



USG WANTS TO KNOW, “WHAT PISSES YOU OFF?”

by **Gabriel Duffany**
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The Office of Diversity at the University of Connecticut’s Undergraduate Student Government hosted a town hall meeting this Tuesday, Jan. 30, posing one straightforward question for students to answer: “What pisses you off?”

The forum, moderated by USG Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Advocacy Coordinator Mishka Kapoor, invited students to share their concerns regarding the present and future of the university. “What problems at UConn do you wanna see worked on?” Kapoor asked at the meeting.

The chief concern expressed by students regarded finances, with looming fears surrounding both USG and university-wide budget cuts.

“My position probably won’t exist next year,” Kapoor said. The USG Office of Diversity is uncertain of its future with significant reductions in funding slated for the upcoming school year. The defunding of USG’s DEI initiative is symptomatic of larger budget cuts proposed at the university level, set to slash the financing received by USG and other organizations due to a deficit in the tens of millions.

The UConn administration has outlined plans to shrink their current budget by as much as 15% over the next five years, prompting many to wonder what classes, programs and faculty may be cut

“If UConn wants to be a premier university competing with other schools, you can’t cut staff,” an anonymous senior student emphasized. The student noted that they’ve witnessed positive shifts since their unceremonious introduction during the pandemic, but are doubtful this trend will persist. “The same opportunities that I had as a freshman won’t necessarily be there in the future,” the anonymous student said.

The budgetary reductions have not gone unnoticed, however, meeting fierce opposition from multiple campus organizations. An internal petition calling for the lessening of USG’s budget cuts has received sufficient signatures to warrant consideration, but its efficacy is impossible to predict.

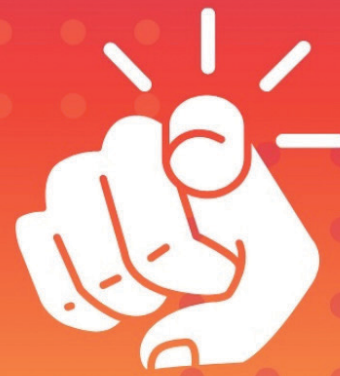
Additionally, joint student-faculty protests have garnered the attention of campus officials, who in response have begun to hold virtual town halls discussing the five-year reduction to UConn’s budget.

Although the recent town hall event was not widely attended, students have more opportunities to speak to USG representatives at an upcoming POC Student Faculty Social on Feb. 5, located in the Student Union Ballroom from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

“WHAT PISSES YOU OFF” TOWN HALL

STUDENT UNION THEATRE
TUESDAY, JANUARY 30TH | 2-5 PM



STOP BY ANY TIME AND SHARE WHAT PISSES YOU OFF WITH THE OFFICE OF DIVERSITY AT USG, AND TELL US WHAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE FROM US IN THE FUTURE.

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Undergraduate Student Government hosts a town hall meeting to allow student to discuss their grievances within the UConn community. Starting on Feb. 5, USG will be holding similar events such as the POC Student Faculty Social.

PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF @USGUCONN

Civil rights group says North Carolina public schools harming LGBTQ+ students, violating federal law

ASHEVILLE, N.C. (AP) — A civil rights group alleged Tuesday that North Carolina’s public schools are “systematically marginalizing” LGBTQ youth while new state laws in part are barring certain sex-related instruction in early grades and limiting athletic participation by transgender students.

The Campaign for Southern Equality filed a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education’s Office of Civil Rights against the State Board of Education and the Department of Public Instruction, alleging violations of federal law. The complaint also alleges that the board and the department have failed to provide guidance to districts on how to enforce the laws without violating Title IX, which forbids discrimination based on sex in education.

“This discrimination has created a hostile educational environment that harms LGBTQ students on a daily basis,” the complaint from the group’s lawyers said while seeking a federal investigation and remedial action. “And it has placed educa-

tors in the impossible position of choosing between following the dictates of their state leaders or following federal and state law, as well as best practices for safeguarding all of their students”.

The Asheville-based group is fighting laws it opposes that were approved by the Republican-controlled General Assembly in 2023 over Democratic Gov. Roy Cooper’s vetoes.

One law, called the “Parents’ Bill of Rights,” prohibits in-

struction about gender identity and sexuality in the curriculum for K-4 classrooms and directs that procedures be created whereby schools alert parents before a student goes by a different name or pronoun. The athletics measure bans transgender girls from playing on girls’ sports teams from middle and high school through college.

The group said it quoted two dozen students, parents, administrators and other individuals — their names redacted in the complaint — to build evidence of harm. These people and others said the laws are contributing to school policies and practices in which LGBTQ+ students are being outed to classmates and parents and in which books with LGBTQ+ characters are being removed from schools. There are also now new barriers for these students to seek health support and find sympathetic educators, the complaint says.

The group’s lawyers want the federal government to declare the two laws in violation of Title IX, direct the education board and DPI to train school districts

“It has placed educators in the impossible position of choosing between following the dictates of their state leaders or following federal and state law, as well as best practices for safeguarding all of their students”

and charter schools on the legal protections for LGBTQ+ students and ensure compliance.

Superintendent Catherine Truitt, the elected head of the Department of Public Instruction, said Tuesday after the complaint was made public that the Parents’ Bill of Rights “provides transparency for parents — plain and simple” and “ensures that parents remain aware of major health-related

matters impacting their child’s growth and development.”

Local school boards have approved policies in recent weeks and months to comply with the law. It includes other directives designed to give parents a greater role in their child’s K-12 education, such as a process to review and object to textbooks and to get grievances addressed. But earlier this month the Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools voted for policies that left out the LGBTQ-related provisions related to classroom instruction and pronouns.

Supporters of the transgender athlete restrictions argue they are needed to protect the safety and well-being of young female athletes and to preserve scholarship opportunities for them. But Tuesday’s complaint contends the law is barring transgender women from participating in athletics. The group wants a return to the previous process in which it says the North Carolina High School Athletic Association laid out a path for students to participate in sports in line with their gender identities.

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News

TEACHERS STRIKE IN BOSTON SUBURB ENTERS ITS EIGHTH DAY, WITH TENSIONS FRAYING

NEWTON, Mass. (AP) — A teachers strike in a Boston suburb entered its eighth day Tuesday — one of the longest in recent state history — with both sides still unable to agree on salaries and other issues.

The Newton School Committee on Tuesday said it made another revised offer to the Newton Teachers Association, which it described as “a fair and competitive offer that addresses the concerns that the NTA has expressed to the negotiating team and publicly.”

“Throughout the duration of the strike, we have presented increasingly competitive (cost of living adjustment) proposals, even when compared to the highest-paying peer districts,” the committee said in a statement.

The union has said it is seeking living wages for all employees, increased paid family leave time and a guarantee that social workers will be placed in every elementary and middle school.

The school committee proposal addresses union priorities, according to the school committee, including 12 weeks paid parental leave, smaller class sizes and increased social worker support for students.

David Bedar, a member of the union and a history teach-

er at Newton North High School said the union has received the latest counterproposal. He said there was some movement by the school committee, but that movement was based on pulling back on other union priorities.

“So negotiations are still ongoing,” he said.

It is illegal for public workers, including teachers, to strike in Massachusetts. Newton has a population of more than 87,000.

A judge last week began doubling fines for the teachers union until it reached a total of \$375,000 by the end of week at which point the judge opted to add \$50,000 a day — for Monday and Tuesday — bringing the total to \$475,000.

Newton City Council President Marc Laredo called for both sides to reach a deal quickly.

“This strike has to end. We need to get our kids back in the classroom and we need to do it now,” Laredo said. “All the responsible parties — the teachers, the school committee, those providing funding — need to be at the table.”

Tensions were beginning to fray.

A lawsuit was filed Monday in Middlesex District Court by Lital Asher-Dotan. The Newton mother of three — two high schoolers and a student in 8th grade — was asking the court to

compel the teachers union to end the strike.

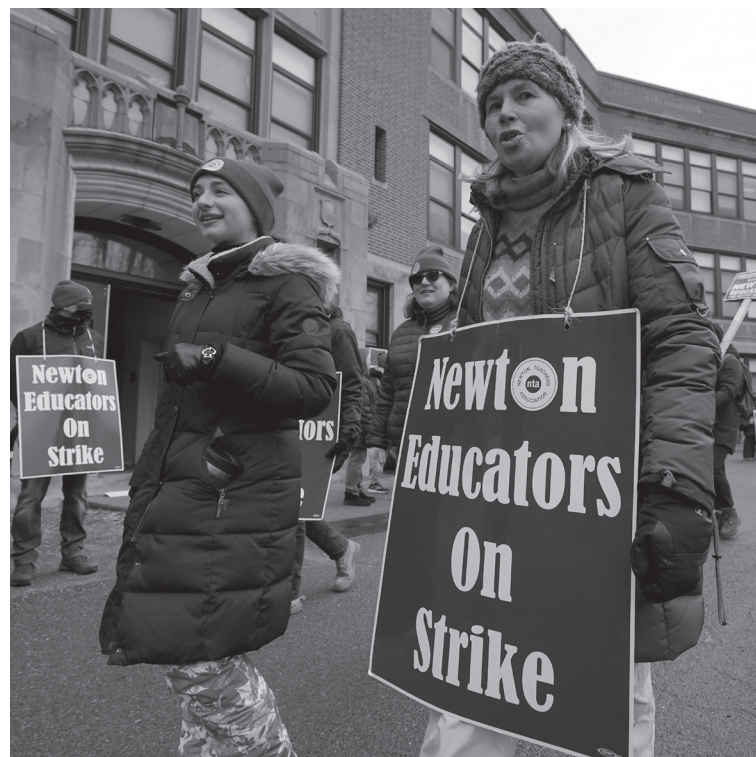
In the lawsuit, Asher-Dotan said one of her children is facing setbacks during a critical high school year that could jeopardize her chance of college acceptance. She said her children have also missed part of the hockey season and opportunities with the ski team club.

“The prolonged strike exacerbates these issues, especially for students with special needs,” the lawsuit said.

Other parents have started an online petition urging the union and city “to continue your negotiations while enabling students and teachers to get back to the classroom.”

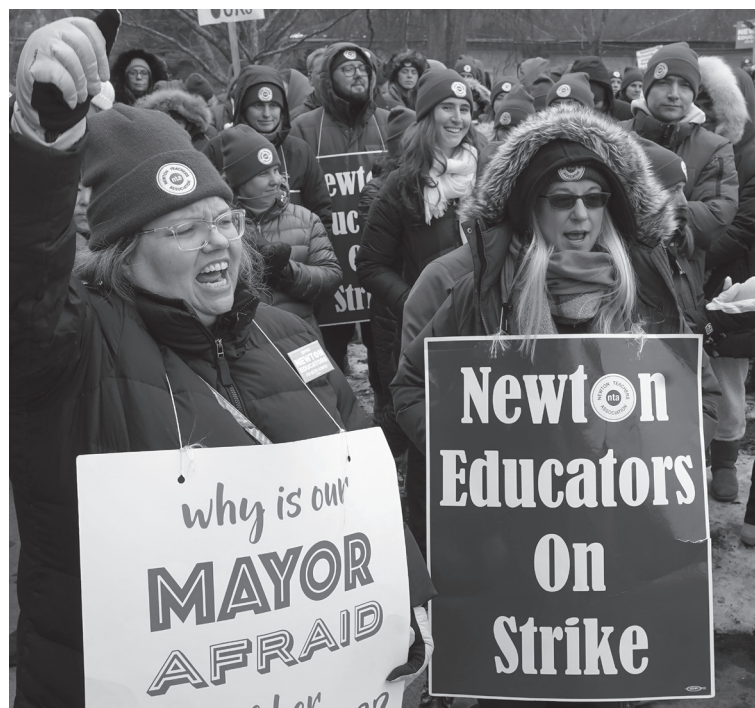
“Our children are being deprived of their right to an education. We believe the NTA and City are so mired in their drive to advocate for their perspectives such that the children’s interests have been subordinated in the need to win,” the petition said.

The district educates nearly 12,000 students across more than 20 schools.



Striking Newton teachers and supporters carry placards while marching, Tuesday, Jan. 30, 2024, outside the Newton Education Center, in Newton, Mass. Contract negotiations between the Newton Teachers Association and the city’s School Committee continued Tuesday.

PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF STEVEN SENNE/AP



Striking Newton teachers and supporters display placards and chant during a rally, Tuesday, Jan. 30, 2024, outside Newton City Hall, in Newton, Mass. Contract negotiations between the Newton Teachers Association and the city’s School Committee continued Tuesday.

PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF STEVEN SENNE/AP



Striking Newton teachers and supporters display placards and chant during a rally, Tuesday, Jan. 30, 2024, outside Newton City Hall, in Newton, Mass. Contract negotiations between the Newton Teachers Association and the city’s School Committee continued Tuesday. (AP Photo/Steven Senne)

PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF STEVEN SENNE/ AP

The Daily Campus

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The Daily Campus Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Tracks
- 5 Eva of "Green Acres"
- 10 Bidding site
- 14 "Pronto" letters
- 15 Delight
- 16 Rachel Maddow's field
- 17 Simon or Garfunkel
- 18 Terra ___
- 19 Small valley
- 20 *Bakery employees who offer free samples?
- 23 Purpose
- 24 Shed
- 25 Summer hrs. in Portsmouth
- 26 Some DEA employees
- 28 Smallest state in India
- 30 Stable staple
- 33 *Mistakes made while preparing a simple breakfast?
- 38 "Frozen" sister
- 41 Misstep
- 42 Water waster
- 43 *Comfort food with a high price tag?
- 46 Back
- 47 "The A-Team" actor
- 48 Abbr. before a year
- 52 Fundraising org.
- 54 Gets faint
- 57 Laundry brand
- 58 Question from a server, or what was needed to create the answer to each starred clue
- 62 Soap brand
- 63 French 101 infinitive
- 64 Last remarks?
- 65 Improves in a cellar, say
- 66 Barbershop quartet part
- 67 Soap brand
- 68 Pigeon fancier on "Sesame Street"
- 69 Adversary
- 70 Took a hatchet to

DOWN

- 1 Tourist destination on the Yucatán

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68					69						70			

By Chris Gross

1/31/24

- 2 Chant for the red, white, and blue
- 3 Mess (with)
- 4 Job detail, for short
- 5 Geico icon
- 6 Medicinal plants
- 7 Come clean?
- 8 "A Man Called ___": Tom Hanks film based on a Fredrik Backman novel
- 9 Down-to-earth
- 10 Done
- 11 Excursion where one might see something brewing?
- 12 Pointed tools
- 13 Designer monogram
- 21 To boot
- 22 Like many students at Gallaudet University
- 27 Sleep apnea apparatus, initially
- 28 High seas quaff
- 29 Other, in Oaxaca
- 31 Wong of "Birds of Prey"

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

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1/31/24

- 32 Recipe amt.
- 34 Equal
- 35 Relaxed pace
- 36 Dog park sound
- 37 Likelihood
- 38 BEACH Act org.
- 39 Record
- 40 Brief visit
- 44 Islamic leader
- 45 "Not that much"
- 49 Place to drive
- 50 Show up
- 51 Part of RBI
- 53 Canapé base, maybe
- 54 Worker with a monotonous routine
- 55 Cold feet or hot seat
- 56 Full of cheer
- 58 Breathe fire, say
- 59 Inevitable end
- 60 Pizza place
- 61 Bartender's supply
- 62 Chocolate ___

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Life

“SETTLE DOWN:”

*A slice of the not-so-crazy
Life of Jack Whitehall*



IMAGE COURTESY OF @JACKWHITEHALL ON INSTAGRAM

by James Fitzpatrick

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On Tuesday, Jan. 30, Netflix released British comedian Jack Whitehall's special, "Settle Down." Making active use of its one-hour runtime, it serves as a direct contrast to Whitehall's association with his former role in the 2021 film "Clifford the Big Red Dog." He harps on living with his girlfriend, model Roxy Horner, his reluctance to purchase their own dog for £6,000 and the conception of their first-born child.

Throughout the special, Whitehall heavily discusses his issues with alcohol dependence. Jokingly promoting the scant benefits of alcoholic drinks, with the implication that they are meaningless due to alcohol's ability to debilitate someone, he combines this and other bad habits like vaping to declare how "they" are taking people's vices away. He does not voice his concerns about the powers that be beyond this comment, along with remarking how Recaptcha tests are getting more difficult these days. Regardless, Whitehall makes it known that he despises sambuca, and elaborates

about his frequent compulsions to drink alcohol. Without consuming it, his internal monologue "is like a cross between [his] dad and Severus Snape."

He further introspectively leans into the reasons that could contribute to his dependence, one of them being his "wafer-thin ego" that seemingly does not crumble at the thought of millions of people watching him. He proudly bolsters his self-importance, so much so that he feels the need to show multiple articles featuring him with a PowerPoint presentation. Although he abandons the slideshow midway through, it gives the impression that he is putting on a TED Talk event, except it is only about himself. There is nothing to be gained by the audience from this special besides jokes based on him and the copious amounts of needless information about the celebrity life that he delivers.

Whitehall's body language is very much an act, and it may be emphasized given the number of people in the crowd at the London O2 Arena at the time, but it comes off as forced. Based on this, being expressive may not have been as widely accepted in society when he was growing up, yet he was

encouraged from a young age to be theatrical through years of child acting. Additionally, he claims his parents "were financially well-off but emotionally bankrupt," making the jabs against his girlfriend and his general pessimism all the more sensible. Regardless, his background has transformed him into a dynamic public speaker who tell stories through movements to enunciate nearly every action he describes.

The pub and the bar are foundational settings for many of his stories, which fails to make them have any more impact than the classic "a guy walks into a bar" joke. Despite the uninteresting attention-grabbers, Whitehall is all about relatable humor, especially when it comes to relationship dynamics. He paints the scenario of Horner and himself walking into a bar, only to be stopped by a rude bouncer, according to how Horner interprets his attitude. Whitehall wrestles with the thought of defending his girlfriend from her imaginary opposition, but he reasons that he would have no chance fighting against the absolute tank of the bouncer, reenacting how the sad scuffle would play out. Any man in a relationship

who feels tied to these gender roles of maintaining an "alpha male" status can relate here.

On a similar note, Whitehall feels compelled to be the best boyfriend Horner has ever had. This is reasonable in itself, ensuring he brings his best foot forward to the relationship, but it becomes unhealthy when he is constantly comparing himself to one of her past lovers, Leonardo DiCaprio. Whitehall is hung up over Horner's love life preceding himself, lending to his narcissistic traits, yet I cannot blame him here. He mentions he can no longer watch classic movies featuring DiCaprio without the intrusive thoughts seeping in about what he and Horner did during their short stint, not to mention the self-proclaimed downgrade Horner made. She went from "the Wolf of Wall Street to the Labradoodle of London."

This criticism is not to reduce Whitehall's relationship into that of unimportance, as he does show a level of maturity when talking about his love for Horner. He does appear to give tough love given he believes "true love is when you love them in spite of detesting everything they're passionate about." However, he provides a sobering

realization that his life will soon be less about his "drunken hijinks" and more about raising his child. The most heartfelt moment in "Settle Down" is when he notes how he and Horner had previously suffered a miscarriage and found the silver lining in the loss, driving him to still try for a child and to be the best father he can be. Forgetting my lack of taste in his comedic style and the pitfalls of this special being too much about him, I wish the best for Whitehall in fatherhood.

Ending off with a cinematic conclusion about why his home will always be in the United Kingdom, it is safe to say Whitehall gave a strong performance, although I am still not convinced as to what makes him so great and famous in his own eyes. He brags about his life thoroughly as if he is globally known, yet this is the first time most people will hear of Whitehall. My impression of him is that he will fade from stardom as most celebrities do, hopefully being a good father and husband in the process, but if he wants to be as amazing as he makes himself out to be, it will be a turbulent ride to the top.

RATING

2.25 / 5

EVERYTHING IS NOT AS IT SEEMS

by **Karla Perez**
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Hello and welcome back to Conversations with Karla! Last week we looked into the conflicting ways Greek life is portrayed on social media. This week, you'll meet Dylan Lawson, a fourth-semester sports management major who talked about social media's depiction of athletes and the pros and cons of social media as a whole.

First, I must apologize. In my last entry, I stated that this week's Conversations with Karla article would focus on male and female experiences on social media. However, upon revisiting my notes from this interview, I understood that the subject was not the focal point of my conversation with Lawson. I will still touch upon the topic in this entry, but it will not be as extensive.

Now let's meet our student! Lawson has worked as a student manager for the University of Connecticut men's basketball team since May 2023. He says that his responsibilities include assisting the players during practices and workouts, maintaining the facilities and other tasks assigned by the staff. Since starting this position, Lawson has spent almost every day with the players and has developed friendships with them.

Social media provides two different depictions of athletes: on one side, it glorifies their

skills, while the other labels them as "dumb jocks." When I asked Lawson about his perspective on these conflicting sides, he admitted to being surprised by how down-to-earth the UConn basketball players were when he started working with them. "I figured, they're at such a big basketball school and they are the basketball players; I wouldn't have been surprised if they felt that they were better than everybody else, but not one single player is like that," he said.

He went on to say that he feels the people who bash the players' academics are not open-minded and don't want to take the time to get to know them.

Our conversation shifted to Lawson's personal perspective on social media in general. Similar to what was discussed a couple of editions ago, he appreciates how one can build their own community through social media. He describes meeting people on social media as a "building block" for connections. Lawson finds this especially important as an introverted student at a big school.

On the flip side, Lawson expressed disdain for how social media creates an easy channel for cyber-bullying. "I feel like for a lot of people, when they're face-to-face with someone, they're not going to be as confrontational...but it's easier to do it when you're behind a screen because you think 'Oh, I'm never going to see

this person," Lawson said.

Lawson explained that the people he allows on his social media are those he enjoys being around and talking to. He talked about how, partly as a result of seeing these situations on social media, he tries to filter out people who are not very close to him or that he may have conflict with. He noted that this is a practice that he has developed after being on social media for some time and that he was "lucky enough when [he] was a kid not to have a negative experience that stands out."

Not everyone is this fortunate, though. The odds are even more slim if you identify as a woman. Lawson described social media for men as "...a little bit more calming...a little more simple." For women, though, I shared that social media is more of a place where we have to perform.

"I feel like it's an on-and-off type of thing," Lawson said, "I'll get on Instagram, I'll scroll for a little bit, I'll get off. Nothing sticks. I don't start thinking too deeply about anything." He said that (for the most part) this kind of mindset is similar to that of his friends. However, for women, the line between "real-life" and social media is blurred because women get the same kind of commentary on and off the screen.

That's all for this week's Conversation with Karla! See you next week when we'll meet a new student and discuss a new topic.



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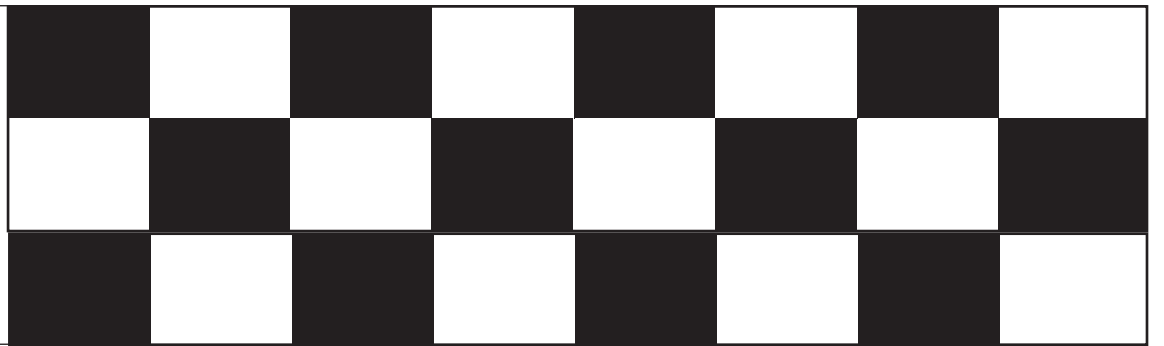


CARTOON BY VAN NGUYEN, ARTIST EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS



Life

@dailycampuslife



“Nascar Full Speed”

is an adrenaline-fuelled series



IMAGE COURTESY OF PIXABAY.COM

by **Valentina Turmina Maronezi** | CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT | SHE/HER/HERS | valentina_turmina.maronezi@uconn.edu

An exhilarating look at stock car racing can be found in Netflix’s new “NASCAR: Full Speed” series that was released on Jan. 30. The series provides viewers with a comfortable understanding of the drivers, groups and NASCAR’s rich history by counterbalancing exciting race films with down-to-earth stories. The series provides a vivid experience for both long-time fans and those new to the sport. Exciting cinematography captures the power of the races, and the interviews add a touch of humanity, making it a must-watch for fans of motorsports.

Since childhood I’ve closely followed both F1 and NASCAR, so I was interested to see if “NASCAR: Full Speed” would copy other series about car racing. While there are similarities to other shows, they are not carbon copies of each other and that is a very positive thing.

If you are anything like me, you probably will assume that all the attention will be on NASCAR’s young stars, but this time, that isn’t the situation. Denny Hamlin appears to be the most notable figure in the show, getting the most broadcast attention. Up until he is eliminated from the playoffs in the fourth episode, he is the series’ protagonist in many ways.

In case you are not aware,

Denny Hamlin is not a fan favorite. Many harbor a deep dislike towards him. Some of these opinions are warranted, but others are just haters who see that hating him is a trend. Seeing him as a “protagonist” made me a bit surprised, but I definitely can see why.

Hamlin is also the team owner for two other featured drivers on the show — Bubba Wallace and Tyler Reddick — and is a serious contender to win the national championship. Maybe it’s also because Hamlin is willing to be so transparent and seems at ease saying things that other people won’t.

In contrast to the segment of NASCAR fans who dislike Hamlin more than any other driver, new viewers to the series who have never seen him before will likely be moved by his story and may even root for him. Furthermore, in the event that they could do without him, they could lean towards a driver like Ross Chastain, who is depicted as Hamlin’s foil.

“NASCAR: Full Speed” gradually sets the stage for how much a championship actually means to Hamlin and his family throughout the series. Denny’s father, who refers to him as his “heartbeat” in an interview, creates a more positive view of Hamlin.

Fans of NASCAR most likely know that Hamlin missed out on a title shot in 2023, and the show’s post-Martinsville scene with Hamlin is probably the most powerful. The series goes into detail on why that’s occurred. I won’t go into detail since the scenes are better than any written words — it’s well worth a watch.

For all that can be said, “NASCAR: Full Speed” takes viewers inside RVs and group haulers during the most vital snapshots of the end-of-season races. We’re with Joey Logano at Bristol Motor Speedway after he wrecks and powerlessly watches his end-of-season races get away. We’re inside Portage’s pre-Talladega meeting, begging the drivers to ensure one of their vehicles wins. We’re with Ryan Blaney’s present partner Gianna Tulio as she anxiously watches the Talladega race inside the couple’s transport.

To say that this series is good is an understatement. It’s great for everyone, from people who are into NASCAR already, people who want to learn more, people who are just curious or even people who know nothing about NASCAR and just want to watch something! Of all the car series on Netflix, “NASCAR: Full Speed” is easily one of the best!

Rating:

4.5 / 5



Opinion

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CARTOON BY VAN NGUYEN, ARTIST EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

► Editorial

THE IMPACT OF BUDGET CUTS ON UCONN'S 10-YEAR PLAN

Students and faculty at the University of Connecticut gathered outside of Homer Babbidge Library on Tuesday, Jan. 23 to protest recently announced budget cuts by the university, according to reporting by The Daily Campus. On the eve of a town hall meeting regarding the budget, professors and students argued that these cuts would be devastating and directly contradict the university's ability to "meet its mission as a flagship university."

Due to expiring COVID-19 relief funds, the university is expected to begin fiscal year 2025 in a \$70 million deficit. These cuts are necessary to "achieve financial sustainability," the university said. The cuts would lead to a 15% reduction in operating support budgets for all academic units over a five-year period, starting with 3% next fall.

UConn Provost Anne D'Alleva pointed out that these budgetary problems are not unique; in fact, other universities such as Pennsylvania State University are facing similar budget cuts.

While that is true, what she neglects to mention is that universities were warned as early as September 2022 that the emergency COVID-19 funding would expire. Yet, as covered by The Daily Campus Editorial Board, the university still continually approved ambitious construction projects. Similarly, despite being well aware of the temporary nature of the COVID-19 funds, Penn State also approved one robust construction plan after another. Just last summer, Penn State had 24 different construction projects and plans.

In June 2022, UConn spokesperson Stephanie Reitz acknowledged that "the end of most federal COVID relief funds creates the incorrect appearance of a large dip in financial aid between FY22 and FY23." Just at the start of the academic year, the university announced a record-breaking year of fundraising for the fourth year in a row, yet their aggressive spending has now put them in a \$70 million-sized hole.

According to the UConn branch of the American Association of University Professors, these cuts would have "long-term, devastating effects on research, teaching and learning."

Faculty members are preparing for severe reductions of graduate programs, bigger classes, fewer courses offered to students, scaled-back programs, cuts to teaching and fewer research assistantships, increased work for faculty, reduced tutoring and support and more virtual instruction, according to the union.

These cuts will not just impact students and faculty. To begin the year, The Daily Campus Editorial Board covered UConn's newly adopted 10-year strategic plan. These cuts are antithetical to the stated goals of the plan. One of these goals is to reach \$500 million in research funding. In the financial year 2023, the university received \$321.5 million in research awards. However, these budget cuts will deteriorate professors' ability to compete for large grants.

There is research pointing to how budget cuts to academic programs lead to decreases in overall graduation rates. Another indicator of success for UConn's 10-year plan is a graduation rate of 90%. Offering fewer programs, bigger classes and reduced support for students is more likely to increase the amount of students unable to graduate rather than continue to increase the graduation rate.

It is difficult to present yourself as a university committed to serious research after slashing the budgets and capabilities of your own departments to do effective research. If enacted, these cuts will "dramatically degrade UConn's central mission of teaching and research excellence, and its standing as a world-class institution of higher education," an open letter signed by over 300 faculty members argued.

There is something truly sinister to these cuts when you listen to how UConn's administration talks about the supposed importance they place on education. In official auto-sent emails to the undergraduate population, President Radenka Maric finishes her email in the same way. It goes as follows:

"UConn is a great university. But it's more than that. A top-ranked research institution, with campuses and staff across Connecticut, built to inspire the global community that is UConn Nation. UConn's talented students exceed expectations. Our expert researchers, faculty, and alumni drive Creativity, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship (CIE) for a better tomorrow. We fuel the State's economy and are committed to inclusion in benefiting the greater good. This is UConn. Students First, UConn Always. Huskies Forever."

These proposed cuts are not only a slap in the face to those faculty and staff who produce the research that Maric brags about, but they also make it clear that UConn students are put last.

HOW AARON RODGERS RUINED HIS REDEMPTION ARC

by Dan Stark | ASSOCIATE OPINION EDITOR | HE/HIM/HIS | daniel.stark@uconn.edu

The prince of darkness. The owner of the Chicago Bears. King of the douchebags. These are some of the many names that one could call Aaron Rodgers. Though recognized as one of the greatest and arguably the most talented quarterback of all time, the former long-time Green Bay Packers superstar has gained a reputation in recent years as one of the most annoying and hated players in the National Football League. After being traded to the New York Jets last April, Rodgers had a chance to salvage his reputation and successfully did so for a short time. But after going down with a season-ending injury, Rodgers reverted back to his old ways and ruined any chance he had at a redemption arc.

During his final three years in Green Bay, NFL fans began to view Rodgers as one of the biggest divas in the league. During three straight offseasons from 2021 to 2023, he captured the attention of sports media as rumors circulated about whether he would leave the Packers amid his frustration with the organization. This peaked in the 2023 offseason, where he openly contemplated retirement and went on a darkness retreat to make a decision about his future in football. He was also criticized for his strong stance against the COVID-19 vaccine and for lying to the public about being vaccinated, which came under further scrutiny when he contracted the virus during the 2021 season. His controversial anti-vaccination attitude and the ongoing "will he, won't he return" narrative painted him as a limelight-hogging diva who was more obsessed with being in the spotlight than beating the 49ers in the playoffs.

Then, Rodgers was traded to the Jets this past April to become the savior of the franchise after the failed Zach Wilson experiment, and something extraordinary happened: Rodgers became likable. He embraced the bright lights of New York by going to Knicks and Rangers games at Madison Square Garden, where the crowds roared for him. One video captured him at a Taylor Swift concert at MetLife stadium having the time of his life and yelling "The Jets won the Super Bowl!" in a stream of confetti from the show. He also won over his naysayers with his appearance on HBO's "Hard Knocks," which showed him supporting his teammates during Jets training camp over the summer. All of this turned Rodgers back into someone that people were actually rooting for. The stage was set for Rodgers and the

Jets to make a deep playoff run with hopes to win the franchise's first Super Bowl since 1969, winning the hearts of millions of football fans in the process and changing his public image for good.

Then the unthinkable happened: Rodgers tore his achilles tendon 75 seconds into the Jets' first drive of the season. He didn't even complete a single pass before suffering what is normally a season-ending injury, but Rodgers decided to continue his crusade against modern medicine by getting an experimental surgery to repair the tendon with hopes of a potential playoff return four months later. This was immediately met with skepticism, as the recovery time for this injury is usually at least six months. The intrigue of a potential Rodgers return reverted to the same "will he, won't he" speculation that became the hallmark of his past three offseasons. While many fans held out hope, the charade got old quickly, especially when it became apparent in December that Rodgers wouldn't return as the Jets drifted further out of the playoff picture. The over-coverage by sports media of a potential Rodgers return was rivaled only by the NFL's infatuation with promoting Taylor Swift, although at least she isn't an ayahuasca-drinking conspiracy theorist.

Though the media's fixation on his return wasn't entirely his fault, Rodgers didn't do himself any favors during the season. Blessed with an abundance of free time, Rodgers proceeded to undo the good reputation he built earlier in the year by reverting back to his usual off-the-field self. He notably launched a one-sided feud with Travis Kelce for doing advertisements for Pfizer, labeling him "Mr. Pfizer." Rodgers went so far as to challenge Kelce and Dr. Anthony Fauci to a debate with him and fellow antivaxxer Robert F. Kennedy Jr., which sounds about as threatening as Elon Musk challenging Mark Zuckerberg to a cage match. Going after Kelce showed that Rodgers himself hadn't changed at all despite his changed reputation, which became increasingly doubted as the season went on.



FILE ILLUSTRATION/THE DAILY CAMPUS



IMAGE COURTESY OF FLICKR

See STARK TANK, p. 8

Opinion

Photo of the Day | Ping Pong Between Classes



UConn Hartford students playing pingpong in the Hartford Times building on Jan. 30, 2024. Students kill time between classes by using the commuter lounge.

PHOTO BY CONNOR SHARP, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

STARK TANK, cont. from p. 8

However, none of Rodgers' actions compare to when he went on "The Pat McAfee Show" and took an unprompted shot at Jimmy Kimmel, alleging that he's listed on Jeffrey Epstein's client list and that he is a pedophile. Kimmel, who was

rightfully outraged by Rodgers' baseless remark, threatened legal action and unleashed one of the most scathing and brutal monologues ever aired on live television to tear into him. What makes Rodgers look even worse is that he refused

to apologize to Kimmel in the wake of public backlash and instead doubled down that the media distorted his comments. The Rodgers-Kimmel debacle firmly killed off any likeability Rodgers had gained over the summer and firmly brought

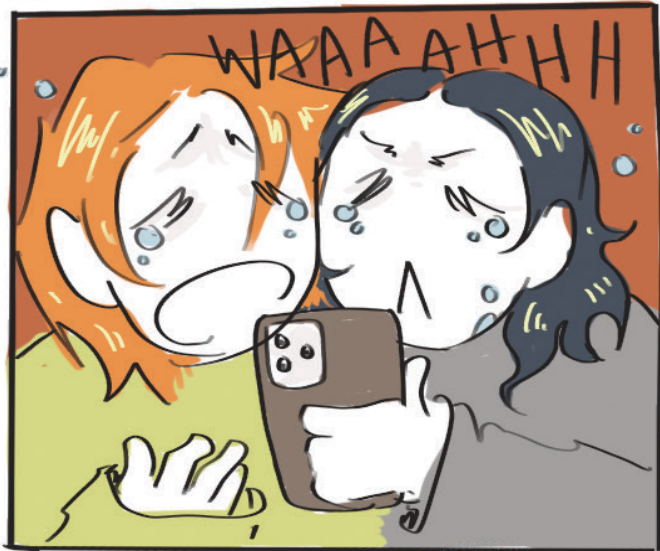
him back down to his former status as an arrogant jack*ss.

Going into the 2024 season, it's unlikely that Rodgers will have as many supporters as he did coming into this season. He had a great opportunity to rewrite his legacy for-

ever, but now has to lie in the grave of arrogance and unlikability that he dug himself. Even if the Jets somehow win the Super Bowl next year, Rodgers not be viewed as a likable or even decent human being ever again.

CARTOON BY VAN NGUYEN, ARTIST EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

The Daily Campus Comics



CARTOONS BY SARAH CHANTRES, STAFF ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

The Daily Campus Comics

Roundtable: What is the most unbreakable record in sports?

In the world of sports, thousands of athletes have come and gone. Many have accomplished successful careers that are fairly tough to replicate even after their departure. For the select few, however, there are the unbreakable records. From Joe DiMaggio's 56-game hitting streak to Bill Russell's 11 NBA titles, plenty of achievements may never be eclipsed. In this week's Daily Campus sports roundtable, our group of writers aim to discuss which is the most unbreakable record in sports.

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ADAM WAINWRIGHT AND YADIER
MOLINA'S 328 GAMES AS A BATTERY

With Wainwright on the bump and Molina behind the dish, the St. Louis Cardinals combined for a 213-115 record. The .649 winning percentage, which spanned 16 seasons, is the best by a single battery in league history. As teammates, the two career Cardinals won three World Series titles, 11 Gold Gloves and made 13 All-Star Games. Beyond Albert Pujols and his 469 home runs in the Gateway City, Molina and Wainwright defined a generation of St. Louis baseball. When those three left the field together in October 2022, it marked the official end of what I believe will be the last battery that will spend over 200 games together in Major League Baseball history. Because of the free agency and trade markets, it has become less likely that a player will spend their career with one franchise. Big-market teams might be a different story, but with how often they are in win-now mode, dynamic duos are at a greater risk of breaking up. Molina and Wainwright's impressive record as a battery might stand forever as a result.

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EMMITT SMITH'S 18,355
CAREER RUSHING YARDS

It was a big deal when Emmitt Smith broke Chicago Bears legend Walter Payton's record of 16,726 rushing yards in 2002, but Smith didn't stop there. He kept going for another two and a half seasons and finished his career well above Payton's record. Since Smith retired, the closest any player has gotten to his record was Frank Gore, who finished over 2,000 yards shy of Smith's record. Additionally, the NFL has changed significantly since Smith set his record. Running backs aren't emphasized as much as they were in the 1990s and 2000s. This became evident this past offseason when running backs such as Saquon Barkley and Josh Jacobs couldn't get long-term contracts after impressive seasons in 2022. Most running backs these days don't play for as long as Smith and especially not at the high level that Smith was able to perform at for his entire career. Unless there is a significant change in the way running backs are utilized, which is highly unlikely, this is a record that will probably never be broken.

by Connor Sargeant
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RICKEY HENDERSON'S 1,406
CAREER STOLEN BASES

Rickey Henderson was a menace on the basepaths, stealing over 100 bases in a season on three separate occasions. Not to mention, his 1,406 stolen bags are an all-time best. Ronald Acuña Jr. tore up the basepaths this past season, stealing 73 bases and winning the 2023 National League MVP. The 26-year-old has stolen 180 bases in his career. Unless Acuña Jr. can keep this pace for the next 17 years, Henderson's record is safe. To put into context how ridiculous this number truly is, Lou Brock is second all-time in this regard with 938 bases stolen. Yes, Henderson is very fast. However, his reign of terror came in an era when pitchers were not pumping it 100 mph on the regular, and catchers did not have arms as strong as today. I would be astonished if any player today eclipses the 1,000 stolen base mark. Even then, they still have 407 bases to go to be the last one standing.

by Evan Rodriguez
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JERRY RICE'S 22,895
RECEIVING YARDS

As arguably the greatest receiver of all time, Jerry Rice certainly has the accolades to back that up. As a three-time Super Bowl champion, 10-time First Team All-Pro and many more, it's impossible to argue the greatness of this legend. On top of all of these accolades, Rice accumulated 22,895 career receiving yards, which is unheard of for an NFL receiver. Due to the longevity of the former Niner's career, which spanned 19 years, he was able to completely separate himself from the pack. This record is so unbelievable that the next closest player, Larry Fitzgerald, is still over 5,000 yards behind and retired in 2020. It's going to take the perfect set of circumstances and incredible longevity to even get close to Rice's numbers and even then, that player may still fall short. That is how ludicrous he was on the football field.

by Stratton Stave
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OLD HOSS RADBOURN'S 60
PITCHING WINS IN 1883

While I did consider going with Randy Johnson's record of birds obliterated in a game, I decided to go with a safer option of Old Hoss Radbourn's absurd number of wins in 1883. Say what you want about the validity of these numbers, I believe them. To keep Radbourn's story brief, he was one of two pitchers rostered on the Providence Grays, but his counterpart was released from the team after verbally abusing the coach while intoxicated. Mind you, this happened in the seventh inning of a game. Radbourn stepped up in an effort to keep the team together, starting 40 of the Grays' last 43 games with 36 wins in that span. He finished the season with 73 complete games and managed to secure the league's Triple Crown with an ERA of 1.38. His season win total was 60, which is absurd by today's standards. As per Baseball Prospectus, no pitcher has started more than 37 contests, making the odds that one would reach 60 wins extremely and virtually impossible. I'll take Radbourn's record over anyone else's listed above.



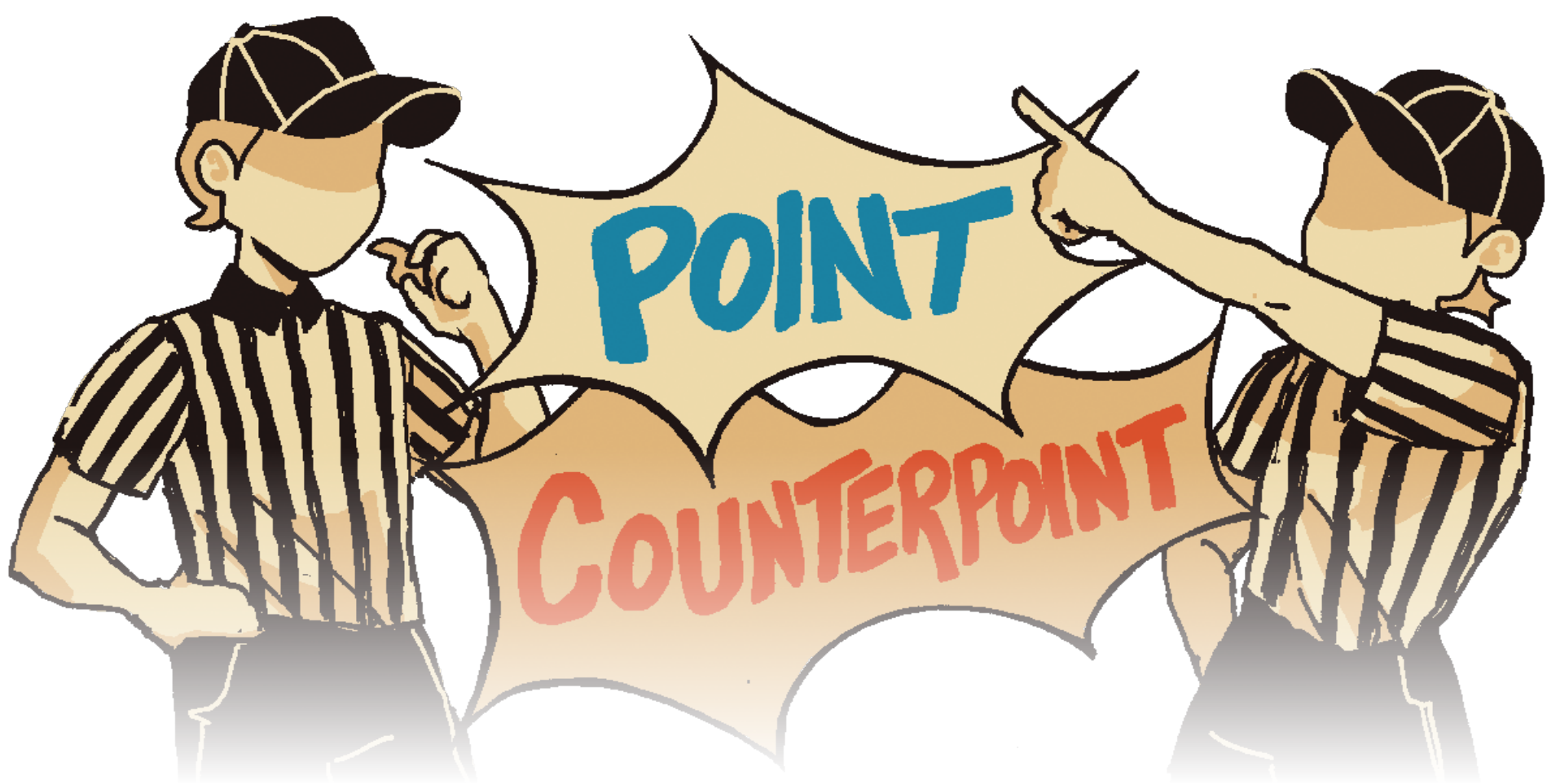
CARTOON BY HALEIGH SCHMIDT, ASSOCIATE ARTIST EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Sports

Photo of the Day | Husky Hockey



UConn women's hockey reaches a stalemate against Vermont with a score of 0-0 at Toscano Ice Forum on Jan. 28, 2024. Their record is now 17-6-3 this season.
PHOTO BY SKYLER KIM, PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS



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

Who would win a 3-point contest: Sabrina Ionescu or Stephen Curry?

by **Sam Calhoun**,
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There is under a month until the NBA All-Star Weekend, where the best players will take the court in Indianapolis and put on a show. For the highly coveted All-Star Saturday Night, the best 3-point shooters in the world will face off against each other in hopes of being crowned the strongest in the world from downtown. New York Liberty guard Sabrina Ionescu put the basketball world on notice when she finished with 37 points in the WNBA 3-Point Shooting Contest, a record for both the WNBA and the NBA. On the flip side, Golden State Warriors superstar Stephen Curry is widely regarded as the greatest 3-point shooter in NBA history, holding the record for the most 3-pointers made all-time.

In this edition of Point/Counterpoint, campus correspondent Juliana Bravo and staff

writer Sam Calhoun debate who would win the 3-point contest that is set to occur in mid-February.

Juliana: To really prove why Sabrina Ionescu is going to win the 3-point contest, here are some statistics. At the 2023 All-Star Weekend, Ionescu scored a historic 37 points in the 3-point contest, setting a new WNBA and NBA record. She missed just two shots, one bucket from the corner and another down the middle. Her other shots went in easily because once she's in the zone, she is all net.

But her 3-point ability isn't limited to the All-Star Weekend. Ionescu led the 2023 WNBA season shooting 44.8% in 3-pointers with a total of 128. In games where she is up against a tough defense, she's able to make threes look easy. In the 2023 season, Ionescu made six 3-pointers against the Las Vegas Aces in just one game. She also made six in another game and five later in the season in a rematch against Las Vegas. This was when the Aces were ranked second in defense, just behind the Liberty. On the court, she wastes no time with

her offense. Ionescu knows exactly what to do when she's passed the ball, and for her, those are threes.

Sam: I am not doubting Sabrina Ionescu's ability to shoot from long range. However, against Stephen Curry, the greatest 3-point shooter of all time, I don't think she will hold a candle against the future Hall-of-Famer. Curry is a two-time NBA 3-Point Contest champion, with wins in 2015 and 2021. The best performance the four-time NBA champion posted in those contests was in the first round of his most recent win, putting up 31 points.

Not only has Curry passed Ray Allen for the most 3-pointers made in NBA history, but he has a lead of 604 3-pointers over the former UConn Husky. The only current player even remotely close to Curry is James Harden, who has hit 2,860 3-pointers over the course of his legendary career. During his 2015-2016 MVP season, Curry made 402 3-pointers in 79 games, which is the most in a season ever. He made roughly 45.4% of his shots from behind the arc that season and made

roughly five each game on average. The nine-time All-Star has led the NBA in 3-pointers made seven times since the 2012-2013 season.

Juliana: Yes, Curry is known for his 3-point shot. He arguably changed the NBA offense and currently leads the league in the most 3-pointers ever. However, when looking at Curry's recent stats, it doesn't match up to Ionescu. Curry currently makes 40.3% of his 3-pointers for the 2023-2024 season. This is almost 5% less than what Ionescu made. Last season, he hit 42.7% of his threes and was inactive for a good portion of the season due to rehabilitation, but he's still down by 2.1% compared to Ionescu's 2023 season.

In Curry's 3-point contest win at the 2021 NBA All-Star Weekend, he made just 77% of his shots. While that's impressive, Ionescu made a record-breaking 92% of her shots at the WNBA 3-Point Contest.

Curry's 14-year-long career is undoubtedly going to consist of more threes than Ionescu's 4-year-long career. However, if we look at Ionescu's college career, we can see that she didn't

just start making threes out of nowhere. At Oregon, she made 42.2% of her 3-pointers in her four-year college career. She also made the top 10 in average 3-pointers made in a game in the Pac-12 conference each year of her college career.

Sam: I understand that Ionescu's career is a lot shorter than Curry's. However, Curry's shooting ability can be dated back to his days at Davidson. In his three years as a Wildcat, he put up a career average of 41% from downtown. During the 2007-2008 season, he made 162 shots from long-range, averaging 4.5 per game. The latter number broke the single-season NCAA record for sophomore 3-pointers made per game.

The NBA 3-point line, along with the ball, is a lot bigger than the regulation size in the WNBA. Curry's shots are at least two feet farther than Ionescu's shots due to the difference in the 3-point line. With that being said, I'm excited to watch the competition between these two sharpshooters during All-Star Weekend.

MEN'S BASKETBALL:

HUSKIES DUEL WITH FRIARS IN EVENING GAMPEL SHOWDOWN

by **Evan Rodriguez**
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It's time to get back to Gampel Pavilion for some UConn men's basketball action as the Huskies prepare for an exciting showdown with the Providence Friars on Wednesday.

Both programs are coming into this matchup on massive highs. After Providence got revenge against former head coach Ed Cooley in a blockbuster matchup against Georgetown at Amica Mutual Pavilion, they will head into Storrs with plenty of momentum. While this team sits near the bottom of the Big East conference, it's not time to sleep on coach Kim English.

You can't speak about this program without mentioning Devin Carter. Currently averaging a whopping 18.6 points per contest, the South Carolina transfer has been playing like a First-Team All-Big East player. After losing star Bryce Hopkins for the entire season, English has needed someone to step up in his absence and Carter has certainly done so, plus more. He leads the Friars in points, rebounds, assists and steals ahead of this con-

test. While the Miami native has been an important member of this team since his arrival via the transfer portal last season, his game has evolved and he's going to give this Huskies roster plenty of issues on both sides of the ball.

Then there's Josh Oduro, the man in the middle for Providence. The 6-foot-9 senior has also played a big part in helping to fill the absence of Hopkins in the front court with a team-leading 1.6 blocks per game. On the offensive end, he's picked up 14.8 points per game and is the second-leading rebounder behind Carter in the starting lineup. Expect him to create some problems in the paint for Connecticut.

Both Jayden Pierre and Davonte "Ticket" Gaines have remained mainstays in the starting lineup and each have been massively important pieces of this Providence squad.

Throughout the season, the Friars have not done the best with shooting from beyond the arc, so nearly 50% of their points come from 2-pointers. That's been one of the biggest strengths in their offense, as the program owns the 19th-highest 2-point percentage in college basketball. However,

the biggest asset with this team is their defense, and their defensive efficiency rating of 93.8 certainly proves that, good for the ninth-best mark in the country.

A top offense and defense going at each other makes a great college basketball matchup. While the odds certainly aren't in the favor of the away team with the way that this Huskies team operates inside of Gampel Pavilion, English and his squad are certainly not going to make it easy for Dan Hurley. While the Friars have certainly had their struggles, they have been able to take down teams like Seton Hall at home without Kadary Richmond and have stayed competitive with teams like St. John's on the road.

In year one of the English era in Friartown, it should certainly be an exciting matchup to watch with Connecticut hosting their Bleed Blue game. While it may not be \$2 Beer Night like last season's matchup or feature famous Ed Cooley quotes, the modern rivalry between these two teams should still serve fans with an exciting game.

If you can't make it to Storrs for the 8:30p.m. tip, you can catch the game on Fox Sports 1.



UConn beats Xavier on Sunday afternoon at the XL Center by a score of 99-56. UConn's next big matchup comes on Wednesday night against Providence. PHOTO BY JORDAN ARNOLD, ASSOCIATE PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Women's Tennis: Huskies to host Fairfield for second match of the season

by **Caleb Cook**
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After a resounding 7-0 victory last weekend against Merrimack, the UConn women's tennis team has the opportunity to keep their hot start going. On Wednesday, the Huskies will welcome the Fairfield Stags to Magic Lincer Tennis Academy in Manchester, Connecticut in what has historically been a very favorable matchup for UConn.

Matchup History

UConn and Fairfield are no strangers to each other on the court as they've matched up eight total times since the 2009-2010 season. The Huskies have come out victorious in all eight of those meetings, outscoring Fairfield 48-7 in terms of individual singles and doubles matches. Most recently, the Stags traveled to Manchester in early February 2023. That match finished 6-1 in UConn's favor thanks to some great performances by sophomore Cameron Didion and juniors Isabel Petri Bere and Olivia Wright. All three won their singles matches in straight sets en route to an undefeated overall singles performance.

What to Expect

UConn is returning all their key players from the fall season, including junior Maria

Constantinou who is coming off a 6-3, 6-1 victory last week against senior Nikala Tuffaneli of Merrimack. Last season, Constantinou opened play with six straight singles wins and is now 1-0 to start the off the spring. She also added a 6-1 doubles victory as she paired with senior Nansi Toskova to take down senior Raya Parker Johnson and sophomore Jordan Phillips. Wright is coming off a 10-7 overall singles record playing at the first singles position and won her first match in straight sets (6-4, 6-3) last week. With all the Huskies starting off in great form, a ninth straight victory against Fairfield is looking like a strong possibility.

Players to Watch

While Constantinou and Wright bring skill and experience, two freshmen, Victoria Matos (10-6 overall singles record) and Caroline Hinshaw (10-5 overall singles record), burst onto the scene in the fall. They came up with some big wins when the more experienced players were struggling and contributed to the Merrimack victory by each winning a singles and doubles match. They can take their games to the next level in the



The University of Connecticut women's tennis team is set to host the second match of 2024 at Magic Lincer Tennis Club PHOTO BY SKYLER KIM, PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

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

spring and will be the ones to watch on Wednesday. Petri Bere also showed some big improvements from her sophomore season and led the way in singles play, finishing with a team best 12-4 record in the fall.

For Fairfield, graduate student Francesca Karman and sophomore Sarah Liu both made the All-MAAC Doubles First Team last year and will

be back again for the Stags. Liu also had the second-most overall singles wins for Fairfield in the fall with 11, finishing behind only Lize-Alet Morkel who has since graduated. She also finished with an impressive 10-2 doubles record when partnered up with now-graduated Paulina Bakaite. While Liu and Karman's returns will be a big boost for Fairfield, losing

Morkel and Bakaite means there's 48 overall singles and doubles wins that'll be missing. Sophomore Meg Harding has a chance to make up for some of those wins, as she's currently tied with Liu for the lead in singles wins early on in the season.

The match between the Huskies and Stags will take place on Wednesday, Jan. 31 at 1:00 p.m.



Sports

Women's Basketball: No. 11 Huskies look to bounce back against Villanova

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As we progress farther and farther from UConn women's basketball's most recent national championship in 2016, the levels of parity only increase. The women's basketball world is getting deeper, as teams ranked lower are getting closer in talent to those at the top. This past week, the No. 11 UConn Huskies fell victim to this increased depth.

After walloping a sliding Marquette squad, they suited up at home against No. 14 Notre Dame, who were recently swept by No. 21 Syracuse. They were up by 12 points in the second quarter, but completely fell apart after that. Every time something would go right, they abandoned it, which did not mix well with their surprisingly poor defense.

Part of the rough effort on both ends came about because starting point guard Nika Mühl was in foul trouble for much of the game and fouled out just seconds into the fourth quarter. She anchors the defense and helps the offense flow. If she was not in foul trouble, perhaps star freshman Hannah Hidalgo would not have notched 34 points for Notre Dame, but there's no way to know.

In all, it was not an impressive performance. It was a glaring demonstration of how the Huskies can be very beatable when things go awry. While they still do have what it takes to win in March, the line they will need to walk to get there is thin. However, this Villanova game gives



No. 8 UConn women's basketball sees their 13-game winning streak end with an 82-67 loss against No. 15 Notre Dame at Gampel Pavilion in Storrs, Conn. on Jan. 27, 2024. This was their first loss at home this season.
PHOTO BY SKYLER KIM, PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

them the opportunity to get back on track - and they shouldn't have much trouble doing so.

The Wildcats have had a bizarre season in their first year post-Maddie Siegrist. They've shown flashes with a big victory over Marquette, but have struggled to win consistently. Villanova dropped games to St. Joe's, Columbia and current No. 25 Princeton. After losing to St. John's to open up their conference slate, they picked up five straight victories, placing in the Big East top three. However, they've lost two of their last three and this UConn game is not going to be easy.

The team does have some star power in the form of

Lucy Olsen. Once the Robin to Siegrist's Batman, Olsen has now taken the reins as one of the premier players in the country. Averaging 23.7 points per game, she ranks sixth in the nation in scoring while leading her Wildcats in assists. Her 3-point shooting has taken a 6% nosedive thanks to increased volume, but she still is very much a threat from deep. Olsen has been the team's leading scorer in 70% of their games, which is impressive individually, though the team lacks any other consistent scorers.

As a squad, Villanova hits just 30% of their 3s, which places them in the bottom half of the country. Adding to their offensive troubles, Olsen is their only player who averages double-

digits. Along with their scoring issues, they also aren't a very good rebounding team. Christina Dalce is in the top 20 nationally on the glass, but that doesn't lead to success across the group. The Wildcats are in the bottom third nationally in the rebounding margin, which is great for the Huskies. Connecticut has lost the rebounding battle in each of their four defeats by a combined 33 boards.

That will be one of the keys to the game. If forward Aaliyah Edwards can dominate on the boards, then UConn won't have a difficult time winning. Putting the ball in the hoop has not been an issue for the Canadian, but she has been a less consistent rebounder. The past two games

have been excellent in that department, as she's combined for 23. It'll be the rest of the team that'll need to help out, as Edwards is the only active player with more than five per game.

The biggest thing for the Huskies will be getting back into a winning mentality. Losing in the fashion they did at home is not easy. If they can put together a feel-good win, that would do wonders for their psyche. Abandoning their issues from Saturday would put them back in the right headspace as they begin to gear up for their matchup against No. 1 South Carolina.

The contest will tip off at 6:30 p.m. and can be viewed on SNY.



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WHAT TO KEEP AN EYE ON THIS WEEK		INSTAGRAM OF THE DAY	TWEETS OF THE DAY
UConn SCOREBOARD vs. 99 56 Men's Basketball Sunday	Upcoming Games vs. Men's Basketball 8:30 p.m. Wednesday Storrs, Conn.	 @rxst601 Saturday sunrise @uconn By sony a7riii	Big Game Boomer @BigGameBoomer UConn is now the best team in the country,
	vs. Women's Basketball 6:30 p.m. Wednesday Villanova, Pa.		binp @the_binp saw someone say that ron desantis smiles like the 1959 uconn huskies logo
			12 🤔 @probablyatypo uconn hoops back tomorrow everybody cheer!
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