we're a good third-quarter team and we came out and set the tone," Hornets coach James Borrego said.

Ball's final 3 of the period gave the Hornets a 90-79 lead, but Brooklyn trimmed it to 93-89 by the end of the period.

TIP-INS

Hornets: Charlotte was making its first of two visits to New York in four days. The Hornets visit the Knicks on Wednesday. ... Rozier scored 14 points. ... Charlotte has won four straight road games.

Nets: F/C LaMarcus Aldridge was available to play after missing nine games with a right hip injury but didn't get in the game. ... Seth Curry, battling a sore ankle, scored 12 points.

UP NEXT

HORNETS: HOST DENVER ON MONDAY NIGHT.

NETS: HOST DETROIT ON TUESDAY NIGHT.

Sports

Photo of the Day | Fourteen In A Row! #FinalFourBound



On Monday night March 28th, 2022, the UConn Women's Basketball team defeats NC State 91-87 in the Elite Eight game Monday night in Bridgeport, CT. Graduate student Dorka Juhász suffered a wrist injury early in the game. PHOTO BY ERIN KNAPP, ASSOCIATE PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

BIG EAST BALLER UPDATE NO. 20: A SWEET AND ELITE TIME IN THE CENTER OF AMERICA

by Cole Stefan

STAFF WRITER
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This season has gone by fast. One moment, the Big East won the Gavitt Tipoff games against the Big Ten, and the next, it's the second weekend of March Madness. In all of it, there have been some pretty wild moments, from fifteenth-seeded St. Peter's and tenth-seeded Miami going to the Elite 8 to the first ever Duke vs. UNC March Madness game in Coach K's final season.

The Big East was well represented in the second weekend as the Providence Friars and the Villanova Wildcats continued to dance. How did they do and is one of them going to New Orleans? (Apologies to anyone named Terry because New Mexico State's superstar is named Teddy Allen.)

Villanova 63, Michigan 55 (March 24): It's like 2018 all over again The Alamodome, April 2, 2018.

Second-ranked Villanova handily beats seventh-ranked Michigan 79-62 for their third national title and second in three seasons. Both teams had NBA-level talents, whether it was Jalen Brunson, Omari Spellman, Mikal Bridges and Donte DiVincenzo for Villanova or Jordan Poole, Mortiz Wagner and Isaiah Livers for Michigan. Fast forward four years, the stakes and most of the players were different, but the setting remained the same.

Michigan started on a 5-1 run, but Villanova's offense sparked and snatched the lead from right under their nose. Villanova remained in control behind the prowess of Justin Moore, but a five-minute scoring drought gave Michigan the lead right back. The Wildcats found their footing again, which allowed them to enter the break with a three-point lead.

Villanova remained in control in the second half, but Michigan made it a four-point game with 3:50 left. Collin Gillespie made a three-point dagger with 1:53 remaining that concluded eleventh-seeded Michigan's surprise run in March Madness. With the win, Villanova moved to 4-2, 3-0 in March Madness, against the Wolverines all-time.

Jay Wright's teams are known to have talent and depth. Brandon Slater was a non-factor, but Jermaine Samuels brought the heat, leading Villanova with 22 points. Moore had 15 and Gillespie had 12 to round out the scoring. As for Michigan, Hunter Dickinson had 15 while Eli Brooks had 14. Both these teams have NBA talents, whether it's Dickinson or Gillespie, and this match-up helped all of their draft stock.

Kansas 66, Providence 61 (March 25): Rock Chalk out of luck

The first two rounds were appe-



The University of Connecticut Huskies are defeated by Villanova University 60 - 63 at Madison Square Garden on March 11, 2022. The Garden had over 19,000 roaring fans, and the game was close for its entirety, which led to an energetic atmosphere. Based on their interviews, the Huskies are looking to learn from their mistakes during this game to prepare for a strong March Madness run. PHOTO BY KEVIN LINDSTROM, PHOTO AND VIDEO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

tizers for Providence; this contest was the main course. Kansas previously eliminated the Creighton Blue Jays, but the Friars were a much healthier threat. As expected, the first-ever meeting between these two was a fight to the finish.

Providence's offense wasn't lighting it up as they scored 17 first-half points. Kansas' offense was not perfect as they dropped 26 points in that span, half of which came from Remy Martin due to Providence's intimidating defense. There weren't many offensive stretches, but there were several spans where neither team could buy a basket.

The second half was a different story as Providence tied the game at 44 with 7:17 left. The Friars took the lead over a minute later, but Kansas swiped it back with a 7-0 run. Providence did everything they could to at least tie the contest again, but their efforts came up short as Kansas closed the game out at the free throw line.

The offense wasn't pretty, but Kansas found a way back into the Elite 8, their first since 2018. Jalen

Wilson had a double-double of 16 points and 11 boards. Martin had 23 points off the bench for the Jayhawks while Al Durham had 21 and Noah Horschler had 10 points for Providence. It's unfortunate that it had to end, but this was Providence's best season since they went to the Final Four in 1987. Depending on how many guys come back, the future is bright for this program.

Villanova 50, Houston 44 (March 26): Two cats defending their territory

The wildcat and the cougar are territorial predators. The wildcat protects the Philadelphia area in solitude while the cougar defends Houston with pure aggression. In their first meeting since 1991, who would successfully defend their homeland?

This was Villanova's game from the beginning as they jumped out to a 9-2 run. Because it was the Elite 8, the Cougars clawed themselves back into the match. But every time they thought they were closing in, Villanova pushed Houston farther from the lead. What was once

a 21-10 game turned into a 27-20 halftime lead in favor of Villanova.

The defense shined in the second half. After two multi-minute scoreless spans by both teams, Houston cut the deficit down to two with 5:28 left. Villanova played better down the stretch, however, as Samuels provided the dagger with a layup and Gillespie converted at the free throw line in the final two minutes. With the win, Villanova plays Kansas for the fourth time in the last six seasons. Villanova beat Kansas in 2016 (Elite 8) and 2018 (Final Four) en route to their national titles. Kansas beat Villanova in the 2008 Sweet 16 to win their most recent title.

Taze Moore led the Cougars with 15 points while Samuels had 16 and Caleb Daniels had 12 for the Wildcats. Wild as this game was (both teams shot under 30% from the field), the thrills came at a major cost. In the final minute, Moore went down with a torn Achilles, and if Villanova wins the national championship, they'll be doing it for him.

It may be a blue-blooded Final

Four, but the season's not over yet for the Big East. Villanova's back in the Final Four, but in addition to that, the Xavier Musketeers are currently in the NIT semifinals at Madison Square Garden. Villanova draws Kansas, Xavier plays St. Bonaventure.

Both of their tournament results will be covered in this season's final edition next week so stay tuned.

The Big East was well represented in the second weekend as the Providence Friars and the Villanova Wildcats continued to dance. How did they do and is one of them going to New Orleans?

Baseball: BC Eagles fly to Elliot Ballpark

by Taylor Coonan
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The No. 25 UConn Huskies take the mound again in Storrs as the Eagles from Boston College come to play the first of a two-game series on Tuesday, March 29 at 3:05 p.m. For the second week, the Huskies are ranked No. 25 as they improved to a 15-5 record over the last few games.

UConn is taking the field again after a series win over the University of Rhode Island this past weekend. After a huge 19-2 win on Friday, Hook C fell short in a 2-6 loss on Saturday in Rhode Island before coming back to Elliot Ballpark to win Sunday's game 4-1, winning the series as well.

The 9-14 BC Eagles are also coming off of a three-game series. They played the University of Louisville at home for each game, but dropped all of them to the Cardinals. Saturday was the best game for the Eagles, forcing 11 innings. Still, Louisville beat BC 10-6 before demolishing the Eagles once and for all on Sunday with a 15-1 dramatic finish.

Both teams faced the University of North Florida earlier this season. UConn won its series against North Florida without too much adversity. Hook C scored 11 runs on both of the Friday and Saturday games, with Sunday bringing some pressure from the Ospreys. UConn had already won the series by that point, but Sunday's contest was sent to 10 innings before the final box score was 5-3.

BC also won its series over North Florida, but did not sweep the Ospreys. The first contest was an easy 7-0 win for the Eagles before North Florida crept up on them. BC won the next game, 10-4, but then it was North Florida who won 17-10 for the closing series game.

Right after that, BC faced the University of South Florida in a two-game series, both of which were played in Florida. The Eagles won 18-8 on the first game before dropping the following one 8-11 to

the Bulls.

USF was UConn's first opponent of the 2022 season. With the first game comes the expectation that there will be a lot of unexpected, but Hook C rose to the challenge and beat USF 5-4. Not only was the score close, but it was also a 10-inning game.

The main concern for UConn will be defensive tactics to keep the Eagles off of the bases. The Huskies haven't made too many errors otherwise as the pitching has been strong and bats swing well almost every game, it's just fielding mishaps that pile up to contribute to a loss.

UConn and BC have a long history of playing together. It may not be equivalent to the URI-UConn rivalry, but the history of games runs deep. The first recorded matchup between the teams was in 1909, and Hook C won 7-2 over the Eagles. More recently, UConn is on a winning streak over BC, winning every game the teams have played against each other since 2015. Ahead of Tuesday, UConn has won all of the last five contests. Last year, the Huskies blanked the Eagles 12-0. After the hitting success as of late with homeruns on Friday from Ben Huber, Bryan Padilla, T.C. Simmons and Erik Stock, it isn't beyond UConn to have a strong offensive run again for this game.

Stock especially has been a leader for UConn's offense, hitting strong in just about every game this season. Sunday's win over URI marked the fourth-straight game that Stock has hit a homerun in. In total, he had three hits throughout the game, which is a season-high for the centerfielder. Currently, his batting average is .394.

TUESDAY'S 3:05 P.M. GAME WILL BE BROADCASTED ON FLOSPORTS AND ON ESPN 97.9 FM



UConn defeats URI 4-1 on a crisp day in Storrs, March 27, 2022. During sections of the game, sparse stray snowflakes dotted the air. PHOTO BY KEVIN LINDSTORM, PHOTO AND VIDEO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Tennis: Huskies wrap up a rough weekend

by Ajeeth Vellore
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That weekend, to say the least, went poorly. Coming off a big winning streak, the University of Connecticut women's tennis team managed to only take one set in the two meets they had on Saturday and Sunday combined. First, they got swept by Army during their Senior Night, then they took only one set from St. John's University, ending that meet 1-6. Thankfully for the Huskies, they should be able to take this in stride and pick up where they left off before 12 p.m. on Saturday.

The first meet of the weekend was a mess. The Huskies got completely overmatched at home, never even taking a set from Army. Only their No. 1 singles, senior Julieanne Bou, managed to take her opponent to the tiebreak but got overpowered in the clutch, losing 7-0. The rest of the singles team stood no chance, only coming within striking distance of their opponent during the No. 4 singles match, but, even then, it didn't feel close. Worse yet were the doubles teams: They only took one game when juniors Caroline Cook and Denise Lai stole it from under their oppositions' noses. Army never took their foot off the gas, grounding UConn after a long streak of dominance.

"We came up against a very tough Army team today," said Director of Tennis Glenn Marshall in an interview after the meet. "We just couldn't get over the hump in a few of the close sets. They are a very physical team and they won a lot of the hustle points today which made a big difference."

That wouldn't be the last beating the Huskies took during the weekend; once again, at home, they only took one match. Sophomore Leonie Hoppe eked out a win in three sets at No. 2 singles, giving herself her fifteenth-singles win on the year. The rest of the team, though, couldn't manage another win, unfortunately, so the Huskies lost their second meet of the weekend in rather unimpressive fashion.

In a post-meet interview on Sunday, Marshall said, "We came up against a tough team today in St. John's. Our kids battled in singles and had many close matches, highlighted by a great three set win by Leonie... We need to learn how to break through with confidence and toughness in the close sets and matches. That was the difference today."

Though it was a disappointing weekend, the Huskies look to take what they've learned this weekend and turn it into fuel for their next matchup, which is against Bryant on Wednesday at 1:45 p.m.



The UConn Women's Tennis Team competed against Stony Brook at the Magic Lincer Tennis Club in Manchester, CT on Feb. 18, 2022. PHOTO BY SKYLER KIM GRABS, PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

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Sports

FINAL FOUR BOUND: Women's Basketball beats NC State in 2OT thriller behind Bueckers' 27

by **Stratton Stave**
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GAME! REGION! After what can only be described as the best game of the season, UConn women's basketball is going back to the NCAA Final Four for the 14th straight year with their massive win over NC State. The teams went back and forth, toe-to-toe in a contest where 40 minutes was not enough. 45 minutes wasn't either. 50 minutes was the magic number and after two overtimes, the Huskies grabbed the victory and will be headed to Minneapolis, MN for the Final Four.

"If you watched the game, there's not much you can say to add to it," UConn Coach Geno Auriemma noted. "It was remarkable. One of the best games I've ever been a part of since I came to UConn. It was amazing the way the 10 kids on the court were playing for their lives, not wanting to lose. It's a shame one of us had to lose. If there's two teams out there better than this one...holy moly. Really proud of these guys. They don't make it easy, but they make it worth it."

The two stars of the show were Paige Bueckers and Azzi Fudd, who hit countless clutch shots to lift the Huskies to the incredible win. Bueckers collected 27 points and six boards, while Fudd notched 19 points and five rebounds. The duo was massive as UConn weathered the storm known as NC State to survive and advance.

"I was literally thinking we have Paige Bueckers, and they don't," senior guard Christyn Williams said with a laugh. "What she does is not surprising."

"I would've loved to watch this game," Bueckers said. "It was a lot of fun to play in. Two competitive teams playing for our lives, and we found a way to win. I try to stay confident in myself. It's not going to always be easy. My teammates and coaches instill the confidence in me trusting me in these moments."

To open up the contest, Kayla Jones got loose for an open layup. On the next possession, Bueckers found an open Williams, who knocked down a deep three, which she followed up with a tough layup. Jones then found herself wide open on the baseline, knocking down a midrange jumper. Bueckers quickly responded though, getting inside for an and one layup, while Williams added a long two. Elissa Cunane then found herself ahead of the defense, hitting an easy layup, which Olivia Nelson-Ododa followed with a long two.

Nelson-Ododa found Aaliyah Edwards on the pick and roll, but soon after, Kai Crutchfield dropped in a jumper. Williams responded with the layup, but Paina Perez cut the lead to one with the triple. A Fudd free throw closed out the quarter, making it a 16-14 UConn advantage.

Fudd added to her total with a deep ball to start the frame, and Jada Boyd and Dorca Juhasz traded layups. Nika Muhl forced a turnover off the ensuing inbounds play and dropped in a difficult layup. Evina Westbrook poured on a layup of her own to increase the lead to nine and force a NC State timeout. Boyd hit four straight free throws to cut it



The No. 2 UConn Huskies play against the No. 1 NC State Wolfpack during the Elite Eight Game at Total Mortgage Arena in Bridgeport, Connecticut, on Monday night. The Huskies defeated the Wolfpack 91-87 after going into double overtime. The Huskies will be moving onto the Final Four game at the Target Center in Minneapolis, Minn. April 1. PHOTO BY ERIN KNAPP ASSOCIATE, PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

to five, as Juhasz suffered an apparent injury to her wrist that removed her from the game. Fudd went on her own 5-0 run to push the lead to double-digits and Bueckers added an 18-footer. An NC State 4-0 run cut the lead to six, but a Williams two brought it back to eight. A Cunane layup cut it to six and Williams missed the jumper at the buzzer, giving UConn a 34-28 lead at the half.

Jakia Brown-Turner got the third period started with a fastbreak layup and Cunane converted an and-one to cut it to just one. A composed Bueckers hit a nice jumper, then swatted a shot on the other end, before hitting another two. Westbrook overplayed a pass, which left Brown-Turner open for the two. Fudd hit a beautiful reverse layup, but Brown-Turner got another to go. On the next fastbreak, Bueckers swished another midrange shot and Nelson-Ododa squeezed in a layup. Boyd got a favorable bounce on her jumper and Diamond Johnson hit a beautiful jab step which led to a three to close the deficit to 44-43 going into the fourth.

For the first time since the first minute of play, NC State got the lead thanks to the Boyd layup, but Fudd got it back with the jumper. Boyd added another close shot and

Johnson extended the Wolfpack lead to four with the triple, forcing a UConn timeout. Westbrook hit a massive jumper to cut it to two, but Brown-Turner undid her work with a nice shot of her own. Off an offensive rebound, Williams was able line up a three, which was followed by a Nika Muhl steal and outlet pass to Williams for a deuce, sending Total Mortgage Arena into a frenzy.

Brown-Turner hit a pair from the line and Boyd added a free throw of her own. Fudd tied things up with a layup, but Cunane promptly responded with a deuce. After a timeout, Edwards dropped in the layup, which Fudd followed with a steal and score. Johnson got Fudd up in the air then drove in for the bucket, but Bueckers responded with yet another midrange shot to grab a two point lead.

A miscommunication led to a Husky shot clock violation, leading to a Cunane bucket to tie things up. After three missed shots and as many offensive rebounds, Nelson-Ododa drew a foul. She missed both free throws to keep it tied, giving NC State the ball with 26 seconds left. After draining the clock, Crutchfield air-balled the potential game-winner, sending it to overtime.

Cunane opened up overtime with

a difficult layup, but Nelson-Ododa answered in a big way, getting a massive and-one layup to go, although missing the free throw. Bueckers then got to the line, hitting both, but Brown-Turner knotted it up again with the post hook. Late in the shot clock, Bueckers came off a screen and nailed a shot from 17 feet out. Crutchfield got back with a triple, but Bueckers responded with another jumper. Jones hit another layup inside, but Bueckers nailed a pair of free throws.

Fudd then drove in and dished it to Edwards, who hit the close shot to extend the lead to three. Jones got the quick two with 28 ticks to go and Perez was able to foul Fudd before the ball was inbounded, who nailed both free throws. Edwards then made a critical mistake, fouling Crutchfield on her three-point shot, resulting in two of three made free throws. Bueckers was fouled, hitting both again with six seconds left. Brown-Turner added to her terrific night with the biggest shot of her career, a buzzer beating triple to send the game to double overtime.

"I really just zoned out the crowd and did what my team needed from me," Brown-Turner noted.

Bueckers got off a screen in the first possession of 2OT, hitting a

massive three, but Cunane dropped in a layup. Bueckers then was smothered on defense, although she still managed to hit a 18-footer. Brown-Turner missed a bunny and a frustration foul on Jones sent Edwards to the line for two, who hit both. Crutchfield narrowed the deficit to two with the long ball. Fudd launched a three to respond and although she missed, Edwards got the putback to go.

Cunane scored another layup to get within two and Williams drew the blocking foul, netting one of two. Boyd then hit one of two from the stripe and Williams broke the press for the easy lay-in, increasing the Husky lead to four, effectively ending the game.

"I couldn't be prouder," NC State Wes Moore mentioned. "It was a battle, back and forth. Not letting the crowd, the letters on their jerseys faze them. It's an honor to be with [my players]."

"I take it one game at a time," Bueckers noted on coming to her home state of Minnesota. "It's obviously extra motivation to go home and have the Final Four there, but we're going to fight for any game."

The Huskies will next play rival Stanford at the Target Center this Friday in the Final Four.

UConn SCOREBOARD

Women's basketball Monday



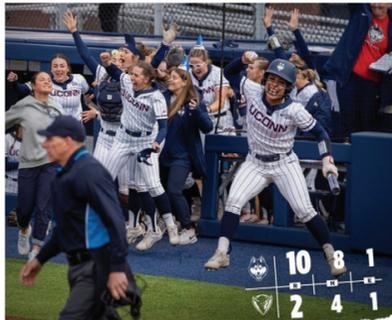
UPCOMING GAMES

Women's Tennis; Wednesday, 1:45 p.m. Smithsfield, RI

Women's Basketball; Friday, 6 pm Minneapolis, MN



INSTAGRAM OF THE DAY



@uconnsoftball
How sweep it is! #SundayCleaning #Webeforeme



Women's Hoopz
@WBBWorldWide
16 straight Elite 8's for UConn. The first Elite 8 for NC in 24 years.

Bleacher Report
@BleacherReport
Hornet's take down the Net's in Kyrie's first game at home
Lamelo went off: 33 PTS | 7 threes | 9 AST

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