

## Feel Good Friday: Dodgeball team forms to compete in intramural tournament

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Students have formed a dodgeball team at the University of Connecticut in preparation for an intramural dodgeball tournament on Oct. 31.

The UConn Student Recreation Center holds a dodgeball tournament each year. After being eliminated from the tournament quickly last year, one team decided to take their preparations more seriously.

Giancarlo Gallicchio, a third-semester geography major, created a team in late August to compete in the tournament. The team, named Cowboy's Riders, practices twice a week, and according to Gallicchio, has grown from a few people to about 15 and counting.

"It's gone beyond a group of friends to a team," said Gallicchio, who is acting as coach for the team.

The dodgeball tournament is held at the racquetball courts in the Recreation Center. Teams of four to six people will compete in a single elimination bracket. The winner of each round is determined by whoever can win five games first, or whoever wins the most games in 15 minutes.

According to Gallicchio, there were about 25 teams competing last year. Registration for the tournament opens on Monday, and the Cowboy's Riders will be fielding two teams this year.

Leo Santisi, a third-semester chemical engineering major and one of the team captains, explained why he enjoyed practicing dodgeball with the team.

"We can kind of let out some of the pent-up aggression that our classes might be giving us and put it on the court and put it into something valuable," Santisi said.

Santisi also said that he liked how friendly the team was, and brought up the fact that the team would often go to dinner together after practices.

Emily Laput, a third-semester marketing and communication major, is the other team captain. She expressed appreciation for the outlet that dodgeball offered.

"I just enjoy how it's resorting back to your inner child," Laput said.

Laput also said that one of the best parts of the team was always feeling welcome.

"I just love the group that we're with," Laput said. "They're just good people."

Aside from having practice games, the team's dodgeball

practices include various drills such as target practice and timed dodging. Gallicchio said that when splitting up the team, they try to play to the strengths of each individual team member.

"We do our best to balance the teams. We want everyone to get as much play time as possible," Gallicchio said.

Although the Cowboy's Riders are not official, Gallicchio said that they "definitely want to make it a legitimate club." He also pointed out that many other colleges have official dodgeball teams or clubs.

"We haven't explored the avenues too thoroughly yet, but we're definitely looking to," Gallicchio said.

The team has six more practices before the tournament. They will have had 18 in total by the tournament, and they plan to continue holding practices on and off through the rest of the year.

"Whether it's a club sport, whether it's still intramural, we're going to do everything we can to keep this going past the tournament. We don't want people to forget, we don't want the love of the sport to go away," Gallicchio said.

According to Gallicchio, they also hope to compete in dodge-

ball tournaments outside of UConn. They have interactions on Instagram with other dodgeball leagues and Brett Kauble, a Team U.S.A. Dodgeball coach.

"We're not too familiar yet with the regional dodgeball scene," Gallicchio said. "It's far from the most popular sport."

Gallicchio said that a variety of people show interest in the dodgeball team when they

hold practice in the racquetball courts.

"It's a sport for everybody. That's the one lesson we've really taken away," Gallicchio said.

Gallicchio also expressed a sense of pride for the way the team has grown since they began.

"For two complete amateur coaches and a bunch of amateur players, I feel very proud of the team," Gallicchio said.



Two members of Cowboy's Riders, UConn's unofficial intramural dodgeball team, practice their short-range throws. Cowboy's Riders are fielding two teams this year, after the addition of many new players. PHOTO COURTESY OF @COWBOYRIDERS ON INSTAGRAM

## UConn School of Nursing to undergo expansion following record \$40 million gift

by John Haslun  
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The University of Connecticut School of Nursing has received a gift of \$40 million from graduate and former nurse Elizabeth DeLuca to be used to expand the ability of the School of Nursing to produce highly-qualified, experienced nurses amidst a national shortage in the profession. DeLuca, who graduated from UConn in 1969, is a philanthropist and the widow of Fred DeLuca, the billionaire co-founder of Subway. Her gift will be supplemented by support from UConn and the state of Connecticut.

Plans are already underway to create a new, state-of-the-art nursing building with the funds from the gift, the largest in the university's history. A proposal for the new facility places it on the south side of campus on Alethia Drive, between the Human Development Center and the Communication Sciences Building, which includes UConn's Brain Imaging Research Center. This building will largely replace the functions of the current School of Nursing building at Storrs Hall, and is designed to include the necessary infrastructure

and technological upgrades for novel clinical simulations and expanded learning outcomes for students. Construction is planned to begin in the fall 2024 semester and conclude before the start of the fall 2026 semester.

The School of Nursing also hopes to use the gift to expand enrollment, increasing each incoming class from approximately 175 students today to a minimum of 250 students. Combined with expanded scholarship initiatives, the university anticipates the increase in enrollment will ensure more students than ever can access a UConn nursing degree, regardless of their financial situation. Applications to the UConn School of Nursing have increased even amidst slumps for similar institutions, totaling 2,900 in 2023, an increase of well over 300 compared to the previous year.

"The gift is transformative for the School of Nursing," says UConn School of Nursing Dean Victoria Vaughan Dickson. "It's going to allow us to address the nursing shortage, to rapidly increase our student enrollment, and expand our patient-centered program."

The gift will have a tremendous impact on the UConn School of Nursing's graduate program as well as its undergraduate program.

"The problem with the nursing shortage also includes a shortage of nurse faculty," Dickson notes. "[The gift] will include support for nurse educators."

The primary focus of the gift is on the students, she emphasizes, both undergraduate and graduate. With the money, the School of Nursing will not only be able to make strides in technology-based nursing innovation, but also ex-

**"UConn nurses are always highly sought after. Students who want to become nurses want to become UConn nurses."**

VICTORIA DICKSON

pand access to a UConn education for hundreds more students.

"There's a national trend in flattening out in undergraduate applications, but that's not the case for UConn," she says. "UConn nurses are always highly sought after. Students

who want to become nurses want to become UConn nurses."

Amidst an increasing interest in the UConn School of Nursing from undergraduate applicants, the gift allows UConn to accept more and more of the country's top nurses and cement their program as one of the nation's best.

"Right now, our entire graduate class is about a little over 1,000. We're going to increase the number of undergraduate students significantly and increase the number of nurse educator graduates," Dickson explains. "We expect the graduate program to double in the next year."

Such an increase is expected to be important in fixing the critical nursing shortage affecting the entirety of the United States, including Connecticut. Forecasts indicate the nursing profession may be short 5.7 million nurses by 2030 in an increasingly aging America.

A variety of factors are responsible for the shortage, including the natural retirement process, the unique stress and strain on nurses in the last few years, the increased complexity of health-care and the demand for highly skilled nurses. The UConn School of Nursing aims for its students to enter the profession with the

experience and innovation necessary to promote health equity regionally, nationally and globally.

The School of Nursing's new building is the embodiment of this aim. Dickson hopes the facility will be the center of the "future of nursing," a hub of nursing research as well as student activity.

"We're looking at innovative ways to use that existing space," Dickson says of Storrs Hall, the current home of the UConn School of Nursing, "but the new School of Nursing will really provide that state-of-the-art technology space."

According to University Planning, Design and Construction, the building will include a student academic center, a wet lab, a human behavioral research lab, a simulation lab suite and spaces from student instructions, including a lecture hall and classrooms. The planning phase is expected to end in June 2024 pending the start of construction in November 2024.

"This is a visionary gift," Dickson explains. "It builds on the strong foundation of UConn Nursing and positions us very well to produce the next generation of nurses to meet the nursing demands of our state."

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If Jonathan weren't a husky, what would he be?

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Samara Joy is the next generation of jazz

**Daily FOOTBALL | PAGE 12**  
Huskies look to continue momentum against Bulls

**Tweet of the Day**

**UConn Huskies**  
[@UConnHuskies](https://www.instagram.com/UConnHuskies)  
they grow up so fast! Happy 6 month birthday, buddy!  
[@JonathonHusky\\_](https://www.instagram.com/JonathonHusky_)

## News

# Racial gaps in math have grown.

## A school tried closing theirs by teaching all kids the same classes

(AP) - Hope Reed was seeing stark disparities a decade ago at her high school in the suburbs of Columbia, South Carolina.

Nearly half the school's students were white, but the freshman remedial math classes were made up of almost all students of color. Reed, then chair of the math department at Blythewood High School, intervened with an experiment.

She taught a ninth-grade remedial class and used the regular Algebra 1 curriculum with nearly 50 students. They were honors students, and they were going to do honors work, she recalled telling them.

At the end of the year, about 90% of the students passed. The experiment convinced Reed that detracking — or getting rid of classes that separate students by achievement level — could be a key to narrowing gaps in math performance. The school then tried going a step further, enrolling all ninth-graders in the same level of math class.

The Education Reporting Collaborative, a coalition of eight newsrooms, is documenting the math crisis facing schools and highlighting progress. Members of the Collaborative are AL.com,

The Associated Press, The Christian Science Monitor, The Dallas Morning News, The Hechinger Report, Idaho Education News, The Post and Courier in South Carolina, and The Seattle Times.

Racial achievement gaps have worsened in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic and its disruptions to learning. Math scores dropped for Black 13-year-olds far more than white 13-year-olds between the 2019-2020 and 2022-2023 school years, according to data from the National Assessment of Educational Progress, also known as the Nation's Report Card.

Addressing those disparities is critical for strengthening students' understanding of math, and for increasing their access to higher-paying jobs in STEM fields. Schools that have implemented detracking have aimed to level the playing field by exposing all students to the same higher concepts and standards.

Step into any American school and you'll most likely find tracked classes, especially for math.

The practice took root during the 20th century. Following immigration waves, desegre-

gation orders and the inclusion of special education students in classes, tracking separated those students deemed fit for higher learning from those seen as less intelligent, said Kevin Welner, an educational policy professor at the University of Colorado Boulder.

Tracking continues to reflect larger societal inequalities given that students from marginalized backgrounds often come to kindergarten or first grade already with measured achievement gaps.

Studies of schools that have detracked classes show achievement gaps have been narrowed with varying levels of success, Welner said. He pointed to the Rockville Centre school district on New York's Long Island as the gold standard. In the 1990s, it got rid of many tracked classes in its middle school and high school, and provided training for teachers to handle students of varying levels in the same classroom. As a result, the district has seen more students take more advanced classes.

When Reed expanded detracking across ninth-grade math classes in the 2014-15 school year at Blythewood High, an additional class was also added for students

who would have been placed in lower-level math classes. Those students received algebra lessons in the morning, and then took Algebra 1 with their full class.

The additional learning time offered a boost in confidence for students, Reed said.

"They didn't go in there just blindsided, lost," she said.

The extra math seminar also ensured the pace of learning did not slow down for students who would have been in a higher-level class.

Among the ninth-graders enrolled in the math seminar in 2014-2015 was Kianna Livingston. Initially, she believed she wasn't good at math. But Livingston, who is Black, said her confidence grew with her skills.

Livingston recalled feeling so assured of her math knowledge that she would help other students.

"It really allowed me to really own my leadership skills," she said.

At the end of the school year — and to her surprise — she was recommended for honors Geometry the following year.

Still, tracking returned to Blythewood's math classes.

A small group of students continued to struggle with

the material despite the support from the math seminar, Reed said. By the middle of the 2014-15 school year, she realized they might fail and not receive math credit. So those students were moved to a slower-paced algebra class.

That tension highlights what some education experts say is one troubling aspect of detracking: The approach lacks flexibility for when students need more support.

"If you have kids who are really struggling at mathematics, they really need to be identified and probably treated differently in terms of curriculum and instruction than kids who are just sailing through math courses," said Tom Loveless, an education researcher and former senior fellow at the Brookings Institution who has studied detracking for three decades.

Loveless cited San Francisco as an example where detracking hasn't helped. Since the school district eliminated tracks in middle and high schools starting in 2014, gaps between Black and Latino students and their white peers in San Francisco have only widened, he said.

Reed, who now works with just freshmen at Blythewood, said she still believes in detracking. The school's end-of-course passing rate has never been as high as it was in 2014-15, when for at least half a year the school had completely detracked Algebra 1.

The average score for Black students on the exam was 80, up two points from the year prior. The average for white students was 83, an increase by less than one point from the year prior.

But after that first year, the school approached the setup differently. Rather than moving struggling students to another math class midyear, teachers started the school year with two lower-track math classes. The last remnant of her program, the math seminar, ended with the last school year due to changes in the school schedule.

Reed is keen on seeing this year's end-of-course data to see how it compares with previous years, but she isn't critical of the changes. At the core of her efforts, she said, is a desire to give all students the opportunity to try higher-level math classes.

"They just need to know they matter," she said.



Desks fill a classroom in a high school in Pennsylvania on Wednesday, May 3, 2023. Gaps between how minority students perform academically in comparison to their white peers have long been an issue across the country. The disparities often stem from larger structural issues — a lack of access to quality curricula, for instance, or teachers expecting students to perform poorly.

PHOTOGRAPH BY MATT ROURKE/AP

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Study Break

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ACROSS

- 1 Soft side?
- 5 Recipient of a half-hearted gift?
- 8 "I'm all \_\_\_"
- 12 Encouraging start
- 13 Square footage
- 15 Understood
- 16 "Alert: Yo-Yo's here!"?
- 19 Peak near Catania
- 20 Book end, perhaps
- 21 Breezy goodbye
- 23 Game, \_\_\_, match
- 24 Machines used on a peacock farm?
- 28 Caribbean island with the Pitons
- 31 Tylenol target
- 32 Piggy bank addition
- 33 \_\_\_ bunny
- 36 Performed a saut de chat, e.g.
- 39 Director Lee
- 40 Staple legumes, or parsed differently, what 16- and 24-Across did for 51- and 63-Across
- 42 Like some larb
- 43 Maestro Zubin
- 45 Tit for tat, maybe
- 46 Ages and ages
- 47 Reusable 5-Down
- 49 Goes deep
- 51 Really hot person in the cockpit?
- 55 Prof's email ender
- 56 Philip Marlowe genre
- 57 Story with a lesson
- 61 Ruckuses
- 63 Wooden model of an Italian city?
- 66 Uncomfortable sensation
- 67 Uncomfortable sensation
- 68 Ilsa \_\_\_: "Casablanca" heroine
- 69 Arthur who authored "A Hard Road to Glory"
- 70 Dark side of a notable pair
- 71 Chocolate brand owned by Berkshire Hathaway

DOWN

- 1 Question of permission
- 2 So much
- 3 Poker variety
- 4 "Live it up!"
- 5 Groceries carrier
- 6 To, the contrary
- 7 "Go get it," to a dog
- 8 Just scrape (out)
- 9 Picnic snack that appears to have picnic invaders
- 10 Not allow to expire
- 11 Goes after a fly
- 14 Tahiti sweetie
- 17 Board VIP
- 18 Org. with sponsored Medicare plans
- 22 Australian gems
- 25 Many a "Veep" role
- 26 Say "neener neener," say
- 27 Deception
- 28 Deception
- 29 Vocal quality
- 30 Small salad and half a sandwich, say

- 34 Pig pad
- 35 Actress Hedren
- 37 Window section
- 38 Lob
- 40 Exempli gratia, e.g.
- 41 Relax
- 44 Ore-Ida offering
- 46 Requires
- 48 Son of Seth
- 50 Sch. with a Twin Cities campus
- 51 Marshall McLuhan focus

- 52 Uses Photoshop
- 53 Bhagavad-\_\_\_
- 54 A bit steep
- 58 Word with blood or moon
- 59 Rural road
- 60 Finishes
- 62 Pronoun option
- 64 Flat-iron brand
- 65 2023 role for Ryan, Simu, Kingsley, and others

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

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## Life

# FRIDAY NIGHT: SAMARA JOY IS THE NEXT GENERATION OF JAZZ

by **Rai Kumar**  
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The University of Connecticut's very own Jorgensen Center of the Performing Arts is proud to welcome rising jazz sensation, Samara Joy, to its stage this Friday, Oct. 20, 2023.

Joy could not receive higher praise for her incredible albums and performances. The New York Times praised the "silky-voiced rising star" for "helping jazz take a youthful turn," while NPR "All Things Considered" named her a "classic jazz singer from a new generation." Joy's most recent album, "Linger Awhile," has built such a remarkable reputation that she

is set to join the ranks of Sarah Vaughan, Ella Fitzgerald and Billie Holiday as the next singing sensation.

At just 23 years old, Joy has already won two Grammy Awards, including Best New Artist and Best Jazz Vocal Album. Her debut album, "Linger Awhile," was a commercial success. She has been praised by critics for her "velvet voice" and her mastery of the Great American Songbook. She has performed with legends like Christian McBride and Bill Charlap. Her band now consists of guitarist Pasquale Grasso, drummer Kenny Washington, bassist David Wong and pianist Ben Paterson.

Joy was born into a musical family in the Bronx, New York. Her paternal grand-

parents, Elder Goldwire and Ruth McLendon, were founders of the Philadelphia gospel group, "The Savettes." Her grandfather was also a finalist on season three of BET's Gospel Talent show, "Sunday Best." Her father — a vocalist and bass player who has toured with gospel musician Andraé Crouch — introduced her to gospel greats such as The Clark Sisters and Soul and Motown music. Joy began singing in church at a young age, and she quickly developed a reputation for her powerful and versatile voice. She attended Fordham High School for the Arts, where she performed in the jazz band. She then went on to study jazz at SUNY Purchase, where she won the Sarah Vaughan International Jazz Vocal Competition in 2019. After winning the Sarah Vaughan competition, Joy's career took off. She signed a record deal with Whirlwind Recordings, and she released her self-titled debut album in 2021. The album was a critical and commercial success, and it won Joy the Grammy Award for Best Jazz Vocal Album in 2023.

Joy's music is a blend of classic jazz and contemporary R&B. She has a deep respect for the tradition of jazz, but she is not afraid to experiment and push the boundaries of the genre. Her live shows are known for their energy and excitement, and she is a captivating performer who engages the audience with her stories and her music.

I had the chance to speak to Zach Nevins, a young trombonist who scored a gig to play with the opening band

for Joy. He has had the privilege to interact with the jazz star firsthand. Zach talked about his first impression of her as "very down to earth and accompanied by killer musicians." Our chat went a little bit like this:

**Rai:** What is unique about Samara Joy's interpretation of jazz? How does she experiment with the style?

**Zach:** I'd have to say her use of dynamics is one of my favorite elements of how she interprets jazz. Especially live, she experiments with large dynamic changes which gives her music a more dramatic and expressive feel. It keeps the listener on their toes.

**Rai:** How was your personal experience playing in the opening band for Joy?

**Zach:** Opening for her was a blast! It's always fun playing on stage at jazz festivals, and just knowing that we were opening for such a great group was an incredible experience. It felt inspiring to be on the same stage as such talented musicians. Even working with her tech crew was very smooth and professional.

**Rai:** As a young musician, how did she inspire you?

**Zach:** Just being able to work with someone at the top of the ladder gives me a lot of inspiration. It showed me what it looks like to get to that level so that one day, I can be there too. She was also a fantastic human being and very professional, which sets a great example for me.

**Rai:** If you could say a couple words on why UConn students should attend Friday night's concert, what would you say?

**Zach:** Samara Joy marks a new chapter for jazz. Al-

though she honors her traditional jazz roots, her experiments with contemporary R&B appeal to new jazz audiences. Watching her live is also an incredible experience. She has this magical voice — probably the best I've ever heard live, and I think you would be hard-pressed to find someone who didn't feel compelled after listening to her.

It is no secret that Joy's concert is not one you want to miss. How lucky are we to welcome such a renowned artist to our campus? All I can say is that your Friday night plans are about to get a lot more exciting. Tickets are available at [jorgensen.uconn.edu](http://jorgensen.uconn.edu). Jorgensen also offers a limited amount of free tickets, called "rush tickets" and "hot seats" for those on a budget. Be sure to check out their website.

Hope to see you there!



IMAGE COURTESY OF @SAMARAJOYRINGS ON INSTAGRAM



IMAGE COURTESY OF OPENCLIPART

# '20 DAYS IN MARIUPOL:' THE DODD CENTER SHOWCASES A HARROWING LOOK INTO WAR

by **Henry St. Pierre**  
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The Dodd Center showcased a documentary by Associated Press journalist Mstyslov Chernov on Thursday, Oct. 19, titled "20 Days in Mariupol." The film showcases a first-person perspective of the invasion of Ukraine in Mariupol, one of the closest major cities to the Russia-Ukraine border.

Chernov bravely films citizens affected by Russian air raids, perfectly encapsulating the morale of citizens as their lives come to a screeching halt. As the conflict between Israel and Palestine erupts yet again, this film could not have come out at a more emotionally poignant time. The hardships faced by civilians in Ukraine are not unlike those faced by civilians in Palestine, serving as another haunting reminder of how war affects innocent people.

"20 Days in Mariupol" was an incredibly hard film to sit through, and several scenes showcasing atrocities committed by the Russian military left many audience members in tears. Chernov films hospital workers struggling to provide aid to the thousands of civilians that need it, in the face of slowly dwindling supplies and medicine. Electricity, water,

heating and internet are all disconnected across the city, leaving almost 500 thousand people isolated.

Following the screening of a film, a live discussion of the documentary's content delved into the issues facing Ukraine. Three presenters discussed the struggle facing communities affected by war and human rights violations exhibited around the world. The topic of documenting war was also a focal point, considering the hundreds of hours of unseen footage taken in Mariupol showing abhorrent and unwarranted attacks on civilians.

"We have to have documentation of this, not just for history," said James Waller, Chair in Human Rights Practice and Director of Dodd Human Rights Impact Programs, "but more importantly, for the people." A strong element of Chernov's documentary was just how hard to sit through it was, however that was intentional. Documentation of war should be something that makes the viewer uncomfortable, it's one of the few ways to drive a point beyond questioning. Waller also brought up the trials in Nuremberg following World War II, and how different history would be if the same level of documentation was available during the Holocaust.

Another discussion host, Katja Kolcio, an Associate Pro-

fessor of Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies at Wesleyan University, brought up the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, which draws a striking number of parallels to the invasion of Ukraine. Kolcio stated that the struggle of war is universal, and while those who live in privilege may not feel the effects of it, they can still provide help. Providing help can be something as simple as writing a letter to a congressman, or just spreading a message to others.

Towards the end of the film, a Ukrainian soldier that had been protecting a local hospital and conversing with Chernov stated that the images and videos put into this film will change the tide of the war. Chernov bluntly responded in voice over, "How could more death change war?" It's incredibly impactful to see conflict unfold in such a claustrophobic way. Though the film may have been incredibly upsetting at times, it's still important to never turn a blind eye towards these issues.

The Dodd Center will be hosting the Human Rights Summit from Oct. 25 to Oct. 27, featuring guest speakers from all around the world — including several from Ukraine. The summit will focus on a global threat to democracy and ongoing issues involving human rights around the world.



"20 Days in Mariupol" is a documentary that released on Aug. 31, 2023. The Dodd Center showcased the documentary on Thursday, Oct. 19. PHOTO COURTESY OF IMDB





# Life

@dailycampuslife

# Tales from the Turntable

## A DEEP DIVE INTO ONE OF THE DARKEST ALBUMS IN MUSIC HISTORY



IMAGE COURTESY OF FLICKR

by **Henry St. Pierre** | CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT | HE/HIM/HIS | [henry.st\\_pierre@uconn.edu](mailto:henry.st_pierre@uconn.edu)

Welcome back to Tales from the Turntable! We're continuing the spooky theme as we quickly approach Halloween. This week we'll be exploring the story of one of the darkest yet most beloved albums in rock and metal, Nine Inch Nails' "The Downward Spiral."

This record has achieved legendary status, and almost 30 years later it's still lauded as one of the best albums of the 1990s. The album is atmospheric, anthemic, full of anger and considered as some of Nine Inch Nails' best work.

Like the rest of their discography, the story of this record begins with Trent Reznor, the multi-instrumentalist and principal songwriter for the band. After the surprising success of his first record, 1989's "Pretty Hate Machine," Reznor had become a surprising star in the music industry. However, rising tensions between Reznor and Nine Inch Nails' record label, TVT Records, caused the band to part ways with TVT and sign to Interscope Records. Eventually, they started their own label under Interscope.

It was during this tumultuous time that Reznor relocated to 10050 Cielo Drive, Los Angeles, where he would construct a home recording studio and record the next two Nine Inch Nails projects: "Broken" and later, "The Downward Spiral." Though this house may seem like an average Los Angeles home, it has a dark and brutally tragic history.

10050 Cielo Drive became infamous after director Roman Polanski and his wife Sharon Tate rented the home in early 1969. Their stay at the home would unfortunately not last long, as on Aug. 8, 1969, Tate and several others would be murdered by Charles Manson and his cult.

The story of this notorious murder could be the subject of its own Tales from the Turntable; Manson had been inspired by the Beatles song, "Helter Skelter," to commit

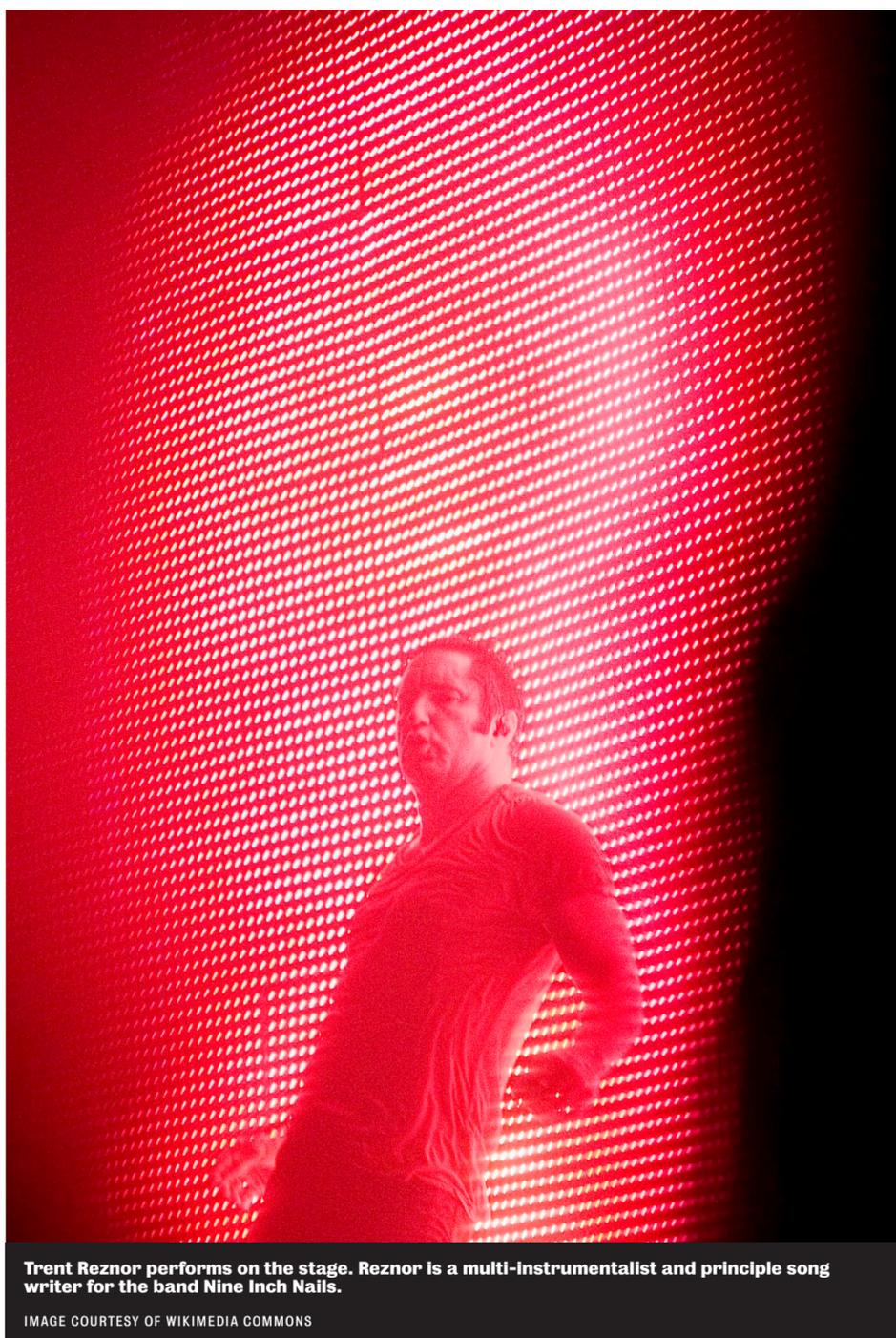
this atrocity, citing its seemingly violence-endorsing sound and lyrical content. Manson went so far as to call the Beatles the "four horsemen of the apocalypse." In reality, Paul McCartney had written the song about a ride at a local carnival.

The studio was dubbed "Pig," or "Le Pig," in reference to the word "pig" being written in blood on the front door of the house shortly after the murders were committed. It had also been used by shock-rocker Marilyn Manson, whose name was ironically taken from Charles Manson.

Reznor later abandoned the house after a run-in with one of Tate's sisters. "Then one day I met [Tate's] sister. It was a random thing, just a brief encounter. And she said: 'Are you exploiting my sister's death by living in her house?' For the first time that whole thing kind of slapped me in the face," the musician told a Rolling Stone interviewer. "...I realized for the first time, 'What if it was my sister?'" The house was quickly vacated, and demolished just months after the release of "The Downward Spiral."

One can only imagine the heaviness Reznor felt while living in the house. Combined with his depression and notoriously vicious drug abuse, it's no surprise that "The Downward Spiral" quickly became Nine Inch Nails' most aggressive record. Self-hatred and isolation are key themes in this album, and from front to back it's one of the band's most captivating and abrasive albums in their discography. Famously, Johnny Cash covered the closing track, "Hurt," which surpassed the original version in popularity almost immediately, especially in the wake of Cash's passing just two years later.

Fortunately, Reznor was able to get clean in 2001 with the help of fellow rockstar David Bowie. "The Downward Spiral" will forever be a lament to some of the darkest experiences a person can go through.



Trent Reznor performs on the stage. Reznor is a multi-instrumentalist and principle songwriter for the band Nine Inch Nails.

IMAGE COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS



# Opinion

## The Daily Campus

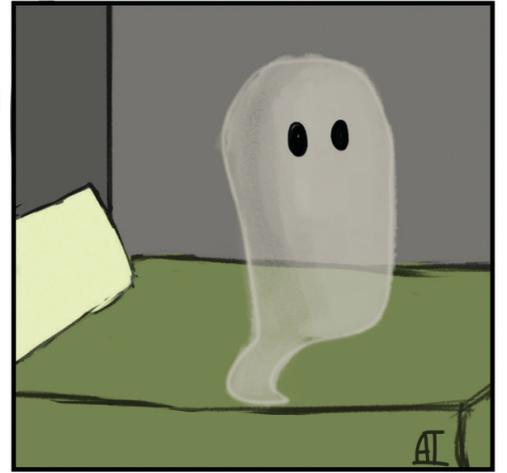
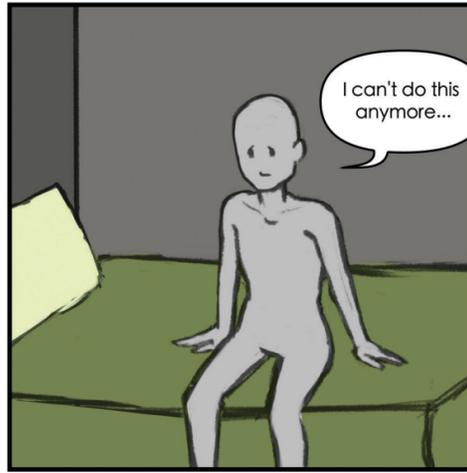
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COMIC BY ANNA IORFINO, STAFF ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

# RAPID FIRE:

## If Jonathan weren't a husky, what would he be?

If we're lucky in the Opinion section, we work through our beliefs completely and support them with great arguments. But sometimes, we don't need a deeper reason to hold our convictions. Rapid Fire is for those tweet-length takes that can be explained in just a sentence or two — no more justification needed.

In this Rapid Fire, writers gave their opinions on the question: If Jonathan weren't a husky, what animal would he otherwise be?

### NELL SRINATH, OPINION EDITOR:

I've always felt that Jonathan the Husky was a little bit too regal and elegant to truly represent the quotidienne reality of the University of Connecticut. Not all of us get to traipse around with handlers, perfectly-brushed fur and free access to any sporting event. We need the people's mascot: Jonathan the inside-out umbrella.

### DAN STARK, ASSOCIATE OPINION EDITOR:

Jonathan yearns to be a ferret. He will be granted his wish in the next life.

### TOMÀS HINCKLEY, CONTRIBUTOR:

A rock.

### ATHENA BROWN, CONTRIBUTOR:

A tailless squirrel that is endlessly chasing its own phantom tail.



ILLUSTRATION BY SARAH CHANTRES, STAFF ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

## Opinion

Photo of the Day | Was it 'Werth' it?



Peter J. Werth Residence Tower is located in the Hilltop area of Storrs campus. It is home to the Learning Community Innovation Zone, where students can utilize technology such as 3D printers, laser cutters and wood working equipment. PHOTO BY EVAN RODRIGUEZ, ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

# THE DANGERS OF POLITICAL ANTI-INTELLECTUALISM

by Tomàs Hinckley | CONTRIBUTOR | HE/HIM/HIS | tomas.hinckley@uconn.edu

As I wrote last week, certain forms of anti-intellectualism are very prevalent in our cultural values and present themselves in different ways across society. In terms of the political arena, the history of anti-intellectualism goes back to the beginning of our democracy and acts as a specific form of anti-elitism. In today's America, this underlying cultural feeling has been capitalized upon by a new generation of populist leaders, causing a resurgence of distrust in experts on all policy issues. As people become more involved with alternative facts and lying politicians, experts within the scientific and academic community must respond to prevent the decline of the American intellectual.

*As people become more involved with alternative facts and lying politicians, experts within the scientific and academic community must respond to prevent the decline of the American intellectual.*

As people become more involved with alternative facts and lying politicians, experts within the scientific and academic community must respond to prevent the decline of the American intellectual. In the past, the stance of the intellectual has often gone against the values associated with traditional American life. The position of higher academic pursuit outside of Christian fundamentalist values and typical capitalist economic gain has historically placed intellectuals at odds with societal power structures. However, in the early stages of American history, when intellectuals were almost exclusively separated from common people by geographical and class barriers, disdain for them originated. As such, after the elitist structures within the election systems came down, there began

to be waves of populist leaders capitalizing on their position as "anti-intellectuals".

The first was Andrew Jackson in 1828, and further examples can be seen in Presidents Dwight Eisenhower, Richard Nixon and especially Ronald Reagan over a century later. They used stereotypes that capitalized on popular resentment based on historical class contentions as political tools. Eisenhower beat Adlai Stevenson, a Princeton-educated lawyer in the presidential race in 1952, because Stevenson had a reputation as an effeminate, "egghead" of a man.

In his attacks on the Californian intellectual institutions while Governor, Regan referred to faculty and students as "self-indulgent snobs who were contemptuous of middle-class values." These statements demonstrate the disconnect between the academic community and common people, as they have only been influential because of the isolation between these two groups.

In the modern day, we see this trend as having massive consequences on our political landscape. Donald Trump, the latest anti-intellectual leader, fundamentally changed the landscape of information in America both during and after his presidency with attacks on media outlets and experts. The election fraud claims that his campaign put forward have created a shocking new era

of misinformation that most Americans feel threatens the very state of our democracy. The same broad effect of misinformation was seen with his dangerous claims downplaying the COVID-19 pandemic, which made it all the more lethal and hard to control. It is due to the discrediting of experts and authority figures that myths and misinformation can have such a pronounced effect and create such a divided nation. A nation that does not trust experts clearly loses a safeguard against political manipulation and becomes an easy target for strongman leaders with ill intentions.

Now, there is a lot of nuance that should be discussed to make the point that this is an issue the academic community must face with all Americans. As much as I have talked about mostly Republican leaders throughout this article, anti-intellectualism is not a partisan issue. Although it is more strongly associated with right-wing ideology, it exists in certain forms across the political spectrum. It is also not simply stated that a lack of education creates this problem. This feeling does have valid roots in a time when higher education was exclusive to the wealthy. Intellectuals often were a staunchly conservative population that upheld a much less democratic system and social order than we enjoy now. As such, this distrust was somewhat justified.

*The barriers to information and access to higher education only further isolate the greater community and make it a target for anti-elitist views.*

The problem now is that this is no longer the case. In the past hundred years, America has seen a democratization of higher education like never before. Although it is far from a perfect system, the doors of higher education on all levels are much further open than in the past. For example, the expansion of public universities has given greater access to a much more diverse group of students across the nation. Currently, even private universities are opening their doors with more conscious admissions and testing practices, leading to some gains in increased access.

The point is that academic communities are no longer the elitist stalwarts that they used to be, and feature more regular people who share the same views and dissatisfaction with political systems. Yet, the distrust still exists. The way to fix this is through opening the doors further.

The barriers to information and access to higher education only further isolate the greater community and make it a target for anti-elitist views.

We will have more people coming to trust the words of academics when there is open discourse and higher levels of integrity in research. It is the responsibility of academics themselves and institutions of higher education to fight for a better relationship with the broader public, and that only comes by opening themselves up to them.

# Women's Soccer: Huskies begin final road trip to Providence

by Sam Calhoun  
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The storied hatred between the Huskies and the Providence Friars is well known, but the next chapter in the history between these two programs will be fought on the soccer field. On Sunday afternoon, the UConn women's soccer team (as of writing: 6-3-5, 3-1-3 Big East) will visit the Friars (as of writing: 8-2-4, 3-0-4 Big East) in Providence, Rhode Island for their Senior Day.

The Huskies will be coming off their final home match of the season against Villanova University and are searching to improve their seeding in the Big East Tournament. As of writing, UConn is fourth in the Big East standings, while Providence is third.

The Friars saw two players earn honors on Monday's Big East Weekly Awards.

Forward Kayla Briggs was named the Big East Offensive Player of the Week, recording three points in two matches. The highlight of the freshman's outstanding week was a game-winning goal late in last Thursday's match against Marquette, with Providence winning 1-0. She also recorded an assist against No. 22 Georgetown, which resulted in a 1-1 draw. The Toronto native is one of the biggest reasons that the Friars are one of three teams without a loss in Big East play.

Midfielder Avery Snead was named to the Big East Weekly Honor Roll, playing the entirety of both matches last week. The senior from Wrentham, Massachusetts helped Providence allow just

one goal while also putting up nine shots on goal against Marquette and Georgetown.

The team is led by forward Meg Hughes, who leads the offense with 16 points through 14 games. The senior, the only Friar named to the 2023 Preseason All-Big East Team, ranks second in the Big East with eight goals. The Rochester, Massachusetts native currently ranks sixth on Providence's all-time scoring list with 59 points in 63 career games.

Behind Hughes this season are forwards Kyla Gallagher and Gillian Kenney, who have nine and eight points respectively.

Providence will be coming off a tough home match against No. 20 Xavier University, entering their Senior Day with either momentum or determination.

On the other side, UConn saw three of its players on the Big East Weekly Honors.

Midfielder Lucy Cappadona was named the Big East Defensive Player of the Week, her second of the season. The senior helped the Huskies shut out DePaul University and Butler University last week, clearly the team's best road trip this season. UConn had a 38-17 shots advantage and 22-4 shots on goal advantage in both games combined. The Marlborough, Massachusetts native played 90 minutes in each match as the Huskies look to end the regular season on a high note.

Goalkeeper Kaitlyn Mahoney was named the Big East Goalkeeper of the Week, not allowing a single goal against DePaul and Butler last week. Across both games, the senior made four saves with the help of a stellar defensive

team. As of writing, the Manorville, New York native has eight shutouts this season, tied for the second-most in the Big East.

Midfielder Jessica Mazo joined Providence's Snead on the Big East Weekly Honor Roll, scoring a goal and an assist to tally three points in a dominant 5-0 win over DePaul. The graduate student from Bridgeport, Connecticut finished the week with nine total shots during last week's road trip.

Forward Chioma Okafor continues to have an impressive sophomore year. The Blantyre, Malawi

native leads the Huskies with four goals and ten points this season. However, forwards Abbey Jones and Cara Jordan have caught up to Okafor with eight points and three goals each.

UConn has dominated the Friars in past years, with an overall record of 26-4-3. However, Providence isn't just higher in the Big East standings. They also have a slight advantage in the Massey Ratings, with the Friars ranked No. 70 in the country while the Huskies are No. 76. The last two meetings have ended in

ties and Connecticut has not won at Providence since 2009.

Following Sunday's match, UConn will wrap up the regular season in South Orange, New Jersey next week against Seton Hall University. Providence will also finish the regular season on the road, facing Villanova next Thursday.

The penultimate match for the Huskies will take place at Chapey Field at Anderson Stadium in Providence. The match is set for 1 p.m. and is available to stream on FloSports.



UConn women's soccer team takes on Villanova for the final home game of the season on Oct. 19, 2023. PHOTOGRAPH BY CONNOR SHARP, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

# Huskies in the Pros: Stewart, Liberty fall short, Walker and Napier square off

by CJ Dexter  
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**WNBA:** MVP Breanna Stewart held to 3/17 in season-ending defeat to Las Vegas in WNBA Finals.

With a chance to force a series-deciding game five in the WNBA Finals, Stewart and the New York Liberty jumped out to an early 23-13 lead at home against the Aces on Wednesday. New York took a nine-point lead into halftime and sustained it until about the midway point of the third quarter before going cold offensively. An 18-5 run by Las Vegas over the final seven minutes of the third quarter sent the Liberty to the fourth quarter trailing 53-51. The teams traded runs throughout the final quarter, but New York

couldn't find the basket on the final possession of the game with the team trailing 70-69.

Despite being held to 3/17 from the field, it was still an unforgettable 2023 campaign for former UConn superstar Stewart. After making the surprise move to New York as the top free agent in the offseason, the two-time champion led the Liberty to the top seed in the Eastern Conference. Stewart finishes her second MVP season with 23 points and 9.3 rebounds per game on 47% accuracy from the field.

**EuroLeague:** Legendary UConn guards Kemba Walker and Shabazz Napier square off in European Basketball League.

Two point guards who will forever be immortalized in UConn basketball history for leading their squads to improbable National Championship runs squared off as opponents in Wednesday's

EuroLeague contest between Crvena zvezda and AC Monaco.

The game itself didn't feature too much of either player as Walker finished with two points in 10 minutes and Napier scored seven in 21 minutes.

Walker and Napier were teammates on Connecticut's magical National Championship run in 2011. That run saw Walker lead the ninth-place Huskies to five wins in five days to capture the Big East Championship, before emerging as the last team standing in the NCAA Tournament. Walker, a junior at the time, averaged 26 points per game during UConn's Big East title run and then 23.5 points over the six NCAA Tournament games.

After Walker moved onto the pros, it was Napier's turn to lead UConn on a run of his own. In 2014, Connecticut wasn't looked at as a serious contender by many, as

the Huskies were slated as a seven seed in the bracket. In similar fashion to what Connecticut did in 2011, Napier put the Huskies on his shoulders and led UConn to the program's fourth national championship in program history. The 2014 Huskies are still the only seven-seed in NCAA Tournament history to win a National Championship.

Both players landed in the first round following their respective title runs. Walker's college success led to a top-10 draft selection by the Charlotte Bobcats (now known as the Hornets) in the 2011 NBA Draft. The 6-foot point guard from New York quickly emerged as one of the greatest players the franchise has ever seen with three All-Star selections and All-NBA selection in 2018. After eight terrific years in Charlotte, North Carolina, the Boston Celtics landed the former UConn star

on a four year, \$114 million deal to take over as the franchise's starting point guard. Despite another All-Star appearance in the 2019-2020 season, injuries began to slow down Walker's production and led to significant missed time. After two years in Boston, Walker made brief stints with the Knicks and Mavericks before ending up in Europe with Monaco.

Napier fell to the Miami Heat at No. 24 in the 2014 NBA Draft, largely as a ploy to keep LeBron James on the Heat rather than being a good fit. Without a system that fit his skillset, things didn't work out for the point guard in Miami and his development was hindered. Napier bounced around six different teams across seven years in the NBA before going overseas and ending up with Crvena zvezda in the EuroLeague.

## Fantasy Football Week 7 Preview: In the dumps

by Glenn Cully  
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For all the fantasy managers out there who have one win or fewer through six weeks, we have something in common. For all the fantasy managers out there who's bench currently has one player with a projection because everyone else is either injured or on a bye, we have something in common. For all the fantasy managers out there that have an average margin of defeat of .2 in the last two weeks, we have something in common. Needless to say, my outlook on the fantasy realm is not looking good. However, misery enjoys company. With that in mind, here are a handful of players in line to struggle, just like you and I have so far.

**Romeo Doubs @ Denver Broncos** - Doubs got off to a hot start to the year, with 20 catches for 224 yards and three touchdowns in the first four weeks. Prior to falling off a cliff in week five and recording one catch for four yards, Doubs benefited from the losses of Aaron Jones, Christian Watson and Luke Musgrave. All three demand a significant target share and are expected to play this week. Additionally, Jordan Love performed unsustainably well in the first three weeks, leading the league in percentage of throws that resulted in a touchdown during that span. Doubs benefitted from a good share of that production, meaning regression is likely to continue for him too. Week five may have

been a glimpse of what our expectations for Doubs should be going forward, as he is likely to struggle again against a Broncos defense that is begging to give up 200 total rushing yards.

Alexander Mattison vs. San Francisco 49ers - Mattison has quietly put up decent RB2 numbers in the last several weeks. He has seemingly recovered from his ugly performance against the Eagles and Minnesota's acquisition of Cam Akers, both of which tanked his fantasy stock. As someone who isn't overly confident in his talent, I think we're due to see the Mattison of old some time soon. It makes sense for the regression to come this week, as he is facing a 49ers team that just got their first loss of the year handed to them by a P.J. Walker-led Cleveland Browns. Expect the likes of Nick Bosa, Dre Greenlaw and Fred Warner to be even more hungry than usual in what should be a get-right game for San Francisco. Mattison will likely struggle against San Francisco's star studded defense, especially if the game script forces the Vikings to throw in order to keep up with an equally elite offense.

**George Pickens @ Los Angeles Rams** - Similar to Doubs, Pickens is also likely to suffer from the return of the primary option in his wide receiver room. Diontae Johnson, the team's clear number one target coming into the season, is on track to return this week. This is bad news for Pickens, as he was held to a target share of approximately 12% when Johnson was healthy in week one. They will also travel across the country to play the Rams, who have given up just one touchdown to wide receivers this season. As a prime example of a boom or bust option, all signs point to the latter for Pickens in week seven.

**Joshua Palmer @ Chiefs** - Since Mike Williams' season-ending injury in week three, Palmer has seen a clear uptick in usage rate but hasn't done a ton with it. In the two full games he's played without Williams, he's cashed in on big chunk plays to somewhat salvage his fantasy day, but he's also left a lot of opportunities out there. Coming off of a game where the offense looked like it was a clear step below Dallas', I wouldn't be surprised if the Chargers look to work Quentin Johnston further into the game script. Palmer still

has the opportunity to break big plays in that scenario, however relying on that type of production isn't sustainable. This is especially true against a Kansas City defense that ranks seventh in PPR points allowed to wide receivers so far this season.

All Rams and Cardinals RBs - Although it is tempting to try to strike gold on the waivers with a backfield who's number one option recently got injured, there isn't much value in either of these cases. Before going down, James Conner and Kyren Williams both ranked at an elite level in terms of snap share, meaning neither of their teams loved any of the options behind them. In the Cardinals' case, this is also supported by the fact that they signed Damien Williams in order to supplement a seemingly insufficient option in Keaontay Ingram. In Los Angeles, Sean McVay and Matt Stafford are more than capable of moving the ball down the field primarily through the air, and will likely do so against a porous Seattle defense. No one in the running back room for either of these teams should be viewed as anything better than a touchdown-dependent flex.

## Sports

## Photo of the Day | Casual conversation



Third semester UConn undergraduate Sam Calhoun and graduate student Olivia Majek attend the first men's ice hockey home game of the season on Oct. 24, 2023 at the Toscano Ice Forum in Storrs, Conn. PHOTO BY GONNOR SHARP, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

## FIELD HOCKEY: HUSKIES LOOK FOR REDEMPTION IN ROAD TRIP AGAINST TOP 10 OPPONENTS

UConn field hockey faces off against Providence on Oct. 13 at the Sherman sports complex. After a double overtime game, UConn lost to Providence with a final score of 1-2.

PHOTOGRAPH BY GONNOR SHARP, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS



by Connor Sargeant

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Last weekend was unideal for the UConn women's field hockey team, finishing 0-2 with little offensive firepower and scoring only two goals all weekend. Connecticut's past series was also

unique in the sense that they played their first game at home and the second on the road, as their norm had been either all on the road or at home. Now, the Huskies will be out looking for revenge, and they have an opportunity this weekend to upset some very talented opponents. On Friday, they will travel to

Lynchburg, Virginia, to face the red-hot No. 6 Liberty University, a team that has dominated their competition this year with an excellent 14-1 record to show for it. On Sunday, the Huskies visit No. 3 Duke University. Ultimately, winning either of these games will be an enormous task. However, if we've learned anything

about Paul Caddy's squad, it's that they come in with a winning attitude and they do not care who their opponent is.

Interestingly enough, the only team to upset Liberty this year is the Duke Blue Devils; other than that, they have been perfect, boasting a nine-game winning streak. Like the Huskies, the Flames have had a challenging schedule with the only difference being that they have been on the winning side of things. They have beat some of the top teams in the country, including the University of North Carolina Tar Heels, who were No. 1 at the time. It's easy to look at UConn's 5-10 record and Liberty's nearly undefeated record and call these games decided before kickoff, however, there are ways that the underdogs can pull off the victory. Like Connecticut, Liberty has had many close calls this year, including some opponents that UConn has faced. On Oct. 13, the Flames traveled to Hamden, Connecticut, to visit Quinnipiac University, a contest Liberty expected to win big in; however, that wasn't the case. Liberty's offense never got its flame, failing to convert on many scoring opportunities and only pulled out a 2-1 victory. The Connecticut defense has kept them competitive all year long, and if they stick to this sentiment, they can compete with anyone on any given day.

The Huskies matchup on Sunday will be just as hard as they face No. 1 Duke. The Blue Devils have played well this year, owning a 13-2 record, however, they have had their moments where they've struggled. Their last matchup, against No. 8 Virginia, was close the entire game, as it took two overtime periods to settle, with the Blue Devils narrowly losing 2-1. Conversely, Duke's offense has been too much for their opponents at times, most notably against Longwood University, whom they destroyed 9-0. Depending on what version of these teams we see this Sunday will determine the outcome of this fixture. If Connecticut contains the high-powered Duke offense, all bets are off. Nearly every loss this season has been within a goal, meaning the Huskies have been right there in it.

Undoubtedly, this weekend is a daunting task for UConn. It has been a season to forget for Caddy and Co., however, pulling off a massive win on the road against a top-10 opponent is enormous for this team. A win this weekend serves as a confidence booster for this young squad. It also shows the rest of the Big East conference that Connecticut field hockey is here to stay. They can potentially shock the collegiate field hockey world this weekend; they just need to play their game.

## Women's Volleyball: UConn nails Providence in second consecutive win

by Bridget Bronsdon

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The UConn women's volleyball squad is on top of the world after securing their second consecutive conference win against Providence. The mojo is back for the Connecticut crew as they have been dominating their Big East opponents.

Last weekend, the group stormed Butler in a dynamic 3-1 matchup. Luckily for the Huskies, the Friars were the second team to fall to the Connecticut group. However, the Huskies' success was not due to luck. UConn has spared no effort to secure the win and its diligence is finally paying off.

The first set, however, did not swing in UConn's favor. Despite securing an early lead, the Friars were in close pursuit of their opponent. The duo grappled back and forth through much of the game and found themselves tied at 20-20. Following an old pattern, the Huskies could not hang on

to the final points of the match. The Friars pulled away with 25 while UConn was left with 22.

The Huskies have often found themselves in a trailing position this season and refrained from panicking. One thing the group has excelled at is keeping their cool, especially when following closely behind an opponent early on in the match.

Moving into the second, Providence secured the first point but UConn was not thrown off its game. With composure, the Huskies matched the first point. Junior Doga Kutlu and redshirt junior Taylor Pannell were dynamic in this set as they were able to guide the team in kills.

The Huskies then established a significant scoring margin of 20-15 as they were nearing the final plays of the game. More often than not, the final points are long fought over as both teams exert their greatest athleticism and most dynamic play. However, the Huskies brought the second set to a swift end and nailed

the final plays of the contest. In a fiery scoring drive, the group dominated a 25-17 victory.

With a 1-1 tie, the stakes were high. Despite this pressure, UConn soared. The group was animated from the jump and aced a 4-0 lead. With a bit of leeway, the squad was able to relax and settle into a scoring groove. With a 10-5 score and a significant lead, the Huskies were able to call the shots on the court. Most commonly, the crew has been fighting to keep up with an opponent but the tables turned this week as UConn took a turn in the driver's seat. Connecticut once again brought the set to a quick end as they aced a 25-22 win.

With a 2-1 lead, UConn could end the match with just one more set victory. The team was after the win from the first point with a fierce kill by Mya Ayro. Pannell then matched the point with another kill to give the crew some scoring momentum. The Friars were set back early on in the contest as the Huskies developed an 8-3 gap. Despite this, Providence put up a fight for the final set and

tied the score 12-12. The pressure was now on as the Huskies were quickly challenged. However, another scoring run was all the group needed to once again put them on a trajectory toward success. As the score reached 20-16, the Huskies could see victory.

The final push allowed the squad to reach their second victory in a 25-19 set win. The crew has been patiently awaiting the feeling of success all season long. Finally, the Huskies have gotten into a groove and found their footing amongst their conference counterparts.

However, the squad can't get too comfortable as they will be facing Creighton, DePaul and Marquette this weekend. A victory this weekend will be much tougher for UConn as Marquette and Creighton occupy the No. 2 and No. 3 conference seeds. DePaul follows behind at No. 7. Despite these rankings, UConn has been able to topple two higher-seeded Big East teams so far which should give them the confidence to repeat the narrative.

# Men's Soccer: Huskies look to rebound at Creighton

by Nick Spinali

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The UConn men's soccer team dropped from second place to fourth in the East Division of the Big East conference, following a 3-1 loss. They will look to right the ship and regain momentum with an away match against the Creighton Bluejays on Saturday afternoon.

In its last game against the Providence Friars, UConn caught a hot team at the peak of their recent streak. The Friars jumped out to a 2-0 lead in the first half and kept the foot on the gas pedal with another score late in the second half. Scott Testori managed a score for the Huskies to cut into the lead with 15 minutes remaining, but the deficit proved too much to surmount.

The loss dropped Connecticut to 7-6-1 overall this season. They have gone 3-3 in games against Big East opponents. Their nine points in conference play equates to nine points, behind Georgetown (15), St. John's (11) and Providence (11). With just two games remaining in the regular season, the Huskies are still well within striking distance of St. John's and Providence and could jump one or both opponents with a good showing this weekend. UConn must put up a tough performance; with seven conference points, Seton Hall is lurking in the shadows and could also catapult Connecticut in the East with a win this weekend.

The Bluejays are fresh off of perhaps their most thrilling victory of the season when they took down No. 7 Akron 3-2. After a scoreless first half, Creighton managed to score three straight

goals to stun their highly-ranked opponent. Alfie Pope scored the first goal for the home team just minutes into the second half, and Omar Ramadan extended the lead to two in the 62nd minute. It was Pope again who extended the Bluejay advantage to a commanding three goals with his second score of the contest, this one in the 83rd frame. Akron continued to apply pressure and actually managed to bring the game back within striking distance, scoring goals in the 89th and 90th minutes, but the dominant second half performance from Creighton kept the game out of reach. It was the first loss that Akron has been handed this season.

With the victory, the Bluejays are now 4-5-5 overall this year. They've performed well against Big East opponents, managing a 3-2-1 mark against teams within the conference. With 10 points in conference play, Creighton sits in second place in the Midwest Division of the Big East. The weekend victory helped the Jays jump Akron in the Midwest standings as the Zigs were in second place entering the midweek tilt.

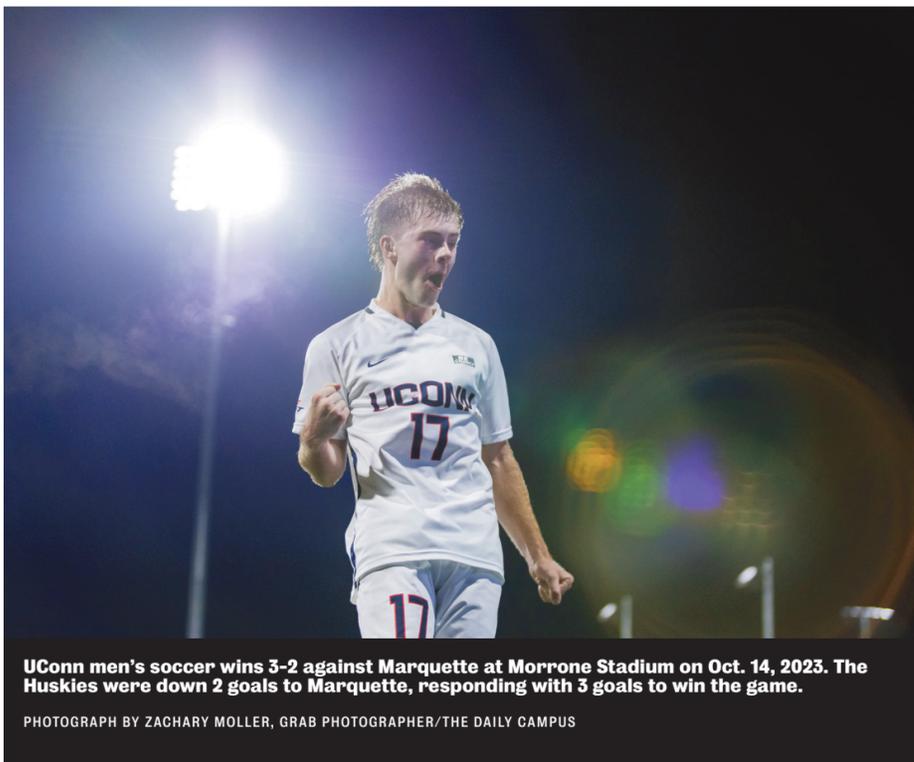
In four previous documented matchups between Connecticut and Creighton, the Huskies have been winless, managing an 0-2-2 mark versus the opponent. The two last met in September 2022 and managed a 1-1 tie. UConn and the Jays have tied in their last two matches heading into Saturday's bout.

This season has been a rise to stardom for Testori. After being given the opportunity to become one of the team's primary offensive options coming into the year,

the junior has flourished, leading Connecticut in points (15) and goals (six). No other UConn player has more than eight points or three goals. Testori got off to a hot start straight out of the gate but hit a bit of a speed bump through the middle-portion of the season, going six straight games without scoring a goal. However, the forward has returned in a major way over his last two matches. He scored the game-tying and game winning goals last Saturday in a thrilling victory over Marquette and extended his goal streak to two with his score at Providence on Wednesday. After being named the Big East Offensive Player of the Week last week, Testori will hope for a bid at the honor again this week with another strong showing.

For the Jays, Pope has been the team's most consistent player this season. He leads his team in total minutes played (1,101) and goals scored (four). His eight points are tied for second for Creighton. A graduate student from London, England, Pope was originally with the University of Mount Olive men's soccer team before transferring to Omaha. This year is his second with the Bluejays. He earned the Carolinas Conference Offensive Player of the Year with Mount Olive in 2021 and ranked nationally in several statistical categories during his time with the program.

Since it will be the last home game of the regular season for Creighton the team will honor its seniors ahead of the match. Kick-off is set for 3:30 p.m. from Morrison Stadium in Omaha, Nebraska. Fans can watch the Huskies live with a subscription to FloSports.



UConn men's soccer wins 3-2 against Marquette at Morrone Stadium on Oct. 14, 2023. The Huskies were down 2 goals to Marquette, responding with 3 goals to win the game.

PHOTOGRAPH BY ZACHARY MOLLER, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

# WOMEN'S HOCKEY: UCONN LOOKS TO DISMANTLE NEW HAMPSHIRE GAMEPLAY IN WEEKEND SEQUENCE

by Bridget Bronsdon

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Following back-to-back losses against Boston College, the UConn women's hockey team is preparing to make a return to the ice against New Hampshire.

The Huskies will be walking into the sequence with a 1-2-1 record. While it's still early in the season, the group currently maintains the No. 5 spot in Hockey East. Despite the losses last weekend, the team is still operating in the primary weeks of the season and is looking to perfect their gameplay.

Last weekend, a major theme of the sequence was power plays. Boston College was able to capitalize on these moments and drove the puck into the back of the net in a 3-4 and 1-2 winning sequence. While the Huskies were the first to score in both matchups, the Eagle's retaliation in the second and third periods put them on the map.

This weekend, New Hampshire may prove to be even tougher than Boston. The Wildcats, currently 3-2-1 have showcased a sensational start for their freshman goaltender. In their contest last weekend, Sedona Blair executed a career-high 36 saves against Maine. The Wildcat's rookie goaltender has already demonstrated diligence in the net and may be one of UConn's biggest challenges this weekend. While Connecticut is averaging 27 shots on goal per game, they will be challenged to nail the puck in the back of the net as their goal-game average rests at 1.8.

To counter this, the Wildcat's offense will be facing junior goaltender Tia Chan, Hockey East All Star Third Team and a semifinalist for the HCA National Goalie of the Year. As a sophomore, Chan secured a career-high 41 saves and a .935 save percentage. Chan will continue to be one of Connecticut's greatest assets and will be a leading force in Husky defense.

The UConn crew has also demonstrated a strong offensive start across the board. Freshman Livvy Dewar, sophomore Brooke Campbell, junior Riley Grimley and senior Jada Habisch are currently the team leaders with two goals this season. Habisch will be the player to watch as she led the team with 13 goals last season. Across the under and upperclassmen distinctions, the UConn crew has appeared to gel quickly.

Last season, New Hampshire was able to topple UConn twice over with a 2-1 season record despite their lower conference ranking. This year, the Huskies will be hoping to change the narrative and capitalize on power-plays as they have struggled to in the past.

Both contests will be held at home at the Toscano Family Ice Forum and Friday's match is scheduled for a 6 p.m. start. Saturday's puck drop is 3 p.m. and both contests will be streamed on ESPN+.

# Men's Hockey Ice Bus looks to rebound at Union

by Nick Spinali | STAFF WRITER | HE/HIM/HIS | nicholas.spinali@uconn.edu

The UConn men's ice hockey team will look to rebound from a slow start when it travels to Schenectady, New York for two games against the Dutchman from Union College.

The Ice Bus has gotten off to a less-than-ideal start to the season given their standards for success. The team is 1-2-1 through their first four games, coming fresh off of a two-game home-home sweep to Holy Cross last weekend. Over the weekend, the Huskies' defense performed well enough to keep each contest close but the offense were unable to convert on their opportunities. Connecticut managed just one point in the two matches.

"You can't score one goal in a weekend and expect to win," UConn head coach Mike Cavanaugh said after Saturday's loss. "I thought that we played really well defensively and was happy with the [intensity] that we played, we just need to find a way to finish our chances."

Union has seen mixed results in their first three games of the season. The Dutchmen destroyed Army West Point 6-0 to start the year, but they themselves were beaten hard in two games against Colorado College last weekend, entering Friday with a 1-2-0 record. Prior to the season starting, Union was predicted to finish eighth out of the 12 teams in the Eastern College Athletic Association conference, according to the Preseason Coaches' Poll.

Freshman Jake Richard has been one of the Huskies' best players in the early going. The Jacksonville, Florida native has scored two goals and has tallied two assists to give him four points. His plus/minus of plus-2 is tied for third on the squad. Before he came to Storrs, Connecticut, Richard played two years in the United States Hockey League. He began his USHL career playing for the Muskegon Lumberjacks, where he appeared in 80 games scoring 36 goals with 47 assists for 83 total points. He also suited

up for the Tri-City Storm of the USHL. During his time in the USHL, Richard played in 13 playoff games scoring two goals with five assists for seven points. Richard figures to become one of the Ice Bus' top offensive players as the season continues.

The Dutchmen have three players tied atop the team leaderpoint in points scored with four. Of those three, Josh Nixon has been the most efficient as he's provided his team with a plus/minus of plus-2, tied for best on his team. Of his four points, one has come via a goal and the other three have been on assists. In 34 games last season, Nixon scored 11 points on 61 shots. He added on five assists for a respectable 16 points on the campaign.

The Huskies are 4-2-3 all-time when taking on the Dutchmen. Their most recent matchup came last October when UConn narrowly escaped with a 4-3 victory. The Ice Bus has had Union's number as of late, winning the previous three straight games heading into Friday's tilt.

Coach Cavanaugh told the media on Wednesday that the team has been focusing extra carefully on converting their opportunities following the one-goal weekend: "We focused a lot this week on getting more traffic in front of the net and hitting the net... I think we missed the net on a couple of opportunities where we probably let the goalie off of the hook," Cavanaugh said. "Overall, I was happy with the effort and the performance and I think if we continue [to only] give up three goals [over a weekend], we'll be successful more [often] than not."

The two teams will clash heads for two games at Messa Rink at Achilles Center in Schenectady, New York. Game one is set for Friday at 7 p.m. Game two will be Saturday at 4 p.m. Fans at home can watch the Huskies live with a subscription to ESPN+.



CLIPART COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS



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.

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



# Sports

## FOOTBALL: HUSKIES LOOK TO CONTINUE MOMENTUM AGAINST BULLS

by Stratton Stave | SPORTS EDITOR | HE/HIM/HIS | stratton@uconn.edu

UConn sports had a great year in 2011. They won a third men's basketball national championship, their last under legendary head coach Jim Calhoun. Connecticut also peaked in football that January, with coach Randy Edsall leading the team to the Fiesta Bowl. What's so special about 2011 though? That's the last time the Huskies beat South Florida on the gridiron, doing so 16-10 at Rentschler Field. After eight games and as many losses, UConn returns to The Rent this Saturday hoping to break the 12-year drought against the Bulls.

USF brings a 3-4 record into the contest, having lost their last two. They've been very generous to opposing offenses in that pair of games, allowing 112 points across them.

The Bulls opened their season with a 17-point loss to Western Kentucky in a second-half collapse. The Hilltoppers outscored them 34-7 to close the matchup, a sign that even if USF gets ahead early, a comeback is attainable. They followed it up with a two-touchdown victory against FCS Florida A&M that left few convinced.

Next up was a peculiar home game against an Alabama squad figuring themselves out. After keeping a 3-3 tie into halftime, South Florida lost the second half 14-0. Losing to a program as consistently talented as the Crimson Tide is impressive, perhaps providing confidence for their next few games.

That confidence led to offensive explosions in their next two, scoring 42 and 44 against Rice and at Navy, respectively. USF pulled away from a close game versus the Owls, turning a one point deficit late in the third quarter into a 13 point win. For comparison, UConn beat Rice by seven, the equivalent mark when taking a standard plus-3 home field advantage into consideration. The Navy game was much of the same. They were tied late in the third frame and emerged with a 14 point victory.

The season got ugly for the Bulls though when they traveled to Birmingham, Alabama to take on UAB. After trying to keep up in a 35 point first quarter shootout, things quickly went south.

Blazers' running back Jermaine Brown Jr. scored three straight touchdowns to grab a 42-14 lead that effectively finished the game. Their embarrassing defeat against FAU was much of the same, but instead of a 42-14 deficit, it was 56-14. For reference, UAB and FAU have a combined 5-8 record.

Their decent offense is led in full by quarterback Byrum Brown. The freshman has done well in a variety of ways, starting with his passing. He ranks in the top 30% nationally in yards and touchdowns through the air with 1,662 and 12, respectively. The freshman has also been adequate in minimizing turnovers, with fewer than one per outing.

Brown really excels on the ground. With 512 such yards, he is third nationally among QBs and ranks in the top 50 overall. Brown's seven rushing touchdowns also places him third among QBs and in the top 20 in the country. To do this as a freshman shows poise and could spell trouble for the Huskies who have allowed big QB rushing games early this season.

For the Huskies, they picked up their first win of the season against Rice, a contest that looked much more similar to what most people expected of the Huskies going into the year. Their success was driven by excellent defense and the offense did well enough to pick up the win. A bowl is essentially out of reach, but there are still a number of winnable games on the schedule, including this one. If things are clicking, UConn matches up well against the Bulls.

They're hoping to take advantage of a dismal USF defensive in the bottom 10 nationally in points against and bottom six in passing yards allowed. QB Ta'Quan Roberson is hoping for another productive showing after two straight games with 200 plus passing yards and a pair of touchdowns. The fifth year student is looking to finally find consistency in what will be his fifth full collegiate game if he finishes it.

Tight end Justin Joly looks to have another solid day after taking seven catches for 96 yards and

a touchdown against the Owls. He was a big part of the Huskies' scheme last year and seemed to return to form in Houston. Also keep an eye out for Brett Buckman. The senior wide receiver had nine catches in the Georgia State game but has only notched 11 in the four games since. This will be an excellent opportunity for him to get involved and put his season back on track.

UConn's defense also has the opportunity to establish themselves. They rattled off four takeaways against Rice, much more opportunistic than they've been in the other five contests of the campaign. Their success largely comes from the fact that the offense was able to string together consistent drives, keeping the defense off the field. The Husky defense is capable of producing a big performance against a Brown-centric USF offense if rested adequately. If not, the QB could have a career day.

As is with all UConn FBS home games, the contest will air on CBS Sports Network and will kickoff at 3:30 p.m. EST.



The Huskies face off against Utah State at Rentschler Field on Saturday, Sept. 30. UConn started strong with a big lead after the first half, but could not pull off the win, with a final score of 33-34.

PHOTOGRAPH BY ZACHARY MOLLER, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

### WHAT TO KEEP AN EYE ON THIS WEEK

#### UConn SCOREBOARD

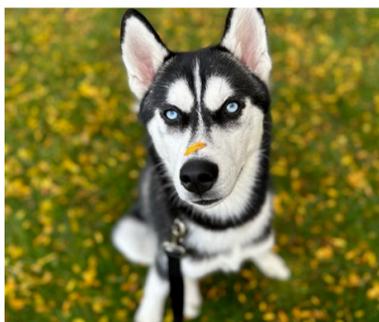
 vs.   
**1** vs. **1**  
**Women's soccer**  
**Thursday**

#### Upcoming Games

 vs.   
**Volleyball, 7 p.m. Friday**  
**Storrs, Conn.**

 vs.   
**Women's ice hockey, 6 p.m. Friday**  
**Storrs, Conn.**

### INSTAGRAM OF THE DAY



@uconn Jonathan XV is 6 months old today! They grow up so fast

### TWEETS OF THE DAY



**UConn Women's Basketball**  
 @UConnWBB  
 3x NCAA Champion  
 2x WNBA Champion

Kiah Stokes Champion how to win

**Barstool RFCL**  
 @BarstoolRFCL  
 #3 UConn comes back down 13-0 at half-time to win 17-13 vs the #4 Upper Iowa Peacocks. A tale of two halves, in which UConn pulls away.

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