

# The Daily Campus



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## UCONN'S CAREER FAIRS ALLOW STUDENTS TO START THINKING ABOUT THEIR FUTURE

by Sara Bedigian

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The University of Connecticut held their all-university career fair yesterday at Gampel Pavilion which allowed students to begin preparing for their future careers.

UConn students across all majors and campuses were encouraged to attend. The fair, which occurred from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., allowed employers to inform students about their internships, co-ops and full time work opportunities.

The fair began with Lieutenant Governor Susan Bysiewicz presenting her opening remarks and welcoming the employers to UConn. Following the opening remarks, employers set up tables and presented their companies to students which ranged from manufacturing, healthcare, insurance, legal and law enforcement, non profit organizations and more.

The STEM fair is happening today, Sept. 20 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Gampel Pavilion and will host employers looking for students hoping to pursue careers specifically in science, technology, engineering and math.

Jim Lowe, associate vice provost and executive director of the Center for Career Development, said how the career fair is just one example of how UConn connects students to their potential employers once they graduate.

"Our mission at the Center for Career Development is to deliver comprehensive, innovative, and inclusive programs and services for all

students," Lowe said. "We cultivate connections to campus and community partners promoting opportunities for students to become contributing members of the State, national and world communities."

Lowe said between the all-university fair yesterday and the STEM fair today, UConn will host close to 300 employers and anticipates over 3,000 students will have attended Gampel to pursue their career goals.

Wendy Kopp, corporate partner relations coordinator at the Center for Career Development, said it is never too early to build connections and explore opportunities, whether they be internships, co-ops or full time jobs.

"We are always excited to bring employers and students together, especially at our Career Fairs for the chance to meet face to face," Kopp said.

A full list of the employers present at the all-university fair and STEM fair can be found on Handshake. UConn students can activate their Handshake accounts by logging in with their NetID and password.

"Handshake is a great way to help students see what employers are attending the fairs, so they are able to do some research and prepare before the fair," Kopp said.

The Internship and Co-op Fair is scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 6 at the Student Union and the Spring Career Fair will be held at Gampel Pavilion in late March. More information regarding the Center for Career Development's upcoming events and services can be found on their website.

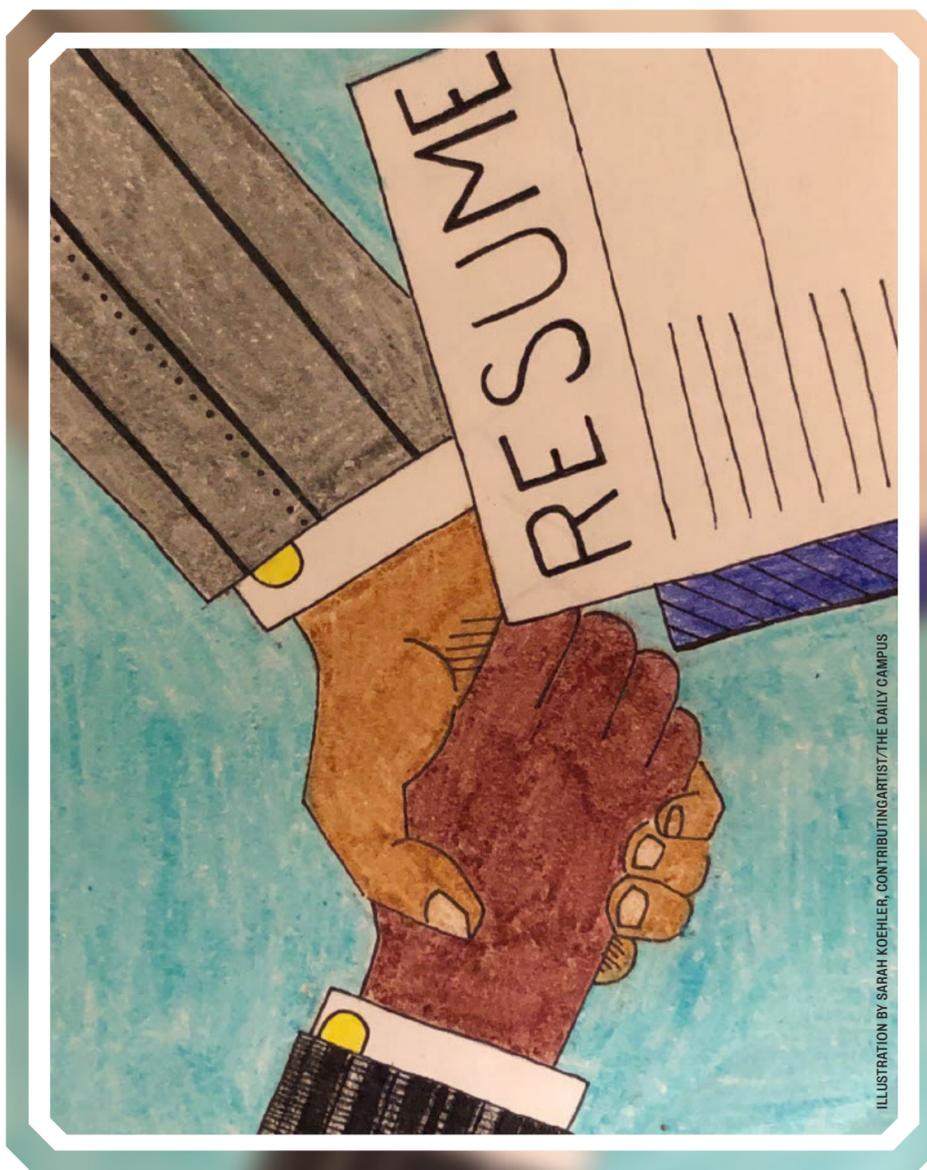


ILLUSTRATION BY SARAH KOEHLER, CONTRIBUTING ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

## AS LEADERS CONVENE, THE UN PUSHES TOWARD ITS CRUCIAL GLOBAL GOALS. BUT PROGRESS IS LAGGING

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The commitments were far-reaching and ambitious. Among them: End extreme poverty and hunger. Ensure every child on Earth gets a quality secondary education. Achieve gender equality. Make significant inroads in tackling climate change. Create "universal access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all." And achieve all of this by 2030.

Halfway to that goal, progress is lagging badly — and in some cases going backward.

At a two-day summit that began Monday, U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres tried to kick-start action to achieve the 17 goals adopted by world leaders in 2015, which developing countries in particular consider crucial to closing the widening inequality gap between the world's rich and poor countries.

He told leaders in the crowded General Assembly hall they made "a promise to build a world of health, progress and opportunity for all — a promise to leave no one behind, and a promise to pay for it."

General Assembly President Dennis Francis told the assembled leaders that the fact that "we are lagging in our promise cannot be the death knell for our blueprint" to "banish poverty from our societies, protect and preserve our planet, and to ensure prosperity for all." Instead, he said, "bold and transformative action must be prioritized."

Leaders from the 193 U.N. member nations then adopted

a 10-page political declaration by consensus. It recognizes that the goals are "in peril" and expresses alarm that progress is either moving too slowly or regressing to pre-2015 levels. It reaffirms more than a dozen times, in different ways, leaders' commitment to achieve the SDGs, or sustainable development goals, reiterating their individual importance.

How can this be done in the next seven years?

### A DECLARATION SHORT ON SPECIFICS

The leaders have committed to accelerating action. But the declaration they're working with is short on specifics.

At Saturday's start of an "SDG Action Weekend," Guterres reviewed for activists the grim findings in a U.N. report in July. On Monday, he did it again, saying that only 15% of some 140 specific targets to achieve the 17 goals are on track. Many are going in the wrong direction.

At the current rate, the report said, 575 million people will still be living in extreme poverty and 84 million children won't even be going to elementary school in 2030 — and it will take 286 years to reach equality between men and women.

"The SDGs need a global rescue plan," the U.N. chief said. He called the summit "the moment for governments to come to the table with concrete plans and proposals to accelerate progress."

It isn't just governments that need to step up, Guterres said. He urged activists as well as

the business community, scientists, academics, innovators, women and young people to join in working to achieve the goals.

U.S. First Lady Jill Biden echoed the secretary-general at a reception Sunday evening organized by the U.N. children's agency, UNICEF, for global champions of education. she said progress on achieving the SDGs "looks steep." But she said the United States "will continue to be a partner will you every step of the way."

As an educator for 39 years, she urged every country's leader to invest in children, saying they will "help us build a more peaceful, stable world."

### A PLAN TO CLEAR OBSTACLES FROM THE PATH

Guterres said the most important initiative to rescue the overall plan is the proposal of an "SDG stimulus," which aims to offset challenging market conditions faced by developing countries.

It calls for immediate action in three areas:

- tackling the high cost of debt and rising risks of debt distress;
- massively scaling up affordable long-term financing for development, especially by public and multilateral banks;
- expanding contingency financing to countries in need.

Guterres told Monday's opening session he was "deeply encouraged" by the political declaration, "especially its commitment to improving developing countries' access to the fuel required for SDG progress: finance."

The U.N. chief said it also includes a call to reform the outdated and dysfunctional international financial system and to change the business model so multilateral; development banks, like the World Bank, "can massively leverage private finance at affordable rates to benefit developing countries."

A February U.N. report on the SDG Stimulus said debt is battering the economies of many developing countries. It said that as of last November, 37 of the world's 69 poorest countries were either at high risk or already in debt distress, while one in four middle-income countries, which contain the majority of the extreme poor, were at "high risk of fiscal crisis."

There are narrow rays of hope. Guterres said he was encouraged that at the recent meeting of the G20, the world's 20 leading economies welcomed the SDG Stimulus. And he said he's hopeful that the political declaration to be adopted by leaders on Monday will lead to major action.

The declaration says leaders will push forward the stimulus plan "to tackle the high cost of debt and rising risks of debt distress, to enhance support to developing countries and to massively scale up affordable long-term financing for development and expand contingency financing to countries in need."

Whether those administrative promises and the momentum of a big week at the United Nations will translate into actual progress, though, remains — as before — deeply uncertain.

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Singer, Songwriter - Al Diaz

**Daily** MEN'S SOCCER | PAGE 12  
UConn beats Central Connecticut State 3 - 1

## News

# 2 years ago, the Taliban banned girls from school. It's a worsening crisis for all Afghans

ISLAMABAD (AP) — Two years after the Taliban banned girls from school beyond sixth grade, Afghanistan is the only country in the world with restrictions on female education. Now, the rights of Afghan women and children are on the agenda of the United Nations General Assembly Monday in New York.

The U.N. children's agency says more than 1 million girls are affected by the ban, although it estimates 5 million were out of school before the Taliban takeover due to a lack of facilities and other reasons.

The ban triggered global condemnation and remains the Taliban's biggest obstacle to gaining recognition as the legitimate rulers of Afghanistan. But the Taliban defied the backlash and went further, excluding women and girls from higher education, public spaces like parks, and most jobs.

Here's a look at the ban on girls' education:

## WHY DID THE TALIBAN EXCLUDE GIRLS FROM HIGH SCHOOL?

The Taliban stopped girls' education beyond sixth grade because they said it didn't comply with their interpretation of Islamic law, or Sharia. They didn't stop it for boys. In the past two years, they've shown no signs of progress in creating the conditions they say are needed for girls to return to class.

Their perspective on girls' education partly comes from a specific school of 19th century Islamic thought and partly from rural areas where tribalism is entrenched, according to regional expert Hassan Abbas. "The ones who went on to de-

velop the (Taliban) movement opted for ideas that are restrictive, orthodox to the extreme, and tribal," said Abbas, who writes extensively about the Taliban. The Taliban leadership believes women should not participate in anything social or public and should especially be kept away from education, said Abbas.

The Taliban also stopped girls' education when they ruled Afghanistan in the late 1990s.

## WHAT DO MUSLIM-MAJORITY COUNTRIES SAY ABOUT THE BAN?

There's a consensus among clerics outside Afghanistan that Islam places equal emphasis on female and male education. "The Taliban have no basis or evidence to claim the contrary," said Abbas. But pleas from individual countries and groups, like the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, have failed to sway the Taliban.

Syed Akbar Agha, a former Taliban front-line commander, said the insurgents espoused an Islamic system the day they entered Kabul in August 2021.

"They also gave Afghans and the outside world the idea that there would be an Islamic system in the country," said Agha. "There is currently no (other) Islamic system in the world. The efforts of the international community are ongoing to implement democracy in Islamic countries and turn them away from the Islamic system."

## WHAT IS THE IMPACT OF THE BAN ON WOMEN?

Roza Otunbayeva, U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres' special representative for Afghanistan and the head of the U.N. mis-

sion in Afghanistan, said one of the obvious impacts of an education ban is the lack of training of aspiring health care professionals.

Female medical students had their studies halted after last December's Taliban edict banning higher education for women. Afghan women work in hospitals and clinics -- health care is one of the few sectors open to them -- but the pipeline of qualified people will dry up. Afghan women cannot see male doctors, so children will also lose out on medical attention if women are their primary carers.

"Looking into the future and a scenario where nothing changes, where will the female doctors, midwives, gynecologists, or nurses come from?" Otunbayeva said in an email to The Associated Press. "In a strictly gender segregated society, how will Afghan women be able to get the most basic health-care services if there are no female professionals to treat them?"

## WHAT IS THE IMPACT ON AFGHANISTAN'S WIDER POPULATION?

The high school ban is not just about girls' rights. It's a worsening crisis for all Afghans.

Tens of thousands of teachers have lost their jobs. Support staff are also unemployed. Private institutions and businesses that benefited financially from girls' education have been hit. Afghanistan has a shattered economy and people's incomes are plummeting. Excluding women from the job market hurts the country's GDP to the cost of billions of dollars, says UNICEF.

The Taliban are prioritizing Islamic knowledge over basic literacy and numeracy with

their shift toward madrassas, or religious schools, paving the way for a generation of children with no contemporary or secular education to improve their or the country's economic future.

There are other consequences for the general population, like public health and child protection.

U.N. data says birth rates are higher among Afghan girls aged 15-19 who don't have secondary or higher education. A woman's education can also determine if her children have basic immunization and if her daughters are married by the age of 18. The lack of women's education is among the major drivers of deprivation, says the U.N.

Aid groups say girls are at increased risk of child labor and child marriage because they're not at school, amid the growing hardships faced by families.

## WILL THE TALIBAN CHANGE THEIR MINDS?

The Taliban waged a decades-long jihad to implement their vision of Sharia. They are not backing down easily. Sanctions, frozen assets, the lack of official recognition, and widespread condemnation has made little difference.

Countries that have a relationship with the Taliban could make an impact. But they have different priorities, reducing the prospects of a united front on girls' education.

Pakistan has concerns about a resurgence of militant activity. Iran and Central Asian countries have grievances about water resources. China is eyeing investment and mineral extraction opportunities.

There's a bigger likelihood of pressure coming from within Afghanistan.

The Taliban rule of today is different from that of decades ago. Senior leaders, including the chief spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid, rely on social media for key messaging to Afghans at home and abroad.

They point to their success in eradicating narcotics and cracking down on armed groups like the Islamic State. But improving security and wiping out poppy crops will only satisfy people to a point.

While Afghans are concerned about the loss of girls' education, they have more immediate worries like earning money, putting food on the table, keeping a roof over their heads, and surviving droughts and harsh winters.

There is a desire within Afghanistan for the Taliban to have some kind of international acceptance, even if it's not recognition, so the economy can thrive.

Public opinion is much more relevant and influential today than it was during Taliban rule in the 90s, said Abbas. "Internal pressure from ordinary Afghans is going to ultimately push Kandahar in the corner and make a difference."

But it could take years for the ban's consequences to hit Afghan men and trigger a groundswell of unrest. Right now, it only affects girls and it's mostly women who have protested the slew of restrictions.

Agha said Afghans will support the ban if the end goal is to enforce hijab, the Islamic headscarf, and finish gender mixing. But they won't if it's simply to end girls' education outright.

"I think only the nation can lead the way," he said.



Afghan girls attend a religious school, which remained open since the last year's Taliban takeover, in Kabul, Afghanistan, on Aug. 11, 2022. Two years after the Taliban banned girls from school beyond sixth grade, Afghanistan is the only country in the world with restrictions on female education. Now, the rights of Afghan women and children are on the agenda of the United Nations General Assembly Monday, Sept. 18, 2023, in New York. PHOTOGRAPH BY EBRAHIM NOROOZI / AP

## The Daily Campus

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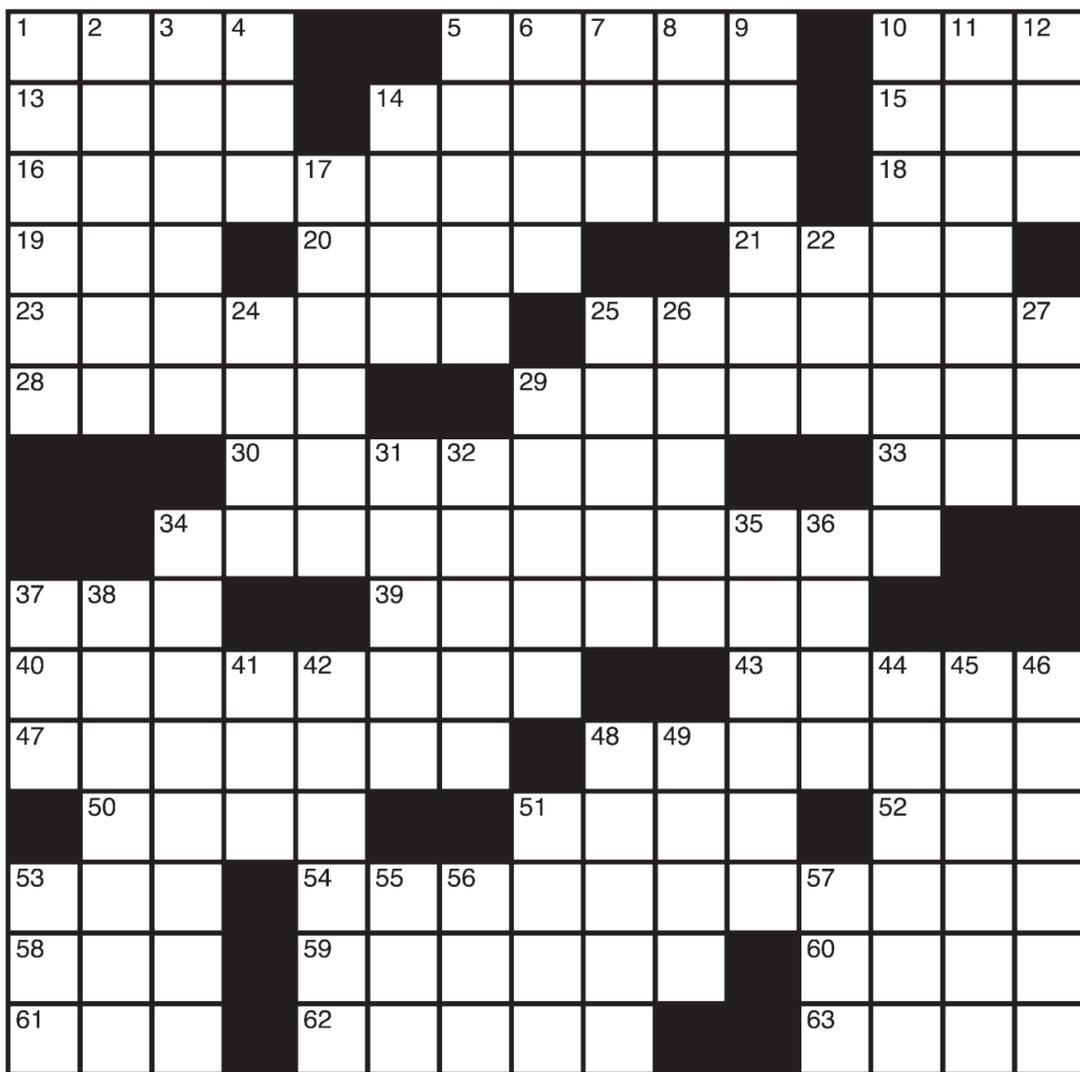
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By Rebecca Goldstein

9/20/23

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# Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation 'scoops up' student interest

by Patrick Boots  
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Did you know the University of Connecticut has supported over 950 startup ventures? The Connecticut Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation (CCEI), a division of the UConn School of Business, hosted an ice cream social on Tuesday, Sept. 19 to promote resources and networking opportunities to help student entrepreneurs.

The "Entrepreneurs and Ice Cream" event kicked off on the School of Business green, located in between Hillside Road and the Student Recreation Center. UConn students

had the chance to enjoy Dairy Bar ice cream sundaes, mingle with students affiliated with the program and learn about different innovation resources. One of the events sponsored by CCEI includes "Get Seeded," which allows UConn students opportunity to earn up to \$1,000 in investment funding for innovative ideas as well as support from other students who may be interested in joining their business ventures. Open to all UConn students, over 50 startups have received seed capital in the last five years from these interactive events, where the audience decides who to fund.

Some popular programs facilitated through CCEI include the Summer Fellowship

and Wolff New Venture Competition, featuring live pitches by the top startups coming out of UConn each year.

"Before learning about the CCEI, I didn't expect to get started with business [this soon]," said Amelia Martin, a graduate plant science major. Her company Mud Rat, which creates environmentally sustainable surfboard materials, was a finalist in UConn's Innovation Quest this past spring. "It would be nonexistent without these programs," Martin added.

Mud Rat is just one of many successful outgrowths of CCEI's initiatives. The startup accelerator helps student entrepreneurs develop the skills needed to bring new products, services and tech-

nologies to market over the course of eight weeks.

Another activity that CCEI helps organize is UConn's upcoming Month of Discovery, throughout October. These partnerships allow students to

be exposed to events centered around research, creativity and innovation. The events include presentations from UConn's four makerspaces, the Krenicki Arts and Engineering Institute and OPIM Innovate. Starting on Oct. 5, Students can get hands-on experiences through scavenger hunts, learn about the range of research and creative projects being pursued by students and opportunities for entrepreneurs. These events will allow interested students to network with other innovators, industry experts and learn from UConn Career specialists.

For more information regarding the CT Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation, visit [ceei.uconn.edu](http://ceei.uconn.edu)

**"Before learning about the CCEI, I didn't expect to get started with business [this soon] . . . It would be nonexistent without these programs."**

**AMELIA MARTIN,**  
GRADUATE PLANT SCIENCE MAJOR

## The Daily Campus SUDOKU

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**FLIP THE PAPER UPSIDE DOWN FOR THE SUDOKU ANSWERS!**

# DRAMA DOWN UNDER

“NEIGHBOURS: A NEW CHAPTER” IS AMAZON FREEVEE’S REBOOT OF THE LONG RUNNING AUSTRALIAN SOAP-OPERA “NEIGHBOURS,” WHICH RAN ON UK BROADCASTING STATION CHANNEL 5 FROM 1987-2022.

by **Ronnie Prado**  
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“Neighbours: A New Chapter” is Amazon Freevee’s reboot of the long running Australian soap-opera “Neighbours,” which ran on UK broadcasting station Channel 5 from 1987-2022. The show was extremely popular in the land down under and was responsible for launching the careers of renowned names such as Margo Robbie, Guy Pearce and Russell Crowe.

After being dropped from its previous network, the show’s production company, Fremantle Australia, cut a deal with Amazon to air new seasons of the show on its free streaming platform Freevee, and now plans on releasing well over 200 new episodes in the next year. A decision which has left TV critics for notable publications such as U.K.-based newspaper, The Guardian, confused and slightly chagrined.

However, unlike my counterparts across the sea, I did not grow up watching the soap opera daily for the past three decades; thus, my analysis of this reboot is unhindered by the previous sea-

sons and storylines. The first episode of “A New Chapter” is set two years after the final episode of the last season of “Neighbours.” Set in the fictional Melbourne suburb of Erinsborough, the show is fueled by the enticing, albeit cliched, question of “what could go wrong” in a quaint little town where everyone knows your name. The show is rife with the usual daytime drama mainstays: love, lust, betrayal and red herrings.

The premiere episode, which aired on Sept. 18, follows several storylines, the main being Terese’s (Rebekah Elmaloglou) wedding. With other subplots such as the arrival of a new family from the city, a steamy fling between hotel worker and ex-gigolo Byron (Xavier Molyneux) and secretive American businesswoman Reese (Mischa Barton; “The O.C.”).

Watching the episode, I found myself surprised by the skill of the show’s writers, who were able to lead me on with what I perceived to be the same, old, mundane after-school special plotline, only to throw out a curve which I never could have seen coming. Further, it is important to note that from its longevity and renown, “Neighbours” finds itself in league with

well-known soaps like “Days of Our Lives” and “As the World Turns.” However, it manages to avoid the dated and melodramatic air which its counterparts could not.

To compare it to a more relevant show in the U.S., this reboot watches like an episode of Netflix’s “Virgin River” or “Outer Banks.” So, if you enjoyed those shows, you would like this one.

To rate the series based off what I saw in the premiere, I would have to give it a 2.5/5. While it was well written and surprising, when the credits began rolling, I did not crave another episode. The mark of great television is an unwavering hunger in the viewer for what’s next. They should dread the moment when they finally catch up and get angry that the studio is making them wait so long for another installment. While, yes, “Neighbours: A New Chapter,” is reminiscent of great shows like “Virgin River,” it is not as intriguing.

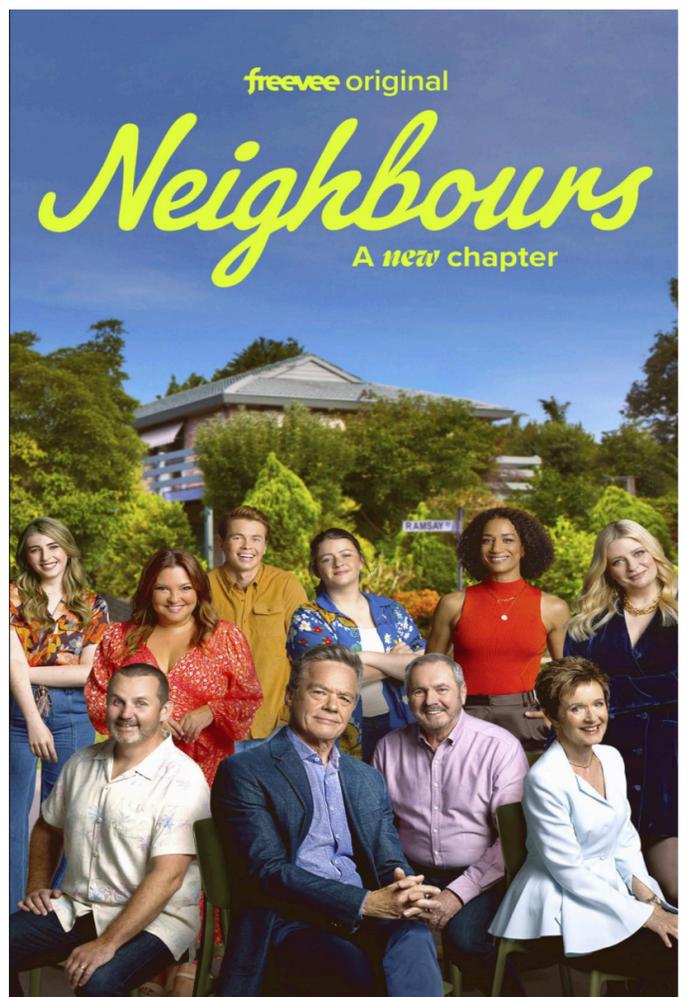


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**TO RATE THE SERIES BASED OFF WHAT I SAW IN THE PREMIERE, I WOULD HAVE TO GIVE IT A 2.5/5. WHILE IT WAS WELL WRITTEN AND SURPRISING, WHEN THE CREDITS BEGAN ROLLING, I DID NOT CRAVE ANOTHER EPISODE. THE MARK OF GREAT TELEVISION IS AN UNWAVERING HUNGER IN THE VIEWER FOR WHAT’S NEXT.**



ILLUSTRATION BY SARAH CHANTRES, STAFF ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS



# Life

@dailycampuslife

# STORRS SPOTLIGHT: SINGER, SONGWRITER —



PHOTO BY @ALDIAZMUSIC/INSTAGRAM

# AL DIAZ

by **Xander Serrano**  
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One night at Huskies Tavern toward closing time, a man on the stage belted out the lyrics to Taylor Swift's hit song "Love Story" to all the young adults filled with joy and overpriced drinks. Hundreds of patrons come in and out of the establishment, unconsciously listening to the harmony of a familiar voice from a man upperclassmen have heard for the last three-and-a-half years. That man is Al Diaz.

The draw to the story was not just the performer himself, but the lack of appreciation night owls show to bar performers and how disengaged we can get when we hear live music that isn't under the roof of Madison Square Garden. While it is not our intention, Diaz's love for performing and telling inspiring stories shows that you don't know and understand someone until you see what they have lived through.

Born in Westfield, Massachusetts, Diaz began to perform in clubs in 1990 with his first band called "The Keith Kruser Project," a five-piece ensemble with Diaz as the keyboardist since he did not play much guitar then. The band mostly played rock songs they would hear on the radio. As time went on, Diaz was in bands like "The Funktion," "Big City Ratz," "Flux," and his personal favorite "Orange Crush." The band performed at New England colleges and played retro 80's music as Diaz was a dual instrument member playing both the keyboard and acoustic guitar.

For six years, Diaz performed in Killington, the ski capital of the northeast, and locally as a member of a duo he called "The Surf Monkeys." He started recording at home in his studio, backing tracks composed of drums and bass that he could sing and play guitar along with.

However, in 2002, Diaz's music career was brought to a terrifying halt when he was

diagnosed with a brain tumor called an acoustic neuroma about the size of a golf ball. Diaz had the tumor removed, and it left him deaf with slight facial palsy on the right side of his face. Diaz said, "I thought it was the end of the road regarding music. Hearing everything from one ear was incredibly hard to get used to." Fortunately, Diaz was able to perform again after a year of rehabilitation. Diaz mentioned, "That was one of my biggest achievements."

Since 2005, Diaz has been a solo act and still records backtracks in his studio, then performs them live under a stage name no other than his own, Al Diaz.

Arriving at the University of Connecticut in 2017 at the Huskies Tavern, Diaz has seen thousands of students come in as kids and leave as adults, witnessing many disappointing seasons for UConn basketball and a National Championship win in 2023. When asked what keeps him returning to the infamous college bar, Diaz said, "I love performing. It's awesome that people have a great time. New people come to me yearly, stating their brothers or sisters have told them to see me. Seniors at the end of the year thank me for helping them get through college!" What he loves most about performing is "the satisfaction that people have a good time simply because of me. That is very rewarding."

While Diaz's dreams are no other than to keep improving and performing consistently, he has been the heartbeat of venues for many years, providing the tunes of somebody's Saturday night. Performers like him need more credit for their deep love and dedication to the art of music and entertainment, no matter what the stakes are.

Diaz is married to his wife, Sue, and they have two boys, Alex and Isaac.

I greatly appreciate Diaz sharing his story.

I love performing. It's awesome that people have a great time. New people come to me yearly, stating their brothers or sisters have told them to see me. Seniors at the end of the year thank me for helping them get through college!



# Opinion

## The Daily Campus

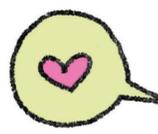
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CARTOON BY SARAH CHANTRES, STAFF ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

# UConn's questionable economic partnerships reveal hypocrisy

The University of Connecticut School of Medicine renewed their five-year partnership with Connecticut healthcare giant Hartford Healthcare Thursday, Sept. 14, continuing the six-decade affiliation between the two enterprises, according to UConn Today. The "academic affiliation agreement" signed by Hartford Healthcare CEO Jeff Flaks and UConn President Radenka Maric aims to provide medical students with opportunities to complete their residencies in Hartford Healthcare facilities and mitigate hospital staff shortages in the process.

Hartford Healthcare and UConn's partnership is extensive. As the former details on their webpage of UConn-sponsored programs, the "major affiliation" offers a wide range of fellowships and trainings to undergraduate and graduate students. This past spring and summer, Hartford Healthcare partnered with the Peter J. Werth Institute for Entrepreneurship and Innovation to produce HealthWerx, an experiential learning program focused on exposing fellows to innovation and equity issues in healthcare.

While President Maric went on the record to say that UConn and Hartford Healthcare want "what is best for the people of Connecticut," further investigation into the university's longtime partner calls her statement — and UConn's community impact — into question.

Over the past two years, Hartford Healthcare has found itself in the middle of numerous controversies involving underpaying care workers, imposing austerity measures on the communities it is supposed to serve, engaging in anti-competitive business practices and putting profit over care overall. By continuing to enthusiastically partner with the company, UConn is tacitly consenting to the abuse of labor and monopolistic practices, thus sending a message to UConn graduates about the kind of harmful behavior that is acceptable in the professional world.

On the receiving end of Hartford Healthcare's harmful business practices is a community closely intertwined with UConn — Windham. From 2020 to 2022, the company fought a protracted legal battle against courts and community members to eliminate

the birthing and delivery unit of Windham Hospital, which union leaders and local activists speaking to the CT Mirror said would create unsafe conditions for people going into labor who would have to drive considerable distances if the unit shut down.

While Hartford Healthcare's appeal to shelve the maternity unit was eventually struck down, the company continued to exploit the care workers that make Windham Hospital a critical resource for the community. In October of 2022, Windham Federation of Professional Nurses, AFT Local 504, launched a two-day strike to demand fair wages, affordable health insurance and "improved working conditions surrounding forced overtime." The strike came after 290 days of waiting on Hartford Healthcare, the hospital's parent company, to sit down with the union for negotiations. The company waited a full year to finally continue negotiations with the union and institute lower insurance premiums, but has not yet made headway on eliminating forced overtime, which nurses say leads to exhaustion and increased error, according to CT Public.

As recently as spring of 2023, ambulance technicians with the International Association of EMTs and Paramedics Local 294 passed a vote of no confidence in Hartford Healthcare, which bought the Meriden based ambulance company Hunter's Ambulance. After the purchase and alleged budget cuts, EMTs experienced marked declines in the quality of the Hartford Healthcare-owned dispatch line necessary for directing ambulance drivers to people experiencing medical emergencies. Hartford Healthcare also offered Local 294 members a small 3% pay increase when other ambulance companies were offering raises ranging from 9-11%, according to the Meriden Record-Journal.

In February of 2022, patients launched a class-action lawsuit against the company for driving up prices by pressuring employers into accepting insurance contracts that steer patients to more expensive and lower quality hospitals. Connecticut Attorney General William Tonger characterized the practice as "anti-competitive" conduct — in other words, mo-

nopolistic behavior. Another lawsuit leveled by St. Francis Hospital accused Hartford Healthcare of trying to "crush" or "bury" competitors by dominating patient networks, which is further evinced by the fact that half of all hospitals in Connecticut are owned by either Hartford or Yale New Haven Health.

Hartford Healthcare's recent business conduct has established a clear record of undermining the quality and accessibility of care to widen its profit margins. The Daily Campus Editorial Board believes that in maintaining its economic and academic partnerships with Hartford Healthcare, UConn is sending a clear indication to its constituents — which includes students and UConn Health patients — that it will happily accept anti-labor and monopolistic practices in the healthcare industry. Supplying Hartford Healthcare-owned hospitals with students seeking a residency or clinical experience not only quietly endorses these problematic actions, but risks exposing students to them as well.

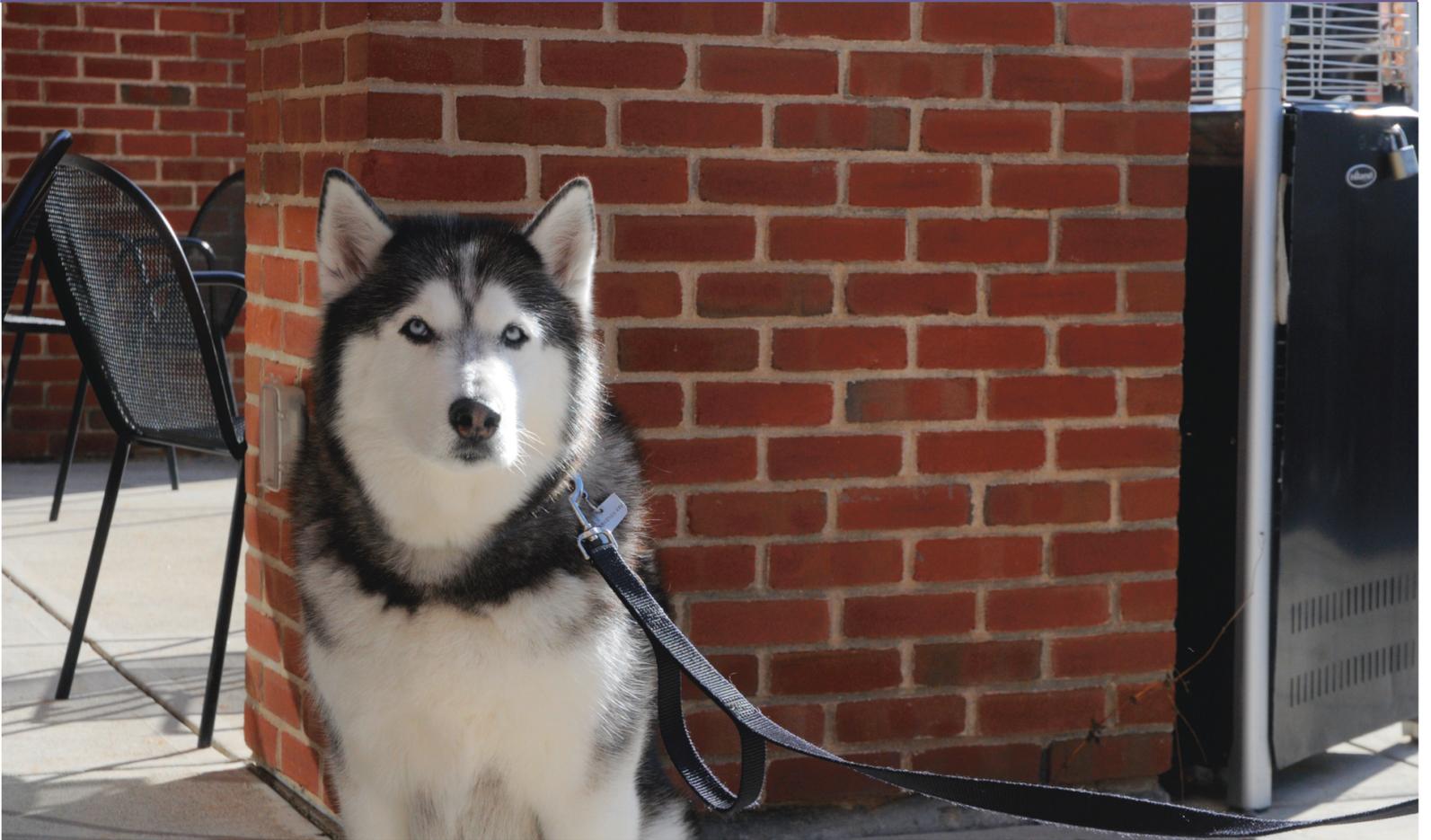
Universities are not neutral institutions. Regardless of whether they are public or private, the decisions that university administrations and boards of trustees make have social, economic and political ramifications. The Daily Campus Editorial Board feels that UConn has a responsibility to be more conscientious about its economic partnerships, which extend to companies responsible for global harm such as defense contractors Raytheon Technologies and Lockheed Martin; as the Editorial Board has previously discussed, dedicating buildings and university events to manufacturers of weapons of war is a powerful tell of how meaningful UConn's human rights impact is. In the future, the university has the valuable chance to prove its stated commitments to making Connecticut a better place by forgoing partnerships with bad actors — should these unconditional alliances continue solely because they are economically advantageous, UConn will squander that chance. We not only urge the UConn community to take notice of these issues and consider their social consequences, but for university leaders to take action.



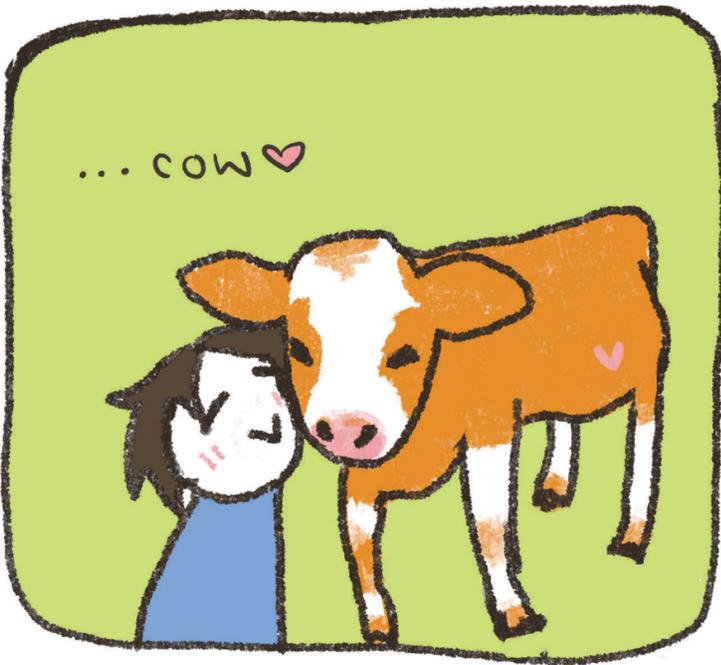
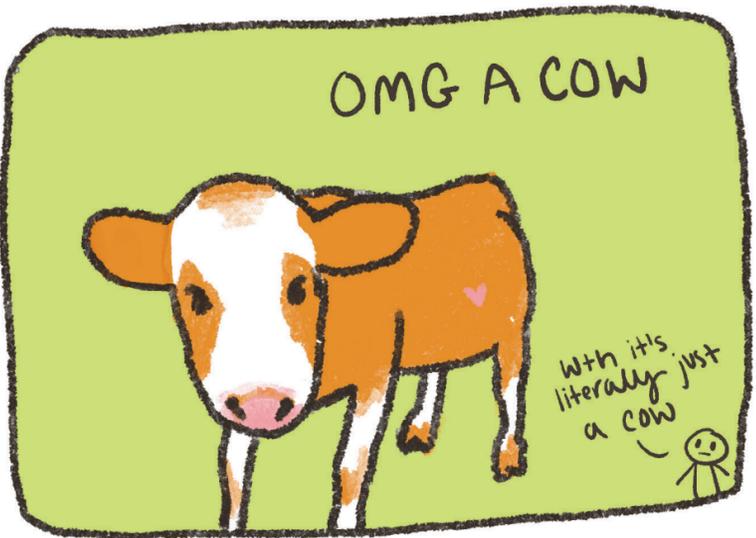
# Editorial

# Opinion

## Photo of the Day | Stopping by



Jonathan XIV is seen outside on campus today, making a stop at the Benton Museum and Beanery Cafe.  
PHOTO BY SHELAGH LAVERTY, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS



COMIC BY SARAH CHANTRES, STAFF ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS



COMIC BY VAN NGUYEN, ARTIST EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

## Jonathan XIV's Dad Jokes



COMIC BY RACHEL ZIMMERMAN, CONTRIBUTING ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

# Point/Counterpoint:

## IS IT TIME TO HIT THE PANIC BUTTON ON THE CINCINNATI BENGALS?

by **Sam Calhoun**  
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It's been a horrific season thus far for the Cincinnati Bengals. Fresh off a new mega contract, pro bowl quarterback Joe Burrow has not performed to expectations. Despite having elite receivers in Ja'Marr Chase and Tee Higgins to throw the ball to along with Joe Mixon as a quality RB1 option, the team's situation has not gotten any better. With Bengals head coach Zac Taylor telling the media on Monday that Burrow may be out next Monday night against the Rams, Associate Sports Editor Evan Rodriguez and Staff Writer Sam Calhoun have come to debate on whether it's time for Cincinnati to press the panic button in this week's edition of point/counterpoint.

**Evan:** I've gotta say to start off that I truly feel for Bengals fans. Not only is their team 0-2, but the potential concern of Cincinnati's QB1 missing time is certainly not something you want to hear. But, I don't think it's time to hit the panic button just yet. First, it's been just two games of the season and the first of those games were not ideal to play in. There is so much football to be played and plenty of time for a rebound from this team.

Second, there's still a ton of talent on this roster with Chase, Higgins, Mixon and Tyler Boyd. If Burrow is given some time to rest a few weeks, he'll ideally be able to come back looking like the player that fans have come to love. While it may be rough to rest the former LSU star against a hot team like the Rams, they'll be in much better shape against teams like the Cardinals and Titans, two 0-2 teams. If Cincinnati's leader under center comes back after that three week break and things still aren't clicking, then it's certainly time to be worried. But, for now, I think there's still plenty of hope



**Tee Higgins making a catch in a game against the Baltimore Ravens on September 17, 2023.**  
PHOTO COURTESY OF @BRADSHAWLEMMIE ON TWITTER

even when it may seem like there is none at the moment.

**Sam:** The Bengals have won back-to-back titles in the AFC North for the first time since the early 1980s. Burrow led the team to its first Super Bowl appearance since 1988, losing to the Los Angeles Rams. The following season, Cincinnati made the AFC Championship again, losing to the Chiefs. While many aren't pressing the panic button two weeks into the season, I certainly am. Their depth at skill positions has weakened. Mixon is still the RB1, as he has been since 2018. However, with the departure of Samaje Perine, the team is more reliant on Mixon, with Trayveon Williams, Chris Evans and Chase Brown unproven. Despite retaining their top three wide receivers, Burrow seems to be more reluctant to target his tight ends, with Hayden Hurst leaving. They did replace him with Irv Smith Jr., but he has missed many games in the past two seasons, which is why the Vikings made the move to acquire T.J. Hockenson. In 2021, he missed

the entire season with a torn meniscus and was placed on injured reserve in Week 8 of last season, returning for Minnesota's Wild Card game against the Giants. Smith isn't someone worth relying on, and who knows what Drew Sample and Mitchell Wilcox are capable of doing if Smith goes down.

**Evan:** As I stated in my previous response, I think a big reason that the Bengals are playing this way falls on Burrow. He just hasn't been the same quarterback that led this team to the Super Bowl just a few seasons ago. It was certainly a mistake to force him out there for games this season and it's only aggravated his lingering calf injury. That's why I have optimism that if they do sit him through the easiest stretch of their schedule, they should be in much better shape as they go up against tougher opponents like the Chiefs and the Bills. I won't argue with you that depth is definitely an issue with this team, but that doesn't mean they can't overcome that with their current talent on the roster. This

is a roster full of playmakers and a healthy Burrow can certainly operate at an efficient rate with the weapons he has at his disposal. Could he certainly use someone like Smith more in his offense to shake it up and give defense a little bit of trouble? Sure, but when someone like Chase isn't being utilized as he has in the past, that's a far bigger concern in my eyes. This team has shown that they can be one of the most dangerous offenses in the NFL when players like Chase and Burrow are clicking on all ends. That's why it should be the priority of the Bengals organization to make sure that their star quarterback gets healthier. If they don't, they may truly be in trouble. But for now, I'm not too nervous for Cincinnati just yet.

**Sam:** We've talked only about the offense so far, but what about the defense? The Bengals' secondary looks horrendous, with Jessie Bates III, Vonn Bell and Eli Apple gone, there's no one too notable remaining. Cincinnati's defense in general will be reliant on their pass rush to

overcome some of the best of defenses in the league, including the Chiefs, Bills, 49ers and Vikings. But with threats down the field such as Travis Kelce, Stefon Diggs, Justin Jefferson and Deebo Samuel, I'm reluctant to think the Bengals stand a chance in a lot of their games, especially if their offense plays the way they have been playing recently. I want to note that the offense is facing a lot of intimidating defenses. The 49ers are strong all around, with multiple All-Pro's including edge rusher Nick Bosa. T.J. Watt is one of the best defensive players in the league, and the Bengals face him and the Steelers twice. They were held to just three points in Week 1 against the Browns, and Myles Garrett will create pressure during Week 18's rematch at Paycor Stadium. I'm not a fan of the offensive line, and it worries me even more with a Week 3 matchup against the Rams with future Hall of Famer Aaron Donald. Three losses to begin the year would put the Bengals in a hole I'm not sure they can get out of.



**Bengals fans are hyped up before their game against the Baltimore Ravens on September 17th, 2023.**  
PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF @JASRIFFOOTBALL ON TWITTER

## Sports

Photo of the Day | Don't throw shade our way!



A UConn football fan wearing rainbow shades gazes into the distance at the Rentschler Field on Sept. 16, 2023 during their game against FIU.  
PHOTO BY SKYLER KIM, PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

## Sam's Section: Ohio State-Notre Dame, Colorado-Oregon headline loaded Week 4

by Sam Calhoun  
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After an underwhelming Week 3 in terms of hyped-up matchups, there are six ranked matchups on Saturday, along with other exciting games. In this week's edition of Sam's Section, we'll preview all the games worth watching on Saturday.

No. 4 Florida State at Clemson (12 p.m. ET, ABC)

When the preseason AP Top 25 came out, attention immediately went to this matchup when I looked at the Week 4 schedule. Clemson suffered a tough loss during Week 1 at Duke, and many are questioning whether the Tigers' reign as the top program in the ACC will continue. Florida State is the highest-ranked team in the conference, with their best chance at the College Football Playoff in nearly a decade. Jordan Travis will be in a quarterback battle with Cade Klubnik. It's a prove-it game for both teams. Clemson will have a number next to its name and be back in the ACC Championship conversation if they defeat the Seminoles. Florida State is coming off a two-point win at Boston College, arguably the worst team in the conference. Clemson has won seven in a row against the 'Noles, but trails in the series 20-14. If Florida State wins, it would be the first time they have won in Death Valley since 2001.

No. 19 Colorado at No. 10 Oregon (3:30 p.m. ET, ABC)

Colorado is the talk of the nation in regards to college football, with head coach Deion Sanders, his son and starting quarterback Shedeur, and CB/WR Travis Hunter.

**“However, the team will be without Hunter after suffering an injury after being hit out of bounds in Week 3's double-overtime victory over Colorado State.”**

SAM CALHOUN

However, the team will be without Hunter after suffering an injury after being hit out of bounds in Week 3's double-overtime victory over Colorado State. Both Shedeur



Deion Sanders (left) seen here with his son, Shedeur Sanders (right) at the Colorado vs Colorado State game on September 16th, 2023.  
PHOTO COURTESY OF @JASRIIFOOTBALL ON TWITTER

Sanders and Oregon quarterback Bo Nix are Heisman Trophy candidates, making them among the best quarterbacks in a loaded Pac-12 Conference. Oregon has won the last three games against the Buffaloes and nine of the past 10 games in the series. I can see this game being a shootout with two prolific offenses and Hunter's absence weakening Colorado's secondary. The Ducks are the No. 2 ranked scoring offense, while the Buffaloes are No. 15.

No. 22 UCLA at No. 11 Utah (3:30 p.m. ET, FOX)

Despite losing Dorian Thompson-Robinson and Zach Charbonnet to the NFL, UCLA is back in the top 25 through the first three weeks. The Bruins did not find much difficulty beginning the season 3-0, but they will open its final Pac-12 schedule on the road against Utah, the defending champions. UCLA has lost five of the last six games against the Utes and has not won in Salt Lake City in eight years. That could change if quarterback Dante Moore can lead the team to victory over Utah. For Utah, everything relies on whether quarterback Cam Rising can make his season debut after missing the first three weeks due to the ACL injury he suffered at the end of last season.

No. 15 Ole Miss at No. 13 Alabama (3:30 p.m. ET, CBS/Paramount+)

Alabama saw its 128-week streak of being in the top 10 of the AP Poll end when the rankings updated on Sunday afternoon, falling to No. 13 after struggling for some time with South Florida last week. Questions have been raised about whether current offensive coordinator Tommy Rees is a good fit for the program. Jalen Milroe, who was surprisingly benched for Tyler Buchner last week, has another opportunity to prove he's the guy at quarterback on Saturday against Ole Miss, who doesn't have any quarterback problems with Jaxson Dart leading the way. Alabama has won seven straight against the Rebels, with the last time coming at home in 2015. The Tide's home record against Mississippi is 28-2 (after vacations and forfeits). If Ole Miss pulls the upset off in Tuscaloosa, we might have to start considering them for the SEC West spot in the SEC Championship.

No. 14 Oregon State at No. 21 Washington State (7 p.m. ET, FOX)

This game will be the first time that both Oregon State and Washington State will face off with both teams being nationally ranked. They're the two left behind in the collapse of the Pac-12, but this game could show what

they can bring to another Power 5 conference. Oregon State saw its eight-game losing streak come to an end in Corvallis last season, and they're the favorites in Pullman this week. There's a lot to like about Clemson transfer D.J. Uiagalelei, who has found new life as the Beavers' starting quarterback. The game will be decided with Oregon State's offense against Washington State's defense.

No. 6 Ohio State at No. 9 Notre Dame (7:30 p.m. ET, NBC/Peacock)

The biggest game of Week 4 comes in South Bend as Ohio State rematches with Notre Dame after the Buckeyes won in Columbus last season. I'm a fan of Sam Hartman, who transferred to Notre Dame after a successful career leading Wake Forest. Running back Audric Estime has been arguably the best at his position in the country, carrying for over 116 yards in the last three games with at least one touchdown in each game. In the team's blowout win over Central Michigan, Estime ran for 176 yards and a touchdown on 20 carries. Ohio State's offense is extremely talented, with All-American wide receiver Marvin Harrison Jr. However, the Buckeyes' offense didn't show its potential without C.J. Stroud until last week, when they beat Western Kentucky 63-10. This top-10 matchup will feature so much talent on both offense and defense on each team, especially at the offensive skill positions.

No. 24 Iowa at No. 7 Penn State (7:30 p.m. ET, CBS/Paramount+)

Beaver Stadium will have its annual White Out as Penn State hosts Iowa, seeking to avoid three-straight losses to the Hawkeyes. Iowa's offense is now being led by former Michigan quarterback Cade McNamara, who only has 417 passing yards through three games. There's a reason to be excited about in Happy Valley, with Drew Allar becoming the starting quarterback. Along with a running back duo of Kaytron Allen and Nicholas Singleton, the Nittany Lions may have its best offense in years. Fourteen of the last 31 games between the two teams have been decided by one possession. Penn State looked lost on offense at Illinois despite scoring 30 points for the 10th-straight time, the nation's longest active streak.

**“If Ole Miss pulls the upset off in Tuscaloosa, we might have to start considering them for the SEC West spot in the SEC Championship.”**

SAM CALHOUN

# Connor's Corner: T.J. Watt

by Connor Sargeant  
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Hello and welcome back to Connor's Corner, a column where I discuss a standout performance in professional sports and that player's journey from high school to the professional level.

It's finally that time of year again. It may be hard to believe, but two weeks of the NFL season have come and gone, and with it, much drama. Currently, three of the four teams in the NFC East are undefeated, with no end in sight. Despite the loss of Cooper Kupp, unsung heroes such as Kyren Williams and Puka Nacua have kept the LA Rams aloft. Despite the offensive explosions around the league, the defensive performance of Steelers linebacker T.J. Watt stood above all; due to Watt's unrelenting presence in the backfield, Pittsburgh secured their first win of the young season.

It was all smiles at Acrisure Stadium Monday night as the underdog Steelers sent shockwaves throughout the Steel City with a massive win over the Cleveland Browns, setting them nicely in second place in the AFC North. Undoubtedly, Kenny Pickett has yet to thrive out of the gate, as his 15-30 passing for 222 yards won't break any NFL records. As for his only drive that found the back of the endzone, George Pickens deserves most of the credit, as he had over 50 yards after catch. Despite the offensive woes, the Steeler defense kept them in the game, as Watt had a night to remember. He had two tackles for loss, each of them setting up a third down, a sack, four hits on the quarterback and the game-winning scoop and score. Watt's performance was all the more special, as his sack in the second quarter made him



T.J. WATT is hyped after setting the all-time Pittsburgh Steelers Sacks record in a game against the Cleveland Browns on September 18th, 2023.  
 PHOTO COURTESY OF @MVPICKENS\_ON TWITTER

the franchise's all-time leader, passing James Harrison. In the NFL, it's easy to glaze over the impact that defensive players have on an outcome, but make no mistake — defense wins championships.

Before the fame and fortune, Watt attended Pewaukee High School in Wisconsin, and to put into context how long removed Watt is from high school, his older brother J.J. made his rookie debut when T.J. was a junior. T.J. excelled at all sports he played, including football, and a large part of his identity was foraging his only legacy. The Watt siblings are competitive in everything they do, and one instance of this is when T.J. broke Pewaukee's shot put record, previously held by his older brother. Interestingly enough, their father was the previous holder until J.J. came along. In high school, T.J. played tight end and defensive end. Due to his athleticism and skill on the gridiron, he not only was a three-star recruit but was also a first-team all-conference linebacker, and found success as a tight end with 27 catches for 505 yards and three touchdowns his junior year. Due to his ta-

lent on the gridiron, Watt was touted as a desirable prospect, subsequently garnering the attention of Wisconsin.

The Wisconsin native's collegiate career can be described as a roller coaster ride. Watt joined the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2013, where he redshirted his "freshman" season. If you are unfamiliar with the term "redshirting," this is essentially when a player sits out a season and does not play any games but still practices with the team. The reason for a player to sit out is to maintain their four years of eligibility and improve their skills so they can be acclimated to the level they are needed at for their academic sophomore (or redshirt freshman) season. The Badgers' expectations for Watt were through the roof, and the reason Watt was redshirted was because the Badgers felt in order to maximize his potential, he needed to add muscle mass, whether he played tight end or defensive end. Unfortunately, Watt missed his entire 2014 campaign due to faulty ligaments near his kneecap and because of that, he made the decision to make the move to defensive end, where he immediately domina-

ted. In his one season as a full-time defender, the Badger was excellent, racking up 11.5 sacks and 15.5 TFL, which immediately shot him into contention as a top prospect. The Steelers drafted him 30th overall in the 2017 NFL Draft.

When healthy, the 28-year-old plays at a Hall of Fame level. Despite the Steelers not meeting their sky-high expectations during Watt's tenure, it is not because of him. Watt's rookie year was one that didn't see the high level of success we are accustomed to, as it was more of an adjustment period. Watt saw no sophomore slump as he had 13 sacks and 12 TFL, above average for his position, though he was just getting started. Every season, he kept improving until his efforts were magnified in 2020 when he led the league in sacks and TFL. In

2021, he accomplished the same feat, with one key difference. Watt arguably had the best defensive season ever, as he not only led the league in both of these statistics but he tied Michael Strachan's single-season record of 22.5 sacks. One could argue that had Watt not missed his Weeks 3 and 10 matchups with minor injuries, he could have surpassed the Giant legend's incredible feat. Watt only played 10 weeks last season; injuries set him back yet again. His 2023 campaign is off to a good start, though, as his heroics in Week 2 signify that he is back and ready to pounce on offenses.



FILE ILLUSTRATION/THE DAILY CAMPUS

# NFL: Here's why fans should panic or relax for these teams off to an 0-2 start in 2023.

by CJ Dexter  
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 HE/HIM/HIS  
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**Minnesota Vikings: Relax.** The reigning NFC North champs are off to an 0-2 start in 2023 but there is no need to panic for the purple and gold. Quarterback Kirk Cousins and star wide receiver Justin Jefferson are playing out of their minds two weeks into the season, establishing themselves as one of the more elite quarterback wide receiver tandems in the game. In addition to having one of the games best wide receivers, rookie Jordan Addison has been a great deep threat early on in the season. Through two games, Addison has seven catches for 133 yards and two touchdowns. With Jefferson attracting so much attention from opposing secondaries, Addison will only emerge and thrive in Kevin O'Connell's offense as the wide receiver two. One of the main reasons why the Vikings are in this 0-2 hole is the turnovers. Minnesota has put the ball on the turf six times this season, all of which have been lost to the opposing team. While three lost fumbles per game is a concerning stat early on, it is simply not sustainable with the amount of offensive star power this Vikings team has. Overall, the Vikings are 0-2 but the turnovers will be significantly cut down, Cousins will keep leading this productive offense and O'Connell is one of the great young coaches in the game. Relax Minnesota fans.

**Los Angeles Chargers: Panic.** Just two games into the season, it is already time to press the panic button on one of the most loaded rosters in the game. In the most recent attempt of Brandon Staley and the Chargers trying to close out a fourth quarter with a lead, Staley added a few more coaching gaffes to his resume as the Chargers blew their second straight game with a fourth-quarter-lead in as many weeks in Sundays 27-24 loss to Tennessee.



Justin Jefferson makes a play for the Minnesota Vikings against the Los Angeles Chargers.  
 PHOTO COURTESY OF @DUSTBAKER ON TWITTER

The third year head coach continues to stick to his overly-conservative decision making, as he opted for punts on several fourth and shorts (two or less yards to go) while at midfield or in opposing territory, including a fourth and inches at the Tennessee 44. The theme of Staley's fourth quarter cluelessness and "playing not to lose mindset" persists and is a key contributor to his team losing games as it did again this past Sunday against the Titans. While the new-look Kellen Moore play calling scheme seems to have energized the offense to perform with great efficiency, the defensive side of the ball has been an absolute mess. Through two games, opposing quarterbacks Tua Tagovailoa and Ryan Tannehill have thrown for 710 yards on 48 of 69 attempts and four touchdowns. With a schedule that headlines matchups against Cousins, Dak Prescott, Patrick Mahomes (twice), Lamar Jackson, Josh Allen and Russell Wilson (twice), there is no hiding from elite quarterback play. An 0-2 start could certainly cost a Los Angeles team with a head coach who's seat is amongst the hottest in the league and a de-

fense that is searching for significant answers in the secondary.

**Denver Broncos: Panic.** Just when you think that Denver can't disappoint their fanbase anymore than it did last season, they lose two straight at home to the Las Vegas Raiders and Washington Commanders to open 2023. Hiring former Super Bowl-winning head coach Sean Payton has not made any impact on the field so far, as this team continues to struggle with leads and find new ways to lose games. This past Sunday, Denver blew an 18-point lead at home to a rebuilding Washington Commanders team, one week after blowing a six-point fourth quarter lead to the Las Vegas Raiders. Last season while the offense struggled to get going, the defense was one of the more solid groups in 2022, keeping Denver within striking distance for a majority of games last year. This season, that narrative has been turned upside down as Denver's defensive-adjusted value over average (DVOA) is 21% worse than the league average, good for third worst in the NFL through two games. We saw how ugly this Denver team looked last sea-

son, and two games in, things look the same, if not worse. I don't see Denver reversing the script of their season enough to meet their postseason expectations, and an underwhelming 7-year/\$296 million contract for Wilson will only make rebuilding harder.

**Cincinnati Bengals: Panic.** The Cincinnati Bengals are off to an 0-2 start in one of the most loaded divisions in the league, but there is a bigger concern at hand that could potentially sway Cincinnati off the path to their third straight postseason appearance. Joe Burrow is simply not healthy right now. Burrow has played through a recovering calf-strain through two weeks this season and you can tell by the numbers it is heavily impacting his abilities. Through two weeks, Burrow has thrown for just 304 yards and two touchdowns while completing just 56% of his passes. In this past Sunday's 27-24 loss to the Baltimore Ravens, Burrow re-aggravated that calf injury and his availability going forward is in serious question. Losing Burrow for any significant amount of time would be a massive blow

to a Bengals team that is trying to make it to their third straight AFC title game and bring home their franchise's first ever Lombardi Trophy. Should Burrow miss any significant time this season, former Washington QB Jake Browning is next in line on the depth chart.

**"The Cincinnati Bengals are off to an 0-2 start in one of the most loaded divisions in the league, but there is a bigger concern at hand that could potentially sway Cincinnati off the path to their third straight postseason appearance."**

CJ DEXTER



# Sports

## Men's Soccer

SAPUTO LEADS VICTORY OVER CT RIVAL

by Nick Spinali

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On a cool Tuesday evening at Joseph J. Morrone Stadium in Storrs, Connecticut, the University of Connecticut men's soccer team hosted their cross-state rivals, the Central Connecticut State University Blue Devils. Ultimately, the Huskies claimed a convincing 3-1 victory.

Playing against a CCSU squad that has not had much success in recent memory, UConn head coach Chris Gbandi took the opportunity to give some of his players that don't receive regular playing time a chance to take the pitch. The lineup changes paid dividends almost immediately. The two teams began play in a scoreless tie before junior Greg Maclean scored the first goal of his career for the Huskies. First-year Mikah Thomas entered a beautiful volley into the goal box that was nodded by graduate student Adil Iggoute. The ball was deflected into the air and Maclean headed it back down, bouncing the ball into the back of the Central net. Iggoute and Thomas were given assists on the play.

**“UConn head coach Chris Gbandi took the opportunity to give some of his players that don't receive regular playing time a chance to take the pitch.”**

NICK SPINALI

The Blue Devils challenged the Huskies' defense a number of times in the first half. They



UConn men's soccer wins a hard-fought conference match against St. John's with a score of 2-1 at the Morrone Stadium on Sept. 15, 2023. The Huskies improve their record to 4-2.

PHOTO BY SKYLER KIM, PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

benefited from an aggressive sequence in the 30th minute when UConn goalie Clayton Knibbs made a Central player fall to the ground in the Huskies' goal-box. The incident warranted a yellow card for unsporting and the Blue Devils were awarded a free kick, which the team converted easily.

UConn ended the first half on a high note. With just over two minutes remaining before halftime, Thomas again raised a volley pass into the CCSU goalbox. The result was more direct this time, as sophomore Joey Saputo was the first and only player to touch the ball before it crossed the plane for another Husky score. If you blinked, you missed it, as the ball began its descent and bodies began to swarm the goal box. Only Saputo had his eye on the ball and he made the Blue Devils pay for their confusion. It was the first goal of the campaign for the sophomore, while Thomas assisted for the second

time in the match. Junior Okem Chime also assisted on the play. At halftime, UConn was maintaining a 2-1 advantage.

It was all Huskies again in the second half, as the Blue Devils failed to compose a real threat against UConn's lead. For safe measures, Saputo knocked in a second goal in the 68th minute. It was a perfectly executed play,

**“It was a perfectly executed play, as sophomore Nicolas Tomerius broke into the Central goal box before dropping a pass to fellow sophomore Eli Conway.”**

NICK SPINALI

as sophomore Nicolas Tomerius broke into the Central goal box before dropping a pass to fellow sophomore Eli Conway. Conway quickly found Saputo penetrating on the far side of the box and his pass was timed perfectly - in one fluid motion, Saputo ran through the soccer ball and elevated it through the uprights. Both Conway and Tomerius were credited with assists. The goal was the final score by either team and cemented a solid 3-1 showing for the home team.

“These two goals meant a lot to me,” Saputo said after his team-leading performance. “I've been working hard and I'm happy to have gotten rewarded. It was a good team performance overall and I'm happy with the way that we played.”

In total, Central actually attempted more shots than UConn (10 to 8), with both managing four shots on-goal. Knibbs and Kyle Briere combined for four saves in the Husky goal, while CCSU managed just one save. The Huskies

bested the Blue Devils in fouls committed (13 to 10) and offsides calls (4 to 0), while Central attempted more corner kicks (5 to 2).

With the win, the Huskies have now won three straight matches dating back to September 11. The team's next chance to extend its win streak will come this Saturday, when Connecticut travels to South Orange, N.J. for a Big East matchup versus the Pirates of Seton Hall University. Kick-off is set for 6 p.m. Fans at home can catch the Huskies live with a FloSports subscription.

**“These two goals meant a lot to me,” Saputo said after his team-leading performance.”**



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PHOTO BY SKYLER KIM, PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

WHAT TO KEEP AN EYE ON THIS WEEK

UConn SCOREBOARD



**3** vs. **1**

Men's Soccer  
Tuesday

Upcoming Games



INSTAGRAM OF THE DAY



@uconnfootball  
Jelani = Dual Threat DAWG  
#CTFOOTBALL

TWEETS OF THE DAY



**UConn Huskies**  
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**UConn Men's Soccer**  
@UConnMSOC  
FULL-TIME | UConn 3 - CCSU 1

Huskies pick up their third straight win!

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