



Haunted HEEP returns for a night of horrifying Halloween fun

by Gabriel Duffany
HE/HIM/HIS
STAFF WRITER
gabriel.duffany@uconn.edu

The Office of Sustainability will host its fourth annual Haunted HEEP walk next Wednesday, Oct. 25, bringing fright to the University of Connecticut from 7 to 9:30 pm along Discovery Drive. Visitors should anticipate an evening of heart-racing excitement as they navigate a mile-long trail full of terrifying scenes.

This year's event will feature brand new sights that are "sure to scare" all those who enter, reads the Office of Sustainability's website.

"Students can expect a very dark trail, punctuated by illuminated scenes acted out by fellow students," said the Office of Sustainability's outreach and education coordinator Betsy Mortensen, who noted that last year's "Cyclops Baby, Mad Scientist experiments and campsite murder scene," give an idea of what terrors visitors may look forward to.

For the first time, students have the option to pre-register at no cost on the Office of Sustainability's website, granting a quick entry for those eager to get scared.

In addition to the VIP line system, HEEP is making this year the most efficient yet, with "more flashlights to help move groups quicker," and the incentive of candy for "survivors," at the trail's end, said Mortensen.

However, candy isn't the only treat awaiting attend-

ees, the first hundred visitors will also receive a free t-shirt upon entry.

Adrenaline-fueled screams will undoubtedly echo through the Hillside Envi-

ronmental Education Park, as a projected 750 guests make their way from one shocking

scene to the next. The number of volunteers for the event has reached an impressive 80 individuals and is growing, with sign-ups for anyone looking to spook and startle fellow students open until Friday, Oct. 20.

Haunted HEEP may only be one night of thrilling fun, but the event is designed to introduce students to a park they can enjoy throughout the entire year.

"The Hillside Environmental Education Park is an important part of UConn's history of environmental action, and an important resource for its future," emphasized Mortensen.

The hillside, which was transformed from the UConn landfill into a 165-acre woodland preserve, opened in 2016 for student access. The park now contains three miles of trail and a host of programs including "Forest Meditations and trail work sessions to help students bring down anxiety levels and reconnect with nature," noted Mortensen.

Haunted HEEP's mission in raising awareness of the forest has been a success the Office of Sustainability hopes to continue, with 83% of attendees at Haunted 2022 stating they would likely visit HEEP in the future, despite the fact that 80% of visitors had never been to the park prior to the Halloween event.

More information regarding Haunted HEEP's location and how to get involved are available on the Office of Sustainability's website.



The UConn Office of Sustainability hosts their annual Haunted HEEP on Wednesday, October 25, 2023 at the Hillside Environmental Education Park on the UConn Storrs campus. The one-mile walk is organized by volunteers that set up the trail and hang out in the woods to scare participants.

PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF @UCONNOS ON INSTAGRAM

A UCONN ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM WAS AWARDED A MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR GRANT

by Hallie LeTendre
SHE/HER/HERS
STAFF WRITER
hallie.letendre@uconn.edu

The University of Connecticut is being given a \$5 million grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The money is part of a cooperative agreement that the EPA awarded UConn to promote the work being done by a group of faculty and staff who are providing technical assistance to communities in need, a UConn Today article said.

The communities to which this assistance is being given are brownfields sites, which are areas that are high in pollutants, causing possible environmental hazards that can negatively affect nearby residents.

The sites are typically abandoned, which in addition to causing problems for the environment, can reduce property values in surrounding neighborhoods.

The mission of participating UConn faculty and staff in the technical assistance program is to go into communities in need

and provide environmental assessments and cleanups while protecting public health and environmental justice.

Recently, the UConn's technical assistance for Brownfields Program has provided aid to over 100 communities across New England.

UConn was one of five universities who received a grant from the EPA for 2023.

"The cooperative agreement not only supports the act of identifying brownfield sites, but we're able to offer assistance

pursuing grant opportunities, reviewing technical reports and documents, conducting site reuse assessments, explaining regulatory and economic issues, and engage the local community in the redevelopment process," UConn's Technical Assistance for Brownfields program director Marisa Chrysochoou said in a UConn Today article.

For UConn students interested in getting involved, the Municipal Assistance Program offers various resources and ways to participate in providing aid.

"UConn's technical assistance for Brownfields program has provided aid to over 100 communities across New England."

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Tweet of the Day

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Only school in the nation with both basketball programs ranked in the top-10 #BleedBlue

News

Anger boils and desperation widens in war's 12th day

(AP) - War's most glaring images capture blood-soaked bodies, flattened buildings and steely soldiers. Zero in on the faces in those photos, though, and much more is revealed: Anger, resolve and desperation.

As Israel's war with Hamas persisted in its 12th day Wednesday, scenes of destruction and brutality met subtler human moments of a person absorbing their new reality.

A man walking his bicycle beside the charred remains of a hospital that became the battle's latest flashpoint. An obliterated building and the child pulled from its debris. A house pockmarked by artillery, and the man who stares blankly from the window.

All of it rippled outward to the wider world, bringing protests filled with boiling anger on the faces of those who amassed in Cairo, Tehran and outside Beirut.



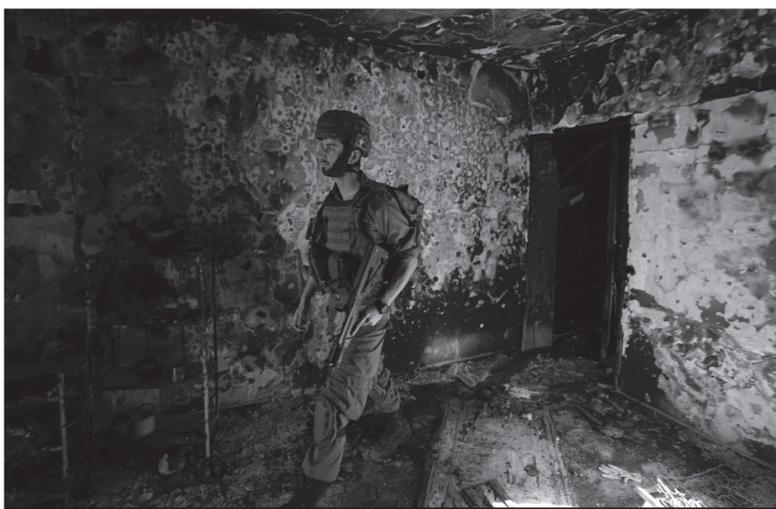
Palestinians look at the site of the explosion at al-Ahli hospital in Gaza City, Wednesday, Oct. 18, 2023.

PHOTOGRAPH BY ABED KHALED/AP



Families and supporters of Israelis held captive in Gaza call for their release during a demonstration in Tel Aviv, Israel, Wednesday, Oct. 18, 2023. The Israeli army says some 200 people were kidnapped and taken to Gaza in Hamas' cross-border attack on Israel on Oct. 7.

PHOTOGRAPH BY PETROS GIANNAKOURIS/AP



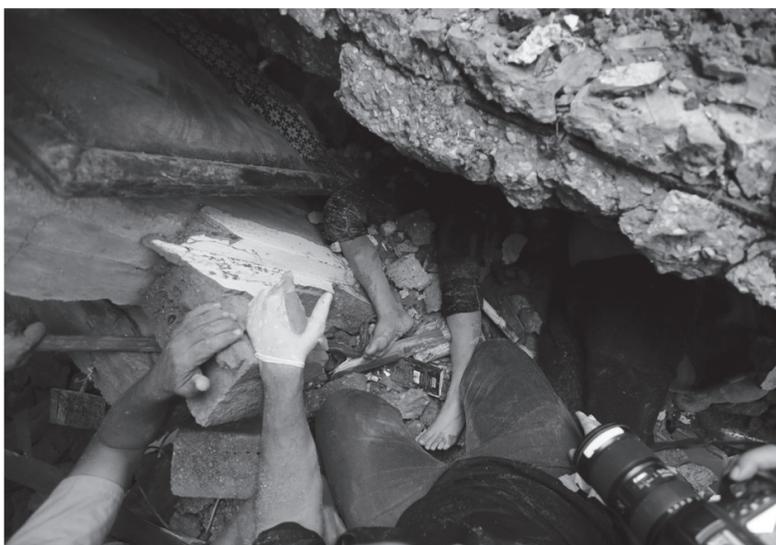
An Israeli soldier inspects a house damaged by Hamas militants in Kibbutz Kfar Azza, Israel, Wednesday, Oct. 18, 2023. The Kibbutz was overrun by Hamas militants from the nearby Gaza Strip on Oct. 7, when they killed and captured many Israelis.

PHOTOGRAPH BY ARIEL SCHALIT/AP



A boy lights candles in the form of the Star of David in honor of victims of the Hamas attacks during a vigil at the Dizengoff square in central Tel Aviv, Israel, Wednesday, Oct 18, 2023.

PHOTOGRAPH BY PETROS GIANNAKOURIS/AP



Palestinians try to rescue a child from under the rubble after Israeli air-strikes in Gaza City, Gaza Strip, Wednesday, Oct. 18, 2023.

PHOTOGRAPH BY ABED KHALED/AP

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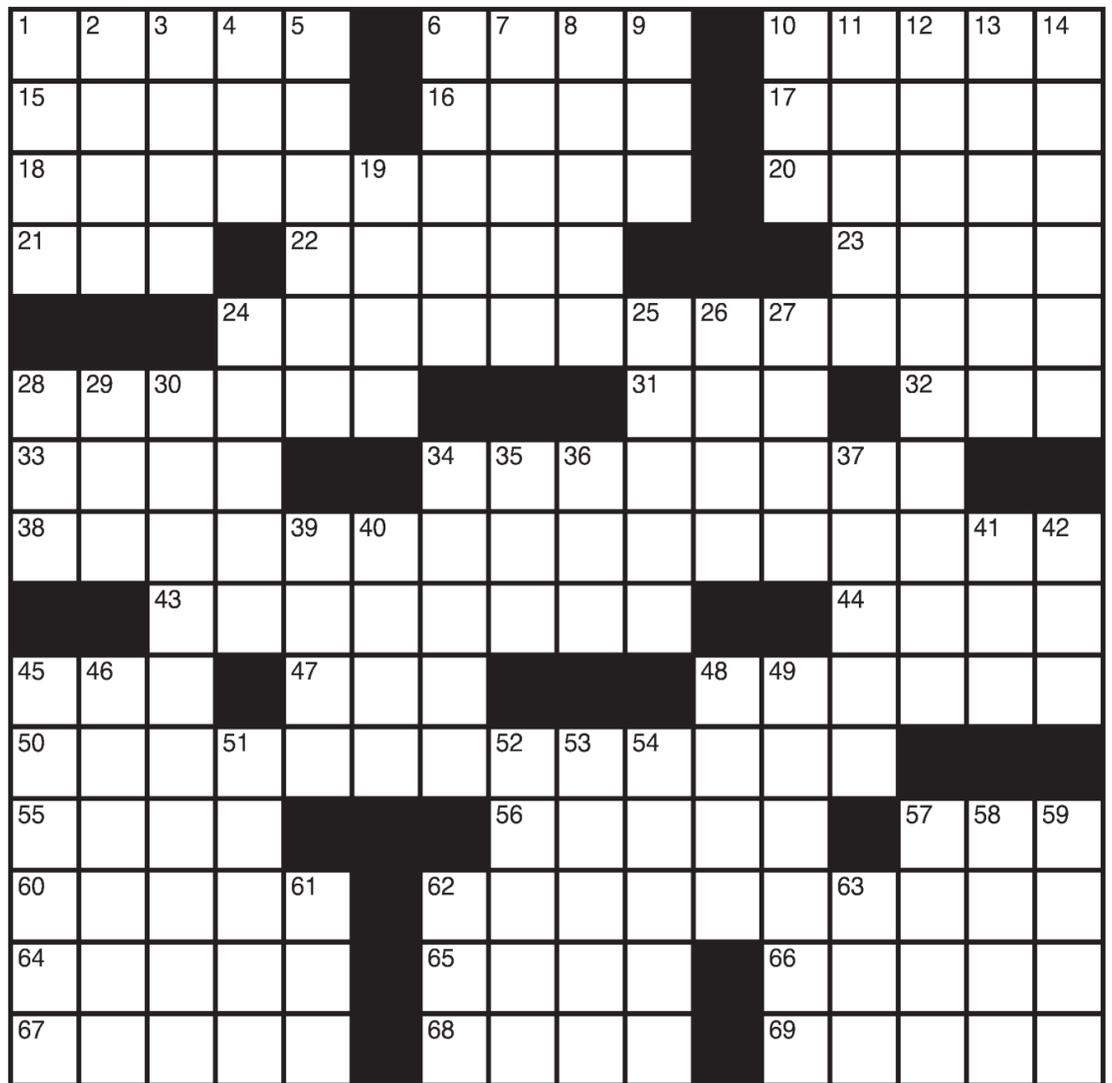
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ACROSS

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By David Distenfeld & Seth Weitberg

10/19/23

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10/19/23

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Cirque De Light



Welcome to the circus

IMAGE COURTESY OF FREEPNGIMG.COM

by Preethika Rao

SHE/HER/HERS
CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT
preethika.rao@uconn.edu

As part of Homecoming Week, the Student Union Board of Governors, aka SUBOG, hosted Cirque De Light, a New England-based traveling circus on Tuesday, Oct. 17. The event opened its doors at the Jorgensen at 7:15 p.m., and early attendees had the chance to spin a wheel for an exclusive crewneck or t-shirt. Fortunately, I was among the lucky ones to get a crewneck, which, despite being a bit oversized, is incredibly cozy and high-quality.

Before the main show started, passerbys were able to get a taste of what to expect as a fire performer showcased his skills just outside the main

entrance of the Jorgensen. His astounding tricks left everyone in awe. He mesmerized the audience as he worked with a baton that was ignited on both ends, balancing it perilously close to his body. One particularly astonishing feat involved him pouring gasoline into his mouth and then exhaling fire.

Prior to the first act, we were introduced to the ringmaster, who appeared amidst the audience as a spotlight shone on him, setting the tone for an exciting and enjoyable performance.

The opening act of the night was an aerialist, a performer of incredible strength, who executed a series of gravity-defying tricks. Her ability to gracefully move along the aerial silk and transition seamlessly be-

tween challenging poses left the audience spellbound.

Following her act was a hand balancer, who also showcased remarkable strength while gracefully positioning herself on rods anchored to the floor.

Next came a hooper, who added an extra layer of visual appeal to her performance with LED-lit hoops. She demonstrated her strength and coordination by spinning multiple hoops around her body, ultimately adding up to four at once, as well as one on each hand and foot. For me, this act definitely stuck out the most because of the LED hoops.

The theme of hoop acts continued with a male performer encased in a giant spinning hoop. This act, with its dizzying display of skill and endurance,

proved to be a crowd favorite.

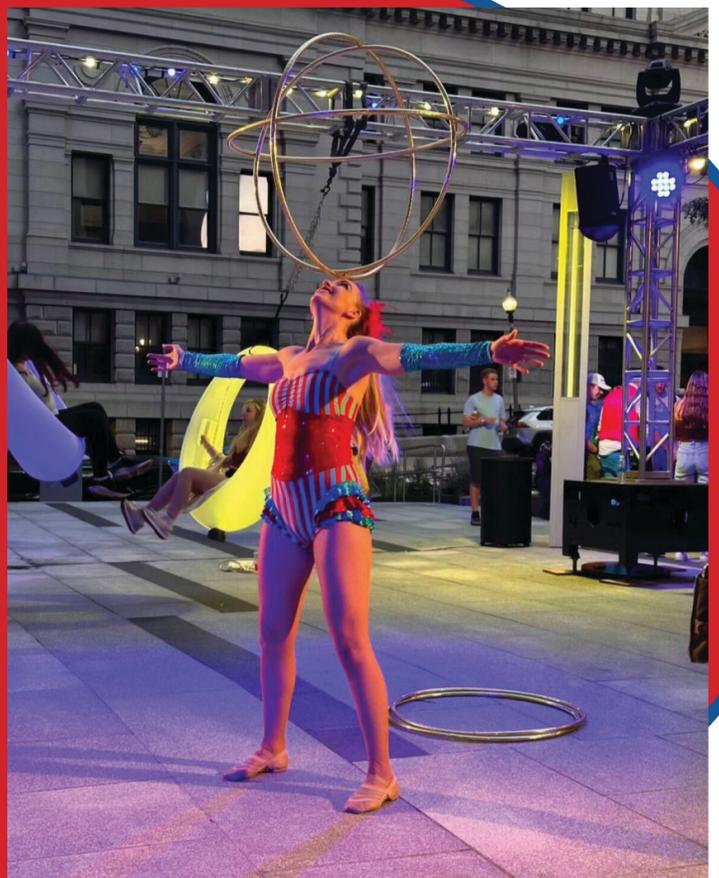
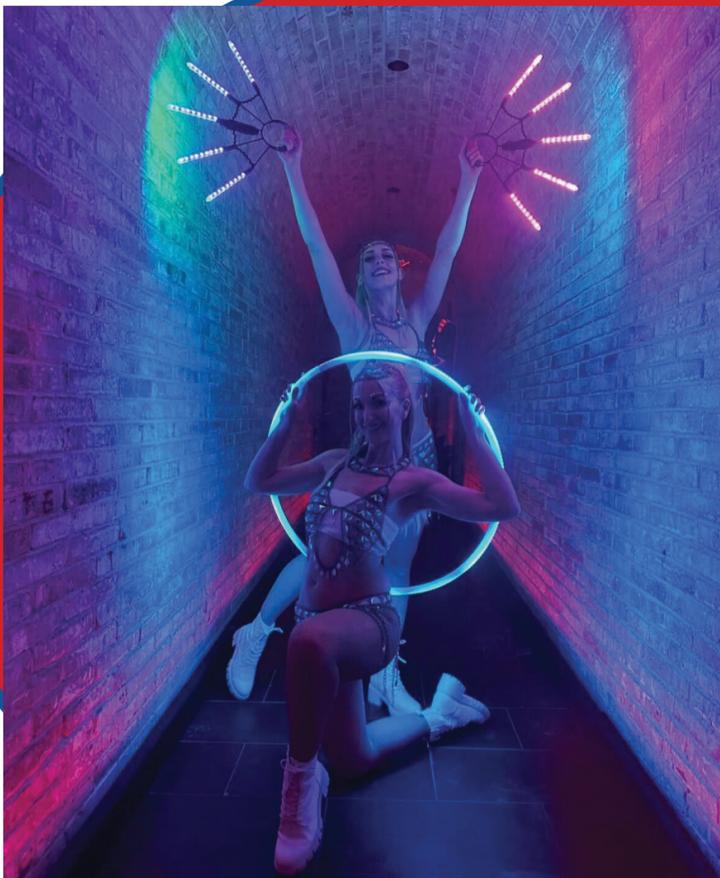
After the hoop acts, a juggler took the stage, initially juggling multiple balls and then elevating the act by juggling pins. This raised the level of excitement exponentially.

The following act was a lyre duo, where a single hoop constantly spun and two performers artfully positioned themselves within and on top of it. The synchronized movements of the duo added an artistic flare to the act.

After the duo, the next act was an LED show. This act featured a performer wielding two LED light sticks, which she spun and posed with. At times, the spinning sticks created shapes and images, such as hearts and a circus tent, enhancing the visual impact of the act.

The final act of the night was a dance duet. The couple's dance routine included breathtaking positions that demanded immense strength and balance from both dancers. For instance, at one point the man carried his partner on his shoulder while she balanced on one foot, showcasing the extraordinary level of trust and skill between the performers.

Overall, Cirque De Light was a wonderful way to end a busy day of classes. Each new act left the audience in awe and bewilderment. It was regrettable that not many people attended, for the performers deserved a full house. Nevertheless, the dedication of the performers came through as they delivered an exceptional performance.



IMAGES COURTESY OF @CIRQUEDELIGHT ON INSTAGRAM

STUDENTS EMBRACE PET THERAPY FOR CAMPUS WELL-BEING

by Patrick Boots
HE/HIM/HIS
CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT
patrick.boots@uconn.edu

In an innovative approach to support student mental health and well-being, the University of Connecticut Student Health and Wellness division (SHaW) has introduced a pet therapy program on campus. Recognizing the stressors that university life can bring, the university has partnered with Tails of Joy, a local nonprofit, to bring furry companions to campus, providing students with a therapeutic experience. The program, hosted at the Cordial Storrs House, across the street from Mirror Lake, allows students to spend quality time with trained therapy animals, primarily dogs. These animals, carefully selected for their temperament and socialization skills, offer students a unique and comforting outlet

to de-stress and recharge. The initiative is part of SHaW's broader commitment to fostering a positive and supportive campus environment. Tails of Joy, the organization that trains therapeutic animals, was co-founded by UConn family relations graduate Dr. Laurel Rabschutz. She still actively participates in the pet therapy program at UConn, explaining, "We've been lucky to have been a part of events at the Benton and Paws to Relax over the last fifteen years." Rabschutz added that "SHaW asked us to come every week, which inspired other colleges to add similar programs." Tails of Joy now also services the other regional UConn campuses, Eastern Connecticut State University and schools in Rhode Island and Massachusetts. SHaW also hosts a webpage where students can meet the cast of dogs as part of the

Tails of Joy program, with new additions every so often. The visits are also used as a learning opportunity for the animals and their handlers. In October, UConn students met Fireball, a seven-year-old golden retriever, and Ernie, a one-year-old Newfoundland terrier, on their very first therapeutic visits. Research has consistently shown the numerous benefits of pet therapy, including reduced stress, anxiety and depression. Interacting with animals has been proven to lower cortisol levels, increase the production of oxytocin and improve overall mood. "I've been coming every week and enjoy it," remarked Kaitlyn Baran, a third-semester animal science major. The pet therapy sessions at the Cordial Storrs House are conducted every Tuesday from 5 to 7 p.m. According to SHaW, student feedback on

the program has been positive, with many enjoying the visits during the midterm exam season. "Stuff like this is really useful since sometimes it can be hard to [take advantage of] other school resources... It's easy to have a place to relax and smile," said Lilian Ehrlich, a first-semester animal science major. The presence of therapy animals not only offers a temporary reprieve from academic pressures, but also fosters a sense of community and support among students. UConn's support of pet therapy reflects a growing trend in higher education institutions recognizing the importance of holistic well-being. As schools across the country strive to create environments that nurture both academic and emotional growth, programs like Tails of Joy are proving to be a valuable asset in promoting student success and happiness.

For more information about pet therapy at UConn visit SHAW.UCONN.EDU



To learn about Tails of Joy visit TAILSOFJOY.ORG

IMAGE COURTESY OF PNGALL.COM

The incentive to start exploring innovation, entrepreneurship and research opportunities at UConn

by Anna Hequimi
SHE/HER/HERS
CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT
anna.hequimi@uconn.edu

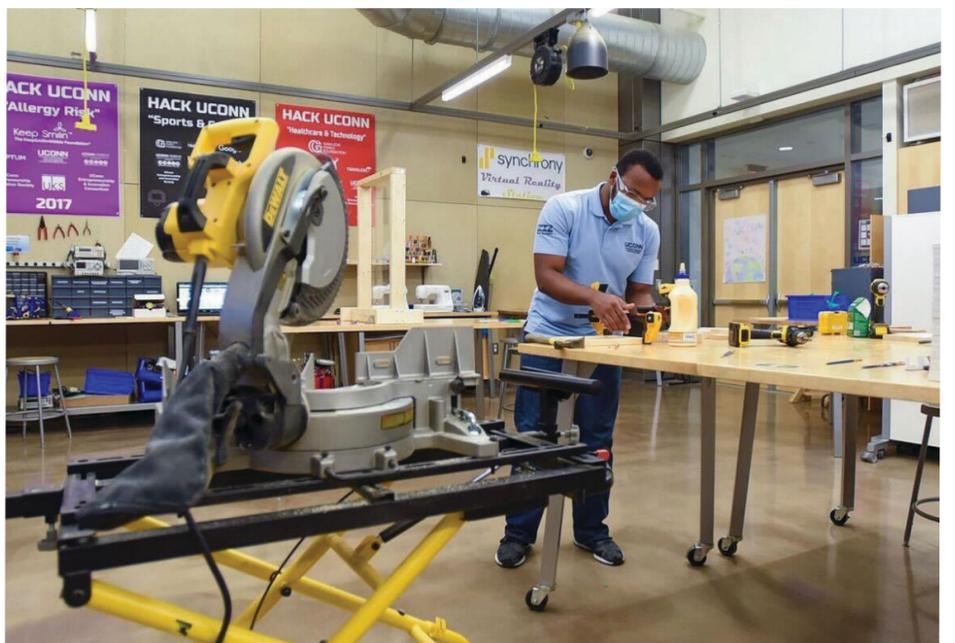
The University of Connecticut's Month of Discovery kicked off on Thursday, Oct. 5 at the Student Union Lawn, and the Makerspace Bounce was the signature kickoff event. Audrey Larson, a fifth-semester junior majoring in materials science engineering and one of the student managers at OPIM Innovate, said the Month of Discovery is designed to get students interested in innovation and familiarized with the different programs on campus. She continued to share how there are a ton of innovation and entrepreneurship events for students to attend. Discovery Quest, for example, is a gamified program and part of the Month of Discovery that motivates students to discover and experiment with the fields of creativity, research and innovation. If students want to participate in Discovery Quest, they must first register and attend the four signature events to start earning prizes. The more events students participate in during Discovery Quest, the more points they will earn for prizes such as water bottles, baseball hats, backpacks and scholarships. Makerspace Bounce was the kickoff event for the Month of Discovery, and stu-

dents went on a scavenger hunt to visit some or all of the four makerspaces: OPIM Innovate, The UConn Library Maker Studio, the Krenicki Arts and Engineering Institute and the Innovation Zone. Each Makerspace offered something different for students to engage with. The UConn Library Maker Studio has a little bit of everything including crafting and laser cutting. OPIM Innovate is tech-oriented, dealing with circuitry and has VR headsets and 3D printing for students to try. The Innovation Zone at Werth Tower also has a bit of everything, including woodworking, while the Krenicki Arts and Engineering Institute is about industrial design. After one visit to any location, students gained entry to the carnival that had snow cones, cotton candy and multiple inflatables. On Thursday, Oct. 12, Research Connections at the Werth Residence Tower gave students the opportunity to learn about research they can follow at UConn and outside of the university. Juwon Kang, a seventh-semester student researcher majoring in biology, showcased her findings on the "Sense of Belonging" for Korean Americans living in Connecticut. Kang gave insight on how Ko-

rean Americans did not feel like they belonged because they did not feel represented by companies or schools. Kang explained how she wanted to be the voice for minorities since she kept seeing micro-aggressions and Asian hate. Kang, along with other researchers, not only informed students about what they researched, but also how to start

a research project of their own and the different research opportunities at UConn. One source of support is funding such as the UConn Co-op Legacy Fellowship Change Grant that offers students \$2,000 for service initiatives, research and social entrepreneurship. The next event is the Experience Innovation Expo which will occur at the Stu-

dent Union Ballroom starting at 12 p.m. on Oct. 23. It will be an experiential venue where students can discover the wide range of activities and resources facilitating innovation, entrepreneurship and creativity. The Month of Discovery will end on Oct. 31, and students can attend as many events as they would like.



The Werth Innovation Zone is located in Peter J. Werth Residence Tower on the UConn Storrs campus. The space is open to students and features several different types of technology. PHOTO COURTESY OF @UCONN ON INSTAGRAM



Life

@dailycampuslife

Queer Ghost Busters

A review of Hulu's new LGBTQ+ paranormal investigation show

by **Ronnie Prado**
CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT
HE/HIM/HIS
ronald.prado@uconn.edu

So, two gay psychics, a lesbian witch, a transgender paranormal investigator and a skeptic walk into a haunted clown motel. This is not the setup for a bad joke; it's the first episode of Hulu's new paranormal docuseries "Living for the Dead." In this creative new take on the paranormal investigation cliché, a group of LGBTQ+ ghost hunters travel across the United States seeking out the odd and unsettling, and saving people from unwanted visitors from beyond the veil.

Something that sets this apart from the run-of-the-mill ghost shows that the public has been force-fed since the early 2000s is the show's unique focus. Most shows like this would focus on the stories of the ghosts themselves or on the places in which hunters were investigating. However, in this show, there is an underlying theme of emotional growth as the main characters — Alexandre, Roz, Ken, Juju and Logan — often find them-

selves confronting their inner demons whilst fighting the spirits on location. One of the most poignant quotes comes from Roz in the first episode where she says, "I sorta think that with clowns there's sort of a queer parallel," referring to the alignment between the misunderstanding of clowns and members of the LGBTQ+ community.

The show's inclusion of identity and the backgrounds of the hunters in ways that are usually avoided, adds to its dramatic appeal and pulls viewers in, allowing them to enjoy it as more than just some spooky content to watch around Halloween. For example, the story of Ken, one of the psychics, is told midway through the first episode. In a moment of emotional turmoil, Ken talks about being kicked out of the house by his father when he came out at 15 years old. He expresses how his life would have been so much different had his family been supportive of his identity. He continues to explain that he

would probably have gone to college and become a lawyer. This scene was so striking, making the viewer feel closer to the character than they initially thought they could be.

Of course, there is the gaudier side of queer television that we all love: the crazy outfits, funny quips and loveable slang. It is like "Ghost Adventures" meets "Ru Paul's Drag Race." The characters are all proud of who they are and dedicated to what they do, which only adds to the entertainment value.

Obviously, this show is not for everyone. Firstly, it is not scary. If you get annoyed by psychics, witchcraft or reality TV in general, steer clear. Additionally, there are some points where it feels like the actors are trying too hard, and the content grows tacky.

All in all, "Living for the Dead" was a delightful watch, and it offers something that the public has not seen in ages: original content! If you are curious about the show, you can find the complete first season on Hulu.

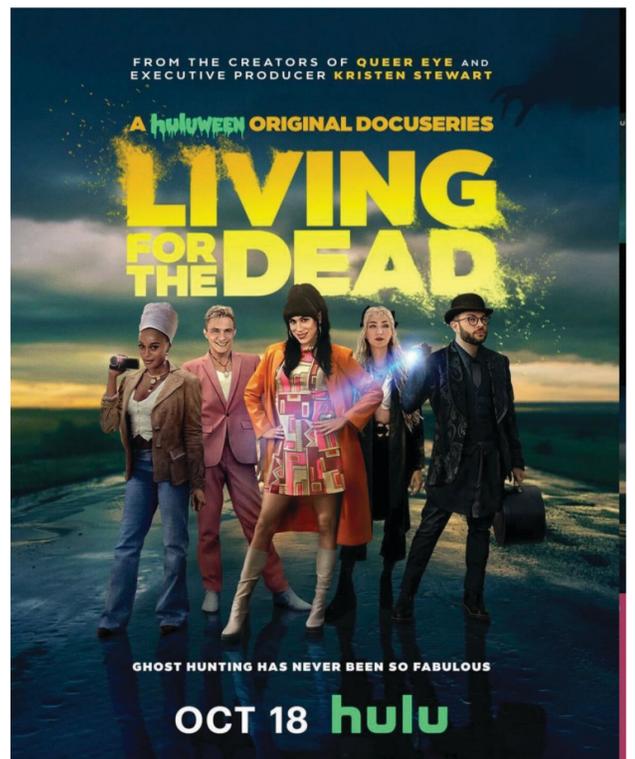


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Rating: 4/5



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CARTOON BY SARAH CHANTRES, STAFF ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

▶ Editorial

GREENWASHING AT UCONN: TRYING TO CROSS A CANYON WITH BABY STEPS

The University of Connecticut and the state's leading energy industries have a key role to play in the transformation of our society away from fossil fuels and dramatically cutting greenhouse gas emissions — the only viable path towards preventing the emerging catastrophe of climate change. As one of the state's most influential institutions, UConn is uniquely situated to instill tens of thousands of students with the technical and administrative skills — as well as the political and philosophical wherewithal — required to get on track to a sustainable and just society.

However, The Daily Campus Editorial Board continues to feel that UConn and state leaders do not currently have the political will to meet its stated commitments to achieving carbon-neutrality by 2030 and a zero-carbon infrastructure by 2040. With the absence of the broad, structural changes needed to accomplish these necessary goals, UConn students and other community advocates for sustainability and environmental justice have been met with greenwashing: ineffective, insufficient or superficial environmental policies that put the university in no better a position to address the existential threat of climate change.

UConn and utility giant Eversource partnered to host the inaugural Sustainable Clean Energy Summit Wednesday, Oct. 4 in the Student Union Theater, according to UConn Today. The goal of the summit was to contend with the challenges of decarbonizing Connecticut's electric grid and communicating the payoff of transitioning away from fossil fuels.

According to UConn President Radenka Maric, who spoke at the event, the university has shown numerous markers of progress on the decarbonization front, "including installing hydrogen fuel cells, enhancing efficiency of the onsite cogeneration power plant, and diverting food waste into compost and renewable energy production."

But the Editorial Board stresses that gradual steps towards carbon reduction are not the same as a planned and cooperative leap toward full decarbonization, nor do they sever UConn's financial ties to the fossil fuel industry through mechanisms like the university endowment, as we have discussed previously.

This distinction between carbon reduction spot-treatments and full decarbonization are significant for a

number of reasons. Firstly, since Maric's appointment to the office of president in fall of 2022, UConn has been increasingly vocal about hydrogen research and fuel cell development as an essential part of its clean energy reputation. In September of 2022, UConn signed onto a multi-state consortium to compete for federal funds enabling the development of a Northeast hydrogen hub "designed to advance leadership in clean hydrogen infrastructure deployment, research, and development," according to UConn Today. On Friday, Oct. 13, UConn and the consortium lost their bid, leaving plans to expand Connecticut hydrogen infrastructure dead in the water.

UConn currently sports a 400kW hydrogen fuel cell, supplied by UTC Power, which UConn Today reported would reduce the university's carbon footprint by 831 metric tons of carbon dioxide annually; however, this number pales in comparison to actual greenhouse gas emissions, which exceeded 125,000 metric tons in 2021, according to a presentation by the President's Carbon Reduction Working Group.

The brand-enhancing bells and whistles of hydrogen energy and food waste conversion have proven incapable of meeting the challenge of decarbonizing UConn, yet they continue to be touted as some semblance of progress in the absence of a comprehensive plan to transition away from fossil fuels — as evinced by the incomplete "Sustainability Action Plan" section of the Working Group website. This continues to be an attempt to greenwash the university's lack of a will to decarbonize, which is further visible by the scrapping of the President's Working Group on Sustainability and the Environment 2019 report. This report established a framework for weaning UConn off of fossil fuels.

Student and community activists must understand the scope of UConn's greenwashing in order to meaningfully challenge the university administration's and Board of Trustees' unwillingness to take a bold leap towards sustainability. Furthermore, they must recognize the significance of the Maric administration's abandonment of an existing decarbonization framework — that an exciting "clean energy" brand takes precedent over the actual health and well-being of the environment, and targeting this reputation may prove an invaluable tool for those seeking a change to the status quo.

In the aftermath of the Sept. 11 attacks on the World Trade Center, an intense wave of nationalism gripped the United States. This led to an earnest "us or them" mindset throughout the country.

Any criticism of America at the time, regardless of the validity, was seen as vehemently anti-American. Six days after the attack, popular late-night host Bill Maher got his show canceled due to his response to President George Bush referring to the terrorists as cowards. Maher said "We have been the cowards, lobbing cruise missiles from 2,000 miles away, that's cowardly."

Unfortunately, it was not only pretentious late-night hosts who were negatively affected by the "pro-America or the highway" approach; cultural and political Islamophobia became rampant. People of Middle Eastern descent, Muslims, Arabs and South Asians were the subjects of broad racial profiling practices from the United States government. Muslims were not portrayed favorably whatsoever in American pop culture during this time either. Hollywood often reinforced many of the stereotypes surrounding Muslims at this time by portraying them with racist tropes.

You've seen them before — from people yelling on airplanes, to depicting Muslim women as needing to be "liberated" from the seemingly oppressive symbols of their Muslimness such as their headscarves, to only depicting Muslims as terrorists. These stereotypes and policies have had disastrous consequences for American Muslims. Anti-Muslim hate crimes increased dramatically after 9/11 and have remained a persistent force in daily life today.

So, why did I tell you all of this? In the wake of the Israel-Hamas War, that same Islamophobia that was constant throughout the United States post-9/11 is beginning to rear its ugly head yet again.

Let's be clear, what Hamas did was abhorrent, but their disgusting actions are not representative of the entire Muslim community. Additionally, antisemitism has long been prevalent throughout our country and our world, causing untold pain and suffering to our Jewish communities. These facts should not prevent us from talking about the very real threat that islamophobia presents to Muslim-Americans.

The current frontrunner for the Republican nomination for president, Donald Trump, has pledged that if elected in 2024, he will immediately expand on his xenophobic Muslim ban and bar refugees fleeing Gaza from entering the U.S. Additionally, he called for ideological screenings of incoming refugees.

Other prominent Republicans have echoed similar sentiments. Florida Governor Ron DeSantis not only advocated for blocking all refugees from Gaza, but took it a step further, saying of the 2.2 million people who live in Gaza, "If

you look at how they behave, not all of them are Hamas, but they are all antisemitic. None of them believe in Israel's right to exist."

DeSantis also doubled down on his support of the Israeli government cutting off electricity to Gaza. "I don't think they're under an obligation to be providing water and these utilities while the hostages are being held," he continued.

It's worth noting that DeSantis is actively defending a war crime. The Israeli government's blocking of water, food, electricity and fuel constitutes collective punishment. What makes these comments particularly cruel is that the average age in the Gaza Strip is 18 years — half of the people there are children.

The lone Palestinian-American in the U.S. House of Representatives, Rashida Tlaib, (D-MI), has had a Palestinian flag outside of her office since January. House Republicans were so outraged that one Republican representative moved to ban flying foreign flags outside lawmakers' offices.

But it's not just on the American political right where Islamophobia has been rampant; even institutions on the American political left have caved into loyalty testing. MS-

NBC, an overwhelmingly liberal media outlet, removed three Muslim-American broadcasters — Mehdi Hasan, Ayman Mohyeldin and Ali Velshi — from their weekend lineup after the war. All three of these men have also been openly critical of the actions of the Israeli government.

Even President Joe Biden has engaged in Islamophobia. In a press conference, he claimed to have seen footage of the 40 children beheaded by Hamas. The White House eventually had to walk this statement back since even the Israeli Defense Forces could not validate the claim.

This rhetoric has tragic effects for both Palestinians in the Gaza Strip and across the world. The war has been going on for less than two weeks and Israel has already dropped over 6,000 bombs on a strip of land roughly the size of Philadelphia; that's more than the United States dropped on Afghanistan in a one-year period.

In the United States, this poisonous rhetoric about Muslims has already incited violence. In Chicago, a man killed a six-year-old Palestinian-American boy, Wade Alfayoumi, and left his mother wounded. The murderer feared that he and his family would be attacked by people of Middle Eastern descent and texted of a "hatred of Muslims" the day before the attack. He was also a frequent listener to conservative radio stations.

Just as Jewish-Americans should not be held responsible for the violence of the State of Israel, Palestinian-Americans and Muslim-Americans should not shoulder blame for the carnage committed by Hamas. We cannot allow our leaders to dehumanize an entire group of people yet again.

THE CYCLE OF PREJUDICE PERSISTS

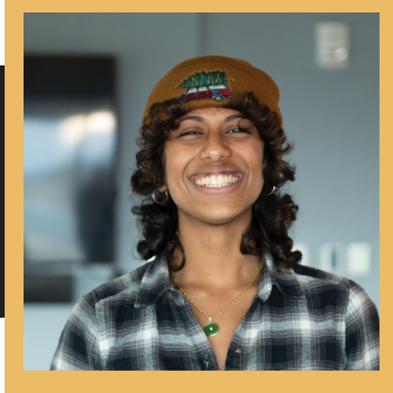
by Luke Feeney | CONTRIBUTOR | HE/HIM/HIS | email@uconn.edu

Study Break

Huskytalk | What accessory makes someone a Christian Girl Autumn?

“Oh it’s the hat, it’s got to be that massive hat!”

Christina Roby
Computer Science
First semester



“Oh, a long sleeve shirt with a vest and one of those big plaid scarves.”

Katie Rees
Allied Health
Third semester



“I love the UGGs, I think they’re so cute!”

Isabelle Meoli
Allied Health
Third semester



“Definitely a scarf, like one of the big ones.”

Luna Pham
Biomedical Engineering
First semester



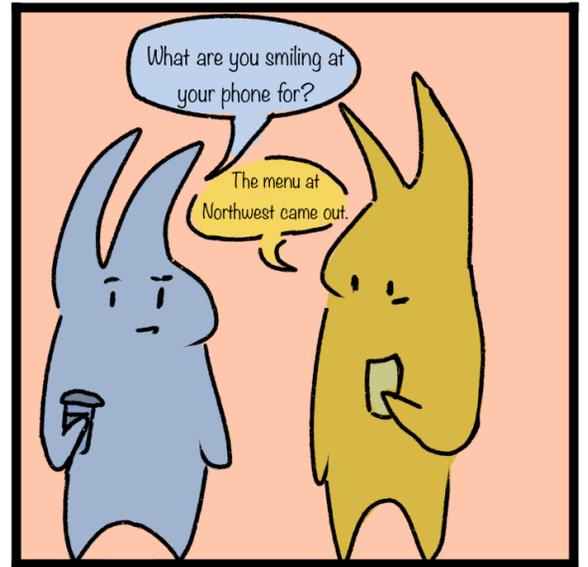
PHOTOGRAPHY BY SHELAGH LAVERTY, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

COMICS

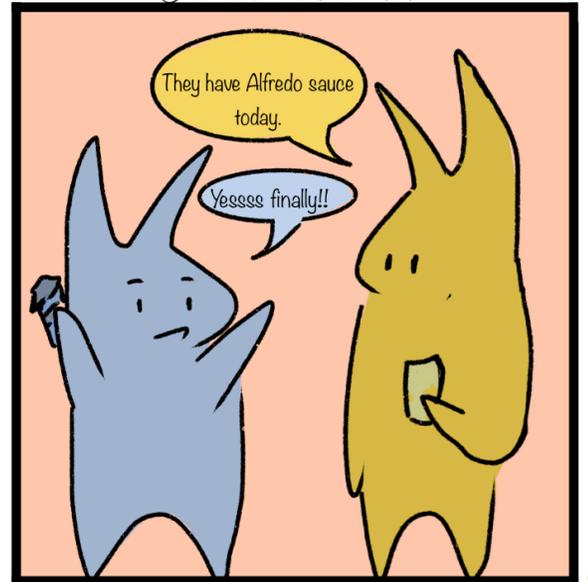


COMIC BY SARAH CHANTRES, STAFF ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

The White Collared Worker

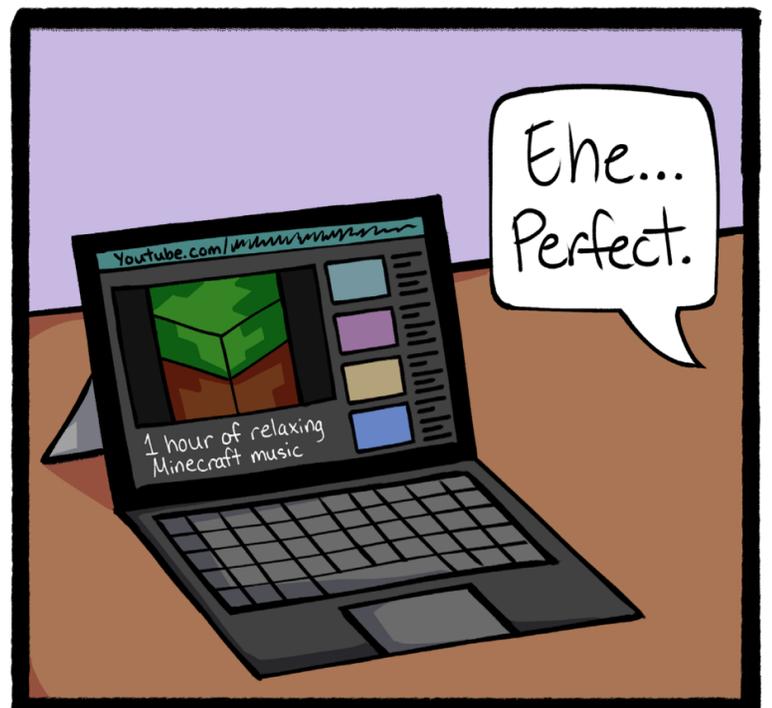
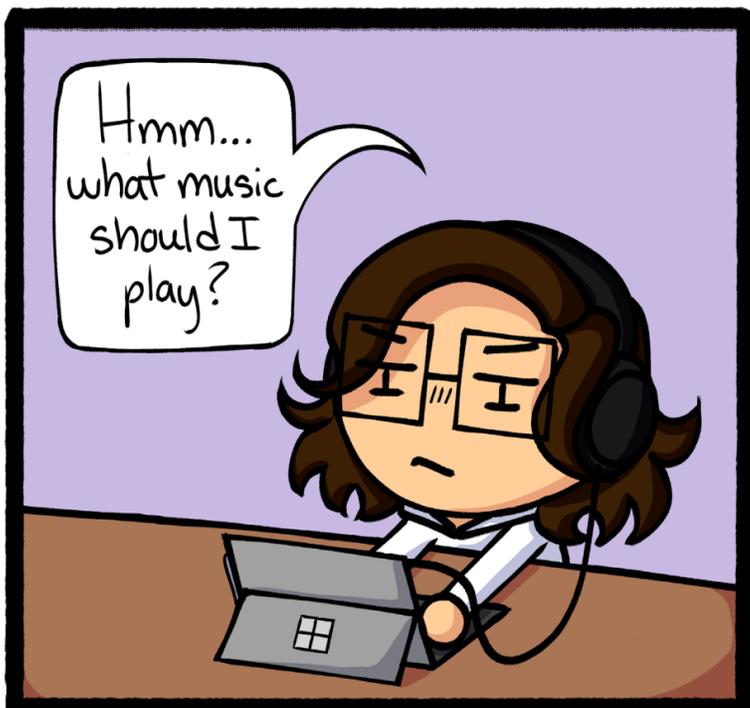


Follow me @whitecollaredworker on tiktok!



Jason J. Sampson

COMIC BY JASON J. SAMPSON, CONTRIBUTING ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS



COMIC BY ALEXA MAIAZZI, CONTRIBUTING ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Spin Cycle: The last time the Patriots were this bad...

by Nick Spinalli
HE/HIM/HIS
STAFF WRITER
nicholas.spinalli@uconn.edu

Through the first six weeks of the regular season, the New England Patriots are an abysmal 1-5. Their season is already over and they are, quite frankly, difficult to watch.

You would have to go back to 1995, Robert Kraft's second year of owning the franchise, to find the last time that the Pats were 1-5 to start a season. It's fair to say that a lot of time has passed between now and then; Bill Belichick was the head coach of the Cleveland Browns and wouldn't become New England's head coach for four more years, while a little-known player named Tom Brady had yet to begin his stint with the Michigan Wolverines.

So, yes, it's been a minute since the Patriots were last in the position that they find themselves in now. While it's been utter jubilation from fans who grew tired of the Patriots' dynasty always finding ways to win in the 2000-2010s, the fall from grace has been a hard one for fans of the team. On the bright side, it's hard

to imagine what life was like

the last time New England was this bad. In what other ways was our world different in the glorious year 1995?

Legendary UConn head coach Geno Auriemma was prepping for his 11th season at the helm of the Huskies

Auriemma was fresh off of his first NCAA Championship the year prior with a team highlighted by Rebecca Lobo, Jen Rizzotti and Kara Wolters. Since 1995, Coach Auriemma has led UConn for 28 seasons. This upcoming season will be his 39th at the helm for Connecticut.

Toy Story was yet to be released

Aside from being a pleasant film to watch, "Toy Story" revolutionized the way that films could be produced when it became the first fully computer-animated feature film ever released. The film came out in late November of 1995, so it had yet to hit theaters the last time the Pats were 1-5 to start a season. Since then, "Toy Story" has simply become one of Disney's top-grossing franchises. Just to think

that iconic characters like Woody, Buzz and Jessie were a figment of imagination at that point is kind of astounding.



New England Patriots wide receiver Julian Edelman reels in the catch in pregame warmups. The Patriots played against the Atlanta Falcons on Sept 29, 2013 at the Georgia Dome.

PHOTO COURTESY OF FLICKR

O.J. had just been found not guilty

In one of the most publicized public trials in human history, former NFL star O.J. Simpson was found not guilty of the murders of ex-wife Nicole Brown Simpson and her friend Ronald Goldman. It was a monumental decision given the evidence that seemingly stacked against Simpson, and with the trial's massive publicity, it feels odd this decision was made way back in October 1995. At the time, the only

Kardashian worth caring for was Robert Kardashian, Simpson's lawyer. His oldest daughter, Kourtney Kardashian, was just 16 years old when the case was decided.

The record for the world's oldest person was set

On Oct. 17, 1995, French woman Jeanne Calment became the oldest person in history when she reached the ripe age of 120 years and 238 days old. In her life, Calment would live to be 122 years and 164 days old. She was born in France in 1875 (!).

The Jacksonville Jaguars and Carolina Panthers played in their first seasons with the NFL

1995 was an important year in the NFL; it wasn't just the last time the Patriots were this awful, it was the first season that the Jags and Panthers played as NFL franchises. In addition, legendary quarterback Joe Montana retired early in the year and all-time head coach wins leader Don Shula stepped away from the game after the season ended. Only Belichick (330) has come close to sniffing Shula's mark of 347 NFL wins.



FILE ILLUSTRATION/DAILY CAMPUS

The Coleumn: Could the Big East Conference be a seven-bid league?

by Cole Stefan
HE/HIM/HIS
SENIOR COLUMNIST
cole.stefan@uconn.edu

In the Associated Press Top 25 preseason men's basketball poll released on Monday, the defending national champion and No. 6 UConn men's basketball team find themselves sandwiched between the No. 8 Creighton Bluejays and No. 5 Marquette Golden Eagles in the top 10. Not far off in the distance, the Villanova Wildcats lurk at No. 22 ahead of their second season without Basketball Hall of Fame head coach Jay Wright. Beyond those four Big East Conference powerhouses, the Xavier Musketeers and Rick Pitino-led St. John's Red Storm find themselves on the edge of the polls with 55 combined AP votes.

Let's assume all six programs I just mentioned earn a spot in the 2024 NCAA men's basketball tournament, which would match the number of representatives ESPN bracketologist Joe Lunardi predicts the Big East will have. Beyond them, I see three teams that could be on the bubble come Selection Sunday in five months and a legitimate possibility the Big East could be a seven-bid league for the first time since 2017.

Given the parity across college basketball and the influx of transfers stepping foot into one of college basketball's most competitive conferences, could it actually happen?

When it last happened six March Madness tournaments ago, only the Butler Bulldogs reached the second weekend as a No. 4 seed, despite Villanova being the defending national champions and the No. 1 overall seed. Getting that many teams in the Big Dance would tie 2017 for the most bids the conference has had since it split in 2013.

Head coach Shaheen Holloway and the Seton Hall Pirates could make some serious noise in conference action as their No. 56 KenPom preseason ranking puts them

four spots ahead of the Red Storm. Al-Amir Dawes, Kadary Richmond and Dre Davis, all guards, return after they each averaged over nine points and made more than 35% of their shots from beyond the three-point line in Holloway's first season with the Pirates.

Junior center Elijah Hutchins-Everett enters the mix after scoring 11.5 points and grabbing 5.5 boards per game with the Austin Peay Governors, making him Seton Hall's premiere frontcourt player, following KC Ndefo and Tyrese Samuel's departures. This leaves one opening that can be rotated between senior center Jaden Bediako, Boise State transfer Sadrage NgaNga and two freshmen. Bediako should win the competition for the spot, given his experience as a starting center last season with the Santa Clara Broncos, but Holloway should have a final decision on who earns it by the time the Pirates visit the No. 20 Baylor Bears in December.

I would not be surprised if the Georgetown Hoyas stole a spot in March Madness after a two-year hiatus, even though they have the conference's lowest KenPom ranking at 159.

Their most recent appearance came after winning the Big East Tournament as a No. 8 seed in 2021, but even if the automatic bid is not in reach, the Hoyas have the talent to secure their first at-large selection since 2015. Jay Heath, Wayne Bristol Jr. and Ryan Mu-

tombo all stayed in Washington, DC amid the coaching change from Patrick Ewing to Ed Cooley, making up 21% of the team's returning minutes and 26% of their scoring from 2022-23.

Gone are Primo Spears and Brandon Murray, both of whom departed for Power 5 schools; in are University of North Carolina guard Dontrez Styles, University of Illinois guard Jayden Epps and All-MAAC Third Team selection Supreme Cook. Averaging a career-high 13.1 points as a junior, Cook covered both sides of the glass with the Fairfield Stags at 3.2 offensive rebounds and 5.2 defensive boards per game.

Do not count out the Providence Friars either. As much as UConn fans view the Friars as the Joker to their Batman, head coach Kim English successfully retained most of Cooley's core from last season. That includes All-Big East First Team selection Bryce Hopkins, who finished second in the conference with 8.5 rebounds per game and seventh in scoring at 15.8. Both he and Devin Carter, who led the team in steals at 1.8, can exploit several of an offense's weaknesses.

English's additions from his former school, George Mason University, in Josh Oduro and Davonte Gaines will further complement Providence's aggressive style of play. Oduro, a 2023 A-10 All-Conference First Team selection, scored 12 points per game in his four years with the Patriots while notching a career-high 7.9 boards as a senior. Gaines spent half as much time at George Mason, averaging 7.3 points and 6.1 boards in 23 games last season. Once English figures out the last starter, the Friars have the pieces for a powerful season like they had back in 2021-22.

Other than losing buy games at home, the one thing that may prevent these teams from making the conference a seven-bid league is their schedules. Between the three



The 2012 Big East men's basketball tournament was held from March 6 to March 10. Louisville defeated Cincinnati 50-44 and took home the win.

PHOTO COURTESY OF FLICKR

Big East charter institutions, at most seven nonconference games are against Quad 1 opponents, while most of the rest involve either Quad 3 or Quad 4 teams. If the three institutions fail to pull off the upset in at least five of those Quad 1 contests, then their March Madness hopes come down to conference play. Not posting a winning record in conference play or beating any of Marquette, Creighton or UConn on the road may result in barely missing the tournament.

Pundits everywhere have claimed that the Big East will be

one of, if not the most competitive, college basketball conferences this upcoming season. Between the returning talent that did not declare for the big leagues, every team reloading in some way or another and the Huskies' having a target on their backs following another national title, the conference is as much of a gauntlet as it has been since 2013. The A-game performances that Big East basketball requires night in and night out could result in the conference producing seven tournament-worthy teams.



FILE ILLUSTRATION/DAILY CAMPUS

Sports

Photo of the Day | On the ice



UConn women's hockey faces off against Boston College at Toscano Family Ice Forum on Saturday, Oct 14, 2023. The Huskies finished with a 2-1 loss.
PHOTO BY EMILY O'BANNON, ASSOCIATE MANAGING EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Husky History:

JESSICA MOORE

by Sean Ahern
HE/HIM/HIS
STAFF WRITER
sean.ahern@uconn.edu

Hello all, and welcome to another edition of Husky History. Each week this column highlights the accomplishments of a former UConn athlete and their ability to perform at the professional level.

This week's edition focuses on Jessica Moore, the Husky in the paint for three of UConn's eleven championship titles.

Moore, a native of Palmer, Alaska, was born on July 9, 1982. She attended Colony High School, where she led her team to two state championships. For all her accomplishments, Moore was honored as Alaska's Athlete of the Year in her junior and senior years.

Like many successful athletes, Moore participated in multiple sports, one of them being volleyball. In addition to her two basketball state championships, she added two more volleyball state championships to her impressive resume.

Following graduation, Moore made the trip to begin her career with the Huskies in Storrs. Coming into a program filled with the likes of All-Americans Swin Cash and Sue Bird, Moore was granted a medical red-shirt year to gain another year of eligibility.

When her first season came around, Moore's talent was proven valuable for the dynasty head coach Geno Auriemma

was constructing. In the 2001-02 season, the center averaged 5.4 points, 3.9 rebounds and just under a block a game at 0.9.

Moore was a juggernaut all year long, as she played 39 games in the season which ranked first in the NCAA. She also swatted 37 shots, ranking seventh in the Big East. All of her efforts helped the Huskies capture the Big East regular season title, Big East tournament title and the NCAA Championship.

Moore came back in her second season ready to showcase the improvements she made. She averaged career-highs of 10.6 points, 5.9 rebounds and 1.0 blocks in 25.8 minutes per game. The counting numbers showed her value, but looking deeper showed more. The center ranked fourth in the Big East in defensive rating at 76.6.

Moore posted four points, four rebounds and three assists in the NCAA Championship win over Tennessee to capture the Huskies' fourth title and the second one in a row. She was named to the 2003 NCAA Tournament All-Region Team.

Winning two championships in two tries was enough to prove Moore was born to be a winner, but she wasn't finished quite yet.

As mentioned previously, Moore was a juggernaut for the Huskies. In her first three seasons she would rank first in games played in the Big East and NCAA. It is often said the best ability is availability, and that could not be more true for this Husky.

In Moore's third season, she averaged 9.5 points and 7.1 rebounds, with 2.1 of those being offensive rebounds. By the season's end, she ranked first in the conference in two-point field goal percentage at 62.3 percent.

The Huskies and Moore continued their winning ways in the postseason. Moore posted 14 points and nine rebounds to help deliver UConn their third NCAA title in a row.

In her final season, the UConn women experienced a down year for their standards, as they finished second



The UConn women's basketball team defeats the Louisville Cardinals 76-54 on April 7, 2009. Out of 64 teams participating, the Huskies won the title of the 2009 NCAA Women's Basketball Champions.

PHOTO COURTESY OF FLICKR

in the Big East standings and were eliminated in the Sweet Sixteen round of the NCAA Tournament. Despite the early exit by their standards, the Huskies won the Big East Tournament title with the help of Moore, who tallied 12 points and seven rebounds in the win over Rutgers.

Moore finished her career with averages of 8.4 points, 5.8 rebounds and 1.2 assists. To this day, she ranks tenth in blocks in program history with a total of 102.

Following her career, Moore joined a lengthy list of UConn women to be drafted into the WNBA. At 23 years old, she

was drafted 24th overall in the 2005 WNBA Draft by the Charlotte Sting.

Moore enjoyed a nine-year career playing for a variety of teams, including Charlotte, the Los Angeles Sparks, Indiana Fever, Connecticut Sun, Atlanta Dream and the Washington Mystics. The center turned in her most impactful season with the Fever in 2009, when she averaged 4.6 points and 3.0 rebounds in 19.5 minutes per game.

Following her professional playing career, Moore earned her Master's degree at Kent State in communications with a concentration in public relations. She added this to her bachelor's

degree in political science that she earned at UConn.

Moore has been an employee at Nike for over four years where she began as a brand manager. She currently serves as the head of the brand marketing team within Nike and has been in this role since August 2023.

Moore embodies what it means to be a UConn women's basketball star and has continued that work ethic throughout her professional basketball career and now in her line of work. Her three championship titles and accolades will forever be cemented in Husky history.

UFC 294

MAIN AND CO-MAIN EVENT PREVIEW

by **Chris Charbonneau**
HE/HIM/HIS
CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT
christopher.charbonneau@uconn.edu

What started off as Islam Makhachev and Charles Oliveira facing off a second time for the UFC Lightweight title, will be featherweight champion Alexander Volkanovski facing off against Makhachev on short notice. This marquee main event on Saturday in the Etihad Arena in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates will also feature the Co-Main event Kamaru Usman and Khamzat Chimaev. Usman replaced Paulo Costa as Costa was removed due to recent elbow surgery.

Oliveira suffered a nasty cut in his sparring training. The question remains whether Volkanovski will live up to what was the most highly anticipated fight, featuring the fan favorite Oliveira. Volkanovski took the fight on short notice and has lost 26 pounds to meet the weight requirement to compete for the lightweight title against Makhachev. Usman also took the fight on short notice, but was not shocked to receive the call. The fighters asked for this battle months ago and their wish was finally granted. Below, we will analyze the Main and Co-Main Events for the UFC 294.

Islam Makhachev v. Alexander Volkanovski

The weight cut journey for Volkanovski has been ridiculous. A day prior to the announcement that he replaced Oliveira, Volkanovski weighed in at 181 pounds. However, the lightweight limit in a title fight is 155 pounds. Makhachev beat Volkanovski at UFC 284 by a close unanimous decision in February. When it comes to striking power, Volkanovski has a slight edge over Makhachev. At UFC 284, the featherweight champion out-landed Makhachev 70-57 and landed 6.25 significant strikes per minute. The submission game is where Makhachev thrives. They are both world-class grapplers, but the Russian lightweight has won 11 fights by submission. Volkanovski is widely recognized to have some of the most bulletproof submission defense in MMA. Makhachev completed four takedowns in five rounds against his foe and denied all four of Volkanovski's attempts. On short notice, Volkanovski has little time to develop a game plan against his opponent. Most of Makhachev's training was solely focused on Charles Oliveira's fighting tactics, so it is impossible to know who is in better shape. If Volkanovski had a full eight weeks to prepare, he would be the popular pick, but in another late round squeaker, expect Makhachev to come out on top.

Khamzat Chimaev v. Kamaru Usman

Usman enters the first losing skid in his career. He has not won an event since 2021 and moves up to the middleweight



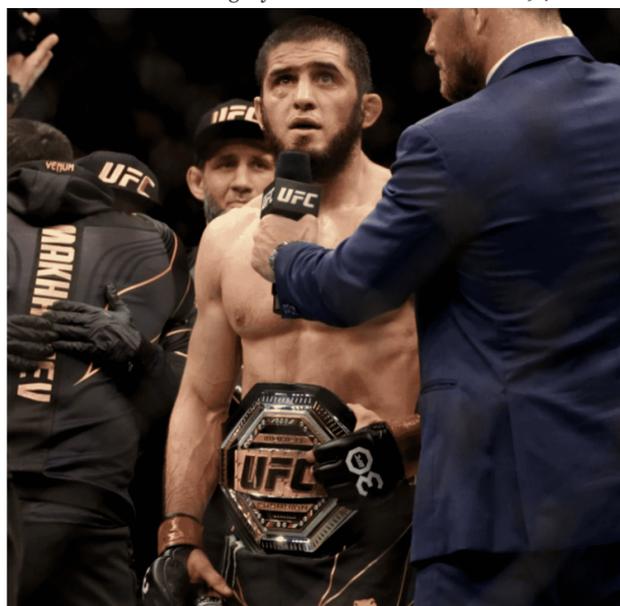
Kamaru Usman, nicknamed "Nigerian Nightmare," beat Warley Alves in three rounds on Nov 19, 2016. The event was the main card of the UFC Fight Night at Ibirapuera Gymnasium in Sao Paulo, Brazil

PHOTO COURTESY OF FLICKR

division for the first time in his career. The Nigerian superstar started his career 15-0 with five straight title defenses. He recently dropped back-to-back fights against welterweight champion Leon Edwards. Chimaev, who is 12-0, made his UFC debut in 2020 and has had minor setbacks. In 2020, he was slated to fight Edwards but faced multiple COVID-19 setbacks and briefly retired in 2021. In April 2022, the Russian fighter defeated Gilbert Burns via unanimous decision and missed weight in the September 2022 headline fight against Nate Diaz. Usman holds the best takedown defense in UFC history at 97%. Chimaev's wrestling skills have not been tested before, which if Usman is in shape on such short notice, makes for a better matchup than Costa. His strikes landed per minute is 7.30 versus Usman's 4.46. Usman has the slight edge

with more fights under his belt but has dealt with serious knee injuries and wear and tear on his body at 36 years old. It's been over a year and a half since Chimaev entered the UFC Octagon. Chimaev's camp, like Makhachev, also solely focused their training for Costa.

This fight is tough to predict, but with Usman's high-IQ and experience, along with Chimaev's impressive run, expect the Russian fighter to come out on top.



Islam Makhachev defeats Alexander Volkanovski by unanimous decision in the UFC 284 Main Event on Feb 11, 2023. The two went five rounds trading punches, words and takedowns.

PHOTO COURTESY OF FLICKR

Ava's Angle:

Women's basketball is on the rise, all behind Caitlin Clark

by **Ava Inesta**
SHE/HER/HERS
STAFF WRITER
ava.inesta@uconn.edu

Everyone knows that during her dominant run to lead Iowa to the national championship game, all eyes were on Caitlin Clark. She shined under the spotlight and grew to fame being known as one of the best shooters, if not the best, in women's basketball.

Throughout the offseason, Clark expanded her NIL name tremendously. She is the first athlete to secure an NIL deal with State Farm. Before last season even began, she also signed a deal with Nike. Other notable college athletes that signed with Nike include Bronny James (USC), Haley Jones (Stanford), DJ Wagner (Kentucky) and Juju Watkins (USC). After she was seen wearing them during the NCAA Tournament, Clark signed with Bose Headphones. A lot of high profile athletes are also in partnership with Bose, including Aaron Rodgers, Patrick Mahomes and

Russell Westbrook, all from the NFL. To add to the long list, Clark is also signed with Buick Automotive, H&R Block, Topps, Shoot-A-Way, Goldman Sachs, Hy-Vee and The Vinyl Shot.

Clark has changed women's basketball to be one of the most popular sports in Iowa and has caught the attention of the entire nation after last season's March Madness tournament. Clark and Iowa women's basketball started the pre-season strong, breaking history by playing a scrimmage in a football stadium. The Hawkeyes set the NCAA attendance record in their exhibition game at Kinnick Stadium with 55,646 fans. They nearly filled a football stadium for a basketball pre-season game, which is absolutely wild. To set the attendance record for an NCAA women's basketball game, the court was positioned vertically in the north end zone.

During the "Crossover at Kinnick," they made a point to participate in one of their tradi-

tions of waving up to the Children's Hospital that overlooks the stadium. Both teams stopped after the first quarter to wave up to the children in the hospital just like the Iowa football team does after the first quarter of their own games. The athletic department at Iowa also presented the Children's Hospital with a \$250,000 donation.

Clark has always been involved in giving back to kids and young girls especially. She wants to be someone who young girls look up to and know that they can achieve their dreams as well. "I want my legacy to be the impact I have on young kids and the people of Iowa," Clark said after the national title game loss over LSU. "I was that young girl. All you have to do is dream, and you can be in moments like this."

This game was similar to the Nebraska volleyball game in the way of advancing women's sports. Iowa's exhibition game was well short of the women's sporting event attendance record, as Nebraska hit that mark in late August. The Cornhuskers volleyball team sold out Memorial Stadium with 92,003 fans for a match against Omaha. The event set the attendance record at the Huskers' football stadium and broke the world record for attendance at a women's sporting event as a whole. Before the volleyball event, FC Barcelona Femeni had the record set the year prior.

Going back to Clark, in the exhibition game, she finished with a triple double, tallying 34 points, 11 rebounds and 10 assists. Iowa defeated DePaul 94-72 and Clark shot 13-of-26 from the field. For the Blue Demons,



The UConn women's basketball team was beat by the South Carolina Gamecocks on Feb 5, 2023. The Huskies lost by 4 points, with the scores totalling 77-81.

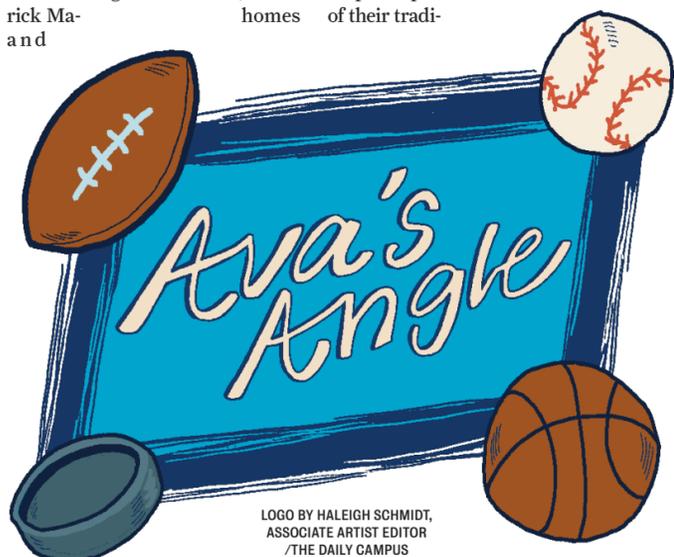
PHOTO COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Anaya Peoples led their offense with 19 points and five rebounds. DePaul is a member of the Big East conference; they finished the season with a 16-17 overall record and missed the NCAA tournament for the third time in the past four seasons.

Last season, the Hawkeyes made it to their first national title game, but fell short to Angel Reese and LSU in the championship game down in Dallas. Nonetheless, Clark got her recognition by being named the John R. Wooden Award winner last season, completing a clean sweep of the National Player of the Year awards. She was the second-best scorer in the nation behind Villanova's Maddy Siegrist, averaging 27.8 points per game and averaging the Division I best with 8.6 assists and 7.1 rebounds per game.

Year by year, Clark is one of the athletes that is changing women's sports. She was the star of the

NCAA tournament last season and only looks to take Iowa to those heights once again. She is entering her senior season but is going to soak up every moment of her college career before she is eligible for the WNBA Draft. Title IX is paving the way for women sports and Clark is at the face of it. Christine Grant pushed for full implementation of Title IX, the federal legislation passed in 1972 that requires equal opportunities in both athletics and academics for women. Other star women athletes include Reese, Paige Bueckers (UConn), Hailey Van Lith (LSU), Cameron Brink (Stanford) and so many more are evolving the game. Basketball season is upon and people are highly anticipating what women's basketball will bring this season. All in all, the hype of Clark will not be ending anytime soon.



LOGO BY HALEIGH SCHMIDT,
ASSOCIATE ARTIST EDITOR
/THE DAILY CAMPUS



Sports

Men's Basketball: Previewing the rookies and their potential impact

by Connor Sargeant
HE/HIM/HIS
STAFF WRITER
connor.sargeant@uconn.edu

The UConn men's basketball team has had a year to remember so far, from facing monumental struggles in January, to winning their fifth NCAA National Championship in April. Though they spent time celebrating the victory, Dan Hurley and co. are far from done being done with winning, as they brought in one of the best recruiting classes in school history. Let's discuss these recruits' potential roles in Storrs this season.

Stephon Castle

Stephon Castle will likely be a day-one starter for Connecticut and possesses one-and-done potential. Castle can do it all: playing as an off-ball guard, a wing and even a four, if need be. Standing at 6-foot-6, the McDonald's All-American is a solid scorer with the potential to become elite. He can shoot over defenders off the screen, make off-balanced shots and isn't afraid to pull one from behind the arc, even though this does stand as one of his larger weaknesses. The biggest question concerning Castle's game is his explosiveness and motor. Unlike some prospects, Castle cannot always get to the rim on speed alone, often using his ability to control the game's pace instead. He relies on finding his teammates or nailing tough shots within 10 feet. The level of defending from the high school to the collegiate level is significantly different, as Castle will need to be at his best to contain Division 1 talent. Especially with some concerns about the slow speed with which he moves, how he adjusts will be something to watch. If Connecticut wishes to repeat last season's Cinderella run, they will need the Georgia

native on top of his game. But make no mistake, Castle has the potential to bring Connecticut back to the promised land.

Solomon Ball

"Solo" Ball is set to make an immediate impact in Storrs. As it stands, the 6-foot-3 point guard is a prime candidate to be Con-

necticut's sixth man, and for good reason. Despite being undersized, Ball thrived in a slash role in high school, getting to the rim whenever he could for easy buckets. His ability at the rim will be the part of his game that could be tougher to translate though, as collegiate-level defense is much higher. He will need to make tougher finishes or dish it out. What really sets him apart is his jumpshot, which head

coach Hurley has raved about. Another thing that'll help the Maryland native is his raw talent on the defensive end; Ball has an abnormally large wingspan that will help clog passing lanes, and with the mentorship of the Connecticut coaching staff, the sky's the limit for Ball.

Whether he's a better finisher or shooter is up for debate; he's a threat in both departments. Stewart's ability to hit shots from all over the floor and stretch the defense out is invaluable to the Huskies, as it opens up opportunities all over the floor for him and his teammates. Stewart will say that he is still adjusting to his body. Still improving each time on the floor, Ross is great off the catch-and-shoot and can use his speed in transition to get buckets at the rim. Ross will likely compete for mid-to-end of the rotation minutes from day one in a crowded roster. Whenever he is on the court, his raw talent to score from all areas of the floor and his athleticism make him a threat anywhere and everywhere. Though Ross is an unpolished product, he'll certainly frustrate opposing defenses greatly. He has yet to unlock his full potential, so if he transitions well in Storrs, don't be surprised to see him added to the list of players who overperformed under Hurley and got drafted.

Youssef Singare

There aren't many centers with Youssef Singare's potential. Standing at 6-foot-10, the Mali native is a menace in the paint, excelling as an inside scorer and shot blocker. Singare has a solid frame and wingspan, which are key attributes for a dominant big man. One aspect of the Malian's game that puts him at a disadvantage is his offense outside the paint. As it stands, he doesn't have a reliable jumper. The entire floor wopens up if the big man develops an outside game like Adama Sanogo did last season. Thankfully for Singare, he'll have plenty of time to practice, with a minimal role this year. At best, he could sneak into the role that Donovan Clingan had last season as Sanogo's understudy. In reality, Singare will likely be the understudy for junior Samson Johnson, who seems poised to take this role. The way Singare's game develops from this year to next will be something to watch, and he's got big potential to hop into the rotation if Clingan gets drafted as projected.



The UConn basketball programs hold their annual First Night event to start the 2023-2024 season on Oct. 13, 2023. The celebration was held at Gampel Pavilion and tickets ran out in 15 hours.

PHOTO BY ZACH MOLLER, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/ THE DAILY CAMPUS

Jaylin Stewart

Hailing from Seattle, Washington, Jaylin Stewart comes into UConn as an all-around offensive threat. While dunking in high school games is great for AND1 mixtapes, it typically doesn't translate to the collegiate level in the same way. The good thing for Stewart is that he does not shy away from contact and has the ability to convert tough layups.

rival fellow freshman Jayden Ross, a player with a similar style, for minutes. Though he's talented, he will come off the bench behind national championship starter Alex Karaban.

Jayden Ross

One of the most exciting freshmen to look forward to will be Ross. Since his freshman year of high school, the Maryland native has grown a full foot, so it's safe to

WOMEN'S TENNIS: ITA Super Regionals up next for Huskies



UConn women's tennis will face off against five teams from Sept 15-17, 2023. They will be challenging Wesleyan, Bryant, Stony Brook, Army, and Sacred Heart at the UConn Invite.

PHOTO ZACH MOLLER, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/ THE DAILY CAMPUS

by Caleb Cook
HE/HIM/HIS
CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT
caleb.cook@uconn.edu

As the fall season is coming to a close, the UConn women's tennis team will have its last chance to win some regional hardware. They'll head to West Point, New York for the ITA Super Regionals in their last big individual tournament of the fall. In the ITA Regionals a few weeks ago, the Huskies showed lots of improvement from last year, and everything is pointing to more improvement this weekend.

Matchups

As for matchups, the draw for the singles and doubles won't be released until closer to the start time, but the matches will stick to the following schedule. First off, all times for Friday are based on outdoor play. On Friday, Oct. 20, the singles round of 32 starts at 10 a.m. Directly following that, there will be the round of 16. On Saturday, Oct. 21, the singles quarterfinals start at 10 a.m., this time followed by the opening round of doubles play. On Sunday, Oct. 22, the singles semifinals and quarterfinals will be played, as well as the semifinals of doubles. On the last day of the regionals, Monday, Oct. 23, the singles and doubles finals will be played.

UConn Players to Watch

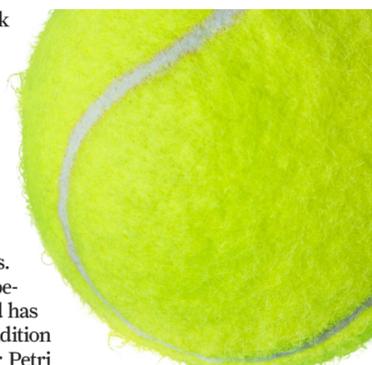
Freshman Caroline Hinshaw and junior Isabel Petri Bere went

on an absolute tear last week at the Brown Invite. They both led the team with 6-1 overall singles and doubles marks en route to a generally successful invite. While Petri Bere may have more experience than Hinshaw, that doesn't mean Hinshaw won't be up to the challenge of the ITA Super Regionals. Hinshaw has been playing beyond her years as of late and has proven to be a valuable addition to the UConn roster. As for Petri Bere, she's slowly made her way up the totem pole during her three years as a Husky and has been an integral part of the success the squad has had up to this point.

It wouldn't be a complete "Players to Watch" section without at least mentioning juniors Olivia Wright and Maria Constantinou. The No. 1 and No. 2 in singles order, respectively, they had a quiet Brown Invite last week in what's been an otherwise very impressive season. There's always potential for some electric play with either of those two on the court, so as keep an eye on them.

What to Expect

While the Huskies slightly underachieved at the Brown Invite, that doesn't automatically mean they'll do the same here at the ITA Super Regionals. As stated before, comparing last year's ITA Regionals to the same tournament just a few weeks ago saw im-



prove-ment across the board. For that reason, they have the chance to continue to show more improvement here at the Supers. The talent is there with young players like Hinshaw and freshman Victoria Matos, along with veterans Constantinou, Petri Bere and Wright.

Playing with this group, anything is possible when it comes to getting big wins. The Huskies definitely can't be ruled out when it comes to championship contention.

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HUSKIES WIN!!

Mya, Taylor, and Emma with double digit kills

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