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Dodd Center Panel reflects on 75-Year legacy of the U.N. Genocide Convention

by John Haslun
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On Wednesday, Feb. 8, in the University of Connecticut's Dodd Center, Dodd Human Rights Impact Programs hosted a panel reflecting on the legacy of the United Nations Genocide Convention. Titled "75 Years of the Genocide Convention: A Promise Unfulfilled," panelists tackled the question of whether the Genocide Convention's promise to end the practice and hold its perpetrators accountable had been fulfilled.

Three experts in human rights and genocide studies were present on the panel, including Alice Nderitu, a U.N. Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide, Richard Wilson, a law and anthropology professor at UConn and a member of the Hate Crimes Advisory Council of Connecticut, and the Director of Dodd Human Rights Impact Programs and the force behind the event's organization, James Waller.

The event was moderated by Sara Silverstein, an Assistant Professor in UConn's Department of History and faculty member at the Gladstein Family Human Rights Institute.

Panelists expressed optimism about the legacy of the U.N. Genocide Convention and its continued role in genocide prevention worldwide.

"The things we encourage in genocide prevention: good governance, equitable distribution of resources, these are value-added things," said Waller, noting that regardless of the effectiveness of these specific measures in preventing violence, they remain valuable measures in ensuring stability.

"[There have been] case studies where countries on the verge of mass violence or genocide have been pulled back from the edge of that cliff."

Waller places the concept of "process" at the heart of genocide prevention strategies. Understanding and locating signs of the processes that lead to genocide allows for preventative measures to be taken early that can preemptively halt violence.

"The dehumanization, the restriction on civil rights, the restrictions on economic rights that happen in the beginning," said Waller, "if we see all of those things through the lens of process, those are opportunities for us to step in and prevent something that can be considered genocidal."

Signs of a pre-genocidal process are not hard to spot either, the panelists noted, and those amid one themselves are acutely aware of the disturbances around them.

"After the violence in Kenya, when we were going around interviewing people with the Human Rights Commission, they knew that violence was coming, but they could not tell when," Nderitu recalled, "People can feel where there's a disturbance... that's the power of response."

"[The genocides in] Rwanda and Bosnia were not hard to predict," Wilson noted, "In Bosnia, the genocide in Srebrenica, the killing of 7,000 Muslim men came after... massive ethnic atrocities and religious-based violence."

Following an active outbreak of violence, military intervention for humanitarian purposes is key to genocide prevention, Wilson argued, but it requires the buy-in of great powers. Roméo Dallaire, force commander of the Rwandan peacekeepers, estimated it would take only 5,000 troops from an international coalition to prevent the Rwandan Genocide, troops that then-U.S. President Bill Clinton was not willing to commit.

Panelists touched upon hate speech and harmful rhetoric

as important factors in the lead-up to genocide, primarily in their capacity to dehumanize the "other" and justify extreme violence.

"Hate speech provides the momentum for stereotypes to become prejudices," Nderitu said, "The mindset of 'this person is not a human being, he is a cockroach'... we saw the intense education... we saw husbands killing wives."

After the fact, Wilson noted, hate speech and genocide denial become a tool of political projects aiming to downplay the actions and revive the legacy of the genocidal faction.

"In Guatemala, General Ríos Montt was convicted for genocide," said Wilson, "but there was a full-scale genocide denial campaign for the far-right and the military, continuing to this day."

"I see genocide denial not only about denying the past but about building a very nasty, violent political project in the present."

Amid an ongoing genocide case at the International Court of Justice against Israel, submitted by the South African government, panelists addressed questions related to the definitions of genocide and concerns about the politicization of the term.

"Debates over genocide definitions have always been here

since the beginning," Nderitu said, "I think it's healthy for this debate to continue."

For an action to be considered genocide, clear intent and active plans of genocide from government or military authorities must be documented, intent Nderitu admits is "very difficult" to prove.

Wilson said he didn't think the ICJ had evidence of specific intent in the case against Israel but encouraged the audience to read the report for themselves and make up their own minds.

"I think you'd be terribly discouraged by how the word has become weaponized, instrumentalized, politicalized," said Waller, "We need to be careful with adhering to the legal definition of genocide, and if something is not genocide, that does not mean it's fine. Genocide is not the only form of suffering, and it's not the only form of the suffering of civilians."

When Sudan was found not guilty of genocide during its 2003-05 War in Darfur, Waller recalls that there were celebrations on the streets of the capital despite the country being charged with a whole laundry list of other crimes.

"We've almost given genocide too much weight," said Waller.

Local radio station hopeful in coming to Mansfield in the next few years

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A new local commercial free radio station is in the works with hopes of provide the greater Mansfield area with a honest news source.

With a tentative name of WHKA 87.7 FM, the station is in early development, according to co-director Tom Stormfield. The station is currently awaiting approval of a construction permit, a type of temporary license, by the Federal Communications Commission. Stormfield expressed that windows to file for a new radio station only happen once every few years, so when the FCC announced this period over the summer, he and his colleagues jumped at the opportunity.

Although applications are not guaranteed approval, as ac-

ording to the FCC website, it is a very competitive process, Stormfield is very hopeful that WHKA will be approved soon. Once granted a permit, the station will have three years to "construct facilities," according to Stormfield, which will consist of getting on the air, raising funds and connecting with the community. If all goes well, the FCC will grant the station a license.

The station will reach the Connecticut towns of Mansfield, Chaplin and Willington and will be "ultra-focused on the world of community," according to Stormfield. The station will feature news, weather and music that will be community-based.

"When you watch the TV or read the newspaper, they are probably talking about Hartford or New York City and not the exact local weather, so that

coverage will be community-focused," said Stormfield.

Stormfield expressed that the station hopes to emphasize being a commercial-free source of honest media. "We just want to share commercial-free media with the community. There's a lot of all-profit commercial media out there, and we want to be for the opposite. We want to be an unfiltered, honest source of what's happening that people can trust," Stormfield said.

If successful, Stormfield and the radio station hope to work closely with the University of Connecticut community. The station welcomes the involvement of UConn students as they "drive what goes on in the community."

Stormfield went on further to say that the station hopes to represent communities that are not highly represented in the media, such as students,



A photo of the WHUS radio station. It is home to UConn's Alternative radio station and hosts podcasts and sports talks as well. PHOTO BY EMMA MEIDINGER, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

people of color and the older generations.

Although WHKA is very early in its development, it is hopeful of its success and hopes to benefit the UConn community in the future. The station

has sent a survey to the UConn community in hopes of getting a jumpstart on the project.

"We know it will be a while, but it is important that we start the process now," said Stormfield.

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News

NO RESTORATION IN SIGHT FOR HISTORIC UCONN DAIRY BARN

by **Gabriel Duffany**

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Despite the persistent demands of alumni from the University of Connecticut's Ratcliffe Hicks School of Agriculture, there are "no plans in the short term to renovate" the old yellow barn beside Route 195, UConn Spokesperson Stephanie Reitz said.

Awareness for the barn's "dilapidated" condition broke in April of last year when self-proclaimed UConn 'Aggie' and class of 1981 Ratcliffe Hicks alumnus Robert T. Molleur published a strongly worded letter in The Daily Campus expressing his concerns.

"You'd think with all the prestige, endowments and funding UConn has garnered, especially by winning multiple NCAA sports titles, they'd have the wherewithal and means to preserve the old yellow dairy barn on Storrs Road," Molleur said.

The structure holds special importance to the former agriculture students, who once knew it as a lively home for their learning stock.

"I worked and lived in that barn, in the old herdsman quarters, while attending the Ratcliffe Hicks School of Agriculture, and I know its soul

personally," Molleur wrote.

The barn's history spans a period far longer than the 40 years since Molleur was a student, originating as property of the Connecticut Agricultural College with its construction in 1911. The site's landmark status is an aspect UConn seeks to protect, ensuring that prospective plans for development in the area "preserve their historic character," per the Campus Master Plan.

Among the plans envisioned for the historic barn is for it to potentially house the UConn Dairy Bar upon relocation. While alumni like Molleur commented on this plan as a "good thing," university decision-makers are unsure when the funds will be available to make any course of action a reality.

"The yellow dairy barn is one of UConn's many treasures, and we appreciate its important history and the potential for future uses. It has been architecturally stabilized, but it is not currently in use and there are no plans in the short term to renovate it," responded Reitz in a recent email.

The statement is nearly identical to a UConn release in May last year, suggesting that talks surrounding the barn's future have remained stagnant.



The Kellogg Dairy Center is a free-stall facility capable of accommodating over 100 milking animals. The Kellogg Dairy Center was built in 1991, funded by a bequest from Frances Osborne Kellogg, a woman industrialist and dairy farmer from Derby, CT.
PHOTO BY JORDAN ARNOLD, ASSOCIATE PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

The antique barn is not immune to the budgetary issues permeating UConn, with "no source of funding" located to service the building, said Reitz.

"For now, the University's limited capital funds are focused on the projects currently in the planning, design, and construction pro-

cesses, most of which are connected to UConn's academic and student housing needs," Reitz continued.

Although the barn may serve as a monument to fond memories and historic pride for many within the UConn community, the absence of vocal concern from current students and the deficit plagu-

ing university finance have paralyzed the site's development.

"It's a dire shame how they've let that historical barn get run down. Please save it," exhorted Molleur, who encourages "fellow concerned citizens" to share their thoughts with UConn President Radenka Maric.



Photos of the Kellogg's dairy center that was built in 1991. The KDC houses the Department of Animal Science's milking cows in its nationally recognized dairy herd.
PHOTO BY JORDAN ARNOLD, ASSOCIATE PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

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The Daily Campus Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Nudge
- 5 Photocopier unit
- 9 ___ Day: tree-planting occasion
- 14 "The Real" co-host Love
- 15 Ill at ___: troubled
- 16 "Make like a tree and ___!"
- 17 In the thick of
- 18 Sunday comics locale
- 20 Shaggy's sidekick, familiarly
- 22 Season for the 2024 Olympiques
- 23 Brita rival
- 24 Pull-apart breakfast treat
- 28 That, in Tijuana
- 30 "Russian Doll" co-creator Poehler
- 31 "There's ___ in team"
- 32 Built
- 34 Conger catcher
- 36 Did one's civic duty
- 37 Sign outside a new store, or what the first words of 18-, 24-, 52-, and 59-Across can do?
- 42 Language of India that derives from Sanskrit
- 43 Cuba y Cozumel
- 44 All together
- 47 Go through dots like Pac-Man, e.g.
- 48 Amiss
- 51 Happy Greek cry
- 52 Broadway number that brings the house down
- 55 Turn ___ dime
- 57 Endeavour astronaut Jemison
- 58 29-Down, for example
- 59 High roller
- 63 Corgis and collies
- 64 Like seven candles on the first night of Hanukkah
- 65 Volcano associated with Hephaestus

- 66 Litter's littlest
- 67 Fitbit units
- 68 Tragic fate
- 69 Online artisan marketplace

DOWN

- 1 Life-saving donation
- 2 Enemies-to-lovers movie genre
- 3 Like some bagels
- 4 Got a C, say
- 5 NHL whistle blower
- 6 ___ de parfum
- 7 Ed of "Elf"
- 8 Protégé
- 9 Tour de France mountain
- 10 Gather in the fields
- 11 Boulangerie loaf
- 12 Supervises
- 13 Hi-___ photo
- 19 Date component
- 21 Health insurance, paid time off, etc.
- 25 "Here goes nothing" hashtag
- 26 Oktoberfest quaff
- 27 One straying from the norm
- 29 FanDuel stat
- 33 Downsides

- 34 Exo- opposite
- 35 Cleanup hitter's stat
- 37 Pro Football Hall of Fame location
- 38 Zero in on
- 39 Get wrapped up in a sticky situation
- 40 Doesn't waste
- 41 Bedframe part
- 45 "Alas ..."
- 46 Gave temporarily
- 48 Say "I pass"

- 49 Pretends
- 50 Snowman with a magic hat
- 53 Joined with
- 54 San Diego slugger
- 56 Small taste of liquid
- 59 Magic vehicle for Ms. Frizzle
- 60 TD's six
- 61 Brian of Roxy Music
- 62 Male sheep

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'VULTURES 1'

YE AND TY DOLLA \$IGN'S FIRST INSTALLMENT MAY NOT BE ENOUGH

by Xander Serrano
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Delayed release dates and media controversy leading up to Ye (formerly Kanye West) and Ty Dolla \$ign's new album, "Vultures 1," have prevented the album from release, but it finally dropped over the weekend. Aside from the long-awaited release from the well-acclaimed rapper, there is no doubt that Ye has been in the spotlight for reasons not related to music. The Chicago-born rapper made headlines with his antisemitic remarks, drawing hatred amongst his fanbase and the American people. Regardless, the three-year gap from Ye's last album, "Donda," has had the hip-hop world anticipating new work from the artist — especially after teaming up with the well-known R&B artist Ty Dolla \$ign. This is not Ye's first time teaming up with another artist to put out an album. In 2018, Kid Cudi and Ye released "Kids See Ghosts" with one of the high points of the record titled "4th Dimension." So, coming off the pairing of Kid Cudi's baritone sound and contemporary style, pairing Dolla \$ign's soulful and full sound, there was no doubt Ye would put together a piece of art.

The album first opens up with the track "Stars." An elevated gospel sound eases listeners into the record. Following the opener are "Keys To My Life" and "Paid" with the two artists on the track. Putting a spin on the iconic lyric from the hit song "Roxanne" by The Police, Ye belts out, "Roxanne, you don't have to stop at the red light," reinforcing in the outro on "Friday night lets all get paid" which is the style of refrain Ye and Dolla \$ign do not shy away from using throughout the album, especially on the fifth track, "Back to Me." Tracks like

this share a similar energy to Ye's older album, "The Life of Pablo," particularly the song "Fade," featuring none other than Ty Dolla \$ign and Post Malone.

North West featured with her father on "Talking," calling herself "Miss Westie." During her verse on the song, The 10-year-old warned the world, "Don't tryna test me / It's gonna get messy." Then, the song takes on a completely different beat with Ty Dolla \$ign singing about his daughter and guiding her to not make the same mistakes he made as an adult.

"Do It" kicks in with the uncredited feature of great Nipsey Hussle and Dolla \$ign behind him, taking the chorus throughout with a YG feature at the end. From the start, listeners should not expect a concept album, but instead, every song acts alone and could easily be thrown in a shuffle at a club.

Dolla \$ign shows his strengths on the ninth track, "Burn," as the rapper/singer brings a soul-funk sound using the sample "Love Me or Leave Me" from the Band of Thieves throughout the chorus. As Ye comes in on this song, his flow goes back to the days of "Old Kanye," as cliché as it may sound.

A widely recognized sample on "Vultures 1" is Donna Summer's 1977 hit, "I Feel Love," used on "Good (Don't Die)." Summer's cho-

rus was altered and mixed to fit this track's rich sound.

Next on the track list is a familiar sample Ye used for his critically acclaimed "Bound 2" off the 2013 album "Yeezus;" the sound once again pays homage to the Ponderosa Twins Plus One with their song "Bound" fitting them in with a deeper tone before Dolla \$ign begins "Problematic" and the two exchange alternate verses.

Dolla \$ign and Ye close out their debut album with "King," featuring samples from the electronic dance artist S.Maharba's "Stems" on the hook and Ozzy Osbourne's "Crazy Train" on the vocals. Ye makes it a point to let people know he is the "King" regardless of what is said in the media about him being "Crazy, bipolar, antisemitic." The rapper exclaims in the clos-

ing track, "King," "They thought the headlines was my kryptonite." The message is clear: No matter how often you try to take Mr. West down, it is impossible to keep him quiet.

"Vultures 1" speaks to both Ye and Dolla \$ign's versatility as artists. It is a culmination of different sounds throughout the entire album, so defining it as having one singular mood is difficult. While the whole album might not blow listeners away from front to back and will not stand out in the discography of Dolla \$ign or Ye, the world will need a "Vultures 2" to decide.

"Vultures 1" is out now on all music platforms.

RATING:
4/5

Beware, the Netflix original 'LOVER, STALKER, KILLER' is nightmare fuel

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If you're a true crime fan, the Netflix original, "Lover, Stalker, Killer," is for you. The film follows the true story of Dave Kroupa and his experience with a former lover turned psychotic stalker in the early 2010s. The release was directed by Sam Hobkinson and premiered Friday, Feb. 9, quickly overtaking first place in "Movies Today" on Netflix the day of its release. The plot consists heavily of twists and turns. Whenever an outcome seems obvious, it is debunked within the next few scenes.

Kroupa initially met his offender through a dating app,

which is where the obsessive behavior sparks. The story is retold through interviews with Kroupa, his ex-wife and law enforcement officials who worked on the case. This is paired with evidence, photos, videos and reenactment scenes in which Kroupa makes an appearance by playing himself, making the story easy to follow. The combination of film and documentary styles makes the storyline engaging for audiences. The storytelling is strong with the use of flashbacks that recreate specific scenarios.

A unique aspect of the film that is uncommon for documentaries is the insight into other characters' lives. The detectives speak about their life experiences during the period

outside of their work. This gives the understanding that these are real people balancing life and an excruciating four year long investigation.

From a production standpoint, the film suffers from over-dramatized music and lighting. Yet, I would argue that it fits the narrative and the emotion it attempts to evoke. This kind of cinematic value also grasps audiences and makes a documentary alluring. The plot may be predictable for some, but the creative narration diverts your imagination from figuring it out through intentional storytelling. In addition, the film emphasizes certain characters to confuse audiences. Descriptions of people cue hints as to their

motives, but nothing is quite verified until the ending. The constant switch between various accusations makes viewers question the underlying tone of every line of dialogue. It is evident that regardless of what characters say they believed at the time, the answer won't be clear until the final minutes of the documentary. This buildup captivates audiences and helps them better understand the confusing leads detectives deal with.

For those unsure if they can stomach a documentary like this, it's not visually graphic, although disturbing events are described. Alongside this, it's always a bit uncomfortable to know something like this oc-

curred not too long ago. I am someone who loves thrillers with the understanding that they're fiction. True crime such as this can instill a fear of the horrific realities in the world. The depths at which the perpetrator submits to terrorize Kroupa are terrifying. The number of innocent people affected by this tragedy is truly heartbreaking. The film doubles as an eye-opener to the inner workings of criminals as well as entertainment. Likewise, the film shows how expanding technologies can damage society's safety and ease the ability of people to get away with crimes. Viewers may need to think twice before using their beloved dating apps and trusting strangers.

RATING:



'What Happened to the Beach?'

will fuel your anticipation of springtime

by **Karla Perez**
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Indie-pop artist Declan McKenna released his third studio album, "What Happened to the Beach?" on Friday, Feb. 9. In this new release, McKenna follows his pattern of experimenting with new sounds both with his voice and audio effects. This pattern of constantly trying to distinguish his past sound from his new one makes his profile as an artist very unique.

Consistent with his pattern, the album is short, comprising only 12 songs ranging in length from five minutes to less than a minute. The title being a question reflects a theme from his debut album, "What Do You Think About the Car?" Out of his now three released albums, I would say that the vibe of this album is most similar to his first.

Fans got three singles from this album: "Elevator Hum," "Sympathy" and "Nothing Works." Despite this insight, the album still surprised listeners with the springtime tone.

Before diving into the music itself, let's take some time to look at the cover art. The cover features McKenna standing on a field in a suit with pants that are much too short for him — in line with his signature style. McKenna is standing in front of two cows while holding a metal detector. The metal detector seems to be a recurring theme in this era of McKenna's music as it made another appearance on the cover art for the single "Nothing Works" when it was released. The bright colors were also hinted

at when the singles were dropped, as their cover art reflects vibrancy and bold hues.

I'll begin by reviewing the singles for those of you new to the realm of McKenna. The best way I can describe "Elevator Hum" is as a more mellow version of Harry Styles' "Music For a Sushi Restaurant." Not so much in terms of lyrics, but in production. McKenna layers his vocals in the chorus like Styles does in his seemingly minions-inspired sound effects. The tempo is also similar between the two songs. Styles' song provides an energy that motivates the start of a day, whereas McKenna's song would be good to listen to as your day winds down.

You might have heard a snippet of "Sympathy" if you watched the rom-com film "Anyone But You." In this song, McKenna relies more on using different combinations of instruments rather than over-enhancing them with effects. Relying on the integrity of the instruments rather than technology makes this song lively.

If you're a runner, I can confirm that the final single, "Nothing Works," is for you. This is the most upbeat of the three singles and one of the most upbeat, if not the most upbeat, in the whole album. However, despite the tone of the production, this is not necessarily a cheerful song. The lyrics convey McKenna's dilemma between writing what he wants and pleasing others. A common theme in his music is that he comments on social issues and world politics. For some, that's what makes his music so appealing. Yet others, like his label team, are

not fond of it because they do not entirely understand it.

Now we can move on to some of the newer songs. The opening track, "WOBBLE," provides listeners with another reflection from his debut album. In the debut, the opening track, "Humongous," opened with the album's title with the lyric, "Dec, what do you think about the car? / Do you like it?" The first line in "WOBBLE" is also the album's title. The song seems to comment on society's response, or lack thereof, to climate change.

Skipping over to "I Write The News," McKenna uses this song as a call-out to people who ignore prominent social issues such as child labor and drug abuse. McKenna makes references to Kensington, a neighborhood in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, which is nicknamed "Zombieland" or "City of Zombies" because of the astronomically high addiction rate and poverty. McKenna uses this reference to depict how people of power use the unfortunate as stepping stones to get richer.

The final song I'll review the five-minute track "It's an Act." Despite being the longest track on the album, it is sparse in lyrics. McKenna focuses on using instruments and effects to create the dramatics and convey the song's somber tone. The story of this song seems to be about a fickle friendship. The song details a personal experience rather than a social commentary.

Whether you're a long-time fan of McKenna or a first-time listener, this album will not disappoint you. You can stream "What Happened to the Beach?" now wherever you get your music.



ILLUSTRATION BY LEE ERNEST, CONTRIBUTING ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Rating: 5/5

"She Reaches Out to She..."

is not as repetitive as its title

by **James Fitzpatrick**
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Reawakening from her hibernation, singer Chelsea Wolfe released "She Reaches Out to She Reaches out to She" on Friday, Feb. 9. Following in her footsteps from albums such as "Abyss," Wolfe doubles down on the futuristic sound that correlates with the soundtrack of Cyberpunk 2077, appealing to most of her young-adult fanbase except those who know her for her simple acoustic songs. Her singing itself is fairly standard for an album with goth vibes, but her voice is both elevated and tarnished when layered over the trendy soundscape of a digital dystopia.

"Whispers in the Echo Chamber" introduces the listener to a defiant Wolfe harmonizing over the spooky instrumental, throwing the listener into an environment undoubtedly influenced by Billie Eilish's "WHEN WE ALL FALL ASLEEP, WHERE DO WE GO?" before transitioning into a cacophony of guitars and noise, held together by her repeating "more." The combination of her whispered vocal delivery and the fact that this record is also put together by a singular electronic producer, David Andrew Sitek, makes the resemblance between Wolfe and Eilish uncanny. Eilish, and Joji, among other artists comparable to Wolfe during this era of her career are much younger and less experienced, yet they can achieve far more with far less sonically.

Wolfe is never really present in "House of Self-Undoing" as the drum backing takes priority, until the last

minute when her vocal range is put on display, ending with a quiet dissolution and repetition of a phrase once again. The following track fails to offer more but a statement and a question: Her voice is ethereal as it is; does she need echo and distortion to be plastered on her every utterance? That may be an exaggeration, but it would be preferable to have no vocal effects at all, based on the passion felt in her voice from her 2012 hit "Flatlands."

"Tunnel Lights" starts off very promising with disjointed piano chords, and only gets better once it is evident that trip-hop influences this record. Wolfe's crooning shines using this minimalist approach to production that draws inspiration from 90s acts including Portishead and Massive Attack, allowing her singing to stand out and not blend into the mix. It can be argued that the song fails to progress anywhere notable as with the previous tracks, but did it have to? The length of the song did its job of being cathartic and calming, evidence of the idea that not every song created in the vein of electronica needs to contain the repetitive and popular structures found throughout this album and radio at large.

The alternating of a jingling bell, unpredictable bass and Wolfe's murmurs all compete for the listener's attention in "Eyes Like Nightshade." The song may sound overwhelming at first, yet it manages to capture an uptempo ASMR-like experience. Ironically, she has posted full-fledged ASMR renditions of a handful of songs, including the opening song on this album, which is more enjoyable than

the studio version! Anyway, the topic of rest comes into play with the refrain: "I am flying in my sleep," lending to the notion that you should put this song on a sleep playlist if it works for you.

"Salt," another piano-backed track reminiscent of FKA Twigs in her prime, varies between confident and quiet vocal performances, all the while giving a vibe comparable to a late night at the beach. Considering the upward trajectory of this review, this album possesses the rare characteristic of getting better as it goes on. Not being front-loaded makes the latter half of this record much sweeter, notably when humanity starts to escape from the very digitally-produced tracks, such as in "Unseen World." Sporting a tribal atmosphere with the rhythmic banging of a drum, the track progresses exceptionally with swirling strings and a banging melody. Disparate from the stagnate sound of the first few tracks, this one shows that everything criticized thus far can sound exceptional if used in small doses to heighten the stake of the song incrementally.

This sentiment is also true for the woozy and mechanical "Dusk," spontaneously exploding into a bombastic show of guitar distortion that unfortunately drowns out Wolfe's voice, although it still

hits due to the sudden change in dynamics. The songwriting also hits a climax in this finale, describing the mutual dependency of two lovers harrowingly separated by their crumbling empire. While it suffers from similar problems that plague the rest of this album, it is a strong finish.

Although Wolfe has been in the game far longer than her

contemporaries, leaping into music in 2006, she may be hitting a creative wall that is preventing her from pushing the envelope any more than others making similar music. Nonetheless, the standout tracks are phenomenal, while around half the tracks are just acceptable.

Rating: 3.25/5



Chelsea Wolfe's new album, "She Reaches Out to She Reaches Out to She," is now available for streaming. Wolfe posted this in celebration of its release on Friday, Feb. 9.

IMAGE COURTESY OF @CHELSEAWOLFE ON INSTAGRAM



Life

@dailycampuslife

SEX AND SWEETHEARTS: Learning about safer sex with the UConn Sexperts

by Sarah Barker
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On Friday, Feb. 9 the UConn Sexperts put on Sex and Sweethearts in the spirit of Valentine's Day. The event took place in the Student Union where a table was set up and you were able to make condomgrams. Participants created this by taping a condom to a Valentine. There were a variety of condoms to choose from; some colored, some ribbed, something for everyone. Also up for grabs was flavored lubricant. Sexpert Abby Wiersma,

an eighth-semester history major, showed me both an ultra-ribbed condom and a studded condom. She also let me try out some mango lube which was much better than the strawberry I'd had previously tried.

Also included on the table was a giant wheel with different topics relating to sex and relationships. Students could spin the wheel and answer questions pertaining to the category, and if they got it right, they would win a prize. The questions asked were related to relationships, consent and more. Each answer was followed up by an explanation allowing students gain knowledge on things you may

not have known before. It's a judgement-free zone with the Sexperts as they want students to feel comfortable asking questions and learning about safer sex.

They are also holding a contest in which you can guess how many conversation hearts are in a jar. Participating in such gives students a chance to win a prize pack including the candy itself, a SHaW water bottle stuffed with condoms and a bottle of Vush lubricant. If you missed last Friday's event you can go to the Sexual Health Showdown happening on Feb. 12 and enter there!

I asked Wiersma how long she had been with the sexperts, and she responded say-

ing seven semesters. When asked why she wanted to get involved with them she said, "I love the mission of spreading safer sex information. Our goal is to create a sex-positive campus." The sexperts are now hiring and when asked about any requirements to become one she said, "You have to be passionate about safer sex." The sexperts also offer gloveBOXes which are free safer sex boxes. On their website, you pick which box you want, and if you live on campus, it will be delivered to your mailbox. If you live off campus, you can come and pick it up. Abby says, "It's a great service and I wish more people knew about it."

The UConn Sexperts website The UConn Sexperts | Student Health and Wellness gives you all kinds of information. From the application to become a sexpert, to their drop-in hours and even an Ask the Sexperts forum online — which is anonymous for those who have questions but don't want to talk in person. You can learn so much just from their website, but if you go into their office, they can talk to you and a partner or just yourself about any questions you have. With Valentine's Day quickly approaching, check out the sexperts and other Student Health and Wellness services!



Sex & Sweethearts with the UConn Sexperts at the Student Union on Feb. 9, 2024. The UConn Sexperts educated students on safe sex.
PHOTO BY BLAKE SYKES, GRABS PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

SUPER BOWL SOULFUL CELEBRATION BRINGS TOGETHER NFL LEGENDS AND AWARD-WINNING MUSICIANS

by Patrick Boots
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The Super Bowl Soulful Celebration, an annual event that honors the intersection of football and soul music, recently broadcast on CBS stations. The special, which has become a Super Bowl weekend tradition, featured a star-studded lineup of NFL players and award-winning musical artists.

The celebration's founder, Melanie Few, made history as the first Black woman to orchestrate an NFL-sanctioned event during Super Bowl weekend. Her vision of bringing gospel music to the biggest sporting event in the country has resonated with audiences for over two decades. This year's show was no exception, as it featured an all-star lineup of gospel performers, including Mary Mary, Kirk Franklin and Earth, Wind and Fire.

The show kicked off with a high-energy performance by Mary Mary, whose powerful vocals and infectious energy set the tone for the evening. Other highlights included a soulful performance by Marvin Sapp, a rousing gospel choir medley and a hilarious comedy routine by Rickey Smiley.

In between the musical performances, viewers were treat-

ed to inspiring stories from NFL players, coaches and executives about the role this event has played in their lives.

The event is produced by Donnell Williams, a Grammy Award-winning producer and songwriter who has worked with some of the biggest names in the music industry. Williams says that the Super Bowl Soulful Celebration is a unique opportunity to celebrate the power of music and its ability to bring people together.

"Soul music has always been a part of the fabric of American culture," Williams said in a commercial for the show. "It's a genre that speaks to the heart and soul, and it has the power to unite people from all walks of life."

One of the highlights of the evening was the performance by Earth, Wind and Fire. The group electrified the Super Bowl Soulful Celebration stage with their timeless energy and iconic hits. Led by the charismatic Maurice White, the band effortlessly transported the audience back to the golden age of soul and funk. Classics like "September," "Shining Star" and "Sing a Song" always have you dancing, and their set list during this event did not disappoint fans. Their newer tracks like "Guiding Light" showcased their enduring spirit and the soul behind their music.

Soul music and football share a surprising soul connection. Both

emerged from Black communities facing adversity, becoming powerful tools for expression and resistance. Soulful melodies became gameday rituals, from tailgates to locker rooms, with anthems like "Ain't No Mountain High Enough" fueling team spirit. But the link goes deeper. Soul music, with its themes of struggle and triumph, mirrors the narratives of football, creating a shared space for cultural commentary and social change. Whether Marvin Gaye's "A Change is Gonna Come" or Edwin Starr's "War," soul anthems transcended entertainment, reflecting the realities of the times. So next time you hear a soulful tune at the stadium, remember, it's more than just a beat — it's a testament to a powerful bond that speaks volumes about America's cultural journey.

If you're a fan of football, soul music or both, the Super Bowl Soulful Celebration is an enjoyable broadcast to watch and listen to. It's a chance to see some of the biggest names in entertainment come together for a night of music, fun and celebration. Produced by CBS, you can watch the "Super Bowl Soulful Celebration" rerun on CBS (local WFSB channel 3 — Huskyvision channel 3) or on-demand with a Paramount+ subscription.

Rating: 4/5 Soup Bowls



Opinion

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

24-Hour DINEING HALLS

by Youssef Macary
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The University of Connecticut prides itself on taking care of its students from a holistic perspective. However, one area where they have fallen short is accessibility to dining halls. While UConn has seven dining halls across its campus, five of them close at 7:15, while only two stay open until 10:00 p.m., and that only happens five days of the week. This is an extremely early hour for the dining halls to close, and UConn Dining Services should consider keeping their dining halls open for 24 hours, or at the very least staying open later.

The majority of dining halls closing at 7:15 p.m. makes no sense whatsoever. Classes, clubs and other activities go well past that time and cause students to have to use one of the late-night options, which may be out of the way or less convenient than the closest dining hall. There are specific areas such as East Campus that are not conveniently located near Northwest or McMahon. Not to mention the fact that dining halls such as McMahon often have long lines and a high volume of students during the late-night period. Additionally, late night is only an option if the student

can finish their other commitments before 10:00 p.m., which is not always guaranteed given college students' busy schedules. Babbidge Library is open until 2:00 a.m. Monday through Thursday, the Rec Center is open until 10:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and classes on the Storrs campus can go past 7:30 p.m., which I verified through UConn's Dynamic Class Search. All of these campus facilities go past 7:15 p.m., yet the majority of dining halls are not open. While the late-night option helps to alleviate this issue slightly, college students are extremely busy with classes, clubs, social lives and other commitments. Not being constrained by limited dining hours would help to ensure that students can eat and stay healthy.

Looking at other flagship state schools in New England, one can find that UConn's dining halls comparatively close much earlier. The University of Massachusetts residential dining options either close at 9:00 p.m. or 12:00 a.m. The University of Rhode Island's dining halls typically close at 8:00 p.m. or 9:00 p.m., which doesn't beat UConn's late-night option but is more convenient than the closing time of the majority of dining halls. UConn's 7:15 p.m. closing time seems to be an anomaly.

The obvious reason that this proposal may not be possible is the cost. Keeping dining halls open costs money, mainly to pay the necessary staff. And while it is true that keeping dining halls open 24 hours a day or even extending the hours at all would cost money, it is worth doing so. Costs can also be reduced by offering bare minimums such as cereal, bagels, etc to ensure the number of staff needed is minimal, but students still have access to food. Such costs are worth it because it is clear that there is a demand. McMahon Dining Hall is extremely busy during its late night hours, and many students enter right before it closes at 10:00 p.m. This shows that students appreciate and utilize the option to eat later, and it is very likely that other halls would also be utilized if they stayed open until 10:00 p.m. or even later.

Food is a necessity, and ensuring students are able to eat and consistently have access to the food they pay for with their meal plan should be a top priority. Extending dining hall hours would allow students to have access to food and the ability to eat at more times, without having to interrupt their busy schedules or be met with an overcrowded dining hall. Ultimately, this is a way for UConn to easily support its students health and overall well-being.

America isn't as polarized as you may think

by James Shiang | STAFF COLUMNIST
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If you read the news or hear casual conversation about politics, you've probably heard that America is extremely polarized, almost to a degree of a second civil war. Political Scientist Barbara F. Walter at the University of California San Diego said that "we are closer to civil war than any of us would like to believe". That seems scary. Could America survive states seceding? I'm not sure. However, similarly to what I do after settling into a hotel, let's unpack a bit. When examining polarization, scholars distinguish between affective polarization (a dislike of the other political party/out group) and ideological polarization (differences on the policy issues). There is no doubt Republicans and Democrats are at odds with each other more than ever. Political Scientist Shanto Iyengar and colleagues published a paper that showed average trends for participants identifying with an in-party or the out-party. The in-party feeling has slightly decreased from 1996 to 2016 but has stayed relatively stable. The out-party feeling started declining in 1992 and declining further starting in 2008. This means that people identifying with a group see co-partisans (people of the same party/group) more favorably than members of a different group. Scholars argue the various reasons for affective polarization: social identities, political campaigns running more negative ads, a more polarized media, etc.

Ideological polarization, on the other hand, is all about the issues. Pew Research tracked data from 1994-2014, and Democrats and Republicans are far more ideologically divided now than in the past. More people have moved to the extremes in the 20 years Pew studied. But when you go to the issues, a different story is told. A poll by the McCourtney Institute for Democracy noted that over 90% of Democrats support both universal background checks and gun licensing, while 80% and 54% of Republicans support the measures respectively. On raising the minimum wage, Democrats support raising the federal minimum wage from \$7.25/hour to \$12 by 95%, \$17 by 94%, and \$20 by 89%. Republicans support the measures by 82%, 60% and 60% respectively. On legalizing weed, Gallup found that Republicans support the measure with 55% and Democrats support it with 87%. On raising taxes on the rich, 74% of surveyed Republicans supported it compared with 92% of Democrats. How is it that on the issues both Republicans and Democrats agree but they can't stand each other? This brings us back to the reasons for affective polarization. A more polarized mass media has created echo chambers where partisans can seek refuge from opposing viewpoints. In a Pew Research survey, Democrats were more likely to consume MSNBC, NYT, NPR and CNN, while Republicans were more likely to view Fox News. This creates audience capture, where networks have built an audience based on a political identity, and it is almost impossible to bring differing opinions into the discussion. It is a self-reinforcing feedback loop that rewards the networks for telling listeners what they want to hear.

We agree on the policy issues that need to be tackled, but hate each other's guts. How do we solve this? That is the million dollar question. If the American people can take off their political blinders and be open to new ideas (it doesn't mean you have to agree with them), not play for blue team or red team and be objective about simple facts (such as more guns makes the country less safe, anthropogenic climate change is happening) then it is possible to rally around policy, and not hold such disdain about the political opposition. If the media, pundits and politicians gave credit (where it was due) on specific issues to the opposition, viewers could see that they are being fair, objective and not partisan hacks. I probably disagree with Rep. Matt Gaetz on 90% of his policies, but I agree with his efforts to ban lawmakers from trading stocks. If I was in Congress, I would work hand in hand with him, not chastise him because he has an R next to his name. It's easier said than done for sure, but if we can make collective efforts to not play for a team, and be consistent on policy beliefs, then we can truly change affective polarization.



CARTOON BY LEE ERNST, CONTRIBUTING ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Opinion

Photo of the Day | Streets of Storrs



UConn's Storrs campus becomes a quiet campus as students await Super Bowl LVIII. Will it be a back to back win for Kansas City or a Cinderella story for "Mr. Irrelevant" Brody Prudy's 49ers?
PHOTO BY SHELAGH LAVERTY, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

IS IT OK TO FILM YOURSELF CRYING?

by Grace Sim
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YouTube, Instagram and TikTok have all become virtual diaries for many people in this generation. Why keep your deepest, darkest secrets in a flimsy journal? Instead, share the tea with everybody else, including complete strangers from all over the world.

Since its inception, social media has been known as a tool to show off all the best moments of our lives. In fact, you are more likely to see a post from someone you follow when they are at a nice restaurant or on vacation, rather than a picture of a random Monday morning. Posting and sharing your life with others when something terrible happens, on the other hand, is a much more rare case.

However, as a lot of social media platforms further integrate themselves into our lives, we are beginning to see many people sharing everything—including the worst moments possible. For those who do not have a public account or prefer to keep their dark times private, taking your phone out, filming, editing, adding captions and then posting the video on TikTok is such a curious behavioral process. If you are thinking that maybe the things they share online are not that bad or serious, there are actually numerous videos of people sharing information that seems too traumatic and too personal to share. So, why do people film themselves crying and share it with others? Is it beneficial or harmful for our mental health?

For people who share images of themselves crying, shedding their tears on the Internet might have the same effect as sharing them with friends. We live in a largely individualistic society, and a lot of times, we don't have someone by our side during our most emotionally and mentally distressing times. Especially when many people experience feelings of emptiness and sadness late at night, rather than calling a friend or parent and waking them up, talking in front of the camera as if speaking to them could be a better alternative. Also, one of the main features of social media is the comments and the interaction that comes with it. Maybe your friends and family cannot relate to what you are experiencing and hurting from. However, somewhere out there, an individual who stumbles upon your video may empathize with your feelings and can perhaps leave a kind comment. Despite the risks of strangers criticizing or bullying your actions and tears, revealing the core of your emotions can be mentally liberating.

Another reason is that people are tired of unrealistic filters and standards circu-

lating around social media. Many people are aware that people are intentionally portraying themselves as happier and more successful than they genuinely are. They no longer want to compare their perfectly ordinary lives with the rose-tinted lives of others and are grasping the toxicity and unfairness of it. The urge to reveal one's true self in order to awaken others to reality is a courageous attempt worthy of acknowledgment. Even the most envied celebrities have shared their struggles with millions of people online. For instance, one of the most famous fashion models, Bella Hadid, has opened up her struggles with mental health on her platform by sharing selfies of herself in tears.

We all have our own ways to overcome struggles and hardships. It can be avoiding our feelings by keeping ourselves busy with other activities, seeking a mental health professional or simply sharing it with as many people as possible. What's important is to find the best and healthiest coping mechanisms that work for our well-being. Now, we have the privilege of utilizing technology to expand our support network and connect with individuals and communities who can offer valuable advice and comforting words. Instead of criticizing those who prefer to use such methods, we should try to acknowledge the benefits and reasons for it. Let others be their authentic selves in both reality and virtuality.

WHY WE STILL NEED ART CLASS IN UNIVERSITY

by Aastha Gupta
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From my days in elementary and middle school, I remember the number of book projects and art presentations. I remember Crayola marker stains all over my hands from a history project and using scissors with designs to spruce up my tri-fold presentation. I remember art classes where we learned color theory and made abstract paintings. As we got older, learning looked less like trying to find room on the floor to

work on the list of themes you found in this week's reading and more like sitting and taking notes. By the time I was in college, art class was gone. Or more precisely, art class was nearly impossible to fit into my schedule or was not available for my major. I had not realized, however, how much I felt this loss until we were given 20 minutes at the end of one of my classes to create a collage. I quickly realized I missed it — not only for the simple pleasures of using glue and markers — but also for its many mental and social benefits.

Art has been a constant for humanity from the time humans lived in caves to now. It is a source of expression and a way to connect. It is a time to create and sometimes, without rules. Art also has a considerable positive effect on mood, well-being and various skills. In a dissertation done in 2007, a researcher found that there are numerous self-reported benefits to non-art majors taking art classes. They found that art classes improve cognitive development along with skills surrounding the understanding of visual culture. And when combined with art criticism, students learned how to find deeper meaning in pieces and utilize analytical skills. This was but a facet of

the perceived benefits that the research found; and though the paper is older, the benefits of art classes—specifically, introductory art classes with a syllabus focused on hands-on creation—have not lessened.

The curriculum still contains humanities requirements that, depending on the class, still give us insight into the world of art and stimulate critical thinking. There are also periods in various classes where we get to make Google presentations. But these activities are still not the same as the art classrooms of our youth. Moreover, many of these classes are discussion or paper-based which comes with challenges for many students, causing them disengage, especially if they are not humanities majors. Although we do have some creation-based classes—ceramics, glass blowing, etc.—they are mostly meant for art majors or are not so numerous that all students can take them.

There are two options to remedy this. First, more introductory art classes could be offered; enough that most underclassmen can take it as part of their general education. Second, we could add major related art courses that mesh STEM learning and creation; we could also expand into various genres of art, such as music or theater, while continuing to focus on creation and skills rather than the memorization of facts. For example, a class on art in biology where students draw various organ systems, ecosystems and more. The options are nearly as endless as the benefits of adding art classes in higher education.

Yes, adding more classes to the curriculum is not an easy task, but the benefits of adding such an art curriculum to our schedules outweigh the effort needed to do so.

Although we do have some creation-based classes—ceramics, glass blowing, etc.—they are mostly meant for art majors or are not so numerous that all students can take them.

Art has been a constant for humanity from the time humans lived in caves to now. It is a source of expression and a way to connect. It is a time to create and sometimes, without rules.

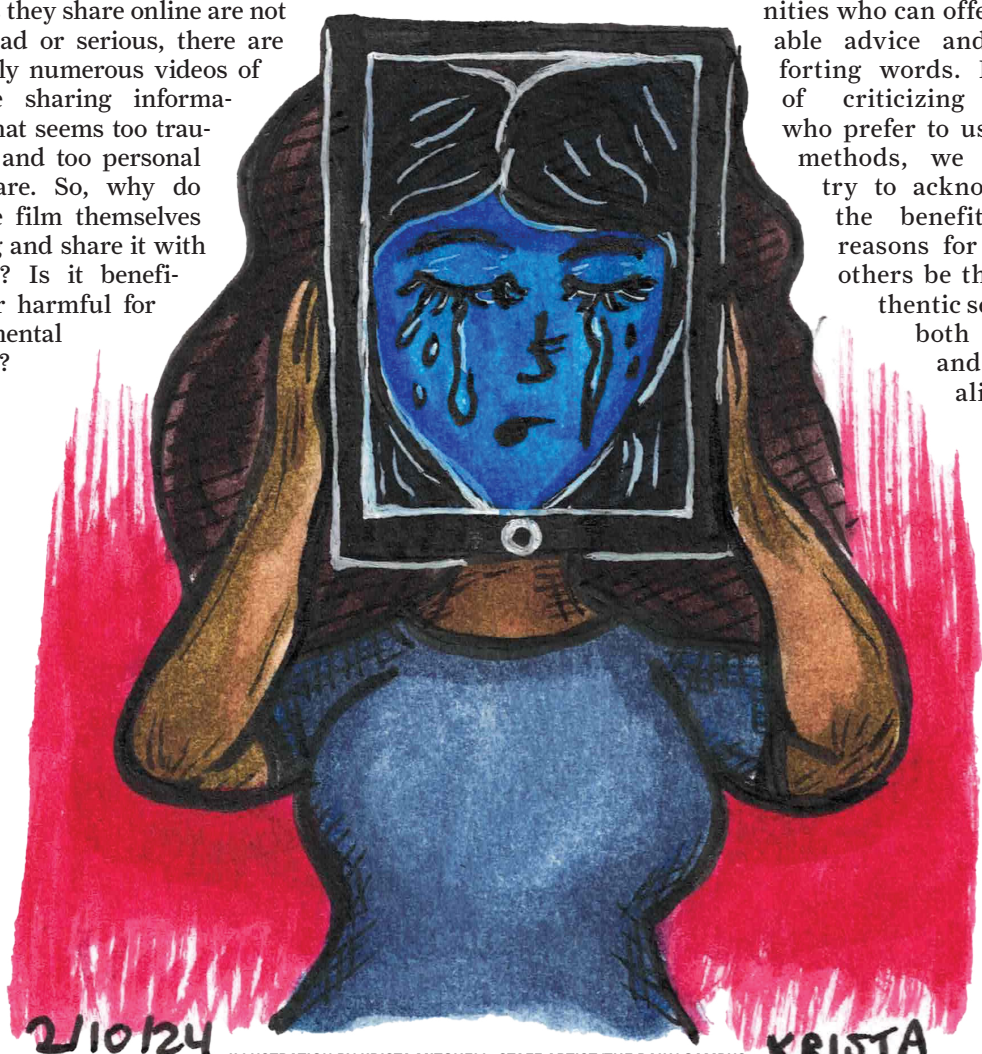


ILLUSTRATION BY KRISTA MITCHELL, STAFF ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Softball:

UConn opens season at Black and Gold Classic in Orlando

by **Ava Inesta**
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Spring sports are back in full swing! The UConn softball team opened their season in Orlando, Florida, at the University of Central Florida campus at the Black and Gold Classic.

On opening day on Thursday, the Huskies dropped their first two games of the season at the Black and Gold Classic. In game one, they fell to Howard 8-7 and fell to UCF 9-1 in game two.

In the opening game against Howard, graduate student Meghan O'Neil started in the circle for the Huskies. She went four innings and gave up five runs on seven hits, adding three strikeouts. In the fifth inning, junior Delaney Nagy came in relief for O'Neil. She pitched for two innings and gave up three runs on four hits. Redshirt freshman Sydnee Koosh then came into the game, making her UConn debut. She pitched one scoreless inning for the Huskies to close out the game.

For offense, Howard got off to a quick start in the top half of the first inning to score three runs. UConn got on the board in the bottom half of the first inning. Lexi Hastings scored the Huskies' first run of the season on a wild pitch, making the score 3-1. In the third inning, the junior outfielder also scored UConn's second run of the game, getting the Huskies within one run.

In the fourth inning, Howard extended their lead with two runs and one more run in the fifth inning to make the score 6-2 with the Huskies trailing behind. The Huskies scored two runs in the fifth inning. Junior Rosie Garcia notched her first RBI of the season with a bloop single to center field; Hastings made it home. Garcia also brought home the Huskies fourth run of the game on a delayed steal, which allowed pinch-runner freshman Rayah Snyder to score from third base.

Once again, in the sixth inning, Howard responded with two more runs to make it 8-4 with the Bison in the lead. The Huskies did not back down and scored three more runs in the sixth inning. Sophomore Grace Jenkins knocked in two wins with a double to left field, which scored senior Taylor Zatyk and Hastings. Pinch runner freshman Caylee De Meo was also brought home from a single to right field by sophomore Haley Coupal. UConn fell short to Howard and lost 8-7.

Senior Hallie Siems earned her first start as a Husky against UCF in the second opening-day game. She went four innings for UConn and only gave up two hits. In the fifth inning, sophomore Hope Jenkins made her season debut and came in relief for Siems. She pitched for 0.2 innings and gave up four earned runs.

UConn took the lead first off Jana Sanden's bat. The senior infielder drove on a bloop single to right field in her first run of the season; she scored Hastings, and the Huskies gained a 1-0 lead.

Siems held off the Knights' dangerous lineup. She only allowed two base runners through her first three in-

nings in the circle. However, UCF gained control of the game in the fourth inning and scored four runs on one hit. UCF applied pressure on offense for the rest of the game. The Knights added a run in the fifth inning and five more runs in the sixth inning. They ended the game in a run-rule win, defeating the Huskies 9-1.

The Huskies were quickly back in action in Orlando on Friday. O'Neil started in game one for UConn against Georgia State. She went 4.1 innings, giving up two runs on four hits with three strikeouts.

For the second game in a row, the Huskies got on the board off Sanden's bat. She singled off the center field wall, and Hastings was able to score to give UConn a 1-0 lead. Georgia State knotted the game at one in the third inning. The Huskies regained the lead one inning later after Garcia singled to center field. Pinch runner De Meo scored from second base and gave the Huskies the 2-1 lead.

In the fifth inning, transfer Siems came in relief for O'Neil. She pitched the rest of the game for the Huskies, going 2.2 innings; she gave up one run on three hits and added one strikeout.

To recapture the lead in the fifth inning, GSU scored two runs. The Huskies did not back down and put together a rally in the bottom of the seventh inning. The Huskies loaded the bases with the first three batters of the inning. They set the stage for a walk-off victory. G. Jenkins hit a sacrifice fly to left field, scoring senior Lauren Benson from third base. It started and ended with Sanden. The senior infielder followed G. Jenkins with another sacrifice fly to left field, which scored Hastings for the win. UConn completed the comeback and sealed the 4-2 win, their first victory of the season.

H. Jenkins started game two for the Huskies. She went for five innings, giving up two runs on five hits and adding a pair of strikeouts.

UConn got the offense going in the third inning. Coupal drove in her first season run with an infield single, scoring pinch runner Snyder from third base. Seattle responded the next inning, putting the Redhawks in the lead 2-1.

In the fifth inning, Coupal came in clutch for UConn at the plate, tying the game on an infield single that scored De Meo from third base.

The Huskies made two pitching changes in the sixth inning. Koosh came in relief for Jenkins and only faced four batters. Siems relieved Koosh and finished the game on the mound for the Huskies. She went 1.2 innings, giving up one run on two hits with one strikeout.

Seattle then took the lead in the sixth inning for good by scoring two runs. They added another pair of runs in the seventh inning, gaining all control for the Huskies. UConn did not give up and added one more run in the bottom of the seventh inning off Jenkins' bat, but the deficit was too much, and Seattle sealed the 6-3 win.

After splitting the second day of opening weekend, the Huskies played a single game on Saturday and Sunday. Siems led the way for the Huskies against UCF on Saturday.



UConn softball players wear pink ribbons in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month during their game against Franklin Pierce University on Oct. 7, 2023. This was one of the team's eight exhibition games that they will play this season. PHOTO BY EMMA MEIDINGER, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

She tossed her 18th complete game of her career. She kept the Knights' lineup off-balanced all night, only giving up four hits with one earned run and adding seven strikeouts.

Hastings made program history in the top of the first inning. She stole the 77th base of her career, which broke the all-time program record that was set by Aziah James a year ago. The junior outfielder surpassed the mark in just her 110th career game for UConn.

In the top of the first inning, the Huskies got off to a quick start on offense, scor-

ing two runs. Sanden, once again, was an offensive machine for the Huskies. She singled to center field to score Hastings and G. Jenkins.

In the second inning, UCF cut the Huskies lead with a solo home run, making the score 2-1 Huskies. UConn immediately put together an answer in the third inning, adding a run back to their lead. G. Jenkins hit her second double of the season to left center. Hastings was able to score from second base.

Siems continued to control the Knights in the middle innings of the game. She threw

for four innings straight to maintain the Huskies lead. UCF scored a single run in the seventh inning. However, the Huskies kept their 3-2 lead to seal their second run of the season.

The Huskies had a single game on Sunday where they were defeated and shut out by Seattle. They finished the Black and Gold Classic with a 2-4 overall record. UConn will be back in action next weekend at the North Carolina State Tournament where they will play five games in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Women's Tennis:

Huskies swept 7-0 against fellow Big East foe Xavier

by **Avery Becker**
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After inching away a win at home against Quinnipiac University on Wednesday, the Huskies hoped to defeat fellow Big East foe Xavier on Saturday night, but their efforts were unsuccessful.

Instead, they were swept by the Musketeers, losing the match 7-0.

Marie Constantinou returned for the Huskies after suffering an injury against the Bobcats on Wednesday with her first doubles partner, Olivia Wright. The two juniors looked to dominate against Xavier but fell short with a 7-4 loss.

After that loss, it went completely downhill for Connecticut, as the Musketeers took all six points from the singles and an additional point from the doubles competitions.

In the singles competition, freshman Caroline Hinshaw tried to rally a win in the fourth singles, but her opponent Abigail Siminski won the second set 6-4, then the 10-point tie-breaker 10-8.

Wright and Constantinou took first and second singles losses 6-4 and 6-2. Junior Isabel Petri Bere lost her third singles match 6-2. In the fifth and sixth singles, Cameron Didion and Isabel Asenov lost their matches 6-0 and 6-1.

Historically, the Huskies haven't had the best of luck against the Musketeers as they are now 0-2 against the program going back to their first match against each other on April 7, 2023.

"We played some good doubles to start but came up just a little short. Xavier had some very smart doubles teams that forced us out of some of our strengths. In the singles matches, we saw how a top team was relentless with their approach to every single point." Coach Glenn Marshall noted after the match.

The Xavier women's tennis team is known for their dominance and consistency of their play at every position as they sit at the top of the Big East. Even though the team was not happy with how the match ended up this weekend, Marshall is optimistic as it lets the team know what they need to work on for future matches against teams that are as equally dominating.

This loss took the Huskies to 0-1 in Big East play and 4-2 overall in their spring season.

Connecticut looks to flip the script and get themselves in the winning column as they face the Stony Brook Seawolves at home on Friday, Feb. 16. The first serve is scheduled for 7 p.m. If Husky fans wish to keep up with the match, they can follow it through iOn-Court Live Scoring.

Sports

Photo of the Day | Serving week five



UConn wins against Quinnipiac on Wednesday Feb. 7th in Manchester. The final score was five-to-four across all the matches played.

PHOTO BY CONNOR SHARP, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Women's Basketball: Gamecocks dominate Huskies despite Edwards and Bueckers' efforts

by Stratton Stave

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Usually, when the No. 11 UConn women's basketball team is involved in uncompetitive games, they're the ones dealing the blows. This year's team is a bit different. The Huskies are currently in the running for one of the unluckiest teams in the last three years, with an endless list of bumps, bruises and worse. The five season-ending injuries Connecticut sustained this year are no exception.

That unrelenting series of blows did not mix well with a road trip to top-ranked South Carolina. The Huskies were outclassed in several facets and looked like the less talented team in the 83-65 defeat. While missing All-America hopeful Kamilla

termining the contest's outcome.

Te-Hina Paopao led the way for SC with 21 points on 12 shots while hitting five of the team's seven triples. Raven Johnson had a double-double, and Ashlyn Watkins had a great game. But it was the team's effort that made the difference. Five players had nine or more points, compared to just three for the Huskies.

UConn started on the catch-up, and they never showed themselves as a threat. While Ashlynn Shade and Paige Bueckers each did a lot in the early portion to keep the Huskies afloat, the Gamecocks still led by eight after a quarter.

Reigning All-American Aaliyah Edwards was shaken up early in the second period, which did Connecticut no favors. When she was out, USC's lead ballooned

the lone quarter they won.

Bueckers didn't have her best game, but asking her to be much better is hard. She shouldered the load despite a few point-blank misses, taking nearly a third of the team's shots. The former national POTY finished with 20 points on as many shots while adding five rebounds and three assists.

If a casual fan was watching this game, they might call Bueckers' abilities into question, but that's not fair in the least. The elite Gamecocks' defense isolated the standout, who couldn't get anything going. She was frustrated and did better when she had a strong team of scorers around her to space the floor. She had no such luxury on Sunday.

Tied for leading scorer was Edwards, who played a solid game. Her 20 points and 12

showed some promise in other aspects. She grabbed some key rebounds, stole the ball three times and had a team-high four assists. While the freshman did get a little overzealous in attempting a few shots that were swatted, she brought the necessary energy for the moment. This performance will not be prominently featured in Arnold's highlight reel, but it was one where she gave 100%, and it showed.

Looking at the contest from a 3,000-foot view, this changes nothing about the season's trajec-

tory. They're not a national championship team. But they do have fight and are very good. So far, they've beaten every NET team they've played ranked below 20 and lost to every one they played above 14. Expecting a win over No. 1 was unrealistic, given how bruised and battered they are.

They'll have the final six games of the Big East and the BET as a chance to get right, but it's difficult to imagine what they would have done differently on Sunday. Their next challenge comes at Xavier, who is 0-12 in conference.



UConn womens basketball took on Seton Hall at the XL Center on Wednesday Feb. 7. The Huskies won the game 67-34.

PHOTO BY CONNOR SHARP, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Cardoso to a Brazil Olympics qualifier match, the Gamecocks were still the deeper team.

They used eight players for at least 14 minutes each, which showed. Their size helped them rebound the Huskies 46-37, score 12 more paint-points and block six UConn shots. Carolina was more efficient from downtown, hitting the same number of threes in four fewer attempts.

The lack of bench depth from Connecticut was especially glaring. Their lone points from a non-starter came when freshman Qadence Samuels drained a three with seconds left to cut the deficit to 18. That shot came with its own special significance of preventing the Huskies' first 20-point loss in over 15 years but had no role in de-

well past double-digits, a considerable hill to climb when she reentered. By the time the half neared its conclusion, the Huskies were facing a 19-point deficit.

An Edwards layup cut it to 12 as a part of a 7-0 run that spanned across the halves, but the hope of that run continuing was short-lived. Throughout the period, South Carolina methodically picked apart the Huskies' defense and bottled them up on the other end of the floor. None of it was sudden, but the scoreboard showed a 25-point differential after three.

UConn made up some ground in the final frame, but the match-up had long since been decided. Shade, Bueckers and Edwards each made solid contributions to

boards on 13 shots are impressive, but the game was an uphill battle. She generally did what she could against an overpowering opponent, but one player can't muscle a team to victory.

The freshmen had interesting mixed bags of performances. Playing in an environment like SC's is no easy feat, and Ashlynn Shade was incredibly efficient. She was not afraid to shoot, taking 19 shots, but only hitting six. That, along with her 2/11 mark from beyond the arc, did not help the Huskies, who really would have benefited from a better shooting night. It's important to remember that she's just a freshman, and having to rely on one is brutal.

The other first-year, KK Arnold, managed just two points but

Track & Field: Huskies successful in weekend meet

by Jackson Crainich

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The Connecticut track and field teams had a strong weekend, totaling 35 top-five finishes and five first-place results.

The team struggled at the Boston College Eagle Elite Invitational but had multiple top-five placements. On day one, Travis Snyder placed second in the pole vault, measuring 5.17 meters. Marc Morrison placed fifth in the long jump, leaping 7.34 meters, and Terrel Williams finished second in the 60-meter hurdles with a blistering time of 7.77 seconds. For the women, Jasmine Barrow placed fifth in the long jump scoring 5.9 meters.

On day two at the BC Eagle Elite Invitational, Kasey Savage placed second in the men's triple jump with a mark of 14.9 meters, while teammate Joron Harrell placed fifth in the event with a mark of 14.61 meters. Two Huskies also ended up inside the top-five of the high jump. Mawali Osunniyi placed third, leaping 2.13 meters, while Dar Jankovic placed fifth with a distance of 2.03 meters.

At the Yale Invitational, there was no shortage of additional success for the Huskies.

There were seven top-five finishes and one first-place result on the men's side. Travis Roux placed first in the weight throw with a mark of 19.39 meters, with teammate Alex Krause finishing just outside the top five, placing sixth with a score of 17.43 me-

ters. Joseph O'Brien clocked in at 21.94 seconds in the 200 meter, Dante Bailey set a mark of 1.80 meters in the high jump and Diarmuid O'Connor had a height of 3.90 meters in pole vault, all three placing second in their events. Tyler Lyon placed third in the shot put with a toss of 14.94 meters. Zachary Barry finished third in the 800m, with a time of 1:57.87 seconds, while Max Ringwall placed fourth in the long jump with a mark of 6.59 meters.

For the women, there were 10 top-five finishes and one first-place result. Sinclair Fryer took home first in the shot put, recording a mark of 13.19 meters. In the 4x400 meter relay, Audrey Kozak, Katelyn Reid, Alyssa Elliott and Caroline Rice finished third with a time of 3:59.08 seconds. Natalia Surdej placed third in the weight throw with a toss of 18.62 meters. Brianna Davis (200m), Caroline Rice (400m) and Allison McCarthy (800m) all placed fourth in their events. Alyssa Elliott placed fourth in the long jump with a height of 5.67 meters, while Felicia Quianoo placed fifth in the triple jump with a mark of 11.71 meters. Connecticut notched two top-five finishes in pole vault, as Sofia Wittmann and Kalli Knott tied each other and the two placed fourth with a mark of 3.65 meters.

Overall, it was a successful weekend for the Huskies, who want to continue their success as they prepare to head to Boston and South Bend to compete in the Terrier DMR Challenge and the Alex Wilson Invitational.

Women's Hockey: NO. 11 UCONN SPLITS WEEKEND WITH NORTHEASTERN AND HOLY CROSS



UConn takes the win over Providence two-to-one after going into overtime on Saturday Feb. 3rd. UConn Womens hockey is currently ranked No. 11.

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

by Noah Reed

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The No. 11 Connecticut Huskies split their weekend games with matchups against Northeastern and Holy Cross. Playing teams on opposite sides of the standings, UConn looked to better their resume with two weekends left.

After sweeping Northeastern in November, UConn headed into Boston looking to lockdown the season sweep of their Husky rivals. Early in the game, it didn't look like that would be possible.

Northeastern jumped in front with a Taze Thompson goal in the first period, then doubled it in the second with a Mia Langlois goal. Down two to nothing, UConn needed to mount a comeback to at least force OT.

Ashley Allard cut the lead to one with her fifth goal of the year, while Ainsley Svetek later netted the equalizer with her third.

Neither team gained the advantage, and it would be Northeastern walking away with two points with a shootout win.

Game two of the weekends also took place on the road, with the Huskies visiting the Crusaders in Worcester to face Holy Cross. The Crusaders were looking for payback from their previous meeting in November, in which UConn swept with a 3-0 in Storrs and then a 3-1 win in Worcester.

UConn quickly shut down Holy Cross' opportunity with an offensive onslaught. Halfway through the second period, UConn had already scored thrice with goals from Coryn Tamala, Megan Woodworth and Riley Grimley. Millie Si-

rum put the Crusaders on the board, but Ava Rinker and Kathryn Stockdale buried two more goals to build a 5-1 lead for UConn.

At the end of the weekend, UConn sits on top of the Hockey East standings, seven points above both Northeastern and Boston College.

With the season winding down, the Huskies only have four games left in the regular season. Before finishing the year with a weekend series against Boston University, UConn will take on Merrimack and Vermont on the road.

Merrimack, their first opponent, is on the wrong side of the Hockey East standings, currently sitting eighth in front of only Maine and Holy Cross. Despite a rocky season, the Warriors have played strong in their last couple of games, winning three of their last four. In their first matchups of the year, UConn walked away with the victory, including a 2-1 overtime win in December and a regulation win in January. Friday's game starts at 4 p.m. and can be streamed on ESPN+.

After Friday's game, UConn will head to Burlington to take on the Vermont Catamounts. These teams met just a few weeks ago in a late January matchup. Hosted by the Huskies, UConn won in commanding fashion to start the weekend. Leading scorer Jada Habisch scored twice while the Huskies capitalized on two power play-chances en route to a 3-0 win. The Catamounts held the Huskies scoreless throughout three periods and overtime, but UConn came out on top in the shootout. The game starts at 1 p.m. in Vermont and can also be streamed on ESPN+.

Men's Ice Hockey: Sweep leads to drop in standings

by Nick Spinali

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The University of Connecticut men's ice hockey team lost both matchups to the No. 12 University of Massachusetts Amherst Minutemen this weekend, falling 2-0 at home on Friday before yielding a 3-1 contest on the road on Saturday. With the loss, the Huskies dropped from fifth to sixth place in the Hockey East.

The action began at the Toscano Family Ice Forum in Storrs, Conn. for the first of the weekend's two games. Despite holding UMass scoreless through the first two periods of the contest, the Huskies could not connect with the net, and the third period commenced still knotted at 0-0. Quick goals from Dans Locmelis and Jack Mousa suddenly put the Minutemen up 2-0 early in the third, an advantage that the Ice Bus could not surmount as the score was finalized.

It was a very clean match between both sides, as only one penalty was called on either side throughout the contest. UMass goalkeeper Michael Hrabal saved all 36 shots he faced, while the Ice Bus' Aresnii Sergeev managed 29 saves of his own. Sergeev was pulled in favor of an extra skater with just over three minutes remaining, though the Huskies could not take advantage. Overall, Connecticut outshot Massachusetts 36-31 in the game. The loss is now the team's third-straight at its on-campus home in Storrs, as the team has failed to score in their last nine periods played at Toscano.

The action moved to the Mullins Center in Amherst, Massachusetts, for the second game between the Huskies and Minutemen. At 4:41, it appeared that UMass scored the game's first goal, though Connecticut successfully challenged goalkeeper interference on the play, and the goal was erased. A Cam O'Neill score four minutes later made up for the challenge and gave Massachusetts the early 1-0 lead. Aydar Suniev extended the home team's advantage to two with a goal in the eighth minute of the second.

The Huskies scored their first and only goal of the weekend

in the 12th minute of the second period courtesy of Ryan Tattle, cutting into UMass' lead to make the score 2-1. Amherst quickly responded with another goal two minutes later, this time via Cole O'Hara. Neither team could move the score until a Nick VanTassel goal appeared to extend the Minutemen's lead to a commanding 4-1 with just under three minutes remaining in regulation. However, after review, it was ruled that he was offside before the goal. Still, Massachusetts' advantage proved too difficult for UConn to surmount as they lost their second game in a row 3-1.

UConn outshot Amherst 37-27 in the contest but did not have the same success finding the net. Hrabal was once again incredible in the goal for UMass, saving 36 shots for the second straight game to give him 72 saves on 73 attempts combined on the weekend. For Connecticut, Ethan Haider corralled 24 saves of his own. The Huskies did not have a power play attempt in the game, while the Minutemen were unsuccessful in three attempts.

With the six conference points they gained in the two wins, Massachusetts jumped from sixth-place to a two-way tie for fourth place in the Hockey East alongside Providence. They now have 28 points in conference play. The Huskies are now the team immediately behind UMass and Providence in sixth place, though their 23 conference points leave them trailing both teams by five points, a noticeable disadvantage despite only the one-place difference. They are not just one point ahead of seventh-place New Hampshire, having played three more conference games than the Wildcats.

The Ice Bus' next chance to right the ship will be two weekends from now when they face a daunting challenge in No. 3 Boston University. The two programs will meet for two matchups, with the first being played on Friday, Feb. 23, at the Toscano in Storrs. Action will then turn to the Agganis Arena in Boston for game two on Saturday, Feb. 24. The puck-drop for both games is set for 7 p.m. Fans at home can catch both games on ESPN+.



The Huskies face off against the Minute Men on Friday, Feb. 9 at the Toscano Family Ice Forum. Unfortunately, UConn got shutout two-to-zero.

PHOTO BY SHELAGH LAVERTY, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS



Sports

Men's Basketball: Huskies pummel Hoyas for 12th straight dub

by **Evan Rodriguez**
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Coming off 11 straight victories, it was expected that Saturday's contest between the UConn men's basketball team and the Georgetown Hoyas would be tough for the home team to pull off. That fact was certainly cemented by the end of Connecticut's 89-64 beatdown of their opponents at Capital One Arena.

Throughout the matchup, the Hoyas could not gain a single lead, and there were many factors to point at for their lack of competitiveness.

If one were to discuss this game, the first two words to begin their summary should be Alex Karaban. The sophomore hooper has showcased why he's one of the best 4s in the country with his combination of offensive shooting and team-first attitude. That was surely displayed as he helped catapult his guys to a quick 5-2 lead off a layup and 3-point bucket.

But one of the biggest reasons for Georgetown's demise in this game was themselves. This team has struggled to shoot the ball throughout the season, and with the way that UConn has played lately as a defensive unit, that only spelled disaster for Ed Cooley and Co. In the first half specifically, the program shot just 11/31 from the field, and if you take away Dontrez Styles' 17 points, that number drops to an ugly 5/20. That's not exactly how you want to be playing if you're competing against the No. 1 team in the country.

On the other side of the court, the Hoyas were not doing much to help their lack of offense either. The Huskies were getting plenty of ideal looks, and while Karaban led the way with 17 first-half points, the entire unit was playing their part. Right behind his starting court teammate was Stephon Castle, who had nine points on an efficient 4/6 shooting in the first half.

While his box score numbers won't scream at you, Donovan Clingan had one of his more unique games as a college starter. Defensively, he may have been the player that many have gotten accustomed to with three first-half blocks. But, what fans may have been surprised to see was his playmaking. The first three plays of the game were all assisted by the Bristol native, and when you tack on a late first-half dime to Hassan Diarra, that gave the Connecticut starter a total of four assists in the first 20 minutes.

With the No. 1 team in the nation playing to their identity, they walked into the locker room up 52-28. The large Husky crowd in attendance had seen an incredible showing, from plenty



UConn Men's Basketball wins against Butler at the XL center with a score of 72-61. This was the team's 11th straight win.

PHOTOGRAPH BY CONNOR SHARP, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS



CARTOON COURTESY OF RAWPIXEL



The Huskies played at the XL Center against Butler on Tuesday, Feb. 6th. The final score came out with the Huskies on top, 72-61.

PHOTOGRAPH BY CONNOR SHARP, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

of Karaban triples to Samson Johnson slams and even Hassan Diarra finger gun celebrations. In short, it's the perfect set of events for the fanbase.

To the delight of UConn fans and the dismay of the Hoyas, the second half played out similarly to the first half. There were more slam dunks, plenty of scoring from Karaban and Castle and some additional Georgetown struggles. By the final buzzer, the Huskies had shot a scorching 61% from the field and 45% from beyond the arc.

This was a dream scenario compared to Connecticut's national championship roster. Last season, the program struggled both at home and in the nation's capital to have a firm grip on a win. While they'd still walk out of both games with the victory, it nonetheless made Saturday's dismantling over the Hoyas even more special for coach Dan Hurley.

"I remember coming in here last year, and we played a pretty flat game," said the Huskies' head coach.

While Connecticut truly shot the ball well from beyond the arc, they also looked exceptional in that area of the court alone. Hurley credited his squad getting better with the switch on improving in that department.

"We've played against switching so much that teams that don't switch don't want to deal with our man stuff. They're switching one through four. On-ball. Off-ball. One through five, even with Donovan, just because they don't want to chase us with the stuff that we run. So we've now faced switching enough times that we're getting better at playing versus the switch," said Hurley.

Notably, Tristen Newton didn't have one of his better games in the scoring column with six points after having his hand wrapped during warmups. He may have played through pain during Saturday's win, but nine assists for the star guard showed where he could really shine.

"He also played what we're all about. He played 'We,'" said Hurley.

That "We" is the success of the collective unit. One player could struggle, but his brothers will pick him up. Whether that's Cam Spencer, Johnson or, in Saturday's case, Karaban, that collective firepower throughout the unit has made them one of, if not the toughest teams in the nation to stand up to on the hardwood.

It's now 12 straight wins for Connecticut, and they're always striving for more. Riding off this win, they'll travel to the Windy City on Wednesday for a matchup with DePaul at Wintrust Arena at 9 p.m.

WHAT TO KEEP AN EYE ON THIS WEEK

UConn SCOREBOARD



65 vs. 83

Women's Basketball
Sunday

Upcoming Games



Women's Basketball,
7 p.m. Wednesday
Cincinnati, Ohio



Men's Basketball,
9 p.m. Wednesday
Chicago, Ill.

INSTAGRAM OF THE DAY



@uconn
Three very good boys. No additional notes.

TWEETS OF THE DAY



UConn Softball
@UConnSoftball
RECORD BREAKER!!!

In just her 110th career game, Lexi Hastings has broken the all-time program record in stolen bases!

Dan Hurley
@dhurley15
Lots of @UConnMBB fans in DC today...
Our fans travel well beyond NYC...

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