



Connecticut State News



PHOTO COURTESY OF UNSPLASH

by **Toriana Grooms**
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DELIVERY DRIVER'S DOG REPORTED MISSING AFTER BEING INSIDE STOLEN CAR

A delivery driver's beloved pet dog was reported missing following a carjacking incident in Middletown, Connecticut Sunday evening. Fortunately, the stolen car was equipped with OnStar technology, which played a key role in locating the vehicle and the perpetrator. Investigators used the car's OnStar system to track it down and later deactivate it. When the car pulled into Cromwell, they were able to stop the vehicle remotely. The driver, later identified to be 19 years old, led police on a short car chase where he reportedly violated several state laws. The driver was eventually arrested and is being held on a \$100,000 bond and he is scheduled to appear in court this Monday. Police were unable to find the dog.

The dog, named Luna, is friendly and up-to-date on her vaccines. Middletown Police encourage anyone who sees her to contact them or animal control. She was last seen wearing a pink and white collar and is assumed to be near Main Street and Pameacha Avenue in Middletown, Conn.

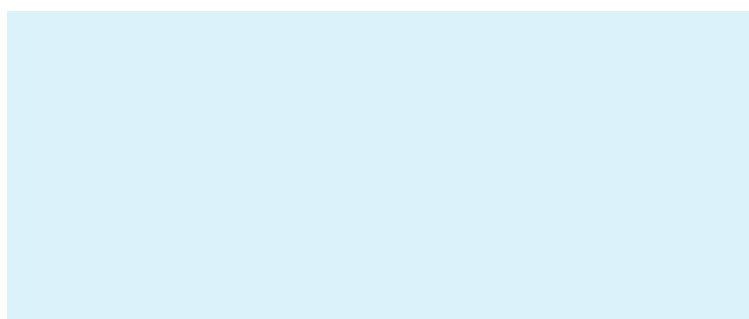


PHOTO COURTESY OF UNSPLASH

CONNECTICUT IS JOINING MULTI-STATE LAWSUIT AGAINST AMAZON

Connecticut Attorney General William Tong announced on Tuesday that Connecticut is joining the Federal Trade Commission and a collective of 16 other state attorneys in a lawsuit against Amazon for illegal monopolistic conduct. Tong stated that "this will be a huge fight," against the massive retail corporation but he hopes the outcome will benefit small businesses and consumers.

The lawsuit claims that Amazon employs "a set of interlocking anticompetitive and unfair strategies to illegally maintain its monopoly power."

Amazon has made it increasingly difficult for third-party sellers to attract buyers in the Amazon marketplace. Tong's written statement addresses that this unlawful monopoly hinders competition, lowers the quality of consumer goods, permits Amazon to "wield [its] monopoly power" to increase prices, punishes competitors for undercutting Amazon's prices and places pricey fees on small online businesses. Tong notably points out that Amazon's misconduct is similar to that of a casino, "no matter what sellers do, the house—Amazon—always wins."

CONNECTICUT STATE POLICE TROOPER ARRESTED FOR INVOLVEMENT IN AN ON-DUTY CAR CRASH ON CHRISTMAS DAY IN CLINTON, CONN

A Connecticut State Police Trooper Daniel Barrera was arrested for reckless driving on Monday afternoon for his involvement in an on-duty car crash in Clinton, Connecticut. Following his arrest, his police powers were suspended and he was put on paid administrative duty. On Tuesday, Barrera was arraigned in Middletown's Superior Court with a new court date of Nov. 6.

During the event on Dec. 25, 2022, Barrera - a trooper of 18 months at the time of the incident - ran through two red lights while speeding and crashed into a Toyota Rav 4 SUV containing a female driver and her mother after a report of a potentially sui-

cidal person in Durham. The crash took place at the intersection of West Main Street and Hull Street at approximately 6 p.m. The vehicle's passengers faced "serious injuries" according to Clinton Corporal Spencer Mangs and needed to be extricated from the car. The woman driving had a green light and claimed she had no indication of Barrera passing by. While state law allows officers to drive at accelerated speeds and run red lights and stop signs while on duty, this can only be done after slowing down, checking one's surroundings, and paying "due regard for the safety of all persons and property."

"...This unlawful monopoly hinders competition, lowers the quality of consumer goods, permits Amazon to 'wield [its] monopoly power' to increase prices, punishes competitors for undercutting Amazon's prices and places pricey fees on small online businesses."

TORIANA GROOMS

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Tweet of the Day

CBesh 2: The Reckoning
[@CBeshJr](#)

You know basketball is right around the corner when UConn and Providence start ramping up the shit talk. Love it

News

California governor signs law raising taxes on guns and ammunition to pay for school safety

(AP) — California will ban people from carrying firearms in most public places while doubling the taxes on guns and ammunition sold in the state under two new laws Gov. Gavin Newsom signed Tuesday that will test the limits of the U.S. Supreme Court's new standard for interpreting the Second Amendment.

The federal government already taxes the sale of guns and ammunition at either 10% or 11%, depending on the type of gun. The law Newsom signed adds another 11% tax on top of that — making California the only state with a separate tax on guns and ammunition, according to the gun control advocacy group Brady.

The money will pay for security improvements at public schools and a variety of gun violence prevention programs, including those geared toward young people in gangs. The money from the federal tax, which has been in place for more than 100 years, pays for wildlife conservation and hunter education programs.

The laws were some of nearly two dozen gun control measures Newsom signed on Tuesday. But he acknowledged many of these laws might not survive legal challenges now that the U.S. Supreme Court has imposed a new standard on interpreting the nation's gun laws. Just last week, a federal judge struck down a California law banning guns with detachable magazines that carry more than 10 rounds — one of three major pending cases challenging California's gun restrictions.

"It may mean nothing if the federal courts are throwing them out," Newsom said. "We feel very strongly that these bills meet the (new standard), and they were drafted accordingly. But I'm not naive about the recklessness of the federal courts and the ideological agenda."

The California Rifle and Pistol Association has already sued to block one new law Newsom signed on Tuesday that bans people from carrying guns in most public places. The law overhauls the state's rules for concealed car-

ry permits in light of the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *New York State Rifle and Pistol Association v. Bruen*.

It specifically bans people from carrying guns in 26 places, including public parks and playgrounds, public demonstrations and gatherings, amusement parks, churches, banks, zoos and "any other privately owned commercial establishment

president beyond 2024 — has a reputation as one of the country's most liberal governors. But he has often refused to raise taxes, even for causes he supports like combating climate change. However, Newsom said he viewed this tax differently than the other general increases he tends to oppose. He argued that gun violence already costs taxpayers a lot of money

No other state has a special tax just for guns and ammunition, although some local governments do. Tennessee once had a 10-cent tax on shotgun shells, but that tax was repealed in 2019. Pennsylvania collects a \$3 surcharge on gun sales to pay for background checks. Fees on California gun purchases currently total more than \$37, with most of that money paying for background checks.

Grant Program. The program has funded projects targeting young people in gangs, including sports programs, life coaching and tattoo removal.

The next \$50 million would go to the State Department of Education to boost security at public schools. That includes things like physical security improvements, safety assessments, after-school programs for at-risk students and mental and behavioral health services for students, teachers and other school employees.

That brought comfort to state Sen. Catherine Blake-spear, a Democrat from San Diego, who said she was on the Senate floor earlier this year when she got a text message from her ninth-grader saying they were hiding under their desk. No one was injured.

"I know that there are thousands of families that are going through this and normalizing the hardening of our schools," she said. "The reality that we have to protect people by doing things like that is something that we don't want in this state and in this country."

"I know that there are thousands of families that are going through this and normalizing the hardening of our schools... The reality that we have to protect people by doing things like that is something that we don't want in this state and in this country."

SENATOR CATHERINE

BLAKESPEAR



California Gov. Gavin Newsom speaks to reporters at Del Mar Fairgrounds on Feb. 18, 2022, in Del Mar, Calif. Newsom signed a law, Tuesday, Sept. 26, 2023, raising taxes on gun and ammunition sales to pay for school safety and violence prevention.

FILE PHOTO/AP NEWS

that is open to the public" unless the owner puts up a sign saying guns are allowed.

"These laws will not make us safer. They are an unconstitutional retaliatory and vindictive response to the Supreme Court's affirmation that the Second Amendment protects an individuals' right to choose to own a firearm for sport or to defend your family," said Chuck Michel, president of the California Rifle and Pistol Association. "They are being challenged, and the second they are signed, the clock starts ticking towards a judgment striking them down."

Newsom — a potential Democratic candidate for

in health impacts and in the criminal justice system.

"I think this is a pretty modest investment in prevention and reducing those costs, ultimately," he said, later adding, "The carnage, it's too much. We can't normalize it, we can't accept it. This is a small price to pay."

California has some of the lowest gun death rates in the country, ranking 43rd out of 50 states with 9 deaths for every 100,000 people, according to 2021 data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. But violent crimes have increased recently. The violent crime rate increased by 6.1% in 2022, according to the California Department of Justice.

"Taxing firearm sales to fund violence intervention programs is essential to interrupting the cycle of violence and stopping gun violence before it begins, and we encourage other states to follow suit," said Kris Brown, president of Brady.

The tax has some exceptions. It would not apply to police officers and it would not apply to businesses with sales of less than \$5,000 over a three-month period. State officials estimate it would generate about \$159 million annually.

The law says the first \$75 million of that money must go to the California Violence Intervention and Prevention

The Daily Campus

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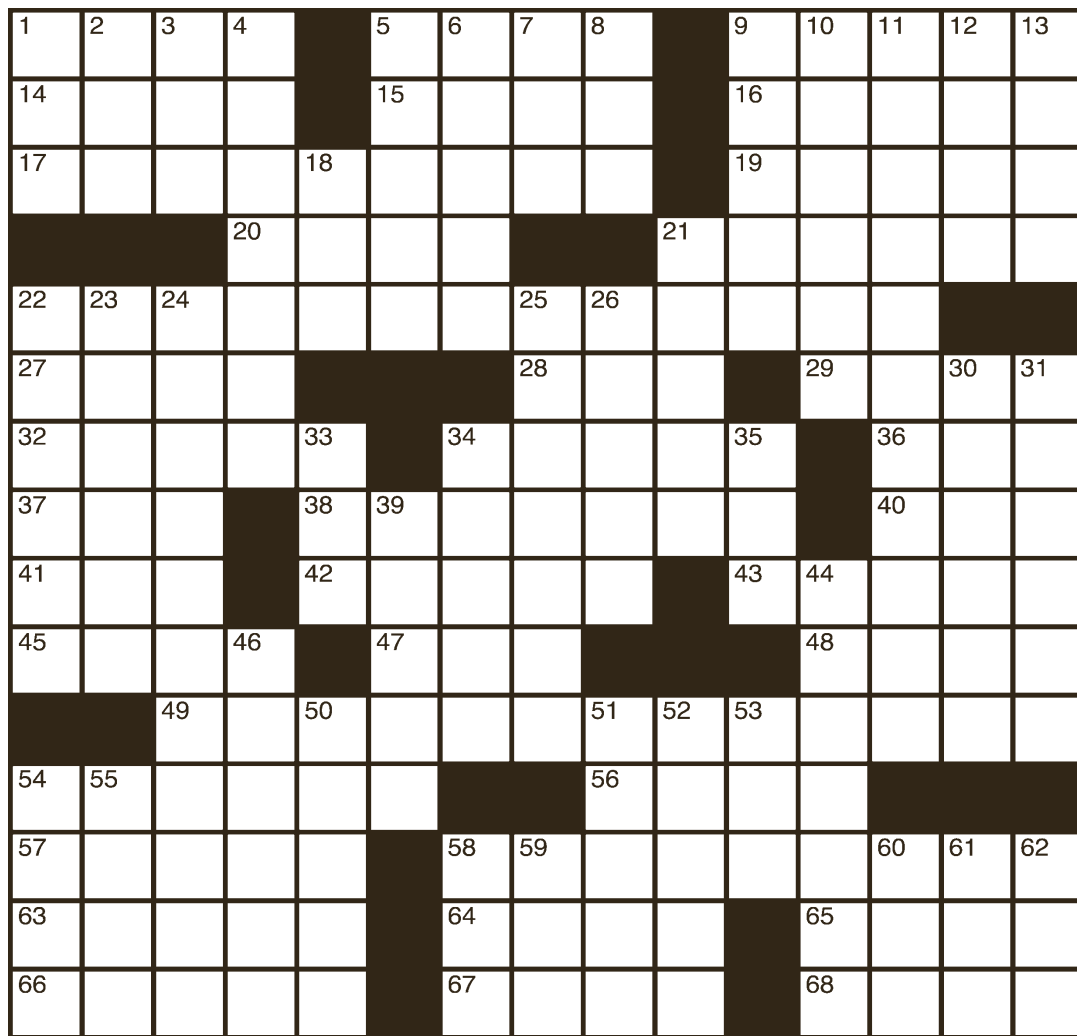
THE DAILY CAMPUS CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Flowerbox place
- 5 Hubbub
- 9 Use a 26-Down
- 14 Nabisco cookie
- 15 Gallant one
- 16 Wonder Woman's rope
- 17 *Ray Winstone/ Ben Kingsley crime drama
- 19 "Touch of Evil" director Welles
- 20 Some remote batteries
- 21 Bacon pieces
- 22 *Period of anxiety that may be brought on by facing one's mortality
- 27 Apartment, say
- 28 "You ___ to be there"
- 29 Put away
- 32 Some DVD players
- 34 Assessed, with "up"
- 36 Actor Vigoda
- 37 Vampire vaporizer
- 38 Fashionable, or an apt description of the ends of the answers to the starred clues
- 40 Not gross
- 41 Examine critically
- 42 Waffle
- 43 First few pages of many books
- 45 Feudal laborer
- 47 Neither's partner
- 48 Japanese noodle
- 49 *Folded missile in a classroom
- 54 Parking spots
- 56 "Agreed!"
- 57 Eagle's perch
- 58 *Spot to store valuables when traveling
- 63 Pertaining to birth
- 64 Disney snowman
- 65 "___ go brag!"
- 66 Do up, as hair
- 67 Guitar tuners
- 68 Lean (toward)

DOWN

- 1 "Help!" letters
- 2 Anger



By John Guzzetta

9/27/23

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

C	O	O		F	I	D	O		S	T	A	C	K	S	
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9/27/23

- 3 Supervillain Luthor who co-founded the Injustice League
- 4 Faithfulness
- 5 Bundle of harvested grain
- 6 Poke fun at
- 7 Org. with many auditors
- 8 Spoil
- 9 Casino machines
- 10 Vice president Kamala
- 11 Prosecutor's deputy, for short
- 12 Initials on a brandy bottle
- 13 Ages upon ages
- 18 "Wow at first sip" brand
- 21 Allied (with)
- 22 Dishevels, as hair
- 23 Senator for whom Honolulu's airport is named
- 24 Occasion to use the good china
- 25 Fire-breathing Greek monster
- 26 Stubble remover
- 30 "A Midsummer Night's Dream" king
- 31 Slobbery kiss

- 33 Watched
- 34 Really relish
- 35 "Agnus ___"
- 39 Features of a bowling alley
- 44 Mathematical void symbolized by { }
- 46 Treatment that may involve a peel
- 50 "Nope" writer/director Jordan
- 51 Luggage label
- 52 Hangouts for some schools?
- 53 Friend
- 54 Without
- 55 Organic fuel
- 58 Short jump
- 59 Copa Mundial cheer
- 60 What "will be" will be
- 61 Sign of a shark
- 62 Goal

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After about a decade, Chef Gordon Ramsay has brought back his popular reality show "Kitchen Nightmares" where he aims to turn away from dysfunctional restaurants on the brink of disaster. The eighth season premiered on Fox on Monday, Sept. 25 with the promise of more dramatic and entertaining moments than ever before.

After a brief recap of the series premise by Ramsay, who serves as host and narrator, the first episode focuses on the Bel Aire Diner, a family-owned and operated restaurant in the Astoria neighborhood of Queens, New York. Brothers Kal and Peter inherited the diner, which was originally ran by their parents from Greece. In its original configuration, the diner has been a mainstay of Queens culture for the last 30 years, featured in various media such as Jerry Seinfeld's series "Comedians in Cars Getting Coffee."

Miscommunication and a lack of team spirit have led the restaurant to falter, with over 400 hard-to-prepare menu items, outdated décor and food safety violations. The parents also refuse to take a backseat in day-to-day operations

until the brothers have shown themselves to be ready.

In his classic fashion, Ramsay tries the unique cuisine available at the Bel Aire, including dishes traditionally only served in fine dining, seafood concoctions and misshapen, undercooked offerings. During the dinner peak, burgers show up undercooked, grilled cheeses haven't been grilled and lobster is being served raw. After seeing how the kitchen is operated and visiting the walk-in storage freezer, Ramsay orders the diner to shut down for the evening to reassess his findings.

As part of his week instead, Gordon helps the

Bel Aire team develop a new, simplified menu, renovate the interior dining room and help the family with their priorities and professional relationships. Ramsay is no stranger to tearing apart kitchens all around the world, having originated the series in the United Kingdom in 2004 and expanding to the United States, Canada and Europe through 2014. Ramsay also started flipping hotels and motor lodges as part of his companion series "Hotel Hell" until 2016. In fact, he has helped establishments in Connecticut and the rest of New England on multiple occasions. The show hasn't changed the formula since its original incarnation, which was a hit during the original run. With the variety of problems that business owners faced during the COVID-19 pandemic, not just restaurants, during the worldwide situation, this is the perfect time for Ramsay to revive "Kitchen Nightmares."

For fans of the original series or Ramsay's other work, the new season of "Kitchen Nightmares" will delight and entertain - with a side-effect of not wanting to work in food service. Produced by Fox Alternative Entertainment and Studio Ramsay, you can watch "Kitchen Nightmares" every Monday night at 8 p.m. on Fox (local WTIC channel 61 - HuskyVision channel 9) or on-demand the next day with a Hulu subscription.

Rating:
4.5/5 Spoons

PHOTO COURTESY OF IMDB (MIDDLE)

PHOTOS COURTESY OF FLICKR (BACK)

Chef Gordon Ramsay returns to 'Kitchen Nightmares' and cooks up recurring dreams

WITH OR WITHOUT YOU: SAYING GOODBYE TO 'SEX EDUCATION'

by **Ronnie Prado**
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The long-awaited final season of Netflix's hit teenage soap opera "Sex Education" is here, and true to what viewers have come to expect from the show, it was an emotional rollercoaster, shocking and at times, ingeniously disappointing. However, despite certain plot choices that will sow disappointment in the show's core fanbase, its finale still manages to leave the viewer with a feeling of satisfaction.

Even though I have been following the show for three years now, I was originally apprehensive about what season four would look like. But from the first scene, I found my fears to be unfounded, as the writers took me on a journey to Cavendish College, a startlingly modern school, filled with new faces, personalities and problems that the show had not tackled previously.

It was a season of growing pains, as the students adjusted to their new school following the closing of Moor-dale Secondary. While Otis and Maeve struggle to find stability in their ill-defined long-distance relationship, he finds himself in a battle for teenage sex therapist supremacy with O, a Cavendish student who he is convinced stole his idea for an on-campus sex clinic. That campaign has him working alongside Ruby, the ghost of girlfriend's past, stirring up feelings we thought were dead and buried.

Meanwhile, Jackson tries his hardest to fight his feelings for Cal. He faces having to come to terms with his shaky sexual identity and deal with his mothers' dirty secrets. As if he didn't have enough drama going on in his life already, he might have cancer.

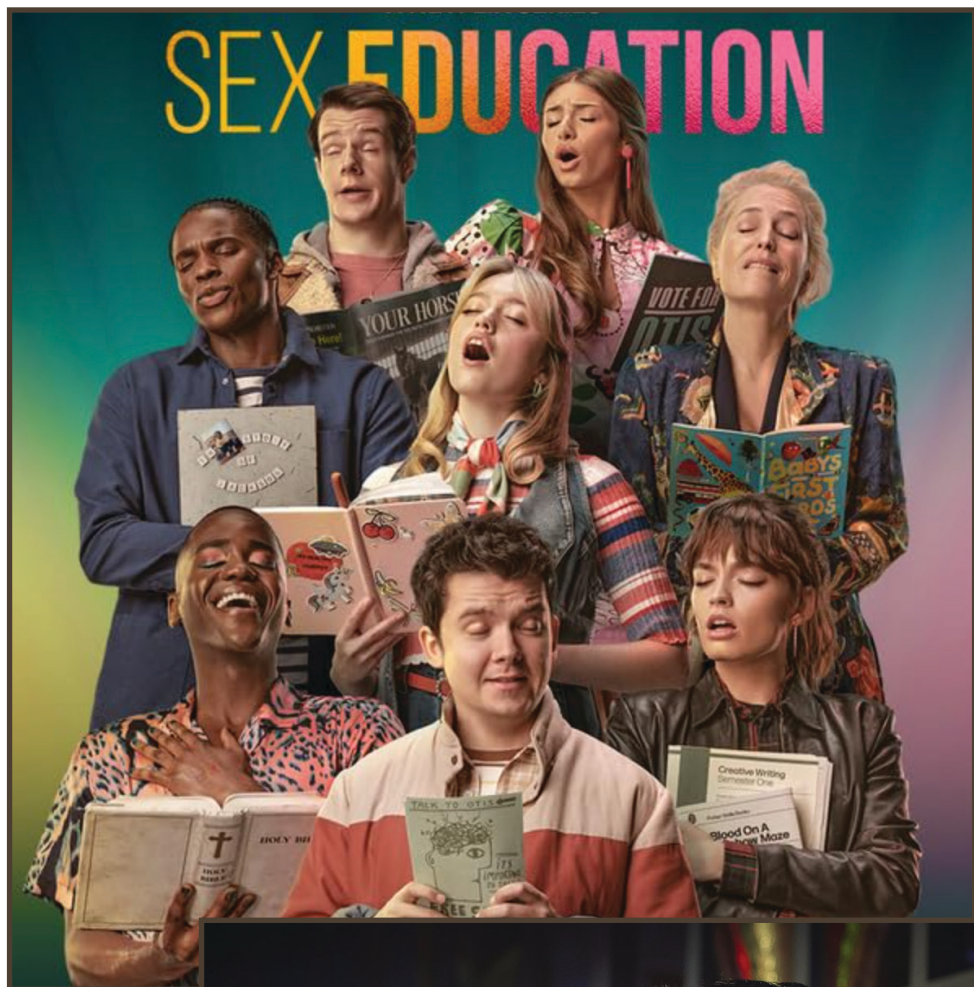
Then there's fan-favorite character Aimee, who begins her journey of recovery from an assault in season three while battling her growing feelings for her best friend's ex while learning to love and respect herself.

All in all, the true brilliance of this final season is the character development. Previously secondary characters such as Cal and Viv were given more screen time, allowing the viewer to see their struggles and gain a deeper understanding of

their characters. The writers also dove deeper into the main characters, such as Headmaster Groff, Adam, Jean and Ruby, thrusting them into new situations and revealing hidden insecurities that the show had not yet touched on.

However, no show is perfect. This new season, while far surpassing my expectations, did fall flat in many cases. Firstly, while the development of previously-featured characters was extremely well done, the show did little to develop its new ones. The chief example of this is Abbi, the transgender queen bee of Cavendish, who displays very little change throughout the course of the season. Secondly, there is the relationship between Viv and her new boyfriend Beau, which is so predictably toxic and ends at such a fast pace that it borders on ridiculous. However, the biggest blunder of the writing team is the treatment of Jean and Jakob's relationship. As anyone who caught up prior to the release of the new season will know, season three ended with the reveal that Jakob was not Joy's father. However, this issue is glossed over and only briefly mentioned in the new season, in which neither Jakob nor his daughter Ola appear.

Weighing out the successes and failures of the new season, I would say that it just missed the mark. Still, I would encourage anybody who has not watched it yet to watch it as soon as possible. It is still an extremely entertaining, heart-warming and unique watch, and now that it's over, it will be missed.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF IMDB

RATING:
4/5

I WOULD ENCOURAGE ANYBODY WHO HAS NOT WATCHED IT YET TO WATCH IT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. IT IS STILL AN EXTREMELY ENTERTAINING, HEART-WARMING AND UNIQUE WATCH, AND NOW THAT IT'S OVER, IT WILL BE MISSED.



Life

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NICHE PLAYLISTS 101: HOW TO CURATE A PERFECT FALL PLAYLIST

by **Raquel Montelindo**
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SHE/HER/HERS
raquel.montelindo@uconn.edu

A hobby I spend frankly too much time on is curating incredibly niche Spotify playlists. It began during the COVID-19 pandemic that cut my senior year of high school short and made my first year of college anything but aesthetic or ideal.

I worked to combat the FOMO, or fear of missing out, of not getting a normal high school graduation or in-person freshman year by crafting incredibly niche playlists. Some so niche in fact — I can transport myself back to a specific era of my life — just by listening to them.

As we have entered the “ber” months — September, October and November — the need for niche Spotify playlists grows immensely. Since my first year at the University of Connecticut, I have created multiple fall playlists for each season. There’s nothing better than walking around campus in the fall accompanied by a fun fall beverage and a truly niche Spotify playlist.

I take immense pride in my music curation skills — so much so that I have over 100 niche playlists on my Spotify. The sheer number of playlists I’ve authored is a perfect indicator of why I’m an aficionado and why you should consider creating your own!

So, without further ado, let me walk you through Niche Playlists 101: How to curate a perfect fall playlist.

GET INSPIRED

The best way to start curating a fall playlist is to get inspired. I tend to do this by participating in fall activities — like watching “Gilmore Girls,” baking fall treats and trying Starbucks and Dunkin’s various fall drinks. I also get inspired by listening to past years’ fall playlists and pulling songs from those.

That brings me to my next point. Some music also just has fall vibes. I would argue Taylor Swift’s “Evermore” and most Noah Kahan tracks inherently bring out fall energy. Furthermore, the music I listened to in past falls also influences my new fall playlists. Tracks from Lorde’s first album, “Pure Heroine,” always bring me back to past autumns.

PICK A NICHE (GENRE, EVENT, CHARACTER)

The next step once you’ve been inspired — either by a fall activity or wandering through picturesque trees — is to pick a niche. That could be a genre of music — I tend to lean towards indie and folk for fall — or be pulled from an event you went to during

the season. My current inspiration is the concert I went to last Saturday where I saw one of my favorite artists, Tommy Lefroy. My current fall playlist, titled “In Between,” is curated for the walks between classes when the air is crisp and the leaves are changing. Most of the tracks on the playlist are from Tommy Lefroy’s first EP, “Flight Risk.” One of the tracks, “The Cause,” has been on all my fall playlists since I discovered the band back in 2021.

Your niche could be styled to a specific fictional character or activity you associate with fall. I have a playlist for fall girls’ trips and another inspired by my favorite literary characters. Other honorable mentions include: studying in the Sprague Hall lounge, late nights at Homie B. and “angsty boy autumn” — a playlist specifically curated of sad indie boy laments, like Hozier and Noah Kahan.

FIND ARTISTS

After getting inspired and finding your niche, you may find that you only have a few songs on your playlist or a lot of tracks from the same artist. A way to combat that issue — or what I fondly refer to as “playlist block” — is to explore new artists. There are a few different avenues for this.

I would recommend utilizing Spotify’s personalized playlist feature, Discover Weekly. Spotify’s analytics look at what you enjoy listen-

ing to and recommends similar artists and songs for you to give a try. Furthermore, utilizing the friends tab on Spotify is another useful way to find new music. I’ve found some of my favorite artists through friends and other mutuals.

Also, if you’re a student at the UConn Storrs campus, WHUS Radio’s New Music committee is another awesome way to find new artists to include in your fall-themed playlist. They meet at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesdays in the WHUS Big Room in the Student Union.

PICK A TITLE AND CORRESPONDING IMAGE

Finally, once you’ve found your niche and followed the corresponding steps, you’re

ready to title your playlist and select the corresponding cover image. I often take inspiration from photos on Pinterest or use my own photos I’ve taken of campus or other fun fall activities. For example, the photo from last year’s main autumn playlist was a picture of my best friend and I getting hot apple cider at The Big E. Another cover image is from one of my past dorms, Sprague Residence Hall, and from my friend’s hometown that perfectly embodies New England in the fall.

That’s the end of my guide to crafting your own fall playlists. I hope this advice helps you draft your own incredibly niche playlists and that you have as much fun making them as I do.

Happy fall and good luck with your playlist crafting!



ILLUSTRATION BY KRISTA MITCHELL, STAFF ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS
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COMIC BY TERA BARTLEY, CONTRIBUTING ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

▶ Editorial

Who will answer for the militarization of UConn?

According to the mission statement adopted by the University of Connecticut Board of Trustees, one of the key objectives of this university is to help “every student grow intellectually and become a contributing member of the state, national, and world communities.”

The board also boasts an ambitious goal to “promote the health and well-being of Connecticut’s citizens through enhancing the social, economic, cultural and natural environments of the state and beyond.”

A major component of UConn’s mission to craft educated and skilled professionals is the university’s partnerships with local industry.

A major component of UConn’s mission to craft educated and skilled professionals is the university’s partnerships with local industry. As The Daily Campus Editorial Board argued in its previous editorial, UConn’s academic-economic partnerships are important — and perhaps the only authentic — signifiers of this institution’s culture and values. Tolerating harmful conduct against labor rights and workplace safety from program and grant sponsors such as Hartford Healthcare, we believe, amounts to UConn officials telling students and faculty that these practices are acceptable. Such an admission is in direct contradiction with the UConn mission statement’s commitment to advancing the health and well-being of Connecticut residents, particularly poor and working class ones.

While the healthcare industry receives public scrutiny relatively often due to its high visibility and daily impact on communities, another integral contributor to UConn’s academic funding continues to fly under the radar without criticism at all levels of the university. The defense industry, which produces technologies for waging warfare and securing the United States’ status as a global hegemon, provides tens of millions of dollars in research funding to UConn’s School of Engineering. While innovating aircraft parts for Raytheon’s Pratt & Whitney or optimizing submarines for General Dynamics Electric Boat may equip students and researchers with invaluable

hands-on experience in a lucrative field, UConn administrators, department heads and students must consider what happens to the warfare technologies they help produce once it leaves academia, where questions of ethics and global impact are dampened by intellectual curiosity and career advancement.

These are the concerns that The Editorial Board has around the recent unveiling of the SoE’s new Digital Design Research, Analysis, and Manufacturing Center, described in a UConn Today article as “an academic-government-industry partnership that will develop groundbreaking modeling and simulation capabilities for the next generation of Army ground vehicle systems.” The D2REAM Center, as it is perversely abbreviated, aims to leverage digital simulation technology to “design and build vehicles quicker and more affordably” for use by the U.S. military. The center’s goal to facilitate the production of armored vehicles meant for warzones again provokes numerous questions. What happens to these technologies when they are out of the hands of researchers and academics? Whose country will these vehicles occupy, and through whose communities will they transport troops?

The D2REAM Center, as it is perversely abbreviated, aims to leverage digital simulation technology to “design and build vehicles quicker and more affordably” for use by the U.S. military.

Similar questions can be asked of UConn’s other military-industrial partners, including the Air Force Research Laboratory, the National Institute for Undersea Vehicle Technology, Pratt & Whitney Institute for Advanced Systems Engineering and others responsible for developing military technologies. Regardless of the fact that large portions of U.S. military stock are stationary or in disrepair, weapons and military vehicles are not made to sit around; they are designed and manufactured to be used and to shore up strength against the United States’ geopolitical adversaries. By neglecting the harmful human impact of weapons manufacturing, let alone its ecological

toll, UConn’s leadership is partially responsible for the victimization of vulnerable populations caught within conflicts waged using American-made weapons.

By neglecting the harmful human impact of weapons manufacturing, let alone its ecological toll, UConn’s leadership is partially responsible for the victimization of vulnerable populations caught within conflicts waged using American-made weapons.

The Editorial Board recognizes that the war industry has such a stranglehold on American institutions of higher education in part because it is so profitable, especially in the state of Connecticut. However, we counter this with UConn’s influence as a major source of economic development, sporting an estimated statewide impact of \$6.9 billion between 2021 and 2022, according to a report conducted by the UConn Office of Budget, Planning and Institutional Research. It is absolutely conceivable that UConn can use its considerable economic cachet to push forward research on green technologies and partner with sustainable industries instrumental to the continued existence of the biosphere. In doing so, the university will demonstrate to state leaders the feasibility of developing sustainability instead of these harmful industries and partners that pose major obstacles to transitioning away from fossil fuel energy by virtue of their very existence. The choice to not pursue this path is deliberate, and the global community will bear the consequences for UConn’s and other universities’ failure to pursue a life-affirming path.

But in the end, the necessity of UConn severing its ties to the military-industrial complex is a moral one, not a cynically fiscal one. At the same time, if UConn truly seeks to improve the “social, economic, cultural and natural environments of the state and beyond,” this separation should be of utmost priority.

Opinion

Photo of the Day | Read all about it!



The bulletin board inside Homer Babbidge library is as full as ever in Storrs, Conn. on Sept. 26, 2023. The Homer Babbidge Library was built in 1978 and has stored over 1.7 million books since then.
 PHOTO BY SIHAM NEDLOUSSI, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS



COMIC BY VAN NGUYEN, ARTIST EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS



COMIC BY SAMANTHA HASS, CONTRIBUTING ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS



COMIC BY RACHEL ZIMMERMAN, CONTRIBUTING ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

COMICS



COMIC BY VAN NGUYEN, ARTIST EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

International Soccer

U.S. WOMEN'S NATIONAL TEAM RETURNS TO FORM AFTER CRUISING PAST SOUTH AFRICA IN TWO-GAME SERIES

by Nahum Valiente

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The U.S. Women's national team entered this international window following their worst performance in a World Cup cycle in history. After winning the 2019 FIFA Women's World Cup in France, the national team had a new coach to lead them, named Vlatko Andonovski. With world-class players, the team was eyeing a gold medal in the 2020 Tokyo Olympics and a historic three-peat in the World Cup, something that has never been achieved in both the Men's and Women's World Cup. This vision slowly started falling apart though.

When the U.S. began its gold medal campaign in the Olympics, it started off the group stage with a historic 3-0 loss to Sweden. They proceeded to finish as runner-ups in the group stage. Then, during the knockout stage, they were eliminated from gold medal contention by Canada in the semi-finals. However, the U.S. managed to secure a bronze medal after a close game against Australia. From that point on, there was fear about the United States and competition around the world. Doubts about Andonovski's ability to properly guide this U.S. team started to circulate, but many remained hopeful that a three-peat was still in view. Once the tournament started, it was clear the USWNT had not addressed their worries.

Their first game of the group stage resulted in a 3-0 win against Vietnam. While that sounds great, the USWNT was expected to win by a lot more and their performance could best be summarized as sloppy. Against the Netherlands, the Stars and Stripes managed to



Julie Erntz giving a thumbs up to the crowd in her final game against South Africa on September 24, 2023.
PHOTO COURTESY OF @USWMNT ON TWITTER

secure a 1-1 draw, after being down for a majority of the game. Worries worsened after they failed to score against Portugal, and if it wasn't for the crossbar that barely deflected a shot from Portugal, the U.S. would have been eliminated from the World Cup in a group stage for the first time ever. As the U.S. barely progressed, they had a match against rival Sweden. After again being scoreless through 90 minutes and extra time, the game went to a penalty shootout where by just millimeters, the U.S. was eliminated from the World Cup in the Round of 16. This not only marked the first time they were eliminated this early in a tournament but also served as the worst performance in their history. As a result, the U.S. fell to third in the FIFA World Rankings, the first time in its history, and they changed coaches after Andonovski announced he would depart from the team.

The USWNT now faces a new culture in the federation that

has been viewed negatively and a playing field that has become intense with women's sports, which is being invested in more and more around the globe. To say the Stars and Stripes have a lot to work on would be an understatement. Their work began with two international friendly matches against South Africa, who were also eliminated in the Round of 16 in the previous World Cup. These two matches also marked the retirement of veterans Julie Ertz and Megan Rapinoe who were key figures for the U.S. during their successful 2015 and 2019 World Cup runs.

From the start of the first match-up, the U.S. was more spirited and that drive to win appeared again. From the opening minutes of the game, the USWNT carried out an onslaught of offensive attacks that overwhelmed the South African side. A U.S. goal was imminent as they came closer to the goal, and that's exactly what happened in the 32nd minute as

NJ/NY Gotham FC Star Lynn Williams scored a header, putting the U.S. in the lead. Just minutes later, Washington Spirit forward Trinity Rodman doubled the lead from a shot on target that was assisted by veteran Alex Morgan. To finish off the half in the 41st minute, Williams secured a brace after being assisted by Lindsey Horan. The USWNT dominance that was seen before the Andonovski-era was on full display in this game. In the second half, many players were substituted for newcomers, as an opportunity to increase competitive play for recent call-ups, which resulted in a quiet second half.

Entering the second game of the series, there was much optimism that the Stars and Stripes were returning to form, and the following game proves those beliefs right. Again, the U.S. offense that overwhelmed any defense was in full form here. In the 18th minute, Rodman scored with the help of the assist from Morgan. While no other goals

were scored until the second half, the Stars and Stripes had the South African defense on high alert as the majority of the game took place on their side. The second half was a continuation of the U.S.'s great attacking effort, which resulted in a header by Emily Sonnett. While the scoreline was narrower than the last game, the U.S. dominated possession, having 62.7%. When it came to shots attempted, the Americans had 19 while South Africa had none.

While there are months to go until the Women's Gold Cup and Summer Olympics, there is much optimism for this team. This young squad has plenty of potential, and with the right coach, they could return to the dominant play that we have gotten used to over the last two decades. Twila Kilgore, the current interim coach of the USWNT, will continue leading the U.S. in the next international window in October, where the U.S. will face Colombia in a two-game series.



Mia Fishel is running towards the ball in her win against South Africa on September 24th, 2023.

PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF @USWMNT ON TWITTER

Sports

Photo of the Day | Huskies take on horns



The UConn Huskies face off against the Duke Blue Devils on Saturday, Sept. 23, 2023 at Rentschler Field in East Hartford, CT. The game ended in a loss for the Huskies with a final score of 41-7.

PHOTO BY EMILY O'BANNON, ASSOCIATE MANAGING EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Point/Counterpoint

WHICH TEAM HAS A BIGGER PROBLEM WITH THEIR CURRENT QUARTERBACK SITUATION? THE CHICAGO BEARS OR DENVER BRONCOS?

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On Sunday, the Denver Broncos and Chicago Bears both suffered blowout losses to fall to two 0-3 on the season. Chicago and Denver's cold starts to the season have their respective fanbases disappointed and questioning the future of their team's quarterback position.

In Chicago, you have the former 11th overall pick in 2021, Justin Fields. The former Ohio State star was expected to become one of the best dual-threat quarterbacks in the game after the team brought in star wide receiver D.J. Moore in an effort to dynamize this offense. This has not been the case early on as Chicago's offense reeks of dysfunction, scoring just 47 points over the team's first three games.

In Denver, quarterback Russell Wilson agreed to a five year extension worth \$245 million in 2022 to solidify the Broncos quarterback position, a massive problem since Peyton Manning's retirement. After finishing 5-12 in a nightmare first season last season, Denver hired Super Bowl-winning head coach Sean Payton in an attempt to restore a winning culture and get Wilson and the offense back on track. Three games into 2023, the Broncos are coming off a historic 70-20 loss to the Miami Dolphins on Sunday.

With both Chicago and Denver's quarterback positions under fire, Campus Correspondents CJ Dexter and Trevor Coughlin debate which team is worse off at the position going forward.

CJ: The Denver Broncos will be doomed for years to come if they don't start winning games with Wilson. The Walton-Penner Ownership Group has invested too much capital into this roster for a full-scale rebuild to happen in a swift fashion. Denver traded away their first-round picks from the last two seasons and currently have the fourth highest-paid roster in the league. Wilson is virtually immovable until after 2027 due to the \$107 million cap charge that the Broncos would be stuck with if they were to release their quarterback prior to that. Denver needs to show signs of life and turn their season around quickly as their roster options going forward are very limited.

Trevor: The Chicago Bears haven't had a winning record since 2018 and need to find a way to turn this around fast. While



Bears GM Ryan Poles and HC Matt Eberflus are seen here holding a Chicago Bears helmet at a press conference.

PHOTO COURTESY OF @DAVEYROBICHEAUX ON TWITTER

first-round pick Fields may be the second best mobile quarterback in the league, throwing 11 of 22 last week is not gonna win football games. There are talks that Fields will be traded to the Jets in exchange for Jets quarterback Zach Wilson and additional compensation. While Zach Wilson may sound like a nobody right now compared to Fields, he has thrown for 7,652 yards at BYU compared to Fields' 5,701. Running is impressive, but having a young QB with an arm could be what the Bears need to turn their bombastic records around. Fields' rough season comes with no excuses as the Bears have the third easiest schedule of the year and lost by 10 to the declining Buccaneers. Zach Wilson just needs a chance right now, because taking a chance at this point on a former second overall draft pick can't hurt. While Fields is a great player, he has been given three seasons now to turn Chicago's franchise around and has not delivered a winning record. The only chance the Bears have to ever relive their glory days again is by making a change, and this move could be the start of more changes that could turn this fall-from-grace story around.

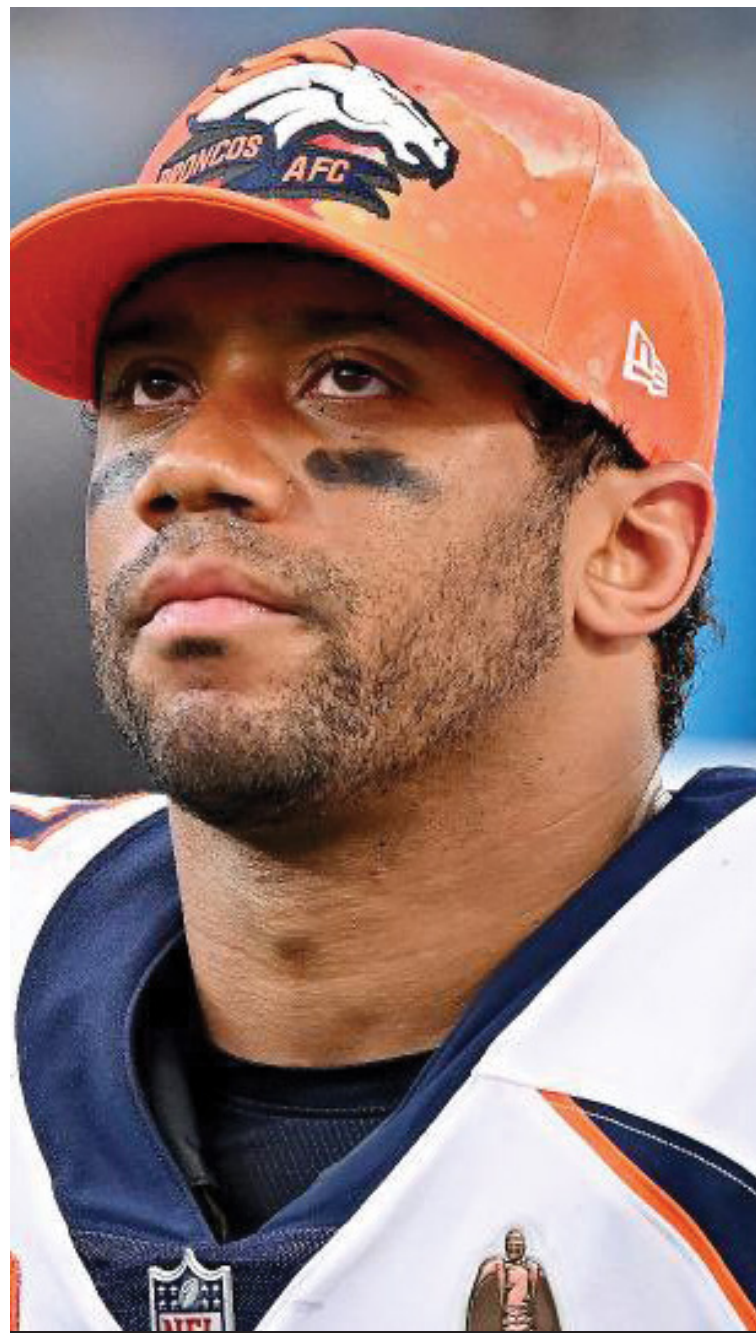
CJ: While I agree that Fields has done nothing but lose in Chicago, his financial flexibility is what makes him such a movable asset on the roster, unlike Russell Wilson with the Broncos. He's in year three of his rookie deal and if Chicago were to move on from him, it would only be an \$11 million cap hit. There is not nearly as much financial commitment to Fields as compared to Russell Wilson, which is why Denver is worse off at the quarterback position. Denver has the choice of mov-

ing on from Russell Wilson and eating \$107 million of dead salary or riding it out with him at quarterback until 2027. Fields is more expendable and can be moved on from after the season with just an \$11 million cap hit.

Trevor: Russell Wilson may not be in his prime anymore, but he is still an incredible football player. He has led the Seahawks to a Super Bowl win and remains one of the most consistent quarterbacks in the league. Averaging 65.4% of passing completions and being the ninth highest-ranked QB by fantasy pros, it's not like he's doing horrible right now. These stats are impressive compared to Fields' 18th highest ranking and 58% passing completion. With the 12th best defense in the league behind him and the Broncos schedule only getting more difficult by the year, experienced players are required. The Broncos are covered, unlike the Bears, who have no success on any part of the field. If Denver doesn't win and loses \$100 million, they can't say they were in need of desperate help with their roster while the Bears are because they can't accept that Fields isn't a skilled passer. If anything, people should be more worried about getting Chicago out of their black hole, unlike Denver who will still have over \$4 billion by keeping one of the greatest quarterbacks of the 2010s.

"The Broncos are covered, unlike the Bears, who have no success on any part of the field."

TREVOR COUGHLIN



Russell Wilson is looking at the scoreboard after a crushing loss to the Miami Dolphins on September 24th, 2023.

PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF @DAVEYROBICHEAUX ON TWITTER

The Rod Wave:

CAM SPENCER CONTINUING TO SETTLE INTO ROLE FOR NEW-LOOK HUSKIES

by **Evan Rodriguez**
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When UConn men's basketball head coach Dan Hurley meets with recruits, certain criteria stick out immediately. In Cam Spencer's case, Hurley said some simple conversations about basketball really stuck out to him in some of his initial talks.

"90% of what we talked about was about, at the time, the NBA Playoffs, our season, different players, or style of play," said the Huskies head coach.

With a player as gifted as Spencer, it's no secret that as soon as word spread throughout college basketball that the former Rutgers star would enter the transfer portal for a new home, interest is immediately going to rise. Being a proven scorer with a deadly shot that can take the life out of opponents is always going to be enticing to programs looking to compete. When that exact player is doing it in a competitive league like the Big 10, that only adds more fuel to the rising interest of teams across the nation.

So naturally, with those previously mentioned traits and a need for another player who could come in to contribute to a program coming off a dominant national championship run in 2023, the Huskies targeted a Spencer commitment.

"When you do official visits with recruits, you know the ones that you want and you know the ones that are going to fit in. They know whether they fit in with you or not. So when [Spencer] was here on a visit, he felt like he was already here on the team," said Hurley.

Along with coming from an basketball-obsessive family, a key trait of Husky recruits,



UConn guard Cam Spencer practices free throws after a grueling men's basketball practice on Tuesday, Sept. 26, 2023.

PHOTO BY EVAN RODRIGUEZ, ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Hurley says that for his newest prized transfer, basketball is his life. That attitude has helped energize a competitive drive that has been essential in helping the veteran college basketball guard transition to a unique situation. He'd be competing in some tough Hurley-led practices, known for being tougher than the actual games, against players looking to prove themselves. In situations like that, players have to step up to the challenge, especially with a championship culture like Connecticut's and a loaded schedule that features teams like Kansas in non-conference action and Marquette in Big East play.

Yet, throughout these past few months of adjustment, Spencer has embraced those challenges wholeheartedly, with a complicated gameplan being one of those tests. Ac-

ording to the new star transfer, it's a path where you're thrown into the fire. It could certainly be filled with mistakes and hours in the film room if you can't adapt, but with the team putting in time to perfect every area of their game, it's a situation that rewards the relentless competitiveness and effort of players like a veteran Spencer.

That attitude to compete in every single practice has also rubbed off on his teammates. With plenty of young pieces entering a program that's hungry for a sixth championship, players like returning starter Tristen Newton say that having a player with plenty of experience like his backcourt partner has been very beneficial, especially in a leadership position.

"He's helping us a lot on the court," said Newton. "He's a

good vocal leader. He helps the freshmen out a lot and he helps me out too."

"He'll make you go crazy out there on the court with the way he plays and how smart he is on the basketball court. He doesn't get enough credit for that," said senior Hassan Diarra. "It's truly a blessing to compete against him each and every day, and play with him. He makes basketball easy for me."

Even with all the work he's put in to get to this point, it's still a long road ahead for the Maryland native. He's has continued to get better defensively, improving key qualities like his lateral quickness, and upgrading his playmaking. His

unique skill has certainly been on display throughout his short time in Storrs, but at the end of the day, Spencer is looking forward to helping the team in any way he can.



FILE ILLUSTRATION/THE DAILY CAMPUS



UConn guard Cam Spencer runs a play during a men's basketball practice on Tuesday, Sept. 26, 2023. The new Huskies guard is stepping into a major role after transferring from Rutgers.

PHOTO BY EVAN RODRIGUEZ, ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS



Sports

Sam's Section:

WHY TUA TAGOVAILOA IS THE FRONT-RUNNER FOR MVP

by Sam Calhoun

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Through the first three weeks of the NFL season, there are many overreactions that can be made. However, saying that Tua Tagovailoa is the current favorite for MVP is not one of them.

The Miami Dolphins are 3-0 to begin the season for the second straight year. They had back-to-back one-possession road victories before putting up 70 points in their home opener against the Denver Broncos. There's not a more central driver behind the Dolphins' strong start than Tagovailoa, who could become the franchise's first MVP since Dan Marino in 1983.

As a massive New England Patriots fan, it hurts to write this article about a division rival. However, Tagovailoa has made his case. He has currently passed for 1,024 yards (second in the NFL) on 71.3% completion (fifth in the NFL), with eight touchdown passes (second in the NFL). His QBR of 82.9 and a passer rating of 121.9 are currently the best in the NFL in those categories. He averages 10.1 yards per completion, which also leads the league.

With an average of 341.3 yards per game (second in the NFL), he's currently on pace to have a league record 5802 yards at the end of the season. Eight touchdown passes through three weeks means he's on pace to have 45 touchdown passes.

In Week 1's 36-34 win over the Los Angeles Chargers, the Alabama alum passed for 466 yards and three touchdowns on 62.2% completion and one interception. Trailing by four with under two minutes remaining, Tagovailoa found star wide receiver Tyreek Hill in the end zone for the game-winning touchdown. During the game-winning drive, the Dolphins went 75 yards in two minutes and eight seconds.

On Sunday, the Hawaiian proved why he's the MVP front-runner, and the Dolphins



Tua Tagovailoa is hyped during his 70-20 win over the Denver Broncos on September 24, 2023. PHOTO COURTESY OF @DAVIDFISCHER_71 ON TWITTER

have the best offense in the league, with a 70-20 win over the Broncos. In the win, Tagovailoa passed for 309 yards and four touchdowns on a career-high 88.5% completion rate. Despite a secondary featuring Pat Surtain II and Justin Simmons, Tagovailoa was able to pick Denver's defense apart.

So far this season, the Dolphins have averaged 550.3 yards per game, averaging 43.3 points per game and 130 points total. This is the second-most total points in NFL history in the first three weeks, only trailing the Dallas Cowboys in 1968, who had 132 points.

Through the first three weeks, Tagovailoa has 0.58 expected points added (EPA) per dropback, the second-best by any quarterback since 2000, according to TruMedia. The only quarterback with a better start to a season in that category is Tom Brady, who had a 0.64 EPA per dropback during his legendary 2007 MVP season.

Having the first three weeks of your season compared to Brady's record-breaking season means something special. However, Tagovailoa knows this is just the beginning, and he cannot get too confident and overreact to his hot start.

"Everyone overreacts on everything," he said to Sports Illustrated after the team's win over the Chargers. "You're either going to win the Super Bowl after you win your first game, or you're the worst team ever, and everything that comes with that...We still got to go on the road, and we got 16 more games to play against 16 really, really good teams."

There are a lot of factors that could play into Tagovailoa not winning the league's MVP award. He would have to stay healthy, which was difficult for him as he entered concussion protocol for a part of the 2022 season. He was carted off the field early in Week 2 after suffering several fractured ribs.

Miami's schedule is no piece of cake, especially from a defensive standpoint. Tagovailoa did not look like an MVP in Week 2's win over the Patriots but made big plays on third downs that continued drives and helped the Dolphins win in Foxborough. They will face the second-best scoring defense in the Buffalo Bills twice, the third-best in the Dallas Cowboys and the fourth-best in the Kansas City Chiefs.

Another part could be the other superstars in the league. Reigning MVP Patrick Mahomes will always contend for the award as long as the Chiefs are winning and he's healthy. Jalen Hurts made a case for MVP last year and certainly could this season. Josh Allen has been a star in the league for a couple of years and has yet to clinch the award.

What Tagovailoa needs to do to secure the award is to lead the Dolphins to be one of the best teams in the AFC, put away the league's best players and stay

healthy. He has a great supporting cast with Hill, Jaylen Waddle and Raheem Mostert. According to FanDuel, he currently has +350 odds to win.

Tagovailoa will have a chance to build on this exceptional start on Sunday as the Dolphins are back on the road against the Bills at 1 p.m. on CBS.

Despite a secondary featuring Pat Surtain II and Justin Simmons, Tagovailoa was able to pick Denver's defense apart.



Tua Tagovailoa is looking to throw another touchdown in The Dolphins record-breaking win against the Denver Broncos on September 24, 2023. PHOTO COURTESY OF @TIPICO ON TWITTER

WHAT TO KEEP AN EYE ON THIS WEEK

UConn SCOREBOARD

vs. **2** - **1**
Women's Soccer
Sunday

Upcoming Games

vs. **G**
WSOC, 3 p.m. Thursday
Washington, D.C.

vs. **V**
MSOC, 7 p.m. Friday
Storrs, Conn

INSTAGRAM OF THE DAY



@uconnhuskies #ICYMI some headlines from the weekend

TWEETS OF THE DAY

UConn Huskies
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COLLEGE BASKETBALL'S WORST NIGHTMARE RETURNS:

Friday, October 13
Gampel Pavilion
#BleedBlue

UConn Huskies
@UConnHuskies
Congrats to Breanna Stewart on being named the MVP! #BleedBlue

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