

## USG presidential candidates address diversity, experience and future plans



The Undergraduate Student Government held its presidential candidate debate in the Student Union lobby on Monday night. Candidate pairs, Josh Crow (P) and Alex Ose (VP) went head to head against Jase Valle (P) and Guymara Manigat (VP) in a presidents and pair debate. PHOTOS BY ERIC WANG, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

by Ashley Anglisano  
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Candidates for the University of Connecticut Undergraduate Student Government (USG) President debated Monday night. Joshua Crow and Jase Valle were asked about their previous experience, how they will address issues on campus and specific goals for USG.

Crow talked about his experiences in USG, as he has held the Speaker of the Senate position for two terms, while Valle has experience as a student representative for the Puerto Rican/Latin American Cultural Center and President of the UConn Lambda Alpha Upsilon Fraternity.

"I want to allow the gates for all students to be open," Valle said in his opening statement. "USG must empower all students."

Crow's opening statement demonstrated his want to handle problems unilaterally, help

carry forth student ideas and bring together the UConn community.

"When people don't feel like they're being listened to, they aren't going to stay," Crow said.

The candidates had differing views on whether it would be more difficult to work internally with USG, or to connect with outside organizations.

"Problems that pop up will come from outside the organization," Crow said.

Crow said he has hopes to implement a parking appeals assistance program, where students can submit their parking tickets to USG who will work to appeal the ticket, or initiate a parking forgiveness program. Valle questioned how well this would work.

"I personally have not seen the appeal process work at all," Valle said. "We need to address what economic insecurity looks like."

Mental health on campus was another topic posed to the candidates. Valle said he wants to

focus on bringing in local clinics to provide affordable care, while Crow wants to advocate on the state level for funding to improve services on campus.

Funding of Tier II's was another topic the candidates disagreed on.

"I have worked on many efforts to increase the accessibility of the funding system, one of them was the introduction of the variance policy and second chance funding program," Crow said.

Valle rebutted Crow's want to make better outlines for funding, saying it goes further than documentation.

"We really need education on funding, the funding staff should be working on education as well and letting people know how they can get funding," Valle said.

Both candidates argued that they want to bring more outside voices into USG. Valle has little experience with USG, serving as a justice for part of one semester, but said it shouldn't matter when you join USG.

Greek life voices are also something that both candidates want to bring to the USG sen-

ate table, as well as more diverse seats.

The candidates had different plans on how to combat racism and the lack of inclusion on campus.

"We need to address racism, but also diversity and inclusion as a whole, we assume there are these issues but we need to make ourselves available to the people," Valle said.

Crow is looking to instead bring in more people to USG to help.

"I will not bring solutions, I am going to provide people with platforms to bring in their own solutions to the problem," Crow said.

The second half of the debate invited the Vice President candidates on stage alongside the presidential candidates. Crow is running with Alexandra Ose, and Valle is running with Guymara Manigat.

Ose said herself and Crow hope to create a better sense of community on campus.

"Community is nonexistent at

this point," Ose said. "All of the events that we have on campus, people show up for big things like HuskyTHON, but there is so much more happening on campus."

Manigat disagreed.

"I do not think that there is not a sense of community. There are communities on campus, but they are not cohesive," Manigat said.

Kanu Caplash was also a presidential candidate, but dropped out early this week, citing trouble with his campaign and other commitments.

"I'm having trouble academically, so I want to focus on the Mental Health Coalition and the momentum of it," Caplash said. "It was a tough decision and slightly out of my hands, but I know both of the candidates and I know they will do well and I'm not particularly worried. I know whoever wins will continue the advocacy."

Voting for all positions will be open March 3 through 5, and the ballot can be found at vote.uconn.edu.

*Voting will be open March 3-5, and the ballot can be found at [vote.uconn.edu](http://vote.uconn.edu).*

## UConn recognized as a top producer of Fulbright Scholars

by Amanda Kilyk  
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The University of Connecticut has been recognized as a top producer of Fulbright U.S. Scholars from a research university for the second time in four years, according to a UConn Today article.

"With the support of the United States government and through binational partnerships with foreign governments, the Fulbright Scholarship Program sponsors U.S. and foreign participants for exchanges in all areas of endeavor, including the sciences, business, academe, public service, government and the arts and continues to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries," the Fulbright Scholar program website said.

Six faculty at UConn are currently pursuing U.S. Scholar research opportunities abroad, according to the UConn Department of Global Affairs website.

Scholars studying abroad include associate professor of sociology Matthew Hughey, professor of chemistry Challa

Kumar, professor of painting in the School of Fine Arts Kathryn Myers, Associate Prof. of Civil and Environmental Engineering Malaquias Pena-Mendez, associate professor of English Bhakti Shringarpure, and associate professor of marine sciences Michael Whitney, according to the website.

"The Fulbright Program is the government's flagship international educational exchange program," the Global Affairs website reported. "Scholars are selected for their academic merit and leadership potential, with the opportunity to exchange ideas and contribute to finding solutions to shared international concerns."

Fulbright Scholarship Fellow and UConn alum Omar Taweh received a Fulbright Student Research Grant to do research in Jordan, focusing on improving pediatric refugee mental health services, as well as researching the intersection of religion and politics in order to better inform the policy and work he has done while in Jordan.

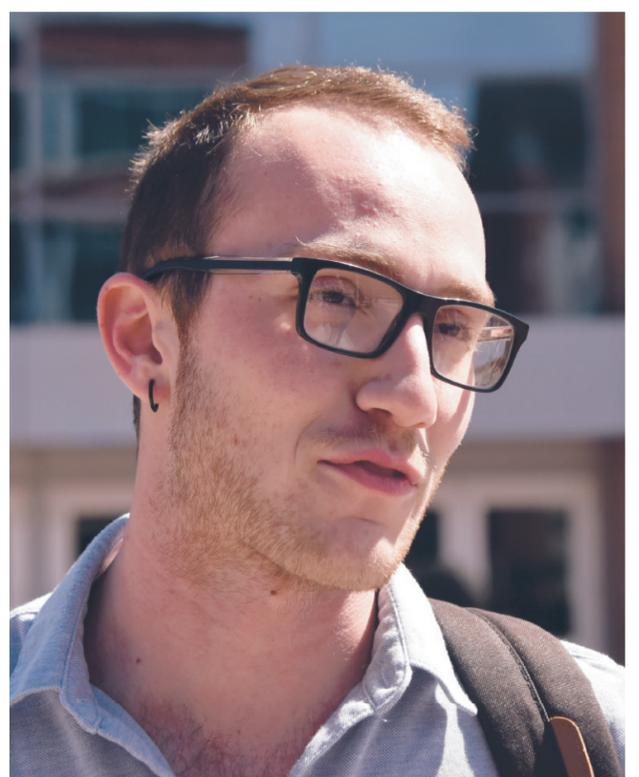
"Being granted the Fulbright Grant has allowed me to break from my heavy focus on science to learn and inform healthcare policy to support those most af-

ected the global crises we face today," Taweh said. "While the grant has helped me expand and improve my language skills in my mother tongue, it has also given me the opportunity to learn directly from those that international healthcare systems work to support."

Taweh says that he chose to study at UConn for both its price and the opportunities it offered him to learn and grow as a global citizen. He earned a Bachelor of Science in physiology and neurobiology, a Bachelor of Arts in psychology, and a minor in human rights from UConn.

"The Fulbright Program, like many others, was surely something I was turned on to by word of mouth from my extremely intelligent peers and friends, but also something I succeeded in achieving by means of UConn's phenomenal academic support system such as the Office of National Scholarships and Fellowships," Taweh said.

Fulbright Week at UConn will be held April 13 through 17, according to UConn Today. Information sessions, advising sessions and a reception for Fulbright Scholars, among other events, will be offered.



Omar Taweh, a 2018 Fulbright Scholar. UConn was recognized as a top producer of Fulbright U.S. Scholars. PHOTO BY BRANDON BARZOLA, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

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## News

# President's Awards for Excellence in Dialogue and Civility nominations due March 6

by **Thomas Alvarez**  
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Nominations for the President's Awards for Excellence in Dialogue and Civility for both individuals and groups in the University of Connecticut community must be submitted by March 6 at noon, according to the Student Life Awards nominations page.

These recognitions, new to the Student Life Awards after their establishment in January 2019, are awarded to those who encouraged civil discourse and dialogue on UConn's campuses. They are available to UConn students and organizations on all campuses as long as they ex-

emplify the characteristics emphasized by the awards.

Those who are selected as finalists can fill a variety of roles such as facilitating meaningful conversation and developing innovative pedagogical approaches, highlighting that these awards are not designed for one specific type of individual or organization. Students, faculty and staff from any campus are all eligible for the individual award and any organization, formal or informal, will be considered if nominated.

"Award recipients will be chosen based on successful demonstration of responsible utilization of dialogue as a means of welcoming divergent opinions and creating new knowledge,"

as stated on the Student Life Awards webpage.

Those interested in nominating an individual or organization must answer two short essay questions explaining the ways they have worked with the nominee in question and explain how they feel the individual or group showcases the characteristics emphasized in these awards.

Individuals and organizations who have been nominated for these awards must accept their nominations and have their statements of support submitted by March 13 at noon if they desire to be considered. Only those who accept their nomination and have submitted statements of support will be eligible.

## Student Life Awards



### President's Awards for Excellence in Dialogues



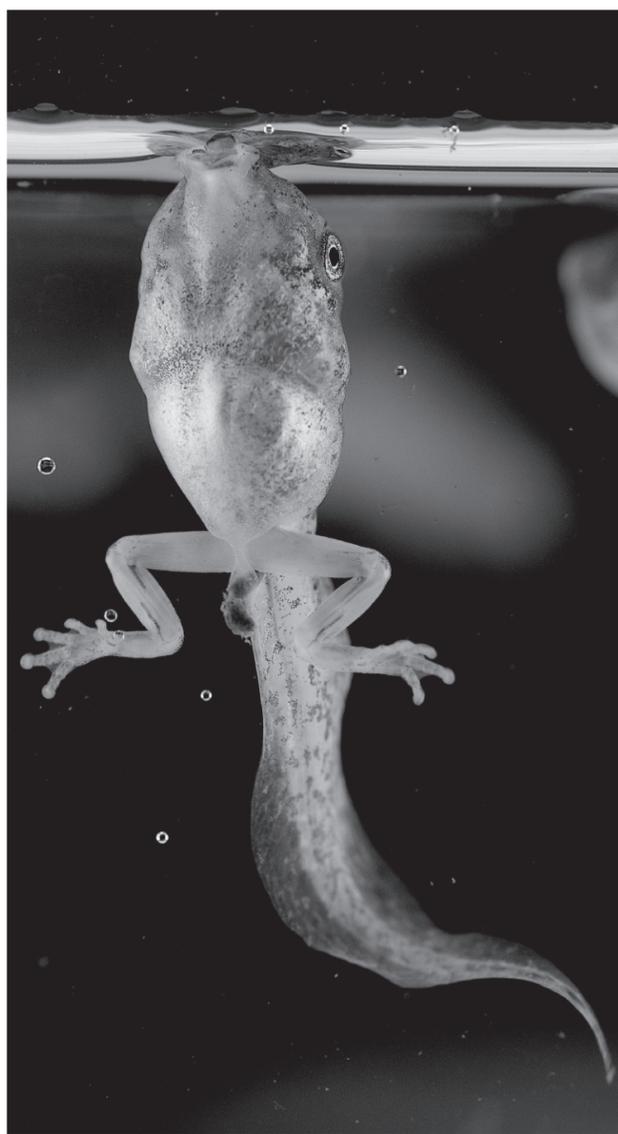
Thanks for your interest and participation in the nomination process for the University's Student Life Awards. By clicking 'Next' below, you will begin the submission process for a nomination, self-nomination, nomination acceptance, or a statement of support for the President's Awards for Excellence in Dialogues only.

NOTE: If you would like to submit a nomination, nomination acceptance, or letter of support for ANY AWARD OTHER THAN the President's Awards for Excellence in Dialogues please click [here](#)

If you are not yet prepared to make a complete submission you may return to the [Student Life Awards page](#).

**The President's Awards for Excellence in Dialogue and Civility are new to the Student Life Awards. The nominations are due by March 6.** PHOTO COURTESY OF SLA.UCONN.EDU

# Research Spotlight: UConn biologists study tadpoles and 'bubble-sucking'



Tadpoles participate in bubble-sucking behavior in order to breathe. PHOTOS COURTESY OF KURT SCHWENK

by **Grace Mcfadden**  
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Researchers at the University of Connecticut recently discovered a previously unstudied phenomenon in tadpoles. Ecology and evolutionary biology professor Kurt Schwenk and graduate researcher Jackson Phillips have been using high-speed video to look into "bubble-sucking," a mechanism tadpoles use to breathe.

Schwenk, who usually studies reptiles as opposed to amphibious tadpoles, said the discovery was totally unexpected as the researchers weren't even originally studying tadpoles.

"We were keeping tadpoles in the lab as part of a completely different study to look at feeding in these aquatic larval salamanders, and they happened to eat tadpoles," Schwenk said.

He explained that he'd been using slow-motion video to study animal behaviors when he and Phillips, then an undergraduate researcher, stumbled on the mechanism.

"When you have the chance to watch animals closely, you see things that you never expected to see," Schwenk said. "I observed this unusual behavior where they swam to the surface and did something funny, which I couldn't tell what it did, and it left this little bubble behind."

Schwenk said he researched the mechanism through using slow-motion video of the tadpoles.

"We were doing high-speed video — high speed means slow motion — so we just got the camera out and filmed it, and sure

enough they did something very unexpected. That turns out to be this weird breathing behavior," Schwenk said.

Schwenk explained the bubble-sucking is part of how tadpoles breathe.

"In a nutshell, over the course of looking at five different species of tadpoles, it became apparent that that one or two suction were clearly respiratory," Schwenk said. "It forces the air through the glottis, which is the opening of the trachea and it pushes the air into their lungs. We can actually see the lungs inflate."

The question that remained was: Why? What Schwenk and his researchers eventually discovered is that unlike grown frogs, tadpoles can't break the surface of the water to breathe.

"What became interesting, apart from the fact that a couple species did it twice as opposed to once, was that we also observed tadpoles swimming up to the surface apparently to breathe, but then literally bouncing off," Schwenk said.

He explained this was a function of surface tension, which is the same scientific phenomenon that allows insects like water striders to walk across the surface of the water. Because the tadpoles couldn't access the air, they had to suck in air from the surface of the water, replacing it with the air in their lungs. In doing so, the tadpoles left bubbles behind on the surface.

Schwenk explained that part of the reason the discovery was so interesting was that most people would assume these tadpoles, which have already been extensively studied, wouldn't

have anything else to offer to researchers.

"Four out of the five species we looked at are just dirt common species that you can find around campus," Schwenk said. "You would have thought that if there was anything we already knew everything about, it would be these frogs and their tadpoles. Just by virtue of spending some time staring at the animals, we discovered something completely new, completely undescribed, really interesting, unexpected."

Because of this, Schwenk's advice to students interested in research is to keep an open mind to even the most mundane parts of the world around you.

"If you want to discover new things, you need to spend time ideally outdoors or even indoors, in zoos, with pets, just watch," Schwenk said. "Watch, and think and ask good questions. Then you're doing research."

PHOTOS COURTESY OF KURT SCHWENK



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## ‘A New Day:’ Harvey Weinstein convicted, led away in cuffs

NEW YORK (AP) — Former Hollywood producer Harvey Weinstein was convicted of rape and sexual assault against two women and led off to prison in handcuffs Monday in what his foes hailed as a landmark moment for the legal system and a long-overdue reckoning for the man vilified as the biggest monster of the #MeToo era.

The 67-year-old Weinstein had a look of resignation on his face as he heard the verdict: Guilty on two charges, not guilty on a set of more serious ones.

While it was not the across-the-board victory prosecutors and his accusers had hoped for, it could put the stooped and feeble-looking Weinstein behind bars for the rest of his life. The charges carry up to 29 years in prison.

District Attorney Cyrus Vance Jr. saluted the women who came forward against the once-feared studio boss, saying they “changed the course of history in the fight against sexual violence” and “pulled our justice system into the 21st century.”

“This is the new landscape for survivors of sexual assault in America, I believe, and it is a new day. It is a new day because Harvey Weinstein has finally been held accountable for crimes he committed,” Vance said.

Weinstein’s lawyers said they will appeal.

“Harvey is unbelievably strong. He took it like a man,” defense attorney Donna Rotunno said. “He knows that we will continue to fight for him, and we know that this is not over.” Another of his lawyers, Arthur Aidala, quoted Weinstein as telling as his legal team: “I’m innocent. I’m innocent. I’m innocent. How could this hap-

pen in America?”

The jury of seven men and five women took five days to find Weinstein guilty of raping an aspiring actress in a New York City hotel room in 2013 and sexually assaulting production assistant Mimi Haley at his apartment in 2006 by forcibly performing oral sex on her.

He was acquitted on the most serious charges, two counts of predatory sexual assault, each carrying up to life in prison. Both of those counts hinged on the testimony of “Sopranos” actress Annabella Sciorra, who said Weinstein barged into her apartment, raped her and forcibly performed oral sex on her in the mid-1990s.

Judge James Burke ordered Weinstein taken to jail immediately. Court officers handcuffed Weinstein and put their arms under his, leading him unsteadily out of the courtroom via a side door without the use of the walker he relied on for much of the trial. He was later taken from the courthouse in an ambulance, strapped to a stretcher in his suit, and taken to a locked unit at Bellevue Hospital.

The judge said he would ask that Weinstein, who had been free on bail since his arrest nearly two years ago, be held in the infirmary at the city’s Rikers Island jail complex after his lawyers said he needs medical attention following unsuccessful back surgery.

Rotunno said in an appearance on Fox News that Weinstein was initially headed to the jail, but was di-

verted to Bellevue to be checked out for heart palpitations and high blood pressure. “He’s O.K,” she added.

Sentencing was set for March 11. The sexual assault charge carries up to 25 years in prison, while the third-degree rape count is punishable by up to four years. (The jury acquitted Weinstein of first-degree rape, which requires the use of force or the threat of it, and found him guilty of third-degree rape, which involves a lack of consent.)

The verdict followed weeks of often harrowing and excruciatingly graphic testimony from a string of accusers who told of rapes, forced oral sex, groping, masturbation, lewd propositions and excuses from Weinstein about how the Hollywood casting couch works. In addition to the three women he was charged with attacking, three more who said they were assaulted by Weinstein testified in an effort by prosecutors to show a pattern of brutish behavior.

PHOTO COURTESY OF WIKIPEDIA



## Girl, 11, brings AR-15 to Idaho hearing on gun legislation

BOISE, Idaho (AP) — An 11-year-old girl toting a loaded AR-15 assault weapon appeared Monday at a legislative hearing with her grandfather, who is supporting a proposal that would allow visitors to Idaho who can legally possess firearms to carry a concealed handgun within city limits.

Charles Nielsen addressed the committee that voted to send the legislation to the full House as Bailey Nielsen stood at his side with the weapon slung over her right shoulder, but did not say anything.

“Bailey is carrying a loaded AR-15,” Charles Nielsen told lawmakers. “People live in fear, terrified of that which they do not understand. She’s been shooting since she was five years old. She got her first deer with this weapon at nine. She carries it responsibly. She knows how not to put her finger on the trigger. We live in fear in a society that is fed fear on a daily basis.”

He said Bailey was an example of someone who could responsibly handle a gun, and lawmakers should extend that to non-residents.

“When they come to Idaho, they should be able to carry concealed, because they carry responsibly,” he said. “They’re law-abiding citizens. It’s the criminal we have to worry about.”

There was no notable reaction among lawmakers to the girl carrying the AR-15, and none asked Charlie Nielsen any questions after he testified. Guns are not an uncommon sight in the Statehouse when gun legislation is being debated, particularly handguns on belt holsters.

Long rifles such as AR-15s also appear occasionally.

Some Idaho lawmakers are known to carry concealed weapons in the Statehouse. State Police patrol the Statehouse, and one and sometimes two are typically present at committee meetings where emotions can become strong.

Republican Rep. Christy Zito, who is proposing the measure opposed by the three Democrats on the House State Affairs Committee, said the legislation is intended to clear up confusion about state gun laws. Backers also say it will give people the ability to defend themselves if needed.

Idaho residents 18 and older are allowed to carry a concealed handgun within city limits in Idaho without a permit or training following a new law that went into place last summer. The legislation would extend that to any legal resident of the United States or a U.S. armed services member.

“I stand here before you today as a mother and grandmother who has had to use a firearm to defend their child,” Zito said. She said two men once approached her vehicle with her daughter inside.

“Even though I didn’t have to pull the trigger, just the fact that they could see it, and they knew that I had it, was the determining factor,” Zito said.

Opponents say allowing teenagers to carry a concealed weapon without any required training within city limits is a bad idea and could lead to shootings. If the bill becomes law, Idaho would be among a handful of states that allow that type of concealed carry.

# CONNECTICUT NEWS

## Sun acquire former UConn star Mosqueda-Lewis from Storm

UNCASVILLE, Conn. (AP) — The Connecticut Sun announced Monday that they have acquired former UConn star Kaleena Mosqueda-Lewis in a trade with the Seattle Storm.

The Storm will get the Sun’s second-round pick in the 2021 draft in return.

The 26-year-old averaged 5.5 points for the Storm last season and 5.3 points over her five years in the WNBA, which included a championship in 2018.

Mosqueda-Lewis won three NCAA titles at UConn before being drafted third overall by Seattle in 2015. She had a school-record 398 3-pointers for the Huskies.

“She has won championships at every level and has a reputation as a great teammate,” Sun coach Curt Miller said. “Our offensive philosophy revolves around spacing with players that can help spread the floor. KML is one of the outstanding shooters in our game and will provide an important spark to our offense.”

Mosqueda-Lewis said she is excited to be back in a place that served as her second home for four years.

Seattle also signed free agent guard Epiphanny Prince on Monday.

“Epiphanny’s tenure in our league has been an impressive one. Her skill and versatility in the backcourt add depth to our roster,” said Storm CEO and General Manager Alisha Valavanis. “She is a great fit on and off the court for the Storm and we’re excited to welcome her to Seattle.”

A 10-year WNBA veteran, Prince has averaged 13.2 points, 2.9 assists and 2.3 rebounds per game throughout her career, while connecting on 37.3% of her 3-point attempts.

## Religious exemption vaccine bill clears Connecticut panel

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP) — A Connecticut legislative committee voted Monday to advance legislation that would eliminate the state’s religious exemption for certain childhood vaccines, despite vocal opposition from hundreds of parents and children who packed the Connecticut Capitol complex in hopes of persuading lawmakers to defeat the bill.

The legislation narrowly cleared the General Assembly’s Public Health Committee by a vote of 14-11, prompting chants of “we will remember in November” after the tally was announced. Some opponents of the bill booed and shouted at the state legislators, who had voted yes, as they left the hearing room and tried to get into elevators to their offices.

Two Democrats joined Republicans in opposing the bill, which now awaits further action in the House of Representatives. It’s considered one of the most contentious issues of the three-month legislative session, fueling concerns about the safety of vaccines and the curtailment of parental and religious rights. It’s unclear whether the legislation, which was amended Monday to grandfather in those students who already have religious exemptions, will ultimately clear the General Assembly in an election year for state lawmakers.

Legislators said they expect additional changes will be made to the bill in the coming weeks that take into account some of the concerns raised by parents during a marathon public hearing last week that lasted more than 21 hours.

“It’s not the end of the road for this bill,” said Rep. Sean Scanlon, D-Guilford, who helped to work on Monday’s compromise. Besides grandfathering in students who are currently not vaccinated, the amended bill also makes it clear that lawmakers want doctors to consider autoimmune disorders for medical exemptions, and require more detailed immunization data collection.

“We’re doing our very best. We’re trying to figure it out,” said Rep. Michelle

Cook, D-Torrington, who pledged to continue negotiating the bill as the session continues.

Supportive state lawmakers, Democratic Gov. Ned Lamont and the state’s Department of Public Health commissioner have called for ending Connecticut’s religious exemption after becoming concerned by a recent uptick in religious exemptions for measles, mumps and rubella vaccinations reported by public and private schools for kindergarten students. If the religious exemption is scrapped, the state will still allow for medical exemptions.

Rep. Jack Hennessy, D-Bridgeport, who said he opposes “forced vaccines,” insisted there is no compromise that he will support.

Some Republican members of the committee, including a physician, said they support vaccinations but accused the Democrats of trying to rush through problematic legislation in a short session.

“I think we need to look at this issue, but I think we need to go more slowly,” said Rep. William Petit Jr., R-Plainville, a doctor who said he supports vaccines. Petit said he worries what will happen to the students who are currently not vaccinated and the consequences of grandfathering those students, starting from kindergarten through grade 12.

“I think we really need to back off and really look at this issue more completely,” Petit said. “There’s a lot of small details that we can perhaps get into.”

Informed Choice of CT, a group that has been helping to lead efforts to retain the religious exemption, issued messages throughout the day on social media that called on parents to contact their legislators and urge them to defeat the bill, saying rights of their children “are not negotiable.” Hundreds of parents who filled the Legislative Office Building, many pushing baby carriages, chanted “kill the bill” throughout the day, as lawmakers worked behind the scenes on the latest version of the bill.

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# Opinion

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CARTOON BY KAITLYN TRAN, STAFF CARTOONIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

### ► Editorial

## This Week: USG presidential candidate interviews

With the Undergraduate Student Government (USG) presidential candidates officially confirmed, we at The Daily Campus want to ensure the students of the University of Connecticut can make an informed and conscious choice for who they wish to lead them next year. Hence, the Editorial Board has taken the time to interview the candidates on their beliefs, motivations and goals for their campaigns.

For two days this week, we will be publishing an excerpt from one of these interviews in the paper. These interviews will be featured on the front page before jumping to the Opinion section. On Wednesday, we will be speaking with Jase Valle. On Thursday, we will be speaking with Josh Crow. Full transcripts of our interviews will be available online at [dailycampus.com](http://dailycampus.com).

In these interviews, we ask pointed questions about the role of USG at UConn, as well as their past accomplishments and goals as president. We ask how they would respond to situations we have come across in our years here at UConn, from controversial speakers to racist incidents to mental health on campus. Of course, we also ask about Tier II funding, one of the core functions of USG. Finally, we delve into their specific qualities and what makes them stand out from the other candidate.

The perspectives of this year's campaigners are diverse, and we on the Editorial Board were surprised by the differences in responses we received. These interviews will serve as a way to document their ideas and values for the UConn populace. In previous years, USG elections have been marked by low turnout and disillusionment about the roles of its leadership. Through these in-depth interviews, we hope to work against both of these issues.

We encourage you to read on in the upcoming days to make an informed decision. No matter what you see as the role of USG, it is important that we have a leader who will speak to the UConn administration about the issues that matter to undergraduate students. So, keep an eye out this week, and make sure to vote with this knowledge. Thank you.

## RETHINKING REPRESENTATION: DIVERSITY IN HIGH SCHOOL ENGLISH CURRICULA

by **Aarushi Nohria**  
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"Quiet as it's kept, there were no marigolds in the fall of 1941," Toni Morrison begins "The Bluest Eye." The novel is a true reflection of the African American experience, written by a black person about black people for black people — the phrase "quiet as it's kept" is even a part of African American vernacular.

Over the past several decades, interest in reading for pleasure has fallen. The 2018 American Time Use Survey by the Bureau of Labor Statistics found the portion of Americans who read for pleasure daily had decreased by over 30% since 2004. This decline has been documented since at least the 1980s. Most attribute this lack of interest to social media, cell phones and television. While pinpointing the cause to reverse the trend is undoubtedly a worthwhile endeavor, there is also value in adjusting educational curricula to fit society's new priorities. Given the decrease in pleasure reading, the books that people read, especially in high school, have increased importance.

The high school reading curricula's newfound importance makes its diversity important as well. Anyone who has gone through a general high school English class can account for classics-focused curricula. These classics, written by dead white men, are undoubtedly worthy of study and can express parts of human nature in contemporary life, but not nearly enough facets of it. For example, even the most generous reading of the racialized language in "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn," written by Mark Twain, a white man, can only portray a one-dimensional reality of living as a black person in Dred Scott's America.

By contrast, Morrison's "The Bluest Eye" draws upon her own experiences growing up in Lorain, Ohio, with critical analysis of the colorism, beauty standards, sexual abuse and inter-generational cycles of violence that uniquely and disproportionately affects black women. Thus, diversity in books is critical to understanding the people and world around us, and given today's polarized and divisive political atmosphere, we could all use a little more awareness.

The push to add diverse and inclusive literature to English curricula is not new. In the early 1990s, literary scholar Harold Bloom and Morrison butted heads on the role of the canon of traditional Western literature. To Bloom, the classics offered a timeless representation of universal experiences and values. But to Morrison, the classics revealed the historical oppression of certain groups by erasure. Both arguments have merit and movement towards diversifying curricula attempts to create a balance between both. While progress has been made over the past few decades, the campaign has plateaued.

Now, half a year after Morrison's death, we should consider her legacy. When do we reach the optimum "diversity?" When do we stop diversifying?

Perhaps diversity is the wrong word to address the issue. A diverse curriculum should be the outcome of the movement rather than the founding principle of action. Fixating on creating diverse curriculums runs the risk of superficial diversity. For example, choosing a book with a person of color is not nearly enough; the person's agency and role in the greater narrative of the book must also be considered. Creating curricula dominated with books by dead white male authors and with only one book by a person of color

*A diverse curriculum should be the outcome of the movement rather than the founding principle of action. Fixating on creating diverse curriculums runs the risk of superficial diversity.*

suggests that the latter book has little value other than its diversity. Instead, the focus should be on promoting inclusivity with diversity as the measure of success. Everyone should grow up seeing themselves represented in literature.

"The Bluest Eye" was a gateway novel toward understanding the importance of diverse curricula and texts, and it changed my life in unmeasurable ways. Many of the books I read for leisure in high school came from themes I recognized in class, and until senior year when I read "The Bluest Eye," I did not even realize there was a whole part of literature that I was not exposed to.

"You are confined by your own repression," Morrison warned. Lack of diversity in high school English curricula hurts everyone, so it must be everyone's responsibility to promote inclusivity and tap into the tremendous potential for positive change.

## The 9 greatest lines from the ninth Democratic debate

by **Carson Swick**  
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As of last Wednesday's Democratic debate, the gloves have officially come off. The six true contenders for the party's nomination (sorry, Tom Steyer) traded blows in a manner that would make Donald Trump blush. What started as a political discourse quickly turned into a complete roast-fest, ensuring us that what happened in Las Vegas was not going to stay there. So without further ado, allow me to count down the top nine "roasts" of this unintentional comedy show.

**9. "I'm the only one on this stage that actually got anything done on health care." - Joe Biden**

The former vice president had a well-prepared comeback to another vague

Medicare For All proposal by Bernie Sanders. Biden's use of the phrase "I'm the only one" was definitely stale by the end of the night, but I'm willing to give him some credit for his role in enacting Obamacare. Still, Biden was largely ignored by the moderators and other candidates, which is never a good sign at this point in the race.

**8. "I don't think you look at Donald Trump and say we need someone richer in the White House." -Amy Klobuchar**

A clever jab at both the president and former New York City mayor Michael Bloomberg accounted for this Klobuchar classic. By adding Bloomberg to her tradition of attacking Trump, the Minnesota senator delivered this zinger with greater ease than I have seen from her before. Klobuchar was

solid in this debate, but she will need a strong performance in South Carolina to restore the momentum she gained in New Hampshire.

**7. "If winning a race for Senate in Minnesota translated directly to becoming president, I would have grown up under the presidency of Walter Mondale." - Pete Buttigieg**

Speaking of Minnesota senators, I was disappointed that this one did not get laughs from the audience. Mayor Pete did not intend to use this as the punchline in his response to Klobuchar's "proven winner" argument, but it did make me chuckle.

**6. "Maybe it's time for the working class of this country to have a little bit of power in Washington, rather than your billionaire campaign**

**contributors." - Bernie Sanders**

Wine cave, anyone? As expected, Sanders continued his crusade against America's ultra-wealthy, but this call to Pete Buttigieg was by far his strongest line of the night. Bernie is still the front-runner of this race, so continuing to take calculated debate risks should serve him well heading into the gauntlet of South Carolina and Super Tuesday.

**5. "It's not a plan. It's a PowerPoint. And Amy's plan is even less. It's like a Post-It note: 'Insert Plan Here.'" - Elizabeth Warren**

Elizabeth Warren wants us to know that Buttigieg and Klobuchar have bad health care plans, and this is her way of telling us.

See DEBATE, p. 8



# Life

@dailycampuslife

## National Eating Disorders Awareness Week

by **Stephanie Santillo**  
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The National Eating Disorders Association (NEDA) declared the week of Feb. 24 to March 1 National Eating Disorders Awareness Week (NEDAwareness Week). While there are several groups on the University of Connecticut campus dedicated to promoting positive body image, there are also numerous resources available for those seeking help with eating disorders.

NEDA's theme for this year's NEDAwareness Week is "Come as You Are: Hindsight is 20/20." This theme declares that everyone's story — no matter their identity or where they are on their journey to self-acceptance — is valid. NEDA also hopes that this theme encourages people to reflect on the positive steps they've taken toward accepting themselves.

In addition to promoting awareness of eating disorders, NEDAwareness Week also connects those seeking support to resources. At UConn, Student Health and Wellness offers an eating disorders support team. Students can call (860) 486-2719 to make a medical care appointment or (860) 486-4705 to make a mental health appointment. Both offices can provide more information and referrals.

Eating disorders usually take one of three forms. Anorexia nervosa is characterized by restricted eating and distorted body image. Bulimia nervosa is characterized by overeating a large amount of food (bingeing) and then purging. Binge eating disorder is characterized by overeating a large amount of food but no subsequent purging.

Health professionals at Student Health and Wellness are available to help those who believe they might be struggling with an eating disorder. Several clubs on campus are also dedicated to promoting positive body image and helping students achieve better self-esteem.

UConn S.H.A.P.E. (Students Helping to Achieve Positive Esteem) is a peer education group run through



Volunteers and the general public take part at the 2015 NEDA walk in New York City on the Brooklyn Bridge. Thousands of participants including Aerie Ambassador and model Iskra Lawrence attend. PHOTO COURTESY OF THE NATIONAL EATING DISORDERS AWARENESS ASSOCIATION



This year's campaign, "Come As You Are," is used throughout National Eating Disorder Awareness Week to spread the message. PHOTO COURTESY OF NEDA

Student Health and Wellness that seeks to encourage positive attitudes about body shape and size to increase self-esteem and positive body image. S.H.A.P.E. hosts The Body Project, a workshop

that allows students to openly discuss unrealistic beauty standards and promotes body positivity.

A few events are occurring on campus to commemorate NEDAwareness Week. From

10 a.m. to 2 p.m. each day this week, the Women's Center, S.H.A.P.E. and Active Minds (a mental health advocacy organization) will be tabling in the Student Union. Their table will have activities and panel of experts from Walden Behavioral Care who will discuss their roles in treating eating disorders and their experiences with these topics.

This week, S.H.A.P.E. is also hosting a week of challenges on Instagram to promote body positiv-

ity. Monday's challenge was for students to share a selfie that isn't perfect, and similar challenges encouraging self-acceptance will follow throughout the week.

The most important takeaway from NEDAwareness Week is that there is help out there for those with eating disorders. Any student who thinks they might have an eating disorder is able to reach out to Student Health and Wellness for support.

*"In the United States, 20 million women and 10 million men suffer from a clinically significant eating disorder at some time in their life."*

HAPPYFOODHEALTHYLIFE.COM



# the undertow

## Local shredders 'Two Headed Girl' talk Battle of the Bands, Scott Pilgrim and a communist kids summer camp

by **Daniel Cohn**  
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"Two Headed Girl" took runner-up at last weekend's WHUS-hosted Battle of the Bands. Fronted by identical twins Angie and Celeste Padua on guitar and bass (hence the Neutral Milk Hotel-referencing name of the band), the four-piece outfit also features Kevin Ryan on guitar and Cam Pulaski on drums. With Angie and Cam at the University of Hartford and Celeste and Kevin here in Storrs, the indie emo band has the unique feature of having one foot in a major university town and another in one of the biggest cities in New England. On Saturday, I talked to the band about everything from their performance last weekend in front of hundreds in the Student Union to their performance in front of a communist summer camp and everything in between.

### How did this all start?

Angie: I know Celeste. We go way back, one could say.

Celeste: We met a really long time ago, I don't even remember.

A: Basically, freshman year of college I said "Let's be in a band," and then I was like "Hey Cam, can you drum for us," and then that's kind of exactly how it went down.

Cam: And that was a compromise for us.

### How is it splitting [the band] between Storrs and Hartford?

A: Honestly, now that Kevin's joined – Kevin joined in October [2019] – I feel like it's better because Cam has a car, Kevin has a car and also there's like two of us at each school, so it's not as bad as when it was just Celeste here. I think it's not as bad as it could be.

Kevin: Oh man, I feel so used!

A: You're not! You're not used, Kevin.

### Which town has the better music scene?

A: Can I say New Haven? Storrs, because we almost won the Battle of the Bands.

Cel: Storrs, because we almost won the Battle of the Bands. And I would argue Middletown.

Cam: Storrs also has Willimantic Records nearby, right?

K: Also, house parties are starting up with more music. There's been an initiative to have that get done.

Cam: Also, the problem is that most venues in Hartford kind of don't exist anymore. Like, there's people there doing stuff but all the house venues are kind of gone.

A: When we were freshmen, there were so many places you could go on any given night you could go to like four different gigs. There was Dennis, Blind Moose, Village Pizza –

### Are these all actual venues or houses?

Cel.: These are all actual places except Dennis was a house. And Blind Moose was also a house.

### What's the coolest place you guys have performed?

K: WHUS Battle of the Bands.

A: The Battle of the Bands, but honestly, I have to say in top tier moments, that weird communist summer camp we played in Vermont. We played at a communist summer camp.

Cam: 10- year-olds were swearing. It was awesome.



'Two Headed Girl' members Celeste Padua (left), Cam Pulaski (back), Angelica Padua (front), and Kevin Ryan (right) perform at WHUS's Battle of the Bands on Feb. 14. PHOTO BY DANIEL COHN, ASSOCIATE MANAGING EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

A: There were Malcolm X quotes everywhere. I was like "This is f\*\*\*king cool."

A: They paid us in food!

Cam: I just remember the experience of being there. I've talked to people who have also been there and they're convinced it was a fever dream.

A: It was really sick. I would say that was second place to the Battle of the Bands, which was just sick.

Cam: Wasn't the West Virginia show also amazing?

A: Oh, the West Virginia show! Cam and Kevin weren't there; Celeste and I had other people fill in. We played West Virginia and it was so weird. This guy came up to us and said "You guys look like Ad Rock from the Beastie Boys," and then he tried to slide into my DMs. I think he thought I was a dude. He was like 50. West Virginia is one of the most underrated states. West Virginia is cool and that event was crazy. The people who ran it were so nice, though! She just gave us \$100 in addition to what we made. I was like "You can't just have a shirt," but she was like "No, no." I was like, "The shirt's only like eight dollars!" And she slides me a bunch of 20s. I was like, where are you finding this generosity? Also, it feels like they don't have much of a music scene, so when people play there, they go crazy.

### What is your dream cover?

Cel: I was just thinking about this! The other day, I found out that Kim [Deal] and her sister – I don't know her sister's name – are twins, so I was like "We should do 'Cannonball' by The Breeders."

### Cannonball?

Cel: Yeah, yeah, it's by Kim Deal from The Pixies, it's her band with her twin sister.

### Whenever I think of twins in music, I think –

A: You think of us!

Yeah! But I also think of the fifth and sixth evil exes

### from "Scott Pilgrim vs. The World," with the Katayanagi twins.

Cam: That's the best song in the film!

K: Getting back to dream covers, I think we already do my dream cover. At first I was cringed out by it, but "Curse of Curves" [by Cute Is What We Aim For] is pretty fun. It's so funny.

A: We already do my dream cover, which is "Nineteen" by Tegan and Sara. We played a benefit show for their foundation which helps LGBTQ+ people. We wanted to cover it because the show is kind of them-themed and we're twins. So, we did "Nineteen" by Tegan and Sara and it was one of the best moments of my life.

K: Angie, I have something to confess: I never learned the lead guitar part to that song. I motioned my way through it.

A: I knew, I knew. I was like "I know Kevin's making up the leads, this is fine."

Cel.: I should mention that we did a dream cover of mine for the CT Versus compilation: "Mayonnaise" by The Smashing Pumpkins is one of my favorite songs of all time.

Cam: "Ray of Light" by Madonna would be really cool. That would be really good, but I don't know if that would work in any context, actually.

K: We could do a cover album and just drop it on Bandcamp.

Cam: I think we should do "break up with your girlfriend, i'm bored" by Ariana Grande.

A: I actually do want to do it. I don't know what it sounds like.

Cam: The first melody when you hear that sentence, and it's probably close to that. Oh! We could do 'My Own Worst Enemy' by Lit.

Cel: I don't want to do that!

So, we've kind of danced around it, but how was Battle of the Bands for you?

Cam: Pretty dope.

A: It was an awesome experience! Everyone was so nice. We were like, "Wow, can you guys have us back?"

Cam: I think that was the most people any of us have ever played for.

K: I don't want to "no comment" this one, but that was probably like third for me.

Cel.: Where the hell are you playing?

K: I played with Living Weary at the Wolf Den twice, at Mohegan once and I've played an anniversary event for where I took guitar lessons, and for some reason over 200 people showed up.

### Lastly, this is kind of clichéd, but what do you all have coming up next?

A: So, our next three shows, which is what we have so far. This upcoming Friday Feb. 28, we're playing at 216, which is on Yale's campus. And then, the day after [Feb. 29], we're playing in West Haven in Crunch House. We have a show on March 29; we're playing at Café Nine in New Haven.

K: We've never played there, but I see a lot of people playing there.

A: We're also writing songs and stuff. I kind of want to focus on that more anyways. Also, like, we're students, so it's like, I don't exactly want to do a "weekender" every weekend, you know.

Cam: Two Headed Girl is going to graduate soon, that's gonna be huge.

Cel.: Big things coming.

A: And we're gonna write an album. And you're gonna crack open that album and be like, "Wow."

Two Headed Girl's music can be found on all streaming platforms.

*This interview has been abridged.*



PHOTOS BY DANIEL COHN, ASSOCIATE MANAGING EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

# Diversifying the law with Asian American attorneys

by **Hollianne Lao**  
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Just as important as representation is for minority populations in education, the media and positions of power is representation in the workforce. For Asian American students, professions in the legal field may not be one they considered pursuing, and is certainly not one that they see themselves as visibly represented in as other professions. According to the American Bar Association, only 2% of reporting active attorneys are Asian, in comparison to other racial minorities in the field, with people of African American and Hispanic descent being 5% each of the reporting population. Last night in the Student Union, in collaboration with the Asian-American Cultural Center (AsACC) and the Center for Career Development (CCD), students were able to hear from a panel of practicing attorneys of Asian descent that are part of the Connecticut Asian Pacific American Bar Association (CAPABA).

"Connecticut is not one of the more diverse states and I can potentially go a day without seeing another Asian," Dan Brody, a UConn Law School alum and president of CAPABA, said. "One of the main issues is that there aren't a ton of Asians that decide to be lawyers and one of those reasons might be that there's family pressure to pursue other fields. Four of the five of us here started off in the sciences and I think stereotypical-

ly, that is fairly common among Asian families, especially first, second-generation ones."

The panel was moderated by Carolyn Ikari, an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Connecticut District of the Department of Justice and Vice President of CAPABA. The group works to support and advocate Asian Pacific American lawyers and their legal interests.

"We want to get you thinking or curious about the possibility of pursuing a legal career," Ikari said. Her upbringing as a second-generation Japanese American has influenced her desire to increase the representation of people of Asian descent in the legal field. She originally studied and worked in the field of computer science engineering, but decided to become a lawyer after three years.

The panelists represented a diverse array of cultural and academic backgrounds, offering insight into the different ways one can end up with a career in the legal field. Michelle Querijero works as a Senior Claims Analyst at Allied World, an insurance company, handling healthcare management claims relating to issues like liability. Although she originally dreamed of working for NASA and is educated in astrophysics and aerospace engineering, Querijero believes the

legal field is one that has "lots of room for people who have a lot of different interests."

"Making those connections and pursuing them [is important] because you get the opportunity to connect with people like you, who have had experiences like you," Querijero said. With a Filipino father and American mother, she had a diverse upbringing. Her mother's work as an attorney informed her eventual decision to become a lawyer herself. "What we all get out of CAPABA is a sense that there are people like

edge of the science and I could make contributions more with my science background," Woo Sin "Sean" Park said about how his education in genetics has helped with his work as an associate at Day Pitney LLP. He works on litigation relating to patent, copyright, trademark and trade secret matters and has expressed how a science background may make an applicant seem more attractive to employers who need their expertise. As a Korean citizen living in the United States, he discussed how some legal positions require one to be a U.S. citizen, however, that was not necessarily a problem for him in his area.

Like Park, Ikari and Querijero, Shirley Ma's decision on whether to pursue a further education in chemistry led her to realize that she wanted to attend law school, however, as an intellectual property counsel at the Pratt and Whitney Division of United Technologies, she is able to more aptly navigate the corporation's patent matters.

"The one thing that I think being a scientist does help is that you know how to ask a question so that you can get additional information," Ma, who was born in Hong Kong and grew up in Brooklyn, said. "The analytical skill set is highly transferable and allows you to ask the right questions."

Brody works at Robinson and Cole focusing on white collar defense, government enforcement and internal investigation, and was the sole panelist who did not have a scientific background, instead graduating with an English degree. He also discussed his familial background of being adopted and raised in a white family in a white community, as well as being the only Asian in grade school, besides his adopted sister.

"In the legal field, you can go to a law firm of 500 people and you're not going to have a representative sample of Asians among that group," Brody said. "One of the reasons that we're here today is to encourage people and students who may not have considered becoming lawyers to think about it ... we're here because we want to give you options and open your horizons to another career path."

Students enjoyed hearing from a panel with diverse backgrounds to represent the Asian American community.

"I think that people with an Asian background sometimes might not be inclined to go into certain fields ... and clearly there's a lack of Asian representation in law," Arman Chowdhury, a fourth-semester biological sciences major and copy editor for The Daily Campus, said. "I think that largely comes because it's not something that we are inclined to consider for ourselves so it's a cool opportunity to open people's eyes to it, to be able to see themselves in these positions, see it as an option for them."

**'Only 2% of reporting active attorneys are Asian, in comparison to other racial minorities in the field, with people of African American and Hispanic descent being 5% each of the reporting population.'**

#### AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION

us who know what it's like to walk in our shoes. That amount of camaraderie makes going about your world as a lawyer or even engineer even better."

Some of the panelists used their prior academic background in the sciences to inform the areas of law that they currently work in.

"When I started right away, I had no knowledge as a lawyer ... but I had this fresh knowl-

## Melissa's Menu

### EARL GREY CREME BRULEE

by **Melissa Scrivani**  
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Why not treat yourself to a fancy dessert sometimes? There's no dessert fancier or more delicious than creme brulee, and this week's Melissa's Menu takes the classic recipe and puts a twist on it: Earl Grey creme brulee. The result is a creme brulee with a more citrusy and bittersweet flavor than the typical vanilla version.

Creme brulee is one of my favorite desserts. Nothing beats the rich, smooth taste of the creamy base or the excitement from cracking the hard sugar topping. The earthy tea and citrus flavor of this recipe adds a new, exciting dimension to the dessert that is definitely worth a try. Whether you're just in the mood to or you're trying to indulge yourself or impress your friends, whip up this amazing recipe. It is a little complex, but the results are so worth it.

#### Ingredients

- 1/4 cup of granulated sugar, divided
- Zest of 1 small orange
- Zest of 1 lemon
- 1 cup of heavy cream
- 1/4 cup of whole milk
- 1/4 teaspoon of kosher salt
- 2 Earl Grey tea bags, cut open
- 3 large yolks



PHOTO COURTESY OF ROOM-INGTASTE.COM

#### Directions

Preheat oven to 325 degrees Fahrenheit. In a medium heat proof mixing bowl, rub two tablespoons of sugar with the lemon and orange zests until sugar takes on an orange hue. Set aside. In a small saucepan over medium heat, bring cream, milk, the remaining two tablespoons sugar, loose tea and salt up to a simmer. Reduce heat to low and let simmer for 10 minutes. Remove from heat. Meanwhile, bring four cups of water up to a boil. Add yolks to the bowl with sugar and whisk vigorously until smooth, shiny and slightly lightened in color, which will probably take two to three minutes. While whisking, slowly pour in about 1/4 cup of the hot cream mixture until well combined. Gradually pour and whisk in remaining cream until fully combined.

Place two six-ounce ramekins in a small baking dish, or, preferably, place each ramekin into individual round baking dishes. Divide cream mixture equally between ramekins. Place the baking dish in the oven and slowly fill the dish with enough boiling water to come up halfway up the ramekins, being careful to not splash any water into the ramekins.

Bake until custard is mostly set but still shakes a little when ramekin is jiggled, for about 35 minutes. Carefully remove the baking dish from the oven, being very careful to not let water splash into the ramekins. Let them cool for 10 minutes, then remove ramekins from the water bath. Let them cool to room temperature and transfer to a refrigerator to chill until fully set, for at least one hour and 30 minutes. When ready to serve, dust each ramekin evenly with one teaspoon of sugar. Use a torch to gradually melt and caramelize sugar. Enjoy!

# Opinion StudyBreak

Photo of the Day | Daniel don't forget to put a rabbit pun here (replace this)



Chubbs the bunny enjoys the sun on the Student Union quad with his new friends. PHOTO BY SOFIA LANGOU, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

## I disagree with Kaitlin Bennett but I will protect her free speech

by **Samara Karow**  
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Last week, conservative political activist Kaitlin Bennett visited Ohio University and was greeted with animosity. Though I disagree with her on a myriad of issues, I remember the old aphorism frequently misattributed to Voltaire, “I disapprove of what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it.”

Yes, Bennett harbors transphobic views and could address her delivery style more tactfully. No, this doesn't justify throwing hot drinks at her, swearing at her or threatening her. I write this as a college student, one who believes college campuses should be a bastion for free speech. What occurred this week at Ohio University didn't happen at my school, but it could have. Feminists everywhere should know that to empower women, even those with dissenting opinions, saying, “I hope someone f\*\*\*ing holds you down and rapes you,” as one woman said to her several months ago, is not the way to do so. It's not methodology for respectful discourse, nor does it foster a campus hub for free speech where we can learn from the variety of opinions at play.

Back to the Ohio University visit: Kaitlin Bennett definitely espoused some horrible views which are harmful to trans people. The way to deal with this harmful speech, free as it is, is to criticize it, so I will.

“Well, unfortunately, a lot of college students don't know this, but you were born with the gender that you were born with. That's just how it is,” Bennett said when asked if trans people should be allowed to use the bathroom of the gender they identify with.

This is preposterous and illogical. Transgender people make an effort to pass as the gender they identify as, so forcing a trans man who is on testosterone and had top surgery into the women's restroom or a trans woman who is on estrogen into the men's restroom makes no sense. Even with her harmful views about trans people, I still think throwing drinks and swearing at her is unjustified.

I don't get Bennett's whole shtick. Bennett, who rose to fame as “The Gun Girl,” first gained traction at Kent State University, walking around with a gun with police for backup. A recent graduate, her activism's emphasis was to protest the campus' rule which prohibits students from open-carrying. Now, I for one, am definitely someone for Second Amendment rights. However, asking police from the same district as those who historically murdered students makes no sense to me. The police force at Kent State University may be comprised of different people than in 1970, but it doesn't erase history.

Her methodology is also abrasive.

“Do you guys think we should abolish the death penalty?” Bennet asked while dressed as her alter-ego, Jenna, at the Women's March in January.

The woman she was interviewing responded, saying she “believe[s] in the death penalty, actually,” to which Bennett countered, “Is that why you're pro-choice?”

Now, regardless of what your views are on either abortion or the death penalty, you can agree this framing is incredibly disrespectful. It doesn't give the interviewee the benefit of the doubt and automatically assumes she gravitates towards policies which support murder. Of course, there are other reasons for being both pro-choice and pro-death penalty, most of which don't support a consistent murder ethic. What Bennett is doing aims just to get a rise out of people, not to have a calm, level-headed discussion. If she wanted to have a level-headed discussion, she wouldn't paint her political opponent as a murderer.

Even so, despite Bennett's apparent lack of disrespect for people she disagrees with, the borderline violent behavior of students at Ohio University was uncalled for, and the police should have intervened. There is a difference between a heated debate and splashing someone with hot beverages while behaving in a manner that could be determined as a precursor to violence.

I disagree with Kaitlin Bennett on a myriad of issues, most notably immigration, gay marriage and trans rights. I think some of her opinions are toxic, homophobic, transphobic and xenophobic. Despite this, I would never wish sexual harrassment upon her, throw hot drinks at her or incite violence. Her framing of questions is often problematic, but never dangerous. I would never call her a pristine, intellectual beacon of the right, nor a masterful rhetorician, like Ben Shapiro or Dr. Jordan Peterson; just someone seeking to gain an angry reaction from her opponents and paint them as being irrational. Nevertheless, she never directly incited violence, so I honor her ability to speak. Students at Ohio University needed to learn how to critically think about and dissemble opinions they don't like. I only wish students at my school, the University of Connecticut would do the same. Free speech is not dangerous, but freedom to speak doesn't mean freedom of being criticized so I hope my writing serves Bennett well, with all the criticism she deserves.

## CARSON'S TAKEAWAYS FROM CHAOTIC NEVADA DEBATE

“Maybe it's time for the working class of this country to have a little bit of power in Washington, rather than your billionaire campaign contributors.”

BERNIE SANDERS

DEBATES, cont. from p. 4

The analogies are amusing; even Warren's opponents were amused when she rattled this one off. Props to Klobuchar for being a good sport about it.

4. “The best-known socialist in the country happens to be a millionaire with three houses.” –Michael Bloomberg

Considering Bloomberg's historically awful performance, perhaps I should not place him this high on the list. But this line, a direct challenge to the hypocrisy of Bernie Sanders, was quite witty. Bernie attempted to fight back with his subsequent “tax haven” remark, but Bloomberg's “New York City” answer quickly shut Sanders down. Unfortunately, Bloomberg dug a deep hole for himself in Las Vegas, so he'll need a miracle to get back into this race.

3. “Let's put forward somebody who's actually a Democrat.” –Pete Buttigieg

This line is simple and effective, yet it makes a valid point. Buttigieg identifies the two greatest threats to a moderate Democratic ticket with his name on it: Sanders (who wants to move the party farther left) and Bloomberg (who wants to “buy” the election). The end of this storyline will be written by primary voters in the coming weeks, but Sanders currently holds the advantage.

2. “No, I'm not talking about Donald Trump. I'm talking about Mayor Bloomberg.” –Elizabeth Warren

When you're on a debate stage with Elizabeth Warren and you have called women “fat broads” and “horse-faced lesbians” in the past, there is simply nowhere to hide. She wasted no time in letting her feelings about Bloomberg be known. This exchange marked the beginning of the billionaire's disastrous night.

1. “I've been nice to some women.” –Elizabeth Warren

Ouch. If Warren's campaign is not going to take off the way it looked as though it would last fall, she's going to bring Bloomberg down with her. Her witty summarization of Bloomberg's response to a question about sexual misconduct allegations characterized the nature of this debate. The stage in Las Vegas belonged to Warren; the other five candidates were just standing on it. Despite her strong debate performances, the Massachusetts senator faces a long climb after disappointing primary results.

The earliest primaries conclude this weekend in South Carolina, and we will see several of these candidates drop out of the race soon. But with Super Tuesday only a week away, it is never too late for anyone to make an unlikely surge.



CARTOON BY JOSHUA ARIZMENDI, STAFF CARTOONIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

# Column: The expanded playoffs isn't even the worst part of the proposed new NFL CBA

by **Jorge Eckardt**

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In November, I wrote a column on how the NBA should make their playoffs smaller. A few weeks ago, I wrote a column about how the rumored MLB playoffs expansion was a terrible idea for the sport. Now, with the NFL in the voting process for a new collective bargaining agreement that would include an expanded playoff, I bet you can guess where I stand.

I firmly believe that across all sports, larger playoffs will do far more harm than good. We see it in the NBA right now where, at the time of writing, the Memphis Grizzlies are the No. 8 seed in the West at 28-28 and are not being seriously challenged by anyone.

It's even worse in the East, where after the top six teams the drop-off is drastic, with the 26-29 Brooklyn Nets having the No. 7 seed and the 24-32 Orlando Magic having the No. 8 seed. The fact that a team is eight games under .500 and currently in playoff positioning is absurd.

In the MLB, when the rumored playoffs expansion hit the public, people immediately revealed that if that system was in effect, .500 and below .500 teams would have made the playoffs in recent years more often than not.

Essentially, I believe not all good teams have to make the playoffs if that means some average or even flat out bad teams will as well. If the NBA cut their playoffs down to six teams in each conference, it would (if the playoffs ended today) exclude the Nets and Magic in the east - two teams that are under .500 - and the Grizzlies and the Mavericks in the West.

Sure, the Mavs would be missing the playoffs despite being 11 games over .500, but frankly, oh well, because they still had a worse season than six of the 14 other teams in their conference. You shouldn't just have to be good, you should have to be one of the best, and you certainly shouldn't have to just be average.

The regular season should matter, and that goes for the NFL as well. If the playoff expansion was in place last season, it would have put the 9-7 Los Angeles Rams and the 8-8 Pittsburgh Steelers in the playoffs.

The Rams had a season filled with mediocre quarterback play from a top-paid signal-caller and a defense that after being one of the top units in 2018 regressed to be nothing more than average - like their quarterback. As for the Steelers, they burned through three quarterbacks and finished the season on a three-game losing skid that included losses to the New York Jets and second-string Baltimore Ravens. But go ahead, keep trying



**Pittsburgh Steelers owner Arthur Rooney II leaves after NFL owners meet to discuss a proposed labor agreement, Thursday Feb. 20, 2020, in New York.** PHOTO BY BEBETO MATTHEWS/AP

to tell me both of those teams are playoff-worthy.

But that's not even the tip of the iceberg when it comes to this proposed CBA.

There's the issue of the 17-game season. With all the talk about player safety, how does adding an extra game to the season do anything to protect them? The only thing it does is line the owners' pockets by exploiting the players for another game.

NFL stars have already taken to Twitter to express their opinions on the proposal, with Houston Texans star and former Walter Payton Man of the Year award winner J.J. Watt tweeting "Hard no on that proposed CBA," and San Francisco 49ers veteran cornerback Richard Sherman quoting Watt, tweeting "Leadership! I am with you! Please communicate with your team rep."

Current and former stars like Tyler Lockett, David Bakhtiari, Eric Weddle, Michael Thomas and others also spoke out on Twitter against it. The most adamant though was nine-year NFL veteran and current Los Angeles Chargers offensive lineman Russell Okung.

Like Sherman, Okung is a representative of the NFLPA executive committee, and he hasn't held back with his opinions on the proposal.

"While the @NFL is laughably trying to sell 17 games for a profit, how about we discuss how 16 and less games played out for generations of players?"

Okung tweeted to start a thread referencing the large issue of concussions and their everlasting effects on players long after they've retired.

"We're talking about the NFL ignoring, downplaying and gaslighting families about the risks of brain trauma, even with clear scientific evidence, up until '09," Okung tweeted. "Context: In 1937, the AFCA already asked players to be removed from games post-concussion!"

He attached a link to an article detailing the history of the NFL's history in dealing with concussions and head injuries and followed it up with one last tweet to conclude the 10-tweet thread.

"We are talking about justice that has been delayed for a long time. And we are still waiting ... now let's parade about 17 games," Okung posted.

Now, in case you're thinking that the players will at least get compensated by the form of an increased salary, well you're right! Sort of. I'll let former NFL offensive lineman Rich Ohrnberger explain:

"NFL promotes 'player safety' ... but players should risk brain & body for a max of \$250K for a 17th game?" Ohrnberger tweeted. "Ok ... sure ... owners should only make \$250K as well, the rest of the profits should go toward lifetime health care for the players and the of funding post career benefits."

That's right, a max of \$250,000 for the extra game.

Why would anyone making more than that amount per game agree to that? Oh, and if you make fewer than \$250,000 per game, you'll get that for game No. 17 as well, not the full total.

Why should they have to risk their health and safety at a minimal benefit to them and significant benefit to the owners?

I can already read the emails now.

"\$250,000 is a lot of money!" "What's one more game going to do?"

"The players CHOOSE to play football, if they get hurt, it's their fault!"

Well, sure, it is a lot of money. But some of these athletes are averaging millions of dollars per game, so for them it's not. Now, if you want to argue the economics of sports and that player's contracts are way too inflated go right ahead, but I disagree. Sports is a lucrative business, and the players deserve to be compensated proportionally to what they earn by playing.

\$250,000 is not a lot of money to a lot of professional athletes, and it's certainly not worth risking injury over when they get paid significantly more every other time they step on the field.

All it takes is one play, one hit or one blow, to change someone's life forever. One play ended the careers of stars like Bo Jackson, Joe Theismann, Gale Sayers and so many others. If the regular season expands, it's inevitable that multiple such

injuries occur in and because of game No. 17.

And yes, NFL players do choose to play the sport. But that doesn't mean we should treat them like gladiators for our own personal amusement.

From the fans' perspective, sure, it would be fun to have an extra game on the regular-season schedule and two extra ones on Wild Card weekend, but not if it comes at the price of the players' safety. Football is probably the most grueling and intense major sport in the world. We've seen superstars like Andrew Luck, Rob Gronkowski and Luke Kuechly retire in their prime because of the toll the game has taken on their bodies. The extra game is simply not worth it.

What are 17 games going to tell you about a team that 16 can't?

The NFL needs to be doing more to protect its players, not less. You could make a legitimate argument that they shouldn't be making the regular season longer, they should be making it shorter, and I honestly would be just fine with that.

The expanded playoffs part of the proposal is dumb, but the 17 game season is irresponsible. It shows a complete lack of care for the players that make the sport possible, proving that the people in charge only view them as money-making machines and not human beings.

To quote the oldest of the three Watt brothers, hard no on that proposed CBA.

## Altuve booted, nicked by pitch in spring debut for Astros

LAKELAND, Fla. (AP) — José Altuve insisted he tuned out the hecklers. He couldn't avoid a pitch that grazed him.

"He was hit in the foot. That ain't nothing, you know what I mean?" Houston Astros manager Dusty Baker said Monday after an 11-1 win over Detroit at half-empty Joker Marchant Stadium. "It wasn't intentional."

Altuve was loudly booed when he was introduced for his spring training debut, cheered when he struck out and called a cheater by several fans. Quite a difference from past years, when the diminutive All-Star second baseman was among the most popular players in the majors.

But that was before Altuve and his Houston teammates were implicated in the sign-stealing scandal that's rocked baseball.

"We just heard a lot of noise, and that's it," Altuve said.

Altuve and fellow starters Alex Bregman, Carlos Correa and Yuli Gurriel all played for the first time in the exhibition season. After Houston



**Houston Astros' Jose Altuve runs to first base after getting hit with a pitch during the fifth inning of a spring training baseball game against the Detroit Tigers, Monday, Feb. 24, 2020, in Lakeland, Fla.** PHOTO BY FRANK FRANKLIN/AP

opened the Grapefruit League in the stadium it shares with the World Series champion Washington Nationals, this was the first time the Astros were away from their complex - providing a taste of the reaction they might receive on the road this year.

"We were focused on playing baseball. We know that we need to go on the field and get ready

and prepared for the coming season," Altuve said. "That's what we're thinking about right now."

Actually, the reception during the visit to Tigertown USA in Lakeland, Florida, was fairly tame compared to what it figures to be during the regular season.

Early arrivals in the an-

nounced crowd of 4,891 were discouraged by users from gathering near the Astros dugout unless they had box seats along the third base line.

Hecklers aired their voices after batting practice, booing during introduction of lineups and each time Altuve, Bregman, Correa and Gurriel stepped up to the plate. Altuve got

some cheers, too, when he was charged with an error for dropping a throw by Bregman from third base on a force play.

The quartet was treated to one more round of boos when they left the game and made the long walk up the first base line to the visiting clubhouse.

Altuve took a third called strike to a round of cheers in his first at-bat, then lined a crowd-quieting RBI double into the left-field corner his next time up.

Altuve showed no signs of being upset when he was grazed with a pitch by Tigers reliever Nick Ramirez after the batter before him, Myles Straw, homered in the fifth inning. The 2017 AL MVP was replaced by a pinch runner.

Baker planned to play Altuve, Bregman, Correa and Gurriel no more than five innings anyway in Houston's first true road exhibition since a Major League Baseball investigation found the Astros broke rules by illegally stealing signs during their championship season in 2017.

## Sports

## Photo of the Day | Nice kicks!



Crystal Dangerfield wore a pair of Kyrie 5 "Keep Sue Fresh" basketball shoes in Saturday's 66-55 win over the UCF Knights. The shoes are inspired by former UConn basketball star Sue Bird, according to the Nike website. PHOTO BY CHARLOTTE LAO, PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

## Around the American: Bearcats reclaim first place

by Sebastian Garay-Ortega  
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The American continued its trend of providing competitive end-to-end basketball with another week of close matches that left fans at the edge of their seats.

No. 25 Houston trashed Tulsa on Wednesday 76-43 behind the efforts of guard Caleb Mills, who was able to come off the bench and put up 27 points, the highest of any Cougar player. Guard Nate Hinton led the starting five in points with 15. Despite forward Martins Igbanu's bench play being a staple of the Golden Hurricane's season, it did not prove to be enough. His 15 points fell in vain as Houston was able to overwhelm Tulsa offensively and defensively. Tulsa fell to 18-9 overall and 10-4 in the conference, sitting third behind Cincinnati.

Wednesday also saw a double-overtime thriller in which UCF triumphed over Cincinnati 89-87. The Knights were led towards victory through guards Brandon Mahon and Tony Johnson Jr. coming off the bench and putting up 20 and 21 points respectively. Forward Collin Smith led the starting five in points with 17, alongside six rebounds and five assists. Forward Tre Scott was still able to put up a double-double for the Bearcats despite the loss, finishing the game with 22 points and 21 rebounds. With the loss, Cincinnati stands second behind No. 25 Houston at 18-9 overall and 11-4 in the conference. UCF improved to 14-12 and 5-9 in conference play, holding on to the ninth spot in the conference.

The last two contests that took place Wednesday saw Memphis defeat East Carolina 77-73 and Tulane upset SMU 80-72. Forward Precious Achiuwa secured a double-double to lead the Tigers to victory, putting up 24 points and 12 rebounds. Guard Boogie Ellis also contributed in the points department for Memphis with 17. The Mustangs were halted by the Green Wave of Tulane through guard Teshaun Hightower's 26 points and nine rebounds. Guards K.J. Lawson, Christian Thompson and Jordan Walker all had double digits in the points department as well, finishing with 14, 19 and 11, respectively. SMU now falls to 18-8 overall and 8-6 in The American, while Tulane sits last at 12-15 overall and 4-11 in conference play.

Thursday saw Wichita State continue its winning ways against USF, beating the Bulls 65-55. Center Jaime Echenique put up 20 points and nine rebounds and also had a large presence on defense with four blocks. Guards Tyson Etienne and Jamarius Burton put up a respective 12 and 10 points, with Etienne's coming off the bench. The Shockers would end up losing to Cincinnati on Sunday, falling to the Bearcats 67-64. Guard Jarron Cumberland put up an impressive 24 points, five rebounds and four assists. With the loss, Wichita State fell to 20-7 overall and 8-6 in the conference, placing



Cincinnati forward Mamoudou Diarra (20) celebrates after hitting a 3-point basket in the second half of an NCAA college basketball game against Wichita State, Sunday, Feb. 23, 2020, in Cincinnati. PHOTO BY ALBERT CESARE, THE CINCINNATI ENQUIRER/AP

them at fourth, with the Bulls now standing second to last at 11-16 overall and 4-10 in the conference.

Saturday had a slew of marquee matchups, with the most considerable one involving No. 22 Houston and Memphis that ultimately ended with the Tigers slaying the Cougars 60-59. Precious Achiuwa put up 10 points and six rebounds, carrying less of a load thanks to guard Lester Quinones's 10 points and three rebounds, along with help from center Malcolm Dandridge and guard Tyler Harris, coming off the bench and putting up a respective 12 and 10 points. Houston's leading point scorer came off the bench in the form of guard Caleb Mills, finishing the game with 21 points. Guard Marcus Sasser also had a positive impact both offensively and defensively, finishing with 18 points, six rebounds and six steals. Memphis improved to 19-8 overall and 8-6 in The American. Despite the loss, Houston still sits first at 21-7 overall and 11-4 in conference play.

Tulane pulled off another im-

pressive win on Saturday, beating UCF by a slim margin of 75-74. They were once again led by the efforts of Lawson, Thompson and Hightower, putting up 21, 15 and 18 points, respectively. The Knights had positive performances from the likes of guards Johnson and Green Jr., alongside Smith, putting up a combined 46 points. In the end, however, it was not enough to overcome the Green Wave.

Tulsa was able to bounce back while the misery ensued for the Mustangs of SMU, with the Golden Hurricane triumphing 79-57. Not surprisingly, Igbanu once again led the team in the points department off the bench with 23 alongside nine rebounds. Guards Lawson Korita and Darien Jackson had 14 and 12 points respectively to pull off the upset. Jolly led SMU in points with 18.

Sunday wrapped up AAC action, with Cincinnati defeating Wichita State 67-64 and East Carolina edging out Temple 67-63. Echenique had a solid performance for the Shockers, putting up a double-double with 10 points and 12 rebounds. Guards Jamarius Burton and Erik Stevenson put up 11 and 13 points as well. These performances would be overshadowed by guard Jarron Cumberland's 24 point, five rebound and four assist performance, leading the Bearcats to victory. On the other hand, the Owls were not able to bring the momentum garnered from their victory over the Huskies to Carolina, overcome by the performance of forward Jayden Gardener's double-double, finishing with 29 points and 12 rebounds. The Pirates now sit 10th at 11-16 overall and 4-10 in the conference, with Temple now standing at 14-13 overall and 6-8 in the conference.

The American is set to return Tuesday, with Memphis taking on SMU and Tulane battling Tulsa. The rest of the week will see East Carolina take on USF and UConn host UCF on Wednesday, with Temple facing Wichita State on Thursday.

## CHAMPIONS LEAGUE PREDICTIONS

NAPOLI, cont. from p. 12

## Napoli vs F.C. Barcelona

I feel like it's a no-brainer, and totally not out of straight bias, but Barcelona will prove to be dominant.

Napoli is in sixth place in Serie A while Barcelona is in first in La Liga. In all honesty, Napoli doesn't look too promising to put up a fight against the likes of Arthur, Frenkie de Jong and, of course, Lionel Messi. They only won half of their group stage games and drew the other half; and with the likes of Koulibaly and Llorente injured, the Gli Azzurri could see themselves exposed to the Blaugrana's attack.

But we shouldn't rule out Barcelona not winning the match, whether it be them equalizing or even losing to Napoli, because of their Champions League runs last year and the year before as well as their run in their domestic league this season.

**Prediction:** Napoli 1-4 Barcelona

## Lyon vs Juventus

So I'm just going to be completely honest, I don't really know much about either team besides the fact that Lyon has Moussa Dembélé and Bertrand Traoré and Juventus has Paulo Dybala, Adrien Rabiot and Cristiano Ronaldo. What I do know however is that Juve will miss the likes of Sami Khedira, Pjanic and Higuain who have proven helpful to the squad. But if key player Memphis Depay is out with an injury for Lyon, they could have trouble finding the back of the net.

**Prediction:** Lyon 0-3 Juventus

## Manchester City vs Real Madrid

Ah, yes. Two teams I'm not a fan of; one being a rival to Barcelona and another I just simply don't like (sorry Pep).

It would be dumb of me to say neither team has good talent. For the Citizens, they have Kevin de Bruyne, Raheem Sterling, Mahrez and Agüero while Real Madrid has Sergio Ramos, Rodrygo, Isco and Vinicius Junior. I will say this is probably be a game most should keep an eye on. With Man City now banned from all UEFA competitions for two seasons and the Premier League title out of their grasp, it makes perfect sense for Pep Guardiola to solely focus on the Champions League and getting past the quarterfinals and lift the trophy with his English side.

**Prediction:** Man City 2-2 Real Madrid

# NHL Column: From Zamboni driver to NHL goalie

by Dylan Barrett  
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On Saturday night, David Ayres was watching the game between the Toronto Maple Leafs and Carolina Hurricanes like any fan would. He was a measly spectator in the crowd amidst thousands. Ayres, the emergency backup goaltender for the Maple Leafs, spent many games like this, ready to go if needed.

Then, the Hurricanes starting goalie, James Reimer, was injured in a collision, forcing their reserve, Petr Mrazek, to enter the game. That was Ayres' cue to head downstairs and put on his goaltending gear in case he was called upon on an emergency basis.

One of the marvelous intricacies of hockey is that on any given night, somewhere in each NHL arena there is someone who has some low level goalie experience available in case a team's two netminders both get injured. They are usually players who played in college, junior or amateur leagues but never even scraped the surface of professional hockey. For them, it is a small hope at the opportunity of a lifetime, and a fantasy that can only be achieved in hockey.

Ayres, who is 42 years old, was formerly employed by the Maple Leafs organization as the Zamboni driver for their AHL affiliate, the Toronto Marlies. He never played hockey beyond the junior level, as a kidney failure that almost cost him his life 15 years earlier also put a stop to his career.

And yet there he was on the cusp of stepping into the crease for a live NHL game in the middle of a playoff race. Ayres had been in this situation three times prior, one injury away from entering the game. But it was not until this night in Toronto that he finally got the chance to live out his dream.



In this Saturday, Feb. 22, 2020 photo, members of the Carolina Hurricanes congratulate emergency goaltender David Ayres after they beat the Toronto Maple Leafs 6-3 in an NHL hockey game in Toronto, Saturday, Feb. 22, 2020. PHOTO BY FRANK GUNN, THE CANADIAN PRESS VIA AP

Mrazek endured a nasty collision that forced him to exit the game, leaving the Hurricanes without a goalie for the rest of the night. With that, Ayres was called upon to take the ice. He emerged from the locker room wearing a fresh white Hurricanes jersey, and Maple Leafs blue shorts and mask. His teammates for the night welcomed him with stick taps and words of encouragement as he took to the crease.

Ayres thought the moment would not faze him, as he practiced with the Maple Leafs many

**One of the marvelous intricacies of hockey is that on any given night, somewhere in each NHL arena there is someone who has some low level goalie experience available in case a team's two netminders both get injured.**

times before to stay in playing shape. But he admitted that on Saturday when he was suddenly propelled into the fire, he was overcome with jitters. Ayres never played in front of any crowd larger than a few hundred people before, and now he was playing in front of nearly 20,000 on the national stage.

Under the bright lights, Ayres also said that nothing could truly prepare him for how fast the skaters were going. The speed of practice, of course, was nothing compared to that of an actual game.

Ayres allowed two goals initially, but then proceeded to make eight saves in helping Carolina. This was plenty for the Hurricanes, as they played hard for their new netminder and won the game 6-3.

It was the first ever NHL win for an emergency backup goalie. With the sound of the final horn, Ayres made one final save with his glove hand, and was then mobbed by the Hurricanes congratulating him on the feat.

Even the Toronto faithful, who just watched their team fall in unbelievable fashion, rose to salute the hero of the game. It was a memory that not only Ayres, but the entire Hurricanes team would have for the rest of their lives. For the Zamboni driver-turned NHL goalie, the night got even sweeter when he was selected as the game's first star. He was once again received by the Toronto crowd with responding cheers and applause.

He then joined Carolina in their locker room where he was mobbed once more, as if the team had just won a playoff series. For Ayres it was a dream come true, and for hockey fans it was an unforgettable moment. In all of sports, the play of the emergency back-up goalie is the only time when someone can go from your average fan and transform into an immediate star in a matter of a couple hours.

Now, Ayres, who may have never even been to North Carolina before, is a beloved figure there. Already, the Hurricanes have begun producing Ayres t-shirts, and the team plans to fly him in for their next game.

It is remarkable to think how earlier that Saturday evening Ayres was just an ordinary guy, and by the end of the night his name was recognized by sports fans across North America. Just one opportunity, one circumstance or one moment can completely alter someone's life.

# DB's Weekly Take: Why the DH should be universal

by Danny Barletta  
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It was widely reported last month that the designated hitter could be coming to the National League as early as 2021. My reaction was, "It's about time."

As you may or may not know, the designated hitter was introduced in 1973 in the American League, but for some reason, the NL never caught on and continues to have the pitchers hit to this day. It still doesn't make sense to me because the DH is beneficial to basically everyone. The teams get to put another solid hitter in the lineup, veterans who can no longer play the field at an elite level can still have a role and pitchers can focus on what they're getting paid to do.

The bottom line is pitchers can't hit. They're not getting paid to hit, and they shouldn't have to hit. Sure, there's guys like Madison Bumgarner and Zack Greinke who are adequate hitters, but for the most part, pitchers can't hit major league pitching for their lives. We know this is true because the most valuable thing a pitcher can do at the plate is lay down a sacrifice bunt. Basically, they're a guaranteed out any ways, so at least if they can make their somewhat productive, it's better than nothing.

But it doesn't have to be that way. There's this terrific invention called the designated hitter that allows you to put a respectable hitter in place of your pitcher that never hits the ball out of the in-



In this Oct. 23, 2019, file photo, Hank Aaron is flanked by Alex Rodriguez, right, and David Ortiz as they take a selfie before Game 2 of the baseball World Series between the Houston Astros and the Washington Nationals in Houston. PHOTO BY DAVID J. PHILLIP, AP

field. Pitchers as a group hit .128 with a .322 OPS in almost 5,200 plate appearances last season. That's such a waste of time. You could have a guy like J.D. Martinez or Nelson Cruz in that spot — or even somebody who is league average — and your offense becomes much more dynamic.

The argument against the DH has al-

ways been the strategy that comes with late-game decisions regarding the pitcher. Not having a DH requires the team to have a deeper bench and the manager to make difficult decisions about when to pull his pitcher for a pinch hitter and when to leave him in.

However, I feel like that argument does not hold up against all the benefits of the DH. Nobody really watches baseball because they want to see whether Dave Martinez lets his closer Sean Doolittle, who probably hasn't gotten a hit since high school, bat so

he can use him the next inning to pitch. I'm sorry, but nobody cares.

People watch baseball because they love the action of the game, and more offense equals more action. Without the designated hitter, so much of baseball history would be altered. Players like Edgar Martinez and David Ortiz put together Hall of Fame careers by almost strictly being a DH. Other Hall of Famers like Paul Molitor, Frank Thomas and Jim Thome were able to have much longer careers as productive DHs than they would have been able to have if that position wasn't an option.

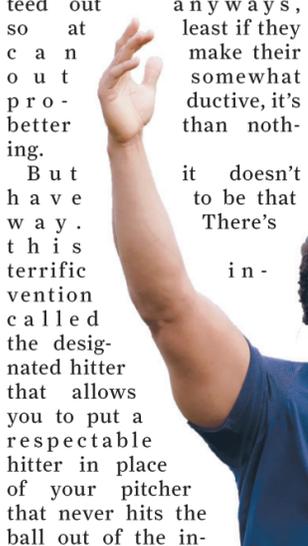
However, I believe the best argument for the DH is actually that it favors the pitchers.

Every time a pitcher steps up to the plate, he is exposing himself to injury. If (miraculously) he is able to reach base, that opens up even more opportunities for injury. If a pitcher gets hurt while pitching, oh well. That's his job. But when a pitcher gets hurt doing something that isn't bringing any value to the team, it's upsetting to me. Pitchers should not be put in that situation. They have no business hitting, and I don't think a single pitcher would object to a DH in the NL.

Plus, it's just stupid that there are two sets of rules in the same league of the same sport. It makes absolutely no sense. As my colleague Jorge Eckardt put it, it's like if in the NBA, the Western Conference never added the 3-point line when the Eastern Conference did. It's like playing two separate games of the same sport. If the DH was never added at all, it would be better than the discrepancy there is now.

*It's like if in the NBA, the Western Conference never added the 3-point line and the Eastern Conference did. It's like playing two separate games of the same sport.*

The DH has so many benefits for all areas of baseball, and it can only be argued against by whines of "But the strategy ..." Since Commissioner Rob Manfred already put in the three-batter minimum rule (which is awful, but that's another argument) he's shown he's not afraid to shake things up. It would make sense for him to make the DH universal next season, something that should have been done long ago.





# Sports

## UConn Fencing competes at Vassar's NEIFC Championships

by Sam Zelin  
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The UConn Fencing Club went into Saturday's New England Fencing Championships with high hopes, and the day was filled with many ups and downs. While many of the schools came in more prepared, UConn managed to fight hard and pulled off some improbable upsets.

"A lot of people think of UConn as a nothing team because we're a club, but now I think we're establishing ourselves as one of the better schools in New England," men's foilist Dalton Hawie said after the tournament.

Starting off with men's foil, UConn beat URI, UNH, UMass Amherst, Tufts and BU overall, and against the varsity teams, managed to take a few bout wins. Gabe Lozada-Rodriguez defeated Vassar's Adlai Brandt-Ogman 5-4, and Sammy Soumakis and Dalton Hawie both scored three touches against Sacred Heart.

In men's epee, UConn beat Tufts, UMass, UNH and URI. Other highlights included Nick Tatro's defeat of Sacred Heart's Nicolo Cerminara, Edward Russell's three touches scored against Vassar's Nishay Bhatnagar and Sam Zelin pushing Sacred Heart's Troy Kapitzke to 4-4 before losing at the end.

Men's sabre started out on an unfortunate note, with Mike McClellan unable to attend, but Jack Dineen and Thomas George still put up a fight. As they had to take an automatic loss in the best-of-three against every school, they were unable to win any meets overall, but highlights included Dineen's 5-3 victory over URI's Kevin Kwan and George's 5-1 defeat of Sacred Heart's Quinlan Sullivan.

Women's foil claimed victory over BU, Mount Holyoke, Sacred Heart, Smith, Stony Brook, UNH and URI, and had the only fencer from UConn, Kathryn Atkinson, to qualify for the individual tournament. For highlights, Sarah Pasqualetti scored a 5-0 victory



Kathryn Atkinson, seen above, qualified for the Individual Open Tournament. PHOTO COURTESY OF AUTHOR

against UNH's Olivia Deblois-Hill, Meghan Plourde defeated Sacred Heart's Chenchen Cui 5-1 and Kathryn Atkinson beat Sacred Heart's Allyson Stejakoski 4-3 in a close bout that went the distance.

Women's epee beat Mount Holyoke, Sacred Heart and Stony Brook, with Grace Mcfadden beating Sacred Heart's Julie Rocklien 5-1, Alexandra Hessberger battling Vassar, Sacred Heart and Brandeis' top fencers all to close

4-5 defeats, and Amanda Hernandez taking down Brandeis, MIT and Sacred Heart 5-4, 5-3 and 5-4 respectively.

Women's sabre faced the same predicament as the men's squad, as being down a member meant a sweep was the only way to victory, but Alexandria Boutin and Ella Byrne still shined despite this. Even though they were unable to capture a squad victory, the two pulled off mul-

multiple decisive Varsity upsets, as Byrne defeated Sacred Heart's Emaly Pereira 5-0 and Boutin beat Vassar's Rose Parker 5-2.

In conclusion, UConn had a solid day. While there were clear areas for improvement, there were many moments to be proud of as well, and the squad now has a little over a month to prepare for the National Club Fencing Championships in Springfield, MA.

## IEM KATOWICE PREVIEW

by Ashton Stansel  
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On Monday, one of the biggest Counter-Strike: Global Offensive tournaments of the year, IEM Katowice, began. The tournament is known as one of the largest and most prestigious non-majors of the year and includes Astralis, Team Liquid, Natus Vincere and Vitality — some of the best teams in the world. In fact, the top 10 teams from the HLTV Rankings are all attending, making Katowice the biggest tournament of the 2020 season so far.

The tournament, which takes place from Feb. 24 to March 1, boasts a \$500,000 prize pot. The winning team will take home half of that, or \$250,000, while teams that place thirteenth to sixteenth will win just \$2,500. The entire tournament, except for the grand final which is a best-of-five, will be best-of-threes, much to the delight of fans. In prior years, the first match for each team was a best-of-one, but many believe that that makes it much easier for underdog teams to pull off a victory and knock better teams into the lower bracket early, which can help lead to a less interesting playoff bracket.

Astralis enters the tournament, as they do every tournament, as favorites. After nearly two years of dominant performances from the Danish roster, they're looking to make this their second IEM Katowice win in a row. But Mousesports, which is ranked as the second-best team in the world, has claimed several titles recently including a win at ICE Challenge earlier this month. They also won the ESL Pro League finals back at the end of December in a shocking run that included a victory over Astralis in the semifinals.

*"Astralis enters the tournament, as they do every tournament, as favorites"*

While the favorites coming into Katowice are powerful, there are also a number of underdog teams. Cloud9 brought a revamped roster of young talent to Poland, and Mad Lions, who bought out the Tricked lineup late last year, had a surprisingly solid performance at the ICE challenge leading into this tournament, where they claimed third place.

The tournament is in the group stage until Friday when the quarter-finals begin. This is an intense schedule, as it means teams who play on Friday will not have a day off before the playoffs as they would get in many tournaments. These players will have to hope that the preparation done before the tournament and around their games will adequately prepare them for the playoff matches, where they'll fight to be the best team in one of the most legendary Counter-Strike tournaments in the world.

## Column: My predictions for this week's Champions League

by David Sandoval  
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Ah yes, the UEFA Champions League is back again for the remaining four matches of the Round of 16. There's just something about that angelic "the chaaampionss!" that makes you love the sport that is soccer (or football).

There are some good matches for the remainder of the first leg, so in today's column, I will predict who will win in this week's Champions League.

### Chelsea vs Bayern München

The last time Chelsea played Bayern was in the 2012 Champions League final, in which they tied 1-1 and Chelsea won on penalties and time has definitely changed in both squads.

Bayern has been in incredible form this Champions

League season, and it surely hasn't died down yet. Within their past 10 games in the Bundesliga, for example, they won eight games and lost and drew a match. Additionally, their flawless run in the Group Stage has made them one of the favorites to win this year, and rightfully so.

As for Chelsea, I feel like I shouldn't say they don't have a chance, but so far their Champions League run is questionable, barely surpassing Ajax to advance from the Group Stage.

They will be hosting the Bavarians on Tuesday, and if their good defense at Stamford Bridge against Tottenham says anything, they will be ready to take Lewandowski or Kingsley Coman if Lampard plays the right cards.

**Prediction:** Chelsea 2-4 Bayern München

See NAPOLI, p. 10



From left, Chelsea's, Mateo Kovacic and Olivier Giroud take part in a training session at Cobham Training Ground, in Cobham, England, Monday, Feb. 24, 2020. Chelsea will play Bayern Munich in a Round of 16 first leg Champions League soccer match on Tuesday. PHOTO BY ADAM DAVY/AP

THIS WEEKEND IN UCONN SPORTS

Men's Basketball

Wednesday  
7 p.m.  
XL Center

Women's Basketball

Wednesday, 7 p.m.  
Cincinnati, OH

Men's Hockey

Friday, 7:05 p.m.  
XL Center

INSTAGRAM OF THE DAY

@uconnmbb

The new @american\_conf men's 3-point all-time leader #ThisIsUConn

TWEETS OF THE DAY

Joey Burrow

@Joe\_Burrow10

Considering retirement after I was informed the football will be slipping out of my tiny hands. Please keep me in your thoughts.

Frankie Borrelli

@FrankieBorrelli

Pageau's first game being Isles-Rangers at the coliseum? Welcome to New York holy moly

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