

Spring 2023 fee bill to include new \$285 program cost

by Aiza Shaikh
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Beginning next semester, a new \$285 charge is expected to appear on University of Connecticut students' fee bills. The cost corresponds to a new program called Husky Book Bundle, which provides enrolled students with the textbooks and supplemental materials required for their classes.

Husky Book Bundle is an opt-out program, which means the \$285 cost will appear on the Spring 2023 fee bill and students will automatically be enrolled unless they opt-out. Students can opt-out of the program at any point before the tenth day of classes and doing so will remove the charge from their fee bill. Students who choose to opt-out will need to purchase their class textbooks and materials on their own. According to Vice Provost Michael Bradford, the University developed the program to ensure that the majority of students will have their required course materials by the first day of classes.

"We were finding really distressing percentages of students not starting the first day of class with their materials."

VICE PROVOST
MICHAEL BRADFORD

"We were finding really distressing percentages of students not starting the first day of class with their materials," Bradford said in an interview. "If we want to focus on academic success, we need to get the materials in students' hands on the first day."

Bradford said the program will also assist with textbook costs for students, which is sig-

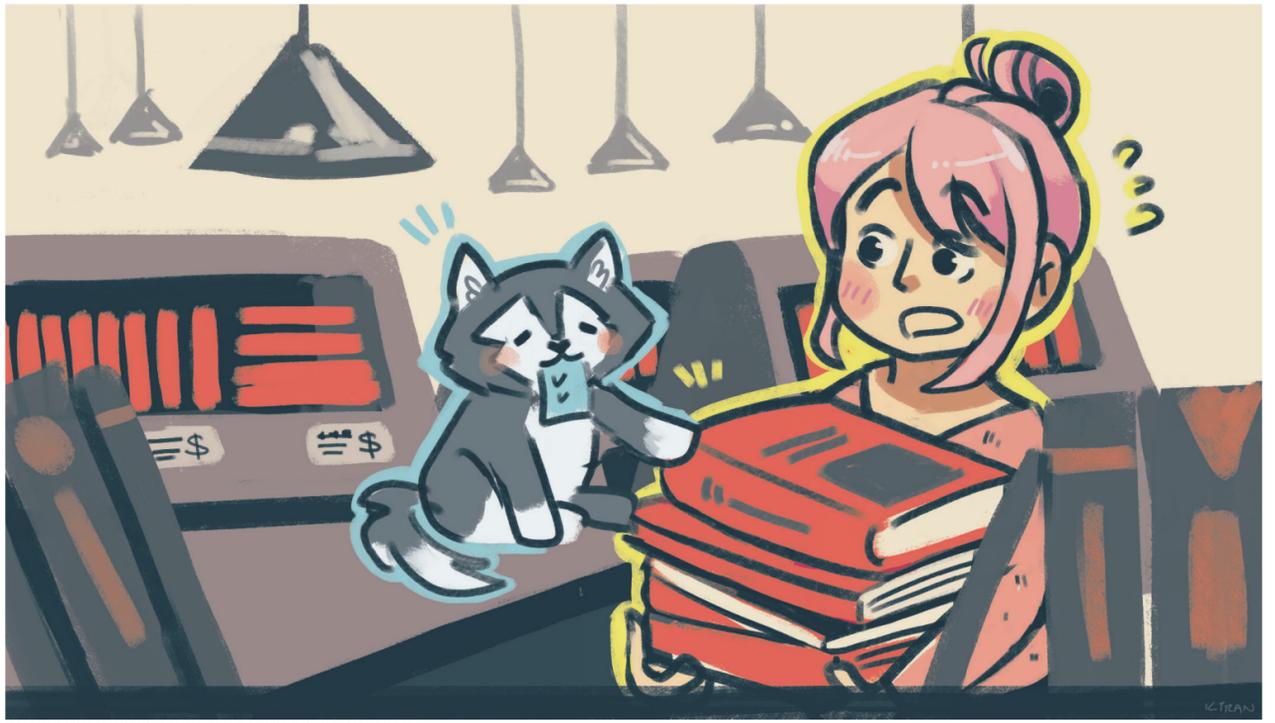


ILLUSTRATION BY KAITLYN TRAN, STAFF ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

nificant because students often spend more than \$285 on required class materials.

"We want to help bring down the cost in any way we can for students," Bradford added. "For those students who can find their books and supplemental material for less than [the \$285 fee], they should opt-out and do that. For underrepresented minorities, for first-gen students...I do think this is going to be a widely used program and will be beneficial."

USG Academic Affairs Director Abbey Engler said she is concerned that a large population of students are neither aware of the program, nor aware that they will automatically be charged for it in their fee bills.

"...It is very concerning that nobody knows about this," Engler said in an email. "It's my job [as USG Academic Affairs Director] to know and I only found out [last week,] and it's not for a lack of attention. This is not being publicized and it really should be."

Engler said she is especially worried that freshmen who are new to the university will end up paying more than needed for their textbooks.

"So if students, especially freshmen, don't know that there is the option to buy their books elsewhere or find them online for free, they will be grossly overpaying for their textbooks," Engler continued.

"If we want to focus on academic success, we need to get the materials in students' hands on the first day."

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Zach Claybaugh, who is a Student Success Librarian at Homer Babbidge Library advocating to provide students with free and

low-cost instructional materials, also worries that many students will stay enrolled in the program and therefore end up paying more than they need to.

"You may not look at the actual pricing of the books you're purchasing, and students may inadvertently overpay for the materials that they're getting," Claybaugh said in an interview.

According to Bradford, the Office of the Provost has communicated with USG's student groups in the past regarding the development of the Husky Book Bundle program. He said the University is trying its best to ensure that students are aware of the program.

"We've pushed this out over email, and we continue to do so," Bradford added. "We're doing our best to make sure that everybody knows this [program] is happening."

If students have financial aid from the university, it will be applied to the program cost as well. For students who neither opt-out of the program nor pick up their class

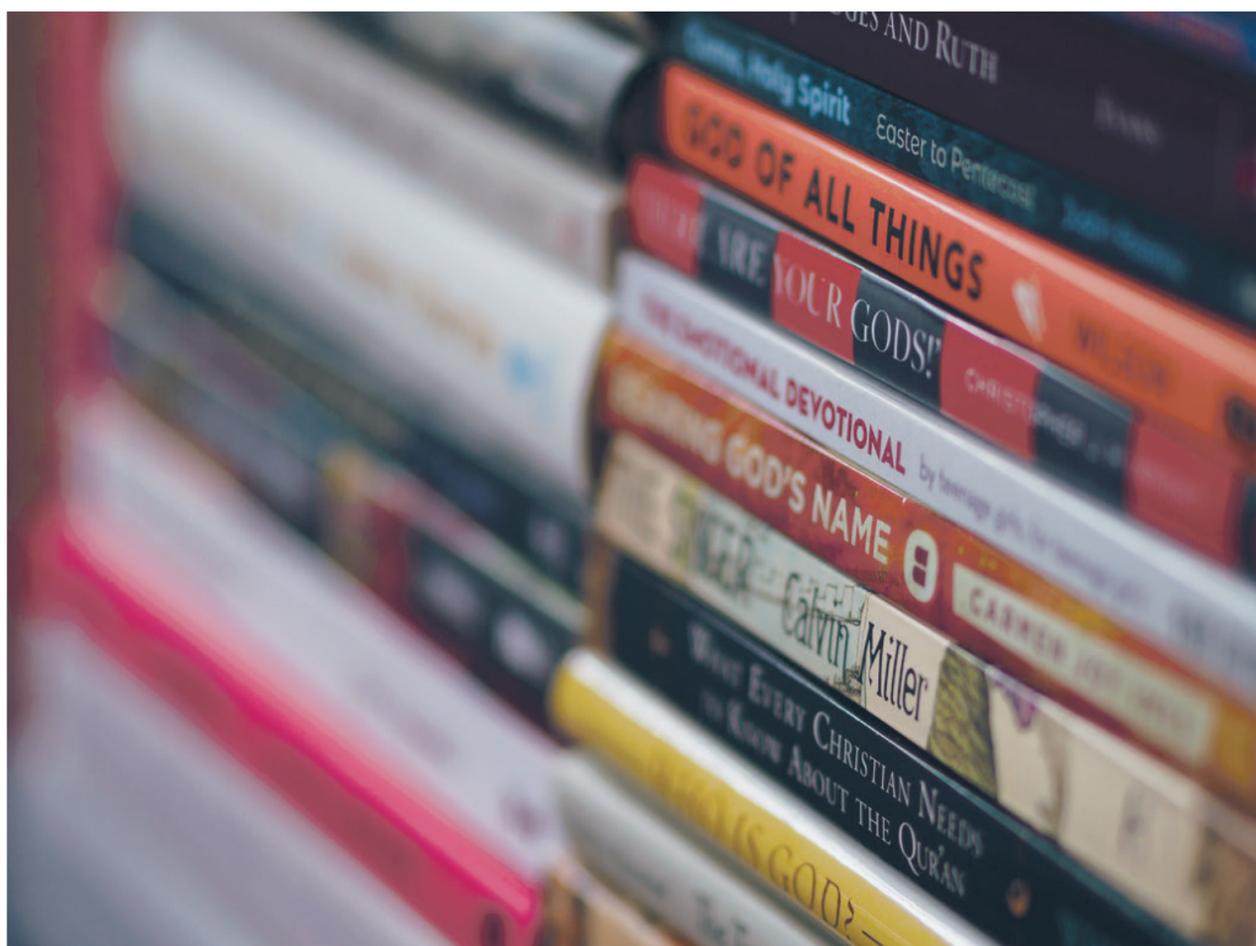
materials by the tenth day of the semester, the program cost will be removed from their fee bill.

"Our greatest fear was that students would get stuck with money that they couldn't pay," said Bradford. "If students...never pick up their bundle [before] the tenth day count, that money comes off the fee bill. It might take a couple of weeks...but that money comes off the fee bill."

Engler also raised the concern that students who stay enrolled in the program will not get to choose the format of their textbooks, which could potentially cause issues for those who require accommodations.

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Beginning in Spring 2023, a new \$285 charge is expected to appear on University of Connecticut students' fee bills. The cost corresponds to a new program called Husky Book Bundle, which provides enrolled students with the textbooks and supplemental materials required for their classes.

PHOTO COURTESY OF FLICKR

For each course, the professor teaching that course will have to choose either a digital or print format for their required textbook(s). Students in the program will be given a textbook of whichever format the professor had picked.

"This adds an additional barrier for CSD students," Engler said of the pre-chosen textbook formats. "Additionally, it's unknown whether or not digital formats will be compatible with text to speech software or if they have the proper accessibility tools."

The Husky Book Bundle program requires that students rent textbooks and return them at the end of the semester. According to its website, "students will receive email reminders" to return course materials to the UConn Bookstore before the deadline.

For students who are concerned about the program charge automatically appearing on their fee bill, Bradford advises looking through the bill carefully and coming to a decision on whether or not the program would benefit them.

"Students should not be scared of the fact that money will land on a fee bill, because there are a lot of ways for that money to not be on that fee bill," he said. "I want students to take a good look at what their costs are going to be, and come to a decision as to whether or not that \$285 flat fee is...beneficial for them."

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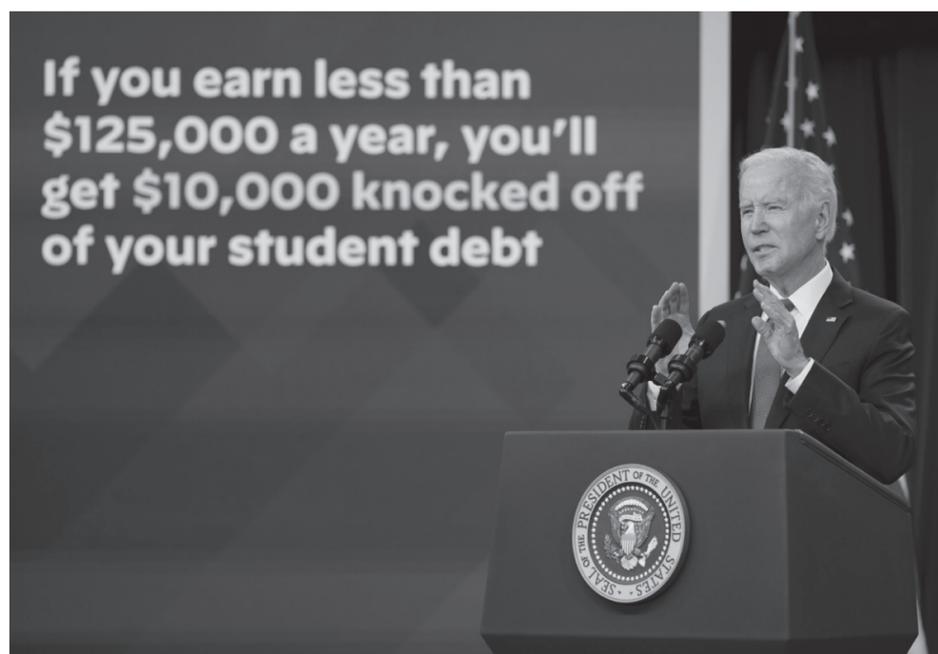
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News

Everything to know to apply for student loan forgiveness



President Joe Biden speaks about the student debt relief portal beta test in the South Court Auditorium on the White House complex in Washington, Monday, Oct. 17, 2022.

FILE PHOTO/AP

NEW YORK (AP) — President Joe Biden's student loan forgiveness program, announced in August, will cancel up to \$20,000 in debt per borrower. The application process is now open, and the administration says the forms should take five minutes to complete.

Borrowers who apply before mid-November should see forgiveness before Jan. 1, when payments on loans are scheduled to restart after a pause during the pandemic. Some Republican-led states have filed lawsuits to try to stop the cancellation, but the Biden administration says they're confident the challenges won't succeed.

Here's how to apply, and everything else you need to know: **WHO QUALIFIES FOR STUDENT LOAN FORGIVENESS?**

You qualify to have up to \$10,000 forgiven if your loan is held by the Department of Education and you make less than \$125,000 individually or \$250,000 for a family. If you received Pell grants, which are reserved for undergraduates with the most significant financial need, you can have up to \$20,000 forgiven. If you are a current borrower and a dependent student, you will be eligible for relief based on your parents' income, rather than your own.

One major lingering question is what will happen to students with commercially held FFEL loans who didn't refinance before Sept. 29. At the moment those loans are not eligible (even though they were initially going to be eligible). The administration has said it's looking for "additional legally-available

options to provide relief" to those borrowers, but nothing has been announced yet.

HOW DO I APPLY FOR LOAN FORGIVENESS?

Go to studentaid.gov and in the section on student loan debt relief, click "Apply Now."

Be ready to type in some basic personal information. The form asks for: name, Social Security Number, date of birth, phone number and email address. It does not require documentation about your income or your student loans.

Next, review the eligibility rules and confirm that you're a match. For most people, that means attesting that they make less than \$125,000 a year or that their household makes less than \$250,000 a year. If you meet the eligibility rules, click the box confirming that everything you provided is true.

Click "Submit."

HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE TO RECEIVE FORGIVENESS?

After the form is submitted, the Biden administration says it should take four to six weeks to process. The Education Department will use its existing records to make sure your loans are eligible and to look for applicants who might exceed the income limits. Some will be asked to provide additional documentation to prove their incomes. The Education Department estimates that the verification application will take about half an hour, including time to review and upload tax documents.

Most borrowers who apply before mid-November should expect to get their debt canceled before Jan. 1, when payments on federal student loans are scheduled to restart after a pause during the pandemic.

WILL STUDENT LOAN FORGIVENESS DEFINITELY HAPPEN?

Things could get more complicated, depending on the outcomes of several legal challenges. The Biden administration faces a growing number of lawsuits attempting to block the program, including one filed by six Republican-led states.

A federal judge in St. Louis is currently weighing the states' request for an injunction to halt the plan. Biden on Monday said he's confident that the suit will not upend the plan. "Our legal judgment is that it won't," he said, "but they're trying to stop it."

HAS THE STUDENT LOAN PAYMENT FREEZE BEEN EXTENDED?

The payment freeze has been extended one last time, until Dec. 31. The freeze started in 2020 as a way to help people struggling financially during the COVID-19 pandemic and it's been extended several times since. It was set to expire Aug. 31.

Interest rates will remain at 0% until repayments start. Under an earlier extension announced in April, people who were behind on payments before the pandemic automatically will be put in good standing.

DOES GRADUATE STUDENT DEBT QUALIFY?

Yes, federal student loans taken out to cover graduate degrees qualify for forgiveness.

WHAT IF MY STUDENT LOAN BALANCE INCLUDES A LOT OF INTEREST?

The interest itself is considered part of the balance for purposes of this program. Forgiveness will remove \$10,000 from the total balance you owe.

WILL I HAVE TO PAY TAXES ON THE AMOUNT I'M FORGIVEN?

At least a few states have said they plan to tax the forgiveness, including Indiana and Mississippi, and it's unclear whether some others will change their tax rules to exclude forgiven student debt. Previously, Congress eliminated taxes on loan forgiveness through 2025.

DO PARENT PLUS LOANS QUALIFY?

Parent Plus loans are included in the forgiveness plan, subject to the same \$250,000 income cap for families that applies to the rest of cancellation.

Parent Plus loans differ from other federal education loans in that they can go towards covering expenses other than tuition, such as books, and room and board for college students. As of March 2022, parents of 3.6 million students owe more than \$107 billion in Parent Plus loans, according to the Department of Education. That represents about 6% of the total amount of federal student debt held by Americans.

If a parent received a Parent Plus loan on behalf of a student and the same student received a direct loan, both would receive relief, as the cancellation is on a per-borrower, not a per-student basis. That means that each person who has Education Department-held federal student loans and meets the income requirements qualifies for cancellation.

WHAT'S A PELL GRANT AND HOW DO I KNOW IF I HAVE ONE?

Roughly 27 million borrowers who qualified for Pell grants will be eligible to receive up to \$20,000 in forgiveness under the Biden plan.

Pell grants are special government scholarships for lower-income Americans, who currently can receive up to \$6,895 annually for roughly six years.

Nearly every Pell Grant recipient came from a family that made less than \$60,000 a year, according to the Department of Education, which said Pell grant recipients typically experience more challenges repaying their debt than other borrowers.

Pell grants themselves don't generally have to be paid back, but recipients typically take out additional student loans.

"This additional relief for Pell borrowers is also an important piece of racial equity in cancellation," said Kat Welbeck, Civil Rights Counsel for the Student Borrower Protection Center. "Because student debt exacerbates existing inequities, the racial wealth gap means that

students of color, especially those that are Black and Latino, are more likely to come from low-wealth households, have student debt, and borrow in higher quantities."

To find out if you have a Pell grant, check any emails you've received that describe your FAFSA award.

HOW MANY PEOPLE WILL THIS HELP?

About 43 million Americans have federal student debt, with an average balance of \$37,667, according to federal data. A third of those owe less than \$10,000. Half owe less than \$20,000. The total amount of federal student debt is more than \$1.6 trillion.

WHAT IF I'VE ALREADY PAID OFF MY STUDENT LOANS — WILL I SEE RELIEF?

If you've voluntarily made payments since March 2020, when payments were paused, you can request a refund for those payments, according to the Federal Office of Student Aid. Contact your loan servicer to request a refund.

WHAT REPAYMENT PLAN IS THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PROPOSING?

The Department of Education has proposed a repayment plan that would cap monthly payments at no more than 5% of a borrower's discretionary income, down from 10% now. Borrowers will need to apply for the repayment plan if it's approved, which could take a year or more.

For example, under the proposal, a single borrower making \$38,000 a year would pay \$31 a month, according to a government press release.

The amount considered non-discretionary income will also be increased, through the department has not said how much.

Discretionary income usually refers to what you have left after covering necessities like food and rent, but for student loan repayment purposes it's calculated using a formula that takes into account the difference between a borrower's annual income and the federal poverty line, along with family size and geographic location.

"What's tough about income-driven repayment is that it does not take into account your other liabilities, such as your rent payment," said Kristen Ahlenius, a financial counselor at Your Money Line, which provides financial literacy training. "If someone's living paycheck to paycheck and their rent is taking up half of their paycheck and then their car payment takes the other, they have to choose. Unfortunately, income-driven repayment doesn't take that into consideration, but it is an option."

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Millions of Cookies: MacKenzie Scott gives Girl Scouts \$85M

NEW YORK (AP) — Philanthropist MacKenzie Scott donated \$84.5 million to Girl Scouts of the USA and 29 of its local branches, the 110-year-old organization said Tuesday, calling it a vote of confidence.

"Her support of our organization means honestly just as much as the donation," Sofia Chang, CEO of GSUSA, said in an interview.

It's the largest donation the Girl Scouts have received from an individual since their founding in 1912, she said. The funds will help the organization recover from the impact of the pandemic, which drove down membership. The Girl Scouts plan to support volunteers and staff, make camp properties more resistant to the impacts of climate change, improve science and technology education for youth members and develop diversity and inclusion programming to make their troops more accessible.

The Girl Scout council in Southern Arizona decided to use the \$1.4 million it received from Scott to elevate the work they are already doing rather than to start a new program or initiative, said its CEO Kristen Garcia-Hernandez.

"We are a small council and we're certainly not in a major metropolitan hub. So for us, gifts of this magnitude don't come around very often," Garcia-Hernandez said.

The gift accelerates their plan to hire more staff to reach most places in the seven counties they serve in under an hour and provide programming year-round. The council will also outfit a van as a mobile science and technology classroom, a project they have tried to fund for a year and a half. Many local funders seem to think that the Girl Scout's cookie sales cover their expenses, she said.

"While the cookie program sustains us certainly and it's wonderful and the girls are part of that process, which makes it even more beautiful, we certainly need more from the community," Garcia-Hernandez said.



The headquarters of Girl Scouts of New Mexico Trails in Albuquerque, N.M., is shown June 7, 2021. Philanthropist MacKenzie Scott has donated \$84.5 million to Girl Scouts of the USA and 29 of its local branches. The CEO, Sofia Chang, of the 110-year-old organization said Tuesday, Oct. 18, 2022, that her support of the organization means as much to them as the donation itself.

Philanthropic giving to organizations that specifically serve women and girls represents less than 2% of all donations, according to a research project of the Women's Philanthropy Institute at Indiana University's Lilly Family School of Philanthropy. The institute found that proportion has not changed significantly between 2012 and 2019, the years the study has tracked.

Tessa Skidmore, research associate at the institute, said major gifts from women like philanthropists Melinda French Gates, Sheryl Sandberg and Scott could inspire other donors.

"Those are the types of things that have the potential to change that number," she said.

The institute partnered with Pivotal Ventures, the investment firm founded by French Gates, and others to promote giving to women and girls on the International Day of the Girl, marked on Oct. 11 each year. It also shares its giving data in the hopes that donors or researchers will use it as one way to evaluate gender equity in donations.

Scott communicates infrequently about her giving, which has totaled around \$12 billion since 2019. She has donated large, unrestricted grants to many different kinds of organizations, though her gifts have had a special focus on racial equity. Scott also

made a blockbuster \$275 million gift to the Planned Parenthood Federation of America and its affiliates this year.

In September, Scott filed for divorce from her second husband, Dan Jewett, whose profile was also removed from website of The Giving Pledge, a group that asks billionaires to give more than half their wealth away in their lifetimes. The former couple had jointly written on the site last year about their intention to give away Scott's fortune, which largely comes from her divorce from Amazon founder Jeff Bezos.

Youth membership of the Girl Scouts fell dramatically during

the pandemic, dropping nearly 30% from about 1.4 million in 2019-2020 to just over 1 million in 2021-2022. Chang acknowledged the drop but made the case that the organization's programs consistently help girls build confidence and tackle problems in their community.

"Our traditional way of supporting girls was really upended during the pandemic as troops couldn't really meet in person," Chang said. "So to build back stronger than we ever had before, we're really listening to our Girl Scouts, listening to their families and to our volunteers to really ensure that what comes next for us is truly impactful in this moment."

Alex Jones verdict unlikely death of disinformation

NEW YORK (AP) — A Connecticut jury's ruling this week ordering Alex Jones to pay \$965 million to parents of Sandy Hook shooting victims he maligned was heartening for people disgusted by the muck of disinformation.

Just don't expect it to make conspiracy theories go away.

The appetite for such hokum and narrowness of the judgments against Jones, who falsely claimed that the 2012 elementary school shootings were a hoax and that grieving parents were actors, virtually ensure a ready supply, experts say.

"It's easy to revel in Alex Jones being punished."

PROFESSOR
REBECCA ADELMAN

"It's easy to revel in Alex Jones being punished," said Rebecca Adelman, a communications professor at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. "But there's a certain shortsightedness in that celebration."

There's a deep tradition of conspiracy theories across American history, from people not believing the official ex-

planation of John F. Kennedy's assassination to various accusations of extraterrestrial-visit coverups to unfounded allegations of the 2020 presidential election being rigged. With the Salem witch trials in 1692, they even predated the country's formation.

What's different today? The internet allows such stories to spread rapidly and widely — and helps adherents find communities of the likeminded. That in turn can push such untrue theories into mainstream politics. Now the will to spread false narratives skillfully online has spread to governments, and the technology to doctor photos and videos enables purveyors to make disinformation more believable.

In today's media world, Jones found that there's a lot of money to be made — and quickly — in creating a community willing to believe lies, no matter how outlandish.

In a Texas defamation trial last month, a forensic economist testified that Jones' Infowars operation made \$53.2 million in annual revenue between 2015 and 2018. He has supplemented his media business by selling products like survivalist gear. His company



Infowars founder Alex Jones is shown a clip of his former deposition while testifying in the Sandy Hook defamation damages trial at Connecticut Superior Court in Waterbury, Conn. Thursday, Sept. 22, 2022. A Connecticut jury's ruling that Jones pay \$965 million to people he targeted with Sandy Hook lies is heartening to people disgusted by the muck of disinformation.

Free Speech Systems filed for bankruptcy in July.

To some, disinformation is the price America pays for the right to free speech. And in a society that popularized the term "alternative facts," one person's effort to curb disinformation is another person's attempt to squish the truth.

Will the Connecticut ruling have a chilling effect on those willing to spread disinformation? "It doesn't even seem to be chilling him," said Mark Fenster, a University of Florida law professor. Jones, he noted, reacted in real time on Infowars on the day of the verdict.

"This will not impact the flow of stories that are filled with bad faith and extreme opinion," said Howard Polskin, who publishes The Righting, a newsletter that monitors the content of right-wing websites. He says false stories about the 2020 election and COVID-19 vaccines remain particularly popular.

"It seems to me that the people who peddle this information for profit may look upon this as the cost of doing business," Adelman said. "If there's an audience for it, someone is going to meet the demand if there's money to be made."

Certainly, the people who believe that Jones and those like him are voices of truth being suppressed by society aren't going to be deterred by the jury verdict, she said. In fact, the opposite is likely to be true.

The plaintiffs awarded damages in the Sandy Hook case were all private citizens, an important distinction in considering its impact beyond this case, said Nicole Hemmer, a Vanderbilt University professor and author of "Partisans: The Conservative Revolutionaries Who Remade American Politics in the 1990s."

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THE 1975

EXPLORES AUTHENTICITY WITH 'BEING FUNNY IN A FOREIGN LANGUAGE'

by **Karla Perez**
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Following a two-year hiatus, The 1975 have returned. Their brand new album, "Being Funny In A Foreign Language," embraces the soft-rock genre and pulls listeners into a roller coaster of various emotions, tones and moods.

As depicted by the album's distinct, black-and-white cover, lead vocalist and guitarist Matthew Healy stands on top of a broken down and vandalized car on the coast. The image was a stylistic choice, as it gives insight into what vibes listeners can expect from the album. The majority of its upbeat and lighthearted tones are reflected by the beach background and by the care-free stance Healy takes on the car. Most notably, the various drawings and scribbles displayed all around the car represent the fluctuations between the calm and chaos in each individual song.

Unlike the more harmonious self-titled opening tracks from previous albums, "The 1975" has a greater feeling of chaos as well as a storyline. The song reflects on Healy's early career and his reckless behavior during his 20s. He conveys his personal growth to listeners by admitting "[he] had a tendency of thinkin' about it after [he] spoke."

The combination of the fast-paced piano and uneasy, sporadic notes from the violin that continue throughout the song create an organized chaos to frame the lyrics. This helps to mirror the scattered mindset Healy has regarding his journey through personal and career-oriented maturity.

"Happiness" offers listeners a much-needed, upbeat mood shift. This time, the combination of guitar, piano, drums and even the addition of trumpets and chimes con-

tribute to an almost disco-esque vibe. I feel that this song in particular exemplifies The 1975's trademark sound.

It's a track that tells a story about finding a new love – how this relationship feels like living in a forever-lasting honeymoon phase. Listening to this song will make you feel like you're at a music festival singing your heart out with your partner – a wholesome act to pair with a wholesome song.

"All I Need To Hear" brings yet another sharp turn in the album. Depending on the listener, one may find it to be incredibly relatable or just feel pity for those who do. The somber piano that opens the track is immediately followed by an extremely mellow guitar and drum beat, which set the mood quickly. Healy sings about his only need of reassurance from someone he loves in order to get through the day. He discloses that he doesn't care whether or not the person he is talking to is sincere in telling him they love him. He's reached a point where all he needs is the words, not even the intention.

Though a rollercoaster of emotions, "Being Funny In A Foreign Language" has something for everyone. Even if you don't find any of the songs necessarily relatable, its variation keeps the album entertaining.

The 1975 explains that this album is definitely more mature, personal and heavier compared to their past work. Healy highlights that like the rest of the world, COVID-19 caused him and the rest of the band to experience a period of reflection and mental development that contributed to such a shift in their music. Although different, "Being Funny In A Foreign Language" is ultimately The 1975's way of being truly authentic.

RATING:



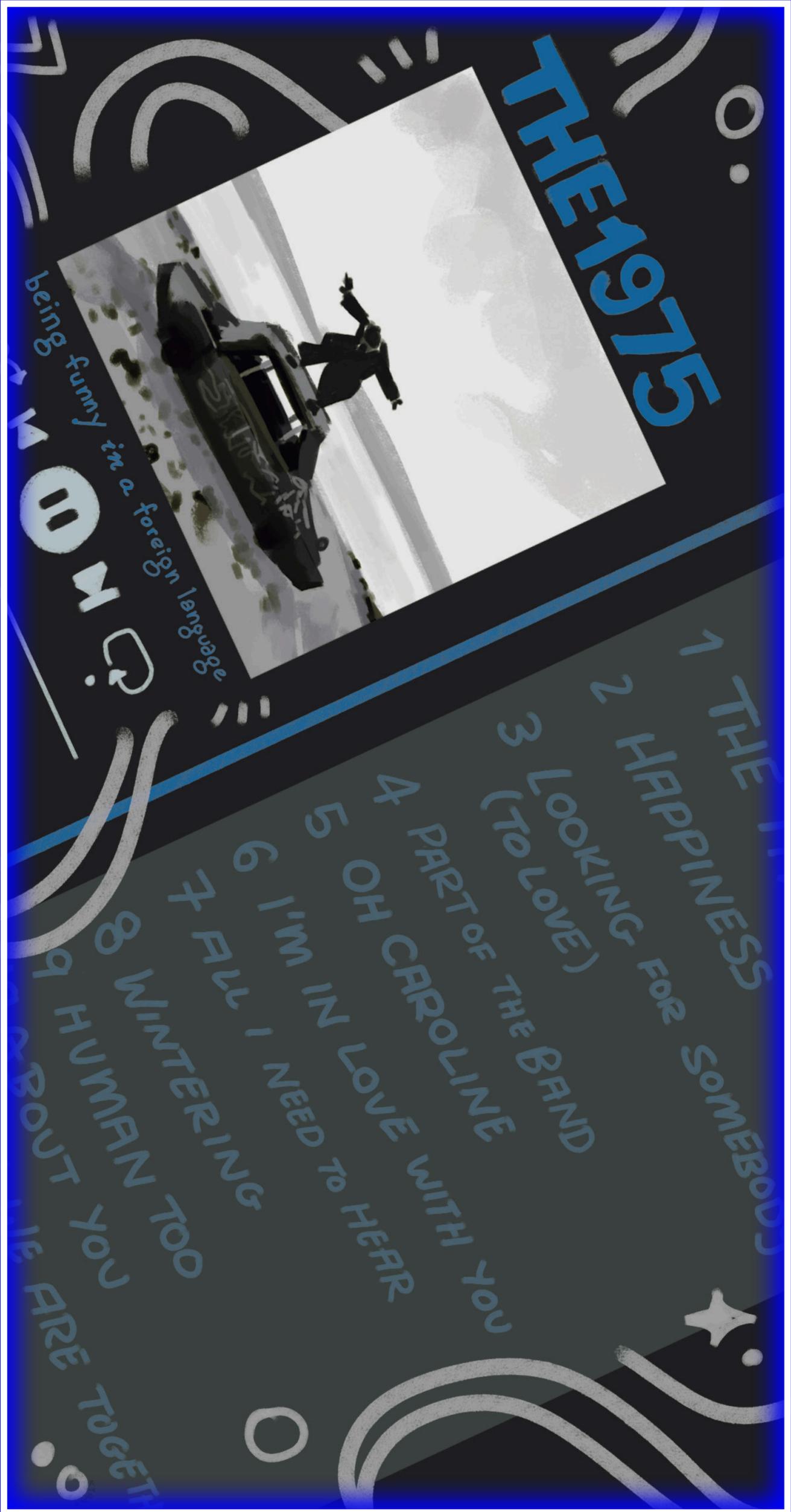


ILLUSTRATION BY KAITLYN TRAN, STAFF ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS



Life

@dailycampuslife

NOAH KAHAN

channels the spirit of New England in his latest album ‘Stick Season’

by **Joanne Biju**
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25-year-old singer Noah Kahan brings about a wave of nostalgia with his third studio album “Stick Season.” The album’s title adopts the term for the transitional period between fall and winter, when leaves have all fallen and trees are left bare-boned; Kahan transports listeners to rural New England, an area well known for its autumnal feel.

“Stick Season” originated when Kahan spent the pandemic returning to his roots in Vermont. Stepping away from the studios of New York City, the album is a departure from his more mainstream songs of the past. Instead, “Stick Season” is a fusion of indie and folk-infused pop, somehow reminiscent of warm apple cider, backyard bonfires and cozy flannel shirts. The album has 14 tracks and not a single one is worth skipping.

The title track, released in July, originally gained traction on TikTok; despite having blown up over the summer, the song embodies the feel of fall. But the song doesn’t just resonate with New England-

ers, it depicts the universal and often isolating feeling of going back to your hometown.

“And I love Vermont, but it’s the season of the sticks and I/Saw your mom, she forgot that I existed,” Kahan sings in a mixture of fondness and regret.

“Orange Juice” and “Strawberry Wine” champion an Edgar Allan Poe-influenced vision of New England — simple and crisp with recurring images of crows and bones.

“No thing defines a man like love that made him soft/and sentimental like a stranger in the park,” Kahan sings poignantly in “Strawberry Wine” — guitar strum ringing true in the background.

“Everything, Everywhere” is a refreshing upward anthem, despite the dark romanticism of the lyrics:

“I wanna love you ‘till we’re food for the worms to eat/”Till our fingers decompose/Keep my hand in yours.”

“Northern Attitude” draws upon the cold contrast between the upbringing and demeanor of New Englanders and inhabitants of other states. “Homesick,” as the title implies, illustrates an unexpected

affection for the land he once grew to hate.

Authentic and raw, “The View Between Villages” perfectly encapsulates the complex feelings that emerge as one drives back home. On a similar note, “Halloween” talks of resurfacing ghosts.

“I’m in the business of losin’ your interest/And I turn a profit each time that we speak,” Kahan cleverly sings in the yearning track “Come Over.”

“All My Love” is down-to-earth, shining as a song of grudge-turned-forgiveness and “She Calls Me Back” makes one want to jump up and down at the thought of potentially reciprocated love.

“This town’s the same as you left it. Your page was blank but I read it. I still dial 822993167,” Kahan sings in the latter, as though watching one’s life unfold from afar.

As someone who rarely ventures outside the realm of pop, Kahan’s album acts as a lovely push toward exploration, teasing at what could be with an open mind. Kahan is currently on his “Stick Season” tour and tickets are sold out at nearly every U.S. venue — a testament to the sheer love felt for the album.



IMAGE VIA FREESVG.ORG

NOAH KAHAN

STICK SEASON



Album cover for Noah Kahan’s new album, “Stick Season”. PHOTO VIA @NOAHKAHAN ON TWITTER



Opinion

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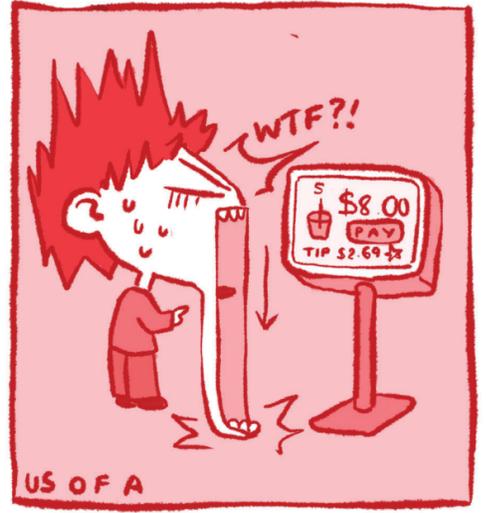
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COMIC BY VAN NGUYEN, STAFF ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

There's nothing wrong with a lack of progression



ILLUSTRATION BY VAN NGUYEN, STAFF ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

by Madeline Papcun
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As I think I've discussed before in my column – though they do all start to run together at a certain point – I am getting better and better at admitting that I used to be an overachiever, and still hold plenty of those tendencies. Truly, the forced removal from society from the initial COVID-19 lockdown in 2020 is the only thing that made me reevaluate how I was spending my time. I struggled to see the point of my busy lifestyle. If so much of the world could seemingly fall apart so quickly, why did it matter if I spent most of my day in class, most of my evening in extracurriculars and then much of the night doing homework? I had little room left in the day for sleep or basic maintenance of my life. It went beyond just an unhealthy way to live – it exhausted me to the point of no return most days.

Thankfully, I can confidently say I have relaxed a tad. I don't do quite as much and I'm happy about that. The fact that it took me so long to chill out might not be surprising, but it is certainly a little disappointing. I clearly remember sitting in my high school AP Language and Composition class, analyzing a political cartoon about the rat race of life. My teacher was trying – with minimal success – to explain to us the concept without painting an entirely bleak picture of our futures. It all felt so weirdly dystopian. If I

was 16 years old then, with a teacher explaining to me that I would always be sprinting ahead without even a jogging break, what did I really have to look forward to in the future? In hindsight, this revelation is nothing new, though it should have made me slow down a little sooner than I did.

I can't even say nowadays that I am not a busy person or that I am a completely reformed overachiever with a lot of down time. In all the things I do, I am always looking months or even years ahead of where I currently am. For example, I might get into one class that I have been excited to take since my freshman year and immediately look into what the class is a prerequisite for and the subsequent classes it will allow me to take next semester. I gain one position and instantly am already looking past it, trying to see where I'm heading next. I never give myself a second to breathe. Even others involved in similar organizations or courses of study will continually ask what I'm looking at next without acknowledgement for my current state of affairs. I'm always running the rat race, looking where I'm going and

completely missing my current surroundings as I sprint by. As of late this has been extremely frustrating.

It's good to look ahead in life. Having a vague idea of where you'd like to end up by the end of this chaotic form of existence is beneficial. Plans are good. General future plans can give one direction, and humans as a species love a sense of purpose. But when you are always looking forward you never end up taking a second to stop and appreciate where you are and where you've come from. It's exhausting.

Literally and metaphorically we cannot run infinitely. The treadmill won't stop unless you take the time to stop running for a second. The race will just continue. You will exhaust all of your energy and resources if you don't sometimes rest and appreciate the work you've put in thus far.

There is nothing wrong with a lack of progression when you're happy with where you are. Not everything has to be a means to an end. It's difficult to find a college student that isn't burnt out – why do we propel this cycle forward by never taking a second to breathe? Some things can wait just a little bit longer.



LOGO BY KAITLYN TRAN, STAFF ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Opinion StudyBreak

Photo of the Day | ACAB



Officer Tildy enjoys a game of fetch on the lawn outside of the student union on the UConn Storrs campus on Tuesday, Oct. 18, 2022.

PHOTO BY EMILY O'BANNON, GRABS PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

The problem with gen-ed courses and why it needs to be fixed

by Grace Sim
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Enrollment appointments are coming up soon at the University of Connecticut, starting Oct. 24. Many students are trying to figure out which classes they should take for the next semester. Along with their major courses, many will have to take general education studies courses, or gen-eds, to fulfill their graduation requirements. Soon, you will find students asking others offline and online about which easy gen-eds they should take and which to avoid.

UConn requires students to take about six credits for each of the four content areas relating to the arts and humanities, an information literacy course, three quantitative competency courses, two writing competency courses, and an environmental literacy course. If you do the math, the minimum amount of credits needed to fulfill general education requirements is 45 credits, or 15 courses. This is excluding the chances of having completed the second language requirement and excluding the four credit courses. Considering that we need at least 120 credits to graduate with a bachelor's degree, gen-eds take about 40% of our college education. This is a large proportion of our time and effort spent ob-

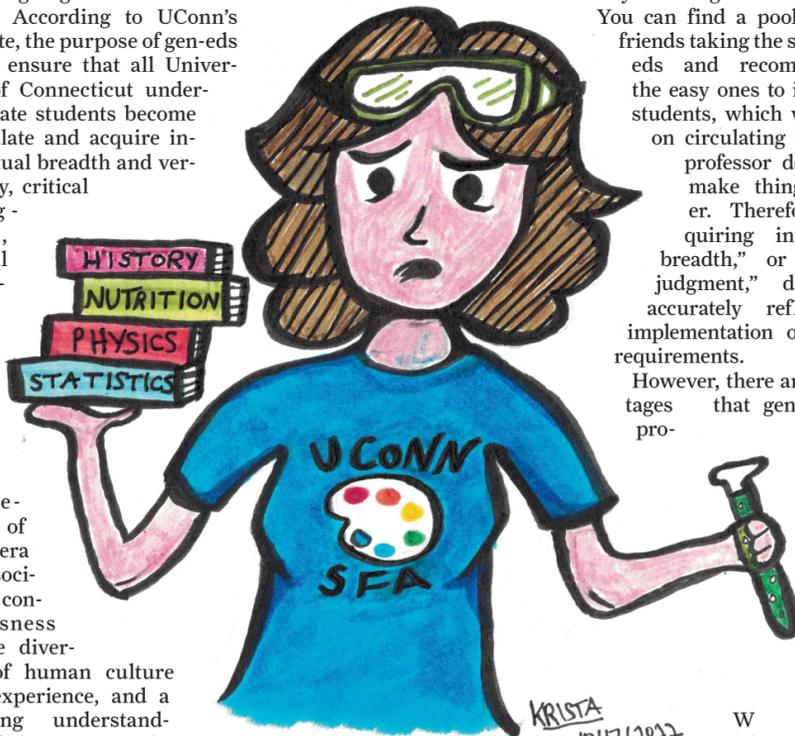
taining a degree, so I think we should make changes, either by reducing the amount of credits or trying to get the most out of them. According to UConn's website, the purpose of gen-eds is "to ensure that all University of Connecticut undergraduate students become articulate and acquire intellectual breadth and versatility, critical judgment, moral sensitivity,

ity,

awareness of their era and society, consciousness of the diversity of human culture and experience, and a working understanding of the processes by which they can continue to acquire and use knowledge." In short, the school states that gen-eds are helpful for us in many aspects. But are they in actuality?

Many gen-eds are not related to specialized majors, so stu-

dents often do not consider gen-eds worth the effort to seriously learn in.



Instead, most students consider gen-eds a GPA booster or just something to get over with as soon as possible. No matter how interesting French history in the 19th century may sound,

if the workload is known to be heavy and the assignments and exams are graded harshly, nobody is willing to take that class.

You can find a pool of your friends taking the same gen-eds and recommending the easy ones to incoming students, which will keep on circulating until the professor decides to make things harder. Therefore, "acquiring intellectual breadth," or "critical judgment," does not accurately reflect the implementation of gen-ed requirements.

However, there are advantages that gen-eds can provide. For example,

W courses teach students basic writing, reading comprehension and critical thinking skills required by many workplaces. By taking gen-eds that differ from their major, students get to explore unfamiliar subjects and discover varying areas of

interest. Thanks to the gen-eds I took during my first year, I learned what subjects were surprisingly interesting to me and which were surprisingly uninteresting. It helped me choose which field of study I wanted to explore deeper by eliminating the subjects I didn't like, thus narrowing my choices. That being the case, it might be true that gen-eds are somewhat useful and can help awaken the potential of many clueless students.

The implementation of gen-eds has merit in a college setting, but UConn should allow more flexibility with the choices students can make regarding which courses count as gen-eds, and further reduce the number of required gen-ed credits. Also, students should not be stressed about the grades they get for their gen-eds. We should be able to choose whatever course we find interesting instead of choosing a gen-ed course just because it is known as an easy-A. Gen-eds should not be as stressful as major courses. I respect schools trying to help students explore and give them a wide range of knowledge over their four years of college. However, we should think about whether this is helping or restricting student choice. As the author Brian Herbert said, "The capacity to learn is a gift. The ability to learn is a skill. The willingness to learn is a choice."

ILLUSTRATION BY KRISTA MITCHELL, ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

by Emma Dutil
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As climate change issues become more prevalent locally and globally, experts suggest collective action towards reaching a 45% net reduction of emissions by 2030 and net zero emissions by 2050. Net zero emissions means that the amount of carbon produced is the same amount being taken out of the atmosphere. In order to reach this ambitious climate goal, everyone needs to partake in the fight for not just clean air, but climate justice, sustainability and climate accountability. In response, 1,050 universities and colleges globally committed to net zero emissions by 2050 at the Glasgow Higher Education Climate Forum on Oct. 28, 2021. However, many argue that the 2050 target lacks the ambition necessary to compete with global goals

for reducing emissions. For example, many universities, including the University of Connecticut, have yet to submit an interim target for outside organizations to assess their progress. UConn should commit to an ambitious plan to decarbonize the campus and stop relying on fossil fuels for energy.

Outside organizations such as the Sierra Club have affirmed UConn's status as a green school, citing new energy efficient buildings and

refillable water bottle stations. Further accolades and awards are outlined by the Office of Sustainability on the

Sustainability in Higher Education. This award was given for various reasons such as UConn's curriculum, campus engagement and water usage. These titles are surely important, however they show only minor actions that green-

wash over larger issues. For example, UConn's energy usage, financial investment and buildings all get low ratings by the AASHE. Furthermore, UConn has yet to tackle its massive carbon footprint of 100,000 metric

tons yearly. It's also important to note that UConn has made some progress in this regard - reducing emissions by 21% since 2007 according to the President's Working Group on Sustainability and the Environment. Although progress has been made, there is still far to go to reach the goal of net-zero emissions. The board of trustees has yet to implement an ambitious and clear plan towards reaching these goals.

One huge cause for concern is the Central Utility Plant or Cogeneration Facility, which uses fossil fuels as a source of energy. The university's website paints the CUP as sustainable by providing a pro-environment section and claiming the plant saves 30,000 CO₂ emissions per year in comparison to the regional energy grid.

FIGHT TO DECARBONIZE UCONN

Why don't college students vote?

by **Youssef Macary**
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In the 2018 midterm election, a study by Tufts University in Massachusetts found the national student voting rate to be 40.3%. This was apparently an improvement however, as it was “double the rate of the last midterm” election in 2014. It’s a sad day when we consider four out of every 10 college students voting to be a good voter turnout rate. These students are supposed to be smart enough to get into college, smart enough to be taking challenging courses and smart enough to be taking difficult assessments, shouldn’t they be smart enough to color in a few circles? Or is there possibly some other reason for the lack of voting? The relatively low percentage of college students voting is certainly an issue and access to voting can help increase these numbers. There are certainly easy steps that can be taken to solve this issue.

The reality is that college students face a unclear situation when it comes to voting. Vote.org indicates that college students have a choice between voting in their hometown, or at their school as they qualify as having dual residency. That being said, most students would likely find it easier to vote at their college as the timing of the election makes it more convenient for them and voting at home may require an absentee ballot. Despite the convenience voting on campus would provide



A student votes on Election Day, Nov. 3, 2020, at the Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building. Author Youssef Macary argues that more access to voting in college could lead to increase participation in elections.

PHOTO BY ERIN KNAPP, PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

to students, “in 2020, 74% of college campuses did not have any in-person voting options on campus.” This leaves students confused as to where to vote, with one option being less convenient and the other

being less accessible for many. Despite these issues, there are a number of solutions that the government and universities can implement to make this process more simple. I would propose that all col-

leges make registering to vote a routine part of their orientation. Given that students at the University of Connecticut already have to go through an extensive list of pre-orientation tasks, why not add

one more item that encourages students to register to vote either in the area where their specific institution is located or in their hometown where they can request an absentee ballot? You shouldn’t force students to do this, but there’s no reason that registering to vote can’t be an item on the UConn pre-orientation checklist clearly marked as optional. This not only reminds students to register to vote in general, but could also list their options regarding voting locations. Universities can provide students with information to help clarify the process and make them aware of their voting options.

The second part of this proposal would call for all universities to ensure that they have a polling location on campus where all students can vote. Students who register to vote on campus could utilize and would benefit from this polling location. Having a polling location on campus not only increases accessibility, but the simple act of others voting in a on campus will likely bring awareness to the voting process. Seeing people physically vote would likely remind and encourage other voters to do the same. Overall, this two-part process informs students of their voting options and then gives them easy access to a polling location. In a nation where the student voter rate is less than half of the total student population, anything that helps make the process easier and more accessible can go a long way to encouraging increased democratic participation.

SATs are a waste of time

by **Anna Heqimi**
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Juniors in high schools all over the United States have either already taken the SAT this year or are intensely preparing for it. The SAT, short for “Scholastic Aptitude Test,” has been a standard for all students in order to apply to their desired university. Even though this requirement has been relaxed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, students aiming to get accepted at Yale, Harvard, Florida State University and many more prestigious colleges are obliged to perform exceedingly well on it. The SAT comprises a reading section, writing and language section, math section and an optional essay. For a shot at entering Yale, a student must earn a 1460 or greater on average, as stated by CollegeSimply. But why should students be tested this way? Often, there are students who perform exceptionally well on reading but fall behind in math or vice versa. This imbalance leads to a lower score

overall, decreasing the chances of students getting accepted to their dream school. What about music majors or art majors who maybe aren’t as passionate or skilled in math and reading but are phenomenally creative? Why does that have to determine their chances in getting into Columbia University or Stanford?

For Maria Carrel Morford, a college student at Shawnee State University, SATs do not measure the full breadth of intelligence different people possess. She discusses how tests are incapable of measuring creativity, passion, dedication, and personality. Intelligence should be measured more widely, including core subjects but not limited to them. Diversity is what makes universities unique and prosperous. Students who are extremely talented in the arts, philosophy or other fields that have no room in prestigious schools if they do not meet the criteria for their SATs. This can unfortunately make some students feel discouraged, less valuable, and that they do not

possess any real talent. The SATs presume an individual is smart if they perform outstandingly in the core subjects.

The SATs also give particular advantage to wealthier students who are typically white. According to Inside Higher Ed, the College Board effectively

Even though [SAT requirements have] been relaxed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, students aiming to get accepted at Yale, Harvard, Florida State University and many more prestigious colleges are obliged to perform exceedingly well on it.

believes that “American society is unfair, while the SAT is fair.” Those that live in impoverished neighborhoods, attend poorly-

funded elementary and secondary schools and are unable to pay for tutors or SAT prep materials are usually students of color. Despite their unfair living and learning conditions, they are still expected to perform as well or better than those that do have sufficient conditions, which could embarrass these students and make them doubt their intelligence and self-worth. Due to their unequal upbringing they have a disadvantage taking the SAT, which then means their chances of getting accepted into their dream school are reduced. Every student has so much potential and is unique and wise in their own way. There is no test that can fairly and accurately determine an individual’s intelligence. On top of that, testing students that have been raised with unequal resources is biased in favor of white and well-off students, ensuring that minorities and financially unstable students are not represented in prestigious colleges.

In order to promote equitable testing for students, colleges

should first understand the life goals and passions of their applicants. A better idea would be to emphasize the Common App and college essays in the acceptance process and de-emphasize the weight of standardized testing. For example, aspiring musicians should showcase any music they have composed originally, and if they play an instrument, how well and smoothly they play it.

Of course, since all majors are unique and difficult in their own respects, each university should have a skilled judging panel for each of the requirements different majors have. They should judge progress and merit holistically. All universities should evaluate students based on their own form of intelligence and talent instead of comparing everyone to the same area of intelligence and neglect other useful skills and knowledge. This way students can dedicate more time to their passions and enhance their natural gifts instead of wasting their time and potential with a testing method that favors privileged students.

DECARBONIZING UCONN

CARBON, cont. from p. 8

However, the website fails to mention the amount of emissions the plant produces. In comparison, when reading the PWGSE, one realizes the importance of replacing the CUP with a regenerative energy source. Switching to renewables not only reduces emissions but also fights the adverse effects of fossil fuels such as sea level rises, water pollution, mining risks and increased health risks. Furthermore, there is evidence that the social costs

of CO2 emissions for future generations have been underestimated, increasing from \$51 per metric tonne of CO2 emissions to \$185 per tonne of CO2. Therefore, switching to renewable energy is more important now than ever before.

Every voice on UConn’s campus matters in our fight to decarbonize the university. When we come together in passion, awareness and persistence, our capabilities are boundless. Climate issues don’t just affect future generations, they are already impacting our lives.

If we don’t act soon, these issues will continue to grow. Students should care about these issues, as we pay to attend the university and can fight for where our tuition is going. Furthermore, Huskies take pride in their school and we should fight to compete with comparable universities making strides toward net zero carbon emissions. On Nov. 4, 2022, there is a climate rally to encourage the administration to take stronger action by implementing the Zero Carbon 2040 plan outlined in the PWGSE and

decommission the Co-Generation Plant on-campus. Show up for your Husky family and future Husky generations by attending the rally on the Student Union lawn. After the rally, the work doesn’t stop - students can continue to fight for the climate after the rally by participating in environmental clubs on campus, setting an example with individual sustainable actions and continuing to advocate for climate action. One of my favorite quotes by an environmental activist on Youtube, Shelbizlee, is, “Do

your best and advocate for the rest”. As a community, we can emphasize to the university that student voices matter, and the climate does too.

As a community we can emphasize to the university that student voices matter, and that the climate does too.

Sports

Photo of the Day | Husky Huddle!



UConn loses to Creighton with 2 sets to 3 at Gampel Pavilion. The game was close with UConn leading 2 sets to 0 before falling behind.

PHOTO BY JORDAN ARNOLD, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER / THE DAILY CAMPUS

Husky History No. 11: Rachel Hill

by Jonathan Synott

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Hello all, and welcome back to Husky History, a new column focusing on one accomplished UConn athlete per week. Each article should detail the athlete's accolades at Connecticut, as well as their ability to take their games to the professional level.

This week's Husky History focuses on women's soccer legend Rachel Hill. Hill has taken her talents through Storrs to the National Women's Soccer League, where she has seen continued success both individually and with her squad. Her story is far from finished though, as she continues to be an inspiration for the next generation of athletes.

Raised by Mike and Cindy Hill in the small New Hampshire town of Rollinsford, Hill saw plenty of competition early on in her life, namely with her brothers Zach and Jake. Being the middle child, she was always looking to one-up her siblings, whether it was on or off the soccer pitch.

"I wanted to do everything that my big brother did, and wanted to do it better than he did," Hill explained. "On the flip side, I never wanted my little brother to beat me out. [There was] definitely constant competition in everything."

Those friendly rivalries at home gave Hill some extra fire, and it showed on the field, as she started working with the U.S. Youth Soccer Olympic Development Program in New Hampshire at an early age. By the time Hill reached high school, she was already one of the top players in the state and wasted no time proving it. When her time was up at Somersworth, the forward held the record for the most goals scored in a career for any New Hampshire high schooler with an astounding 151.

"Coming to the team to start the 2013 season, she easily broke into the lineup, finding herself in the Starting XI in each of the team's 20 games. The forward led the Huskies in goals and assists and had four game-winning goals, making her a huge impact player."

Besides dominating the pitch, Hill took pride in other sports as well, notably playing basketball in the winter and running track for the Hilltoppers in the spring. She explained that it was a great change of pace for her to have such versatility at Somersworth.

"Overall, it gave me excitement and I never got burnt out because it was always onto the next season, I always had something to look forward to," Hill said. "When basketball season came around, I was still playing soccer, but it was like a fresh start in a different sport."

As her high school career wound down, Hill decided to take her talents to UConn, attempting to leave her mark on an already historic program. It's safe to say that she did so quite successfully.

Coming to the team to start the 2013 season, she easily broke into the lineup, finding herself in the Starting XI in each of the team's 20 games. The forward led the Huskies in goals and assists and had four game-winning goals, making her a huge impact player. She was named First Team All-Conference and All-New England for her efforts.

In 2014, Hill picked up right where she left off, taking home American Athletic Conference Offensive Player of the Year, adding five game-winning goals to her résumé. The team saw success as well, winning the conference tournament and a game in the NCAA Tournament.

In her junior year, the New Hampshire native took her tal-

ents to another level, earning herself not only conference Offensive Player of the Year, but All-American honors. Hill was also a semifinalist for the MAC Hermann Trophy, awarded to the top player in NCAA women's soccer. UConn fell short in the conference championship but made the NCAA Tournament at an at-large bid and won two games. Hill scored both goals in a 2-0 win over Notre Dame to advance to the Sweet Sixteen, the first time the program was there since 2007.

Her senior season was just as impressive, as Hill netted another All-American honor and was named a semifinalist for the MAC Hermann Trophy for the second straight year. The Huskies won their second conference title in three years thanks to Hill's game winning goal, and they won yet another game in the NCAA Tournament before falling to Auburn. By the end of her tenure in Storrs, the legend was second in the program all-time in goals scored and fourth in points with 61 and 140, respectively.

"[Playing such a key role in the program] means a lot," Hill stated. "Obviously they have a lot of history there in the soccer program, with the success they've had making it to Final Fours and competing in NCAA Tournaments pretty consistently. It means a lot to be able to continue that legacy that UConn has and the success they've always had there."

After a legendary run at UConn, it was time for Hill to join the professional ranks. She was

selected 14th overall by the Portland Thorns in the 2017 NWSL College Draft in January before getting traded to the Orlando Pride. Wanting to finish out her college degree was vital for Hill, so she signed her contract after graduation in May of that year.

"When I got drafted, I was super excited, but I made sure as soon as it happened that they knew that my priority was to finish school," Hill explained. "I knew if I didn't finish school right then and there when I was in the thick of it I probably never would have gone back and done that. I was very grateful that they understood that it was important to me."

Since then, Hill has been quite busy in the NWSL, playing with the Pride for three years before being traded to the Chicago Red Stars in 2020. She also played loan seasons in both Australia and Sweden, but has spent the majority of her playing time in the U.S. She has accumulated 15 NWSL goals in 67 starts, and recently played in her 100th career game in the league. When asked if it felt like 100 total games in the league, the 27-year-old said this was the first year that she felt older, although she's got plenty left in the tank.

"I think that this year was the first year that I felt like an older player, just because we did have a lot of rookies here this year," remarked Hill. "It doesn't feel like that long, but then again, this year I did start to feel like an older [player]."

When asked about inspirations, Hill stated she didn't really look up to a lot of soc-

cer stars. At that point, the NWSL wasn't founded yet, and leagues like the Women's United Soccer Association and Women's Professional Soccer were rising and falling rather quickly. They didn't have the stability that the NWSL now has, so aside from the World Cup and Olympic Games every few years, Hill didn't have people to look up to. Now, the league has a growing fanbase, and players like Hill have that power to be true role models for young girls and boys across the country.

"It is really special knowing that a lot of us that are playing now didn't have that growing up, so now to be in that position knowing that these little girls and boys are coming to our games every week... when you go over and sign an autograph for them and their face just lights up, it's a really special feeling," explained Hill. "We're building the game up and leaving it better for the next generation."

Hill is now transitioning into the offseason after a 2-1 playoff loss to the San Diego Wave on Sunday. The Husky legend started at right midfield for the Red Stars in the defeat.

Currently, Hill lives in Chicago with one of her teammates. She says that adapting to the city was tough at first after living in New Hampshire and Storrs for most of her life, but has found her place. Hill still keeps in touch with her teammates at UConn, saying that she made "lifelong friends."



ILLUSTRATION BY KAITLYN TRAN, STAFF ARTIST / THE DAILY CAMPUS

Men's Soccer: Huskies look to tame Wildcats in midweek tilt

by Nick Spinali
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Following a 1-1 draw with the Marquette Golden Bears on Saturday, the UConn men's soccer team will look to return to the win column during a midweek tilt with the Villanova Wildcats on Wednesday.

Connecticut had won two out of their last three contests before Saturday's tie. Following a five-game winless stretch earlier this season in which the Huskies were hit with the bad luck both on the pitch and health-wise, the team has responded strongly and has managed to tally a couple of wins over the recent weeks. The team has gone 2-1-1 in their last four games, outscoring their opponents 6-5 in the process. Their one loss, a 0-1 deficit to the Seton Hall Pirates, saw the team play a tough 90 minutes on defense to limit a strong Seton Hall offense. Despite the team's middling record, Connecticut has done a great job of creating opportunities on offense. The team has simply been unable to take advantage of them.

"[I was] disappointed in the result, but happy with the performance" head coach Chris Gbandi said after the tie versus Marquette. "Going down a goal on the road, to fight back and ... almost have a chance to win [the game] I think shows a lot of character and shows the character of the group. They're willing to fight and not give in."

The Huskies (4-6-2) had their ups and downs in their latest matchup with the Golden Bears, allowing their opponent to get off to quick starts in both halves, though the team made the necessary adjustments to hold Marquette's attack in check. After falling behind 0-1 on a score by Marquette's Mitar Mitrovic, Connecticut rebounded with a breakaway in the 68th minute. Soren Ilsoe threaded a through ball to Okem Chime, who dribbled the ball to the front of the Golden Eagles' net before dumping the ball back off to the trailing Ilsoe. His shot was deflected, though Scott Testori was to secure the rebound, tapping the ball back into the unguarded net and knotting the score at 1-1. The goal was Testori's third of the season and would be the final point tallied by either side.

UConn has been led on offense by two key players. One, graduate student Franz Pierrot, has been responsible for a majority of his team's shot attempts. A transfer from Merrimack College in his first season as a Husky, Pierrot has attempted 32 shots this season, six more than number two Mateo Leveque and 19 ahead of third-place Soren. He's been responsible for filling the void left by attacker Moussa Wade, one of Connecticut's primary ball-handlers, who has been unavailable due to injury. In addition to shots, Pierrot currently leads the Huskies in shot-on-goal (14), is tied for first in goals (three) and is tied for sec-

ond in points (seven). Though he's amongst his team's leaders in most major offensive statistics, Pierrot has been on a bit of a personal cold streak as his last point came five contests ago versus Butler. The forward will aim to get back on track against the Wildcats.

The other key player for Connecticut's offense has been the second-year standout Testori. After a solid freshman campaign, Testori has evolved over the course of this season to become one of the Huskies' main attackers on offense. He is currently tied with Pierrot for the team lead in goals, and is also tied with his teammate for second in points. He's attempted only nine shots on the campaign, though seven of those shots have been on-goal, meaning that he's been ultraefficient in his shot placement. He's recorded goals in two of the Huskies' previous four games, as he also found the back of the net on Oct. 5 against Providence. He'll look to continue his hot streak in his squad's upcoming game.

Villanova (5-6-2), like the Huskies, have been a middling team during the regular season. The Wildcats were projected to finish 6th amongst the 11 Big East teams this season according to the Preseason Coaches' Poll and have played relatively true to that estimate, as they currently sit in the No. 7 spot in the conference. The team is currently in the midst of a three-game losing streak, falling to Xavier, Butler and Georgetown, respectively.



UConn men's soccer triumphs over Providence 3-2 with a tie breaking goal in the 89th minute on Wednesday, Oct. 5, 2022 at Morrone Stadium. The goals were scored by Eli Conway (23), Mateo Leveque (8) and Scott Testori (21) respectively.

PHOTO BY IZZI BARTON, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

The Wildcats found themselves down 3-0 at halftime, but goals from Balthi Saunders and Brendan Jones narrowed the deficit to one. The effort ultimately proved to be too little, too late, though the strong response was a positive takeaway for a team that had been struggling to put points on the board.

The Wildcats will be led by senior forward Lyam MacKinnon. A native of Lausanne, Switzerland, last season, MacKinnon produced the most goals by a Wildcat (eight) since Sean Sheridan produced the same amount in 2015. That year, he was also a perfect 5-of-5 on penalty kicks, including the one he scored in the first

half against Vermont on Nov. 18 that was the difference in the Wildcats' first-ever NCAA Tournament victory. As a result of his performance, he was named to the second team All-Big East. The forward leads his team in goals (five), shot attempts (34) and shots-on-goal (15), and is second on his team in points (11). He'll look to lead his offense in what should be a tough road matchup against an evolving Huskies program.

Kick-off is scheduled for 3 p.m. at the Higgins Soccer Complex in Villanova, Pennsylvania. The game can be streamed online using FloSports, with live updates provided by Stat-Broadcast.

Volleyball: Early doubleheader for Huskies at Gampel

by Xander Serrano
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Big East matchups continue as the UConn volleyball team welcomes Providence on Wednesday and Butler on Friday as the Huskies look to extend their three-game win streak.

No game is guaranteed for this Connecticut squad, as every team will have some talent to pressure them. The Providence Friars had a recent 3-2 win over Georgetown. Sophomore Brielle Mullally and freshman Sammie Ruggles each had a double-double in the victory. Ruggles also finished this match with 29 assists and comes into Gampel with a chip on her shoulder, ready to dominate. Junior Mackenzie Taylor performed well in this match, finishing with 16

digs. Taylor is 11 digs away from being placed third on the Friar all-time career list with a career total of 1,588. She is an essential piece to this Friar offense. Providence is recently coming off a 3-1 Villanova loss on Saturday. Despite the loss, Mullally put up a double-double with 11 kills and 23 assists. Sophomore Kayla Grant gave it her all on the defensive side with four blocks and nine kills. Providence is currently 10-9 overall and 2-5 in the Big East.

The next matchup for the Huskies will be the Butler Bulldogs. UConn will face them this Friday. Butler had a 3-1 win over Seton Hall and is recently coming off a loss against St. John's this past weekend. Against Seton Hall, the Junior libero Jaymesan Kinley put up 20+ digs for the 11th time this season. Reigning

Big East Freshman of the Week, Cara Taylor had 36 assists in the victory. Taylor also had 10 digs in the win against the Pirates for her eighth double-double. The young player is someone to look out for against the Huskies.

In the 3-0 loss versus St. John's on Sunday afternoon, Butler had their three-game winning streak snapped. Sophomore Amina Shackelford had a team of 10 kills in the loss for the Bulldogs while also having a career-high eight digs.

The Huskies are having a mediocre season, but their recent wins show some promise to turn things around with these upcoming matchups. Senior Jasmine Davis led UConn toward this win as she had 14 kills on a .565 hitting percentage. Connecticut held the Hoyas to a .011 hitting percentage in the sweep



Senior Allie Garland (17) played defense to help support her team against Creighton. UConn lost against Creighton with the final score being 2-3.

PHOTO BY JORDAN ARNOLD, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

and had 44 kills compared to Georgetown's 20. Seniors Madi Whitmire and Karly Berklund will hopefully continue to be the leaders this team needs to continue their success.

The games will be streamed on FloSports. The first matchup of the week will begin Oct. 19 at 7 p.m. against Providence, and the second will start on Oct. 21 at 6:30 p.m. against Butler.

Around the Northeast CFB: Penn State falls in top-10 clash; Syracuse undefeated heading into Death Valley

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Week 7 was one of the best weeks so far in college football, with two top-25 matchups including Northeast college football teams. Let's look at the scores from this past weekend.

No. 10 Penn State no longer undefeated in blowout loss to No. 5 Michigan, 41-17

In a noon top-10 matchup between Michigan and Penn State, the Wolverines ran for 418 yards at the Big House, including two incredible 166+ yard performances from Donovan Edwards and Blake Corum, who combined for four rushing touchdowns. Despite the offense fumbling twice and quarterback J.J. McCarthy throwing an interception, Michigan's offense was dominant. Penn State could not keep up with the scoring Michigan had on offense, with only one touchdown scored, run in by Kaytron Allen. The other touchdown came on a 47-yard pick-six by Curtis Jacobs, and Jake Pinegar kicked a 27-yard field goal to bring the Nittany Lions' total to 17 points. It's a white-out night game this Saturday, as Penn State hosts Minnesota.

No. 18 Syracuse dominates No. 15 NC State, staying undefeated in 24-9 win

Running back Sean Tucker was pleased with his perfor-

mance as the Orange blew out the Devin Leary-less Wolfpack, 24-9. Tucker had 114 all-purpose yards, with a rushing touchdown to finish the day. Quarterback Garrett Shrader passed for 210 yards and two touchdowns on 16-for-25 passing. Despite two interceptions thrown by Shrader, he passed both touchdowns to Oronde Gadsen II, who racked up 141 receiving yards. Without preseason ACC Player of the Year Devin Leary, NC State had trouble scoring, as all nine points were scored on field goals by kicker Christopher Dunn. Syracuse's next game is their toughest yet, as they have an undefeated top-15 battle in Death Valley against the No. 5 Clemson Tigers at noon.

Buffalo dominates on the road against UMass, 34-7

Buffalo quarterback Cole Snyder shined in the Bulls' blowout victory against UMass, passing for 277 yards and three touchdowns on 20-for-31 passing. Despite throwing two interceptions and Quian Williams fumbling, Buffalo got the job done. There were no turnovers for the Minutemen, but they lacked a reliable scoring offense. The top offensive player was running back Ellis Merriweather, who scored the only touchdown UMass had in the game. They were able to force two interceptions, but could not capitalize on their drives. What's upsetting

is that the Minutemen were not able to get in field goal range, giving kicker Cameron Carson nothing to work for. As the Bulls are one game above .500, they head back home from Amherst to host Toledo on Saturday afternoon, while UMass heads on their bye week in preparation for New Mexico State at home on Oct. 29.

Army blows out Colgate at home, 42-17

Both teams searched for their second win of the season as Colgate traveled to West Point to face Army. It was quite the Army victory on Saturday, as the Black Knights combined for 467 rushing yards and six touchdowns. That includes Jemel Jones rushing for 113 yards and two scores, including a 75-yard run. On defense, Army recovered a fumble and picked off Colgate quarterback Michael Brescia. Brescia was responsible for both touchdowns on Saturday, passing one to Treyvohn Saunders and taking one to the end zone on the ground. Brescia had 207 all-purpose yards and an interception in the loss. The Raiders will host Georgetown at noon on Saturday, while Army hosts Louisiana-Monroe in search of their second consecutive win.

Yale routs Bucknell to keep Bison winless, 29-9

Bucknell is among the worst teams at the FCS level, with a 0-6 start. What was unfortu-



Michigan running back Blake Corum (2) runs the ball as Penn State linebacker Curtis Jacobs (23) chases in the first half of an NCAA college football game in Ann Arbor, Mich., Saturday, Oct. 15, 2022.

PHOTO BY PAUL SANCYA/AP

nate for the Bison is that Yale quarterback Nolan Grooms threw four interceptions and lost a fumble, and Bucknell could only score once. Bison running back Rushawn Baker carried 20 times for 113 yards and the lone touchdown. Grooms was responsible for all four touchdowns, one in the air and three on the ground. He scrambled for 95 yards as

he was the top rusher on the Bulldogs. The only passing touchdown was to David Pantelis, who finished the day with eight receptions for 106 yards. The Bulldogs, with a record of 4-1, return to their Ivy League schedule as they will travel to historic Franklin Field to face the Penn Quakers. The winless Bison will travel to face Lehigh at noon on Saturday.



Sports

Evan's Take: Big East Media Day's storylines

by **Evan Rodriguez**
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In 2022, the Big East is certainly looking different. With new coaches, exciting transfers and more, all signs point to another incredible season of college basketball in the Big East. However, before another season of college basketball, it was time for another Big East Media Day to kickoff. Whether it was UConn basketball or another institution, there were plenty of interesting stories to look out for ahead of the 2022-23 season.

A Georgetown guard with a Connecticut connection

The battle for the starting point guard spot for the Hoyas has been very competitive. One of the newest transfers for the Hoyas is a part of that battle and he happens to have a connection with Connecticut.

Amir "Primo" Spears played high school basketball at Windsor High School and grew up in Hartford, Connecticut. He was a two time GametimeCT all-state selection and averaged 20 points and 10 assists in his senior season. He was even better in his junior season, averaging 25.3 points and 9.3 assists.

When it came to make the jump to college basketball, Spears chose the Duquesne Dukes. During his time with the Dukes, Spears averaged 12.7 on 32.7 minutes per game. The guard showed the ability to be a high-scoring threat in college basketball, and while he does have some skills to work on like being a more efficient three point shooter, the skills are certainly there for Spears to improve under a coach like Patrick Ewing.

When asked about what Spears brings to the table for the Hoyas, Ewing had high praise for his new sophomore transfer, saying, "I love what he's done. He's been playing extremely well. He can do a lot of different things. He's an outstanding passer. He can defend the basketball. He can make every pass. I'm looking forward to see how good we're going to be with him on our team."

With plenty of games for Spears in Connecticut and in a new role with the Hoyas, he'll certainly be a guy that Big East fans should want to keep their eye on.

Puerto Rico in the Big East

It's a homecoming for Andre Curbello in 2022. When the former Illinois guard moved from his home in Puerto Rico to New York, he enrolled at Long Island Lutheran High School, 20 miles away from his current campus at St. John's University. He impressed as a four-star recruit and eventually committed to Illinois, where he struggled in his time.

After entering the transfer portal, he returned to the Big Apple as a member of St. John's, where he's already began to work on having a great rebound season in his sophomore year. Coach Mike Anderson is certainly seeing Curbello settle into his role early.

"I think our guys have welcomed him with open arms. One thing about Andre is that he's a very personal guy, so that makes that transition a whole lot easier."

When asked about the connection between Curbello and fellow Puerto Rican teammate Rafael Pinson, Anderson said that the general team chemistry beyond their relationship has made major leaps.

"This team here is a lot closer. They're spending more time together," said Anderson.

In Pinson's case, he's looking to get even better in year two. Now that he's joined by his former high school teammate in Curbello, Anderson has seen the progression in Pinson's game.

"Rafael has got stronger. He's healthier. I think that's the biggest thing. I'm really excited for him. I think he gets a chance to showcase what he brings to the table. A guy that's 6'6", can handle the basketball, can score and can distribute it. He's got what I call moxie. We always talk about guys that have toughness and grit, but he's got moxie and I think that bodes well for him," said Anderson.

For the Red Storm, they'll have two players with tremendous upside that are ready to show everything they've got on the court. It will be even better knowing they'll both be representing the area of Puerto Rico well on the Division I level.

Shaka Smart is ready for year 2

After former Marquette Golden Eagles coach Steve Wojciechowski was fired in 2021 after missing the NCAA tournament, the team opted for Smart. He'd shown that he had the talent to coach at the Division I level at Texas where he'd led the Longhorns to multiple NCAA tournament berths.

But the Golden Eagles were a new challenge and Smart was tasked to take Marquette to the next level. In his first season with the team, he's off to a great start. After leading the team to its first tournament berth since 2019, Smart and the Golden Eagles are looking to do even better in year two of Smart's tenure as head coach.

In year two, what is the team's biggest improvement not only with the head coach, but also with the entire team?

"Presence," said Smart. "Just being more in the moment, being grateful for the moment and being grateful for each other. We need that presence on the court too. It's huge. We really emphasize being lost in the fight and you can't do that if you're not present."

With so many stars in the Big East such as Adama Sanogo and Posh Alexander, there are bound to be some surprises from players that were overlooked going into this season. Smart believes that one of those players is junior Oso Ighodaro. Coming off a season where he averaged 5.5 points, 3.3 rebounds and 0.9 blocks, the second-year head coach believes that he's a guy that needs to be scouted when playing the Golden Eagles.

"What they're saying about him based on the past is different than what they'll see from him in the game. Now the way basketball works after we've played a handful of games, they watch this year's games. But, he will definitely surprise some people," said Smart.

Ahead of the 2022-23 season, the Golden Eagles will have plenty to prove after the Big East



Women's basketball head coach **Geno Auriemama** sits for interviews at the Big East Media Day at Madison Square Garden on Tuesday, October 18, 2022. The Media Day events began at 9:30 a.m. for the men's teams and 12:30 p.m. for the women's.

PHOTOGRAPH BY ERIN KNAPP, PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS



Junior **Aaliyah Edwards**, a forward player for the UConn womens basketball team, answers interview questions at the Big East Media Day at Madison Square Garden on Tuesday, Oct. 18, 2022. The Media Day began at 12:30 p.m. for the women's teams.

PHOTOGRAPH BY ERIN KNAPP, PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Preseason Coaches' Poll placed them at ninth. But, if there's anything for certain, they've got a talented coach with plenty of pieces to make noise in a competitive Big East conference.

UConn wants to stop the Bluejays

For UConn captain Andre Jackson, he's got one team that he wants to beat more than any other in the Big East.

"Creighton," said Jackson. "We never beat them. I've never beat them while I was here and this year I feel like this is the team. We have to beat Creighton. Me and Adama [Sanogo] talk about it every day. Me and Hawk talk about it every day. Creighton is definitely at

the forefront of my mind right now."

Anyone who watched UConn basketball last season saw one repetitive trend, and that was the team's inability to get past Creighton. If it was difficult to get past the Bluejays in Big East play last season, it's going to be an even tougher battle now.

The team returns a big three of Ryan Kalkbrenner, Arthur Kaluma and Ryan Nembhard. They all pose high scoring threats and with the departure of Ryan Hawkins, their numbers will certainly be getting even better. That's all without mentioning additions to the roster like Baylor Scheierman, one of the top players in the transfer portal over the offseason.

However, even with the Blue-

jays at the top of the Big East Coaches' Preseason Poll, Jackson says beating Creighton stands as a top priority for him this season.

"I just want to beat them cause they beat us. It's not really about the numbers or rankings. It's just I don't want to lose. If we all just had it our way, we would win every single game. Nobody wants to lose," Jackson said.

With the Huskies' first matchup against the Blue Jays on Jan. 7, it's undoubtedly going to be one of the best games of the season to watch. Jackson will have the help of the Husky faithful at Gampel Pavillion to take down the top foe in the Big East this season. Regardless of the outcome, it's clear that Jackson wants to turn the tide of history more than ever.

WHAT TO KEEP AN EYE ON THIS WEEK

UConn SCOREBOARD



2 vs. 1

Field Hockey
Sunday

Upcoming Games

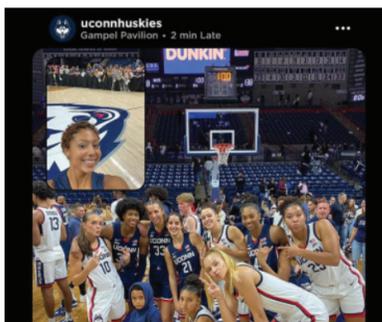


Men's Soccer, 3 p.m. Today
Storrs, Conn



Volleyball, 7 p.m. Today
Storrs, Conn

INSTAGRAM OF THE DAY



@uconnstudents
Time to BeReal at First Night
#BleedBlue

TWEETS OF THE DAY



Golden State Warriors

@warriors
The Bay's team is back at it. It's go time. #DubNation

UConn Men's Basketball

@UConnMBB
The @BIGEASTMBB Preseason Player of the Year: Adama Sanogo #ThisIsUConn

NFL

@NFL
6 TDs for @Austinekeler in his last 3 games

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