



Subsidy for athletics department capped at \$41 million

by Mike Mavredakis
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The University Senate passed a motion that capped the university subsidy to the athletics department Monday. The motion capped the subsidy for fiscal year 2021 at \$41 million, the same amount as this year.

The motion also requested they present a plan to reduce their subsidy by at least \$15 million within the next 10 years at the May University Senate meeting. They also asked athletics to present an annual report on their progress at the first meeting of the year, including that year's subsidy "clearly noted," according to the motion.

When questioned on the impact of this decision, the university and athletic department deferred to a statement sent to the NCAA earlier this year.

"The bottom-line figure is not a comprehensive illustration of the many ways in which UConn Athletics continues to work toward greater financial self-sufficiency over time," the statement said. "Reducing the athletic subsidy to a level that is in line with our peers remains our long-term goal, and one that helps shape our decision-making process every day."

In January the Hartford Courant's Alex Putterman reported that athletics ran at a \$42.3 million deficit. Namely, the football program cost \$13.3 million more than it earned outright in 2019, per the Hartford Courant.

The increased deficit seems to be a result of increased tuition costs, and therefore scholarship costs, as well as "declining conference and media licensing revenue". The American Athletic Conference has a television deal with ESPN+ that was extended for the next 12 years, starting in 2020-21 according to a conference release.

"It is worth noting that a large portion of this deficit in recent years (\$17.7 MM in FY 19) has been associated with student scholarships, including a \$790,000 increase in scholarship cost in the past year," the statement said.

This past July UConn announced they were moving conferences to the Big East and, as a result, have to pay out an exit fee from The American totaling \$17 million over multiple years. The Hartford Courant also reported that UConn will have to pay a \$3.5 million entrance fee into their new conference.

"As we have said in the past, the Division of Athletics is continually working to identify

savings, drive up revenue, and address other factors within its control to help close this gap," the statement said.

A piece of those savings comes in the form of payroll. The athletic department noted that they decreased "payroll and operating costs" by \$1 million. At the same time, per the release, the university increased athletic donations from \$10.4 million to \$14.4 million from FY 18 to FY 19, a jump of 38.5%.

"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, requiring a smaller subsidy," the statement said.

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UConn Athletics Department



The University of Connecticut's University Senate capped the athletic department's subsidy at the current level of \$41 million and requested a plan is presented to lower it by \$15 million over the next 10 years. FILE PHOTO/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Research: UConn researchers 3-D print micro water filters

by Grace McFadden
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Researchers at the University of Connecticut led by associate professor of chemical engineering Jeffrey McCutcheon are pioneering new ways to purify water.

The McCutcheon Lab focuses on membrane separations, which is the process of using very thin materials as tiny filters. Dr. McCutcheon explained that the lab specifically looks at membrane-based water desalination.

"We work in a topic area called membrane separations. So this covers all areas of separations, from water treatment to fuels production to gas separation. My primary core expertise is desalination and water treatment for most of my career," McCutcheon said.

Desalination of water is one of the most promising water filtration technologies, and most of it is based in reverse osmosis. Reverse osmosis is the process by which dirty water is pushed through a membrane to filter it. With the average American using 80-100 gallons of water per day, water filtration is an especially important topic in chemical engineering.

The McCutcheon lab researches how to create the most efficient membranes for desalination.

McCutcheon explained that part of his research looks at 3-D printing some of those materials.

"3-D printing is all the rage right now across all industrial sectors. Everyone wants to do what's called additive manufacturing. We developed a way to make membranes through an additive manufacturing process which we refer to as 3-D printing because that's the buzzword peo-



UConn chemical engineering professor Jeffrey McCutcheon and his team are looking at new ways to purify water. PHOTO COURTESY OF UCONN

ple use today," McCutcheon said.

McCutcheon said 3-D printing membranes was a big breakthrough for the lab.

"The technology has applications beyond just water. We're very happy talking about it now, and I have a number of students who are working in the area still," McCutcheon said.

As for advice he would give to undergraduates interested in research, McCutcheon emphasized the importance of resilience.

"If I wanted to give a specific piece of advice, I think it's to have a thick skin. When you're in research, be prepared for people to tell you that all your ideas are bad ... Be prepared nine times out of 10 to be told no," McCutcheon said.

McCutcheon said that humility is key in learning from one's mistakes.

"Always know that you don't know everything ... when I present a seminar at a school or a conference, I will then tune it or tailor it and improve it for next time. I'm

constantly updating my stuff because I know I have to improve. I want all people who work in research to know that they all have to continuously improve," McCutcheon said.

McCutcheon also encouraged students to look into the resources surrounding entrepreneurship on campus so as to spread their research to others.

"If we're scientists, our job is to disseminate our information as much as possible and make sure it gets out there where it can do some good," McCutcheon said.

McCutcheon emphasized the importance of using research for the benefit of the state.

"There's an opportunity here to take what UConn does in the bowels of its research labs — across the hall, across these fancy buildings that the state's paying for — let's find a way to make it do something for the state," McCutcheon said. "Our charge is to be an economic engine for the state."

Professors create an alternative to healing liver injury

by Naiela Suleiman
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Research conducted at the University of Connecticut has found that people with chronic diseases do not need to stop medication while they heal from drug-induced liver damage.

Xiaobo Zhong, a toxicology professor in the school of pharmacy and José Manautou, department head of pharmaceutical sciences and professor of toxicology, has worked in collaboration with a team of experts to study the effects of liver damage on mice and a liver's natural ability to regenerate.

"The work that we did in collaboration with Zhong's lab was to understand if a liver that has been injured has the capacity to handle and metabolize pharmaceuticals that are used to treat patients with things like diabetes and psychological conditions"

JOSÉ MANAUTOU

"The questions we address are, that if a patient that has developed liver injury by taking an overdose of a medication, like acetaminophen for example, what is the capacity of those individuals to handle medications and metabolize them when they are also undergoing liver recovery?" Manautou said.

Zhong said when a person takes an oral medication, the liver is the first place the medication goes so it can metabolize and release it into the bloodstream. This can lead to liver damage, especially if you have a chronic illness such as diabetes.

"We went to the UConn Health and they have a poison control center there, and when patients indicate liver damage, clinicians told us when they see these patients the first idea is to stop all medications a patient may be on," Zhong said.

There is no standard time it may take a liver to heal after stopping the medication, and conditions for those with chronic illnesses can suffer as a cost, Zhong said.

"The work that we did in collaboration with Zhong's lab was to understand if a liver that has been injured has the capacity to handle and metabolize pharmaceuticals that are used to treat patients with things like diabetes and psychological conditions," Manautou said.

Acetaminophen, the active ingredient in Tylenol, was used as a model compound to induce liver injury in mice, Manautou said.

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Tweet of the Day
Noor
[@noor_taweh](https://twitter.com/noor_taweh) saying I couldn't graduate before my tweet made it onto the daily campus but now it did and now I gotta graduate... it be ya own self

News

Feel Good Friday: Asha For Education to host benefit concert for Mumbai school

by **Grace McFadden**
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Students in the University of Connecticut's chapter of Asha for Education will be hosting British artist Mumzy Stranger in a benefit concert on March 7.

Parth Patel, a sixth-semester molecular and cell biology and political science major and president of the UConn chapter of Asha for Education, said that the money from the concert would be going to support a school in India.

"All of the money for this concert is going directly towards charity. We're trying to support a school. It's called Chehak Trust. It's a school in Mumbai. It's a school for children with disabilities," Patel said.

This concert is part of the organization's goal, which is to better education in India.

"Our mission is to catalyze socioeconomic change through the education of underprivileged children in India," Patel said.

Education is a necessary part of breaking the poverty cycle, according to the club's website.

"The South-Asian country has over one billion people, many of whom exist in poverty. Therefore, education is a source of freedom for the younger generations as they try and escape the oppressive cycle of destitution," reads Asha for Education's website.

Asha for Education is an international organization that began in 1991. The UConn chapter started in 2008.

Karen Alex, a second-semester physiology and neurobiology major and Asha member, said that she joined the organization because of her enthusiasm for educational charities.

"In high school I was part of a similar club, where we fundraised money for a school in Cambodia. I liked the idea of funding schools, except in India," Alex said.

Patel said he originally joined Asha for Education because it connected his interest in joining a cultural organization with his passion for charity.

"I joined Asha my freshman year because I was looking around at a lot of clubs and I felt it was a great club for the South Asian community as well as just promoting charity. There's a lot of cultural organizations on campus, but Asha's trying to bridge the community as well as charity together," Patel said.

The concert will be at 8 p.m. in the Student Union Ballroom. Tickets for the concert can be found online or bought at the door of the concert.

Liver injury alternative developed by faculty



UConn's Jose Manautou and Xiaobo Zhong, who are toxicology professors at the university, work with a team to study livers. They found injured livers can still process medication to treat other illnesses. PHOTO COURTESY OF PEXELS

PROFESSORS cont. from p. 2

"We wanted to see how the injury affects the capacity of the liver to metabolize any medications that a patient could be taking on a chronic basis," Manautou said.

The liver is the only organ that can regenerate itself when it is injured, Manautou said.

"We are finding that based on the reduced ability to metabolize medications, that one of the recommendations wouldn't be to discontinue the medications but to reduce the medication doses because the liver has a reduced capacity to metabolize those medications," Manautou said.

Manautou said people on medication have often been prescribed a dosage that falls within a safe range of doses that a person can take, called a therapeutic window.

"You have a therapeutic window for medical treatment, that allows some room for medication doses, if you go above the therapeutic doses you risk adverse effects of those medications, if you go below that dose then the medication will no longer [be] effective for treating that condition," Manautou said. "Patients are usually given the middle dose in that therapeutic window so that it can be increased or decreased based on how the patient is responding to the therapy."

Zhong and Manautou have met with clinicians at UConn Health in anticipation of working to further their research with human patients who have a liver injury.

"We first need to demonstrate these findings with our animals before we move on to humans and it's something we are working to collaborate with UConn Health on," Zhong said.

Learning more about that therapeutic window is important in the next steps of their study, Manautou said.

"We want to know what is the actual window we are dealing with when the tissue heals and recovers, does the liver recover the capacity to handle medications in the same time frame," Manautou said.

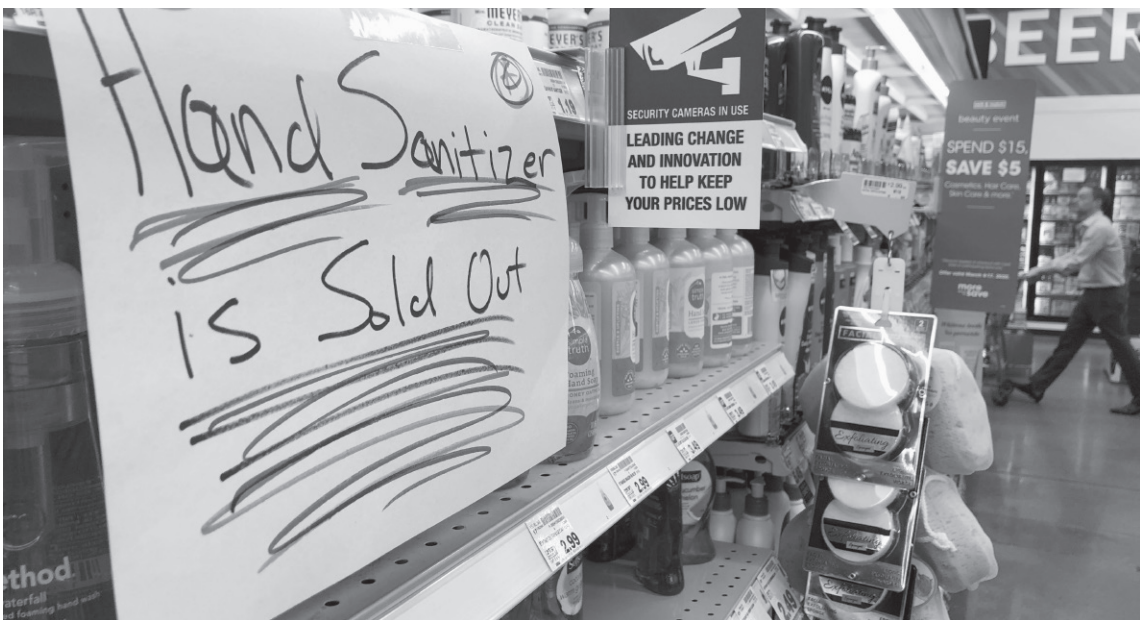
Zhong said they want to do an extended time study to track the course of recovery from liver injury in humans.

"This is important if we see the same in mice that we also see in humans, and can change the way patients are treated for liver injury," Zhong said.

Manautou said they hope to get clinically relevant studies on the work he and Zhong have done with mice and see how long the effects of an injured liver might last.

"This research should show an improved therapeutic managed care with patients because right now the decision to discontinue medications is based on a practice that makes sense but isn't an evidence-based decision," Manautou said. "We are proposing that our work will provide that evidence on how to better treat patients that are ongoing liver injury and how to better manage the existing conditions."

US labs await virus-testing kits promised by administration



Hand sanitizer is sold out at a grocery store Thursday in Nashville, Tenn. Tennessee has confirmed its first case of the new coronavirus, state Department of Health Commissioner Lisa Piercy announced in a Thursday morning news conference. PHOTO BY MARK HUMPHREY/AP

WASHINGTON (AP) — Trump administration officials doubled down on their promise to deliver 1 million tests for the coronavirus this week as states reported limited testing supplies and federal lawmakers expressed doubts about the government's timeline.

Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar told reporters Thursday that a private manufacturer authorized to make the tests expects to ship the kits to U.S. laboratories by week's end. That amounts to the capacity to test roughly 400,000 people, given that it takes multiple test samples to a confirm a result.

The number of U.S. cases

has grown rapidly in the last several days after more labs started testing and guidelines for eligibility were expanded. The U.S. tally stood at about 200 cases on Thursday, including 12 deaths — 11 in Washington state and one in California.

"We don't have enough tests today to meet what we anticipate will be the demand going forward."

VICE PRESIDENT MIKE PENCE

The test kits from Iowa-based Integrated DNA Technologies are one part of the government's effort to ramp up testing. But the U.S. has trailed other countries in rolling out tests, because of problems with its test kits and because the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention initially limited the number of eligible people.

Asked Thursday whether there were enough testing kits, Vice President Mike Pence responded, "I think we are we are ready today but we want to be ready tomorrow."

He acknowledged, "We don't have enough tests today to meet what we anticipate will be the demand going forward."

The Daily Campus

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► Editorial

The case for MESACC

There are currently five cultural centers at the University of Connecticut: The African American Cultural Center, the Asian American Cultural Center, the Puerto Rican/Latin American Cultural Center, the Rainbow Center and the Women's Center. Recently, there has been a re-energized push for another to join these ranks. The Middle Eastern Student Association is campaigning for a Middle Eastern and South Asian Cultural Center to be created.

This idea has been pitched for at least a few years, but the reasons given for its infeasibility have remained the same. Lack of space and lack of funding are legitimate concerns put forth by the administration, but they are problems that have solutions.

Space has a simple answer. We live in the middle of nowhere, and while UConn is expanding into itself constantly, there is certainly room to spare. There is no reason a theoretical MESACC must be on the fourth floor of the Student Union, at least not to start — most if not all of the cultural centers have moved from their original homes. Logistics as trivial as this are not a valid reason to deny students a place.

Funding is harder to solve, especially as the state groans over budget cuts. In addition to the facilities themselves, we must also be concerned about properly preparing and staffing the program so it is fit to succeed. That costs time and money to do well.

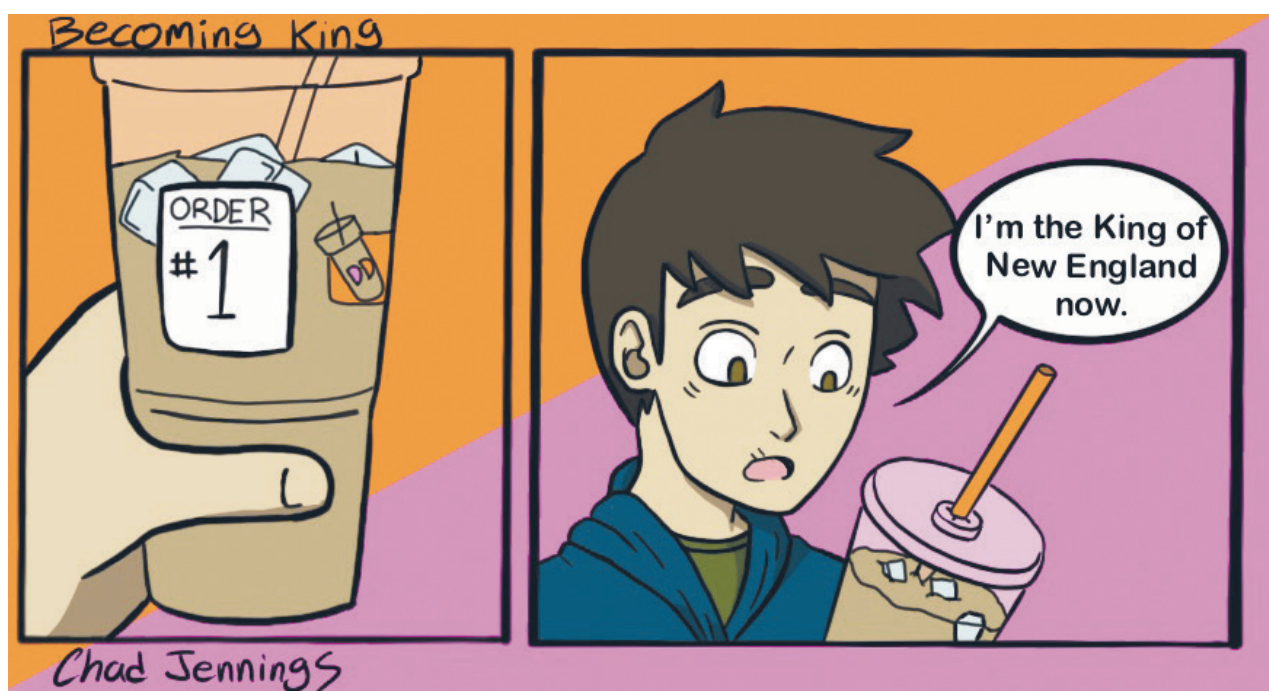
However, through the efforts of a cooperative administration, through the support and resources of the other cultural centers, and through the sheer will of the student body, these can be overcome. It may not start at the same advanced stage that we see in the other cultural centers, but anything is better than nothing. It gives room to grow after the first hurdle.

The history statements of each cultural center remark on the long path toward creation and recognition. AsACC is the most grave of these, recounting an event where students were taunted and harassed as the administration and law enforcement were unable to properly remedy the situation.

It is important to remember that none of the cultural centers suddenly popped into existence on their own. It was only by the dedicated effort of students, staff and community members that they gained the standing they have now. The Editorial Board commends the efforts of students in campaigning and showing support for the creation of MESACC.

UConn is proud of its commitment to diversity, and in general it should be. Our staff and faculty have shown themselves to be thoughtful and hardworking time and time again. But it is not a goal to reach and then be done with. It is a constant process we work toward in our every action. And so, we urge UConn to take another step forward and properly consider a Middle Eastern and South Asian Cultural Center.

For more Opinion content, see page 8



CARTOON BY CHAD JENNINGS/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Is mindfulness a magical cure for misbehavior?

by Kate Lee
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As anyone who has spent time in public school knows, the mental health of students is alarmingly poor and the efforts of faculty to curb this problem have historically been even worse. According to the National Institute of Mental Health, about one in five children in America have anxiety, and the nonprofit Child Trends claims that "almost half experience at least

1 in 5 children
in America have anxiety
and half experience home
stressors.

one serious stressor at home — like divorce, poverty or a parent's addiction." In response to this crisis, many school systems are attempting to change how they respond to unruly, anxious and depressed students, using mindfulness principles to help children center and calm themselves. While these techniques show great potential to improve the lives of many students, it is important to note the limitations of these methods and the demographics that are less likely to see improvements.

Mindfulness is a general term that encompasses activities aiming to promote awareness, compassion and presence through mental exercises such as focusing on the breath or the senses. It is inspired by religions such as Hinduism and Buddhism, but is secularized in the mainstream context.

Some schools that have integrated these techniques have achieved overwhelmingly positive results. Warner Arts Magnet Elementary School, a high-poverty school in Nashville, Tennessee sends disruptive kids to the "BeWell" room where they can center themselves through meditative activities and

focus on self-care. The institution's mindfulness program also includes one-on-one sessions, yoga classes and classroom support. According to Principal Ricki Gibbs, behavior referrals have decreased by 80% compared to last year.

However, critics note that the only clinical research that has clearly demonstrated the consistent efficacy of mindfulness programs focuses

on curricula that requires extensive participation and intensive, regimented sessions. According to Erica Sibinga, a professor of pediatrics at John Hopkins School of Medicine, mindfulness can be beneficial when presented "in a highly structured program ... [but] we can't immediately assume it's effective when delivered in other ways." In addition, some companies are taking advantage of the mindfulness trend by selling videos and audio tracks that are supposed to promote mindfulness in children even though they supposedly only need to be played for five minutes a day.

Skeptics also point out that mindfulness has historically been associated with more affluent, white communities. As mindfulness programs spread across the country, it is important to make deliberate strides so that these resources are available to all communities, especially poorer regions where children often face trauma and may only receive therapy through public resources such as their school. Efforts to promote "equitable mindfulness" are already under way via organizations such as the Center for Mind-

fulness, Compassion and Resilience and Arizona State University, but these initiatives need as much support as they can get to break down the walls of deep-rooted socioeconomic division.

In addition, while mindfulness may prove to be a useful tool to promote student health when practiced in line with clinical research, it is important to recognize its limitations. Statistics from schools across the country show that black and Hispanic students tend to be disciplined more harshly and more often in their classes. This can partially be explained by subconscious (or conscious) biases from teachers, which can cause a student to feel stuck and continue to lash out. Trying to center these kids with breathing exercises will do nothing to fix this underlying problem.

It is also important to ensure that, should these resources be made available, there be no associated stigma. Students should not feel judged by their peers or their teachers for reaching out. Childhood and adolescence can be a difficult time

Mindfulness
may prove a useful tool,
but it's important to
recognize limitations.

when a student is suffering from a mental health condition but does not want to be seen as different or weird. If mindfulness resources are not normalized, they will not serve the very communities that could benefit most from them. By the same token, it is also important they are not viewed as a foolproof cure for mental illness. Mental disorders such as anxiety, depression and ADHD often require more intense therapy and medication to manage. If students and teachers believe that mindfulness alone will improve these conditions, they will only be left with disappointment.

Healthcare in America The stakes are different

by Arjun Ahuja
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When I was in seventh grade, one of my best friends was diagnosed with type 1 Diabetes. To me, that was weird. I didn't know or comprehend how kids could get a disease meant for old people. I didn't really understand why he had to prick his stomach every time he came to sleep over. I didn't completely grasp why he couldn't spend as much money because his medicine was too expensive. At 13, I wondered why my friend was different. At 21, I am mortified that this is the norm.

According to a study published by the American Public Health Association, 530,000 people file for bankruptcy due to medical debt annually. Every year, according to a study conducted by Harvard School of Medicine and Cambridge Health Alliance, working-age uninsured Americans have a 40% higher risk of death than their privately insured counterparts. It also showed that about 45,000 people die annually from lack of health insurance.

In the wake of a big Joe Biden night on Super Tuesday, I come here to tell you that the stakes are too high for the status quo. A Joe Biden presidency would change none of the institutions that so desperately need overhaul. But don't take this

as conjecture from me, take it from the former vice president himself, in a speech he made to his wealthy donors in New York he says, "No one's standard of living will change, nothing would fundamentally change." That terrifies me, and you should feel the same.

If nothing fundamentally were to change, what does that mean? It means that wealth inequality would continue to rise to the staggering levels where the richest 10% of households own 70% of wealth. It means that people would continue dying from lack of health insurance coverage or be forced into thousands of dollars in crippling medical debt. It means that the student loan debt that burdens millions of young Americans every single day would still be outstanding and our children would not be given access to the education that they rightly deserve. But, most importantly, it would mean that our planet will continue burning. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change warned that limiting global warming to the 1.5-degree Celsius (2.6 degrees Fahrenheit) mark by the end of the century — a goal set to stave off the worst impacts of climate change — "would require rapid, far-reaching and unprecedented changes in all aspects of society."

See HEALTHCARE, p. 8



Menstrual products are not a luxury

by Anika Veeraraghav
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Scotland has recently moved to become the first nation in the world that will make pads, tampons and other menstrual products free. This is a big step forward, especially given how expensive many of these sanitary products are today.

Last Tuesday, the Scottish Parliament approved a plan that will make menstrual products free in certain public areas, such as community centers and pharmacies. These products have been free in schools and universities since 2018.

Menstruation is certainly not a luxury, and the products needed for all individuals who menstruate should not be priced so highly.

See MENSTRUAL p. 8

Daily

Life

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Partners in Health Engage(s) students to advocate and learn

by **Stephanie Santillo**
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Though others might not think of healthcare as a human right, the nonprofit Partners in Health (PIH) most certainly does. The organization aims to implement sustainable healthcare systems in countries that need them most, and some dedicated UConn students have formed an on-campus organization called Partners in Health Engage (PIH Engage) to help advocate for these changes.

According to Catherine Myers and Marlene Abouaassi, co-team coordinators of UConn's chapter, PIH Engage is a system of organizations that branch off the larger nonprofit PIH. Found mainly on college campuses or as a young professional group, PIH Engage participates mainly in advocacy work. Members work to advocate for nonprofits like The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, as well as for policy that affords everyone access to quality health care.

"At a local level, as Partners in Health Engage, we do more — since we're not trained health care workers or professions [sic] — do more on the basis of advocacy," Abouaassi, an eighth-semester molecular and cell biology and sociology double major, said. "We're just trying to bridge the gap between injustice and having people [have] the care that they need."

PIH itself sends professional members to various countries experiencing great disparities in healthcare to work with professionals there to build a better, more equitable health care system. Countries working with PIH invite the organization into their country and benefit from their partnership. Some of the countries PIH works with include Haiti, Mexico and Rwanda. They also work with the Navajo Nation in the southeastern United States.

"Their idea is to work with the health ministries there, based off the five S's to build a successful health care system, which is stuff, space, staff, systems and social support, and basically the theory behind that is that if you're missing any of those

five S's, your healthcare system won't operate," Myers, a sixth-semester allied health and Spanish double major, said. "Ideally, the goal, since they're employing local citizens and people from these specific countries — the end goal is that Partners in Health shouldn't have to exist."

Myers says that PIH ultimately wants to institute equitable healthcare systems that countries can maintain themselves without outside assistance. This will theoretically allow more people to receive quality care.

At UConn's chapter, PIH Engage meetings consist of interactive and educational activities. The co-team coordinators say that members often watch documentaries or look over healthcare policies to learn more about challenges to creating equitable healthcare systems. Additionally, members call or email their elected officials to express their concerns and advocate for policy that forwards their goals.

PIH Engage also hosts events open to the wider university and local community. In April, PIH Engage will screen the documentary "Bending the Arc," about the founders of PIH and the movement that they started. PIH Engage also holds Strides in Solidarity, a 5k fundraiser.

Abouaassi says that students in the UConn chapter of PIH Engage are interested in a variety of topics, including healthcare, public policy, social justice and politics but that any interested student can join the organization.

She and Myers say that being in the organization extends many learning opportunities to students and that they themselves have benefited from these experiences. In addition to showing them a new perspective on healthcare, being in PIH Engage has shown them how to make a local impact.

"Partners in Health has ... provided me with a different outlook on the healthcare system in general, in how I can make a much stronger impact locally if I am engaging with my representatives and senators," Myers said.

Students can reach out to UConn's chapter of PIH Engage at uconnpih@gmail.com.



Dedicated students at UConn have come together to form PIH Engage to help advocate for sustainable healthcare systems. PHOTO BY AUTHOR



Members of the UConn PIH Engage chapter, including co-team coordinators Catherine Myers and Marlene Abouaassi, are passionate about giving people the help they need. PHOTO BY AUTHOR

NEXT: ON LADY GAGA'S NEW MUSIC VIDEO



After the release of Gaga's newest hit single "Stupid Love," on Feb. 28, her song was quick to become No. 1 on iTunes this week. Her video has also gotten an astounding 4.2 million views. PHOTO COURTESY OF BILLBOARD

LADY GAGA RETURNS WITH 'STUPID LOVE'



Director Daniel Askill impresses viewers everywhere with the high-quality result of Gaga's new video as he shoots the entire thing with the iPhone 11 Pro. PHOTO COURTESY OF STEREOGUM

by Clara Gomes
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On Feb. 28, Lady Gaga released the music video for her newest hit single “Stupid Love,” the song that went viral on Twitter since its leak in January. After the two-year wait for her next single after “I Will Always Love You” back in 2018, “Stupid Love” has fans talking.

Not only were fans excited about the release of her video, but they were also fascinated by the fact that the entire film was shot on the iPhone 11 Pro. The video was featured in advertisements for Apple on Youtube and elsewhere over the past few days.

“Amazingly, the video looks as if it was filmed with a professional camera setup so it’s a huge testament to the powerful 12-megapixel camera on the phone,” said Paul Fogarty of HITC Entertainment,

For many it was exciting

to think that the popular singer-songwriter was able to create this video on something available to the masses. However, the involvement of the iPhone 11 Pro is not the only thing exciting about the video. People are also talking about the work that went into creating the intricate costumes and makeup featured in the video.

“In the video we see Gaga performing with a group of dancers while wearing a custom pink latex set by Vex Clothing,” Fogarty said. “[She’s also wearing] a silver O-ring choker by Funk Plus, a custom spike and chain belt by Bitchfist NYC and a flat version of Stack-301 raspberry-pink boots by Pleaser Shoes.”

This, however, is not the only fun look of hers in the video. Gaga also takes on two other looks and has blue, yellow, pink, red and green tribes, aka her dancers, vibing alongside her. Her other

two looks can be described as her “Power Ranger-esque intergalactic dream” look and her “Metallic Magenta Bikini” according to Sabrina Barr of Independent. More info on Gaga’s accessories and overall look can also be found at La Maison Gaga, a celebrity fashion website dedicated to her.

Director Daniel Askill also revealed some of Gaga’s thoughts on the meaning behind the video. Apparently, Gaga intended for there to be a metaphor involving the inclusion of these color tribes that dance with her.

“When the video first came to me, it was in the form of a voicemail from Gaga. She spoke about these seven warring tribes as a metaphor for the state of the world today—that’s what hooked me. She was interested in trying to bring across this message of peace and coming together and putting our differences aside,” Askill said. More on



Gaga's single cover image for “Stupid Love,” the lead song for her sixth album. PHOTO COURTESY OF VARIETY

her Gaga’s inspiration can be found via James Patrick Herman of Variety.

After the video dropped on Friday at midnight, the video has amassed 4.2 million views. Gaga fans are hailing this as her return to the “Bad

Romance” days. Fans are even more excited about the Chromatica Ball tour dates released by Gaga. Until then, if you haven’t seen the video for “Stupid Love” yet, you should check it out. Happy listening!



A Novel Idea



A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE

by Hollianne Lao
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When I was younger, I was very intimidated to venture near the teen and young adult (YA) sections of the library. I remember telling myself that I would never read any books beyond the safety of the spacious and welcoming children’s section; I couldn’t imagine they could be as interesting as what I was already reading. I’m glad I quickly reneged on that commitment and expanded my interests. Although I realize that some of the books I read as a child weren’t necessarily the pinnacle of literary scholarship, neither are some of the adult and YA books I read now, and it’s honestly pretentious to dismiss any works of media just because they were geared towards children (I’m looking at you, critics of animated films and shows). If anything, shouldn’t we want the media that the younger generation consumes be just as high-quality and valuable so that they can properly appreciate the arts and characteristically develop?

Some of the books I read when I was younger still remain in my top reads, whether for their sentimental value or quality writing, even in comparison to what I’ve read thus far. Last semester, I mentioned some of my “book beginnings” with my list of favorite books, but, here are some more childhood books that helped shape my bibliophile tendencies. I may not have read some of these in a while, so forgive any rusty details.

“The Tales of the Frog Princess” series by E.D. Baker

This series is actually what the Disney classic is based off of! Granted, Tiana’s colorful New Orleans backdrop is absolutely nothing like what happens in this story, but, I love both works in their own ways. The part of the Baker’s work that Disney based the film off of was probably the part where the protagonist turns into a frog herself when she kisses her alleged frog prince. Emma is one of my favorite princess characters, being surprisingly realistic and fleshed-out, not

written as clumsy or quirky for the sake of being different. Baker’s plots have enjoyable twists that make for fun storytelling.

“Warriors” series by Erin Hunter

I admit, I too was apprehensive about reading about talking cats, however, Hunter — which is a pseudonym for the five female writers, including their editor — manages to write such a compelling saga about the territorial and interpersonal conflicts between the four cat clans that I forgot how weird it sounds. That’s how you know it’s good! The world-building, intricate plotting and relationships seem dramatic, but Hunter managed to pull it off with continual quality entries.

“Willow Falls” series by Wendy Mass

While you might recognize the author but not necessarily the series name, but if you saw the book covers, you would know what I’m talking about. This series includes “11 Birthdays,” “Finally” and “13 Gifts,”

along with two additional entries I consider spin-offs since the main cast takes a slight backseat. (Also, I didn’t get around to reading the last two books, so this entry only really includes the original trilogy.) All three of these books center around magical circumstances during the protagonists’ birthdays, and the character relationships is where the writing shines.

“The Mysterious Benedict Society” series by Trenton Lee Stewart

This book kicked off my phase of “puzzle-based” books like “MVP*: Magellan Voyage Project,” “The Candymakers,” “The Name of this Book is Secret” and “The Gollywhopper Games,” but Stewart’s series still reigns supreme in my book. His writing was very characteristic of a witty narrator, and sometimes, the quirkiness and intricacy was a little much when I was younger, as was the length, however, it’s all worth it. The stories all seem a little far-fetched but work out in such clever ways, you’ll wish you had figured out

before on your own, but let’s be honest, there’s a reason some of us aren’t the writers, okay?

I’ve already talked about “Harry Potter,” “The Hunger Games” and “Percy Jackson” probably more than you guys would like to hear, so just know that those books are at the top of my list, even if I don’t discuss them here. If you want quick but enjoyable reads, any books on this list will suffice. I think what they all do is excel at representing well-developed, fleshed out relationships between its characters, which I think is vital for young readers these days.

Honorable mentions: “The Magic Treehouse” series, “Fairest” and “Ella Enchanted” by Gail Carson Levine, “Enchanted” by Heather Dixon, “Dork Diaries” by Rachel Renée Russell, the “Candy Apple” series, “Gallagher Girls” by Ally Carter, “Year of the Dog” and “Dumpling Days” by Grace Lin, “The Books of Bayern” and “Heist Society” by Shannon Hale, “Sugar and Ice” by Kate Messner, and “Once Upon a Marigold” by Jean Ferris.

ASIAN BEAT: ELEPHANTE

by **Kimberly Nguyen**
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It's not every day that I see neon elephants on a big screen in the Big Apple, but it's not every day that I get to see Asian American DJ Elephante in New York City. The DJ ended his Diamond Days tour at Webster Hall on Saturday, Feb. 29, and I was lucky enough to be there.

His music is essential for any dance or night drive playlist. Many of the melodies and vocals that Elephante mixes are very powerful at points, dreamlike at others and sometimes wistful, showing how purposeful he is when it comes to vocal collaborations in his work, besides his own. Elephante, born Tim Wu, knows a thing or two about dreams. He told NextShark in an interview that he always wanted to be a musician. He graduated from Harvard and was working at one of the top consulting firms in the country but the DJ was always thinking about creating music.

"I really just spent all my free time on music, and it was the only thing I wanted to do. It felt like I was doing the bare minimum for everything else in my

life and the rest of my time was focused on music," he told NextShark.

He quit his job to pursue that dream. The name Elephante comes from embracing "the elephant in the room" and defying the odds, he said.



Elephante even had his parents hyped up about his music, although they don't fully understand the genre, he said his parents saw success, as most immigrant parents might find, in jobs that earn a large paycheck. For the DJ, he was determined to stick by his passion.

By doing so, he has gained a lot of success, shared stages at large music venues such as Electric Daisy Carnival and as a resident DJ in Las Vegas, according to his Spotify bio.

For the show itself, the light show was always visually engaging and fit the mood of each song in the set perfectly. One of my favorite songs that was played was "Diamond Days." I was not expecting the DJ to play the guitar on stage and sing as well, but there he was, stepping out from behind his booth and doing both. The chorus itself was sung by everyone in the room along with Elephante, who has vocal talent and was not washed out by any other distracting audio.

"I don't wanna waste my time / Waiting on your reasons / I don't wanna fall behind / Chasing all your seasons, no."

Another favorite was "The In Between" with visuals on screen to go along with the song



Elephante performs many of his new songs for fans in New York City on Feb. 29 at Webster Hall. PHOTOS BY KIMBERLY NGUYEN, ASSOCIATE DIGITAL EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

and a beat drop that did not disappoint. Elephante never hid from the audience for too long, standing at the edge of the stage to give out high fives and even exchange kandi, small bracelets traded at music festivals.

Many of the songs I listened to by Elephante were for the first time at his show live. They were engaging, and Elephante was constantly hyping up the crowd with mixes of other popular EDM songs laced within his own. Almost all the songs,

especially the ones I mentioned, had a great slow lead-up to an intoxicating beat drop and party dance bass that made the almost two-and-a-half hour show never ending, in a good way.

I'll be awaiting new music in the future and am waiting for the opportunity to see this Asian American artist in Las Vegas for Electric Daisy Carnival where he will also be having a set.

3 Songs For Your Playlist:



BIG BRAIN ENERGY



COVID-19 brings out the worst in humans

by **Taylor Harton**
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The Novel Coronavirus, COVID-19 or nCoV-19 is a new strain of respiratory disease which originated in Wuhan, China in December of last year and has since sickened 98,067 people and killed over 3,000, according to the Center for Disease Control. Although the outbreak itself is horrible, it also sheds light on some of the uglier aspects of human behavior: discrimination and selfishness. It is almost as though we have a disease of human nature occurring in tandem with COVID-19.

Perhaps one of the ugliest side effects of the COVID-19 outbreak is the racism and xenophobia against those of Asian descent around the world. Indeed, it has been well published over the last several months that the outbreak originated in the Hubei Province of China. But with that announcement there have been numerous instances of blatant racism against those perceived to be Chinese — including people openly calling COVID-19 the "China-virus."

NPR tackled this issue in a recent article where they asked their readers to tell stories about instances where they have experienced discrimination solely because they are Asian and "assumed" to have COVID-19. The responses were astonishing. One reader, Roger Chiang, recalled a situation he was in a few days ago where a white woman across from him on the train was glaring at him and covering her mouth and nose. When Chiang told the woman he did not have COVID-19, she responded she "wasn't racist — she just didn't want to get sick."

Last month, The Daily Campus published an article detailing student's experiences at the University of Connecticut with racism in the wake

of COVID-19. Xingyi Chen, a sixth-semester finance major and the founder of the International Student Advisory Board (ISAB) at UConn, recalled several situations where those around her overheard racist comments being made by students at the university.

"One of my friends went to a club event, and some American students said they are going to establish a band called 'Wuhan Band,' [where] everyone who is in the group needs to wear a mask to sing," Chen said.

She also mentioned a situation where her a dining hall supervisor asked her friend if he had returned to China over winter break, and that the supervisor expressed "relief" when Chen's friend said he had not. The racism, however outward or subtle, is here at UConn too.

Monica Schoch-Spana, a medical anthropologist and a senior scholar at the Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security, told TIME Magazine last month that there appears to be a trend of discrimination and racism in the face of an outbreak because people like to pin the blame onto someone/a specific cohort to ease their fears and concerns over becoming ill. During the Ebola outbreak of 2014, those of African descent were targeted because of the disease's Guinea origin. The consequences can be even more harmful than expected.

"Preventing social stigma in the context of an outbreak of

infectious disease is not simply altruistic," Dr. Schoch-Spana said. "Historically, people in scapegoated groups can be more reluctant to seek out medical care when they're symptomatic."

By comparison, other diseases that are believed to have originated in European countries or in the United States, by comparison, do not stir up racism towards the popula-



Major side effects of the COVID-19 outbreak are xenophobia and racism against Asians. PHOTO COURTESY OF THE SCIENTIST MAGAZINE

tion/general demographic in those areas. Take the Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) outbreak of fall 2019, which originated in Massachusetts. Did we start vehemently organizing against Americans or calling it the "white European" disease? No. The issue with these outbreaks is that they expose deep-seated xenophobia towards marginalized populations that a disturbing number of people harbor.

Disease outbreaks like that of COVID-19 also show us just how selfish humans can be. There is a fine line that needs to be walked between self-

preservation (our natural instinct to want to survive and be healthy) and unnecessary measures, both personally and professionally, that are fueled by selfish motives and not actually a genuine desire to keep the population safe.

Take the recent New York Times story of a New Hampshire man who had recently sought testing COVID-19. His immediate tests weren't clear, but he was warned by a medical professional to avoid contact with others until his final results arrived a few days later. Ignoring the orders, the man proceeded to go to a crowded mixer at a music venue and days later, his results came back positive for COVID-19. A second individual who was with the man on the night he went out also recently tested positive, indicating that the original patient had exposed a large number of individuals to the disease.

The man, who was never explicitly identified in the article, did comply with the self-isolation orders by the state after COVID-19 was confirmed. However, his case is indicative of a problem we have with outbreaks: Instead of staying home and preventing the spread of his possible disease to others, he neglected to consider all those who may be especially susceptible to COVID-19 and went out anyway. And it is not like he went out to dinner and somewhere where there is not a lot of people. He went to a crowded social gathering, potentially infecting thousands unknow-

ingly because he could not be brought to obey his medical professional's orders. (Did I mention the man himself works at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center?)

The selfishness is rampant in other ways that may not be so apparent, as well. For example, Sara Tasker, a British blogger and photographer, tweeted last week, "Is it me or is 'coronavirus is no big deal because it will only kill old folk and those with health conditions' a weirdly selfish and privileged take? I'm all on board for reducing hysteria but some people are so busy flaunting their chill they're forgetting that's real life to many."

Tasker raises a good point: While these comments are often made to calm the fears surrounding coronavirus and its proliferation, they basically read as some Darwinist take that reduces the lives of the elderly and those of all ages who suffer from autoimmune disorders/prior conditions to essentially nothing. According to the National Institutes of Health, roughly 23.5 million Americans suffer from an autoimmune disease — roughly 7% of the population. Just because you may be healthy in terms of your age and your immune system functioning does not mean the individual next to you is blessed with the same privileges.

COVID-19 is a horrible disease, and until we can contain its wrath it will surely continue to sicken and kill thousands around the world. But it is not the only disease spreading like wildfire in 2020—it brings along xenophobia and blatant displays of human selfishness. Psychologically-speaking, we do not see many of these horrors until our lives are compromised. Perhaps the best way to combat COVID-19 is to treat the underlying diseases it harbors with the physical illness.

Opinion

BERNIE VS. BIDEN

struggle will hurt the Democratic Party

by Carson Swick | CONTRIBUTOR
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Elizabeth Warren's exit from the presidential race yesterday leaves only two legitimate choices for the Democratic nomination: Joe Biden and Bernie Sanders. And let me be clear, the process of choosing one of these candidates will prove detrimental to the future of the Democratic Party.

Democratic candidates have marketed themselves to minority and working-class voters as champions of diversity in recent years. However, the party's problem with diversity is blatantly obvious to anyone who watched any of the primary presidential debates. Voters watched as the likes of Cory Booker, Kamala Harris, Andrew Yang and others fell by the wayside. The most radical Democrats love to call out "rich old white men," yet their only hope of victory in November depends on two male millionaires from the Silent Generation.

Perhaps more ironically, the Democrats' quest to emphasize diversity has further divided their party. Joe Biden's campaign was resuscitated in South Carolina last weekend, where he won 61% of the vote among African Americans. Additionally, the former vice president won 60% of the black vote in Texas, paving the way for his biggest Super Tuesday victory.

But Biden's support within this key demographic is largely cancelled out by the fact that Bernie Sanders scored huge wins on the back of Hispanic voters in Nevada and California, taking 53% of all Hispanic votes in Nevada. Even in Texas, Sanders nearly doubled Biden's total among Hispanics (45% to 24%). Neither Biden nor Sanders can defeat President Trump without a solidified coalition of minority voters.

The division among minority voters only represents the tip of this iceberg of division. Sanders, a self-described "democratic socialist" has positioned himself at the left edge of the American political spectrum. His call to com-

pletely overhaul the country's health care system is increasingly popular among Democrats, but a growing number of moderates remain opposed. Biden's strong performances on Super Tuesday demonstrate the political clout of said moderates.

In attempting to steer his party in a progressive direction on health care and other issues such as income inequality, Sanders may push moderates to the other side of the aisle. And even though Sanders condemned "Bernie Bros," his supporters who act aggressively toward non-supporters, it is unlikely that his campaign will distance itself from the support it has received among radicals.

This may seem like good news for Joe Biden, but he is far from a flawless candidate himself. Even Biden's moderate views and his popularity as a key member of the Obama Administration do not change the fact that his aging is a cause for great concern. Even though Sanders is actually a year older than Biden, he has avoided Biden's notorious debate gaffes, such as the suggestion that "150 million" Americans have died from gun violence.

Though it seems that President Trump would have an easier time defeating the radical Sanders, Biden's weak debate performances would allow Trump to pounce all over him in the debates this fall. Whether we like to admit it or not, everyone can envision a helpless Biden subjected to Trump's relentless debate attacks.

I have identified multiple problems facing the Democratic Party in coming months, but I have neglected their biggest problem: The lack of time the party has to unite behind either Biden or Sanders. Democrats have not been as divided as they are now since 1968, when disputes about the Vietnam War led to an easy victory for Republican Richard Nixon. Only four months remain until the Democratic National Convention in Milwaukee; in that time, the party must commit to one of two rivaling ideologies.

Perhaps it will happen. But as the race stands now, I do not believe that Joe Biden nor Bernie Sanders will defeat Trump on Nov. 3.

BLACK VOTERS

Biden	Bernie
61% in South Carolina	17% in South Carolina
60% in Texas	17% in Texas
38% in Nevada	28% in Nevada

HISPANIC VOTERS

Biden	Bernie
61% in South Carolina	17% in South Carolina
24% in Texas	45% in Texas
17% in Nevada	50% in Nevada

INFO VIA NBC

Moderate voters should take a stand on healthcare

HEALTHCARE, cont. from p. 4

Biden supporters argue that his candidacy would be a return to civility in Washington, a commitment to decency and empathy that President Trump has left the capital so devoid of within the past four years. But to me, and to my friend with diabetes, it makes no difference. So my ask is this, take a look around and listen. Listen to the stories of those who understand politics as more than just the point of heated discussion at the Thanksgiving table. Understand it for what it is. If my friend cannot afford his insulin, he will die. That is the premise that underlies all the political debates. This election is far too important to view politics as the horse race game the media and talking heads on CNN make it out to be. Talk about viability, endorsements, civility and decency seems rather inconsequential when a loved one dies because the health insurance system in this country told them they weren't worthy enough to save because they couldn't afford it. That's where I find the difference with voters who consider themselves 'moderate.' This distinction at any other time could be seen as commendable, but in the here and now, it is exactly what Dr. King so vividly warned us to be wary of in that famed jail cell in Birmingham.

"I have almost reached the regrettable conclusion that the Negro's great stumbling block in his stride toward freedom is not the White Citizen's Council or the Ku Klux Klanner, but the white moderate, who is more devoted to 'order' than to justice; who prefers a negative peace which is the absence of tension to a positive peace which is the presence of justice; who constantly says: 'I agree with you in the goal you seek, but I cannot agree with your methods of direct action;' who paternalistically believes he can set the timetable for another man's freedom; who lives by a mythical concept of time and who constantly advises the Negro to wait for a 'more convenient season.'"

Please don't kill my friend. The stakes are far too high.



CARTOON BY JENNIFER HALPERN/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Women should not be charged luxury prices for a necessity

MENSTRUAL, cont. from p. 4

People do not choose to menstruate — it is a bodily process that happens, and those who menstruate should not be

forced to pay exorbitant prices for something that they cannot control.

With Scotland's new legislation, it will hopefully set a precedent for more nations around the world. Many countries in the world still classify menstrual products as "luxury items," making the price very high. In November 2019, it was estimated that a lifetime's worth of menstrual products for those in London would cost about \$2,945. This cost is only for the bare minimum products — not for any medications, or anything else that can help alleviate some of the other symptoms that also occur.

This is clearly way too high of a price that only a certain group of the population has to pay. It is absurd that menstruating individuals have to pay this much money for something that is not a choice.

There are many reasons for the cost persisting as it has. Part of it is because people do not like to talk about menstruation, which is still a taboo subject in many places worldwide. The first step to getting the kind of legislation that is necessary to pass is talking about the subject.

Another reason is a sheer lack

of education regarding menstruation in many countries. In 2019 in Germany, when groups were campaigning to eliminate the luxury tax on menstrual products, although there was

because they don't have the means to control their menstruation and other symptoms.

As of November 2019, 24 states in the U.S. still had a tax on menstrual products. People should not have to worry about how they will afford basic healthcare products — which includes menstrual products. People must have the

\$2,945

amount a woman in London spends on menstrual products throughout her life

1.8 BILLION

number of menstruating individuals around the world

24

U.S. states with taxes on menstrual products

a lot of positive support from many people, there were also some very negative comments. One such comment read, "Why don't you take out your womb, so you no longer have this issue?" Comments like this reek of pure ignorance.

Lack of access to menstrual products is a very big problem, and a main contributor is the high prices. If more countries like Scotland made them free, or even took steps to eliminate the high taxes, it would be incredibly beneficial to all menstruating individuals around the world.

Approximately 1.8 billion people around the world menstruate. With the current lack of access to menstrual products, many of them are unable to participate in aspects of their daily lives, such as going to work and school. People don't choose to menstruate, so they certainly shouldn't have to make choices about how they live their lives

conversation about menstrual products, which many are unwilling to have due to the stigma that has always been there. Once this conversation has occurred, people may be more willing and likely to discuss eliminating the taxes on period products.

Hopefully in the future, the precedent that Scotland has set by making these products free in many public areas will be something that more and more countries can implement. All nations across the world should be taking better care of their entire populations, which includes individuals who menstruate. Menstruation products should be free, and there should be no question about it.



Softball: Huskies headed south for JMU Invitational

by **Conner Gilson**
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After a successful last weekend in which the Huskies went 3-2, the UConn softball team will be back in action this weekend as they travel to Harrisonburg, Virginia to compete in the JMU Invitational. Games will start Friday morning and end Sunday, with UConn taking on Siena College, James Madison University and the University of California, with two of their opponents to be decided as the Invitational progresses.

First up for the Huskies (11-4) is a matchup against Siena College. The Saints currently sit at just 1-3 on the year and have not played in almost three weeks since competing in the Phoenix Invitational. But while it's in a small sample size, we've already seen a few players step up for Siena.

Lauren Sabihon currently leads eligible starters with a .417 batting average, while freshman Kaitlyn Davis is coming off a four-RBI game in the Saint's lone win this year. Their best pitcher is Maddie McMahon, who is 1-1 with a 2.62 ERA in 10.2 innings pitched. For a Huskies team that likes to score in bunches, it will be interesting to see if the Saints adjust their game plan entering Friday's bout.

The later half of UConn's double-header Friday sees them compete against the host, James Madison. The Dukes (10-4) have a bit more to show for their season thus far, having already racked up wins against No. 17 Texas Tech and No. 19 Missouri.

JMU's offense is rolling right now having scored 51 runs in their last four games compared to allowing just 11. The Dukes have been led by senior Kate Gordon, who leads the team in batting average (.532), runs (22), hits (25) and home runs (5). Gordon isn't the only weapon JMU has though, as they have five different players who have scored at least 10 runs and six players that have eclipsed double-digit RBIs just 14 games into the season.

For as many runs as the Dukes score, they also let up a fair amount. JMU's top two pitchers are Alexis Bermudez and Odicci Alexander whose respective 4.25 and 6.04 ERAs appear troublesome on paper, but their combined 7-1 record would suggest otherwise. They

are spearheaded by their top-tier offense, which should provide UConn's pitching staff with one of their first real challenges.

The Huskies are back in action early Saturday morning to face off against Cal. The Bears have been hot and cold to start the season, currently sitting at 10-9. Most recently, Cal went 1-3 in the Judi Garman Classic including a 5-1 loss to No. 4 LSU.

Offensively, the Bears are led by the top of their lineup. Lead-off hitter Makena Smith paces the team with a .452 batting average and 28 hits, while Mikayla Coelho is hitting an impressive .441 while leading the team with 20 RBIs. Cal will be relying on these two to get their team going early, especially since their defense has struggled early on in the season.

The Bears' rotation consists of Alexandra Perez (5-5) and Chloe Romero (5-4) who own ERAs of 4.73 and 4.87 respectively. Letting up nearly five runs a game with inconsistent performances from their pitching staff could be the opening the Huskies need to blow this one wide open.

Similarly to Cal, UConn gets the majority of their offense from the top half of their lineup. Aziah James and Devon Casazza lead the pack batting .333, with James leading the team with 18 hits. Batting third and fifth in the lineup, Briana Marcelino and Olivia Sappington pace the Huskies with two home runs a piece while knocking in a combined 22 runs this season. Where UConn has shined this season, and the area that will be incredibly important for this weekend, is their pitching.

Megan O'Neil and Marybeth Olson have been a powerful duo for UConn, boasting a combined 2.30 ERA and 10-2 record over just under 90 innings thus far in the season. Relief pitcher Katie Koshes has also come in on multiple occasions and performed well, but O'Neil and Olson have each pitched multiple complete games and look like some of the most dominant pitchers in softball when they are on their game.

The Huskies have looked like a strong competitor to start the season but are set to face some of their tougher opponents this weekend. If UConn can build upon the strengths they have identified thus far, they could come back from Virginia with a few more convincing wins.

Women's Lacrosse: Huskies seek to remain undefeated at home



The Huskies win against UMass Lowell 20-14 on Friday, Feb. 23. PHOTO BY MAGGIE CHAFOULEAS, ASSOCIATE PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

by **David Sandoval**
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Following their dominant victory over the weekend against Quinnipiac, the Huskies seek to continue their perfect home streak and make it 4-0.

UConn (4-1) are currently ranked second in the American, right behind East Carolina. The Huskies are also on a three-game win streak.

The Huskies continue to stride forward for a more successful season, and so far they are doing just that while showing off key players that have proven to be essential to the team's core.

Sophomore attacker Lia LaPrise earned a spot in the American's Weekly Honor Roll for the second week in a row, following their win against the Bobcats. In that game LaPrise earned the second-highest record of six assists, with former midfielder Shannon Burke being the first

with seven, as well as a goal. So far LaPrise has 11 goals and 18 assists, totaling 29 points this season.

UConn's current top goal scorer Sydney Watson scored four goals against Quinnipiac on Saturday, bringing her to 22 this season along with two assists totaling for 24 points. She had six shots that game, in which all but one were shots on goal.

Another player to look out for is attacker Stephanie Palmucci, as she is the second-highest scorer on the team with 12 along with 8 assists this season. In last Saturday's game, Palmucci tied Watson with four goals while providing two assists.

So far the Huskies have improved their attacking side to which they currently have a shot percentage of .578 while also having a stronger percentage on shots on goal (.844). On the defensive side, UConn has been getting better as goalkeeper Grace Beshlian gets more minutes as the last

line of defense. Currently she has over 188 minutes played, and while Beshlian allowed 35 shots to go in, she is nearly making it up with the 33 saves she's made already. In their game against Quinnipiac, Beshlian only allowed three shots in while blocking nine others. Beshlian currently has a save percentage of .485.

As for their opponents UMass (3-1), the Minutewomen's shot percentage is lower (.479), however they make up for it in their accuracy percentage of .859. UConn's offense may look shaky when up against UMass' defense as they manage to create fewer shots per game compared to the Minutewomen (30.8 and 35.5 respectively).

UMass played their last game on Sunday against Ohio state where they managed to get a 21-16 victory. They are currently led by their top goal scorer and attacker Haley Connaughton who has scored 13 times so far while providing seven assists.

Zibanejad scores 5 goals to lead Rangers past Caps in OT

NEW YORK (AP) — Mika Zibanejad scored five goals to match the New York Rangers' record, capping the scoring spree 33 seconds into overtime in a wild 6-5 victory over the Washington Capitals on Thursday night.

Zibanejad is the second player in NHL history to score his fifth goal in OT, joining Detroit's Sergei Fedorov, who accomplished the feat on Dec. 26, 1996 — also against Washington.

The Rangers center is also the first player with five goals in a game since Winnipeg's Patrik Laine did it in an 8-4 win over St. Louis on Nov. 24, 2018. Zibanejad joined Don Murdoch (Oct. 12, 1976) and Mark Pavelich (Feb. 23, 1983) as Rangers with five goals in a game.

Zibanejad's 38th of the season helped New York end a three-game skid. He took a pass from Artemi Panarin and broke in alone and beat

Ilya Samsonov with a backhand. Zibanejad is the first Rangers center with at least 35 goals in a season since Hall of Famer Eric Lindros in 2001-02.

Tony DeAngelo had a goal and two assists, Panarin had three assists and Alexandar Georgiev made 29 saves for New York.

Alex Ovechkin had two goals, including the tying score with 43 seconds remaining to force overtime. That came after Zibanejad scored on a rebound with 1:42 remaining to give New York a brief 5-4 lead.

Ilya Kovalchuk had a goal and an assist, and Carl Hagelin and Garnet Hathaway also scored for Washington. Samsonov had 33 saves for the Capitals.

Defense has been an issue for the Capitals, who have allowed at least three goals for the 10th consecutive game. It's the first time they've

done that since the 2006-07 season.

The Rangers broke a 3-3 tie early in the third period. Pavel Buchnevich had the puck behind the net and connected with Zibanejad, who was cutting across the net just 12 seconds in.

Ovechkin wristed in his 46th of the season from the left faceoff circle at 9:22 to make it 4-4.

With game tied at 2 in the second, the teams traded goals 16 seconds apart.

First, DeAngelo scored off a nice pass from Panarin at 14:42. Panarin connected with the defenseman, who was cutting toward the net and scored his 14th of the season.

The Capitals answered right back when Hathaway scored his ninth of the season.

Tied 1-1 after the first, the Rangers grabbed the lead in the second.

On a delayed penalty call against the Capitals, the Rangers were able to keep control of the puck in the attacking zone. Adam Fox fed a one-timer to Zibanejad at the left faceoff circle and he beat Samsonov at 5:29.

A little more than six minutes later, the Capitals tied it at 2. From behind the net, Lars Eller sent a pass to Kovalchuk, who beat Georgiev with his 10th of the season and his first since being acquired by Washington last month.

Georgiev was sharp early on in the game, including stopping Panik on a breakaway a little more than five minutes into the first period.

The Capitals kept up the pressure and opened the scoring a couple of minutes later. Nick Jensen sent a pass to Hagelin, who beat Georgiev with a wrister short-side for his eighth of the season at 7:05.

The Rangers tied it on the power play two minutes after that. DeAngelo sent a pass from the right point to Panarin. Panarin's one-timer was deflected into the net by Zibanejad at 9:01.

NOTES: Over his past 20 games, Hagelin has 15 points (seven goals, eight assists). Washington scratched forwards Travis Boyd, Brendan Leipsic and defenseman Radko Gudas. ... DeAngelo is the first Rangers defenseman with at least 50 points in a season since Brian Leetch in 2001-02. ... Forward Chris Kreider and goalie Igor Shesterkin, both injured, were scratched by the Rangers.

UP NEXT: Capitals: At Pittsburgh on Saturday afternoon for second game of three-game road trip.

Rangers: Conclude four-game homestand against New Jersey on Saturday night.

Sports

Photo of the Day | Bro hug



The men's basketball team celebrated their Senior Night where Seniors Christian Vital (1), Alterique Gilbert (3), Temi Aiyegbusi (45), and Mamadou Diarra (Student Assistant Coach) made their last home appearance as a Husky. The final home game against University of Houston is win with a final score of 77-71, with Vital making 8 free throws in a row within the last minute of gameplay to keep the team up. PHOTOGRAPH BY ERIC WANG, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Men's Hockey: Huskies look to close out season howling



The UConn men's hockey team stunned No. 8 UMass with a pair of late goals Friday. They beat the Minutemen 3-2 Friday but lost 4-3 Saturday. PHOTO BY MIKE MAVREDAKIS, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

by Mike Mavredakis

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The UConn men's hockey team has a chance to host the quarterfinals of the Hockey East Championship Tournament, but they have a kettle of River Hawks staring them down.

UConn (15-14-4, 12-9-2 Hockey East) will take on the No. 12 UMass Lowell River Hawks Friday in Lowell. It will be the Huskies final game of the regular season and their final chance to cement their ability to host a playoff series at the XL Center in Hartford.

Should UConn beat these fearsome Hawks, they will definitely have a spot. They will have secured their place among the hosts and can be as high as the No. 2 seed in the conference, behind the powerhouse that is BC.

This weekend they have a formidable opponent ahead, who have allowed the fifth-least amount of goals this season, with 78. UMass is slotted just above UConn in the

conference, with 27 points. Should they tie, UConn will still have secured a hosting spot. If they lose, Maine and BU have a chance to vault them into the top-4.

UConn is coming off of an exciting weekend after coming back against No. 8 UMass last Friday in the last two minutes after goals from Marc Gatcomb and Kale Howarth. They nearly came back Saturday as well, pulling it to 4-3 with two third-period goals. This season UMass Lowell has allowed just 2.6 goals and 26.2 shots per game, but they've also allowed 4.4 penalties per game. From UConn's perspective, that's not much of an advantage, though, as they have scored on just 13.2% of power play opportunities despite allowing goals on nearly 28% of their penalties given.

UMass is led by freshman forwards Carl Berglund, a 6-foot-2 Swedish import, and Matt Swed as well as goaltender Tyler Wall.

Berglund leads the team in scoring with 12 goals, the same amount as UConn's

leaders Carter Turnbull and Alexander Payusov. He also has 10 assists to his name, for a total of 22 points. He leads the team in plus-minus with a plus-10.

Brown has spent the season spreading the puck to his teammates, dropping 18 assists to go along with six goals. He leads the team in shots taken as well, despite just the six goals he has taken 89 shots on the year. This points to a potential weakness the Huskies can exploit, as they can entice him to take shots at a high volume, taking away opportunities from teammates with better shot percentages.

Wall, very aptly named I might ask, has been an absolute wall this season - I am so sorry - as he has blocked 93% of his shot this season and allowed just 2.14 goals per game. His save percentage is second in the conference to Maine's Jeremy Swayman.

UConn will play the River Hawks 7:15 p.m. and will be broadcasted on CBS All Access.

Baseball: Huskies head down to South Carolina to take on Presbyterian College



The UConn Baseball team secures a 2-1 win against the University of Rhode Island. This leaves them at 25-16 in the season. PHOTO BY BRANDON BARZOLA, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

by Jorge Eckardt

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The Huskies are onto weekend No. 4 in the college baseball season and heading south to try to pick up a couple of wins versus the Presbyterian College.

UConn is sitting at just 4-5 so far this season, however, three of their four wins have come against Michigan, the No. 1 team in the country when they played (well, the first win was when Michigan was No. 8, the other two wins were when they were No. 1).

They're coming off a weekend where they lost two of three games to the University of New Orleans, struggling with their control on the mound for most of the series. In the first two games - the two losses - the Huskies walked 17 batters, and that doesn't include hit by pitches, tack on an extra eight of those.

"There weren't many positives; it starts with the guys on the mound and we did a terrible job on the mound for the second day in a row," head coach Jim Penders told UConn's Chris Jones following game two. "Leadoff walks again, hit batsmen, 15 freebies from the mound including wild pitches and walks. Just not competing, not competing well at all."

However, Nick Krauth flipped the script for UConn in game three, pitching seven innings, giving up two runs but none of which were earned, striking out eight and walking just one - helping the Huskies avoid the series sweep.

Krauth has thrown a team-high 17.2 innings this season, giving up 13 hits, six walks,

striking out 18 and allowing just one earned run. UConn's next highest innings leader, Colby Dunlop, has had just about the opposite start to the season, giving up 14 earned runs through just 10.1 innings pitched.

At the plate, Reggie Crawford has had a stellar start to his freshman campaign, hitting .400 with 7 doubles and 13 RBIs through just 35 at-bats. He's sandwiched by the Fedkos, with Kyler hitting .471 over 34 at-bats and Christian hitting .324 over 37 at-bats.

While UConn hasn't been great, Presbyterian has been worse, currently sitting at 2-9 on the season. Their two wins have come against Brown, taking them down 6-3, and Manhattan, who they squeaked by 7-6 in extras. They're currently riding a three-game losing streak that includes a three-game sweep at the hands of Notre Dame.

Sophomore Kyle Decker leads them at the plate with an average of .296, and Tannor Byrd is bringing the power, with three of his four hits being home runs - matching UConn's team total.

On the mound, innings leader Eric Miles also leads the team in ERA with a 2.41 and strikeouts with 18 in his 18.2 innings pitched. Right behind him is Regan Fowler with 17 innings, but he's enjoyed considerably less success, pitching to a 7.41 ERA.

Game one, which was originally scheduled for Friday at 2 p.m., has been postponed to Saturday at 11 a.m., UConn Baseball announced on Twitter Thursday. Game two is scheduled for Saturday at 2 p.m. as the second leg of a doubleheader, and game three is scheduled for Sunday at noon.

Huskies storm back to upset Houston on Senior Night

BASKETBALL, cont. from p. 12

“It meant a lot. I ain’t gonna lie, it meant a lot,” Vital said on ending his Gampel career on that note. “Just everything the program has been through, what my teammates have been through, what I’ve been through personally, to win like that, in front of a crowd like that, on a night like this? It meant a lot. I’ll remember it for a long time.”

Vital had 26 in the game, moving him into the top-10 on UConn’s all-time scoring list. Freshman James Bouknight had 17 points and seven boards and junior Isaiah Whaley added 13 points and five rebounds. UConn’s typical brand of superb defense was especially dominant on Thursday, holding a dangerous Houston team to 36% shooting and keeping perhaps the best rebounding team in the country in check on the boards.

“To play and defeat a team like Houston, you damn near have to kill ‘em,” head coach Dan Hurley said. “Great defensive effort, and I couldn’t be prouder of this group.”

If you ask head coach Kelvin Sampson, the game was lost (or won, from UConn’s perspective) on a play midway through the second half. With 8:06 remaining and UConn clinging to a one-point lead, Vital stepped in front of a Houston pass, keying a fast break. It was Vital’s night to shine, but in this moment, he passed it ahead to Bouknight, who made a tough layup through contact. The crowd was sent into a frenzy, and the Huskies had a three-point lead that they would never relinquish.

In the box score, that play goes down as an ordinary steal-and-score. But it was the point where, even as just a three-point lead, the Huskies finally felt in firm control. And, if you want to take it a step further, that simple pass from Vital to Bouknight was a passing of

the torch from the present to the future of UConn men’s basketball.

“In an environment like this, a live-ball turnover is like pouring gasoline on a burning car — it’s gonna explode,” Sampson said on that moment. “I’ve been in this building when Jim [Calhoun] was the coach, and it sounded like the old days in there tonight.”

Two minutes later, Vital had a second steal-and-score, this time taking it himself, that sent the crowd into absolute mayhem. He had 14 of UConn’s last 21 points, refusing to end his Gampel career on a loss.

“I could tell on a lot of possessions that he just wasn’t gonna let us lose,” Whaley said. “Especially at the end, when they started making a bunch of 3s, he demanded the ball so he could get to the free throw line because he wasn’t gonna let us lose. That’s tremendous leadership on him.”

Vital, along with Gilbert, Temi Aiyegbusi and Mamadou Diarra were all honored in Senior Night pregame ceremonies. Hurley was noticeably emotional, particularly when Vital’s name was announced one final time at Gampel.

“I mean, there were times last year when I wasn’t sure if we could coexist,” Hurley said. “But that’s the joy of coaching — to see a young man change, mature and develop into a great player. He’s played as well as anyone in the conference in the last six, seven weeks.”

Gilbert, who was questionable to play with back spasms, had a quiet nine points and two assists but was simply tremendous on the defense end. His on-ball defense was a large reason why Houston starting guard Marcus Sasser, perhaps the Cougars’ best player as of late, shot 1-for-12 from the floor.

“Al was big-time, not knowing if he was gonna play,” Bouk-

night said. “He came out and was dominant. He locked up their best player.”

Houston scored the first five points of the game but for the next seven minutes, it was all Huskies. UConn answered with a 16-0 run, as Houston appeared utterly rattled by the defensive pressure and raucous crowd.

The Cougars ended the half on a 10-0 run to carry a seven-point lead into the second half, but Hurley’s message at the halftime was clear: We’re the better team.

“We outplayed them in the first half. Sometimes I go in there and go nuts, but that wasn’t the case today,” Hurley said. “It was about building their confidence up at halftime, and letting them know to beat a team of this caliber, you gotta weather the storms.”

Having weathered the storm, the Huskies stormed back after halftime, tying it up at 41 apiece with 16:13 left on a Vital corner 3, and they only kept coming. Those two Vital steal-and-scores were part of an 11-0 run that would turn out to be the game-clinching stretch.

Vital hit a circus layup with 3:36 remaining to push the lead to nine, and Bouknight immediately followed it up with an even more improbable layup to make it 11. As you can imagine, Gampel was shaking.

Vital addressed the crowd after the game, concluding his speech with, “Snipa out,” before ceremoniously dropping the mic. With the win, Hurley has now defeated every team in The American at least once, and this season, UConn has now beaten each of the top-four seeds in the conference.

“This was a mental hurdle for us that we now know, as the University of Connecticut heads to Dallas for the conference tournament,” Hurley said with a smirk, “that we can beat anyone in the field.”

Men’s Basketball Notebook: Vital, Gilbert say farewell to Gampel

by Kevin Arnold
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They came to Storrs in a class of five.

The future of UConn looked bright: Two years removed from a National Title, a program alum running the show and five top-100 recruits on their way.

But a lot can happen over four years. There were injuries and there were transfers. There was the first losing season since Jim Calhoun came to town, one of three in a row. All that can stack up against a program, deter those involved from pushing forward and warn others from climbing aboard.

But Christian Vital and Alterique Gilbert chose to ride it out. They watched classmates Juwan Durham and Vance Jackson find homes elsewhere. They watched Mamadou Diarra fight and battle through knee injuries before deciding to join the coaching staff. For Gilbert, it was a pair of season-ending shoulder surgeries. For Vital, it was learning to trust the process and a new coach.

“That’s my boy,” Vital said of Gilbert. “He’s been through a lot. He came in a McDonald’s All-American, highly touted. Went through some injuries, but he persevered. I learned a lot from Al just how to persevere. How to face adversity head-on. It’s gonna hit you sometimes, you’re gonna have hard times. It’s never going to be just perfect straight through, but the way he played tonight, that’s the Al I know.”

Vital even teased the idea of moving on from UConn after 2016, but “the grass isn’t always greener.” Following his sophomore campaign Vital tested the

NBA waters, but he came back. There was some doubt that he wouldn’t return for his senior year — after all, he and Dan Hurley did not always see eye-to-eye and he was even benched for a while — but again, he came back.

“There were times last year I wasn’t sure if we could co-exist,” Hurley said. “But man, that’s the joy of coaching, to see a young man just change and mature and develop into a great player.”

“It wasn’t always the best times with me and him, but one thing about each other that we understand and respect that we’re resilient, we wanna win and we’re competitive,” Vital said on his relationship with Hurley. “I think once we found each other’s spots and started to understand each other a little bit more, we started to put it together.”

Like a marriage, Vital and Gilbert stayed committed through it all. For better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health. The poorest of times began when the Huskies, who entered the season the No. 18 team in the country, lost to Wagner in 2016. Then there was the 35-point loss to Arkansas in the PK80 the next year and losses to Villanova in consecutive seasons. Even this year there was doubt, like after the loss to St. Joseph’s.

There was a dull sickness over the program that had every die-hard fan infected, wondering how it could happen to a school that calls itself “The Basketball Capital of the World.”

For more of the story visit DAILYCAMPUS.COM

Women’s Basketball: Huskies look to slam door on AAC this weekend



For their final game at Gampel Pavilion this season, the UConn women’s basketball team celebrates senior day against UCF. They defeated UCF 66-53. PHOTO BY CHARLOTTE LAO, PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

by Sean Janos
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UConn will have the opportunity to cap off their time in the American Athletic Conference this weekend without losing a single game.

After seven seasons consisting of 136 regular season and 18 conference tournament games in the American, the Huskies have succeeded in winning every game.

UConn hasn’t even come close to losing in the conference tournament either, winning by 20 or more in all but two games. The two closest games were against USF, who they faced in the final round for five of the last six post-seasons. In 2015 they played a 14-point game, and in 2018 a 16-point game.

As for this postseason, UConn again has the No. 1

seed and will have a first round bye. They are scheduled to play Saturday in the quarterfinals against the winner of No. 9 East Carolina versus No. 8 Temple.

When ECU and Temple faced off less than two weeks ago, ECU pulled off a 6-point win at home. After falling down 22-11 in the first quarter, the Pirates mounted a fourth quarter comeback in large part due to Taniyah Thompson. She finished the game with 23 points, scoring 11 in the final quarter.

Temple is entering this tournament skidding, losing their last four, while ECU has found a bit of a groove, winning four of their last six.

Despite Temple finishing their season 15-14 and ECU 9-20, Temple’s conference record was just one game better than East Carolina’s. They are as closely seeded as pos-

sible and played a very close game with each other very recently. But I don’t think UConn cares which opponent they draw on Sunday, as neither has a real chance at winning.

UConn played Temple as the third game on their schedule, back before the team gelled into the product that they are today. Regardless, the Huskies won 83-54 behind scoring contributions from the core four.

Christyn Williams led the way with 19 shooting a stellar 8-for-12, Olivia Nelson-Odoma had a 15 point double-double with five blocks, Megan Walker also had 15 and Crystal Dangerfield had 14. Mia Davis scored 18, which is right around her season average entering the postseason.

UConn played against ECU closer to the middle of the schedule during the last week

of January. Like the Temple game, the Huskies thrashed them, but it was even worse.

The Huskies won that game 98-42, holding the Pirates to just 10 combined points over the second and third quarters. The 98 points are the second most UConn scored all season, and the 42 they allowed are tied for the sixth fewest. ECU turned the ball over 17 times, which is just one mark under their 18 made field goals.

Thompson was held to 10 points on 5-for-18 shooting and four turnovers. Lashonda Monk led ECU with 17 points on 21 shots, also turning the ball over four times but coming up with five steals.

Williams led the Huskies in scoring this game too with 26. Freshman Anna Makurat followed with 24, scoring exclusively from beyond the arc, shooting 8-for-10. Both

guards set new career highs in points this game. Walker had a 15 point, 12 rebound double-double, and Aubrey Griffin stuffed the statsheet with 12 points, eight rebounds, five assists and three blocks.

To sum things up, UConn should beat either Temple or ECU without much concern. I’m sure head coach Geno Auremma won’t allow his players to take any opponents lightly in a tournament setting, but I don’t expect UConn’s quarterfinal game to be very close.

The entire AAC tournament will be played at Mohegan Sun Arena in Uncasville, Conn. UConn’s quarterfinal game will be played Saturday at 2 p.m. If they win, they will move on to play Sunday at 4 p.m. After that would be the finals, which are Monday night at 7 p.m.



Sports

SNIPA OUT

UCONN BEATS HOUSTON ON SENIOR NIGHT

by Andrew Morrison

POSITION
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Not many things have gone right for UConn during Christian Vital's and Alterique Gilbert's four-year careers. But on Thursday, for once, everything went perfectly.

Fueled by tenacious defense, a deafening crowd and of course, a healthy dose of pure heart from the senior backcourt, Vital and Gilbert got the best send-off they could've asked for: A thrilling upset of No. 21 Houston in front of a packed Gampel Pavilion on Senior Night.

"Over the last three years, it's been a lot of adversity. I would say this is a little of

the reward, but we just gotta keep building," Gilbert said. "We know if we stay together as a team, we've got a chance of beating anyone in the conference, absolutely."

Led by 19 second half points from Vital, the Huskies (18-12, 9-8 The American) fought back from a seven-point halftime deficit to knock off the Cougars, 77-71. Houston (22-8, 12-5) had a 3-point onslaught in the final minute but fittingly, it was Vital who calmly stepped to the line each time, going a perfect 8-for-8 from the line in the final minute to seal the win.

See BASKETBALL p. 11



The Men's Basketball Team celebrated their Senior Night where Seniors Christian Vital (1), Alterique Gilbert (3), Temi Aiyegbusi (45), and Mamadou Diarra (Student Assistant Coach) made their last home appearance as a Husky. The final home game against University of Houston is win with a final score of 77-71, with Vital making 8 free throws in a row within the last minute of gameplay to keep the team up.

PHOTOGRAPH BY ERIC WANG, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS