



## ISRAEL AND GAZA IN CONTEXT: A DISCUSSION WITH PROFESSOR AVINOAM PATT

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On Wednesday, Nov. 1, at 4:30 p.m., Professor Avinoam Patt, the head of UConn's Center for Judaic Studies, gave an update on the current situation in Israel and Gaza at UConn's Hillel House. The talk was open to all students and faculty and focused on the historical context behind the events, outlined from the perspective of a historian and professor.

The first question proposed to Patt was on the movement of Zionism, defined as support for a Jewish national or religious community within the geographical region of Palestine, in Jewish tradition referred to as the Land of Israel.

"Zionism expresses an ancient religious longing for the Jewish return to Israel," Patt explained, "A centrality toward the Land of Israel, praying towards the East, and a return to Jerusalem have been parts of the Jewish religion since antiquity."

"Zionism as a political movement essentially emerges as a solution to the problem of anti-semitism and widespread outbreaks of violence in Eastern Europe," he said.

In the late 1800s, Zionism gained popularity as a potential solution to antisemitic violence and pogroms across Europe, and migration to and eventual establishment of a Jewish state on the historical Land of Israel emerged as a central focus of many of the movement's leaders.

"There were multiple periods of Jewish migration to Israel," Patt explained, "both the communities that existed over the centuries as well as from Eastern Europe in 1881 to 1904; again from 1904 to 1914; and then after World War I from 1919 to 1939 in different waves."

After the British departure from the region in 1947, the

United Nations supported the partition of the British Mandate in Palestine into a Jewish state and an Arab state. Waves of Holocaust survivors and Middle Eastern Jews expelled from their countries joined existing Jewish communities within the bounds of the modern State of Israel.

Queried about the difference between opposition to Zionism and antisemitic ideology, Patt expressed a view that "there is nothing wrong with legitimate criticism of the State of Israel and its policies" and called attention to recent mass protests within its own population against "what seemed to be an erosion of democratic norms [and] a feeling that extremist right-wing groups had taken over the government."

"That's an open, free, and legitimate political protest that doesn't cross any line."

Patt noted the usage of Nazi imagery to identify, criticize or attack the State of Israel, the denial or trivialization of the Holocaust in criticisms of Israel, the usage of "classic antisemitic tropes" and the targeting of Jews as a monolithic group are actions which clearly cross the line into antisemitism.

"Jews control Hollywood, Jews control the banks... Israel controls Hollywood, Israel controls the banks, Israel controls the White House - those are classic antisemitic tropes," Patt said, "Nobody speaks for all the Jews. There is a common expression - 'two Jews, three opinions. Lumping all Jews together is stereotyping them together.'"

"Attacking Jews anywhere in the world as a way of attacking the State of Israel is one of the most disturbing things we've seen emerge over the last few weeks. I've seen examples of this previously, where Hillel will be targeted and attacked just because it's a Jewish institution and painted with anti-Isra-



Professor Avinoam Patt gives a talk on the Israel-Palestine conflict at the Hillel House on Nov. 1, 2023. Patt answered student questions on the history of the conflict and the impacts it has had on the Jewish community.

PHOTOGRAPH BY EMMA MEIDINGER, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

el graffiti - that's antisemitism because you're directly targeting a Jewish person on the basis of their identity, as if all Jews identify with the State of Israel."

Following further discussion of Zionism and its opponents, the talk turned to the historical context surrounding the conflict between Israel and the Gaza Strip.

"In 1967, during the Six Day War, Israel, threatened by a dual invasion from Egypt and Syria, launched a preemptive strike. They eventually conquered the Sinai Peninsula, the Gaza Strip,

the West Bank and the Golan Heights - the Sinai Peninsula was returned to Egypt after the Camp David Accords of 1978, and Gaza remains a Palestinian refugee area. In 2005, Israel decided it did not want to maintain any settlements in the area and disengaged."

Following the 2005 withdrawal from Gaza, in which the Israeli Defence Forces (IDF) removed all formal military installations and troops from the region, the politics of the territory were turned on its head. A political crisis developed in Palestine between a new government in Gaza led by the Islamist group Hamas and the existing Palestinian National Authority (or Fatah) in the West Bank.

Patt provided historical context on the surprise attacks by Hamas in Israel on Oct. 7 of this year and addressed the failure of Israel to prepare and defend against the assault.

"Oct. 7 was the day after the 50th anniversary of the outbreak of the Yom Kippur War, where on Oct. 6, 1972, Egypt and Syria launched what at the time was a very successful surprise invasion of Israel through the Golan Heights and through the Sinai Peninsula.

After the war, government officials took responsibility, and they studied it in commissions of inquiry, and what they found out was: not only did the military screw up, and not only did the intelligence screw up, but that after the victory in 1967, they bought into this concept that there's no way [the Arab states] are going to attack.

The events of Oct. 7 are very similar. From a military and intelligence standpoint, it was a terrible failure, and I think it's going to affect the response of Israel for years to come. We always talk about 1967 as a defining point. This will be even more, I think, a defining point in history."

In the fiery political atmosphere surrounding the aftermath of the attacks of Oct. 7 and the ongoing Israeli offensive in Gaza, Patt feels that "compared to a lot of other schools, [the University of Connecticut] is a good place to be."

"UConn PD is very specifically stepping up patrols, monitoring and observances. There is this concentrated effort as well to try to keep the temperature down. There is an understanding that the more things get inflamed, the more dangerous it becomes - it's physical safety, but also trying to create a safe, secure environment where people feel they can say the things they need to."

**"UConn PD is very specifically stepping up patrols, monitoring and observances. There is this concentrated effort as well to try to keep the temperature down."**

AVINOAM PATT

Students interested in further study of the history of Israel and its conflict are encouraged to explore POLS 3464: Arab-Israeli Conflict, HEJS 2200: Israel: History and Society, the one-credit pop-up class UNIV 3088: Why the Jews? Confronting Antisemitism, and associated classes in the ARAB and HEJS departments that tackle Arabic and Jewish language and culture.



Professor Avinoam Patt gives a talk on the Israel-Palestine conflict at the Hillel House on Nov. 1, 2023. The talk was open to all students and faculty and focused on the historical context behind the events, outlined from the perspective of a historian and professor.

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## News

# Supreme Court justices consider whether to uphold law that keeps guns out of the hands of domestic abusers

(THE CONVERSATION) —

Should it be legal to take away the guns of people who are under a domestic violence protective order, which aims to shield victims from their abusers?

That's the question posed in one of the biggest cases of the current Supreme Court term, focused on the limits of individual gun rights, which will be argued before the justices on Nov. 7.

The case, U.S. v. Rahimi, comes in the wake of revolutionary changes in doctrine over the past two court terms. Now, justices must grapple with how far the new principles will reach.

Two years ago, the court began what many consider to be a constitutional revolution.

The new supermajority of six conservative justices rapidly introduced new doctrines across a range of controversies, including abortion, guns, religion and race.

When the court announces a new principle — for example, a limit on the powers of a specific part of government — citizens and lawyers are not sure of the full ramifications of the new rule. How far will it go? What other areas of law will come under the same umbrella?

In a revolutionary period, aggressive litigants will push the boundaries of the new doctrine, attempting to stretch it to their advantage. After a period of uncertainty, a case that defines the limits on the new rule is likely to emerge.

## FOCUS ON GUNS

U.S. v. Rahimi may be the limiting case for gun rights, identifying the stopping point of the recent changes in Second Amendment doctrine.

Zackey Rahimi is a convicted drug dealer and violent criminal who also had a restraining order in place after assaulting his girlfriend. The court will decide whether the federal law prohibiting the possession of firearms by someone subject to a domestic violence restraining order violates the Second Amendment.

In the 2022 case of New York Rifle & Pistol v. Bruen, the court announced a new understanding of the Second Amendment. The amendment had long been understood to recognize a limited right to bear arms. Under the Bruen ruling, the amendment instead describes an individual right to carry a gun for self-protection in most places in society, expanding its range to the level of other constitutional rights such as freedom of religion or speech, which apply in public spaces.

However, the court's conservative justices also tend to argue that constitutional rights are balanced by responsibilities to promote a functional society, a concept known as "ordered liberty." The practical question is how to know the proper balance between liberty and order. If the right to carry a gun can be regulated but not erad-



The Supreme Court of the United States is the highest court in the federal judiciary of the United States. This is where U.S. v. Rahimi will be heard with potentially significant consequences.

PHOTO COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

icated, limited but not eliminated, where is the line?

The court's answer in Bruen is history — a current law does not have to match a specific historical one exactly, but it has to be similar in form and purpose. Whatever gun regulations Americans allowed during the early republic — the critical period from around the 1780s to around the 1860s at the time of the Civil War — are allowable now, with the exception of any that would violate principles added to the Constitution more recently, such as racial equality under the 14th Amendment.

Justice Clarence Thomas, the author of the Bruen ruling, described it this way: The gov-

ernment must "identify a well-established and representative historical analogue, not a historical twin." Thomas argued in Bruen that no such historical analogue existed for the limits New York imposed, invalidating the state's ban on concealed carry permits.

The Rahimi case will provide a critical test of this historical approach to the boundaries of constitutional rights.

Historians have presented evidence that there were widespread laws and practices during the early republic limiting gun possession by individuals, like Rahimi, who were judged to be dangerous. However, those dangers did not include domestic violence, which

was not deemed the same important concern then that it is now.

The court may consider the laws prevalent in the early republic, which regulated those who "go armed offensively" or "to the fear and terror of any person," to be analogous to contemporary laws restraining those under a domestic violence restraining order. If so, the ruling will likely uphold Rahimi's conviction and limit gun rights.

On the other hand, if the court reads those historical standards as more narrow and specific than the contemporary ban on gun possession while under a restraining order, those limits will be struck down.

## TEACHERS IN PORTLAND, ORE., STRIKE FOR A FOURTH DAY AMID IMPASSE WITH SCHOOL DISTRICT

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — Schools remained closed in Portland, Oregon, on Monday as a teacher's strike entered its fourth day, prompting state lawmakers to increasingly weigh in and call on the district to negotiate in good faith.

At a news conference with a Portland teachers union leader, state legislators representing the Portland area said they were frustrated by the district's claim of a lack of funding.

The Legislature this year approved a record \$10.2 billion budget for K-12 schools. But Portland Public Schools has said the money isn't enough to meet the union's demands of higher pay for educators.

"It feels a little disingenuous to have them come back and say, 'Actually, we can't do it because you didn't give us enough money,'" state

Sen. Elizabeth Steiner said of the district. "We did everything that schools asked us for and then some."

In a letter to Portland Public Schools last week, Portland-area legislators including Steiner called on the district to cut "superfluous administration spending" and focus on classroom investments. They said they looked at the district's spending and found that its administrative costs — about 6% of its budget — are roughly double that of comparable districts.

In a separate news conference Monday, Portland Public Schools Superintendent Guadalupe Guerrero said the district's central office accounts for 5% of the overall budget. He said the money "doesn't necessarily go into a bunch of high-level managers," citing positions such as instructional coaches and coordinators.

"There doesn't seem to be agreement on how big the pie actually is," Guerrero said. "We do have a fixed level of resources."

The union has proposed a roughly 20% salary increase over three years. The district, meanwhile, has proposed around half that.

The union's demands also include more daily and weekly planning time for teachers to prepare lessons, particularly for those in elementary school. They also are demanding class sizes be capped at certain thresholds that are lower than what the district has proposed in some instances.

The district has said the union's proposals would create additional spending and result in potential staffing cuts. It also cited declining enrollment as a financial concern. The district has lost nearly 3,000 students since the COVID-19 pan-



Teachers and their supporters hold signs, chant and rally the crowd on the first day of a teacher's strike in Portland, Ore., Nov. 1, 2023. Teachers in Portland entered the fourth day of a strike on Monday, Nov. 6, 2023. Schools remained closed after negotiations between the teacher's union and the district failed to advance over the weekend.

PHOTO BY CLAIRE RUSH/AP

dem hit in the 2019-20 school year, state data shows.

Portland Public Schools is the biggest district in the state with roughly 45,000 students.

The Portland Association of

Teachers said educators will stay on the picket line until they believe a fair contract has been reached.

Guerrero said the district and the union were scheduled to meet again Monday.

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Study Break

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**ACROSS**

- 1 Casual hellos
- 4 Let in
- 9 Ocular bump
- 13 Thin-strapped top
- 14 "Psycho" star Janet
- 15 Celebrity rodent of Punxsutawney
- 16 River through Kazakhstan
- 17 Italian salami city
- 18 Tie
- 19 One known for clutch performances?
- 22 Third-place medal
- 23 Forward, as mail
- 26 Nasal membranes
- 27 Quick punch
- 30 "Rolling in the Deep" singer
- 31 One who is sometimes a dummy?
- 34 Pack animal
- 37 Tropical veranda
- 38 That, in Spanish
- 39 One who is not on a roll?
- 44 Venmo transfer, e.g.
- 45 Curvy shape
- 46 Wear down
- 50 Certain Polynesian
- 52 Hurt
- 53 "No, thank you," or something 19-, 31-, and 39-Across might say?
- 57 Carson's successor
- 59 Sales rep's target
- 60 NYC drama award
- 61 "\_\_\_, Brute?"
- 62 Poet Ginsberg
- 63 Lenovo competitor
- 64 Fragrance
- 65 Hold responsible
- 66 "The Simpsons" disco guy

**DOWN**

- 1 Zimbabwe's capital
- 2 Joe Friday's declaration in the classic "Dragnet" intro
- 3 Subtle characteristic?
- 4 Aquarium problem
- 5 Forest animal with antlers
- 6 Pay attention to

- 7 "Young Frankenstein" assistant with a shifting hump
- 8 Bangkok natives
- 9 Sweetener brand with sucralose
- 10 Mystical source of perception beyond ordinary sight
- 11 \_\_\_ and yang
- 12 Large 5-Down
- 13 Sidewalk edges
- 20 Captain of industry
- 21 Osso buco meat
- 24 Cheers for a flamenco dancer
- 25 Rex Stout sleuth Wolfe
- 27 Matchmaking app for Jewish singles
- 28 \_\_\_ Dei: lamb of God
- 29 Abacus units
- 32 Plural French pronoun
- 33 Pastry with a crust
- 34 Fruity summer drinks
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- 36 Hit with force
- 40 Traveling show that entertains the troops

- 41 Former Iranian ruler
- 42 "Arrow" and "Legends of Tomorrow" actor McDonough
- 43 Camera stands
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- 48 Arnaz and Ball's production company
- 49 Short-lived Ford model

- 51 Muslim face covering
- 52 Place for cinematic snakes
- 54 \_\_\_ and void
- 55 Soft drink nut
- 56 Article
- 57 Many an August baby, astrologically
- 58 Info posted in an airport lounge

**ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:**

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## Life



IMAGES COURTESY OF @THEBEATLES ON INSTAGRAM

# “NOW AND THEN”: THE END OF AN ERA

by **Henry St. Pierre**  
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Very few bands have had the cultural outreach and sustainability as The Beatles. The Fab Four have managed to bridge generations and entertain hundreds of millions of people, even over half a century after their breakup. The nearly universal love and admiration for their music has only been amplified over the past few weeks with an uproar of excitement for their latest and final single, “Now and Then.”

The story of this song dates back to John Lennon circa 1977. Lennon recorded a solo acoustic demo for the song, never to be finished before his untimely murder. In 1994, Lennon’s widow, Yoko Ono, gave the cassette to former Beatle Paul McCartney; the tape had the words “For Paul” written on it.

The track was originally planned to be completed in 1996 for The Beatles’ “Anthology” series, along with other Lennon demo tapes like “Free as a Bird” and “Real Love.” While the latter two were eventually finished and put out on the aforementioned “Anthology” album, “Now and Then” never quite made the cut. Members of the band cited the poor quality of the demo’s cassette tape.

Following the track’s abandonment, the original demo was put into storage by McCartney and largely forgotten for the next 20 years. It wasn’t until 2023 that McCartney, joined by Ringo Starr, would revisit and complete the song. The quality of the original demo was greatly improved using AI restoration. As it stands, “Now and Then” is the final song to ever feature all four of The Beatles members. To call it the end of an era would be an understatement.

The track is accompanied by a music video made by Peter Jackson, who compiled footage of the band and created the documentary series “Get Back,” released on Disney+ in November 2021. The video features footage from several decades. Clips from several of the band’s music videos are used in tandem with shots of the members. All of the footage used is intertwined to create a retrospective look at the band and its members. The video serves as a tribute to Lennon and George Harrison, as well as a love letter to their fans who have supported them for the past 50 years.

Now, onto the song itself, “Now and Then” is a somber, reflective, psychedelic ballad. Mainly sung by Lennon, with vocals accompaniment by the other three Beatles. It’s an ethereal song that harkens back to previous Beatles releases like “Free as a Bird” or “Eleanor Rigby.” On its own, it’s not a standout track, but that’s not really the point. The spectacle of this release more than makes up for any kind of blemishes that come with this song. The somber nature of the tune and its retrospective music video will cause many to tear up, especially those who are particularly fond of the band.

While this release might not be the greatest Beatles song, it’s an amazing thing to hear. “Now and Then” is bittersweet, but it’s a fantastic send-off to one of the most influential musical artists of all time.

**RATING:**  
**4/5**



IMAGE COURTESY OF @THEBEATLES ON INSTAGRAM

# “QUIZ LADY”

## shows sisterhood in new buddy comedy

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

What would you do if you had to embark on a crazy road trip with a chance to win big? “Quiz Lady,” written by Jen D’Angelo and directed by Jessica Yu, shows a heartwarming story with funny beats and a strong female cast.

Nora Lum stars as Anne, a timid accountant obsessed with the nightly game show “Can’t Stop the Quiz,” a pastiche of “Jeopardy.” She watches it every night with her dog right by her side. Estranged sister Jenny, played by Sandra Oh, famous from “Grey’s Anatomy,” arrives on her doorstep with the news that her mother is in a serious rut: over \$80,000 in gambling debt. The only proposition would be to win the money from “Can’t Stop the Quiz.”

The film follows Anne and Jenny on a crazy road trip to Philadelphia, where Anne will audition for the show. Along the way, they encounter a variety of colorful characters and situations, including a Ben Franklin impersonator (Tony

Hale), a smug contestant (Jason Schwartzman) and, of course, the quiz show’s host, Terry McTeer (Will Ferrell). Ferrell’s performance is one of the highlights of the cast, reminiscent of his parody of Alex Trebek on “Saturday Night Live.”

are the dramatic ones, particularly those between Anne and Jenny. The film explores the complex relationship between the estranged sisters with honesty and sensitivity. Lum and Oh have excellent chemistry together, and they

ny have their differences, but they ultimately come together to support each other as they dig their mother out of her immense hole of debt. Part of the story revolves around Anne’s interest in “Can’t Stop the Quiz” since the age of four, hav-

Jenny, on the other hand, is not afraid to take risks, and she is always up for a new adventure as a free-spirited artist. Sometimes, these impulses lead to irresponsible decision-making, but she is always willing to put the right foot forward to help her family.

Anne and Jenny have a complicated relationship with each other and with their mother, who takes sporadic trips for gambling. Still, they ultimately come together to support each other and achieve their goals. The film is a reminder that some of the most difficult situations can be helped with love and forgiveness.

This comedy is a fun and heartwarming film with elements that can appeal to a wide audience. It is sure to leave viewers feeling inspired with a laugh. Produced by Twentieth Century Studios, you can watch “Quiz Lady” as a special on FX (Huskyvision channel 70) or on-demand with a Hulu subscription.



IMAGE COURTESY OF IMDB

The film’s slapstick elements are mostly successful, and audiences who enjoy comedy can look forward to funny moments. However, the film’s strongest moments

bring their characters to life with humor and depth.

One of the things that makes “Quiz Lady” a good watch is its message about the power of sisterhood. Anne and Jen-

ing become a source of comfort and stability in her life amid familial changes regarding their father. Anne is afraid of failure, and she is hesitant to step outside of her comfort zone.

Studios, you can watch “Quiz Lady” as a special on FX (Huskyvision channel 70) or on-demand with a Hulu subscription.

# RATING: 3/5 PUGS



# Life

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IMAGE COURTESY OF @HAZELIGHTGAMES ON INSTAGRAM

# THE BACKLOG

## Test your love with 'It Takes Two'

by Desirae Sin  
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Welcome back to The Backlog, where we review video games based on a certain theme each month. We've said goodbye to the spooky season in October, and are now looking into cooperative games for November in the spirit of Thanksgiving. Our first look will be into the 2021 hit, "It Takes Two."

"It Takes Two" was released on March 26, 2021 on various platforms. It was developed by Hazelight Studios and published by Electronic Arts. Hazelight Studios is known for their two-player co-op style of games; another one of their notable works is "A Way Out." The game is designed as a split-screen experience, which can be played either online or locally with another player. Each player controls either Cody or May, and they must work together to solve platforming puzzles and win battles.

Each segment is creative and utilizes a different aspect of gaming. Some levels are reminiscent of "Star Fox 64," where you must fly a machine and shoot enemies or use the familiar 2D platforming style of the "Rayman" games. One thing that I can say about "It Takes Two" is that it incorporates various styles to keep the experience new and exciting. Especially when paired with the co-op feature, the game forces bring out a lot of laughing — and non-stop bickering.

**Spoilers for the story of "It Takes Two" beyond this point!**

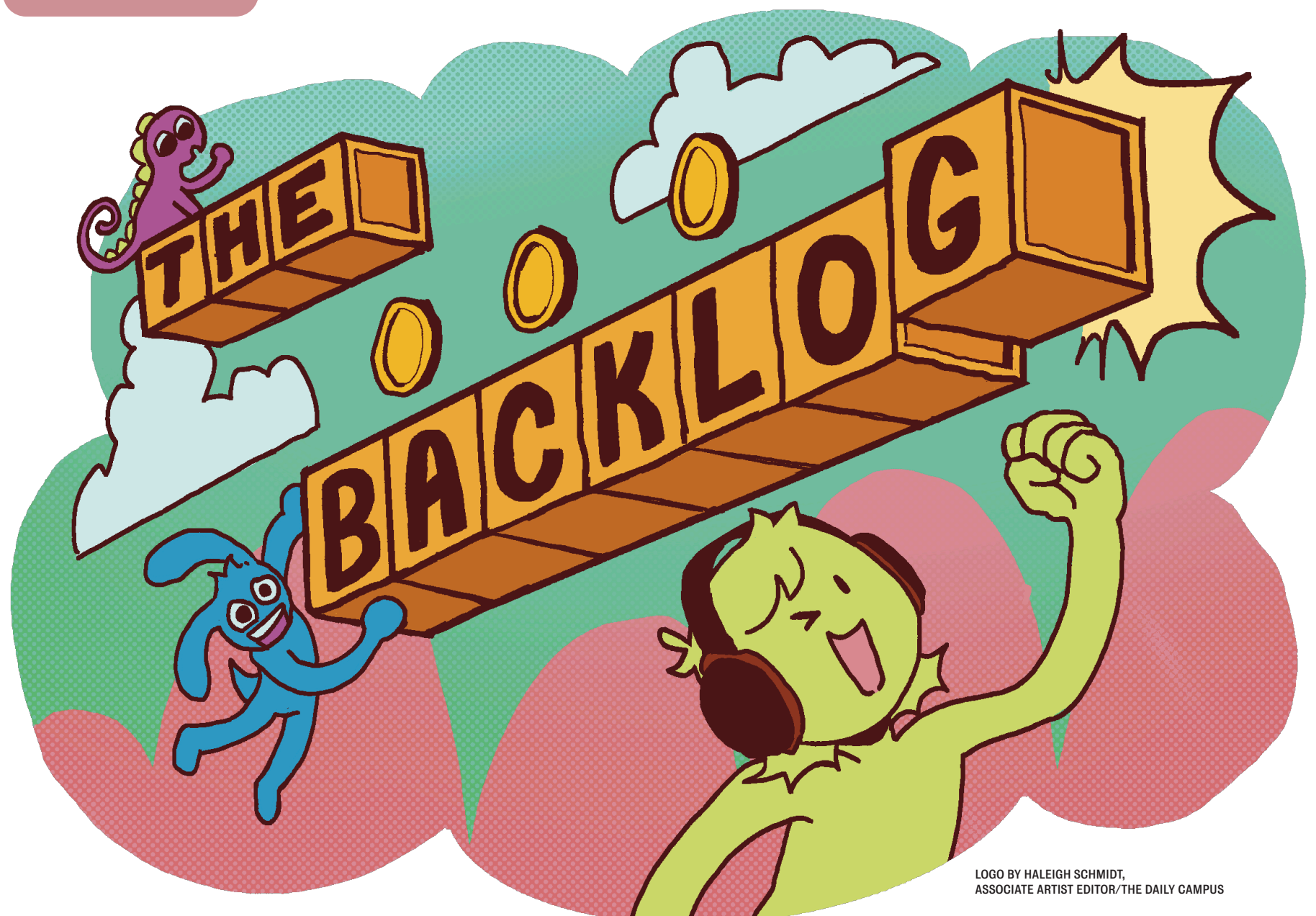
The story begins with Cody and May, a married couple who are planning on getting a divorce. It opens with them breaking the news to their daughter, Rose. Through a magic book titled "Book of Love" by Dr. Hakim, the pair get turned into Rose's handmade dolls of themselves and must cooperate in order to turn back into humans. They face various challenges that test their cooperation skills and allow them to reflect on their marriage.

While it may seem like it takes a serious tone, there are many moments where players will find themselves laughing with each other. There are various minigames strewn about the levels that pit Cody and May against each other, yet the main storyline involves various mechanics where the pair rely on each other. An example of this is in the beginning of the game, where Cody and May are stuck in a shed. Cody is equipped with flying nails and May is equipped with a talking hammer. Cody can throw nails onto walls, which allows May to swing on with the claw of her hammer. Her hammer is also able to smash buttons necessary for flipping platforms that Cody can walk on. Players are forced to communicate, and each does their part to solve puzzles and progress. Throughout the game, Cody and May each gain their own unique abilities in the levels, making the experience new and exciting.

Unlike its predecessor, "A Way Out," "It Takes Two" has a more humorous tone. One way it displays this is through the colorful character of Dr. Hakim, the talking book. He directs Cody and May and does everything he can to force them into situations where they must use cooperation. Joseph Balderrama voices Dr. Hakim and gives him a flamboyant and eccentric personality. Balderrama also voices Cody in the game, showcasing his talent for range and being able to play two very different characters at the same time.

The ending did leave players a bit confused and wanting more, however. As you progress through the story and allow Cody and May to understand each other, it ultimately leads to a kiss that turns them back into humans. Some players were underwhelmed with the fact that it never confirms whether or not they go through with the divorce or not, but I think those players missed the point. What brings them together again is their daughter, and even if they might have rediscovered the spark that started their relationship, they both agree that they love Rose the most. In many divorces, the children are often sidelined or feel as if it's up to them to fix everything. I appreciate the message that "It Takes Two" depicts by leaving the ending ambiguous.

**RATING:**  
4/5



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



# Opinion

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COMIC BY CHRISTIAN BARBARA, CONTRIBUTING ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

# The way to help Palestine

by Nell Srinath  
OPINION EDITOR  
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Across the United States, pro-Palestine activists have taken the practice of "naming and shaming" up a notch by orchestrating direct action at the facilities of military contractors and ports materially supporting the siege and bombardment of Gaza by the State of Israel.

On Monday, Oct. 30, over 200 protesters with Palestine Action U.S., a newly-formed solidarity organization modeled after a group in the United Kingdom of a similar name, rallied outside the office of Elbit Systems in Cambridge, Mass. Elbit is the largest military contractor in Israel, pulling in \$5.5 billion in revenues in 2022, according to the company's earnings report. The company also sports seven operational facilities and numerous "innovation centers" in the United States through its subsidiary, Elbit Systems of America.

The protesters, nine of whom were arrested by the Cambridge Police Department, demanded a shutdown of the company that regularly contracts with the Israeli military for equipment like artillery shells, surveillance technology and aircraft components, making tens of millions of dollars in the process. Elbit's own website proudly displays its avionic contributions to the Israeli military's fleet of F-15, F-16 and F-35 fighter jets, which have terrorized the skies of Gaza in an assault that has killed over 10,000 civilians.

What do we do about this? The conventional liberal instruction of "calling your legislators" out-sources political action to those people who are beholden to donors in the weapons-aerospace industry, which shelled out over \$21 million in political action committee donations to both Democrats and Republicans in

Courtney and Rosa DeLauro, according to OpenSecrets.

Similarly, the tremendous clout that pro-Israel PACs like the American-Israel Public Affairs Committee, also known as AIPAC, have on American electoral politics also places an upper limit on the amount of solidarity elected officials and candidates can express for Palestine without being isolated by their party caucus or massively outspent in their

next primary. Of Connecticut's Congressional legislators, all but Sen. Chris Murphy and Rep. Jahana Hayes each received sums of nearly \$8,000 from AIPAC; Hayes received nearly \$3,000 and Murphy received no funding.

With

that their actions are a liability. Numerous other protests in the U.S. have caught wind of this.

In Oakland, over 100 demonstrators rallied on Friday, Nov. 3, to prevent the departure of the Cape Orlando military ship from the Port of Oakland — three protesters even temporarily attached themselves to the vessel for hours before being removed, according to CBS News. The Arab Resource Organizing Center, which

organized the rally, received an anonymous tip that Cape Orlando was carrying U.S. military aid to support Israel in the genocide taking place in Gaza. Although the attempt to prevent the ship from leaving port was unsuccessful, the amount of risk

which the U.K.-based Campaign Against Arms Trade attributes over 15,000 civilian deaths. Again, the protesters were dispersed by police, as reported by the St. Louis Post-Dispatch; however, these tactics represent the embryo of direct action that pro-Palestine advocates can take up en masse to throw a wrench in the gears of the U.S. empire.

Connecticut is home to numerous military contractors, each with varying stakes in the occupation and destruction of Palestine. Lockheed Martin's Sikorsky in Stratford

produces King Stallion helicopters for the Israeli military. Raytheon's Collins Aerospace in Windsor Locks collaborates with Elbit Systems of America to develop helmet-mounted displays for fighter jet pilots in the U.S. and Israeli air forces. General Dynamics' Electric Boat in Groton builds missile-equipped, nuclear-powered Ohio-class submarines for the U.S. Navy, one of which currently passed through the Suez Canal en route to provide military support to the occupation. Connecticut's darling, the Raytheon subsidiary Pratt & Whitney, is headquartered in East Hartford and has an additional campus in Middletown. Pratt develops the F100 military engine, which powers the aforementioned F-15 and F-16 fighter jets making life in Gaza a living hell.

Peace is not possible in a world where war is profitable. As a state, national and global community, we have a responsibility to be aware and spread awareness of which corporations in their state are extracting wealth from the suffering and loss of Palestinians. Furthermore, we have a responsibility to act and show the powers that be that their faithful alliance on the war industry is neither acceptable nor sustainable.

*Peace is not possible in a world where war is profitable.*



FILE ILLUSTRATION/THE DAILY CAMPUS

*As a state, national and global community, we have a responsibility to be aware and spread awareness of which corporations in their state are extracting wealth from the suffering and loss of Palestinians.*

donations from Lockheed Martin, a weapons manufacturer that contracts with the U.S. and Israeli militaries to build F-35 jets. Lockheed spent \$1,000 on Rep. Jahana Hayes' campaign, \$8,000 on Sen. Richard Blumenthal's and \$10,000 each on the campaigns of representatives Jim Himes, Joe

poses the deeply corrupt and harmful underbelly of so-called "defense" contractors; it also shows your leaders far more effectively than a phone call that supporting arms dealers and genocide are a campaign liability. Moreover, it shows the very companies arming the genocide

blocked the gates to a Boeing plant to disrupt the accelerated production and delivery of bombs and joint direct attack munitions, or JDAMs to the Israeli military. A similar protest was held in 2018 at the facility to protest Boeing's complicity in the Saudi-U.S. coalition bombing of Yemen, to

grows exponentially. More than a ceasefire — which simply gives the Zionist occupation of Palestine time to shore up its capacity to militarily dominate the people of Gaza and the West Bank — the most necessary way to be an ally to Palestine is pushing for the disarmament of the U.S. empire.

## Opinion

Photo of the Day | Game day



UConn's students line up outside Gampel Pavilion on Monday, Nov. 6, 2023 before the UConn men's basketball team faces off against Northern Arizona University. Countless UConn students, alumni and fans have enjoyed games played in Gampel since its opening in 1990. PHOTO BY ZACH MOLLER, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

# LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

## There is only one valid side in the Israel-Hamas War: Humanity

by Matan Doron

What do you do when a gunman breaks into your house? If you happen to be in your home at 7 a.m. like many Israeli families on Oct. 7, the only hope, really, is that you are the first to go. The only one in your family not to feel even the briefest agony that comes with seeing your husband, wife, sister, brother, child, mother or father slaughtered in the fleeting moments before the gun is turned on you. The stories that have emerged from the Israeli villages and kibbutzim surrounding Gaza give voice to unspeakable horrors. Of a woman killed mid-labor, of bodies charred beyond recognition, of kidnapped children confined to chicken coops in Gaza. Yet, the inability of the Daily Campus and its contributors to condemn without reservation the Hamas atrocities speaks to a moral failure as calamitous as the events of Oct. 7.

Instead of revealing the horrors of the Hamas terror attacks and the ensuing war, the contributors and editors of The Daily Campus have woven a cloth made from the flimsy fabric of theory. Parading this cloth as a cloak of justice, it serves little more than to obscure the atrocities committed by Hamas on Israeli civilians during the day of Oct. 7. Instead, they have dressed up the brutal murders

of civilians — many of whom were peace activists — as resistance. As acceptable casualties. As necessary deaths in the pursuit of a pure and ideological vision of a just world.

Yet, at no point in history — whether during the Holocaust in Europe, South African apartheid and repressive dictatorships in South America — did resistance fighters murder civilians en masse. At no point in history have resistance fighters raped and dismembered bodies of innocents. At no point in history have resistance fighters made their mission the wholesale kidnapping of innocent civilians.

Hamas is no resistance group. Their actions deserve no sympathy and surely no justification. They ought to be condemned to the strongest degree. Their murderous ideology must be torn down and laid bare with every shred of morality. The Daily Campus claims to wield.

Such a condemnation does not obscure the suffering that Gazan civilians have endured

since the start of Israeli bombardments, nor does it exalt Israeli suffering. It merely addresses the truth of Hamas' intentions.

In the same breath, we can and ought to acknowledge that there are social, political and economic asymmetries that contribute to this conflict, which must be addressed if we are to see a lasting resolution beyond this war. We have the obligation to advocate for the protection of innocent civilians — for the free passage of vital necessities and medical supplies. The horror, fear and enduring grief experienced by families and children in Gaza and the Palestinian diaspora ought to be acknowledged — ought to be a reason to advocate for a just end to this war. At the same time, the scope of human tragedy in Gaza cannot negate the fear, anxiety and enduring grief felt by Israelis

*We have the obligation to advocate for the protection of innocent civilians — for the free passage of vital necessities and medical supplies.*

in the wake of Oct. 7. Every person, whether Palestinian or Israeli, has the right to life, dignity and safety. Anything less than self-determination

for both peoples will only result in a continuation of the suffering we are seeing.

Trauma cannot be compared like two weights on a scale — not at the national level, and surely not at the personal level. Doing so risks sacrificing the lives of people murdered and maimed in their homes at the altar of ideological purity that worships power, not human life, as its highest value.

Trauma, at the same time, must act like a window — a magnifying glass — and not a mirror. If we use it only to focus on ourselves and our suffering, we will do little to end this bloody existence. Trauma must allow us to see deeper into the suffering of others, to feel their stories, and to accept their pain without rejecting it as false, necessary or acceptable like some have suggested we do with Israeli or Palestinian lives. Contrary to a claim made in an earlier article printed by The Daily Campus, embracing this very nuance is precisely the antidote to this violence. Abandoning it will only dig us deeper into the pit of fear, hatred, mistrust and despair that brought us to this moment in the first place.

*Matan Doron ('22) is a graduate of the University of Connecticut who studied Biology and pursued an individualized major in Science, Medicine and Ethics.*



## Sports

Photo of the Day | Penultimate week until break



Huskies played against Huskies at the Toscano Family Ice Forum, where Northeastern faced off against UConn at 6 p.m. Saturday night. After a 3-0 win Friday night, UConn had another shutout, winning 1-0. This was a fantastic weekend for the women's hockey team. PHOTO BY SHELAGH LAVERTY, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

# The Weekly Reed: Why the Giants need to sign Shohei Ohtani

by Noah Reed  
STAFF WRITER  
HE/HIM/HIS  
noah.reed@uconn.edu

Shohei Ohtani needs to be in a Giants uniform at the beginning of the next season.

Bold statement coming from a college newspaper writer. Let me explain.

Shohei Ohtani is the greatest player in the modern game. We all know that whoever signs Ohtani is going to be handing out probably the biggest contract in the history of the sport, deservedly so. Ohtani was yet again impressive in his shortened 2023 campaign, with many still believing he'll win the MVP award. Now, there are risks with everything, especially signing a guy who has a track record of injuries recently, but there is no comparison to how valuable a player like Ohtani is.

But why the Giants? It's pretty straightforward.

San Francisco has a very passionate fanbase who have been patient for a long time. Since winning the World Series in 2014, the Giants have reached the playoffs twice. In both of those (2016 and 2021), they were out in the

their former manager came out of retirement to lead the team they beat over a decade ago to their first-ever World Series championship while they just fired theirs. The fans want a better product on the field.

It's not like they don't have the resources to attract him, either. Even being able to offer contracts to Correa and Judge proves that they have the money to afford Ohtani. He said he wanted to come to a team he could win with; San Francisco had three World Series wins since 2010. There are plenty of things that the Giants have that should be enticing to any free agent, not just Ohtani, but it'll be a competitive field.

Teams like the Dodgers, Yankees, Red Sox, Mets and Rangers will all be part of the competition. Some might be willing to offer him more than others; some may bounce when they see how much they'd need to pay him.

As for fitting within the organization, Ohtani would help a lackluster offense. The Giants finished in the bottom half of the

San Francisco was dead last in the entire MLB with just 57 steals on the year. Ohtani had 20. He also led the entire league in OPS and OPS+ (1.066 and 184). Ohtani's 44 home runs were enough to be the most in the American League; he was shut down due to injury on Sept. 3.

It was announced that Ohtani won't pitch in 2024, but he can still be a

great piece in the rotation. San Francisco pitched to the 11th-best league-wide ERA in 2023, including an 11th-best WHIP as well, so it's definitely stronger than their lineup but has room to improve. In 23 starts in 2023, Ohtani pitched to the tune of a 3.14 ERA over 132 innings, good for a 142 ERA+.

The division rival Los Angeles Dodgers are the heavy favorite to sign Ohtani, which should definitely play a role in the Giants' pursuit. Being able to prevent Ohtani from playing for your in-state/division r i -

val should be incentive enough to go after Ohtani, let alone sign him. Every top baseball analyst has Ohtani going to the Dodgers. If the Giants can steal him away, it brings the fans back into it, it improves the product on the field and it makes you a top destination going forward.

But in the end, I think it all comes back to the fans. Pre-pandemic San Francisco was bringing in around 3.3 million fans a season for a stretch between 2010 and 2018 rather consistently. Since fans have been able to fully come back in 2022, the Giants are now bringing in just around 2.4 million in attendance. Despite a small growth between 2022 and 2023, San Francisco dropped in attendance from 12th to 17th overall in 2023. This is a team that hasn't really had any superstars in recent memory, and the fans are desperate for one.

Signing Ohtani fixes that and can change the franchise.

Not only are you bringing in a great player, but you also give your fans something to be excited about. The team itself has been mediocre, finishing between a .450 and .500 winning percentage in every season since 2018, except for a random 107-win year in 2021.

It's time to flip the narrative in San Francisco and solidify themselves as one of the best franchises in the National League. I'm not guaranteeing that he will sign with the Giants, but because of all these reasons, I think they'll be one of the top teams in the race.

NLDS. Last year, San Francisco had a deal to sign Carlos Correa in free agency that fell apart due to an apparent injury. There was also about 10 minutes last offseason where everyone thought that they were going to get Aaron Judge (thanks, Jon Heyman), but he changed his mind to come back to the Yankees. Instead of bringing in the star power of Judge and Correa, they settled for Mitch Haniger and Michael Conforto. Heck,

League in the majority of offensive categories, including total bases, runs, OPS and stolen bases.



Shohei Ohtani at practice in 2021. His team at the time was the Los Angeles Angels. PHOTO COURTESY OF @SHOHEIOTANI ON INSTAGRAM PHOTO EDITED BY CONNOR LAFFERTY



# Photo



UConn men's soccer wins their home opener against Holy Cross at the Morrone Stadium in Storrs, Conn. on Aug. 27, 2023. The Huskies held momentum throughout the entire match, finishing the game with a score of four goals to none. PHOTO BY SKYLER KIM, PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS



UConn baseball wins their home opener against UMass Amherst at Elliot Ballpark in Storrs, Conn. on March 22, 2023. The final score was 7-3. PHOTO BY SKYLER KIM, PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS



UConn suffers a loss to Florida International University with a score of 17-24 on Sept. 16, 2023 at the Rentschler Field in East Hartford, Conn. The Huskies have returned to a losing streak once again. PHOTO BY SKYLER KIM, PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS



No. 21 UConn upsets No. 10 Marquette with a score of 87-72 at the XL Center in Hartford, Conn. on Feb. 7, 2023. This win against the top-ranked Big East Conference team brings the Huskies back on the national radar after several disappointing losses last month. PHOTO BY SKYLER KIM, PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS



# Sports

## Men's Basketball: No. 6 Huskies coast by Lumberjacks to cap off opening night festivities



UConn men's basketball takes on FAU at Gampel Pavilion on Monday, Nov 6, 2023. The Huskies took an easy win with a final score of 95-52.  
PHOTO BY ZACH MOLLER, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

**by Connor Sargeant**  
STAFF WRITER  
HE/HIM/HIS  
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STORRS, Conn. - UConn men's basketball fans had much to look forward to in their 2023-24 opener. Not only did Monday signify freshman phenom Stephon Castle's collegiate debut, but it was Connecticut's first game coming off of their fifth NCAA National Championship. The excitement for the contest against Northern Arizona was palpable. Students started lining up at 8 a.m., vying for a coveted spot at the front of the student section. Nearly two hours before opening tip, the line to get in from the south gate grew out past Hugh S. Greer Field House. The energy in Storrs only grew as the night progressed.

30 minutes before the season kicked off, fans witnessed a special ceremony honoring last year's national championship squad. The pregame festivities included the unveiling of last year's national championship banner and a video message from former Huskies Joey Calcaterra, Adama Sanogo, Andre Jackson Jr. and Jordan Hawkins. Despite the buzz from last year, head coach Dan Hurley conveyed his team's message - it's time to get banner No. 6.

The rowdy Storrs crowd tested the Lumberjacks early and often, playing the role of

the unofficial sixth man on the court. From the opening tip to the final whistle, with every call, for and against the Huskies, the sold out crowd let themselves be known. And it was clear that it played a factor for Connecticut. Following a Samson Johnson dunk in the first quarter, Hurley ran to midcourt, shouting and egging on the Connecticut crowd to get loud. This was one of many instances of the crowd's electricity.

The Huskies started Monday night strong, with sophomore center Donovan Clingan making his presence felt on the offensive end. UConn's first half attack ran through the big man as he started the scoring with a second-chance putback. Even when the Bristol-native wasn't scoring, he was the catalyst of the Husky offense, specifically through the pick and roll. Clingan is not only tall, at 7-foot-2, but is also so skilled that he left the NAU defense no choice but to play help defense on him. The goal was to prevent Clingan from either dunking it or dishing it out to a leaking guard for an easy floater. Throughout the night, Clingan either found an open man outside, set up a cutting guard or took it himself. Suffice to say, NAU couldn't contain the big man.

It wouldn't have been unreasonable to think the UConn track team was playing NAU

with the pace Connecticut kept. Even in the second half, up 17 points, there was no walking to be found. With every defensive rebound, the Huskies sprinted up the court - methodically spacing the floor, with either the guard taking it coast to coast or finding a shooter on the wing. Something in this contest

**“[There’s] going to be a night where [Clingan] does get in foul trouble, and [Johnson] will come in, and he’ll play starter minutes, and he will be ready to play I think”**

ALEX HOUESHELL

that could play a role later on in the season was the implementation of the full-court press. Connecticut used this defensive strategy from the jump until the game was out of reach. After the first half, they still maintained a tight halfcourt press. As soon as the NAU ball handler crossed the mid-line,

a UConn defender swarmed him, which more than once led to a Lumberjack turnover.

Despite all of the good Hurley's squad accomplished Monday, there were some areas for improvement. UConn struggled early on from the charity stripe, shooting 9-17 in the first 20 minutes. The free throw shooting improved in the second half, as they put up a respectable 15-20 mark. The shooting woes were not just from the stripe. The Huskies failed to capitalize on many of their three-point tries, finishing 28% from downtown. Despite their inability to capitalize on these scoring opportunities, it is impressive that Connecticut still found a way to score 95 points, finding most of those chances inside the paint.

This is a positive sign for Connecticut fans, as every team goes through instances where the shots aren't falling, so they need to create more opportunities inside, which Connecticut did. Once the shots start falling though, it will spell trouble for the opposition. Another encouraging marker for UConn fans is the Huskies' performance in the rebounding department. Connecticut outrebounded NAU by a whopping 50-27 margin.

The performance of Samson Johnson is also something worth noting. Johnson shot 5-6 with 11 points, five rebounds and three blocks. It was a

breakout performance for a player who has waited so long for his time to shine in Storrs, as he hopes to keep his role as the backup center.

“[Johnson] probably starts on other teams in the [Big East] conference, right, and when you talk about power schools, he probably starts on a lot of different schools,” NAU head coach Shane Burcar said post-game. “I don't know the young man, but to stay here in the day of the transfer portal says a lot about him. [There's] going to be a night where [Clingan] does get in foul trouble, and [Johnson] will come in, and he'll play starter minutes, and he will be ready to play I think.”

Monday was a solid performance by the Connecticut men, though they were far from perfect. At times, they struggled to hit jump shots or make free throws. Regardless, it was the first game of their title defense with a largely new Connecticut squad. It's not uncommon to exit with areas of opportunity on opening night, but again, putting up 95 points isn't exactly struggling.

The Huskies found other ways to get the job done and won the game on the interior by outrebounding and outshooting the Lumberjacks. UConn returns to the hardwood this Saturday against Stonehill, an opportunity to fine-tune areas of improvement, while building on their successes.

WHAT TO KEEP AN EYE ON THIS WEEK

UConn SCOREBOARD



1 vs. 1

Men's Basketball  
Monday

Upcoming Games



Ice Hockey, 7 p.m. Friday  
Storrs, Conn.



Women's Basketball,  
6:30 p.m. Friday  
Hartford, Conn.

INSTAGRAM OF THE DAY



@jonathanthehusky  
Extra hour of sleep tonight? We're in!

TWEETS OF THE DAY



UConn Men's Basketball  
@UConnMBB  
Tonight's Home Opener is officially SOLD OUT!!

Storrs South  
@UConn6thBorough  
UConn GAMEDAY

UConn Huskies  
@UConnHuskies  
Thrilled to unveil a new statue honoring UConn legend Dee Rowe!

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