



TEDxUConn is looking for passionate student speakers



TEDxUConn hosts a TED talk in McHugh Hall with speakers that range from students to professors to performers on Sunday, April 9, 2017. The theme of the conference was catalysts and there were 13 speakers and two performers. Applications for this year are open. PHOTO BY CHARLOTTE LAO, PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

by Rachel Philipson
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For an upcoming TEDxUConn conference, the TEDxUConn curation committee is focusing on creating an even ratio of University of Connecticut faculty and staff or adult speakers to student speakers, Himaja Nagireddy, president of TEDxUConn and eighth-semester molecular and cell biology, physiology and neurobiol-

ogy and sociology triple major, said.

In previous conferences, there have been approximately 10 to 12 adult speakers to three to four students but now, for their eighth conference, the curation committee is aiming to select four of each, Nagireddy said.

A TEDx event, including TEDxUConn, is a live event with presentations on a variety of topics, under a spe-

cific theme, are shared with a unique community, according to the TED website. Nagireddy said UConn students are a key part of the UConn community and should be represented in the conference as such.

“[Students] are the ones that bring the talent, passion and the drive for change that UConn needs to push itself to the forefront of being a catalyst for change in the rest of Connecticut and the world,” Nagireddy

said. “I think it’s so important that we pay homage to that and we utilize that and we amplify the voices of the students. They really are what makes UConn, UConn.”

While the tentative conference is aimed to take place during the spring semester, the internal speaker selection process has begun now to ensure enough time for interviews and preparation, Nagireddy said.

The proposed theme for this

conference is “Patchwork,” she said. Prospective student speakers can use this theme as a launching point for their talks.

“We start really early because we do want to pick the best quality speakers that we can and we really want to have time to reach out to people in the community that would be that ideal speaker,” Nagireddy said.

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UConn graduate Akshayaa Chittibabu reflects upon her dining activism on campus



During Akshayaa Chittibabu's time at UConn, she worked with Dining Services to create meals for people with restrictions preventing them from eating garlic and onion. PHOTO COURTESY UCONN TODAY

by Thomas Alvarez
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Akshayaa Chittibabu, a University of Connecticut '19 honors graduate and current Marshall Scholar at the University of Oxford, recently looked back upon her work with dining inclusivity activism on campus.

Chittibabu worked with UConn Dining Services to help create meals in dining halls that people with dietary restrictions preventing them from eating garlic and onion could consume. Many vegetarians cannot consume garlic and onion for religious reasons and as a result cannot enjoy full use of the dining halls, something Chittibabu felt was unjust.

“It struck me as unfair that these students were on meal plans but could not truly enjoy nutritious and fulfilling meals at the dining halls due to their restriction,” Chittibabu said. “Often, they had to prepare meals in their dorms or buy food

outside of their meal plan just to eat complete meals.”

As Multiculturalism and Diversity Senator for Undergraduate Student Government, Chittibabu pushed for access and inclusion for everyone on campus. She was able to use her passion for access and inclusion when she was on President Herbst’s advisory council for race and diversity, putting the desires of the student body into action.

“I strongly believe that building a more inclusive campus starts with offering our diverse student body the necessities they need to be successful as students — and that starts with food,” Chittibabu said. “I’m grateful to Dining Services and President Herbst for being so receptive to my advocacy, and for working with me to develop 30 different meals for students with Hindu, Buddhist and Jain dietary restrictions.”

Chittibabu cites her time pushing for change on campus as a period of important lessons.

To her, activism is not a one-off action; it is constant involvement and a commitment to long-term change.

“I’ve learned that the only way to create change and promote inclusion is to advocate for it, and then to follow up that advocacy with persistent action,” Chittibabu said. “For example, this effort took several months of talking to students and administration, and using every capacity available to me from social media to USG to advising the university president, but it was ultimately worth all of the work.”

Chittibabu recommends that any student looking to make an impact on campus get involved. She recognizes the role that student leadership plays and says that any student can make a difference.

“Use your platforms to create change; student leadership is a powerful platform and you have the ability to use your power to actually promote important causes,” Chittibabu said.

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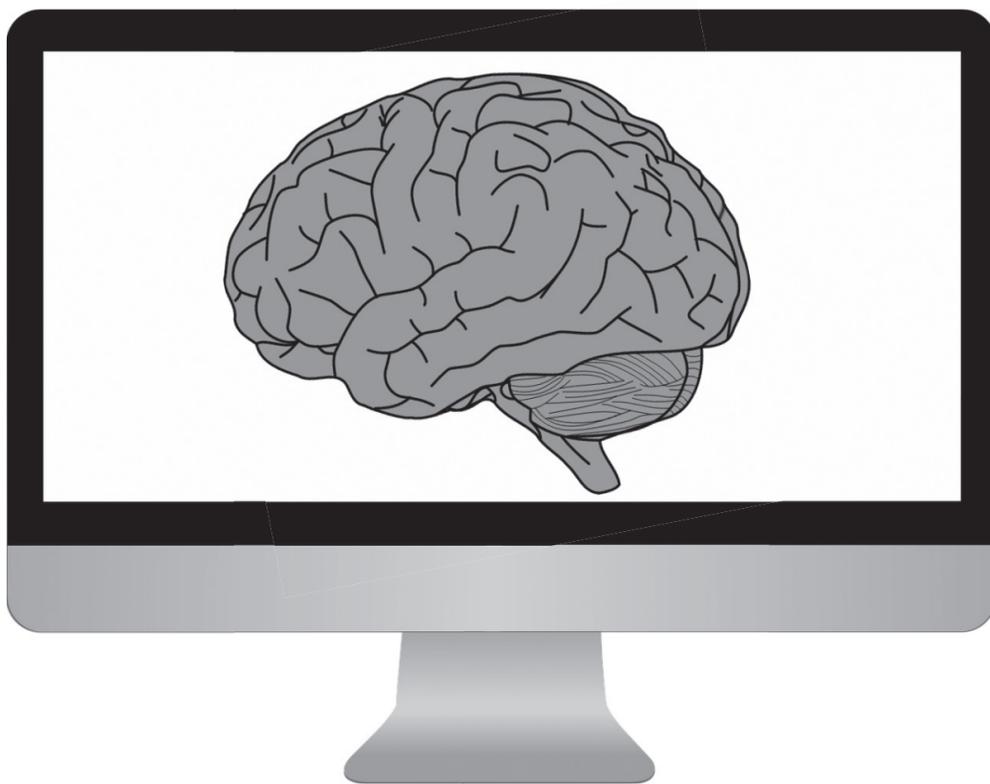
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News

UConn philosopher explores morality of artificial intelligence in new book



by **Grace Mcfadden**
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A University of Connecticut philosopher recently published a book about the ethics of artificial intelligence, or AI.

The book, entitled “Artificial You: AI and the Future of Your Mind”, was written by Susan Schneider, professor of philosophy and cognitive science. Schneider discussed her recent publication with UConn Today in January of this year.

“It explores the nature of the self and consciousness in a not so distant future, using today’s work in artificial intelligence and brain enhancement technologies,” Schneider said to UConn Today.

Schneider explained that her book explores the question of what would happen if artificial intelligence develops consciousness. Her research focuses on the philosophical implications of artificial intelligence.

“This book asks: Assuming we build highly sophisticated artificial intelligences at some point in the future, would they be conscious beings?” Schneider said. “Further, how would we detect consciousness in machines? These questions are addressed in the first half of the book. The second half of the book is on the nature of the self.”

Specifically, Schneider seeks to explore the ethical repercussions of having an artificial general intelligence, or AGI.

Today’s artificial intelligence tends to be specialized in one field, as in Schneider’s examples of computers playing “Go” and “Jeopardy!”. Artificial general intelligence is a type of AI that can perform many different tasks indiscriminately.

“AGI is a kind of general, flexible intelligence that can do things like make breakfast without burning the house down, while thinking of mathematics and answering the phone,” Schneider explained in a 2017 paper titled Artificial Intelligence, Consciousness, and Moral Status. “Its intelligence is not limited to a single domain, like chess. Because AGIs are general, flexible, integrate knowledge across domains and exhibit human-level

intelligence or beyond, AGIs seem like better candidates for being conscious than existing systems.”

In addition to her work with AI, Schneider holds the Baruch S. Blumberg NASA/Library of Congress Chair in Astrobiology, Exploration and Scientific Innovation, as well as a Distinguished Scholar Chair for the Library of Congress. Schneider also works with Congress on the regulation of AI. She helps consult on issues including deep fake videos and algorithmic discrimination.

“That’s why we really need AI regulations,” Schneider said to UConn Today. “AI regulation could do tremendous work. And so I do hope we move forward on all of these issues.”

OSCARS NEWS

Brad Pitt, Laura Dern, ‘Parasite’ win at Academy Awards

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Brad Pitt won his first acting Oscar, Laura Dern collected best supporting actress and Bong Joon Ho’s “Parasite” has already made history at the 92nd Academy Awards.

Few categories were more certain coming into Sunday’s Oscars than best supporting actor, which Pitt has had locked down all awards season. While Pitt (who in 2014 shared in the best picture win for “12 Years a Slave,” as was a producer) has regaled audiences with one-liners in the run-up to the Oscars, he began his comments on a political note.

“They told me I have 45 seconds to speak, which is 45 seconds more than the Senate gave John Bolton this week,” said Pitt, alluding to the impeachment hearings. “I’m thinking maybe Quentin does a movie about it.”

Pitt said the honor had given him reason to reflect on his fairytale journey in the film industry, going back to when he moved to Los Angeles from Missouri. “Once upon a time in Hollywood,” said Pitt. “Ain’t that the truth.”

The South Korean class satire “Parasite,” which many believe has a chance to upset the front-runner “1917” for best picture, took best original screenplay. Bong and co-writer Han Jin Won became the first Asian writers to take the prize, and “Parasite” became the first Korean film to win an Oscar. Should “Parasite” win the night’s final award, it would be the first non-English language film to win best picture.

“Regardless of the outcome, I think the door has been opened,” Bong said on the red carpet. “I think as long as we continue this effort, the door will just open wider and wider.”

Most of the early awards went according to forecasts, including Dern winning for her performance as a divorce attorney in Noah Baumbach’s “Marriage Story.” Accepting her first Oscar, Dern thanked her in-attendance parents, “my legends Diane Ladd and Bruce Dern.”

TEDxUConn looks to even ratio of speakers

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Around 40 students apply for each conference, Nagireddy said. In the initial application, students must submit a two minute video highlighting their idea. From there, 10 students are chosen to present a five to 10 minute audition that “condenses their talk into key messages that they want to communicate.” The final speakers are selected after the auditions.

“[The audience isn’t] going to remember every little detail of your 18 minute talk,” Nagireddy said.

“They are going to remember the key things that you communicate and so that five to ten minute audition really gives us a sense of ‘can this person communicate what they want to communicate?’”

The key thing the TEDxUConn curation committee looks for in a student speaker is someone who is extremely knowledgeable about their topic of choice and can show their research and passion in their talk, Nagireddy said.

“We are looking for what is your unique idea that you are bringing to the table that you want people to get or a unique take on a common idea,” she said.

Nagireddy said that the committee also looks for students who have clear plans on how they want to present their topic.

“Just because someone isn’t selected to give a talk at our conference doesn’t mean in any way that their message is less valid or less important,” she said. “Typically, we also, given our time constraints, we have to pick out talks that are more well developed so if there is a talk that has a lot of potential and it isn’t well developed, it’s hard for us because we have such a quick turnaround in selecting them to having them present in front of one hundred people and give

the best TED talk.”

Nagireddy said that TEDxUConn has had a wide range of student speaker topics in the past, such as mental health issues and gun control, and that she looks forward to hearing the new potential speakers.

“We have incredible speakers that come from all different backgrounds and talk about things that are really relevant and important for everyone in the UConn community to learn about,” she said.

The deadline to apply to be a student speaker is Feb. 14 by 11:59 p.m. For more information, email tedxcuration@uconn.edu

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Connecticut State News

Connecticut launches new website with Census information

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP) — A new website has been launched to provide Connecticut residents with reliable information about the 2020 U.S. Census.

Accessible at www.ct.gov/census, the site includes links with information about Census jobs, facts about the Census and the importance of an accurate count to Connecticut, details about Census-related events, and various resources, including informational packets for non-English speaking residents.

"We are resolute in our efforts for Connecticut to be the best counted state in the nation," said Democratic Gov. Ned Lamont. He said an accurate Census count is critically important to the state because it helps determine the allocation of billions of dollars in federal resources.

More than 135 committees have been created throughout the state over the past year to help organize for the Census.

"This website will help enhance those efforts by provid-

ing families, local officials, nonprofits, businesses, and other community members with reliable information and other tools they need to achieve a complete and accurate count for our state," said Democratic Lt. Gov. Susan Bysiewicz.

Bysiewicz is scheduled to team up with U.S. Rep. Rosa DeLauro and local officials in East Haven on Monday to discuss the importance of the Census and job opportunities with the Census.

Connecticut man gets life in prison for role in 2016 murder

WORCESTER, Mass. (AP) — A Connecticut man was sentenced to life in prison after he pleaded guilty for his role in the 2016 death of another man.

Ramon Millan, of Bridgeport, Conn., was sentenced Friday to second-degree murder, home invasion, aggravated kidnapping, arson, and armed robbery, the Telegram & Gazette reported.

Prosecutors say Millan, 40, and his co-defendant, Jose Crespo, were motivated to rob the Kevin Cabrera-Soto after they saw a video of him with \$30,000.

Cabrera-Soto's then-girlfriend, Jivanna M. Rivera, told investigators she recognized the two assailants who held her at gunpoint and forced their way into the apartment.

Investigators say Rivera hid in a bathroom and her 7-year-old son was forced into a bedroom during the altercation.

Authorities say Millan admitted to tying the victim up and alleged that Crespo beat the victim

to death before lighting a pillow on fire to conceal evidence of the crime. The duo made off with \$2,700, according to Rivera.

Rivera and her son escaped the blaze, but she was unable to pull her unconscious boyfriend from the apartment.

Authorities say Cabrera-Soto was found dead in his bedroom bound and burned beyond recognition.

Rivera wrote in a statement that the two men did more than steal money and kill her boyfriend; she wrote that the men "stole my safety, my peace and the home that I had with my family."

Millan's lawyer, Adam Naris, said his client's remorse was evident from the "full and tearful confession" given to investigators the day after the home invasion.

Crespo awaits trial for first-degree murder.

A third defendant, Wilfredo Muniz, awaits trial for misleading investigators.

"Millan...was sentenced Friday to second-degree murder, home invasion, aggravated kidnapping, arson and armed robbery."

Ex-East Haven mayoral candidate arrested on drug charges

EAST HAVEN, Conn. (AP) — A former East Haven mayoral candidate and retired professor wrestler was arrested Friday after authorities say they found more than 200 oxycodone pills in his car.

Officers had pulled Steven "Big Steve" Tracey over for a motor vehicle violation in New Haven when they found the pills, officials said.

Tracey, a retired professional wrestler who once faced off against Hulk Hogan, was released on \$25,000 bond.

His lawyer, Jack O'Donnell, said Saturday that he had no comment because he hasn't yet seen the police report.

Tracey worked as a professional wrestler for the then-World Wrestling Federation for five years — squaring off

against wrestlers like Hogan under the name "Dave Paradise."

The former East Haven Town Council member lost to Democrat Joe Carfora in November.

Tracey was charged with failure to give proper turn signal, possession of a controlled substance and illegally obtaining drugs.

National News

In the Pink: Border collie wins Westminster agility contest



Pink the border collie leaps through a course obstacle en route to winning the Westminster Kennel Club's agility title Saturday, Feb. 8, 2020, in New York.

PHOTOGRAPH BY BEBETO MATTHEWS/AP

NEW YORK (AP) — She might have looked like a black-and-white blur, but this dog is pretty in Pink.

Pink the border collie streaked to the Westminster Kennel Club's agility title Saturday night with determination, dazzle and a stream of barks.

No wonder the vocals: She's named after the singer of such pop hits as "Get the Party Started" and "Trouble."

And no wonder the win: "She is 110% all the time," says handler Jennifer Crank, a dog agility trainer from Pickerington, Ohio.

Meanwhile, a 10-year-old border collie- and-probably- Labrador retriever mix named Moses won a special award for the top mixed-breed dog. Bounding with gusto, he outdid some purebred rivals.

"He doesn't have papers, but he's still a dog with four paws and a tail," said handler Jordan York, an emergency room nurse from Evansville, Indiana.

"He's one of those 'show him once, and he'll do it'" dogs, York said.

Pink's prize extended an all-but sweep for border collies in agility's seven years at Westminster, save for an Australian shepherd's 2016 win.

Traditional judging toward Westminster's best in show award begins Sunday, with the finals set for Tuesday night.

Some 325 dogs from dachshunds to Doberman pinschers took on Saturday's serpentine agility course of jumps, ramps, tunnels and other obstacles.

Top "awwws" - if no formal

awards - went to competitors including Carly Rae, a poodle that puzzled over a line of weave poles, and Lobo, a lovably wayward Siberian husky.

Scores depend on both speed and accuracy, with handlers using verbal cues and body language to guide the animals.

"You have to memorize. You have to strategize ... It's a delightful challenge," said Marcia Lyons of Seattle. She reached the finals with her Nova Scotia duck tolling retriever, Liberty.

To border collie owners, their success in this event is no surprise.

"They're very focused, and they love to work and learn new stuff," said Westminster competitor Jim Koras, who has three border collies.

But dogs that aren't quite such naturals at the sport "actually teach you the most," says Koras, of Wethersfield, Connecticut. "You have to learn more about them, and it's harder to build that teamwork, but it's really satisfying to do."

He was at Westminster on Saturday with his first and so far most accomplished agility dog, a husky-border collie mix named Cote.

If there were border collies, Shetland sheepdogs and golden retrievers by the dozens, there were also some far rarer dog s, such as Valur the Saluki.

The leggy, ancient Middle Eastern hounds are fleet but known for independent-mindedness, so owner Christine Klein of Sharon, Vermont, makes sure to "keep it fun."

Sanders to seek partial recanvass of Iowa caucus results

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sen. Bernie Sanders' campaign plans to ask for a "partial recanvass" of the results of last week's Iowa caucuses.

A campaign aide confirmed the plans Sunday night, ahead of a Monday deadline for candidates to ask the Iowa Democratic Party to recanvass the results. A recanvass is not a recount, but a check of the vote count against paper records to ensure the counts were reported accurately.

The state party released updated results on Sunday showing Pete Buttigieg leading Sanders by two state delegate equivalents out of 2,152 counted.

The Associated Press remains unable to declare a winner because it believes the results may not be fully accurate and are still subject to potential revision.

Both Buttigieg and Sanders have claimed victory in the caucuses — Buttigieg, because he holds a razor-thin lead in the delegate count; Sanders, because he has received the most total support overall. But the chaos and inconsistencies in the reporting of the results have raised widespread doubts and prompted sharp criticism of the process by candidates and party leaders, and the field has largely shifted its focus to the next primary state, New Hampshire.

But with the slim margin separating Buttigieg and Sanders, the slightest mathematical or reporting mistake could have a significant impact on the race. In its request for a recanvass, campaigns must provide "an explanation about how the national delegation could be altered as a result of the problem or its correction," according to the Iowa Democratic Party's delegate selection plan. A Sanders aide said the campaign will be asking the state party to review the results from 20 to 30 precincts.

The potential recanvass would further extend a process already clouded by uncertainty. Technical issues roiled the caucuses. An app used by party volunteers to report results and jammed phone lines set up for the same purpose resulted in the Iowa Democratic Party failing to release any results to the public until nearly a day after the event. Party volunteers found inconsistencies in the complicated math used by caucus volunteers to calculate the outcome of each individual caucus. To confirm the validity of the data they received, Iowa Democratic Party officials spent much of the week collecting paper records of the results and checking them against the numbers reported by volunteers. But issues continued to plague the party's reporting, and the Iowa Democratic Party on Saturday said it was reviewing reported inconsistencies in 95 precincts. On Sunday, they released updated results, which still gave Buttigieg a narrow lead in the delegate count.

But the updated results largely left issues with the complicated math used to calculate results in the individual caucus sites, known as precincts, intact — because, party leadership says, fixing the math would break the law.

Precinct leaders are required to fill out a "caucus math worksheet" at every caucus site to record the number of attendees and the results on the first and second round of voting. Those worksheets are signed by the precinct leader, secretary and representatives of each campaign present to certify their accuracy, and they're considered the official paper record of what went on in each individual caucus room.

The Iowa Democratic Party used those paper records to ensure they matched the numbers the party reported publicly. But errors in the worksheet abound. In some cases, there were issues

in adding up votes for candidates, or the final count of individuals participating after the two rounds of voting was larger than the initial count.

In others, precinct leaders made errors when using the party's formula that translates raw votes to "state delegate equivalents," which are ultimately used to calculate how many national delegates each candidate receives. But in an internal party email sent this weekend, Iowa Democratic Party Chair Troy Price said that, according to the advice of the party's attorney, Shayla McCormally, those worksheets are considered legal documents and tampering with them would amount to a crime.

"It is the legal voting record of the caucus, like a ballot. The seriousness of the record is made clear by the language at the bottom stating that any misrepresentation of the information is a crime," McCormally said in the internal party email. "Therefore, any changes or tampering with the sheet could result in a claim of election interference or misconduct."

The issues with this year's caucuses, however, are likely to have an impact long beyond the end of the Democratic primary.

Democratic National Committee Chairman Tom Perez said on CNN Sunday that he's "mad as hell" about how the caucuses unfolded, and suggested the issues in Iowa could spell the end of caucuses altogether, which are technically party-run events rather than government-run elections.

"I think what we're going to do at the end of this cycle ... is have a further conversation about whether or not state parties should be running elections," he said.

Perez also said the party will "absolutely" consider whether Iowa should lose its status as the first primary state in the nation.

Democratic presidential candidate Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., takes a photograph with a member of the audience after speaking at a campaign stop at Stevens High School, Sunday, Feb. 9, 2020, in Claremont, N.H.

PHOTOGRAPH BY ANDREW HARNIK/AP



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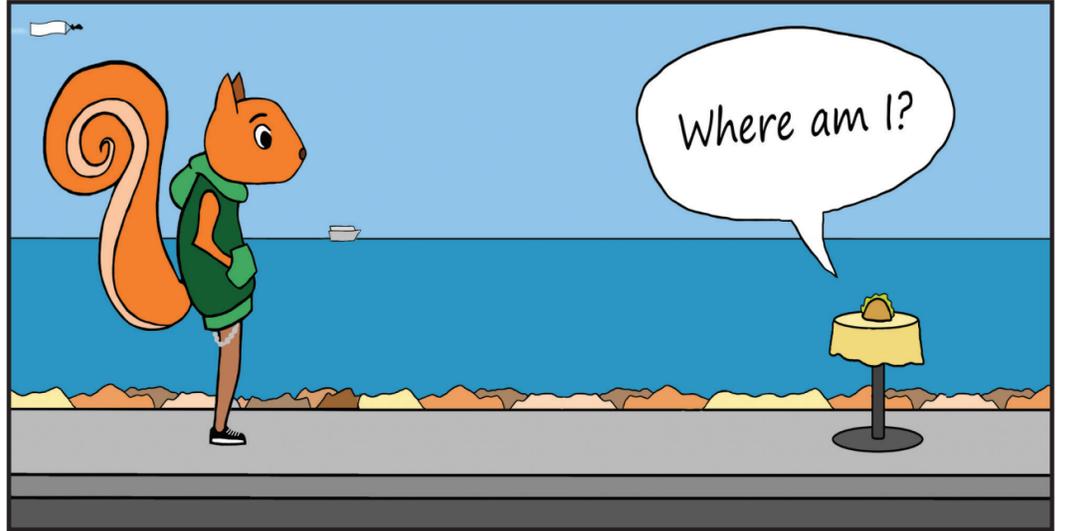


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► Editorial

UConn Athletics should no longer sport such a nasty deficit

The University of Connecticut prides itself on its athletics, especially its illustrious women's and men's basketball teams. The UConn community clamors for victories related not only to game outcomes but also to financial gain. Unfortunately UConn's athletics budget deficit skyrocketed to \$42.3 million – one of the highest values nationwide – in 2019. Although several extenuating circumstances factored into this absurd deficit – and might lead to another one in FY20 – it'd be inexcusable for UConn Athletics to continue sporting such a nasty deficit.

An exponential rise in annual operating expenses looms large. A 2017 University Budget Committee report noted that "between 2005 and 2017, expenditures for the AD grew 70% from \$47 million to \$80 million." This falls in line with 2019's total of \$79,070,708 in operating expenses, which is due to increase by approximately \$1 million in 2020, according to the University Senate. Such circumstances have forced UConn to provide a greater subsidy to its athletics department, contributing nearly \$36 million in 2019. While said university subsidy – in conjunction with student fees – has offset the deficit somewhat, it isn't a sustainable solution to UConn Athletics' budgetary issues.

Many factors can be attributed to this predicament. Chief among them is UConn's affiliation with the American Athletic Conference (AAC), which has reduced TV revenue and increased recruiting, travel and game expenses significantly. UConn's recently fired coaches, particularly those of its football and men's basketball teams, have exacerbated the university's athletics budget woes via severance packages and an arbitration case, respectively. Ticket sales have also been dropping, although this appears to be an issue for college sports nationwide.

UConn's recently fired coaches, particularly those of its football and men's basketball teams, have exacerbated the university's athletics budget woes via severance packages and an arbitration case, respectively.

Despite such setbacks, UConn Athletics has great potential to avoid trouble moving forward. For one, UConn hopes to reduce its AD subsidy, which is one of the highest among NCAA-eligible institutions, within the next few years. The university's return to the Big East, which'll incur additional short-term expenses, should attract more TV revenue and alleviate operating expenditures. And barring unforeseen circumstances, UConn shouldn't have to buy out any more high-profile coaches within the near future. According to a university statement, "Athletics-related donations increased 42% between FY18 and FY19 (from \$10.4 million to \$14.4 million) ... While FY 20 projections point to athletics requiring a similar amount of University support, we project that athletics revenue will increase and we will be in a much improved situation financially in FY 21."

Before long, UConn Athletics should stop dropping the ball and get it rolling in money once again.

Legislators: don't defund your future by \$2.6 million

by **Zoe Jensen**
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In his Feb. 5 speech regarding his 2021 proposed budget, Gov. Ned Lamont told Connecticut residents to "stop bad-mouthing Connecticut," and that "the rest of the country is looking at Connecticut in a new light." Yesterday, rather than embolden the strength of our state's flagship public university, Gov. Lamont chose to cut funding for the University of Connecticut.

State aid plays a critical part in the quality of education for students at UConn. For many years, it has accounted for roughly a quarter of the university's total operating budget. The proposed FY 2021 Midterm Budget cuts UConn's funding by \$2.6 million dollars. It also withdraws funding for the state's Department of Education by \$6 million, pulling back funding for afterschool programs and halving statewide resources for bilingual classroom education.

It is hard to accept that our governor encourages young people to stay in this state while financially limiting our ability to succeed. Recently, our community has struggled to come to terms with the tragic loss of two friends and peers. Continued racial incidents on campus have plagued our culture, with one last semester even being covered by the New York Times. The governor's multi-million dollar reduction to state aid will make it increasingly difficult for the university to allocate resources for the desperately needed mental health and counseling services in the wake of these incidents.

Many on campus remember the #SaveUConn campaign of 2017, when our university faced reductions to our block grant from the state. Because of this loss, class sizes increased while faculty members were laid off. Undergraduate and graduate programs competed for their futures in a reduced funding pool. Fortunately, for the last three years, UConn and its students have been grateful to count on the support

of the governor and the Connecticut General Assembly in restoring and maintaining our state funding. This newly proposed reduction stands despite UConn's continued status as one of the top 25 public universities in the nation, in the face of a board that seeks to keep us growing.

I am hurt. I am sad. I am disappointed that Gov. Lamont, who promised to be a forward-thinking advocate for Connecticut's education, has slashed our ability to keep the forward momentum of our university going. The time has come for the tens of thousands in our UConn Nation to band together as Huskies in support of our university's future.

The governor, who I voted for, reminded other students to vote for, knocked on dorm doors to advocate for, swarmed lines at our community center to vote for, is telling us to love the state that decided to slash our future by millions of dollars.

See **LEGISLATORS**, p. 8

EIGHT TAKEAWAYS FROM THE EIGHTH DEMOCRATIC DEBATE

by **Carson Swick**
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The first week of February was an incredibly packed one in American politics. Never in our nation's history has there been a presidential debate, a caucus, a State of the Union address and a final impeachment vote all within five days.

So yes, I am going to cover the debate as usual. But because there are too many elephants in the room this time around, my coverage of this week's debate would feel incomplete without mentioning everything.

1. Iowa, there are no words...

Everyone has heard the stereotype about America's Midwest: Lots of farmland and a slow pace of life. Whether or not it intended to, the Iowa Democratic Party proved the latter half of this stereotype. Its attempt to implement a vote-counting app was such a fiasco that the Nevada Democratic Party has already promised it will not use any apps in its upcoming caucus. Though Pete Buttigieg and Bernie Sanders came out on top, the bigger story was the IDP's inability to administer an event it had years to prepare for.

2. "Pete vs. Bernie" dominated the debate stage.

Shifting gears to Friday's debate in New Hampshire, it was quite apparent that an ideological clash became the conflict of the night. Buttigieg led the moderate coalition, but ultimately could not deliver a knockout punch to Sanders'

progressive proposals. Buttigieg's answer calling for change in Washington was cliché, and Joe Biden's takedown of his political inexperience may have actually helped the more experienced Sanders, who was content to sit back and articulate his classic campaign promises.

I score this round as a win for Sanders. Buttigieg's best option moving forward is to play for damage control in New Hampshire, where Sanders is very popular, and turn his attention to the Nevada caucus.

3. I was wrong about Elizabeth Warren.

Perhaps the Massachusetts senator is hurt just as much as Buttigieg by the others' weak challenges to Bernie Sanders. After last month's debate, I identified Warren as the frontrunner heading into the Iowa caucus. But Warren's strong performance at the January debate seemed to mean nothing as she plunged in the polls and finished in a distant third place in Iowa. Friday's debate was her chance to take back the party's progressive wing, but Warren could not escape Sanders' shadow all night. She must hope for at least another third-place performance (ideally, a second) in New Hampshire to avoid falling out of this race.

4. Amy Klobuchar was better, but it's too little too late.

The senator from Minnesota continued her habit of attacking President Trump; her attacks came across as more relevant to the debate

conversation this time. This was especially evident in her "newcomer" comeback to Pete Buttigieg. But the fact that Klobuchar came away with only a single delegate in Iowa leaves her with a big hill to climb.

5. It's time for "Sleepy Joe" to wake up.

With Pete Buttigieg winning over the party's moderates, Biden employed some odd tactics in his attempt to steal momentum. As I mentioned earlier, his misguided attack on Buttigieg's inexperience was great news for Bernie Sanders, and he could have been a bit more subtle when talking about his role in the Obama Administration. Biden debated with an unusual desperation on Friday, which is likely because he needs to survive New Hampshire and Nevada before he is able to ride the "Obama wave" with minority voters in South Carolina. But unfortunately for Biden, that South Carolina primary is nearly three weeks away.

6. Tom Steyer and Andrew Yang's days are numbered.

Once again, Steyer's time on the debate stage was limited; if you "blinked," you might have missed it. However, his revival of Bill Clinton's "It's the economy, stupid!" brought up an important issue that is rarely discussed in these debates. Still, Steyer will soon be eclipsed by the other New York billionaire in this race: Michael Bloomberg.

See **DEBATE**, p. 8



Life

@dailycampuslife

Winter Puppet Slam showcases the different mediums of puppetry

by **Brandon Barzola**
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From shadow puppetry to marionettes and everything in between, the Ballard Institute and Museum of Puppetry and the UConn puppet arts program held the 2020 Winter Puppet Slam at von der Mehden Recital Hall Friday night.

The emcees of the night were John Bell, the director of the Ballard, and Kat Folker, a recent graduate of the puppet arts program.

"We started doing the puppet slam ... as a way to present all sorts of new work by puppet arts students and by puppeteers from around the northeast," Bell said. "It's a really great way to see short pieces that [performers] don't have to spend months and months working on."

In the lobby of von der Mehden, there were miniature installations by UConn Design & Tech students and an audience-

of-one show called "Miniature Migration" by BodyWave, a Boston-based collective of performers and artists. All performances of the night were by students, alumni and puppeteers around New England.

The event hosted its second annual "Bimpy Awards," a pseudo-award ceremony that parodies other award shows for each performance of the night. Bell said the awards are "like the Oscars, but with puppets."

The first performance of the night was "There Are Too Many Kinds of Chips" by Felicia Cooper with its accompanying Bimpy award being "Best reflection on capitalism using potato chips." Cooper's performance was labeled a pseudo-autobiographical piece and was a story about when she was at a rest stop and felt overwhelmed by the amount of choices of potato chips.

See PUPPET, p. 6

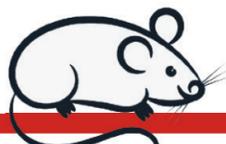


The annual Winter Puppet Slam put on by the Ballard Institute and Museum of Puppetry filled the von der Mehden Recital Hall with laughter and joy with a variety of puppet and non-puppet performances by undergraduate students and guests. PHOTOS BY ERIC WANG, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

LUNAR NEW YEAR CELEBRATION 2020

+ Presented by the Vietnamese Student Association and the Chinese Undergraduate Student Association +




YEAR OF THE RAT



UConn's Vietnamese Student Association (VSA) and Chinese Undergraduate Association (CUSA) put on the annual Lunar New Year Celebration in Rome Ballroom on Saturday, Feb. 8. The night was filled with martial arts, dances and Chinese and Vietnamese musical performances by students and guest performers. PHOTOS BY ERIC WANG, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER AND MAGGIE CHAFOULEAS, ASSOC. PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Life



by **Hollianne Lao**
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Students were dedicated enough to brave the weather and wait of this year's One Ton Sundaes were recognized around campus bearing the bright turquoise Winter Weekend buckets for the event's 41st anniversary, envied by all who laid eyes on their collection of Dairy Bar flavors. Chilly temperatures and rain weren't enough to stop the droves of people who queued up for the annual event on Friday. The signature event of the Student Union Board of Governors (SUBOG) Winter Weekend attracted a line that wrapped around the Student Union Terrace and almost reached Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts for the chance to fill up a tub of delicious Dairy Bar ice cream.

"This was my first time going, but I've always wanted to," Stephen Tiberio, a sixth-semester management information systems major, said. "Although I waited in line for a few hours, I thought the experience was worth it once I was handed a scooper and saw all the ice cream."

This year, SUBOG promoted a loyalty program with a "Senior Skip the Line Pass." Seniors were encouraged to email SUBOG with a photo from the event or with their One Ton Sundaes from freshman year. This was changed from the requirement of photos from freshman, sophomore and junior year, to make the program more accessible for students.

"We got here at like 9:15," Madison Levine, a sixth-semester biology secondary education

major, said. She and the friend she was in line with, Danielle Costa, a sixth-semester elementary education major, were one of the many students who had lined up earlier than the event's start time at 11 a.m. "I haven't heard [what the Senior Scoop] is, but I'm still excited to try it."

"This is my first time," Costa said. She and Levine expressed a desire to go to One Ton Sundaes this year, as next year they will not be able to attend because they will be student teaching. "I love ice cream: peanut butter chocolate is my favorite Dairy Bar flavor."

As students approached the front booth before scooping their ice cream, they were handed a Winter Weekend bucket and metal spoon and directed to one of two boats filled with either nut-free ice cream for those with allergies and another with a mix of flavors. Students chose from Dairy Bar favorites such as toasted almond amaretto, coffee espresso crunch, black raspberry and banana chocolate chip. As the event wore on, some flavors began to run out, but most attendees were able to scoop up some delicious combinations.

"I got Husky Tracks, coffee espresso crunch, cookie dough and almond," Tiberio said. He had stood in line from 11 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. "It was a good mix of flavors, but I didn't go for any fruit ones. My favorite flavor from the Dairy Bar has got to be the signature Husky Tracks, and I was bummed they didn't have the banana chocolate chip flavor."

This year's Senior Scoop, "You Matter Cake Batter," made with cake batter ice cream, mocha fudge swirl and brownie pieces, debuted for the first time at the event. The flavor was named

ONE TON OF FUN AT WINTER WEEKEND ❄️

Brunch?

Where?

Gramma's
Comfort Foods

by **Olivia Hickey**,
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Over Horsebarn Hill and through Storrs Wood to Gramma's Comfort Foods we went! Previously, we have been looking at cafes, to middling results. This week, we went to an actual breakfast spot.

Located in Mansfield Center, Gramma's is set in an actual house that would compare to your grandma's. The picket fence, green mats that resembled grass and the welcome sign on the door made the space inviting.

We got to the restaurant around 9:30 a.m., a little earlier than usual. Other than the sound of "Tom and Jerry" playing on the television and the sounds from cooking in the kitchen, the restaurant was pretty quiet, but business picked up later in the morning as we were leaving. This gave us an opportunity to take in the space. We were struck by the intimacy of the restaurant. The restaurant consists of two rooms and about 10 tables, with the kitchen setup in the main room adjacent to some customer seating. The small setup with the kitchen in the same room made you feel as though you were eating at someone's house. There is little flair to the place, mainly a few wall hangings and picnic-patterned tablecloths. Altogether, it felt like a grandparent's house: Familiar and comfortable.

The service we got at Gramma's hammered home this feeling. We were greeted when we first got there and offered coffee before even choosing our seats by the electric fireplace. The server was friendly, chatting with us throughout the meal and checking in, giving suggestions for the food. Similar to Dog Lane, the coffee was plain, with a bit of a watery texture. It was okay overall, but it only came with one refill. This wasn't a problem for us, but it is something to keep in mind if you need more.

We looked at the menu over coffee. Among the standard brunch items, foods labeled with "Gramma" stood out in bold. We ended up ordering homemade corned beef hash, alongside an egg and cheese

bagel sandwich, a side of potatoes and a rolled pancake.

Our order came out fairly quickly, but the corned beef hash took an extra few minutes. The main items were on pale yellow plates. The corned beef hash came out on a mini skillet, which gave the presentation a quirky touch and made the food look more special. The meal's presentation was simple — similar to that of your grandma's house — but the food looked delicious.

The food is what really stood out, though. The bagel for the sandwich was grilled such that the crust was just a bit crisp. The egg was lightly seasoned, giving it a new flavor all its own. The whole meal was delicious and filling. We were very impressed.

The rolled pancake was so massive and delicious, we barely finished it. The thick pancake itself was yummy. The whipped butter and powdered sugar was a welcome addition. The flavor from the cinnamon apple filling cooked into the pancake, and altogether it felt novel. This was the highlight of the meal.

The corned beef hash was simply delicious. The corned beef and well-seasoned crispy potatoes were worth the extra time and money. With it, the server offered us a sample of homemade hot sauce, an example of the hospitality Gramma's offered. When it came out, we were eager to try it. The sample of the homemade hot sauce gave the hash a welcomed, tropical tang.

Our meal cost \$24, reasonable for the amount, variety and quality of our meals. All in all, our trip to Gramma's was pleasant. Between the welcoming staff, quaint setting and delicious food, we found it to be a great spot for brunch. The nostalgia and food this spot offers makes this restaurant the perfect getaway from the bustle of campus, even if only for an hour.

All images taken by authors.

Puppet show 'wackiness' simply entertains

PUPPET, cont. from p. 5

After humoring the audience with a subtle critiquing of capitalism, Cooper recited "For You O Democracy" by Walt Whitman.

The next performance, called "I've Grown Accustomed to Your Face," was a tribute to the work of Jim Henson, the puppeteer whose work is largely credited to The Muppets and Sesame Street.

The following performance was a film with puppets, called "Aw, Nuts!" which followed the story of a squirrel being followed by a monster that ultimately becomes a friend.

"I liked the atmosphere of the per-

formers. They were very high energy and fun to be around," Gian Lombardo, a sixth-semester actuarial science major, said. "I was expecting [marionettes], but it was everything. It was a lot of artwork I wasn't expecting."

Stepping away from what is normally considered puppetry, the Bimpy award for "Best puppet performance that doesn't include the use of puppets" was for "Preserving Mystery" by magician David Calamari. He used audience members for his card tricks and delivered a heartfelt message about preserving the element of surprise behind magic at the end of his performance.

"Ballet Recital" came after and used a geometric puppet of a ballerina

dancing on stage. "Coming Home To You" followed this and the performance featured an original song by West. After, "Paranoia" was a performance about paranoia and anxiety featuring a big puppet that another person wore. The next performance was a comedy called "The Joust" that focused on two knights jousting while riding on snails. The performance ended in laughter before the knights ever collided.

Esme Roszel, an eighth-semester puppetry major, followed with "The Harvest," a story following a farmer trying to pull crops out of the ground who had trouble pulling a very large carrot from the ground.

"The head and hands I made for a

by Lily DeBlasio and created by Brianna Kinnie, Daniel Barry, Benjamin Hood and Anusha Vis-sapragada.

"It's my last year here, so I wanted to try it, see what the hype's about," Ireoluwatomiwa Opayemi, an eighth-semester molecular and cellular major, said. He had been lined up for One Ton Sundae since 9 a.m. with Elyssa Alber, an eighth-semester physiology and neurobiology major, and Tiffany Cheung, a physiology and neurobiology major. "I don't know why it's outside, it's really, really cold, but the rest of it's cool. You stand in line, talk with your friends, get some ice cream."

Other Winter Weekend events included Moonlight Breakfast earlier in the week, a ski trip to Butternut Mountain over the weekend and a livestream of the Oscars last night.



STEPHEN TIBERIO

"I THOUGHT THE EXPERIENCE WAS WORTH IT ONCE I WAS HANDED A SCOOPER AND SAW ALL THE ICE CREAM!"

Students gathered on the Student Union Terrace to participate in the annual One Ton Sunday hosted by SUBOG Friday, Feb. 7. Students began lining up before the start of the event to scoop flavors such as Husky Tracks and this year's Senior Scoop. PHOTO BY SOFIA LANGOU, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

'AMERICAN FACTORY'

examines a rust belt recovery

by Ian Ward
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Ever since the financial crash of 2008, an increasing number of factories across the country have shut down. In the new Netflix documentary "American Factory," a former General Motors factory in Moraine, Ohio is bought out by a Chinese car glass company named Fuyao. What starts off as an opportunity for the people of Moraine, quickly turns into a situation they never asked for.

Directors Steven Bognar and Julia Reichert do a fantastic job capturing the frustration of the workers and showing what goes into running a factory. The stark differences in working conditions between China and the United States is outstanding. At the Fuyao plant in Moraine, workers are allowed eight days off a month while at a Fuyao plant in China, workers are allowed to go home once or twice a year. Also at the factory shown in China, workers had no safety glasses on or glass resistant gloves. Seeing this really had me wondering what else goes on in factories across China. The lack of regulations isn't the only shocking part of "American Factory."

In the second half of the film, Bognar and Reichert decided to showcase the fight between workers unionizing at the Moraine plant and the resistance of management. Both sides of the argument are shown and while the directors slanted towards the pro-union side, they do a great job at getting viewers to understand why the executives at Fuyao Glass America are frustrated with unions. A quote that best summarizes the management of

Fuyao comes from the safety director of Fuyao, John Crane. "Everybody at every level will say that we (Fuyao) really, really want to be safe. But safety doesn't pay the bills," Crane said.

The shining moment of "American Factory" comes from the questions it raises. How should factory owners treat workers fairly while also making a profit? What role should unions play when a new factory opens? When an international company opens a plant in America, how should they adapt to American culture while also maintaining their own? The resolutions to these questions may take longer to solve than the runtime of the film, but "American Factory" is asking questions that politicians avoid addressing.

Since its release at the 2019 Sundance Film Festival, "American Factory" won the Director's Guild of America award for best documentary and it was nominated for an Academy Award for best documentary. It was also the first film produced by Higher Ground Productions, a company run by former president and former first lady Barack and Michelle Obama.

The one gripe I had with this film is that the pacing is slower compared to other documentaries. However, the film's pace is overshadowed by Chad Cannon's fantastic score. It never overrides the importance of any scene and it nicely complements the film's tone.

If you are curious to see the inner workings of factory life and the ripple effects it has on workers, "American Factory" is your film. It will leave you thinking about the state of American jobs long after the credits roll.

Rating: 4.75/5

class project," Roszel said. "So I sculpted those out of blue foam and papier-mache and it felt incomplete so I wanted to make a little piece out of it to perform at final exams."

The penultimate performance of the night, "Mr. Lonely Finds Love," featured rod puppetry and was by Elise Vanase, Will Smith and Rob Cutler. The audience laughed as the performance followed the story of the Grim Reaper finding love and accidentally killing the only woman he loves.

"I'm part of a puppeteer production ... and we always try to come up with the most wack show," Vanase, a sixth-semester puppetry major, said. "We view puppet slams as a way to just entertain purely through like, it can be any kind of humor you want,

but we try to go for just the grotesque, simple humor. So, that was kind of our process in writing 'Mr. Lonely Finds Love.'"

The last performance of the night was by BodyWave, titled "The Good Oak," which used a moving scroll foreground for many shadow puppets to tell the story of a tree over the course of a century.

Every semester, the puppet slam brings in an audience of students and members of the surrounding community and leaves the audience laughing and feeling much more than they anticipated through the use of puppetry.

"I like the laughs, it's fun to make people giggle," Vanase said. "That's really what we're here for because puppets are just so wacky and I think that they're just a way to make people happy."



by Gino Giansanti Jr.
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In a special edition of this week in history, we'll look at the historic origins of one of the nation's most celebrated holidays, Valentine's Day. While the holiday has become synonymous with cards, roses and enormous boxes of chocolate, the history behind Friday's festivities go back much further than you might think.

On Feb. 14, 270, 1750 years ago, St. Valentine was beheaded by the Roman emperor, Claudius II. If that doesn't scream love and romance, then I don't know what does.

Nicknamed Claudius the Cruel, the emperor was hated by his people, specifically those living in the city of Rome. Hungry for war, Claudius demanded that all able-bodied men serve in his army. Not wanting to risk their lives for a leader they had no faith in, Roman men married and had children earlier to prevent being sent off to the frontlines. In response, the emperor banned all new marriages and engagements within Rome, a decree that did not go over well with the Roman people, as you can imagine.

Valentine, a holy priest of the newly formed Roman Catholic Church, saw this injustice and defied the emperor by continuing to per-

form wedding ceremonies for young couples in secret, thus beginning his connection to love and romance. When the emperor learned of his transgressions, Valentine was imprisoned and sentenced to death by clubbing and decapitation. Legend has it, before his execution on Feb. 14, he sent a farewell note to the prison guard's daughter, signing the card "From Your Valentine."

In 496 AD, Pope Gelasius declared Feb. 14 as St. Valentine's Day in honor of the saint's tragic and untimely death. It is also believed, however, that Gelasius created the feast day of St. Valentine to stop the celebration of the pagan holiday, Lupercalia. In Roman times, the Feast of Lupercalia was the festival of love, where all eligible bachelors and bachelorettes would pick a name from a box and celebrate the evening with whoever the lottery chose for them. Disgusted by this tradition, Gelasius hoped the observance of a saint's brutal murder would put an end to excessive love and affection on Feb. 14. Wouldn't he be proud to see what his holiday has become today?

Fast forward 1,659 years from St. Valentine's execution, another historic event occurred on Feb. 14 in 1929 in Chicago: The St. Valentine's Day Massacre. In keeping with our theme of love and

romance, this brutal assault, which resulted in the fatal shooting of seven people, is the reason why America loves gangster movies and why everybody knows the name Al Capone. In 1920s Chicago, organized crime ran rampant with the rise of bootlegging in Prohibition-era America. Crime bosses like Al Capone fought for control over the alcohol markets in major U.S. cities, usually by murdering their rivals.

On Valentine's Day 1929, Capone disguised his henchmen as Chicago police officers to stop the whiskey deliveries of his archenemy George "Bugs" Moran. Capone's men made Moran's thugs stand against the wall in a line and proceeded to shower the alley with hundreds of bullets, leaving seven of Moran's army dead in the street. Even though all of Chicago knew this was the work of Al Capone, the police could not find enough evidence to convict him. Capone would go to jail two years later, not on charge of murder or violating Prohibition, but rather on tax evasion. Capone and the gangster lifestyle would become part of American culture when Hollywood got hold of his story, resulting in three movies based on his life in the 1930s, and the success of gangster films in the 1970s and beyond with "The Godfather" and "Goodfellas" to name a few.

The Daily Campus



The Daily Campus is conducting our annual anonymous survey for our Valentine's Day issue! Fill it out by scanning the QR code above!

Opinion StudyBreak

Photo of the Day | Something happens and I'm head over heels



UConn students enjoy a break from the clouds and rain with a day of slack lining and acrobatics at Horsebarn Hill on Saturday afternoon. PHOTO BY MIKE MCCLELLAN, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Eight debate takes

DEBATE, cont. from p. 4

Yang received even less airtime than Steyer. And the few times he did speak, it was clear his absence from the January debate loomed large. Simply put, it is difficult for any candidate to gain momentum when their exposure to the public is so inconsistent. The fact that Yang's ideas are all over the Democratic spectrum does not help him, either.

7. In the midst of it all, a great week for Trump.

The only 2020 candidate more scattered than Andrew Yang is our current president. Donald Trump's tendencies need no introduction. But although he seems to lack a coherent plan much of the time, everything fell into place perfectly for Trump this week. After being acquitted on both articles of impeachment, the president seemed relaxed and relieved in his speeches. At the same time, Nancy Pelosi's decision to tear up the State of the Union speech painted an ugly picture of Trump's opponents, demonstrating that his actions had flustered Democratic leadership.

8. The Democrats' unsung hero: Mitt Romney.

If someone told me in 2012 that Mitt Romney would one day be applauded by Democrats nationwide, I would not have believed them. His vote to convict President Trump on "abuse of power" article was as petty as it was powerful. Though his vote was meaningless to the final verdict, I hope Romney's willingness to break from party lines becomes acceptable in American politics again—on both sides.

To legislators

LEGISLATORS, cont. from p. 4

The university that helps provide income for my friends and I, the university whose mental health services have kept me afloat, the university whose scholarships, cultural centers, public transportation and education has kept us here. Has made me transfer to this university. Has made me decide to invest in Connecticut's economy and environment for my college experience. And yet, has shaved off opportunities. But, don't bad-mouth Connecticut.

I urge you to attend the Public Hearing for the Appropriations Committee on Feb. 18, 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The Undergraduate Student Government is providing free buses from the Union at 3:30 p.m. Stand up for our future.

Therefore, the undergraduate students of the University of Connecticut call upon Catherine Osten, Toni Walker, Joan Hartler, Michael DiMassa, Maria Horn, Paul Formica, Gail Lavielle, Catherine Abercrombie, Mary Daughterty Abrams, Andre Baker, Whit Betts, Mitch Bolinsky, Dennis Bradley, Juan Candelaria, Jay Case, Jeff Currey, Lucy Dathan, Anne Dauphinais, Patricia Dillon, Antonio Felipe, Mae Flexer, Mike France, Bobby Gibson, Jillian Gilcrest, Minnie Bonzalez, Gregory Haddad, Carol Hall, Susan Johnson, Noreen Kokoruda, Julie Kushner, Matthew Lesser, Gale Mastrofrancesco, Kathleen McCarty, Craig Miner, Anthony Nolan, Cara Christie Pavlock-D'Amato, Chris Perone, William Petit, Robyn Porter, Geraldo Reyes, Christopher Rosario, Kate Rotella, Kevin Ryan, Bill Simanski, Travis Simms, Heather Somers, Peter Tercyak, David Wilson, Gary Winfield, Tami Zawistowski, and Lezlye Zupkus: Do not let these budget cuts stem the many accomplishments the university has garnered for our state.

MIKE DROP

Voter suppression continues to threaten democracy as we know it

by Michael Katz
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The United States supposedly operates under a democratic republic, meaning that each citizen has an equal say and elected representatives follow the majority rule, even if it conflicts with their personal interests. I say "supposedly" because this structure has been under attack and often compromised via voter suppression. Whether this involves prohibiting women's suffrage, obstructing African American voters with restrictive regulations, allowing foreign entities to interfere with our elections or even destroying the morale of the politically invested by following a self-serving agenda, as we saw a couple times last week, voter suppression continues to threaten democracy as we know it.

Last week's first major instance of voter suppression took place during the Iowa Democratic caucuses on Feb. 3. In short, the release of the final results was delayed by a few days on account of vote inconsistencies and technical difficulties, at which point Pete Buttigieg was declared the narrow state delegate victor over Bernie Sanders despite losing the popular vote. To modify a caucus format that's already horribly overcomplicated, each precinct reported raw vote totals for initial and final alignment. I'm all for ranked-choice voting, but this particular implementation was too convoluted. Besides the confusion that arose from reporting these separate numbers, the close battles that were decided by coin flips became subject to controversy. Imagine that one team is down by a few runs at a baseball game's conclusion, but then the umpire conducts a coin flip because the outcome is "too close to call," and due to dumb luck the losing team "wins." Each hotly-contested caucus precinct operated in a similarly ludicrous fashion, except that the "close gaps" between candidates were often more significant.

It's rather suspicious that a small state like Iowa took so long to release its full results and did so in a way that illegitimately affected the media narrative surrounding each candidate. There was also a blatant conflict of interest in that the developer of the newly-introduced voting app IowaRecorder – which contributed to the aforementioned vote inconsistencies and technical

difficulties – had received money from Buttigieg and Joe Biden, among others. Regardless of the candidates who have benefitted from or been damaged by this debacle, we should all be outraged by the Iowa Democratic Party and Democratic National Convention's gross misconduct, as it might discourage civic engagement and lead to less-than-desirable results.

As we witnessed at the conclusion of President Trump's impeachment trial on Feb. 5, voter suppression is administered not only during elections, but also by many elected officials. The U.S. Senate acquitted Trump of abuse of power by a 52-48 vote, with Utah Republican Mitt Romney the only one to cross party lines in favor of conviction, and of obstruction of Congress by a party-line 53-47 vote. Our U.S. senators – although elected on a state-by-state basis – serve in the federal government and thus are obligated to act on behalf of the entire country. With this in mind, Senate Republicans would've been wise to take a page from Romney and even from Senate Democrats representing deep-red states (e.g. Alabama's Doug Jones, Arizona's Krysten Sinema and West Virginia's Joe Manchin) in honoring the Constitution above any personal interests. Again, the issue isn't so much about the culprits' identities; if a Democratic president were acquitted of the same charges by a Democratic-majority Senate, I'd be just as outraged. But with 18 million more Americans represented by the senators who voted to convict Trump, and with recent polls indicating that a majority of Americans were in favor of removing him from office, it appears that certain elected officials are nonchalantly disregarding their public duty and the will of constituents.

As cynical as I've been – and for good reason, mind you – I won't allow myself or you to fall into the traps that've been set before us. Instead of becoming disincensed to engage civically, I implore you to channel your frustrations positively by making your voice even louder! As I tweeted immediately after the final verdict of Trump's impeachment trial, these injustices should further compel us to vote in our state primaries and in the Nov. 3 general election (and to register to vote if you haven't done so already). Once we allow ourselves to become better informed, develop our own opinions and act upon our knowledge and beliefs, we'll regain our power and uphold a true democratic republic.

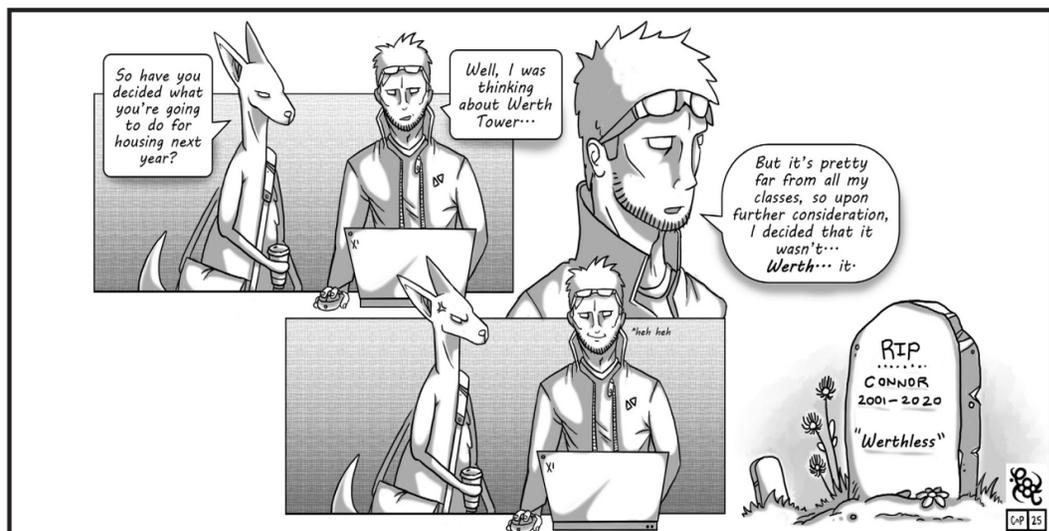


PHOTO BY CONNOR RICKERMANN, STAFF CARTOONIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

No. 3 Oregon women erupt in 2nd half, rout No. 19 Arizona St

EUGENE, Ore. (AP) — Arizona State had hope at halftime.

With revenge as a motivating factor, Oregon extinguished any hope of an upset quickly in the third quarter.

Sabrina Ionescu led five Oregon players in double figures with 19 points, and the third-ranked Ducks cruised to a 79-48 victory over No. 19 Arizona State on Sunday.

Entering the game as the nation's highest-scoring team with an average of 86.2 points per game, Oregon (22-2, 11-1 Pac-12) led only 27-15 at halftime before erupting for 30 points in the third quarter of its 10th consecutive victory, dating back to a 72-66 loss to the Sun Devils last month.

"We said, 'We're down 12. We were down 12 with seven minutes to go at home. We're fine,'" ASU coach Charli Turner Thorne said of her halftime talk. "We felt really good but I knew it would be hard to sustain it with them at home."

It certainly was. Oregon made five straight shots early in the third period, scored on seven consecutive possessions and the Ducks led 42-19 less than five minutes into the second half, and were ahead 57-30 entering the final period.

"I think it was definitely a revenge game for us," Oregon's Jaz Shelley said. "We knew that we are the better team and we knew that we shouldn't have lost that game."

"We had a fire in our belly to come out and show them how we can really play and that we're the better team."

Turner Thorne said she tried to prepare her team for playing

the motivated Ducks, and recalled telling Oregon coach Kelly Graves after the game last month that he should be thankful to the Sun Devils.

"Losing to us, I think, got his team to look a lot harder at what they weren't doing," Turner Thorne said. "They were already at a high level but it got them to another level."

"They're a great team. I think they're the front-runner to win the national championship."

Neither team looked like a title contender early.

Oregon led 10-2 after the first quarter, and the score befitted the offensive play. Neither team scored in the first four minutes, and the Sun Devils missed nine of their 10 shots and had five turnovers in their lowest-scoring quarter of the season. The Ducks forged their lead on 4 of 13 shooting, with four turnovers.

Arizona State's scoring drought extended into the second quarter, but after 10 minutes without a point, Jamie Ruden hit a short jumper and the Sun Devils were within 15-4.

Oregon's 27-15 lead at halftime was primarily built on Ionescu's 13 points on 4-of-5 shooting, including all three of her 3-point attempts, while her teammates were 6 of 22 overall. Arizona State was 5 of 21 from the field in its lowest-scoring half of the season and had nine turnovers.

Then the Ducks got going.

Graves said the Sun Devils concentrated their defense on stopping pick-and-roll plays with Ionescu and Hebard, adding, "sometimes that's by pushing and holding and they do a good job of rotating help. But we were ready

for it and we had our open shooters ready."

The Ducks made 8 of 14 3-pointers in the second half, and 13 of 25 overall. Erin Boley and Shelley each made four 3-pointers on their way to each scoring 14 points, and Hebard and Satou Sabally each added 11 points, with Sabally pulling down a game-high 10 rebounds.

"I think our team did a really good job to find the hot hands," Shelley said of the Ducks, who shot 61% in the second half.

Arizona State couldn't keep pace with the Ducks, finishing with a season-low for points while shooting 40% from the field and committing 18 turnovers.

The Sun Devils were minus injured point guard Kiara Russell, and showed the effects of playing a down-to-the-wire game at Oregon State on Friday night in which several of the regulars played more than their usual minutes.

But even with the outcome decided early, it didn't quell the emotions of the two teams as three technical fouls were assessed in the final three minutes of the third quarter. The first went to Graves before offsetting ones were called on Ionescu and ASU senior Robbi Ryan after they engaged in a verbal spat.

"Sometimes that happens. I was into it," Graves said. "We played really with some edge and really hard."

"I think this meant a lot to our basketball team," he added. "I think they were ready coming in. I didn't have to fire them up. They were ready for this, they wanted this because we gave away one down there."



Oregon's Sabrina Ionescu, right, reacts to a foul call against Arizona State during the third quarter of an NCAA college basketball game in Eugene, Ore., Sunday, Feb. 9, 2020. PHOTO BY CHRIS PIETSCH/AP

AAC games don't prepare UConn for tough challenges

AAC, cont. from p. 11

"45 hundred points," Auriemma said. "45 hundred points. Think about what I just said. When they graduate, and now you're asking a couple players to go 'listen, just go do what those guys did last year,' that have never done that in their life at Connecticut, and then you think that transition's going to be easy. And in the biggest games when the shots don't go in early, what do you think they're thinking? They're probably thinking 'I wish Pheesa and Lou were back, but they're not. I gotta make em.' And it gets [hyperventaling] because they've never been there, they've never done that."

In the big games this season UConn's stars have, for the most part, struggled. In their two losses, Megan Walker is shooting 8-for-36, Olivia Nelson-Ododa is shooting 4-for-13 and Christyn Williams is shooting 10-for-26 — combining for 60 points across the two games.

Friday, the three of them combined for 65 points on 27-of-38 shooting. If they could even find a middle ground between what they've been able to do against American Athletic Conference opponents and the top teams in the country, then they can beat any team in the country.

Just senior Crystal Dangerfield has managed to elevate her game in the big moments, going 13-for-27 from the field for 35 points in the two games. She is the only one of the core four to shoot the ball at a higher percentage in those two games than during the rest of the season.

However, that doesn't mean the American Conference

games are pointless. It's still an opportunity to improve, which is something that's very noticeable. Anna Makurat has grown immensely as both a shooter and a facilitator, and Williams, after struggling while shooting the three-ball at the beginning of the season, is starting to find her stroke from beyond the arc, just to name a few.

"We got a little better since the Oregon game," Auriemma said. "I don't know whether that's going to translate into Monday night, but whatever happens Monday night, when we get back, before we play at South Florida, we're gonna be a better team. That's just the way this is gonna go the rest of the season. But one of these days, all of these guys are gonna make huge shots and big plays in a huge game in big moments, and then, everything will be right with the world in UConn world. When is that? I don't know."

If they want to stand a chance at beating the Gamecocks on Monday, they're going to need their best players to hit those huge shots in the big moments. South Carolina is one of the best teams in the country, and UConn is going to have their work cut out for them.

"So what does Monday mean? Monday could mean another ass-kicking, it could, it could," Auriemma said. "On the road, No. 1 team in the country, they're big, they're fast, they're athletic, they're tough. There's a reason they're No. 1. So yeah, Monday could be another ass-whooping like the one we got the other night. Or it could not."

UConn versus South Carolina can be watched on ESPN2, and tipoff is scheduled for 7 p.m.

TENNIS RECAP: WOMEN SPLIT ON THE ROAD WHILE MEN CONTINUE TO STRUGGLE

by Ben Berg
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Friday night the women's tennis team used an important doubles point to rally past the Seton Hall Pirates for a 4-3 victory.

The Huskies' No. 1 team of senior Cassie Chung (Vancouver, British Columbia) and sophomore Mireille Moreau (Warwick, Quebec) opened the doubles matches with a 6-3 win over Hermehr Kaur and Aina Plana Ventosa of Seton Hall.

To clinch the opening point for the Huskies, the No. 2 duo of sophomore Luciana Rabines (Barcelona, Spain) and freshman Denise Lai (Setauket, N.Y.) won 6-4 over Minja Gligic and Hiba El Khalfi.

In singles, Moreau, Lai and freshman Doga Selen Takuynyaci (Istanbul, Turkey) each won their matches to give UConn the 4-3 win and a 2-0 start to their season.

"Today was an exciting match, and a great victory for our program," UConn director of tennis, Glenn Marshall, said afterwards. "We won the doubles point, and that proved to be the difference."

After a gutsy win on Friday, the women faltered on Saturday, losing 4-0 to NJIT. They lost the doubles point and all three singles points that followed. However, despite it not affecting the score, the junior-freshman combo of Elizabeth Kozyi (Alexandria, Va.) and Takunyaci won a 7-5 doubles match against NJIT's Adara Omar and Advaita Saravanan.

After the match, Marshall lauded his team's effort despite the lopsided score. "It was a tough day, but we fought all the way," Marshall said. The women now sit at 2-1 on the season.

The men traveled to Trumbull, Connecticut to take on Fairfield on Saturday. Saturday's contest saw the men lose the doubles point before losing five of six of the singles points to hand them a 1-7 record and their sixth straight defeat.

Their lone victory on the day came from the No. 5 singles spot where freshman Nicholas Gore (Kingston, Jamaica) beat Fairfield's Allan Magid 2-0 in the best-of-three set.

Next weekend the women's team will travel to Philadelphia to take on Drexel and Temple while the men will face Hofstra on the road before hosting Siena on Sunday.

WHOC earns split with UVM

SPLIT, cont. from p. 10

Game two of the weekend would not be the same as the night before. Vermont got the scoring started in game two, scoring their first goal of the game three minutes in. Alysia Holmes scored the goal for the Catamounts, setting the tone early that this would be a different game.

UConn responded a minute later with their own goal. Corryn Tormala scored the goal, her third of the year. Danielle Fox and Claire Peterson assisted on the play.

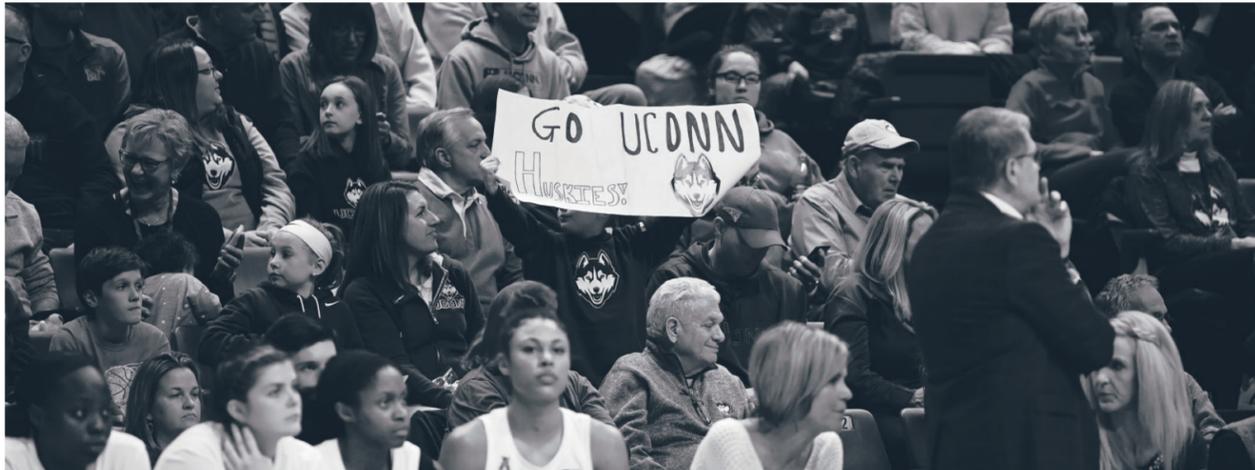
The Huskies would not score again in the first period. Vermont, however, would. They scored late in the period to take a 2-1 lead, which would be the score heading into the second period. Val Caldwell scored the goal.

Vermont carried their momentum from the first period into the second period, as they would go on to score two goals in the second period. Their first goal came a little over a minute into the period, and it was scored by Schafzahl. Her goal increased the team's lead to 3-1. Kristina Shanahan scored the Catamounts second goal of the period, bringing the score to 4-1.

UConn would score late in the second to make it 4-2. The goal was scored by Colangelo. Snodgrass and Crawley assisted on the play.

Vermont held this 4-2 lead heading into the third period, but momentum had swung back to the Huskies after their late goal in the second period. Vermont was able to kill UConn's momentum and prevent the Huskies from making a comeback, holding them scoreless in the final period. The Catamounts scored two more goals with less than a minute remaining to win the game 6-2.

UConn will look to rebound this weekend with two games against Merrimack College.



A young fan holds up a sign showing his support as the UConn women's basketball took on Memphis on Feb. 7. The Huskies demolished the Tigers 94-55 to move to 20-2 on the season. PHOTO BY KEVIN LINDSTROM, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Sports

Photo of the Day | Geno and Molly



Geno Auriemma has a word with Senior Molly Bent during UConn's win over the Memphis Tigers on Feb. 7 in Gampel Pavilion. PHOTO BY KEVIN LINDSTROM/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Softball: UConn begins season with 3-2 weekend



UConn Softball takes home a 2-1 win against Quinnipiac University on April 30, 2019. The team got off to a 3-2 start in the 2020 season. PHOTO BY BRANDON BARZOLA, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

by Danny Barletta
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The UConn softball team kicked off its 2020 season in Fort Myers, Florida, for the Kickoff Classic hosted by Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU).

The Huskies (3-2) had a solid start to the season, beating Georgetown, Boston College and FGCU but falling to Delaware and Long Island.

UConn debuted with a convincing 3-0 win over Georgetown on Friday. Junior Marybeth Olson was the star of the game, pitching six shutout innings, in which she allowed just three hits and struck out 11 to pick up her first win.

The Huskies could also only come up with three hits, but they made them count. After a couple of walks put runners on base in the fifth inning, last season's top hitter Briana Marcellino came through with a huge two-run double to pad UConn's lead, 3-0.

The pitching was also outstanding in Friday's second game against Long Island. Freshman Meghan O'Neil made her first career start and combined with Olson and senior Katie Koshes to allow just six hits and no earned runs. However, LIU scored an unearned run from an error in the fourth inning, so the Huskies were play-

ing from behind.

They tied it in the seventh on Kiwi McDaniel's RBI single to send the game into extra innings. However, while UConn couldn't take advantage of softball's intentional tiebreaker rule, which places a runner on second base to start extra innings, LIU did and won the game 2-1 on a walk-off single by Samantha Garcia in the eighth.

The Huskies split Saturday's two games as well, starting with a 9-6 loss to Delaware. In that game, UConn's pitching really struggled early, allowing nine runs through the first four innings, putting the team in a 9-0 hole. But when Olson took over, she shut down the Blue Hens for the final three innings.

During that time, the Huskies mounted a comeback by scoring six runs — four of them in the fifth inning alone. Redshirt sophomore Samantha Barnett had the biggest hit of that inning, a two-run double to cut the lead to 9-4. UConn scored twice more on RBI hits from Devon Casazza and Ashley Esty, but the comeback came up short.

In Saturday's second game against Boston College, the Huskies redeemed themselves. This game also went into extra innings tied 1-1, and after BC took a 2-1 lead in the top of the eighth inning, the Huskies answered right back. McDaniel hit a walk-off, two-run single with

runners on second and third to give UConn the 3-2 win.

O'Neil pitched the entire game and allowed just one earned run on three hits while striking out five BC batters to earn her first career win.

Finally, on Sunday, the Huskies had their best game of the weekend. They dominated FGCU 7-3 due to some clutch hitting. UConn jumped out to a 4-0 lead in the second inning thanks to RBI doubles by Olivia Sappington and Ashlee Dahman. They added more on a two-run single by Reese Guevarra in the sixth inning.

Just as they had all weekend, O'Neil and Olson combined to throw a terrific game, limiting FGCU to just three runs on six hits. The only hiccup was a two-run home run by Mikenzie Vaughn in the sixth inning, but the game was already out of reach at that point.

The Huskies enjoyed some great pitching this weekend, especially from Olson and O'Neil. They also got some timely hitting with runners in scoring position from several players. And even in the game where they didn't play well, they still fought back to make it close.

UConn seems poised for a good season under first-year head coach Laura Valentino if this opening weekend is any indication.

Women's Hockey: UConn splits weekend series with Vermont

by Joshua Gorman
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UConn both won and lost a game against Vermont this weekend as the Huskies once again were unable to find a consistent level of play and sustain it over multiple games.

UConn (15-13-2) came into their matchup Friday against Vermont looking to get back into the win column after losing to Northeastern and tying with Providence last weekend. This season has been very up and down for the team. There have been plenty of examples of how good this team can be, like their wins over Boston College, but on the flip side, there are plenty of examples of the inconsistency that has haunted this team all year long. For example, look no further than the three-game losing streak where the Huskies were unable to score a goal. This weekend's matchups against Vermont gave UConn a chance to gain the momentum they need heading into the last couple weeks of the season.

Vermont (10-14-7) has had a rough season. Vermont has played in a ton of close games, and they are leading Women's Hockey East in games tied this season. The Catamounts are not lacking in experience when it comes to playing in close games.

The first game this weekend between the two took place on Saturday. Both teams were active on the offensive end early, taking five shots each in the first eight minutes of the first period. UConn, however, would strike first, scoring a goal eight and a half minutes into the period to take a 1-0 lead. Natalie Snodgrass scored the goal, her 11th of the season, with an assist from Catherine Crawley.

The Huskies had another opportunity to score not long after when they were given a power play opportunity, but were unable to score off it. Vermont got their own power play opportunity in the first period as well, successfully capitalizing on it to tie the game at 1-1 a little over midway through the period. Theresa Schafzahl scored the goal for Vermont.

Neither team scored again in the first and the game remained tied at 1-1 going into the second period. The second period would belong to UConn, as the Huskies were able to dominate on both ends. On defense, the Huskies gave up ten shots, but they did not allow Vermont to score. On offense, UConn was able to score two goals, the first giving them a 2-1 lead, and the second bringing it to 3-1. Briana Colangelo scored the first of UConn's goals in the second



Morgan Wabick skates in a game against Maine on Jan. 24. The women's hockey team most recently split a series with Vermont. PHOTO BY SOFIA SAWCHUK, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

period, and Crawley scored the second. It was Colangelo's seventh goal of the year and Crawley's 11th.

UConn took this 3-1 lead into the third period. Vermont would not wait long to start their comeback attempt, scoring a goal three minutes into the start of the period. Schafzahl scored the goal, her second of

the game, to cut UConn's lead to one at 3-2.

The Huskies quickly responded with their own goal two minutes later to increase their lead to 4-2. Emily Reid scored the goal for the Huskies, her fourth of the season. Viki Harkness and Leona Sim assisted on the play.

The Catamounts still found

themselves with plenty of time to try and pull off the comeback. They would end up taking 16 total shots in the period. Unfortunately for them, it would not matter how many shots they took as they were unable to score, and UConn came away with the 4-2 victory.

See SPLIT, p. 9

Celebrating 30 years of Gampel Pavilion



Members of UConn's historic 1989-90 men's basketball team pose for a photo at halftime of Sunday's game. UConn celebrated Husky Heritage and Gampel Pavilion's 30th anniversary. PHOTO BY ERIC WANG, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

by **Kevin Arnold**
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Time, no matter how long or short, explicitly or otherwise, inflicts change. People grow and society evolves with each lap around the sun our planet completes. For 30 of those revolutions now, Harry A. Gampel Pavilion has stood up to humanity's greatest test.

Gampel's silver dome quickly became a staple of the Storrs scenery when it opened in January of 1990. Like most of today's stars, Gampel has had some touch ups to stay contemporary, like the added seats in 1996, the new scoreboards in 1999 and the 2017 "nose job" when all 2,200 roof panels were repaired. But its charm and memories made have never wavered.

"I will never forget that game because everyone was anticipating that building opening up," John Gwynn, a member of the 1989-90 team, said. "In those days, there weren't these big, fancy buildings going up and they picked us as last in the Big East conference. And that bothered us. We knew we had one

of the best teams in the country. I knew it, you guys knew it, everybody knew it and that stage allowed us to prove we had one of the best teams."

Gwynn and his teammates were the first players to take the floor in Gampel when they matched up with No. 15 St. John's on Jan. 27, 1990. The Huskies, who were amidst a six-game winning streak, put together a 14-point win over their Big East rival in front of double the fans they were accustomed to on campus.

"Most of our big games we played in Hartford," Chris Smith, the program's all-time leading scorer, explained. "But just being on campus and allowing the fans to really come to the games, the kids that are on campus to come to the games and make it a little crazy, that's good for us because they're sitting right on top of you. It's loud. It just builds excitement."

UConn would go on to win three more in a row to cap the streak at 10 before eventually compiling the first 30-win season in program history. Deemed the "Dream Season," the 1989-90 Huskies were the first to win

the Big East regular season title, the Big East tournament and the first to reach the Elite Eight before losing to Christian Laettner and the Duke Blue Devils.

"This 90s team is kind of the team that started it all," Rod Sellers, who scored the first-ever point in Gampel, said. "We're proud of ourselves. We're proud of what we've done."

The historic group of Huskies reconvened in Storrs for Sunday afternoon's game against Cincinnati. Now nearing their half-century birthdays, they spent time catching up, exchanging gifts and reliving memories of yesteryear before being honored on their home floor during halftime.

"30 years ago, these are the guys that got the whole thing started," Jim Calhoun said when he addressed the 9,409 in attendance at halftime. "They believed in each other, they believed in the coaching staff, but they really believed in UConn."

The 2019-20 Huskies believed in themselves yesterday, beating the Bearcats 72-71 in overtime. James Bouknight, who led the team with 23 points, brought the crowd to its feet on more than

one occasion, reminiscent of Gampel's inaugural game.

"Just the energy the fans brought," Scott Burrell said of that first night in Gampel. "The electricity in the crowd. You got goosebumps playing in that building that night."

There's a stark difference, however, between the accomplishments of the Dream Season and Year Two of Dan Hurley's rebuild. Outside of playing in a new conference, these Huskies are not going to win 30 games and, at the moment, are not poised for a tournament run, but the older generation still has hope.

"They're having a tough time," Smith said. "I think they're going to get better. They play hard every minute of the game. They hustle, defense is really really good."

Therein lies the connection between Day One of Gampel Pavilion and Year 30: The defense.

"Our team was defense," Smith added. "We were long. We had 6-foot-4, 6-foot-8, 6-foot-7, we had big guys out there, but we took pride in playing defense and that's how we scored. Just a lot of grit and toughness."

Grit and toughness, two pillars of Hurley's regime, have been staples of UConn basketball for 30 years. In that time, UConn has won its conference tournament 10 times, went to five Final Fours and won four national titles. The last championship came in 2014 and the team has not been back to the NCAA tournament since 2016, but the newest edition of Huskies is beginning to turn the page.

"It's great that at this point in the season everyone wanted to come in here and have a great UConn basketball day with those former guys in here," Hurley said. "We needed to step up today with an amazing crowd and those amazing Huskies that got this thing started here. I think that it was fitting that they were in the building here because you have another group of Huskies on the court, young Huskies, and older Huskies, to start this next era that will hopefully yield a lot of the same."

Calhoun, who was at the helm of the program for three titles, had a simple message for the UConn faithful.

"Keep the faith because we'll be back again."

WBB Notebook: What do AAC games even mean anymore?

by **Jorge Eckardt**
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It's the seventh and final year in the American Athletic Conference for UConn, and at this point, what do the blow-out wins even mean anymore? In the seven years the Huskies have spent as a part of this conference, they have lost a grand total of two games. Just kidding, they haven't lost a single one.

The real question has always been how can they transfer their conference success into success against other top programs and in the NCAA tour-

nament. The Huskies play at the No. 1 South Carolina Gamecocks on Monday, so how does head coach Geno Auriemma think they can translate their 39-point win against Memphis to perhaps their biggest game of the season?

"I don't know," Auriemma said. "That's probably not possible. To be honest with you that's not possible."

The Huskies are 10-0 in the conference this season but just 2-2 versus ranked teams. The two wins have come against the No. 16 DePaul Blue Demons and No. 23 Tennessee Vols, with the losses coming to the No. 6 Baylor Bears and

No. 3 Oregon Ducks, the last of which took place exactly one week ago.

They've won their last four conference games by an average of 45.75 points but lost their two games against top-10 teams by an average of 17 points.

How could this happen to UConn, a program that's become synonymous with National Championships over the past two and a half decades? Well, it's important to remember what they lost this season. More specifically, who: Napheesa Collier and Katie Lou Samuelson.

See AAC, p. 9

UConn finally wins overtime game

OVERTIME, cont. from p. 12

UConn had been winless in all three overtime games this season entering Sunday, but finally got the job done against Cincinnati. The loss also snaps a streak of eight consecutive regular season losses to the Bearcats, and comes just a month after Cincinnati absolutely dominated UConn at the Fifth Third Arena.

"Six weeks ago, they manhandled us, treated us like little boys," Hurley said. "We rose up to the challenge of physicality ... it really shows the growth of the team."

It certainly wasn't easy. The tension was palpable in the waning seconds of overtime, with UConn leading by one. After another Cumberland miss, the ball went out of bounds and was declared UConn ball. But after review, the call was unexpectedly reversed, catching UConn off guard and giving the Bearcats a shot at a game-winner with 2.7 seconds on the clock.

Cumberland went one-on-one with Vital, and appeared to draw contact but it was likely after the buzzer. As the crowd erupted, there was some confusion on the court — Bouknight admitted that he initially thought a foul had been called — but the game was over, UConn prancing off with a massive victory. Hurley credited the crowd all game, especially in those final moments.

"When he pointed to the other end, I didn't feel good about that, but I felt good about [our defense]," Hurley said. "I just knew with the crowd that we would really have to foul for them to call it. ... Awesome crowd, they were the difference."

"Awesome crowd, they were the difference."

DAN HURLEY

With double-digit losses already, an at-large bid seems like a long shot at best for UConn at this point. But having now defeated the two hottest teams in the conference in the span of three days, suddenly a deep conference tournament run doesn't seem so impossible. In the postgame locker room, the team had a newfound energy and optimism, but the sights are still set on a bigger goal.

"It's a step in the right direction, but this is not what we came here for, to win two games in a row," Vital said. "We gotta keep going. We're gonna enjoy ourselves tonight, sleep a little bit better tonight, but once we wake up tomorrow, we gotta get ready for SMU."



Molly Bent calls for a screen in a game against Memphis on Feb. 7. The Huskies demolished the Tigers 94-55 to move to 20-2 on the season. PHOTO BY KEVIN LINDSTROM, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS



Sports

Men's Basketball: Huskies dethrone Cincinnati in overtime thriller

by Andrew Morrison
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In his halftime address to Gampel Pavilion, former UConn head coach Jim Calhoun had this message to the packed seats: "Believe in UConn, keep the faith, because we'll be back." Now, with back-to-back wins against the first-place team in the conference, UConn might be back sooner than we thought.

The Huskies (13-10, 4-6 The American) beat Cincinnati, 72-71, in an overtime thriller on Sunday, snapping the Bearcats' five-game winning streak and dealing them just their second conference loss. Freshman James Bouknight, who had a team-high 23 points, knocked down a pair of clutch free throws with a minute remaining in OT and senior Christian Vital clamped down on Cincinnati's (15-7, 8-2 The American) Jarron Cumberland in the final seconds to ice it.

"It's a validation for all the efforts and what we're trying to build here, and just how damn competitive we've been, to win a game like that," head coach Dan Hurley said after the win. "We needed one like that."

Defense was the difference on Sunday, as UConn made huge stops at the end of both regulation and overtime. Vital, who had 19 points and five rebounds, came up big on Cincinnati's star both times. Although his halfcourt heave as time expired in regulation fell just short, Vital had a crucial offensive board and putback in overtime, and then locked up Cumberland with 2.7 seconds remaining. Guarded by Vital most of the night, Cumberland finished just 1-of-11 from the field with six turnovers.



Alterique Gilbert goes up for a layup against Cincinnati on Sunday. The Huskies bounced back from their previous loss to Cincinnati with the help of the UConn energy inside Gampel Pavilion with a 72-71 win in overtime. PHOTO BY ERIC WANG, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

"Christian did 'Vital' us a couple times in the second half, but the good far outweighed the bad," Hurley joked, referring to Vital's questionable shot selection at times. "The work he [and Brendan Adams] did on Cumberland defensively put us in a position to win the game."

Adams was the sparkplug off the bench, drilling four threes en route to 16 points and five boards. When Cincinnati jumped out to a 10-point lead in the first half, Adams reignited the offense and the crowd, hitting back-to-back threes to key a 16-2 UConn run to close the half. The Huskies led by four at halftime, largely thanks to a combined 6-of-10 performance from beyond the arc.

"It was fun, it felt good to make shots," Adams said. "I'll shoot from anywhere. Today it was the corner, but I like all spots. I don't really have any weak spots."

After a quiet first half, it was the Bouknight show in the second, scoring 11 of UConn's first 13 points out the break and 17 of his 23 in the second half. Besides the game-winning free throws, the freshman was UConn's go-to option down the stretch, hitting a huge jumper with 1:06 in regulation which would ultimately send things to overtime.

"We're a tough team to beat. We played eight games straight, losing by two, three points and we're just showing now that we can win these games," Bouknight said. "We played much harder, everyone was in tune and we just played a good game."

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WOMEN'S BASKETBALL: UCONN CRUSHES MEMPHIS BY A TRILLION

by Sean Janos
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Okay, not quite an actual trillion, but it felt like at least a billion.

The real final score was 94-55 in a game where UConn (20-2) controlled the entire game with some of the best ball movement that I've ever seen.

As a team, the Huskies racked up a season-high 31 assists on their 38 made baskets. This was in large part due to the dynamic senior and freshman duo of Crystal Dangerfield and Anna Makurat.

Makurat was inserted into the starting lineup for the first time since game two of the season, and she was determined to put on a show for the fans at Gampel. She was setting her teammates up to score early and often, dishing out eight assists in the first 15 minutes of the game. With the school record set at 13, she was well on pace to shatter that mark as just a freshman.

"These last, I don't know how many games, you can see that every minute of every day, she [Makurat] gets better at being a part of our team, being comfortable and playing to her instincts instead of worrying about everything," Geno Auriemma said.

Makurat finished the game with 11 assists, as well as two points, three rebounds and

four steals.

Dangerfield, who torched the Tigers earlier this season with 24 points, only needed to score seven this time around. But like Makurat, she was dropping dimes all night and ended the game with eight assists.

You may ask, 'So, who were the beneficiaries of these assists?'

Christyn Williams had 20 points on an efficient 7-for-12 shooting, Megan Walker had 26 points on a slightly more efficient 11-for-17 and Olivia Nelson-Ododa had 19 on the most efficient 9-for-9 night.

"We [Auriemma and Williams] talked a little bit today. I said, 'It's not a coincidence that the games where you are the most engaged defensively, work really hard on the defensive end and run the floor are your best offensive games as well,'" Auriemma said. "Those two things carry over."

Williams missed the last week of practice with the flu, but was still able to bring it tonight.

"It felt good to see the ball go in," Williams said. "I'm just now getting back, but I'm still lowkey drained. This is my first time having the flu, and I had no idea how much it affected your energy."

Williams scored 16 of her 20 in the first half, knocking down four 3-pointers. Walker

also grabbed 11 rebounds, and Nelson-Ododa had seven rebounds and three blocks.

UConn got contributions all the way up and down the roster. Molly Bent came in and hit two threes on her way to 10 points, Aubrey Griffin grabbed 10 rebounds and blocked three shots and Evelyn Adebayo made the most of her five minutes by scoring four points and knocking down a 3-ball.

Dulcy Mendjiadeu Fankam,

who gave the Huskies problems when these two teams met last month, was held to just nine points, shooting 4-for-12.

"As a team in our preparation, our last two practices we prepared differently," Nelson-Ododa said.

Who did show up to hurt UConn was Memphis freshman Madison Griggs. She led the team in points with 15, scoring exclusively from beyond the arc. She knocked down five of her 11 attempts.

"That kid walks around like she's half asleep and just buries threes from everywhere," Auriemma said. "She's good, man. She's really good. She's as good of a shooter as anyone I've seen in a long time. I like how she plays."

Next for the Huskies is a trip to South Carolina to take on the No. 1 team in the country. We'll see if UConn can ride the momentum from this blowout win. That game will take place Monday at 7 p.m.



Crystal Dangerfield takes her role as floor general. The UConn women beat Memphis 94-55 Friday night in Gampel Pavilion. PHOTO BY KEVIN LINDSTROM, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

THIS WEEKEND IN UCONN SPORTS

Men's Basketball

72 vs 71

Women's Basketball
Tonight 7 p.m.
Columbia, SC

Women's Lacrosse
Wednesday 3 p.m.
Fairfield, CT

INSTAGRAM OF THE DAY



@uconnhuskies
OT VICTORY #bleedblue

TWEETS OF THE DAY

- Mr. Hot Balls**
@misterhotballs
Great for Cincinnati today - get slapped around by UConn and then watch you football coach leave. Another great day for AAC purgatory.
- Devan Fink**
@DevanFink
Jeter Downs has 152 more career defensive runs saved for the Red Sox than Derek Jeter had for the Yankees

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