



## FOUR GSS E-BOARD MEMBERS RESIGN AMID TENSIONS

by **Aiza Shaikh**  
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR  
SHE/HER/HERS  
aiza.shaikh@uconn.edu

Four members of the University of Connecticut's Graduate Student Senate (GSS) E-board have resigned from their positions during the 2023-2024 academic year, as of Jan. 17, 2024. All four members' decisions to resign were heavily influenced by disagreements and policy issues among the E-board that endured for the majority of the Fall 2023 semester and continued into the Spring 2024 semester.

GSS President Sandip Roy and an office assistant (who asked not to be named) resigned from their positions last November, while Vice President Mohsina Rahman and Communications Director Israt Jahan resigned earlier this week.

Tensions first began in October 2023 after Usman Ali, a GSS senator representing the Electrical and Computer Engineering department (who has since graduated from UConn with a PhD in ECE), looked into the senate's annual budget and noted an increase in the E-board members' pay, along with a decrease in overall Tier II funding. As a Tier III organization, GSS allocates a substantial portion of its budget to the Tier II graduate student organizations each year.

According to a document Ali presented at an Oct. 11 senate meeting, E-board members' pay was increased by 97% in one year, and the president's pay increased by 216%. The funding budget for Tier II organizations was reportedly cut by 54% in one year as well. A Thanksgiving event, which had been hosted by GSS annually for more than 50 years, was canceled for 2023 due to concerns that the E-board would not have enough money to fund this event.

Ali found that the president and treasurer positions were paid \$10,971 and \$7,555, respectively, for

their work in the summer of 2023. Ali also mentioned that the current president, Roy, had served as treasurer for the previous year.

Ali, who served on the E-board the previous year, observed that past GSS meeting minutes made no mention of how much board members can be paid for summer work. After suggesting that a special committee be formed and tasked with suggesting an appropriate E-board pay, Ali deemed the increase in the president's pay and concurrent reduction in Tier II funds to be unacceptable. Ali added that Roy should "resign from his current position" for having proposed the 2023-2024 budget "without disclosing/discussing actual cost for summer wages in Senate meetings."

Ali claimed that when Roy proposed to the senate to increase the treasurer and president positions' pay, it was done in an understated way that went unnoticed and was approved as a result.

"Since [Roy] proposed the budget [in a senate meeting prior to Summer 2023] and did not discuss the actual cost, he was not transparent in his way," Ali said in an interview with The Daily Campus.

When asked about such claims, Roy responded that the budget and GSS officers' pay had been decided democratically among the senate.

"All decisions regarding funding, including officer compensation and Tier II funding are decided by the Senate (and not by individual officers) in a democratic manner," Roy wrote in a statement to The Daily Campus. "The publicly available meeting minutes of the GSS reflect that these decisions were unanimously approved last year by the Senate."

According to the Oct. 11 senate meeting minutes, the senate had voted in April 2023 on 20 hours a week for the president and 15 hours a week for the treasurer to work that summer. Roy clarified that the GSS bylaws previously stated that E-board members could get paid for working hours in the

summer, without a specified number of hours, until the 2022-2023 parliamentarian proposed changes to the bylaws.

When asked at the Oct. 11 meeting his total pay for the 2023-2024 academic year, including Summer 2023, Roy answered that he would receive around \$15,000 for the hours he worked. Roy was also asked to justify what he worked on for 20 hours per week in summer, to which he replied that he had been hiring an office assistant and filling out documentation for the Student Activity and Service Fee Advisory Committee (SASFAC).

Luisana Duarte Armendáriz, a PhD student and treasurer of the English Graduate Association, said two senators represented the English department at the April meeting where summer hours were voted on. The senators, according to Duarte Armendáriz, were new to their roles and weren't given enough time to read and understand the proposed changing of hours.

"The changes in the bylaws weren't circulated with enough time to see what actually was going to be voted on," said Duarte Armendáriz. "These changes were pushed through without people being really informed of what the changes would entail."

Duarte Armendáriz began serving on the GSS procedures committee in November 2023, a committee tasked with investigating the matter further.

The procedures committee met in early November and planned to initiate a recall vote for the president at the next senate meeting, requiring a majority vote to pass. On the morning of Nov. 15, the day of the meeting, Roy resigned from his position via email, announcing that the office assistant had resigned as well. Upon resigning, Roy claimed that 80% of the GSS budget was spent on internal and external events rather than bigger concerns of graduate students regarding stipends, fees, housing, parking and transportation.

According to the Nov. 15 meeting minutes, the office assistant mentioned having resigned due to board members assigning her duties that were outside the scope of her job description. The former office assistant also claimed to have received hostile and derogatory comments in emails from the rest of the board. At the meeting, she presented screenshots she acquired of emails exchanged between two board members months prior, when they were in the process of hiring someone for the office assistant position.

The screenshots presented by the former office assistant show an E-board member speaking of the position's requirements in a way that many interpreted as biased, citing physical strength as a factor to consider when hiring and suggesting that rather than solely interview the shortlisted female-majority candidates, the board should revert to the original applicant pool to consider additional candidates.

Since November, UConn's Office of Community Standards (OCS) has been investigating the incident after receiving reports regarding the matter to conclude whether or not university policies were violated. The investigation remains active and OCS did not respond to comment.

In an interview with The Daily Campus, a board member involved in the investigation said that she and a few other members of GSS have been discouraged by the university from giving any comment on the matter. The board member did say, however, that the correspondence had been taken "out of context."

In regard to the office assistant's resignation, Duarte Armendáriz said she believes the email screenshots were provided by Roy, an action reflecting his desire to "enact some sort of revenge on the E-board and the Senate that was ready to oust him."

Nicole Nelson, a graduate student who attended the last senate meeting (Dec. 6) and is not

directly affiliated with GSS, noted a "lack of transparency and lack of leadership in the E-board," according to the Dec. 6 meeting minutes. Nelson then suggested that the entire E-board formally resign from their positions.

Also during the Dec. 6 meeting, Bryan Greene was elected as the new president, after having served as a senator for more than a year. Greene mentioned his intention to hold a town hall in a hybrid format to receive input from more graduate students, according to the meeting minutes.

Duarte Armendáriz acknowledged that the tensions between board members have delayed necessary procedures that were supposed to benefit the graduate community.

"This has created a rift in the Senate, leading to delays in important procedures that benefit the larger Graduate Student population," Duarte Armendáriz said in a statement to The Daily Campus. "I've been disappointed as to how a large part of the Senators conduct themselves in these meetings, being utterly disrespectful to each other."

On Jan. 2, the executive committee met and discussed the hiring of a new office assistant after the former office assistant's resignation, ultimately deciding to start the search for candidates. A board member involved in the investigation mentioned apologizing to the former office assistant since the last meeting. Additionally, the committee plans to show the proposed changes to the bylaws at the next senate meeting. The changes, as discussed in the meeting minutes, will include a fixed pay for all E-board members for both the academic year and summer term with the expectation that all members will work over the summer for no additional compensation.

As of Jan. 17, the vice president and communications director have both resigned from their positions.



The University of Connecticut's Graduate Student Senate holds monthly meetings in the Student Union. As of Jan. 17, 2024, four members of the E-board have resigned from their positions for the 2023-2024 academic year.

PHOTOGRAPH BY ALLISON BARNETT, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

For more...

[dailycampus.com](http://dailycampus.com)

[@The\\_DailyCampus](https://www.instagram.com/The_DailyCampus)

[The\\_DailyCampus](https://www.twitter.com/The_DailyCampus)

[The Daily Campus](https://www.facebook.com/The_DailyCampus)



**INTERNSHIPS | PAGE 4**  
How to get involved with research internships



**FEENEY'S FOCUS | PAGE 7**  
"The enemy of my enemy"... can still be your enemy



**BASKETBALL | PAGE 12**  
Men's Basketball: UConn vs. Creighton

**Tweet of the Day**

**Big East Bar Room**  
[@BigEastBarRoom](https://www.instagram.com/BigEastBarRoom)  
Right now, UConn is simply the best team in the country

## News



CLIPART COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

# 1 CREDIT WELLBEING COURSE OPENS FOR ENROLLMENT THIS SEMESTER

by Sara Bedigian  
STAFF WRITER  
SHE/HER/HERS  
sara.bedigian@uconn.edu

A one credit pop-up course will be offered again this semester about what affects student emotional wellbeing and how students may strengthen their emotional health throughout college.

The course is called “Feeling Well: The Science and Practice of Emotional Well-Being” and is open to all undergraduate and graduate students. The seven week course begins today, Thursday, Jan. 18, and ends on Friday, March 1. According to an email that was sent to students last week, any student can enroll until Jan. 29 through Student Admin.

Dr. Jessica Koslouski, student engagement facilitator and assistant research pro-

fessor at the Neag School of Education, explained that the course is uniquely developed for students across all disciplines to learn and benefit from, not solely for psychology or health science majors.

“It was developed with an intention to be responsive to the increased stress and mental health concerns students are reporting, and to equip students with lifelong strategies for promoting emotional well-being,” said Koslouski.

The class is entirely online asynchronous, meaning it does not have any required meeting times. Koslouski explained the course first ran last semester and is designed to be accessible to students across UConn’s five campuses.

“Students from last semester commented that the skills they

learned helped them to navigate the highs and lows of their semesters, and that they see lifelong applications for the strategies as they continue their time at UConn or transition to life beyond UConn,” said Koslouski.

Koslouski said the class introduces students to key resources on UConn’s campus, such as those available through UConn Health and Wellness, as well as strategies that can be used across different settings and contexts.

“Our hope is that each student walks away with a greater understanding of what affects their emotional well-being and what they can do to strengthen their emotional well-being across contexts and phases of their life,” said Koslouski.

The course was designed by a team of 14 faculty and staff

members from across several disciplines to provide a variety of knowledge and expertise during the course. Koslouski noted that topics range from brain science like MRIs to cultural and contextual influences on emotional well-being.

The class can be found as UNIV 3088 in Student Admin. The undergraduate course is section 001 and the graduate course is section 002.

There is no course material that requires purchase for the class; all course readings and media are available within HuskyCT. Like other pop-up courses, the course is graded Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory (S/U). A student must obtain a 70% or higher to receive a satisfactory grade.

More detail about the course requirements and objectives can be found on the class syllabus.

Any questions about the class can be directed to emotional-wellbeing@uconn.edu. Any issues about enrollment can be directed to registrar@uconn.edu.

# MICHIGAN PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT’S MIDEAST CEASE-FIRE RESOLUTION STOKES CONTROVERSY

(AP) — A public school district in Michigan is considering a resolution Wednesday calling for a cease-fire in the Israel-Hamas war, while also encouraging its teachers to discuss the conflict in its classrooms.

The resolution before the Ann Arbor Public Schools board appears to be among the first times that a public school system in the United States has made such a statement on the international conflict. Supporters on each side of the conflict poured out to Wednesday’s meeting, with over 120 people signing up to give public comment on the issue.

The meeting in Ann Arbor, which is about 40 miles (64 kilometers) west of Detroit, is symbolic of the rising tensions seen across the nation in response to the war in Gaza, which is now entering its fourth month following a deadly Oct. 7 attack by Hamas militants.

The conflict has divided college campuses, where long-simmering tensions are occasionally erupting in violence and shattering the sense of safety that makes colleges hubs of free discourse. Dozens of U.S. cities, including Ann Arbor, have approved cease-fire resolutions that have no legal authority but reflect the pressure on local governments to speak up on the Israel-Hamas war.

The resolution in Ann Arbor, home to the University of Michigan and sizable Jewish and Arab-American populations, is one of the first times that a public school system in Michigan would make such a statement, said Don Wotruba, executive director at Michigan Association of School Boards.

“What they’re thinking about doing would be pretty rare, if not the first time. Particularly as it’s related to a more international situation,” Wotruba said before the scheduled vote.

The district “expresses support for a ceasefire in Gaza and Israel,” according to the resolution proposed, and “encourages educators within the Ann Arbor School District to facilitate informed and respectful dialogue about the conflict.”

Tensions were high at Wednesday’s meeting as public comments on each side of the issue stretched for over two hours, with the board repeatedly asking the crowd to stop interrupting speakers.

Tasneem Madani, a student teacher in the district, supported the resolution and stressed its importance, saying that “our students are watching us.”

“It is my responsibility, particularly as an English teacher, to help students develop the skills to engage in informed academic dialogue in safe spaces,” Madani said at Wednesday’s meeting.

Some parents in the district, which holds nearly 17,000 students, have expressed outrage about the resolution, and a petition opposing it collected nearly 2,000 signatures. The petition said that the issue has taken resources away from other important matters such as hiring a new superintendent, which the district is without.

“This resolution does not help advance the quality of life of one single child in this district,” said Daniel Sorkin, a parent of two students in the district who spoke out against the resolution Wednesday.

Other schools across the country have contemplated similar resolutions. In California, the Oakland Unified School District has considered a resolution calling for a cease-fire and release of hostages in Israel and Palestine, but has yet to pass it.

Wotruba, who leads the state’s school board association, said that while the board has the power to make any statement as an elected body, it’s uncommon for a resolution to not be “directly related to education.”

Ann Arbor has long been

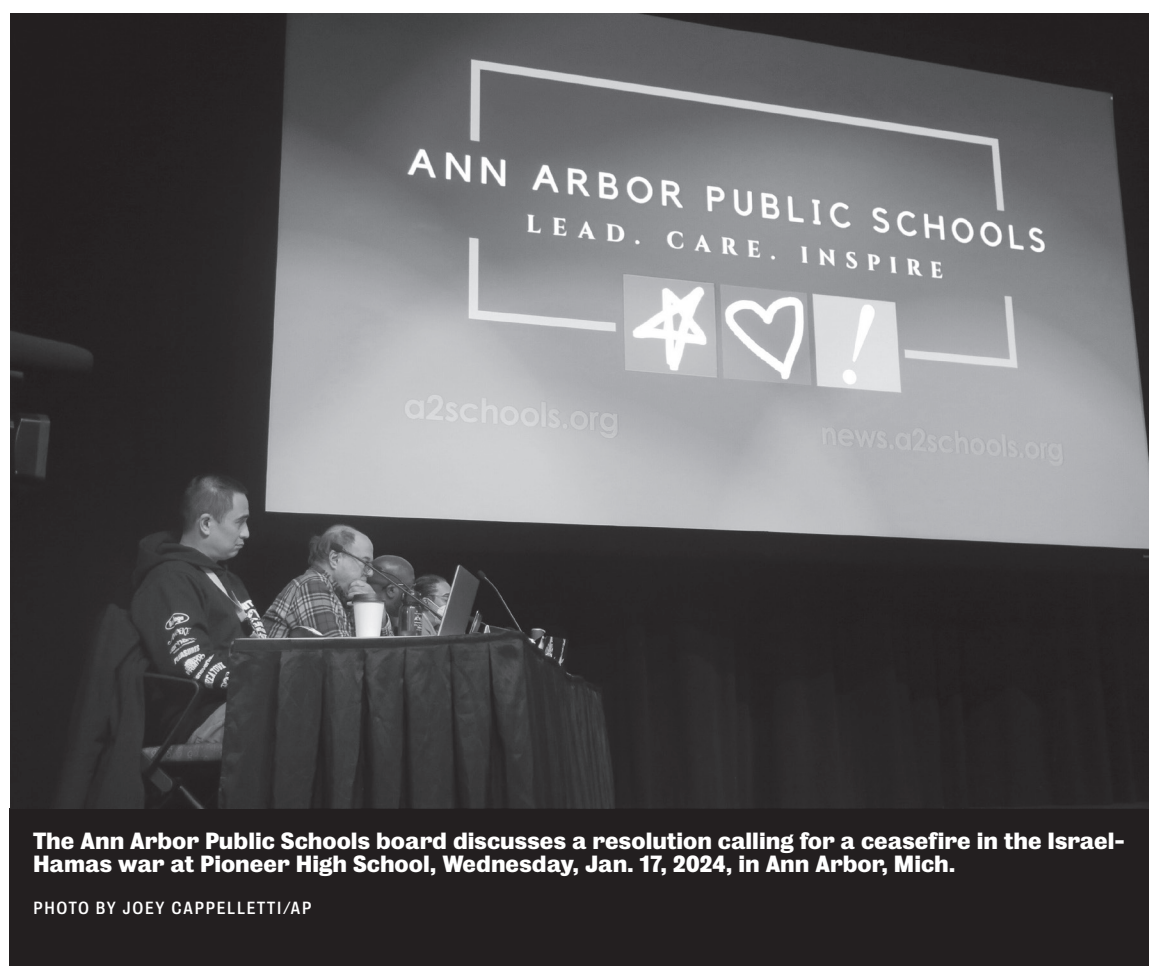
known for its progressive politics, but the city and its university has found itself divided over the Gaza conflict beyond the confines of its public schools.

Nearly 6,500 Jewish students attend the University of Michigan, a total of 15% of its entire student population, according to the University of Michigan Hillel. A significant number of Arab American students also attend the university, which is near one of the largest Muslim populations in the nation.

In December, University of

Michigan President Santa Ono barred students from voting on two resolutions related to the Israel-Hamas war, calling them “controversial and divisive.” The Michigan chapter of the Council on American-Islamic Relations accused the university of suppressing free speech at the time.

“The proposed resolutions have done more to stoke fear, anger and animosity on our campus than they would ever accomplish as recommendations to the university,” Ono said in an online post at the time.



The Ann Arbor Public Schools board discusses a resolution calling for a ceasefire in the Israel-Hamas war at Pioneer High School, Wednesday, Jan. 17, 2024, in Ann Arbor, Mich.

PHOTO BY JOEY CAPPELLETTI/AP

## The Daily Campus

Printing since 1896, The Daily Campus is the oldest and largest independent student publication at the University of Connecticut. The Daily Campus circulates 5,000 newspapers daily and strives to serve the student body by delivering accurate, relevant and timely news and content, both in print and online at DailyCampus.com. Our staff is comprised entirely of students, with roughly 200 undergraduates gaining professional development while contributing to the daily production of the paper, with positions including writers, photographers, copy editors, page layout designers, graphic designers, advertisement representatives, receptionists, delivery drivers and digital producers. Thanks for reading.

**Want to advertise in print or online?**  
businessmanager@dailycampus.com

**Corrections and Clarifications:**  
Send Corrections to EIC@DailyCampus.com

**Wednesday, January 17, 2024**

Copy Editors: Estelle Jarett, Madison Bigelow, Desirae Sin, Jackie Flaherty

News Designer: Van Nguyen

Life Designer: Connor Lafferty

Sports Designer: Sam Johnson

Opinion Designer: Emily O'Bannon, Shannon Hong

Photo Producer: Jess Tusa

**Madeline Papcun**, Editor-in-Chief  
**Raquel Montelindo**, Managing Editor  
**Naiya Patel**, Business Manager  
**Charlotte Chen**, Digital Editor  
**Emily O'Bannon**, Associate Managing Editor  
**Shannon Hong**, Associate Managing Editor  
**Ky'lynn Monts**, Associate Digital Editor

**Colin Piteo**  
News Editor  
**Aiza Shaikh**  
Associate News Editor  
**Stratton Stave**  
Sports Editor  
**Evan Rodriguez**  
Associate Sports Editor  
**Skyler Kim**  
Photo Editor  
**Jordan Arnold**  
Associate Photo Editor  
**Benjamin Lassy**  
Life Editor  
**Karla Perez**  
Associate Life Editor

**Nell Srinath**  
Opinion Editor  
**Dan Stark**  
Associate Opinion Editor  
**Van Nguyen**  
Artist Editor  
**Haleigh Schmidt**  
Associate Artist Editor  
**Joanna Giano**  
Outreach/Social Media Coordinator  
**Nell Komorowski**  
Associate SMO  
**Maddie Archambeau**  
Circulation Manager

The Daily Campus

For more information about getting involved as an editorial, business or digital employee:

Editorial · managingeditor@dailycampus.com

Business · businessmanager@dailycampus.com

Digital · digital@dailycampus.com

### Prefer to read our content online?

Check out our newly redesigned website at [dailycampus.com](http://dailycampus.com) and follow us on social media.

Instagram · The\_DailyCampus

Facebook · The Daily Campus

Twitter · The\_DailyCampus

### Want to write or photograph for The Daily Campus?

The Daily Campus welcomes writers and photographers of all backgrounds, interests, majors and levels of experience. To get involved, it's as easy as attending section meetings on Sunday nights, all at the Daily Campus building, (1266 Storrs Road) or reaching out to an email below:

**News (Meetings at 6 p.m.)**

news@dailycampus.com

**Opinion (Meetings at 5 p.m.)**

opinion@dailycampus.com

**Life (Meetings at 7 p.m.)**

life@dailycampus.com

**Sports (Meetings at 8 p.m.)**

sports@dailycampus.com

**Photo (Meetings at 10 p.m.)**

photo@dailycampus.com

**Artists (Meetings at 10 p.m. on discord)**

artists@dailycampus.com

# THE DAILY CAMPUS CROSSWORD

**ACROSS**

- 1 "General Hospital," for one
- 5 Care
- 9 Bogus offer
- 13 Wheel shaft
- 14 Admit
- 15 Latin bear
- 16 "Don't switch to memory foam"
- 18 Softball clubs
- 19 SASE, perhaps
- 20 R&B's \_\_\_ Hill
- 21 Data transfer unit
- 23 Vend
- 24 Laura of the "Jurassic Park" films
- 25 "Pray we can hold on to the smaller one, which is more comfortable than the king"
- 32 Makes the first bid
- 33 Srs.' nest eggs
- 34 Rain-\_\_\_ gum
- 35 Pastures
- 36 Brunch staple
- 38 Void partner
- 39 Coastal raptor
- 40 Mammoth
- 41 HS class with a big reading list
- 42 "Please double-stitch the new sham"
- 46 Poet of ancient Rome
- 47 Rackets
- 48 See 59-Across
- 51 PC file suffix
- 52 Xiao long \_\_\_: soup dumpling
- 55 Sow sound
- 56 Nighttime heart-to-heart that's taken literally in this puzzle
- 59 With 48-Across, one who is eventually successful
- 60 "Finding Dory" setting
- 61 Peru's capital
- 62 Stretches between forces, briefly
- 63 Gender-fluid pronoun
- 64 Sculpting material

**DOWN**

- 1 Quaff with sushi
- 2 Rice paddy team
- 3 Oscar winner Guinness

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12
13					14					15			
16				17						18			
19				20			21		22				
		23						24					
25	26	27				28	29					30	31
32						33				34			
35					36	37				38			
39				40					41				
42			43				44	45					
		46					47						
48	49				50		51			52	53	54	
55					56		57			58			
59					60					61			
62					63					64			

By Michael B. Berg

1/18/24

- 4 Liveliness
- 5 Self-contained unit
- 6 Wall St. announcement
- 7 Packaging meas.
- 8 Signed, sealed, and delivered agreement
- 9 Outback maker
- 10 Cosmic cloud that resembles a crustacean
- 11 Sparkling wine region
- 12 Sloop pole
- 14 PC paste combo
- 17 Dot journal entries
- 22 Nonelective courses, informally
- 23 Nine-digit IDs
- 25 64-Across creature of Jewish folklore
- 26 Word with glasses or gloves
- 27 Novelist who wrote the "Odd Thomas" thrillers
- 28 Big cat in "Life of Pi"
- 29 Otto I's realm: Abbr.
- 30 New York Harbor's \_\_\_ Island

**Wednesday's Puzzle Solved**

T	A	C	O		T	U	R	N	T		M	O	T	I	F			
I	D	O	L		A	S	D	O	I		D	R	I	V	E			
C	A	N	D	Y	H	E	A	R	T		S	I	M	B	A			
				M	I	I		A	L	T		G	O	A	T			
				C	H	A	P	T	E	R	H	E	A	D	I	N	G	S
C	L	I	P		I	R	E		S	H	I	N						
H	O	G			A	H	A		O	N	A	P	A	R				
A	U	G	M	E	N	T	E	D	R	E	A	L	I	T	Y			
I	T	S	A	G	O		M	O	I					P	E	A		
				G	O	R	P		B	T	U		B	E	I	N		
M	E	L	I	S	S	A	J	O	A	N	H	A	R	T				
E	X	E	C		E	M	O		L	I	D							
T	I	D	A	L			P	U	L	L	E	D	R	A	N	K		
A	L	I	C	E			E	L	I	A	S		A	L	O	E		
L	E	N	T	O			R	E	E	D	S		P	I	N	G		

©2024 Tribune Content Agency, LLC

1/18/24

- 31 "Tropic Thunder" actor
- 36 Place to watch Greyhounds
- 37 Actor's rep
- 38 Background figures in video games, for short
- 40 Actor Corey
- 41 Vice president under 45-Down
- 43 Conjures
- 44 Beck album with the single "Where It's At"
- 45 President who resigned in 1974
- 48 Daring
- 49 Actor Neeson
- 50 Buttery
- 52 Cut out early
- 53 \_\_\_ mater
- 54 Approve
- 57 Director Spike
- 58 "Waterfalls" trio

## CLASSIFIEDS

**Policy:** Classifieds are non-refundable. Credit will be given if an error materially affects the meaning of the ad and only for the first incorrect insertion. Ads will only be printed if they are accompanied by both first and last name as well as telephone number. Names and numbers may be subject to verification. All advertising is subject to acceptance by The Daily Campus, which reserves the right to reject any ad copy at its sole discretion. The Daily Campus does not knowingly accept ads of a fraudulent nature.

# How to get involved with

RESEARCH INTERNSHIPS

by **James Fitzpatrick**  
STAFF WRITER  
HE/HIM/HIS  
james.fitzpatrick@uconn.edu

If you're looking to enhance your resume and advance your career early, you may want to consider the prospect of summer research opportunities. On Wednesday, Jan. 17, the Rowe Center hosted a presentation on how to find and properly pursue on and off-campus internships and other endeavors for the summer season. Director of the Office of Undergraduate Research Micah Heumann, along with three student researchers, led the presentation, giving many tips and tricks to make the process both painless and meaningful to everyone involved.

Nearly anyone interested in research starts at square one, with little to no connections and an unclear idea of how to start the journey. However, Heumann raises the point that showing interest will get you farther than simply giving a half-hearted attempt to be hired for a research position. Emma Beard found her first opportunity by skimming the Daily Digest, while Grace Vaidian and Romir Raj took the initiative by emailing various professors that they felt would reciprocate their interests in research. All three of them are now Peer Research Ambassadors, yet they had to start somewhere. Raj spoke about the importance of paid internships, stating "I have friends that do research for free, where I'm also doing the same thing, but I get paid." Heumann echoes this sentiment, believing that the resume building aspect of an internship only goes so far if the student is not being compensated for their work.

There is plenty of preparation that must be done on your

part before sending a stranger an email asking to be part of something they lead. For one, you should have a rough idea of what you will enjoy researching. School-supported websites such as Lincus allows you to narrow down your search from a broad research topic to various University of Connecticut professors and their specific publications. This not only allows you to see what others have said about your topic of choice in academia, but it gives you a comprehensive list of people to contact. However, they cannot just be a name. If you have completed a class with a professor and you know each other well, elevate that working relationship by asking if they have any opportunities available. Otherwise, both you and the faculty member will want to get to know each other before taking on any collaborative efforts.

Heumann recommends initiating a conversation between you and the faculty member about something they have done, like a piece of literature they published, to establish common ground. Interviews for internships are mutual, and talking about a topic you both care about makes the discussion flow more naturally. In the same vein, if you are offered a position, inquire about it, because it should provide as much benefit to you as it does to them. If you lose interest in the position, it is okay to decline with gratitude. The person may also decline you, so do not put all your eggs in one basket; instead, have multiple opportunities lined up. Be both proactive in your search and prompt with your responses.

Outside of the school setting, ask your local govern-

ment about what research they do. The healthcare field is also a big research go-to, so do not feel limited to UConn if you live out-of-state; the introductory process should be similar. Either way, in terms of places that do research, Heumann states, "There's no one central place to look on this campus, not even internationally." This is especially true when considering the SHARE Virtual Summer Apprenticeship Program, whose online nature gives everyone a place to start. Additionally, it encourages students without prior experience to try it out, and it can even reward you a stipend of up to \$1,400.

There are also other larger programs that have a more formal application process. Some ask for your resume, unofficial transcript and letters of recommendation, the latter being another reason to stand out amongst your peers by building a relationship with your professors. All of these components will be asked of you in any future employment ventures; places such as the Center for Career Development and the Writing Center are always there to help you improve your application materials.

Some of the programs, including the Summer Undergraduate Research Fund and the Health Research Program, have upcoming application deadlines on Jan. 29, which can be a short timeframe if you haven't started your application. However, they are important to keep in mind as you get your foot in the door. Visit the OUR website for more information on all of the programs and processes mentioned.

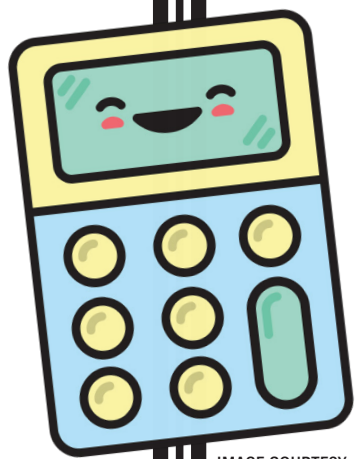


IMAGE COURTESY OF VECTORPORTAL



IMAGE COURTESY OF WANNAPIK

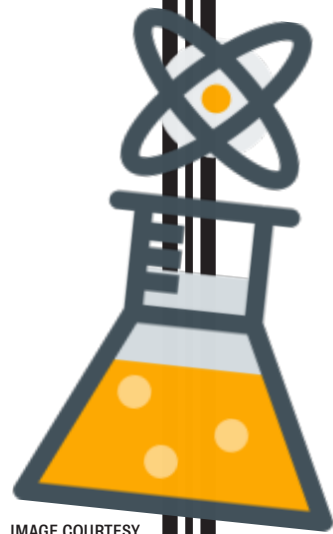


IMAGE COURTESY OF ICONSCOUT



IMAGE COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS



**Micah Heumann, the Director of the Office of Undergraduate Research, with Peer Research Ambassador Emma Beard and Grace Vaidian.**

PHOTO COURTESY OF AUTHOR

# The Daily Campus Comics

## The White Collared Worker



Follow me  
@whitecollaredworker on tiktok!

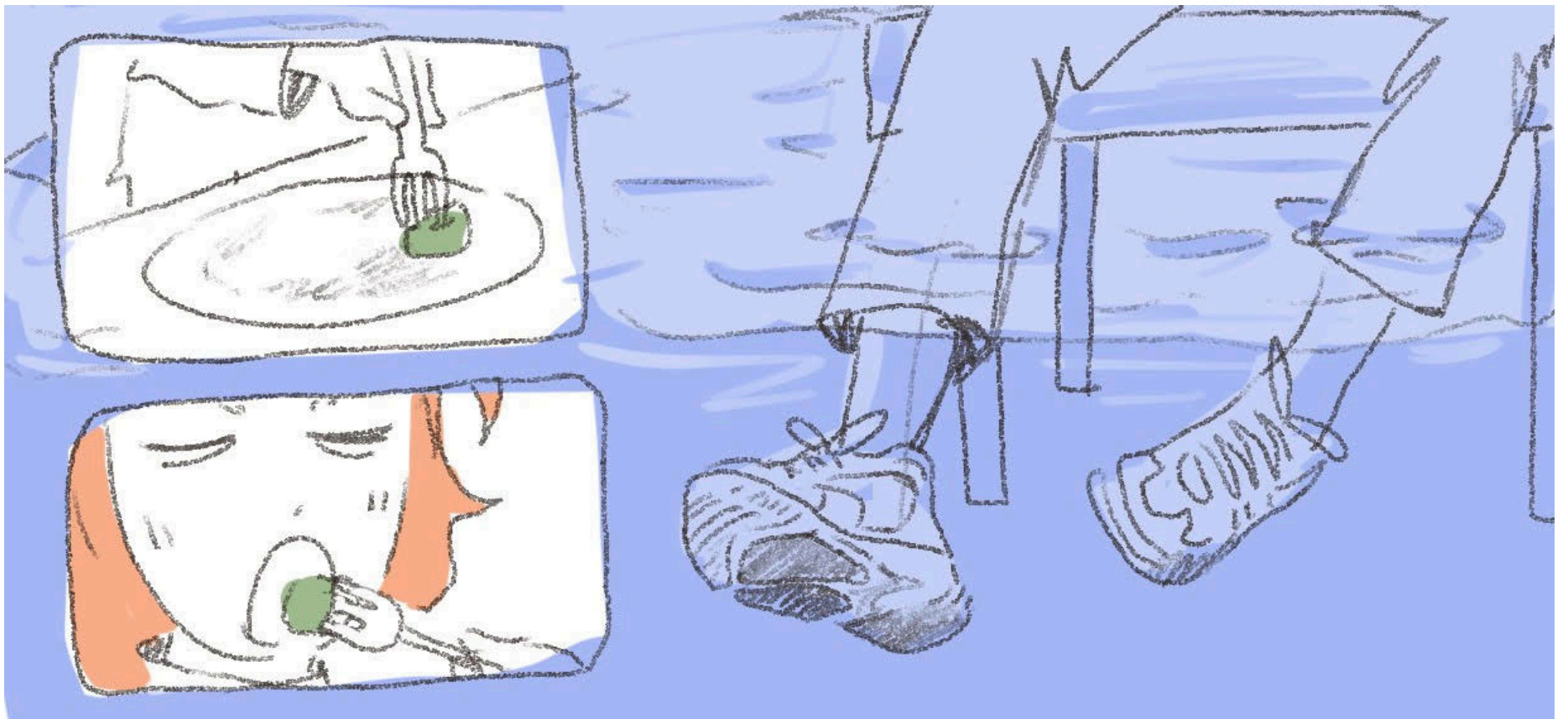


## Jason J. Sampson

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



COMIC BY VAN NGYUEN, ARTIST EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS



COMICS BY SARAH CHANTRES, STAFF ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS





# Daily Life

@dailycampuslife

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES PROFESSOR OF LAW SPEAKS ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM AND RACIAL VIOLENCE

by Desirae Sin | STAFF WRITER | SHE/HER/HERS | DESIRAE.SIN@UCONN.EDU

Yesterday the University of Connecticut's Humanities Institute hosted a Fellow's Talk led by Dr. Richard Ashby Wilson, the board of trustees professor of law and anthropology. His speech detailed his research about how recent police reforms have either succeeded or failed and whether or not the criminal justice system handles hate crimes properly.

Initially, Wilson recounted his time at a training seminar in upstate New York where police officers were taught how to better handle hate crime cases to prevent discrimination. "For a long time the police were the face of oppression," stated Wilson.

Wilson brought up staggering statistics, revealing that only about 10-15% of hate crimes lead to a conviction in Connecticut, while other crimes have an approximate 85% conviction rate. "Hate crimes are simply invisible, they remain invisible to the criminal justice system," commented Wilson.

Yet these training seminars and presentations can only go so far. Birgit Brander Rasmussen, an associate professor in the Binghamton University English department, went on to mention the fact that "cops don't like anybody but cops to teach them."

The reasons behind the reforms stem from the Black Lives Matter movement and a push for lawmakers to change local police behavior. Wilson called the BLM movement the "racial reckoning" of the U.S. criminal justice system. Wilson's research focuses on how hate crimes are being combated. He mentions that 50 states introduced 300 police reform bills, dozens of cities and states created new hate crime statutes and the U.S. Department of Justice hosted 200 community events under the umbrella campaign "United Against Hate."

What made Wilson skeptical about the police reforms and retraining was that it wasn't always realized the local level. Sometimes the training would give the false impression of identity equalization — the idea that hate impacts all of us equally. Research has shown that Black Americans are by far the group that suffers the most discrimination and hate crimes. The training done on the local level is mostly just reviews of statutes with little historical reflection, Wilson commented. Training performed by the DOJ was much more extensive and taken seriously. It's often found that police officers don't see the training as an opportunity to continue their education, but an unfortunate presentation that they have to sit through once a year.

While the situation appears to be bleak, Wilson and Rasmussen stated that any work is progress and more can be done to further it. A precedent that shows the criminal justice system can be reformed are cases of domestic violence and sexual assault. Wilson mentioned that "the ways in which sexual assault is handled now is very different from how it was in the 1980s."

He went on to describe how the reforms don't just stop at the police, but also with prosecutors and judges. "Prosecutors could prioritize cases and be required to explain why they dismiss certain charges when reaching plea deals," stated Wilson. "Judges could also put hate crimes in a separate docket, instead of letting them be lost amongst the other hundreds of cases."

IMAGES COURTESY OF VECTORPORTAL



Dr. Richard Ashby Wilson, the board of trustees professor of law and anthropology, giving a talk on research concerning recent police reforms. This speech was part of a Fellow's Talk led by Wilson concerning the matter of hate crimes, and how police reforms have affected them.

PHOTO BY DESIRAE SIN, STAFF WRITER/THE DAILY CAMPUS



# Opinion

## The Daily Campus

EDITORIAL BOARD:

Madeline Papcun.....EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Nell Srinath.....OPINION EDITOR

Dan Stark.....ASSOCIATE OPINION EDITOR

Luke Feeney

Tomas Hinckley.....WEEKLY COLUMNISTS

Disclaimer: The views and opinions expressed by individual writers in the opinion section do not reflect the views and opinions of The Daily Campus or other staff members. Only articles labeled "Editorial" are the official opinions of The Daily Campus.



COMIC BY VAN NGUYEN, ARTIST EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

# FEENEY'S

## "THE ENEMY OF MY ENEMY"... CAN STILL BE YOUR ENEMY

by Luke Feeney | WEEKLY COLUMNIST | HE/HIM/HIS | luke.feeney@uconn.edu

O  
C  
C  
U  
S  
S

Welcome back from break, Huskies! I hope you all had a wonderful break and spent time with friends, family and loved ones.

You know who probably didn't have a good winter break? Claudine Gay. The former Harvard president had to resign right after the new year. Her resignation was in response to backlash due to a disastrous congressional hearing a few weeks prior. At the heart of the hearing was the rise in antisemitism on college campuses in the aftermath of Oct. 7.

One of the most viral clips from the hearing resulted when all three presidents failed to say that "calling for the genocide of Jews" would violate the schools' rules and conduct.

Now, two things can be true. First, antisemitism has had a long history in higher education, long before the attacks of Oct. 7, and since then, attacks have sharply risen. Second, this hearing was a show of

political theater and not an exposé of antisemitism on college campuses.

There's been enough coverage about the answers from the three presidents. I want to talk about the woman asking the questions: New York Rep. Elise Stefanik. She is the third most powerful Republican in Congress as House GOP Conference Chair. Stefanik and House Republicans viewed the resignation of Gay as a massive political victory, saying that "our robust Congressional investigation will continue to move forward to expose the rot in our most 'prestigious' higher education institutions and deliver accountability to the American people."

I'm sure most of you know the saying "the enemy of my enemy is my friend." It's an effective argument: two parties with a common enemy should work together instead of alone. However, I think the saying should've been slightly different. It should be: the enemy of my enemy is my friend...

however, they can still be my enemy. No person is a greater representative of my new phrase than Stefanik. While her rhetoric is of one committed to stopping antisemitism, her actions suggest the opposite.

First, there is her support of a man with 91 felony counts in four criminal cases across four states for president. Putting his criminality aside, former President Donald Trump has a long history of disgusting antisemitic behavior. He's had dinners with Nick Fuentes and Kanye West, attacked American Jews for "not supporting Israel enough" and has insinuated that Jewish Americans have dual-loyalty to Israel. Despite all of this, Stefanik has shown up in Trump's corner time and time again.

Stefanik has also pushed the great replacement theory. A far-right conspiracy theory that believes that immigrants and other ethnic groups come to America to replace white people. Like many political conspiracy

theories from the far-right, the great replacement theory has firm roots in antisemitism. It argues that the main perpetrators of the push to replace white Americans are Jewish people. Stefanik has gleefully echoed this theory in her political campaign ads. Yet she enjoyed a massive spike in fundraising due to the political clout she gained from the hearing.

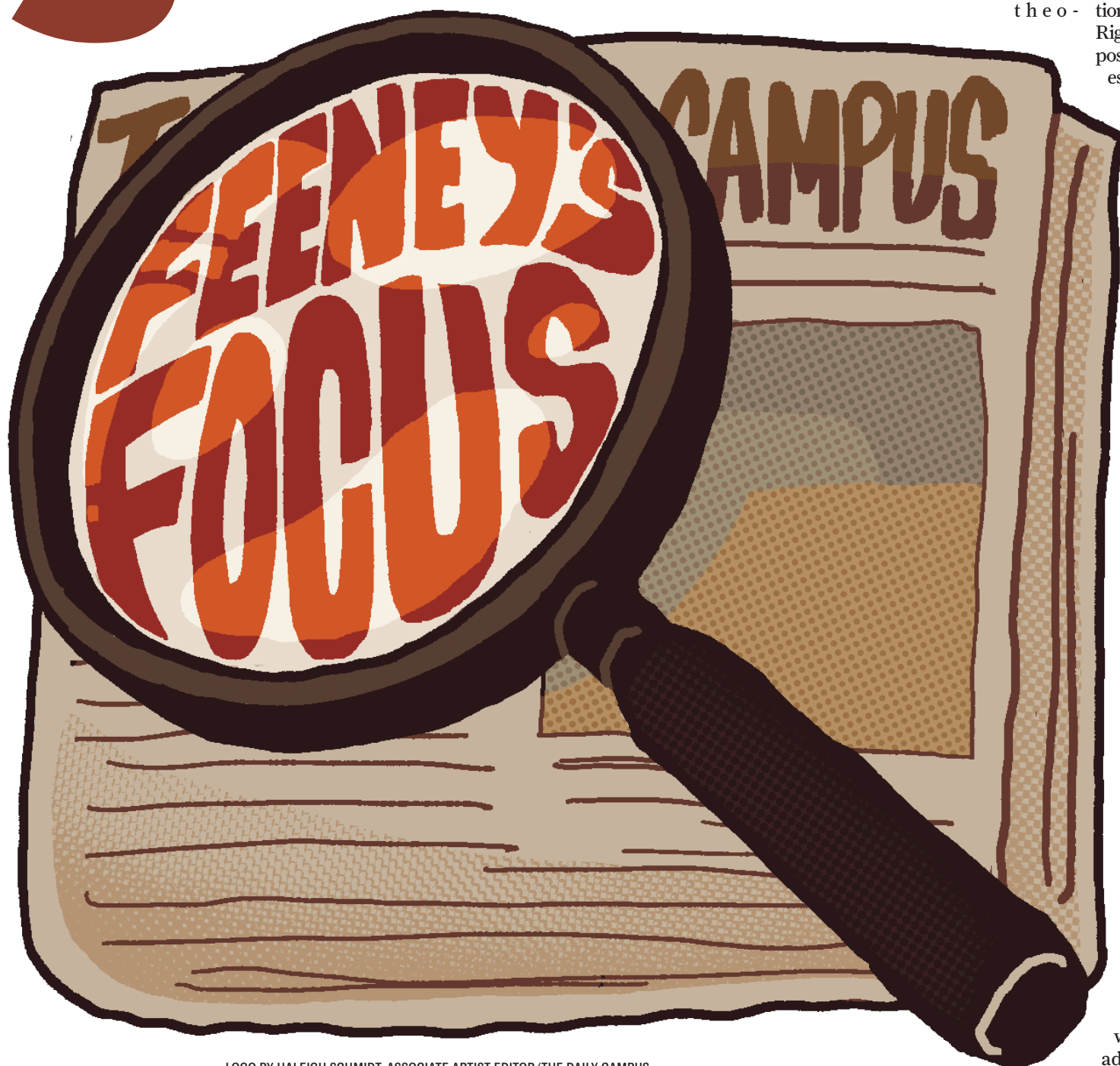
Congressional hearings are a great way for our elected representatives to have a platform to talk to the American people. But money will always be louder than a spoken word. It's easy to say you want to do something, but investing the money into doing it is a lot harder.

Congressional Republicans, led by Stefanik repeatedly, have not only shown a complete lack of interest in investing in programs towards curbing antisemitism on college campuses; she and her colleagues have pushed for a 55% cut to the Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights. This department was created in 1966 in conjunction with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Its purpose is to investigate instances of hate and bigotry on college campuses nationwide.

Stefanik's solution to antisemitism on campuses is to accuse universities of not doing enough while hamstringing the department whose sole purpose is to investigate instances of antisemitism and racism on college campuses by cutting their budget by over 50%.

How effective would you be in solving any problem in your life if I took away 50% of your resources while you were working on a solution?

Antisemitism is going to remain a persistent issue on college campuses. It is an issue that should be confronted. However, Stefanik does not have any meaningful way to solve it other than just simply calling for universities to force their presidents out. She is a wolf in sheep's clothing. She pretends to care about a serious issue while continuing to push for antisemitic candidates and policies that will make it harder to adequately investigate it.



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


# Study Break

Huskytalk | What is the worst part of campus to walk through during the winter?



**“Downtown cause it’s always windy.”**

Patrick Miller  
Digital Media and Design  
Fourth Semester




**“Walking through the Storrs Center.”**

Anthony Zupa  
Art  
Seventh Semester



**“Hilltop Apartments cause it’s covered in ice.”**

James Kiernan  
Allied Health  
Sixth Semester



**“South Campus.”**

Donald Dinkins III  
Art  
Fourth Semester

PHOTOGRAPHY BY ZACH MOLLER, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

# Square Peg PIZZERIA

**BRUNCH EVERY SATURDAY & SUNDAY!**

**ALMOST** BOTTOMLESS BLOODY MARY’S & MIMOSAS  
(0.05 A REFILL)

**11:00AM-3:00PM | DJ AT 12PM | 9 DOG LANE, STORRS CT**

7	5	8	2	9	4	1	3	6
4	3	1	6	7	5	9	8	2
2	9	6	1	8	3	5	4	7
9	4	7	3	6	8	2	1	5
6	8	5	7	2	1	4	9	3
1	2	3	5	4	9	6	7	8
3	1	4	8	5	2	7	6	9
5	6	9	4	3	7	8	2	1
8	7	2	9	1	6	3	5	4

## THE DAILY CAMPUS SUDOKU

	5			9	2			
				3			6	
		7			4			
				4				1
	9	4		2	5	8		
5				6				6
		5			9			
	8			7				
		1	4		2		5	

# Huskies in the Pros:

## JACKSON LOGS FIRST CAREER DOUBLE-DOUBLE, HAWKINS ERUPTS FOR CAREER-HIGH VERSUS DALLAS, SANOGO PUTTING UP VIDEO GAME NUMBERS IN G-LEAGUE

by **CJ Dexter**  
HE/HIM/HIS  
CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT  
christopher.dexter@uconn.edu

Andre Jackson Jr. sets career-high in points and rebounds with first career double-double versus Golden State.

In Saturday's 129-118 win over the Golden State Warriors, Milwaukee Bucks rookie Jackson delivered a career-high 10 points and 10 rebounds off the bench. Drafted by the Orlando Magic and traded on draft night to a loaded Milwaukee team in the second round of the 2023 draft, Jackson was not expected to play significant minutes in his first NBA season. However, an early season injury to veteran forward Jae Crowder created more time for Jackson, including seven starts for a Bucks team that sits just three games out of first place in the eastern conference. The former national champion is averaging 2.6 points and two rebounds on 51% shooting in his first season in the league.



Jordan Hawkins gets hyped up after scoring 34 points in a win for the New Orleans Pelicans against the Dallas Mavericks 118-108. This is Jordan's career high in points.  
PHOTO COURTESY OF @NBAPELICANS ON X

Jordan Hawkins scores career-high 34 points on 58% shooting in Saturday's win vs. Dallas.

Following the New Orleans Pelicans' questionable decision to option Jordan Hawkins to the G-League, the rookie shooting guard was recalled on Dec. 31 and proceeded to notch a career-high 34 points

on Saturday against the Mavericks. The NBA lottery pick was forced into the starting lineup with star players CJ McCollum, Zion Williamson and Brandon Ingram inactive, but the 21-year-old from Gaithersburg, Maryland did not disappoint. In addition to his 34 points, Hawkins rained home

a career-high six three-pointers and corraled five rebounds. The former national champion has averaged 10 points a game to this point in the season and leads all rookies with 76 three-pointers made.

Adama Sanogo making strong case for early G-League MVP candidacy.

Despite winning the 2023 NCAA Tournament Most Outstanding Player award, former UConn big man Sanogo went undrafted in the 2023 NBA draft. The term "undersized" was often thrown around when discussing Sanogo's draft stock, but the 6'8" glass king from Bamako, Mali was able to land a two-way contract with the Chicago Bulls. Spending a majority of the season in the G-League, Sanogo has been an unstoppable force for Windy City. In five games played, the former UConn big is averaging 26.4 points and 12.4 rebounds on a blistering 66% from the field. His exceptional play earned him a promotion to the Bulls roster ahead of their Dec. 28 game against the Indiana Pacers, but was sent back down after three games. Albeit just three games played with Chicago, Sanogo scored his first NBA points with an eight-point effort on Jan. 2 against the 76ers.

# Chris's Column: A New Reign in New England

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

There are many decisions for the New England Patriots organization to make this offseason, especially in light of the departure of former head coach Bill Belichick. The Patriots legend's successor is Jerod Mayo, who played linebacker for New England and spent the last five seasons as the assistant coach and linebacker coach. They also need to figure out who should be the next general manager and offensive coordinator.

If the Patriots want to get back to their winning formula and make it to the playoffs, they need to start with finding an offensive coordinator. The current offensive coordinator, Bill O'Brien, dealt with arguably the worst offensive personnel in the league, which placed the Patriots last in almost every offensive statistical category.

Below, we will look at the plan the Patriots should consider this offseason for offensive coordinators, draft decisions, GM decisions and other coaching changes.

### Offensive Coordinator

In his second stint, O'Brien struggled with quarterbacks Mac Jones and Bailey Zappe. The Patriots finished in the bottom five in points per game and yards per game. He was

the offensive coordinator for the Patriots in 2011 when they finished the season 13-3 and averaged 32.1 points per game. Keep in mind, Tom Brady was the quarterback throwing to Rob Gronkowski, Wes Welker and Deion Branch. The NFL is a results-driven business and Mayo could decide to bring in a familiar face like former long-time Patriots offensive coordinator Josh McDaniels.

Another name that CEO Robert Kraft should consider is Klint Kubiak, the passing game coordinator for the San Francisco 49ers. The Texas native previously worked with the Minnesota Vikings as the quarterback coach and offensive coordinator. Throughout his career, Kubiak has been able to work with the likes of talented quarterbacks like Kirk Cousins, Russell Wilson and Brock Purdy. On top of these credentials, it's no secret that every team in the league poaches from the 49ers coaching tree. In the past, San Francisco has developed young coaches like Mike McDaniel, who's now the head coach for the Miami Dolphins. If history repeats itself, he could be the quarterback whisperer that the Patriots have been missing.

### Draft decisions

The question remains if the Patriots should draft another quarterback. Third-overall pick quarterbacks like Trey Lance, Sam Darnold and Blake Bortles didn't last long as starting quarterbacks in the league. In recent history, busts have been a common

The Patriots have around \$70 million in cap space, and nailing their third overall pick is crucial for accelerating the rebuild. They can save around \$14 million by releasing cornerback J.C. Jackson, who has struggled with the Chargers and dealt with underlying health issues this season. Re-signing safety Kyle Dugger and edge rusher Josh Uche will be another crucial move for the defense.

They are in desperate need of wide receivers and should spend in free agency. Cincinnati's Tee Higgins, the Colts' Michael Pittman Jr., Tampa Bay's Mike Evans and Arizona's Marquise Brown, among numerous others, are all pending free agents this offseason.

### GM Decisions

The Patriots aren't exactly moving quickly to replace Belichick's general manager position. Matt Groh has been the director of player personnel since 2022 and Eliot Wolf has been involved as director of scouting. Kraft has made it clear that Mayo wouldn't exactly have total roster control like Belichick did for 24 years. With Belichick looking for his next coaching destination, it remains to be seen just exactly how many people on the current Patriots staff and members of the personnel will follow him.

### Other coaching changes

On the defensive side of the ball, Mayo must take care of potential vacant positional coaching spots. He was the co-linebacker coach alongside Steve Belichick, and Belichick's other son, Brian, is the safeties coach. Currently, the Patriots might see cornerback coach Mike Pellegrino and defensive line coach Demarcus Covington leave with Belichick. If Mayo doesn't want to call the plays on defense, Covington might be the next defensive coordinator. Other names to consider are defensive coordinator Patrick Graham from the Las Vegas Raiders or Jesse Minter, University of Michigan defensive coordinator.

Mayo is the youngest head coach in the NFL at 37 years old, and the current status of this Patriots team can't get much worse after finishing 4-13. Despite losing linebacker Matt Judon and rookie cornerback Christian Gonzalez early with season-ending injuries, New England has consistently kept a strong defense intact. Taking care of the offensive line is a must for Mayo. Whoever ends up getting hired as the offensive coordinator, general manager and director of personnel needs to focus on the offense during free agency and the draft.



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

theme with that pick, but it is hard to find a solid non-QB player drafted that high. If Caleb Williams and Drake Maye are selected as the first two picks in the draft, the next appealing option for quarterback is LSU Heisman winner Jayden Daniels. If they want to go the wide receiver path, then Ohio State's Marvin Harrison Jr. would be their best bet.

# Husky History: Jake Voskuhl

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

Welcome back readers to another semester and another edition of Husky History, the column that highlights a former UConn athlete and their accomplishments at the professional level.

This week's edition will focus on national champion Jake Voskuhl, the starting center on the UConn men's basketball program from 1996 to 2000.

Born on Nov. 1, 1977 in Tulsa, Oklahoma, Voskuhl's family moved to Houston, Texas right before he began high school. He attended Strake Jesuit Preparatory where his basketball team won four straight state championships while Voskuhl was named to the All-State team twice.

Voskuhl arrived to Storrs

in 1996 and emerged as the team's starting center as a freshman. The center appeared in all 33 of the team's games, starting 30 of them. It was the beginning of an incredible show of strength and was where Voskuhl would end his Husky career tied for fourth all-time in games played with 138.

During his freshman season, Voskuhl averaged 4.0 points, 5.5 rebounds, and 1.4 blocks in 20.5 minutes per game. The program was clearly building something special, as the Huskies took home a third place finish in the National Invitation Tournament in 1997 after defeating the Arkansas Razorbacks. Combined with other freshmen Kevin Freeman and Richard Hamilton, the three looked to be on their way to hanging banners in the rafters.

Voskuhl came back for his

sophomore year with improvements made to his offensive game. He increased his efficiency, making 56.5% of his shots. He also ranked third in the Big East with 49 blocks.

The team finished as the regular season and tournament champions in the Big East. The Huskies went on to win 11 straight games before falling in the Elite Eight to North Carolina, where Voskuhl tallied six points, three rebounds and one block in the loss.

The next season he averaged 5.5 points, 6.4 rebounds and a career high 1.5 blocks as the defensive anchor. Most importantly, Voskuhl played a pivotal role on a nearly perfect team. The Huskies repeated as regular season and tournament champions in the Big East, which were stepping stones to capturing the program's first national championship over Duke. Voskuhl

grabbed three rebounds and blocked two shots to help UConn shock the world.

Voskuhl returned for his senior season and averaged a career high 8.5 points making just over 57% of his shots. He was the fourth leading scorer on a team that had high expectations coming into the season, ranking No.1 in the preseason poll. Unfortunately, the Huskies lost to Tennessee in the second round of the NCAA Tournament, closing Voskuhl's tremendous career.

Voskuhl finished his career seventh in UConn history in blocks with 193 and ninth in total rebounds with 880.

Following his collegiate career, the young center was drafted by the Chicago Bulls in the second round. With the 33rd overall pick in the 2000 NBA Draft, he reunited with former teammate and champion Khalid El-Amin. However, it was a lim-

ited role for the rookie, appearing in only 16 games and averaging 1.9 points a night.

Voskuhl was traded the next year to the Phoenix Suns, where he spent his next four seasons in a larger role, averaging 4.0 points and 4.7 rebounds in 16.7 minutes per game. Following the 2005 season with the Suns, he was traded to the Charlotte Bobcats and played two seasons there.

The former Husky spent his final two playing seasons with the Milwaukee Bucks and Toronto Raptors before last playing in 2009. He enjoyed a nine year NBA career.

At this moment, Voskuhl is the CEO of Four Three Energy, an energy brokerage firm in the Houston, Texas area. He has made appearances at UConn for championship reunions and will forever be remembered for delivering the first championship to Husky Nation.



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

## Sports

Photo of the Day | Go Huskies!



The UConn women's hockey team took on the Boston College Eagles on Saturday at the Toscano Family Ice Forum. The Huskies came back with two goals in the third period, tying up the score 2-2.  
PHOTO BY ANGELINA LARRACUENTE, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

# Sargeant's Orders:

## What does a post RJ Barrett world look like for the New York Knicks?

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

The unbelievable has happened. The No. 3 pick in the 2019 NBA Draft, who many thought would resurrect the then-struggling New York Knicks, was traded. RJ Barrett's time in a Knicks uniform has come to an abrupt, bitter-sweet ending. Barrett, along with Immanuel Quickley and a 2024 second-round pick, were traded to the Toronto Raptors for OG Anunoby, Precious Achiuwa and Malachi Flynn.

Anunoby stands at 6-foot-7 and is a traditional small forward, yet has logged minutes at the four. The 26-year-old forward gives head coach Tom Thibodeau more leeway to experiment with the lineup if Julius Randle has an off night or sits against a lesser opponent. Achiuwa is 6-foot-9 and also possesses the ability to play at the four, and five if needed. There is a strong likelihood that Achiuwa does play at the five, as starting center Mitchell Robinson suffered an injury on Dec. 8 and has no timetable to return.

On the day of the Dec. 30 trade, New York owned a record of 17-14, and since then, they have been on a tear, winning six of their last eight. The Raptors also improved, gaining a young core of the two guards, who have each taken over starting reigns for the 12th-place Raptors. Where Toronto could run into trouble is trying to keep the young guard. Since Quickley was traded to a new team, Toronto lost his "Bird Rights," meaning they can't go over the cap to re-sign him. However, he is a restricted free agent, meaning if they decide to pay a higher luxury tax, they can match any offer he gets and force him to come back. The belief is that they will pay him since he is such a good fit for the Raptors, and they gave up so much to get him.

While this trade feels like a stab to the heart to some Knick fans, this is a major win for a team that has been mediocre up to this point. Not to mention, this was a squad that lacked wing size and never had a consistent scorer outside Jalen Brunson. Anunoby is ready to take New York to

the next level. The Missouri native is an excellent wing defender, a huge plus for a coach like Thibodeau, and has the ability to knock down the three-ball at a high clip. The acquisition of the 26-year-old will also open up Randle's offensive game. While he has been playing well lately, Randle has his moments where he can't do anything right on that end of the floor.

Whether it's forcing poor shots up, playing too much like a guard, or not putting his 6-foot-8 frame to use, Randle doesn't always perform to his potential. Anunoby spaces the floor, meaning Randle will be able to play his own brand of basketball and not be relied on to make plays every possession, and the numbers don't lie. Since Dec. 30, the Texas native has improved in points per game, three-point percentage and free throws attempted, among other statistics.

Arguably, the most valuable piece of the entire trade was Quickley. The 6-foot-2 guard was nothing short of a diamond in the rough for New York. Despite running

with the second unit, the combo guard was putting up all-star-level efficiency numbers. However, his contract was never extended because paying a backup point guard a \$25-plus million annual salary never made sense. This trade confirms this notion and tells us that Quickley was going to walk for nothing, and you can't let talent walk out the door without any return.

Unless Quickley was willing to take a massive discount, putting him around \$15 million annually, it didn't make sense to keep him. After all, the Knicks made a big signing this offseason, inking Donte DiVincenzo, another guard, to a four-year contract worth \$50 million. What the Knicks lacked was a solid wing scorer. Quentin Grimes took over reigns in that department, although it became apparent early on that he was not starter caliber. Before the trade, there were too many heads to feed and Grimes never got the ball, thus destroying his confidence when he did struggle. His value has indirectly been increased with this trade, as he will get

a bigger role in the secondary unit. He will be relied upon to put up at least 10 shots a night, a major increase from two or three.

A must-see game for all Knicks fans will take place on Jan. 20. Toronto will make the trek to "The World's Most Famous Arena," meaning Knick fans will get one more look at Barrett and Quickley this season. Not to mention, both teams are in the Atlantic division of the Eastern Conference, meaning they will suit up against each other at least four times per season. With the new in-season tournament format, more meetings may be possible.

This trade has shown short-term benefits for both sides: the Raptors receive key pieces in a rebuilding year and the Knicks find themselves one step closer to bringing their city its first championship in over 50 years. This deal is a great first step. While analysts like Kendrick Perkins think this trade is enough, only time will tell. Anything can happen from now to April, all we can do now is wait for the drama to unfold.

# NWSL: Gotham FC signs 4 members of 2019 U.S. women's national team

by Francesca Rameau  
CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT  
SHE/HER/HERS  
francesca.rameau@uconn.edu

Gotham FC announced the signings of Crystal Dunn, Tiarna Davidson, Emily Sonnett and Rose Lavelle, four members of the U.S. Women's National Team (USWNT). The additions came after Gotham FC won their first ever NWSL Championship last season in front of a record-breaking crowd at Snapdragon Stadium in San Diego, California.

Crystal Dunn previously played for the Portland Thorns, a squad she led to the 2022 NWSL Championship, and was officially announced as a new Gotham FC player on Dec. 31. Gotham FC head coach Juan Carlos Amorós expressed his excitement at this signing and how much Dunn will help the team build from their success of last season.

"Crystal is an exceptional player who can play anywhere at any time and have

an incredible impact on the game," he noted.

Dunn has played 140 games for the USWNT, where she has recorded 24 goals and 19 assists to help them in their winning ways. Before the Thorns, Dunn played for the North Carolina Courage, Chelsea FC and Washington Spirit.

Defender Davidson previously played for the Chicago Red Stars after being selected as the first overall pick by them in 2019. Her signing was announced by Gotham FC on Jan. 2.

"Tiarna is a very smart and versatile center back that has had incredible experience in the league and at the international level," said Amorós. "Tiarna is a great addition to the club, and we are very excited to work with her."

She has played 51 games for the U.S. and was named U.S. Young Soccer Female Player of the Year in 2018. In college, Davidson played for Stanford, leading the Cardinal to a Na-

tional Championship Title in 2017. She was named the 2017 College Cup Most Outstanding Defensive Player for her efforts.

Gotham FC announced their two latest signings, Lavelle and Sonnett, on Jan. 4. Sonnett, a midfielder, previously played for OL Reign, Washington Spirit, Kopparbergs/Göteborg FC, Orlando Pride and the Portland Thorns. She has two NWSL Championships under her belt, one with the Washington Spirit in 2021 and one with the Portland Thorns in 2017. Lavelle, also a midfielder, is known for her sweet left foot, the one that scored the winning goal for the USWNT against the Netherlands in the 2019 Women's World Cup Final. She was the first overall pick of the 2017 draft by the Boston Breakers, who folded by the end of her first season. For her second season in the league, she joined the Washington Spirits, then continued her career at Manchester City FC, and OL Reign

- the team she won the 2022 NWSL Championship with. Both players have signed multi-year contracts with the club until the 2026 season. Amorós expressed his enthusiasm at these signings.

"We are incredibly excited to have two exceptional talents like Rose and Emily join the club," he told the media. "Rose is a crafty and entertaining player, and our fans and club will be very excited to watch her at Red Bull Arena, and Sonnett is a true professional and competitor, who understands what success in the league looks like. The club and our fans are extremely excited to have players of their stature as we build upon the success of last season."

With the addition of these four players, Gotham FC now has six players who were part of the 2019 Women's World Cup Champions Team, already rostering Allie Long and Kelley O'Hara. With these four new signings, Gotham FC have

the opportunity to further elevate their defense and midfield from the previous season. This gives them a great chance to become the third team to take home two consecutive NWSL Championships and join the North Carolina Courage (2018, 2019) and FC Kansas City (2014, 2015).

**"With the addition of these four players, Gotham FC now has six players who were part of the 2019 Women's World Cup Champions Team, already rostering Allie Long and Kelley O'Hara."**

# The Coleumn:

## Miami had the best 2023 of any American city

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

Yesterday, writers from The Daily Campus sports section engaged in a roundtable about which players and coaches had the best 2023. From Manchester City's Erling Haaland to UConn men's basketball head coach Dan Hurley, several individuals were mentioned during this discussion.

When a team like the No. 1 Huskies succeeds, an athlete or a coach can be associated with a single city. For reference, two-time Super Bowl champion Patrick Mahomes has become synonymous with Kansas City, Missouri. 2022 American League MVP Aaron Judge has been hailed as one of the many kings of New York. Recently dismissed head coach Bill Belichick was a Boston staple for over two decades.

But there is one American city that had a better 2023 than anyone else. Rather than being the league's best in the regular season, sports teams in Miami, Florida, succeeded because of the postseason.

In 2022, the Florida Panthers traded away Jonathan Huberdeau and defenseman Mackenzie Weegar for forward Matthew Tkachuk from the Calgary Flames. Florida stayed in the middle of the pack during the 2022-23 regular season, squeaking into the Stanley Cup Playoffs as the Eastern Conference's No. 8 seed.

The Panthers' first-round opponent, the Boston Bruins, won the most games (65) and earned the most points (135) in a single season in NHL history. Florida was expected to be the first victim in the Bruins' Stanley Cup run. Down 3-1 in the series, that almost became a reality.

But then Tkachuk scored in overtime in Game 5 and the Panthers won Game 6 in Sunrise. Once Carter Verhaeghe buried the series clincher in Boston in Game 7, Florida completed the comeback and stunned the Bruins. Riding high after eliminating the Presidents' Trophy champions, the Panthers marched all the way to their first Stanley Cup Finals appearance since 1996. Florida's Stanley Cup run did not have a happy ending, however, as the Vegas Golden Knights won their first title in five games.

Like the Panthers, the Miami Heat stood on the edge of elimination early in the postseason. The Chicago Bulls led Miami by six with 7:12 remaining in a win-or-go-home scenario in the Play-In Tournament. Down three with 3:47 left, the Heat closed the contest on a 15-1 run, ending the Bulls' season and grabbed the Eastern Conference's eighth seed. Miami caught fire from there.

It started with a five-game upset of the top-seeded Milwaukee Bucks in the first round, and come late May, the Heat became the second-ever No. 8 seed to reach the NBA Finals. Guard Tyler Herro returned after breaking his hand against the Bucks and Miami gave the Denver Nuggets their lone home loss of the playoffs in Game 2. That was the Heat's one bright NBA Finals spot as their underdog run also ended in five games.

The Miami Marlins had not made the postseason in a 162-game season since 2003. The Marlins qualified in 2020, but the Major



Jimmy Butler is awarded with the Eastern Conference MVP award after the Miami Heat beat the Boston Celtics in Game 7 of the Eastern Conference Finals 103-84 on May 29, 2023. This win made the Miami Heat the second NBA team ever to advance to the NBA Finals as a eighth seed. PHOTO COURTESY OF @CHRISMOOVE ON X

League season was only 60 games because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Miami was in a three-way tie for the third and final National League Wild Card spot when 2022 Cy Young winner Sandy Alcántara made his last start on Sept. 3. On Oct. 1, the Fish secured their postseason spot.

Even without Alcántara, Miami succeeded because of the Pablo López -Luis Arráez trade with the Minnesota Twins. López became the Twins' ace and started their first postseason win since 2004. Arráez led all of baseball with a .354 batting average, leading off a lineup featuring first baseman Josh Bell and slugger Jorge Soler. Despite a breakout season from lefty Jesús Luzardo, the Marlins' postseason stint ended after two Wild Card losses to the Philadelphia Phillies at Citizen's Bank Park.

The Miami Dolphins' up-and-down 2022 season also resulted in a Wild Card loss. With a healthy Tua Tagovailoa under center, however, Miami made significant offensive strides in 2023. Tagovailoa recorded his first 4,000-yard season in the air. Wide receivers Tyreek Hill and Jaylen Waddle each had 1,000+ yards. Running back Raheem Mostert ran for a career-high 1,012.

Despite their dynamic offense, the Dolphins went 1-6 against teams over .500. That included losses to the Baltimore Ravens and the Buffalo Bills in consecutive weeks that cost them the American Football Conference East Division title. Without Waddle for the regular season finale or the Wild Card Round and injuries plaguing their defense, Miami literally froze in a 26-7 road defeat versus the Kansas City Chiefs.

Inter Miami CF had the city's most disappointing season as the lone team that did not make their league's playoffs. They made up for that with a Leagues Cup championship and a U.S. Open Cup runner-up finish. Both of those deep runs happened with World Cup champion Lionel Messi, whose signing made the David Beckham-owned club MLS' most-followed team on Instagram by Aug. 1.

Miami's success went beyond professional sports. While cousins Angel Reese and Jordan Hawkins won national titles for LSU and UConn, respectively, the Miami Hurricanes took the college basketball world by storm. The fifth-seeded men's team reached their

first Final Four one year after making the Elite Eight as a double-digit seed. The eighth-seeded women's team, meanwhile, made their first Elite Eight appearance.

Coincidentally, both Hurricanes' basketball teams stunned a No. 1 seed. Head coach Katie Meier and the women's team eliminated the Indiana Hoosiers on their court in Bloomington in the second round. The men's team took down the Houston Cougars in the Sweet 16.

All in all, sports' competitive nature fueled Miami's triumphs. Four teams caught lightning in a bottle in the playoffs. A fifth was rewarded for playing their best baseball in a push for a postseason spot. Other than maybe the 2023 Dolphins, none of the 305's sports teams were expected to go far.

No one knows what the future holds for 2024. Although they did not bring home a championship, 2023 was a year to remember for Miami.

The Panthers' first-round opponent, the Boston Bruins, won the most games (65) and earned the most points (135) in a single season in NHL history. Florida was expected to be the first victim in the Bruins' Stanley Cup run. Down 3-1 in the series, that almost became a reality.

But then Tkachuk scored in overtime in Game 5 and the Panthers won Game 6 in Sunrise. Once Verhaeghe buried the series clincher in Boston in Game 7, Florida completed the comeback and stunned the Bruins. Riding high after eliminating the Presidents' Trophy champions, the Panthers marched all the way to their first Stanley Cup Finals appearance since 1996. Florida's Stanley Cup run did not have a happy ending, however, as the Vegas Golden Knights won their first title in five games.

Like the Panthers, the Miami Heat stood on the edge of elimination early in the postseason. The Chicago Bulls led Miami by six with 7:12 remaining in a win-or-go-home scenario in the Play-In Tournament. Down three with 3:47 left, the Heat closed the contest on a 15-1 run, ended the Bulls' season and grabbed the Eastern Conference's eighth seed. Miami caught fire from there.

It started with a five-game upset of the top-seeded Milwaukee Bucks in the first round, and come late May, the

Heat became the second-ever No. 8 seed to reach the NBA Finals. Guard Tyler Herro returned after breaking his hand against the Bucks and Miami gave the Denver Nuggets their lone home loss of the playoffs in Game 2. That was the Heat's one bright NBA Finals spot as their underdog run also ended in five games.

The Miami Marlins had not made the postseason in a 162-game season since 2003. The Marlins qualified in 2020, but the Major League season was only 60 games because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Miami was in a three-way tie for the third and final National League Wild Card spot when 2022 Cy Young winner Sandy Alcántara made his last start on Sept. 3. On Oct. 1, the Fish secured their postseason spot.

Even without Alcántara, Miami succeeded because of the Pablo López -Luis Arráez trade with the Minnesota Twins. López became the Twins' ace and started their first postseason win since 2004. Arráez led all of baseball with a .354 batting average, leading off a lineup featuring first baseman Josh Bell and slugger Jorge Soler. Despite a breakout season from lefty Jesús Luzardo, the Marlins' postseason stint ended after two Wild Card losses to the Philadelphia Phillies at Citizen's Bank Park.

The Miami Dolphins' up-and-down 2022 season also resulted in a Wild Card loss. With a healthy Tua Tagovailoa under center, however, Miami made significant offensive strides in 2023. Tagovailoa recorded his first 4,000-yard season in the air. Wide receivers Tyreek Hill and Jaylen Waddle each had 1,000+ yards. Running back Raheem Mostert ran for a career-high 1,012.

Despite their dynamic offense, the Dolphins went 1-6 against teams over .500. That included losses to the Baltimore Ravens and the Buffalo Bills in consecu-

tive weeks that cost them the American Football Conference East Division title. Without Waddle for the regular season finale or the Wild Card Round and injuries plaguing their defense, Miami literally froze in a 26-7 road defeat versus the Kansas City Chiefs.

Inter Miami CF had the city's most disappointing season as the lone team that did not make their league's playoffs. They made up for that with a Leagues Cup championship and a US Open Cup runner-up finish. Both of those deep runs happened with World Cup champion Lionel Messi, whose signing made the David Beckham-owned club MLS' most-followed team on Instagram by August 1.

Miami's success went beyond professional sports. While cousins Angel Reese and Jordan Hawkins won national titles for LSU and UConn, respectively, the Miami Hurricanes took the college basketball world by storm. The fifth-seeded men's team reached their first Final Four one year after making the Elite Eight as a double-digit seed. The eighth-seeded women's team, meanwhile, made their first Elite Eight appearance.

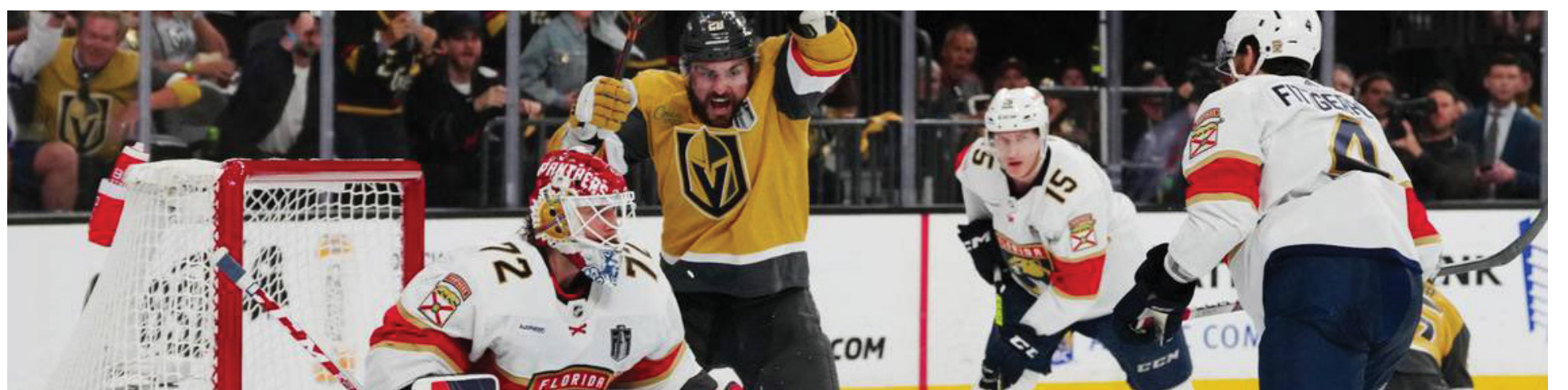
Coincidentally, both Hurricanes' basketball teams stunned a No. 1 seed. Head coach Katie Meier and the women's team eliminated the Indiana Hoosiers on their court in Bloomington in the second round. The men's team took down the Houston Cougars in the Sweet 16.

All in all, sports' competitive nature fueled Miami's triumphs. Four teams caught lightning in a bottle in the playoffs. A fifth was rewarded for playing their best baseball in a push for a postseason spot. Other than maybe the 2023 Dolphins, none of the 305's sports teams were expected to go far.

No one knows what the future holds for 2024. Although they did not bring home a championship, 2023 was a year to remember.



LOGO BY ANNA IORFINO, STAFF ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS



Vegas Golden Knights left wing William Carter celebrates after a goal against the Florida Panthers during the second period of Game 2 of the NHL Stanley Cup Finals on Monday, June 5, 2023. The Florida Panthers would go on to lose the series 4-1.

PHOTO COURTESY OF @ICYVERT ON X



# Sports

## Men's Basketball: Rowdy crowd fuels UConn past Creighton on \$2 Beer Night

by **Evan Rodriguez**  
ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR  
HE/HIM/HIS  
evanrodriguez@uconn.edu

In one of the most hyped-up matchups of the season for the UConn men's basketball team, it was safe to assume that Gampel Pavilion would be the loudest building in the entire state of Connecticut on Wednesday night. That energy was key for the No. 1 ranked Huskies, who took down the Creighton Bluejays 62-48.

"It was a great crowd. Great basketball environment," said head coach Greg McDermott.

On \$2 Beer Night, in front of a sold-out crowd, fans were treated to plenty of dazzling highlights and plenty of reason to cheer on one of the top teams in the nation. While things would eventually end in a blowout, it certainly didn't start out that easy for the defending national champions.

From the jump, Creighton would keep it close early. They'd grab the game's first bucket, courtesy of an impressive Steven Ashworth and one layup. With 19:05 to go, they'd build on that with buckets from Baylor Scheierman and another layup inside from star big man Ryan Kalkbrenner. While UConn was still showing effort on the defensive end, their offense couldn't keep up with their opponents. By the 15:07 media timeout, they'd trail by one point, 7-6.

Things continued to remain close until the 13:10 mark. Looking to carve some momentum, Connecticut found star guard Tristen Newton, who would drill an open three-point shot to tie the game 9-9. He'd do the same about a minute later, causing Gampel Pavilion to erupt in cheers after the East Carolina transfer tied the game at 12. While the score remained close for both teams, things were about to get a whole lot worse for Creighton.

Following an 11:42 timeout, in stepped the towering Donovan Clingan. As UConn has battled without their star big



UConn secures victory over Creighton with a final score of 62-48. The Huskies dominated the court in a thrilling matchup, showcasing their prowess and skill in tonight's basketball game.

PHOTOGRAPH BY JORDAN ARNOLD, ASSOCIATE PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

man since their loss to Seton Hall on Dec. 20, it's caused head coach Dan Hurley some trouble with battling the size of other Big East opponents. This issue was certainly aided by the presence of the Bristol native, who made a massive impact on both the rebounding and defensive end for UConn. In turn, this opened up a lot more options for one of the top teams in the nation, a devastating idea for Creighton in this case.

With Clingan in for the Huskies, his teammate, Cam Spencer, proceeded to catch fire on the court. After going one for two at the free throw stripe with 11:39 left in the game, he would have one of the most insane shots of the night. Following Newton's jumper with 11:08 to go, Spencer would run around a screen from Clingan on UConn's next possession. Guarded by Ashworth, the Rutgers transfer would drill a contested three-point shot to get his guys an 18-12 lead. The best part for Husky fans? He was just getting started, as No. 12 proceeded to collect two more buckets and

escalate his team's lead over Creighton by nine, 23-14.

But, the Bluejays fought back and narrowed UConn's lead to four. That caused a timeout for the home team and an opportunity to collect themselves. After their timeout, Connecticut walked back onto the court and proceeded to energize the crowd once again. With 6:20 left, Spencer found Johnson driving toward the rim for an easy two-hand slam that lifted the Gampel Pavilion fans out of their seat and gave UConn a 25-19 lead.

Fueled by more great play from Clingan on both ends of the court, the reigning national champions gave fans one last highlight before the half. With 3:27 to go, the Huskies got the ball to Stephon Castle, who spun off Schierman for a ridiculous and-one layup.

By the end of the half, Connecticut had a 32-21 lead over their opponents. Fans throughout the building had already gotten to see a heck of a show, and with 20 more minutes to go in another exciting night of basketball, the future certainly looked promising.

As the second half came, the offensive firepower for Creighton came slowly as UConn's defense stifled their opponents from scoring the basketball. By the 11:11 mark in the second half, the Bluejays offense had recorded just four points in the second half and the Huskies had grown their lead to 28-48 shortly after following a Clingan alley-oop slam.

For much of the second half, UConn stood resilient with their second half lead. It took till the 6:18 mark when Creighton began to make a dent into their opponent's massive lead. Led by the duo of Ashworth and Scheierman, the Bluejays diminished the Huskies' lead to as low as 10 by the 2:33 mark. But, by then, it was much too late. As the final seconds came and went, Connecticut came away with a dazzling victory.

The story of the night on the court was the team's defense that restricted an explosive Creighton defense from giving the Huskies trouble throughout the night. Coach Hurley remarked that this was the case due to how his staff has

harped on their "precipitous" steep dropoff from the beginning of the year.

"That's what is gonna hold this group back. We're a tremendous offensive team with Donovan back. We're gonna become more dangerous and better on both ends of the court and on the backboard. Donovan's one of the most impactful players in the country," said the Huskies' coach.

But, off the court, it would be hard to miss the energizing crowd of Gampel Pavilion. Hurley and Co. certainly were fueled.

"The crowd was awesome man. It was awesome from the start," said Hurley. "The crowd was into it. When the crowd's into it, it's funny how it has an effect on all of us. I never got crazy out there to try to get the crowd incited. Our players were able to just play the game cause the crowd was on auto-pilot," said Hurley.

Fresh off this impressive win at home, UConn heads over to Philadelphia, where they'll take on Villanova on Saturday evening in a classic Big East showdown.

## Spin Cycle: Last time the Huskies were No. 1...

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

For the 10th time in program history, and the first time since March 9, 2009, the UConn men's basketball team was named the No. 1 team in college basketball by the Associated Press. With nearly 15 whole years having passed since the Huskies were the top dogs in the nation, it's fair to say that quite a lot has happened between now and then. Let's take a look at what was happening in the life of UConn fans back in early 2009...

### The Great Recession reaches a new low

In January, the Great Re-

cession saw its worst month as the unemployment rate rose to 7.8%, the highest it had been since June 1992. The current unemployment rate in the U.S. is less than half of that figure at 3.7%, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. However, if you've recently visited a food establishment and were asked to leave a tip for the employee spreading cream cheese on your bagel, you'd think that we were still in the Recession!

### Obama sworn in as President

On Jan. 20th, Barack Obama was sworn into office as the 44th President of the United States. He broke unprecedented barriers by

becoming the first African American candidate to be elected for the position. Alongside Obama, Joe Biden was sworn in as the Vice President of the U.S. Obama would go on to serve the maximum of two terms before being succeeded by Donald Trump and, eventually, his old running mate Biden.

### Steelers become first NFL team with 6 Super Bowl wins

On Feb. 1, the Pittsburgh Steelers made history with their Super Bowl victory over the Arizona Cardinals by becoming the first team in the National Football League to win six championships. It was the last time that Pittsburgh

emerged from an NFL season by winning the season's last game and they have since been faced by the New England Patriots who won their league-high sixth Super Bowl in 2019.

### Heath Ledger posthumously wins Best Supporting Actor

Hugh Jackman hosted the 81st Academy Awards in February, where Danny Boyle's "Slumdog Millionaire" won eight awards, including Best Picture and Best Director. David Fincher's "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button" leads the nominations with 13. Actor Heath Ledger became the second performer to win a posthumous acting Oscar, winning Best Supporting

Actor for his role as the Joker in Christopher Nolan's "The Dark Knight" after he passed away the year prior. His role as the Joker has become one of the most iconic and recognizable acting performances in recent memory.

### DisneyXD is born

Apparently I'm too young to remember life before DisneyXD was born because as far back as I can remember, it has been a staple in children's broadcasting channels. Apparently in February 2009, Toon Disney and Jetix combined and relaunched to become the now-beloved DisneyXD. As of 2016, XD was available in over 77 million households in the U.S.

<b>WHAT TO KEEP AN EYE ON THIS WEEK</b>		<b>INSTAGRAM OF THE DAY</b>		<b>TWEETS OF THE DAY</b>			
<b>UConn SCOREBOARD</b>  <b>62 vs. 48</b> <b>Men's Basketball Sunday</b>		<b>Upcoming Games</b>  <b>Women's Hockey 2:00 p.m. Friday Storrs, Conn.</b>  <b>Men's Hockey 7:00 p.m. Friday Storrs, Conn.</b>		 <b>@uconnmbb</b> <b>11 point lead at the half</b>		<b>UConn Huskies @UConnHuskies</b> Shoutout to our spring @BIGEAST Champs! <b>UConn Huskies @UConnHuskies</b> it's go time in Gampel #BleedBlue <b>UConn Huskies @UConnHuskies</b> Only school with both in the Top-10! <b>@UConnMBB @UConnWBB</b>	
Follow The Daily Campus @dcsportsdept							