

WHUS TO HOLD BATTLE OF THE BANDS ON SATURDAY

by Jenna Outcalt
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The University of Connecticut's student-run radio station, WHUS, will be hosting their annual Battle of the Bands in the Student Union Ballroom on Saturday, Feb. 3.

The show starts at 6:30 p.m., with doors opening an hour before. The competition includes six bands. This year, the competing bands are The Jawns, Basement Camp, Overloded, Ruby Leftstep, The Sauce and Dying Under the Influence (DUI).

According to WHUS Events Coordinator Sophia Curran, a junior management major, bands will be paired off and compete for a spot in the final three. During the initial pairings, each band will perform sets lasting 20 minutes. The bands that make it to the final three will perform a final song to determine the winner. Winners will be decided by audience applause.

Curran said that the previous year was a big success, with the ballroom reaching maximum capacity.

"The UConn music scene was really thriving at that time, so hopefully we get somewhere close to that," Curran said.

According to Curran, only bands who have not been in the competition before are allowed to compete in order to "showcase new talent" at the school.

"A lot of really good UConn bands have been there before, but we have other shows for people who have done stuff with us before," Curran said.

Curran explained that a committee formed by WHUS started reaching out through social media



ILLUSTRATION BY VAN NGUYEN, ARTIST EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

in November to solicit audition tapes from bands. The committee reviewed the audition tapes and chose the six best competitors, which Curran emphasized was a very tough decision.

"We have a good range of genres," said Curran. "We have a little bit more of folk music to indie and alternative rock all the way to hardcore punk, so it's going to be a good time for everybody."

The winner of the competition in 2023 was Static, a band that intermixes jazz and rap.

"You typically see the UConn scene really enjoying music you can dance to. People want to jump up and down," Curran said.

Curran encouraged students to take the opportunity to enjoy live music on campus.

"It's really for the experience, you know? We pay a good amount of money to have a big artist perform in the same space with a similar crowd, and now people get to be close to that," Curran said.

Tickets are free for UConn students, who must bring their UConn ID to the event. Tickets can be bought beforehand from the link found on the WHUS Instagram page or at the door during the event. Curran estimated that the show would last around three to three and a half hours.

"Students are gonna get live music for free which I think is not something that's easily accessible. Especially a lot of times you have to drive places, pay money to get in," Curran said. "Students can walk down the Student Union and experience some really good fun live music for free, and I think that's just a good experience and also just good for the soul."

End of (snow) days? UConn's weather cancellation policy clarified

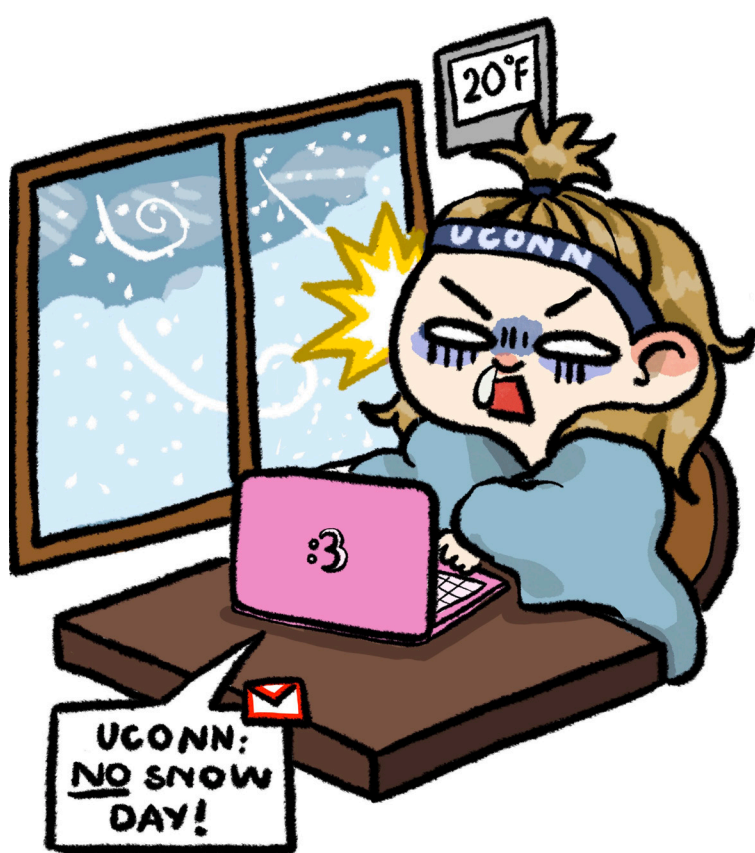


ILLUSTRATION BY VAN NGUYEN, ARTIST EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

by Gabriel Duffany
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With the rise of online learning options, many professors have effectively announced that classes will no longer be canceled due to weather — even when doing so contradicts UConn policy.

"If classes are canceled, this applies to all classes — including those online," a Nov. 9, 2023 University Communications release states. Although clearly detailed by the university, the noncompliance many professors have shown towards the policy has raised questions regarding its enforcement.

In response to instances of in-person classes becoming mandatory online sessions, UConn spokesperson Stephanie Reitz restated the written guidelines, noting, "The policies were formulated to provide a consistent and predictable approach for students across all campuses and courses." UConn declined to answer specific questions of policy enforcement.

Some may interpret the university's unwillingness to respond to the question of enforcement as a doubtful sign, but written policy is firm: cancellations apply to every class, regardless of modality.

Students and professors have conflicting opinions on whether virtual make-ups are a positive addition to their classes, with an ongoing discussion that compares the value of in-class time to students' ability to modify their schedules.

"My professor emailed us saying that 'snow days were a thing of the past,' and that we all had to be on a virtual meeting," said Alex Rader, a fourth-semester student. "The virtual meeting itself wasn't even at our scheduled class time and by the time he had emailed us about it we had a one hour window to see said email and make arrangements to accommodate him."

Virtual learning has additionally presented challenges for commuter students, who are often preoccupied with shoveling snow or other chores related to the weather.

When faced with his class being moved online, commuter and fourth-semester student Hunter Tortorella noted "Honestly, it wasn't that helpful. Commuters don't get the best alternative."

Some professors, on the other hand, are not so sure that digital lectures are an unsuitable replacement for in-person learning.

"Since UConn doesn't allow us to post a video for makeup, I wouldn't do it. However, in order to not shortchange the students, I would still aim to cover the same amount of content for the semester, so it would likely mean eliminating one of the review days for the class. I know recorded lectures aren't optimal, but depending on the content and the situation, one or two a semester would seem to be potentially beneficial," Department of Nutritional Sciences Professor Michael Puglisi said.

The definitive source for information regarding cancellations and delays is the UConnALERT website.

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News

UConn POLICE OFFERS SELF DEFENSE COURSES FOR ALL STUDENTS

by Sara Bedigian
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The University of Connecticut Police Department has opportunities for students to learn about self defense at no cost through 12-hour open enrollment courses or a short demo class.

The programs train both men and women in basic self defense techniques and offer strategies when confronted with violence. They are offered throughout the academic year at no charge for students and during the summer and winter breaks for staff and faculty.

Police Sgt. Justin Cheney, who is one of the self defense instructors, explains they try to offer at least one class for students in the fall and spring semester, with the intention to offer another if the time and interest allows.

Currently, they are hosting a women's self defense class called Surviving Violent Encounters, which educates women about defensive strategies. Cheney said these strategies range from physical skill sets to situational awareness, survival mindset and visual techniques.

This class is currently full. However, Cheney said they have also done additional open enrollment classes and offered customized classes for clubs and organizations on campus that are interested.

"We really try to dive in and talk a lot about situational awareness, survival mindset, utilizing visual techniques and strategies to make yourself more prepared and ready to take on whatever you may face in the real world," Cheney said.

There are also men's self defense classes that are offered throughout the semester if there is interest. Cheney said the men's class focuses more on physical components of self defense and de-escalation skills.

"If we have a group of at least eight to 10, maybe even 12 to 15 folks that are interested in taking a men's class together, then we will be glad to host the course," Cheney said.

The men's and women's courses are 12 hours and it is split up amongst four, three hour courses. The class sizes are generally between 20 and 25 students.

Cheney said it is usually himself and two to three other officers that teach the

course, but they have used other university safety personnel in the past.

There are also individual demo classes that anybody can request any time. The class is one hour long and provides a shortened version of the full 12 hour class. Cheney said they have done demo classes for clubs, sports teams and organizations each year.

"So you kind of get a sneak peak of what the full program would be, and sometimes that is a little bit more manageable for students," Cheney said. "We understand that students right now are really starting to get into their spring semester and it is really difficult to spare any time especially for a class that you are not getting credit for."

In addition to those classes, Cheney noted that they offer a program called We Stand Up — Men Preventing Violence against Women, which is designed to teach men how to safely intervene in bystander situations where violence may be occurring. Cheney said that over the past few years, they have seen more interest from groups of men, whether



The UConn Police Department is located on 126 N Eagleville Rd. The department was established in 1972 and has been serving the community ever since.

PHOTOGRAPH BY OLIVIA RILEY, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

they are a part of a team or fraternity, that want to take the class.

Cheney said he has been a part of the self defense program since he was hired in 2015.

"I have done a lot of work with the program. We have

adapted along the way and added things that we feel the 2024 college student could really benefit from," Cheney said.

Any questions or inquiries about the self defense program can be directed to justin.cheney@uconn.edu.

Taste 2 Towns
restaurant week
Jan. 29 thru Feb. 11
MANSFIELD WINDHAM

Taste 2 Towns is a two-week-long event featuring restaurants in Mansfield and Windham that will take place through Feb. 11. This will be the third year the event will run.

PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF WWW.DOWNTOWNSTORRS.ORG/

MANSFIELD AND WINDHAM TEAM UP FOR ANNUAL "TASTE 2 TOWNS" RESTAURANT WEEK

by Patrick Boots
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Making a delicious return, the Mansfield Downtown Partnership and Willimantic Downtown Neighborhood Association are co-sponsoring the third year of the Taste 2 Towns culinary exploration in association with the Northeast Connecticut Chamber of Commerce. This two-week-long event brings together over 20 restaurants in Mansfield and Windham, including University of Connecticut campus favorites. Happening through Feb. 11, participating restaurants will be offering special menus, promotional deals and showcasing their unique flavors and talents.

This year's Taste 2 Towns promises to be bigger and better than ever, with a wider range of restaurants between both Storrs-Mansfield and Windham-Willimantic, which have held their own successful events in the past.

Andy Gutt, the President of the Willimantic Downtown Neighborhood Association and local restaurant owner emphasized that dining drives much of the local economy.

"...In our third year, the Taste 2 Towns restaurant week celebrates our regional food scene," Gutt said. "It's leaped into full bloom ... Folks are ready to meet up with friends and try something new."

Participating restaurants will be offering special multi-course fixed-price menus for lunch and dinner, with lower prices for specialty and limited-time items. Students interested in exploring off-campus dining options will find a variety of cuisines and options available — whether you're a fan of classic comfort food, adventurous international flavors or something in between, you're sure to find something you'll enjoy.

Some of the participants located near the UConn campus

include the Dog Lane Café, Nautical Bowls, Hops on 44 and Gansett Wraps amongst others. Favorites in Windham add Fairways Grill, Blondie's Diner and the Willimantic Brewing Company to name a few.

"This partnership showcases the vibrant dining scene across our two charming Connecticut towns," Gutt adds, "Everyone can eat, explore, and celebrate what our local businesses offer."

The event comes as part of greater Connecticut Restaurant Week festivities, where restaurateurs and local chambers of commerce and municipalities are encouraged to host events like Taste 2 Towns to encourage more people to patronize local eateries and small businesses. For more information about Taste 2 Towns and a complete list of participating restaurants, visit taste2towns.com and connecticutrestaurantweek.com.

The Daily Campus

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ACROSS

- 1 Body art
- 5 Split ___
- 10 Soft "C'mere!"
- 14 Begin to form
- 15 Re
- 16 Chicano poet
Luis ___ Salinas
- 17 World of Warcraft
beast
- 18 Zelle alternative
- 19 Herding dog from
Hungary
- 20 Veinte, por
ejemplo
- 22 Athena's domain
- 24 Fast-food chain
with Epic Burritos
- 26 Tips over one's
king, e.g.
- 27 "___ be my
pleasure"
- 28 Usage charge
- 30 Dry ___
- 31 "Thus with a kiss
I die" hero
- 33 TV watchers?
- 34 Beta preceder
- 37 Bird-related
- 38 Howe'er
- 39 "Great blue" or
"little blue" bird
- 40 Obtain
- 41 Free of wool
- 43 Not available at
the moment
- 44 Seasoned vet's
opposite
- 47 Part of JD
- 50 Fizzled out
- 51 Playing surface
- 52 Ooze
- 54 Sizable plot
- 55 "No running" on a
pool deck
- 62 Small horse
- 63 "Now ___ talking!"
- 64 Line graph
display
- 65 Look for answers
- 66 Awards
for "Abbott
Elementary"
- 67 Break

DOWN

- 1 Govt. security
- 2 Go back and
forth

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By Amie Walker & Matthew Stock

2/2/24

- 3 "No running" to
an incumbent
- 4 Lemonade
alternative
- 5 Chaos
- 6 Dad on "The
Marvelous Mrs.
Maisel"
- 7 + or - particle
- 8 Pirate song
spirit
- 9 Madeleine of
"Revenge"
- 10 Stick in the
freezer?
- 11 "No running" at a
cosmetics store
- 12 Place where one
might leave tips
for tips
- 13 Cuts back
- 21 Hazardous gas
- 23 "Da 5 Bloods"
actor Whitlock Jr.
- 25 With 26-Down,
"No running" to
a newspaper
reporter
- 26 See 25-Down
- 29 Helpful Amazon
gadget
- 31 Joplin work

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

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2/2/24

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Show"
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- 35 3,600 seconds
- 36 Crumb-collecting
insect
- 41 Skeptical look
- 42 Tally marks
- 45 Thin and wavy
- 46 [Time's up!]
- 48 Remedy
- 49 Line graph display
- 53 Formal
- 54 Off course
- 55 Escape room?
- 56 ___ Gatos,
California
- 57 Body art
- 58 "Delish!"
- 59 Tail movement
- 60 "We'll get there
then" approx.
- 61 Water source

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Tales from the Turntable:

Klaatu, or the worst way to have your career destroyed

by Henry St. Pierre | CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT | HE/HIM/HIS | henry.st_pierre@uconn.edu

Welcome back to Tales from the Turntable! In this column and several other articles that I've written, there's one specific band almost always enters the conversation. Avid readers will notice how often the Beatles come up in these stories. Whether it be the "Paul is dead" theory, their supposed rivalry with the Beach Boys, or just an offhand reference to "Sgt. Pepper's" or "Revolver," there's been a plethora of Beatles references made.

While I will admit The Beatles aren't my favorite band (though I did go through a phase some years ago), for whatever reason, they come up frequently in my writing. This story will hopefully be the last mention of the Liverpudlian lads for quite a bit.

With that out of the way, this story isn't about anything directly related to the Beatles. Today we'll be talking about how just six years after their breakup, they unknowingly ended the career of an incredibly promising band out of Canada.

In August of 1976, Capitol Records put out an album only known as "3:47 EST," by an unknown band out of Toronto called Klaatu, named after a character from "The Day the Earth Stood Still." In the United States, the record was renamed to just be self-titled, as the original name was considered too weird and obscure for American taste.

The record featured sophisticated harmonies and heavily progressive rock-influenced instrumentals complete with catchy hooks. In the album's liner notes, no credit was given to any songwriters or players,

which led Steve Smith of the Providence Journal to speculate the true songwriters.

Just a year after the record's release, Smith published an article in The Journal speculating that Klaatu was in fact The Beatles under a new pseudonym. He cited evi-

The album spawned the surprising hit, "Calling Occupants of Interplanetary Craft," a seven-minute psychedelic odyssey with melodies and vocal hooks reminiscent of what Paul McCartney had been doing with his band Wings at the time. Coupled

with the fact that Klaatu's vocalist, Dee Long, had a voice strikingly similar to McCartney's, many began to speculate the band's true origin. While rumors circulated in the United States, the British were less receptive to such gossip. Famously, a cynical writer for the British media magazine New Musical Express penned an article focusing on the rumor titled "Deaf Idiot Journalist Starts Beatle Rumor." At this time, Klaatu was in the middle

of recording their second album, "Hope." Shortly before releasing the record, the rumor would quickly be snuffed out by one radio station out of Washington D.C.

Dwight Douglas, program director for WWDC, checked copyright records of the band's debut album, discovering the band's real names. "Hope" was definitely an anticipated release, however, since many had already figured out that Klaatu were in fact not the Beatles, the record flopped. The same fate would befall their next album, and the next two after that. The band would receive praise and decent commercial success in their home country of Canada, but dismal album sales in the rest of the world.

The band that started out with one of the most talked about albums of 1976 and ended with a whimper in 1981, all thanks to a journalist for a small newspaper out of Rhode Island. Klaatu was undoubtedly a band that was far ahead of their time, blending psychedelia and progressive rock with a whole host of other influences, like baroque pop, jazz and even synth-pop. All five of the band's albums had exceptionally lush production, courtesy of their producer, Terry Brown (known for his work with fellow Canadian prog-rock trio Rush).

The band reunited a handful of times for a series of one-off performances; however, they didn't record any new material during their reunions. Six years after their final reunion in 2011, the band launched Klaatunes Records, re-releasing their original albums on vinyl, CD and streaming services.



LOGO BY KRISTA MITCHELL, STAFF ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

dence such as the album being released by Capitol Records, who put out all of The Beatles' albums in the United States before 1968. This was just seven years after the band had officially and unexpectedly parted ways, causing many to jump at even the slightest chance of the Fab Four still making music together.



IMAGE COURTESY OF @KLAATU-THEBAND ON FACEBOOK

Walking on Thin Ice:

A guide on how to avoid slips this winter

by **Kekoa Krautkramer**
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With weather in Storrs appearing to be severe this winter, students find themselves in dismay while they trek through the tough climates to make it to their classes. Sheets of ice hide on busy pathways which raises the concern of accidents and slips. Navigating those slippery walkways can be intimidating, so here are a few tips to avoid dangerous falls and severe harm.

Get a good pair of footwear

If you plan on staying in a location with freezing temperatures, such as Connecticut, it may be a smart idea to invest in a pair of boots with traction underneath. From snow to ice, a well-made pair will improve your daily voyage and increase your safety. Look for a pair that doubles as waterproof, to keep your feet dry and bonus

points if it has sturdy ankle support. If you want to avoid the hassle of shoe shopping, some companies have invented ice grippers that you can attach to your shoe as well.

Tread slow and steady

This may seem obvious, but it can become easy to forget how slippery it is when you're late to class. Running is never a good idea in this frigid weather, when hidden ice patches are common. Walk at a reasonable pace, so even if you do feel yourself begin to slip, you are better able to stop yourself from completely falling. Walk with your knees bent to ensure your center of gravity is closer to the ground. Simple changes like this will help you keep your balance stable. The "penguin walk" is another effective stance to do and a fun way to memorize the ideal form. This entails pointing your feet outward and shuffling as you walk. The key is to always re-

main calm and focused during icy conditions.

Keep your hands free

It can become more difficult to control your balance while holding additional weight. It's better to pack as much as you can into your backpack and ditch any extra objects that you would typically haul to class. Having items obstructing your view may become an extra obstacle and make it tough to remain stable while walking.

Choose cleared paths

Although it can sometimes be hard to spot, try to avoid ice patches. Walk on the grit whether that be salted paths or dirt. If you find yourself on ice, try to crouch a bit and bring your weight slightly forward. It's always better to fall forward than on your back to avoid a head injury. Although you can't control public walkways, keep the area

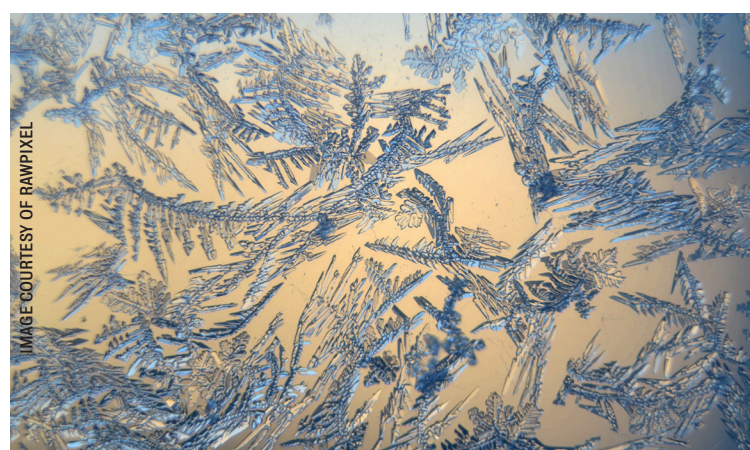


ILLUSTRATION BY SARAH CHANTRES, STAFF ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

in which you live clear. If able, shovel immediately after snowstorms to prevent ice and spread salt to melt any remains.

How to fall safely

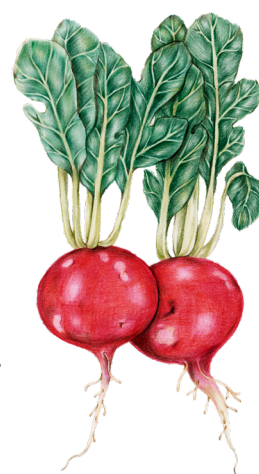
If all else fails and you feel yourself fall, try to land on your side and protect your head. If

you are already crouching, the impact of the fall will hurt less. It is important to avoid falling onto your arms because of the possibility of breaking them. Practice safely with a friend in advance so you know what to expect. And lastly, don't be embarrassed, it happens to the best of us!

Chef Carla Hall unravels the hidden history of food in new series,



"Chasing Flavor"



by **Patrick Boots**
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Food lovers, buckle up! Chef Carla Hall hosts a global tastebud trip in her new HBO show, "Chasing Flavor" (TV-G) with the aim of tracking the lineage of American food favorites.

This isn't your typical food travel show. Hall, a renowned chef, cookbook author and co-host of other TV programs such as Food Network's "Holiday Baking Championship," isn't just showcasing exotic dishes in far-away locales. She's on a mission to uncover the surprising, interconnected origins of America's most beloved comfort foods. The six-episode season dissects the origins of shrimp and grits, chicken pot pie and hot chicken amongst others — dishes we assume are all-American, but hold histories richer and more complex

than their seemingly simple ingredients.

"If you don't know the story, you don't know the dish," says Hall in a trailer for the series. Her statement echoes throughout the care for history and traditions that are newly exposed through Hall's exploration of the oral history of food.

The adventure begins as we accompany Hall through episode one diving deep into the roots of chicken pot pie, a Southern favorite. From the flaky crusts of Jamaica to the savory fillings of Asia, Hall uncovers the global influences that have shaped this comfort food classic. Part of the segment highlights the ingenuity of enslaved cooks who adapted European pies to utilize available ingredients, as well as the impact of immigration waves that brought new flavors and techniques to the dish.

Another episode churns

through the story of ice cream, connecting the dots between different styles like French custard, Italian gelato, the Turkish dondorma and finally, into the origins of the version we eat today. Hall also discusses how she has incorporated authentic techniques into her own kitchen, and how local perspectives have changed her attitudes in learning to use new ingredients or teaching an old dish a new trick.

As a self-proclaimed foodie, I learned some new facts about how populations of the past used ingredients in ways one probably wouldn't imagine today and how some areas hold on to unique and sometimes off-beat traditions. Hall's infectious enthusiasm and genuine curiosity as the host of "Chasing Flavor" are contagious. She doesn't just tell us stories, she tries to live them. The show joins local cooks in their kitchens,

discussing traditional techniques and savoring authentic flavors. Also included are cultural celebrations, for which Hall immerses herself in the communities that have nurtured these dishes for generations.

The theme is a reminder that food is not just sustenance — it's a tapestry woven from history, migration and the resilience of the human spirit. With "Chasing Flavor," Chef Carla Hall is not just taking you on a culinary adventure — she's inviting you to rediscover the heart and soul of America one bite at a time.

For fans of other food travel shows or cooking in general, "Chasing Flavor" will entertain and inform. Produced by Fremantle Original Productions, you can watch "Chasing Flavor" on HBO (check local premium listings) or on-demand with an HBO Max subscription.



IMAGES COURTESY OF RAWPIXEL



IMAGE COURTESY OF @CAROLIMASCO ON INSTAGRAM

Rating: 4/5



IMAGES COURTESY OF RAWPIXEL



Life

@dailycampuslife

Spring songs

FOR WHEN SPRING HAS FINALLY SPRUNG



IMAGE COURTESY OF RAWPIXEL

by **Thaomy Phung**
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Who cares if it's February? Mariah Carey and Michael Bublé arose from their hibernation right after Oct. 31, so I think it's fair if we released a spring playlist a month and a half early. Just as the famous poem goes, "March winds and April showers bring forth May flowers," this playlist is all about the final relieving, rejuvenating feeling of romance and confidence that culminates throughout the season.

In March, the atmosphere changes and winds are at an all-time high. Adjusting to new circumstances might be rocky while climbing out of that inevitable seasonal depression. Wind, although it might have a negative connotation, also brings clarity. Think of this: If you walk directly against the wind, it will brush your hair out of your face, et voilà, you can see again! So which song matches the wind-clattering, clarity-

provoking features of March? "Ho Hey" by an American folk-rock band, The Lumineers, lives to represent this meaning behind March. Released in June 2012, "Ho Hey" became the Lumineers' most-played song on their debut album and their entire discography. In 2016, the Lumineers' frontman, Wesley Schultz, reported to *Songwriting Magazine* the behind-the-scenes of their biggest hit. Covered by the shadows cast upon by the clouds of March, Schultz, too, was stuck in the perpetual, endless cycle of hopelessness. As he recounts, "I moved to [New York] City to get better at music, but I'm getting better at making espressos and being a bartender!" He elaborates on the meaning behind the song, recalling it as a message that represents "as much about my relationship with the city as it [is] about going through a break-up." Like the mind-clearing wind of March, Schultz found his clarity and purpose in songwriting.

Additional March songs include "You Could Start A Cult (with Lizzy McAlpine)" by Niall Horan, "Would That I" by Hozier, "invisible string" by Taylor Swift and "Here Comes the Sun" by The Beatles.

But with clouds and winds come rain and storms. Although these might sound like bad things, they aren't! April is just the preparatory period for the blossoming that happens in the subsequent month. It teaches us patience and being present and optimistic in the little things.

"Banana Pancakes," a solely acoustic song sung by Jack Johnson, the creator behind the friendly soundtrack album for the famous kids show, "Curious George," was released along with his album, "In Between Dreams," in January 2005.

In March

2015, Johnson had an interview with MetroLyrics, revealing how the famous song, or the song that "people connect with the most" came to be. He reminisced about singing the most direct line of "Banana Pancakes," for the very first time to his wife, saying "You hardly even notice when I try to show you this song that's meant to keep you from doing what you're supposed to." Romantically and humorously, this line, sung in response to her not paying full attention to him showing her another song he wrote that never got published, was the beginning of it all. Just as she got used to the process of his constant songwriting, the progression of "Banana Pancakes" relates to that of April: The need to be in the moment and to be appreciative of everything, even the repetitiveness of guitar chords and lyrical thoughts and the dreariness of April's preparatory, rainy nature.

Additional April songs include "I Knew" by Lizzy McAlpine, "4EVER" by Clairo and "Lovers Rock" by TV Girl.

Finally, we reach the last part of the phrase, "May flowers," which is, well, of course, May. From windy skies to rainy clouds, May is a chance for regrowth, rejuvenation and an individualistic rebirth specific to each person.

"Put Your Records On," released in February 2006, by Corinne Bailey Rae undoubtedly captures the phoenix-like aspect that May reflects.

According to *The Guardian*, Bailey Rae's "Put Your Records On" was created to impose a reflection of "female fortitude," which encompasses the strength, persistence, courage and determination within women while they face adversity. Old Time Music reports that Bailey Rae's lyrics were a musical protest and advocacy against the cultural biases that surround natural hair and skin tones when she noticed the trend of young girls bleaching their hair and tanning their skin to



ILLUSTRATION BY CHRISTIAN BARBARA, CONTRIBUTING ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

C. Barbara

a more socially acceptable and advantageous appearance. Dishearteningly, Bailey Rae created this empowering, classic song to encourage everyone to embrace their individuality and to practice self-love.

Additional May songs include "Mercy Mercy Me" by Marvin Gaye, "Love Grows (Where My Rosemary Goes)" by Edison Lighthouse and "Man! I Feel Like A Woman!" by Shania Twain.

Spring gracefully ends with June's uplifting presence in its symbolic nature of stability and strength, an elaborated stance built upon May.

Harry Styles, the human symbol for the ambiguity of spring and summer, released "Golden," the ideal song to reflect June's beachy-free-soulesque complexion, along with the album, "Fine Line," in December 2019.

Encroaching on summer's territory, June represents the freedom and individuality of truly living. Styles' music video for Golden revels in this aspect. "Along with his running through the streets," says The DiamondBack

News, "the video also features him dancing in his blue suit, driving down the coast, swimming and playing on rocks," which is all very in tune with the carefree essence of June. Styles himself, in an interview with Zane Lowe in 2019, reflected, "[Golden] is like driving down the coast. That is what the song is for. It feels so Malibu to me." The euphonic instrumentals, particularly the trumpets, make for a source of "joy," which is what Styles hoped for in making this song, "I wanted to make a video that encapsulated that." After a long academic year, an IV drip of "Golden" — an instantaneous serotonin boost — is just what students need.

Additional June Song include "Fearless" by Taylor Swift, "Say My Name" by Prince of Eden and "Ghost of Chicago" by Noah Floersch.

Getting back to school and starting the second semester may be rough, but, hopefully, with this spring playlist, dreams and longing feelings for palm trees and free time won't seem as unattainable.



IMAGE COURTESY OF OPENCLIPART



Opinion

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

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

Brands, BeReal and pretending to be human

by Tomas Hinckley
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Anyone who knows me knows I'm a big fan of the app BeReal. I've always liked how it only takes up my attention for a short time in the day, how I get a little look into the random mundane parts of friends' lives and just not care about anything because it's an app meant for close friends to "be real" with each other. Just to show you what I mean, I went back and looked at my past BeReals. I've been posting once a day since November 2022 — exactly 434 times. I say this to mention something strange that I noticed when I took my BeReal last night: a new feature that would bring celebrities, brands and influencers onto your feed. What they call "RealPeople" and "RealBrand" is a new way arriving Feb. 6, to add some qualified public figures and see what they post when the BeReal notification hits.

The problem with this is that it completely defeats from the point of the app and illustrates the growing problem within social media. Now, their point in doing this is to hopefully show people the humanity in these larger-than-life figures, as part of their grand goal of bringing authenticity back to social media. But the idea of celebrities and influencers being genuine is absurd. Brand authenticity is a marketing tool and these figures will use it only insofar as it can create parasocial relationships between celebrities and their audiences to sell their various products. The second point of note is the idea of a brand itself being "real." As much as they would like for us to associate them as such, a brand is not a person.

A brand is immaterial. It is the culmination of images, feelings and associations, which only serve the purpose of selling more products. For example, what is "being real" to a company like Amazon? It's hard to think of something because it doesn't exist. Yet, it is coming, and it will be one more human space subtly invaded by corporations urging you to consume. Was that product placed in the frame deliberately? Or, did it just happen to be there when they posted their BeReal? It's these types of questions that break down our guard and leave us susceptible to every aspect of our lives containing an advertisement.

This is the newest example of the personification that brands have been seeking on social media for years. For example, look at the Twitter accounts for SunnyD or Slim Jim. Infiltrating human spaces with funny content that simulates human interaction (or, as seen above, "real" content) provides a couple of strategic points. First, it's a normal ad that gets people to look at it because they find it funny, increasing the odds you'll think about it the next you have a craving for orange juice or beef sticks. Second, it begins to lower your guard as if you're talking to a friend and maybe forget the "person" on the other end is probably an entire team of marketing experts. Third, it begins to associate certain traits with the brand that improve its likability. No matter what, its ultimate end goal is to get you to spend your money and buy their things.

The danger in this is how far it has progressed. The line between consumer and seller continues to blur as their tactics grow more advanced and subtle, which has very important ramifications for society.

Companies once used celebrities to market their products, and that was another form of personification, specifically by hopping on the personal brand of the celebrity they paid to appear. But that was not enough, being too expensive and oftentimes too clear that the figure was just being paid to say the lines. Influencers came into play later on to replace that gap, as public figures with deeper connections with their followers — and less transparent relationships with brands — can better market things to unsuspecting audiences. An ad no longer becomes an ad, but rather a "personal recommendation" from a "friend." The next step in this progression is best shown by the TikTok shop, which has made everyone able to be both a producer and consumer, destroying the line completely, and leaving viewers unaware of what is and isn't being sold to them.

BeReal is an app made to make money. I understand that: it has to make money through selling us something. I am just disappointed that they had to do it by allowing corporations to invade a space that was supposed to be for people to share intimate parts of their lives. This is why America is such a place of rampant consumerism: We are beholden to commercials in every aspect of our lives. The subtle infiltration of ads every second of every day telling us we need more, that we must consume more, eventually starts to take hold to the point that it exists in the collective subconscious. If we want to solve this problem and all the others that stem from our excessive materialism, we must go to the root and draw the line in the sand between us and the organizations that only see us as a dollar sign.

RAPID FIRE: BETTER BUDGETING.

Students, staff and faculty at the University of Connecticut are reeling in response to an announcement from the administration that academic programs would have to endure a 15% budget cut over the next five years. Although we're not on the payroll of Budget, Planning and Institutional Research, the Opinion section thought it might be nice to give the university's accountants a few better ideas for how to save money. This week, Opinion writers answer the following question: What is a better way to save money at UConn?

NELL SRINATH,
OPINION EDITOR:

Defund the School of Business. If they're good students, they can raise their own money. Just slap a public relations buzzword like "experiential learning" on there and call it a day. Hell, UConn might even glean some sponsorships from similarly ethical companies like WeWork, Uber and In-

stacart that share in the mission of "hustle and grind"-ing people to the bone.

DAN STARK,
ASSOCIATE OPINION
EDITOR:

Until we can win more than three damn games a year, it's time for UConn Football to be dismantled. And maybe the golf team too while we're at it.

TOMAS HINCKLEY,
WEEKLY COLUMNIST:

Get rid of North Campus. All of it. Nothing good happens at North. We have evolved past the need for North.

LUKE FEENEY,
WEEKLY COLUMNIST:

I say that if they want to cut 15% of our academic budget, we should cut our year-long sabbatical pay by 15%. Looking at you Susan Herbst (Reject Herbst Hall, Oak Hall forever!)

LETTER TO THE EDITOR: Faculty response to the 'Town Hall'

by Fiona Somerset

Usually a Town Hall is a community meeting where everyone can attend and ask questions from the floor. The "Town Hall" held by the administration on Jan. 24 was a webinar with edited questions and scripted answers. It is no longer available online, and the promised summary in the form of FAQs has not appeared.

Even so, the "Town Hall" made certain things very clear. The upper administration has made very serious errors that have caused this budget crisis. Specifically, they used temporary funds to cover a permanent salary increase. They overspent and overextended themselves on expansion. And they did nothing about these problems for several months, even though they knew about them.

The administration is proposing to increase tuition, increase the number of out-of-state students and decrease what they spend on financial aid. They proposed cuts to the

university's core mission that will be immensely damaging to the university and state: a 15% permanent cut to all academic programs that will eliminate most graduate programs, dramatically increase class sizes and decrease the quality of instruction. Some schools and colleges will be cut even more: For example the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, which awards 48% of undergraduate degrees at UConn and contains 52% of the university's tenured and tenure track faculty, will be cut 19.1%.

At the same time, the administration has not curtailed their ambitious overspending. For example, they could have immediately imposed a hiring freeze. Instead, job searches continue, committing the university to millions of dollars in new spending. Most of these searches are for administrative positions, not faculty.

The administration does not seem to us to have a coherent

plan for the future. The 10-year strategic plan announced just before the budget deficit was revealed last month cannot be reconciled with the massive cuts they are proposing.

We need to focus on our core mission: providing a world-class education to the young people of this state and beyond by maintaining excellence in research and teaching across our undergraduate and graduate programs. The quality of our academic programs is central to our national ranking and reputation.

We are beginning to wonder whether the leadership that brought us into this mess can be trusted to bring us out of it.

Fiona Somerset is a professor of Literature, Cultures, Languages and English at the University of Connecticut, writing in collaboration with over 30 undersigned faculty members. The full list of signatories can be viewed here: <https://shorturl.at/joNW4>

Study Break

Photo of the Day | Just keep swimming



A flock of geese rest in a partially frozen Mirror Lake on Monday, Jan. 29. Countless students have skated on Mirror Lake when it freezes over throughout the spring semester. PHOTO BY ZACH MOLLER, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

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SUBMIT TO CULTURE SHOCK

Culture Shock is a column for underrepresented and marginalized UConn students to anonymously discuss their stories and experiences as members of those groups at UConn.

<https://dailycampus.com/culture-shock/>

DYK?

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Submissions are due by Monday, Feb. 13 by 5 p.m.

Contact businessmanager@dailycampus.com to purchase!

CLIPART COURTESY OF MYCUTEGRAPHICS

WOMEN'S SWIM AND DIVE: HUSKIES TAKE ON CCSU IN CONNECTICUT SHOWDOWN

by Sean Ahern

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The UConn women's swim and dive team (6-3) will welcome Central Connecticut State University to the Wolff-Zackin Natatorium for their penultimate dual matchup of the season today.

The Huskies are coming off a close loss in an away meet against University of New Hampshire on Jan. 20. It took a 200 free relay pool record out of the Wildcats to put away UConn for good. The loss ended a four meet win streak.

Despite the loss, there were plenty of performances to be excited about, particularly in the dives. The trio of Julia Pioso, Kate Cooper and Ana Laura Faoro swept the top three spots in the 3-meter Dive, keeping them in the meet. The three will face off with the Blue Devils' Jewelle Maziarz who is coming off two individual victories in the 1-meter and 3-meter Dives in the team's loss at Rhode Island.

With the win in the 1-meter Dive, Maziarz extended her season and qualified for NCAA Diving Zones. That contest will be held from March 4 to March 6.

In the swim events against

UNH, Olivia Herbert gave the Huskies 25 points with her wins in the 100-yard Breaststroke and 500-yard Freestyle, as well as her efforts in a second-place finish in the 400-yard Medley Relay and third-place finish in the 400-yard IM.

For CCSU, freshman Katrine O'Leary earned herself the NEC Rookie of the Week honor on Jan. 24 for playing a role in five wins in a team win over Sacred Heart. Her first of two individual wins came in the 100-yard Backstroke, winning in an impressive time of 58.55. The second came in the 50-yard Freestyle, claiming the victory in 24.84.

In the same week, the Blue Devils' Gabi Wroblewski earned NEC Prime Performer honors in the win over Sacred Heart. She came out on top in the 400 IM, finishing in a time of 4:37.52. Against Rhode Island, the sophomore finished fourth in the 200 Butterfly. Wroblewski and O'Leary should provide impactful performances that UConn will look to shut down if they wish to defend the home pool.

As the regular season winds down, the Huskies hope to finish Friday with a win over the reigning NEC Champions. Results can be found on www.uconnhuskies.com.



The UConn Huskies swimming and diving team face off against the Georgetown Hoyas on Friday, Oct. 20, 2024 in the Wolff-Zackin Natatorium. On Feb. 2, the team will take on CCSU.

PHOTOGRAPH BY SHELAGH LAVERTY, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

MEN'S HOCKEY: HOME-HOME SPLIT VS. NO. 10 PROVIDENCE THIS WEEKEND

by Nick Spinali

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Fresh off of a second place finish in the CT Ice Tournament, the University of Connecticut men's ice hockey

team is set for two matchups this weekend against No. 10 Providence Friars.

The Huskies played well in their appearance in this year's CT Ice Tourney. They defeated Sacred Heart 6-2 in their opening round matchup, receiving

goals courtesy of Hudson Schandor (x2), Samu Salminen, Nick Capone, Jake Richard and Ryan Tattle. The win advanced UConn to the Championship round against No. 7 Quinnipiac, where the team lost a tight battle with a final score of 4-3.

Harrison Rees, Chase Bradley and Matthew Wood all scored for the Ice Bus in the game, giving the Huskies the lead before a second period surge propelled the Bobcats to the win. Both Bradley and Richard were named to this week's Hockey East Top Performer list.

Connecticut has amassed an overall record of 11-12-2 this season. They are 6-8-1 against teams in their conference, giving them 20 conference points. UConn is currently fifth in the Hockey East.

Providence is looking to keep their recent momentum going after sweeping their latest weekend series against UMass Lowell. The Friars handedly defeated Lowell 7-2 in the first game before returning for a 4-3 overtime victory and earning the sweep. Sophomore Austen May tied for the Hockey East league in scoring over the past week with five points on two goals and three assists over the weekend, being named this week's conference Army ROTC Defender of the Week.

The Friars have compiled an impressive record this season en route to their current No. 10 ranking, going 14-7-2 overall this year. They are 7-4-2 against Hockey East opponents, giving them 23 conference points. Providence is currently in fourth place in the Hockey East.

"We'll have [a lot to] handle with the Friars on Friday night," UConn head coach Mike Cavanaugh said ahead of the contest. "They're very well coached, have a good goaltender in [Philip] Svedebäck, I think they've got some experienced defenseman and are talented offensively. They've always had a good power play and they're very deep up front. They come at you in waves, so it's going to be a great challenge for us."

The Ice Bus has received contributions from all over their roster in recent weeks. Bradley specifically has been a leader for the Huskies all season. Over the weekend, the junior scored a shorthanded goal and had four assists for five points and a +2 plus/minus rating. This season, Bradley leads Connecticut in points with 21. He ranks first on the team in goals scored with 10 and is tied for first in assists (Schandor) with 11. One of two players for UConn who has attempted over 70 shots this year, Bradley will be an integral part to his team's attack this weekend.

Providence is another roster possessing a plethora of playmakers, though Nick Poisson stands out as one skater to keep an eye on. Poisson leads the Friars in points this season with 19. He is first on his team in assists with 12 and tied for second in goals scored with seven. He's also second on Providence in plus/minus at +10 on the campaign. The senior was effective over the weekend against Lowell, scoring one goal and one assist in the first game and adding another assist in the second for a total of three points in the series.

Historically, the Friars have had the Huskies' number, owning a 5-13-4 record in games between the two programs. The two last met in November 2022 for two games with each resulting in a tie. The first was a defensive 1-1 effort before the two sides returned for a 6-6 shootout. UConn will hope to change the tides in the upcoming series.

The Huskies will host Providence for the first game of the series on Friday. Action is set for 7 p.m. at the Toscano Family Ice Forum in Storrs, Connecticut. Action will shift to the Schneider Arena in Providence, Rhode Island for game two. Puck-drop is scheduled for 7 p.m. Fans can catch both games live on ESPN+.



The Huskies take on Sacred Heart University in the CT Ice Championship at the XL Center on Friday, Jan. 26, 2024. Tattle sealed the win by scoring on an empty net in the last period, leading the Huskies to a 6-2 victory.

PHOTOGRAPH BY EMMA MEIDINGER, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Sports

Photo of the Day | UConn, Huskies, Woof!



Students get riled up in the student section at the Providence basketball game on Jan. 31, 2024 in Storrs, Conn. The students of University of Connecticut make a scary amount of noise while supporting the Huskies, leading them to yet another victory. PHOTO BY SIHAM NEDLOUSSI, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Track & Field: Huskies head to Massachusetts for two meet weekend

by Jackson Crainich
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The Connecticut track & field teams travel to Massachusetts this weekend for two separate events: the Crimson Elite in Cambridge and the Scarlet and White Invite hosted by Boston University.

The Huskies are coming off a strong performance last weekend at the Dr. Sander Columbia Challenge, where they totaled 24 top-five finishes and four athletes placing first.

Freshman Joshua Mooney is also heading into this matchup with plenty of momentum, finishing first in the men's heptathlon with a score of 5101. Sophomore Max Ringwall had a very strong showing in the men's heptathlon as well, recording a score of 4571 and placing third overall.

Junior Jailya Ash set an indoor school record last weekend, recording a blistering time of 8.19 seconds in the 60-meter hurdles.

That mark broke the record that was previously held by Phylicia George, who in 2010 with a time of 8.24 seconds.

The Bruce Lehane Scarlet and White Invite is hosted in honor of legendary Boston University track & field coach Bruce Lehane. The longtime Terrier started coaching at Boston in 1982 and had the opportunity to mentor multiple national and world champions.

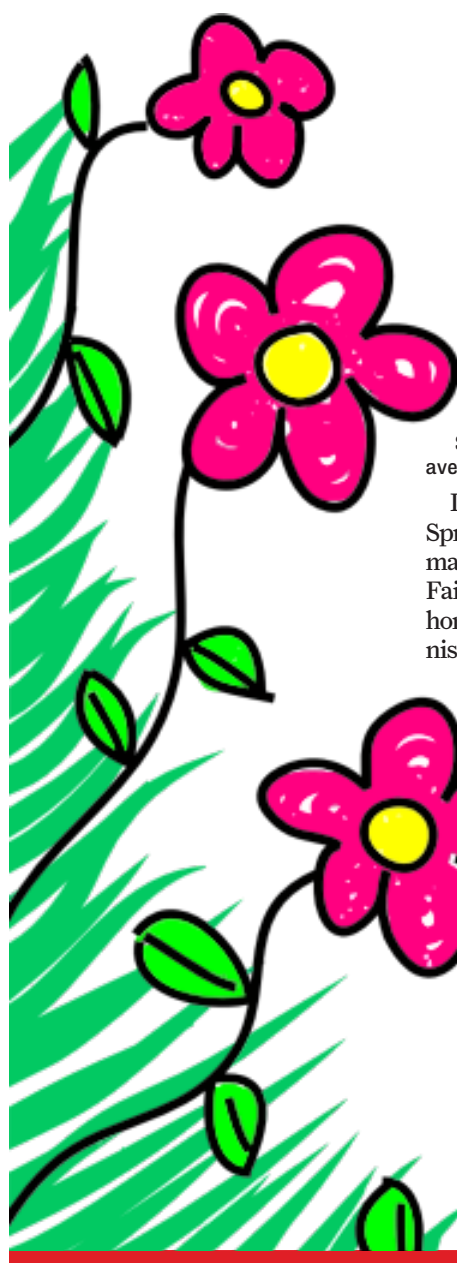
The Crimson Elite is hosted by one of the most prestigious institutions in the country, Harvard University. The event plays host to many schools from all over the central and eastern parts of the United States. Schools present at this event are Vanderbilt, Maine, Yale, South Florida, UCF, Louisiana and more.

The Huskies are heading into this weekend looking to continue their dominance and to win yet another Big East championship. Connecticut will be tested this weekend, but it is expected to be yet another successful weekend.



The Huskies took over the Big Apple at the Dr. Sanders Invite Columbia Challenge on Thursday, Jan. 25. The men took first place and the women took second in their respective categories.

PHOTO COURTESY OF @UCONNTFXC ON INSTAGRAM



Women's Tennis: Huskies start early spring season undefeated

by Avery Becker
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In their second match of the Spring campaign, Connecticut remained undefeated after beating Fairfield University, 6-1, on their home courts at Magic Lincer Tennis Academy in Manchester.

Leading the squad was Olivia Wright, a junior from Glen Allen, Virginia, who went 2-0 at the match.

Wright first competed in a doubles competition where she was

paired with freshman Victoria Matos, and the pair took the 6-2 win.

Wright didn't stop there, though. She then competed in a singles match, winning it 7-5.

Junior Maria Constantinou also had quite the match, going undefeated in singles and doubles. Constantinou was in the second singles position, where she had a 6-2, 6-0 victory in straight sets. In the doubles match, Constantinou was paired with senior Nansi Toskova and the two came out with a 6-4 triumph.

After Wright and Matos' doubles win, freshman Caroline Hinshaw

and junior Isabel Petri Bere paired up and sealed a 6-3 dub.

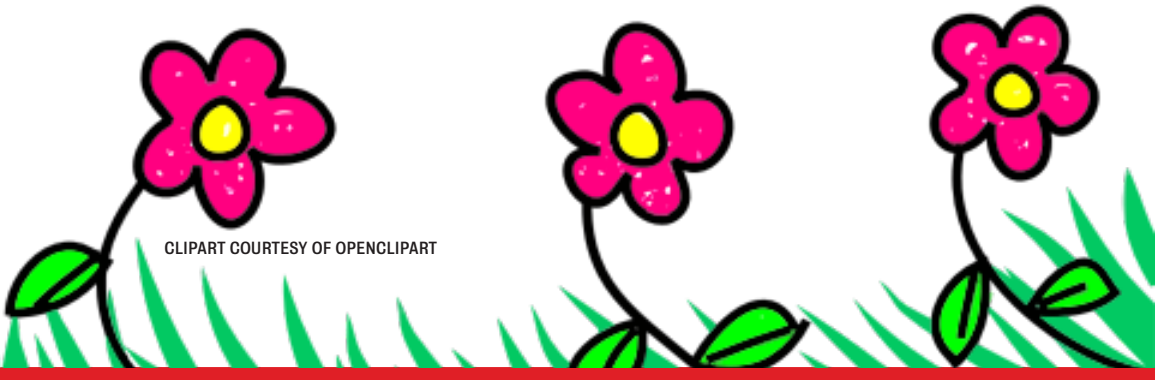
"This was a nice win over a very good Fairfield team today," coach Glenn Marshall said postgame. "Overall, a very good day as we played well in many of the areas we worked on in practice this past week."

With the team's dominating win over the Stags, they look to improve their winning streak to five matches as they head to two more this weekend, both in West Point, New York. Friday, they will be up against St. Bonaventure at 5 p.m. and Satur-

day they will play against Army at 11 a.m. Last season against Army, Wright, who had just transferred in from Providence College, had the match of her career, with a three-set triumph with the final scores of 7-5, 6-4, 10-6.

Wright and Matos, her doubles partner, also won the Doubles Flight A Championship at the Army West Point Invitational last fall.

If Husky fans want to keep up with the team, they can watch the scores live through iOn-Court Live Scoring, which is available on the team's website.



CLIPART COURTESY OF OPENCLIPART

MEN'S BASKETBALL: NO. 1 UCONN HEADING OUT TO STORRS SOUTH FOR MSG SHOWDOWN AGAINST ST. JOHN'S

by Connor Sargeant
STAFF WRITER
HE/HIM/HIS
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As hard as it may be to believe, the first month of 2024 has come and gone. Finishing undefeated in January, the UConn men's basketball team has had an excellent start to the new year, including their most recent 74-65 win over the Providence Friars. The Huskies will return to Storrs South, or as everyone else calls it, Madison Square Garden, as they look to complete the season sweep of the St. John's Red Storm.

While UConn held on for a big win against the Friars, it didn't win any beauty contests. It was a scrappy, poor shooting night from both sides overall. But, of course, the biggest takeaway from that game is Alex Karaban's current state of health.

The 6-foot-8 redshirt sophomore left last Wednesday's contest against the Friars halfway through the first half with an ankle injury. However, Karaban returned to the floor a couple of minutes later and played over 33 minutes when it was all said and done, although head coach Dan Hurley noted that Karaban was "compromised" and that his ankle looked swollen.

With a short turnover from Wednesday night's thriller to their game at the Garden, the UConn coaching staff must decide quickly on what to do with the 21-year-old. If the Huskies lose him, it would be a significant loss for the program, as he has been one of the most consistent players on both ends of the floor. If Karaban does suit up for Connecticut, I wouldn't be surprised to see him on a minutes restriction, which could play into St. John's favor.

If Karaban doesn't play as much, the question is, what now? Could we see Jaylin Stewart play extended minutes? Or will Samson Johnson play at the four? And, of course, could the four-guard "small ball" lineup make an appearance? It will be interesting to see how Connecticut operates with these factors.

In case you missed it, Donovan Clingan had an off night against the Friars. The Bristol native was taken out four minutes into the game for landing in foul trouble. It was more of the same when he returned for the second half, picking up another pair of quick fouls. Even when he was out on the floor, Clingan struggled to make a significant impact, grabbing only three rebounds in 15 minutes of play. Considering that

Johnson struggled to find his mark last game as well, the situation becomes all the more delicate when you consider the impact of Joel Soriano.

The 6-foot-11 big man could be a tough matchup for the Connecticut duo. Soriano is averaging 17 points and 10 rebounds per game. However, on Dec. 23, the last time these conference rivals squared away, it was the Johnnies' big man who found himself in foul trouble. It will be interesting to see how Clingan and Johnson matchup against Soriano, as Clingan was out for that Dec. 23 matchup. However, Johnson had a career night, scoring 16 and ultimately drawing multiple fouls on the Red Storm big man despite struggling to play his brand of basketball.

A significant question mark coming into this matchup will be how Connecticut fairs from downtown. Last Wednesday, the program put up an abysmal 4-23 slash in that regard, and they have been susceptible to poor shooting lines like that across matchups. Players like Cam Spencer and Tristen Newton need to improve their performance from deep. Against Providence, the duo shot a combined 1-11 from downtown. Shooting performances like this make it challenging for the Huskies to come out on top, and this played a factor in last Wednesday being a one-possession game. Saturday's matchup should be nothing short of a nail-biter. Only two possessions separated

the Huskies and Red Storm in that Dec. 23 matchup and how the duo of Newton and Spencer respond to their poor shooting nights at the Garden will be something that Husky fans will want to watch closely.

A UConn win this Saturday would mark the Huskies' 10th straight win, all against Big East opponents. It would also keep them at least two games above second place. St. John's had fared less well in conference play, owning a 5-5 record. However, don't let that deceive you. Rick Pitino's squad can play, and he would like nothing more than to upset college basketball's No. 1 squad and get his team's season back on track. You can catch all of the action this Saturday at noon on FOX.



The UConn men's basketball team goes up against the Providence Friars on Jan. 31, 2024 in a gut wrenching game at Gampel Pavilion in Storrs, Conn. The Huskies came out victors once again after a long game with a nine point advantage, with Stephon Castle leading with 20 points.

PHOTOGRAPH BY SIHAM NEDLOUSSI, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

WOMEN'S HOCKEY: HUSKIES READY FOR BATTLE WITH FRIARS



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.

PHOTOGRAPH BY SKYLER KIM, PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

by Noah Reed
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The Connecticut Huskies are set to take on the Providence Friars in yet another important weekend for the Huskies' tournament hopes.

Heading into this weekend's action, the Huskies look to gain even more room in the Hockey East standings. UConn gained three points of separation from Boston College with their regulation and shootout wins over Vermont last weekend. They can thank the Providence Friars for the extra breathing room.

Providence C fought hard against a good Boston College team. In game one of the series, the Golden Eagles scored first,

but the Friars responded quickly. Audrey Knapp, the team's leading scorer, knotted the game at one with time winding down in the second period. Boston College capitalized on their performance with a shootout win, but Providence successfully stole a point from them in the standings. Game two saw both teams go into Chestnut Hill, and it was Providence taking a game from the Golden Eagles, winning 3-1 on the road. Sparked by two Lindsay Bochna goals, the Friars got their revenge from when Boston College won 5-1 on their home turf a month prior.

Connecticut handled business on their end too. Hosting Vermont in two straight home games, the Huskies continued to dominate in conference play.

After a weekend in which they scored seven times, UConn continued their good offensive performance with another on Friday night. Two power play goals gave the Huskies the lead while Jada Habisch closed the door on the Catamounts with her second of the game for the 3-0 victory. Saturday's game was more of a grind, as neither side gained the advantage through regulation and overtime, leading to a shootout in which the Huskies secured the 2-1 shootout win.

The last time these teams met was back in late October, and the Huskies put on an impressive performance. UConn took a commanding 3-0 lead in the first and continued to pour it on the Friars, scoring three more times on the way to a 6-1 win.

In favor of the Huskies is their defense and goaltending. UConn is third in the nation with nine shutouts, behind just Clarkson and Colgate who have ten apiece. The Huskies are fourth in the NCAA in terms of opponent goals allowed for an average of around 1.27 per game and 13th in penalty kill percentage. All this accumulates into the eighth best winning percentage in the NCAA and the first-place spot in Hockey East play.

Providence hosts night one of the weekend series Friday at 6 p.m., then the teams will come back to Storrs to face off at the Toscano Family Ice Forum for another meeting Saturday at 3 p.m. The games can both be streamed on ESPN+.



Sports

Women's Basketball:

No. 11 UConn starts two-game homestand with duel versus St. John's

by Cole Stefan
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The No. 11 UConn women's basketball team outscored the Villanova Wildcats 37-17 in the final 15 minutes on Wednesday night at the Finneran Pavilion. In that stretch, the Huskies made 18 of their last 22 field goal attempts and limited the Big East's leading scorer, Lucy Olsen, to two second-half points.

Connecticut will clash with the No. 1 South Carolina Gamecocks the next time they go on the road. Before that happens, the Huskies have a two-game homestand where they can continue building off their hot finish from the other night. The first contest involves another meeting against the St. John's Red Storm on Sunday at Gampel Pavilion.

When the Red Storm visited Connecticut last February, they walked out of the XL Center with a 69-64 upset. The Huskies unleashed 11 months of pent-up fury on St. John's at the UBS Arena in Elmont, N.Y., with 92 points when these two teams met four weeks ago.

Connecticut shot 64.4% from the field and 60% from downtown in that game, but no player had a better day than redshirt freshman Ice Brady. Coming off the bench, Brady buried seven of her 11 field goal attempts in 24 minutes for a career-high 17 points. The redshirt freshman has scored 18 points in five games since, but the Huskies need another efficient outing from her over the next week to stay ahead going forward.

Senior forward Aaliyah Edwards had a three-course meal down low in Wednesday's victory over Villanova. Edwards feasted in the paint a little evening for her second straight 20-point game and nearly collected a double-double. Since the team last played in Hartford on Jan. 10, the senior forward has not had a game with fewer than seven boards.

With that combination, Edwards will

both make opposing frontcourts feel her wrath on the glass and make them pay for their defensive miscommunication if left unprotected in the lane.

The same applies for senior guard Nika Mühl, whose 1.3 triples a night are sometimes underappreciated. When left alone, Mühl will not hesitate to let it fly from beyond the arc and make teams regret not covering her. Although the senior guard averages just 7.1 points a night, head coach Geno Auriemma has consistently mentioned that UConn's style of play revolves around her. Mühl's 136 assists and 87 rebounds further validate Auriemma's statement.

Only redshirt junior Paige Bueckers has more boards among the Huskies' guards. Bueckers has been the bucket Connecticut has needed with all of their injuries, and her 21.4 points a night against Big East foes are second overall.

Four 20-point performances in her last six games aside, the redshirt junior wreaks havoc on defense with a team-leading 51 steals and 24 blocks, both of which are in the top 10 in the conference.

Sunday could be a prime opportunity for another dominant outing from first-year guard Ashlynn Shade, who has had four double-digit performances in her last six games. Outside of a 3-3 night against the Marquette Golden Eagles, the five-time Big East Freshman of the Week has not made three or more triples in that same span.

If Shade's shots consistently fall, the

Red Storm might be in for a world of trouble. Look for four-time Big East Freshman of the Week, KK Arnold, to be an X-factor. On top of being a force in transition with 50 steals and 67 assists,

Arnold shot a perfect 4-4 from the field in the second half of Wednesday's win and is scoring 10 points per contest.

St. John's enters Storrs on a three-game winning

streak and has won four out of their last five. Just one of those four victories came against an opponent in the top two quads, but that does not mean the Red Storm should be written off. Head coach Joe Taramella's squad began conference play with key wins over the Wildcats and then-No. 19 Marquette Golden Eagles at Carnesecca Arena.

With scorers like redshirt senior Unique Drake, the Johnnies are always going to be in any game they play. It took the reigning Big East Sixth Woman of the Year a few games to bounce back offensively after scoring a season-low four points against the Huskies, but she has rediscovered her groove. During the Red Storm's three-game winning streak, Drake dropped 26 points a night and scored a career-high 36 versus the DePaul Blue Demons last Thursday.

Senior guard Ber'Nyah Mayo has been on a hot streak with 10+ points in each of her last seven games. What the UMass-Amherst transfer lacks in terms of three-point shooting — Wednesday marked just the second time all year she made more than one three — she makes up for by commanding the floor. Mayo's 31 steals second rank on the team and her 3.7 assists a night are tied for ninth in the conference with Villanova's Bella Runyan.

Sophomore guard Skye Owen causes even more trouble in transition with 1.6 steals and 2.3 assists a night. UConn limited her to three of each in Elmont, but Owen will want to build off the eight dimes she dealt out in St. John's win over the Xavier Musketeers the other night. Graduate forward Jillian Archer, meanwhile, is the Red Storm's primary big and the one who will deal with Edwards the most.

Archer is the only one that might prevent the senior forward from thriving as much as she did on Wednesday, but it will not be because of her 11.2 points a night. The graduate forward ranks third in the Big East with 39 blocks, and her 7.2 boards per game leads the team by a wide margin. Should Archer and Owen both get going on defense early, the Huskies may be in for a long night on their home court.

Tip-off in the second of four Big East contests at Gampel Pavilion is at 3 p.m. on CBSSN.

"Bueckers has more boards among the Huskies' guards. Bueckers has been the bucket Connecticut has needed with all of their injuries, and her 21.4 points a night against Big East foes are second behind Olsen."



UConn women's basketball returns to a sold-out Gampel Pavilion on Saturday, Jan. 20, 2024, taking the win against Big East opponent DePaul. This win sets the Huskies at a 12 game win streak and an 8-0 standing vs Big East teams this season.

PHOTO BY ZACH MOLLER, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

WHAT TO KEEP AN EYE ON THIS WEEK

UConn SCOREBOARD

vs.

74
65

Men's Basketball
Wednesday

Upcoming Games

vs.

Men's Ice Hockey, 7 p.m.
Friday | Storrs, Conn.

vs.

Men's Basketball,
12 p.m. Friday
New York, N.Y.

INSTAGRAM OF THE DAY

[@uconnmbb](#)

An absolutely ELECTRIC atmosphere tonight in the Basketball Capital of the World 🏀🔥

TWEETS OF THE DAY

Marc D'Amelio
[@marcdamelio](#)
9 AM UConn game on Saturday West Coast time. Thinking about doing a watch party at IHOP.

Boc
[@bocs_army](#)
It's 7am and they just called another foul in the UConn Providence game

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