



NEW ENGLAND LATINX STUDENT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

by **Naiela Suleiman**
CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT
naiela.suleiman@uconn.edu

The National Student Affairs Administration in Higher Education (NASPA - region 1) is hosting the annual New England Latinx Student Leadership Conference at UConn on March 27 and 28.

In partnership with NASPA, students from the Puerto Rican/Latin American Cultural Center (PRLACC) have organized for Faustina Cueva, assistant director at Northeastern University's Social Justice Resource Center, to be the keynote speaker this year.

The three areas of focus for this year's conference are community, diversity and self-empowerment, according to the PRLACC page.

"The purpose is to really empower Latinx students and make sure they have the tools to go further beyond college and use their cultural wealth to have more networking opportunities," Valeria Popolizio, an eighth-semester political science and human rights double major said.

The conference is open to all UConn students and a select number of students from the New England area who register to attend. Different events will be located throughout campus, but the main workshops are in the Rome Ballroom.

"There [Rome Ballroom] we are hosting our corporate sponsor hour, where students can treat it like an involvement fair with the departments and corporations that sponsored us all there," Popolizio said.

"The purpose is to really empower Latinx students and make sure they have the tools to go further beyond college and use their cultural wealth to have more networking opportunities."

VALERIA POPOLIZIO

EVENT DETAILS:

MARCH 27 AND 28

MAIN WORKSHOPS IN
ROME BALLROOM



Student survey may lead to general education changes

by **Sam Kezin**
CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT
sam.kezin@uconn.edu

In 2017, the ΔGenEd task force formed in order to look into re-vamping the general education curriculum at the University of Connecticut, and their final findings were compiled into a report sent to the University Senate last spring.

According to the Executive Summary of ΔGenEd's report, the current structure featuring the four content areas (arts and humanities, social sciences, science and technologies and diversity and multiculturalism) is more than 30 years old.

The task force focused on three main questions when looking into the curriculum: "What problems need to be solved?," "How can the curriculum be modernized?" and "How can changes help to generate a sense of purpose and excitement?"

3 Main Questions:

1. *What problems need to be solved?*
2. *How can the curriculum be modernized?*
3. *How can changes help to generate a sense of purpose and excitement?*

In the report, ΔGenEd proposes to change the content areas to a system of topics of inquiry (TOI), moving to six groupings instead of four. The topics of interest include scientific theory and empiricism; design, innovation and creativity; individuals and institutions; environmental literacy; cultural foundations; and diversity, equity and social justice.

The move from content areas to topics of inquiry will not go into effect for a few years, and because of the ability to double-dip in these categories, the total credit requirement for gen-eds will not be affected at all.

The USG Academic Affairs committee has released a general education feedback survey for all students to communicate their opinions on the current and possible future situation for gen-eds.

"We know that students are very passionate and concerned about the general education requirements as it affects all students, so we hope to compile all of the feedback we get from the survey and present it to the ΔGenEd Committee," Michael Zhu, a committee member, said.

For direct access to the survey, the committee has provided a QR code to access the survey. ΔGenEd's report is linked on the survey page, as well as the link to the General Education Oversight Committee's website.



Windham Region No Freeze Project looking for more donations



Local photographer Randy McMahon donated proceeds of photo sales from Kerri Art Studio and Gallery show to The No Freeze Project's Avery Lenhart. The Windham Region No Freeze Project is trying to get more donations in order to support its main services.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE NO FREEZE PROJECT FACEBOOK PAGE

by **Rachel Philipson**
STAFF WRITER
rachel.philipson@uconn.edu

The Windham Region No Freeze Project is below on their average donation targets, which can jeopardize the effectiveness of the program, project managers said.

The project has four main services to assist people experiencing or at risk of homelessness, including a seasonal shelter from November to April that gives people experiencing homelessness in the Windham area a safe place to sleep, Avery Lenhart, executive director of Windham Region No Freeze Project, said.

Since the project is funded purely from individual donations, faith-based groups and private foundation grants, the organization relies solely on donations.

"Without donations, we wouldn't be able to do the things we do. That's why it is so important. We use it to pay staff and other bills, like utilities, that we have to pay."

AVERY LENHART

"Without donations, we wouldn't be able to do the things that we do," Lenhart said. "That's why it is so important. We use it to pay staff and other bills, like utilities, that we have to pay."

According to a Feb. 12 press release from the project, the shelter has housed 105 guests so far this season. All of the 30 available beds have been full, and there has been an average of seven to 10 people sleeping in chairs. Lenhart said that the project is on a trajectory to house around 160 people this season.

Another part of the program is a walk-in hospitality center where people can access personal health and hygiene supplies, showers and restrooms without needing to stay overnight. There are also intake and diversion centers in which staff members connect homeless people to state and local assistance programs that can deliver permanent housing and try to reduce their likelihood of reentering the system.

People can help the project by donating through its website or sending a check to its P.O. box. If they aren't in a position to donate money, they can donate goods.

"We also accept donations of things that we need, like cleaning products, paper towels, hand warmers, foot warmers, hygiene products - anything that people may need," Lenhart said.

According to Lenhart, these programs are important because they help rebuild the community.

"We don't want people freezing to death outside," Lenhart said. "It's a terrible way to go, and it's terrible for the community. We want communities that are caring and loving. We want to care about people."

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\$2 million may be just the beginning

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News

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

What happened this week beyond UConn

by **Taylor Harton**
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR
taylor.harton@uconn.edu

George Zimmerman

The man who fatally shot 17-year-old black teenager Trayvon Martin in 2012 has filed a lawsuit against presidential candidates Pete Buttigieg and Elizabeth Warren, according to Fox News. George Zimmerman, who was acquitted on murder charges in 2013 after citing self-defense, is suing the candidates for \$265 million after he claimed they defamed him in an attempt to “garner votes in the black community.” The lawsuit, which was filed in Polk County, Florida, claims two separate tweets each candidate wrote on what would have been Martin’s 25th birthday were attempts to “falsely brand Zimmerman as a white supremacist and racist to their millions of Twitter followers.” Both Buttigieg and Warren had tweeted in honor of Martin and advocated for the end to racism and white supremacy. Zimmerman’s attorney, Larry Klayman, later said in a statement, “Their despicable ‘race tactics’ are not only causing great harm to persons such as my client George Zimmerman but also are damaging relations between black and white Americans who are all brothers.”

Pop Smoke Death

20-year-old up-and-coming rapper Pop Smoke was fatally shot in his Hollywood Hills home on Wednesday morning, according to the Los Angeles Times. Officers arrived at Pop Smoke’s house after receiving a report from a person on the East Coast that several men entered the rapper’s home early Wednesday, at least one of whom had a handgun. The rapper, whose birth name is Bashar Barakah Jackson, was taken to the hospital after suffering several gunshot wounds, and he was pronounced dead shortly thereafter. Officers questioned and later released several individuals who were inside the house, while four others fled the scene before police could reach them. Pop Smoke was renting the home, which is owned by Teddi Mellencamp of “The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills.” The investigation into his death is ongoing.

Kaitlin Bennett Incident

The Kent State University graduate and conservative pundit who made headlines after she posed for her graduation photos with an AR-10 back in 2018 clashed with student protestors at Ohio University after she showed up unannounced on campus on Monday, according to Fox News. Bennett claimed the event became a “riot” after sharing a video of a crowd yelling at her and someone appearing to throw a cup of water inside the truck her and her crew were in. She later called on President Trump to strip the university of its funding for harboring “terrorists” and claimed the police “let it all happen.” Ohio University police later released a statement, confirming “an activist appeared unexpectedly on the Ohio University campus in Athens and engaged in constitutionally protected activity.” They later wrote, “contrary to allegations circulating on social media, the incident did not rise to a level of riot. There was strong language and allegations that some unknown persons in the crowd splashed water, but there were no reported injuries or violence, and no one was arrested during the event.” Bennett later vowed to return to Ohio University with “an army of gun owners.”

Missing College Student Found Dead

A woman found dead in central Georgia has been identified as Anitra Gunn, a college student in the area who went missing on Valentine’s Day, according to CNN. Her body was recovered Tuesday night near the Peach and Crawford county line. Her car was found on Saturday with a torn bumper near her apartment, and the bumper was found near her body, approximately 150 yards off of the road. On Tuesday, police arrested Gunn’s boyfriend, 23-year-old DeMarcus Little, on separate charges for criminal damage to a property belonging to Gunn on Feb. 5. He has been identified as a person of interest in Gunn’s death, but no charges have yet been filed. Fort Valley State University, where Gunn was a senior studying agriculture, released a statement on Wednesday, writing, “We, like many of you, are deeply saddened by these reports. We ask for the public’s continued thoughts and prayers for her family, friends and other loved ones.”

Ryan Newman Accident

42-year-old Ryan Newman, a NASCAR driver who was seriously injured after a fiery crash at the Daytona 500 on Monday, was released from the hospital on Wednesday morning, according to ABC News. His racing team, Roush Fenway, shared an image of Newman holding hands with his daughters as he left Halifax Medical Center on Wednesday. His team assured Newman will be making a full recovery, writing, “True to his jovial nature, he has also been joking around with staff, friends and family while spending time playing with his two daughters.” Newman was leading Monday’s race when he skidded out of control, slammed into a wall and flipped over. His car later caught fire while upside down, but he was removed and treated at the hospital.

Finally let off cruise, passengers desperate for flight home



In this Feb. 14, 2020, file photo, John Miller, from Orcas Island, Wash., reacts after he disembarked from the MS Westerdam, back, at the port of Sihanoukville, Cambodia. Having finally reached a friendly port willing to accept them and stepped ashore after weeks of uncertainty at sea, hundreds of cruise ship passengers eyed warily over fears of a new virus are now simply trying to find a way home. PHOTO BY HENG SINITH/AP

BANGKOK (AP) — The cheers of celebration have faded. The waving of roses has ceased. Having finally reached a friendly port in Cambodia willing to accept them after nearly two weeks of uncertainty at sea, hundreds of cruise ship passengers eyed warily over fears of a new virus are now simply trying to find a way home.

“We’re in this sort of surreal world,” said Lydia Miller, 55, of Orcas Island, Washington, who is camped out at a hotel in the capital, Phnom Penh, waiting for word on how she and her husband might be able to return to the U.S. “It’s a weird feeling to travel and go on a trip and you don’t know when you can come home.”

The Westerdam arrived Feb. 13 in Cambodia after repeatedly being denied entry to other ports. The thrill of the moment, complete with a visit from the country’s prime minister greeting passengers with hugs and flowers, has now evaporated for those still facing a logistical nightmare to get home.

Travel options already limited by the number of airlines serving Cambodia have been narrowed by a growing list of countries denying entry to passengers who were aboard the Westerdam.

A diplomat working with the passengers in Phnom Penh said getting people home remains complicated by individual countries’ travel restrictions and a dearth of available flights. That was echoed by Holland America Line, which operates the Westerdam and has been coordinating passengers’ flights.

“We showed up in a city unexpected and there’s only so many flights a night and we have a lot of people we’re trying to funnel through that system and we’re putting a lot of stress on that system,” Holland America’s president, Orlando Ashford, said by

phone from Phnom Penh.

“It’s a math problem: How many people do you have? How many seats do you have?”

Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia and Taiwan are among those refusing to allow passengers in, making flying to Europe and the Americas difficult. Some airlines, such as Emirates, stop in Bangkok before proceeding to hubs such as Dubai, further limiting available flights.

Still, Ashford expressed hope that remaining passengers would be on their way home “in a couple of days.”

Miller and her husband changed their travel arrangements three times as Holland America repeatedly revised its itinerary when Thailand, Japan, Taiwan, the Philippines and the American territory of Guam refused to allow it to dock. They spent hours walking 10 miles around the ship each day, listening to podcasts, making their way through a stash of issues of The New Yorker that they toted along and perfecting their pingpong game. They have flights scheduled for Saturday via Seoul, but know they won’t be able to board them because the South Korean government would deny them entry.

When they finally disembarked the ship in Sihanoukville, Cambodia, Miller’s husband, John, was so grateful he sunk to his knees and pressed his hands together in gratitude and joy. Their fears of being stuck at sea were gone, and the couple decided to make the most of their time, meandering along the Mekong River, buying street food and otherwise relishing their time in the Cambodian capital.

After one passenger from the ship was found to have contracted the illness known as COVID-19, though, they were directed to report to a hotel where other passengers were gathered

and they knew getting home might not be so simple.

“It was just this horrible gut feeling that everything changed in that moment,” she said.

Tony Martin-Vegue, whose wife, Christina Kerby, remains in Phnom Penh, began immediately preparing for her return home to California’s Bay Area once she got off the ship. He cleaned the house and, with the couple’s 10-year-old son and 5-year-old daughter, picked up flowers and a favorite local coffee and planned a party to welcome her home. Now he’s not sure when that might happen.

“It’s kind of limbo right now,” he said. “I’m worried about how she’s going to get home.”

Kerby has chronicled her time aboard the Westerdam, from a poolside yoga class to daily ice cream offerings to a towel-folding demonstration. She wrote of feeling “jubilation and relief” as the ship pulled into port and the “terrible and frightening” ordeal of “doctors in moon suits” poking a long swab up her nose to test her for the virus. The immediate joy of reaching land has given way to the realization she doesn’t know when she’ll return home.

“As the days go on I just feel like the probability of getting her home soon seems to be shrinking as the disease spreads and governments are continuing to react to it,” Martin-Vegue said. “This doesn’t have an outcome that’s around the corner.”

The Westerdam, with 2,257 passengers and crew aboard, began letting passengers off on Friday as they found flights home. But that was stopped once news broke that an 83-year-old American woman who had been on the ship and subsequently traveled to Malaysia was found to be carrying the virus. Some 255 passengers and 747 crew members were held on the ship while further testing was conducted.

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California governor makes homelessness top issue in 2020

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — Tossing aside tradition, California's governor on Wednesday devoted his biggest platform to a single issue: solving a homelessness crisis that has overwhelmed the nation's most populous state in an era of unprecedented prosperity.

Governor typically use their annual "State of the State" speeches to touch on dozens of priorities because they are guaranteed an audience of lawmakers from both political parties as well as statewide media coverage. On Wednesday, Gov. Gavin Newsom called the state's homeless problem "a disgrace," saying the state can no longer treat it as "someone else's problem, buried below other priorities which are easier to win or better suited for soundbites."

Newsom framed the speech as a challenge to state lawmakers, urging them to make it easier for local authorities to force the mentally ill into treatment, ease the state's famously strict environmental regulations to speed up construction of homeless shelters and come up with a new funding source for homeless services to replace the state's habit of relying on one-time surpluses that vary from year to year.

And he made a plea for partnership with the federal government, pitching his idea to use Medicaid money to pay for housing as well as medical benefits.

"Health care and housing can no longer be divorced," Newsom said. "Doctors should be able to write prescriptions for housing the same way they do for insulin or antibiotics."

Newsom's proposed budget includes \$695 million to overhaul the state's Medicaid program, the joint federal and state health insurance program for the poor and disabled. Newsom wants to use Medicaid money to pay for things such as security deposits or first and last month's rent — expenses that can sometimes push people onto the streets and lead to more expensive medical treatment.

But it's likely California would need permission from the federal government to implement such changes at a time when the state has a strained relationship with the Trump administration.

Newsom and Republican President Donald Trump have frequently sparred in public speeches and on social media about the causes of homelessness. Trump has frequently criticized California for its homelessness woes, saying the Democratic-led state can't handle the crisis and blaming it for the state's other problems, including poor water quality in the San Francisco Bay.

Newsom set a more unifying tone in his speech on Wednesday, saying it was "time to stop pointing fingers and starting joining hands," saying the state will "continue to extend its hand of partnership to Washington."

"But empty words and symbolic gestures won't mask a 15% across-the-board cut to HUD's budget," Newsom said about Trump's latest budget proposal for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. "I'm old enough to remember when HUD was in the housing business. And I'm hopeful that one day they will be again."

Hours after Newsom's speech in the state capital of Sacramento, Trump spoke nearly 300 miles (483 kilometers) away at a rally in Bakersfield, where he said parts of San Francisco are "worse than a slum."

"It's something that we're going to do something about because if they don't fix it up, clean it up, take care of the homeless, do what they have to do to clean up their city, the federal government is going to have to step in," Trump said. "We're going to do it in Los Angeles and San Francisco."

Newsom's speech was met with bipartisan praise in the state Legislature, with Republican state Sen. John Moorlach calling the speech "brave" and "courageous."

"The governor is moving in the right direction," he said.

Democratic legislative leaders praised the spirit of Newsom's speech, but stopped short of endorsing the details. Senate President Pro Tem Toni Atkins called it "one of the best speeches ever as it relates to what we need to focus on," but said the Legislature would need to take a "cautious



California Gov. Gavin Newsom delivers his State of the State address to a joint session of the legislature at the Capitol Wednesday, Feb. 19, 2020, in Sacramento, Calif. Gov. Gavin Newsom is calling for better mental health care to help treat the state's large homeless population.

PHOTO BY RICH PEDRONCELLI/AP

approach" to some proposals, including making it easier for local governments to force the mentally ill into treatment.

"There is room for movement," she said, adding: "Tension is what causes movement. And enough tension will cause us to do the right thing."

Tensions over housing and homelessness have been high in the state Legislature following a lengthy debate last month where the Democratic-controlled Senate killed a bill that would have let developers build small apartment buildings near public transportation and jobs in areas traditionally zoned for single-family homes.

Despite that setback, Atkins and Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon both reiterated their pledge to pass a bill this year aimed at increasing housing construction.

"I saw some of my colleagues who didn't support (that bill) who were standing up and applauding, one was even dancing," said Democratic state Sen. Scott Wiener, who authored the housing bill that failed last month. "So, maybe some people are changing their minds."

While homeless populations in most states have declined recently, California's jumped 16% last year to about 151,000 people, a problem that the governor said disproportionately affects minorities. Meanwhile, a statewide housing shortage has compounded the issue, driving up prices and contributing to more people fleeing California than moving in, the first time in 10 years the state has had a migration loss.

Newsom announced Wednesday that more mobile housing trailers are heading to Santa Clara, Riverside, Contra Costa and Sonoma counties, as well as the city of Stockton, after the temporary shelters were previously sent to Oakland and Los Angeles County. He also ordered the state to let lo-

cal governments use 286 state properties, including vacant lots, fairgrounds, armories and other buildings, to help the homeless.

He called for some changes to a tax on millionaires approved by voters in 2004 to help those with mental illness who are homeless, among other efforts,

and called on counties to spend the \$160 million they already have from the tax more quickly.

"Spend your mental health dollars by June 30, or we'll make sure they get spent for you," he warned county leaders. "It's time to match our big-hearted empathy with tight-fisted accountability."



In this Aug. 21, 2019 file photo, a woman walks past a homeless man sleeping in front of recycling bins and garbage on a street corner in San Francisco.

PHOTO BY JEFF CHIU/AP

Utah man found in freezer exonerated wife of death with note

TOOELE, Utah (AP) — A Utah man whose body was found in a freezer exonerated his wife by leaving a typed, notarized note saying she bore no responsibility in his death.

The note left by Paul Edward Mathers cleared the late Jeanne Souron-Mathers, although questions remain, authorities said.

"I want it known that Jeanne is in NO way responsible for my death," Mathers wrote in the letter notarized Dec. 2, 2008.

"I'm fully aware that with my heart condition the Lortabs/Hydrocodine will eventually stop my heart," Mathers' wrote. "It will not be deliberate as I am not ready to leave my wife, Jeanne Marie. Jeanne has foiled my actual suicide attempts."

A maintenance worker found the deceased 75-year-old woman in her Tooele home Nov. 22. The state medical examiner ruled she died of natural causes.

As police searched for clues about her death, they discov-

ered Mathers' body in a freezer.

Mathers had terminal cancer. Police were unable to conclude if his illness was the ultimate cause of death. Investigators believe he died sometime between Feb. 4, 2009, and March 8, 2009.

Mathers' head was wrapped in a garbage bag that was secured with duct tape around his neck. Authorities could not determine if the bag was placed there before or after his death.

Whether anyone else was involved in putting Mathers' body in the freezer also remains unanswered.

Many of those with direct knowledge of what happened have died, while other challenges in collecting information and evidence have left police resigned to end the investigation without a definitive conclusion, Tooele Police Sgt. Jeremy Hansen said.

"We are never going to have final answers," Hansen said.

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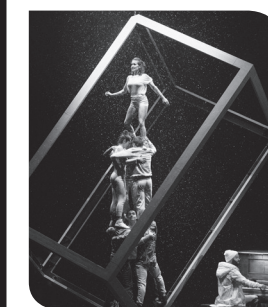


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► Editorial

\$2 Million Is Not Much of a Cut

But it probably won't stop there

The state of Connecticut is in a tough spot. The population is falling, businesses are moving out and the economic growth that some regions are experiencing is completely missing us. In response, Gov. Ned Lamont proposed a budget with — among other cuts — \$2 million less allocated to the University of Connecticut than we originally expected.

To be clear, UConn will still have a higher budget next year. But the original allotted amount will not be what we end up getting should this budget go through. In response, the Undergraduate Student Government and other student leaders have protested this proposed move. This has culminated in students from UConn and other Connecticut schools speaking out at the appropriations committee meeting on Tuesday.

To juniors and seniors on campus, this situation is superficially reminiscent of the infamous "\$300 million" cut to UConn proposed in 2017. That time, it was proposed that well over \$100 million per year be cut from UConn's budget over the following two years. It was only through the concerted effort of UConn and the community that this terrible idea was quashed to a much lower cut.

Of course, the current situation is different in a few ways. This time, the cut proposal comes from the governor, not the state legislature. It's also much smaller, almost inconsequential in comparison. Finally, this cut comes along with a \$33 million infusion of money for UConn Health. While UConn is important, UConn Health is arguably just as important for the wellbeing of the state, and this influx of funds allows for the struggling system to continue its essential operations.

However, it's also important to note that these cuts come at a time when the problems with poor funding are as apparent as ever. In particular, mental health facilities at UConn have been getting a lot of heat recently for their inability to keep up with demand for services from students.

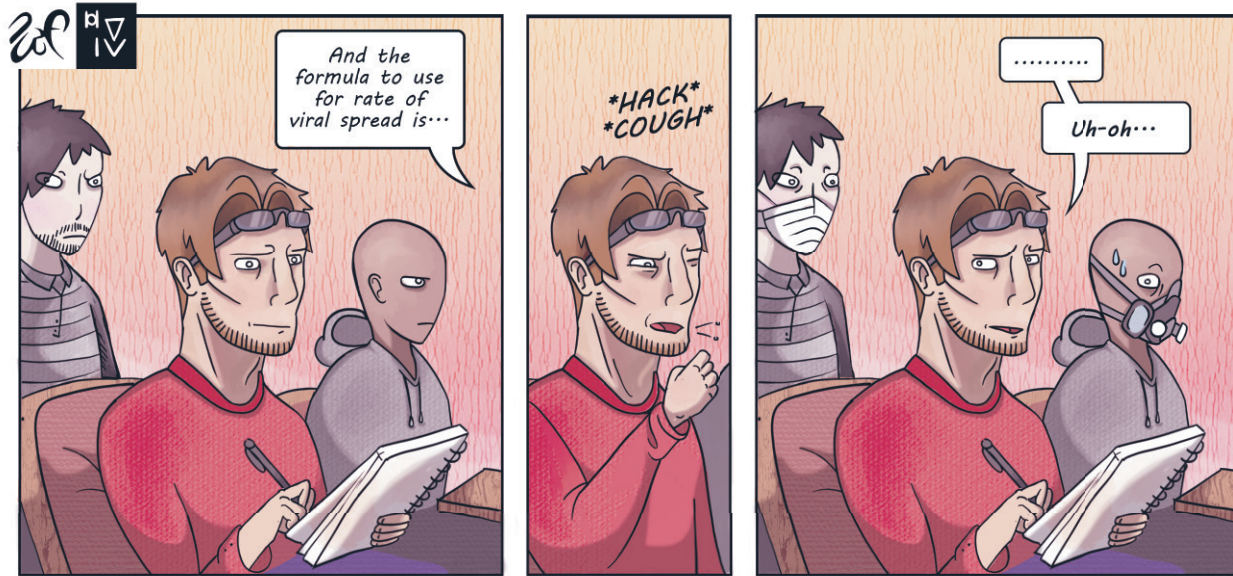
So, is this a big deal? Well, these cuts in isolation aren't. UConn will be able to continue its essential functions without much issue even with \$2 million less than it expected. We still have plenty of funds for all the parts of UConn we love. In the context of Connecticut's recent moves, though, it's fair to be concerned. Education is only effective when it is of high quality. Connecticut may very well be forced into making hard choices to balance its budget. Lamont is certainly in an unenviable position here, but it's concerning (to say the least) that the quality of its flagship is always first on the chopping block.

Why the UConn administration behaves like a company

by Harrison Raskin
STAFF COLUMNIST
harrison.raskin@uconn.edu

Here at the University of Connecticut, we as students frequently find ourselves upset with the administration's behavior and in opposition to many of its policies. We want a sustainable campus while the administration increases the use of fossil fuels. We want racial justice while the administration dislikes the negative press from acknowledging racial problems. We want a reasonable cost of education while the university increases the cost of textbooks, tuition, food and rent yearly.

See ADMIN, p. 8



COMIC BY CONNOR RICKERMANN, STAFF CARTOONIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Republicans don't care about the rule of law

by Alex Klein
CONTRIBUTOR
alexander.klein@uconn.edu

For a very long time, Republican politicians have portrayed themselves as upholders of the rule of law. The majority of voters supported Richard Nixon over Hubert Humphrey in the 1968 presidential election because Nixon promised to stop race riots and restore "law and order" to the United States. And, racist or not, the Willie Horton advertisements that George H.W. Bush deployed in the 1988

presidential election cycle were part of a concerted effort to appear tough on crime. Despite being outwardly tough on crime, George H.W. Bush oversaw and lied about money and guns being illegally funneled to the Contras, and Richard Nixon was a wire-tapping, tax-dodging, justice-obstructing, treaty-scuttling, genocide-permitting crook. In 2020, members of the Republican Party still want to have it both ways — they want to be seen as tough on crime while endlessly excusing, pardoning or covering up criminal wrongdoing perpetrated by other Republicans.

The newest example of this hypocrisy comes in the form of Roger Stone, a longtime GOP operative, successful lobbyist and adviser to President Donald Trump. In November of 2019, Stone was found guilty of lying to Congress, obstruction of justice and witness tampering. Even though Stone's efforts to open up a backchannel between WikiLeaks and Trump's presidential campaign never really materialized, he nonetheless lied to the House Intelligence Committee about the nature and extent of those efforts. Stone then asked his WikiLeaks intermediaries to, in his words, "stonewall" the House investigation by doubling down on the lie that Stone never asked them to contact Julian Assange. When one of those

WikiLeaks intermediaries did not play along, Stone sent him various threats, including "Prepare to die," "I'm going to take [your] dog away from you," "my lawyers are dying [to rip] you to shreds" and "I will piss on your grave."

Though he claims that he wants to "drain the swamp," President Trump is outraged that his pet swamp creature, Roger Stone, is being punished for crimes of political corruption. On Twitter, he said that Roger Stone's conviction was "horrible and very unfair." In defiance of his own federal prosecutors, Attorney General Bill Barr

reduced the recommended sentence for Stone by several years. Time and time again, President Trump and Attorney General Barr have put their thumbs on the scales to ensure that the Department of Justice uses kid gloves to deal with those who once worked for the White House. Pres. Trump will inevitably pardon Paul Manafort, Roger Stone and Mike Flynn — he clearly feels that they did nothing wrong and that he and his employees are above the law.

In truth, they are above the law. The president knows that no act of political corruption is grievous enough to deter Republicans from voting for him. Tucker Carlson is one such incorrigible sycophant. Carlson, a popular Fox News anchor, regularly uses his show to demand that the president pardon Roger Stone. Carlson says that America's "ruling class" is "trying to kill" Roger Stone for being a harmless, Trump-supporting provocateur.

Carlson's outrage stems not from a belief in Stone's innocence, but from a belief that no one who works for President Trump ought to be put in prison.

When he was interviewed for the Netflix documentary "Get Me Roger Stone" a few years ago, Tucker Carlson described Stone as "an outlaw" partly responsible for a "massive expansion of the lobbying sector in Washington." These days, Carlson spends much of his airtime excoriating America's "elites," who are so rich and self-interested that they do not "even bother to understand our problems." Carlson knows that Stone is an elitist criminal, and Carlson knows that Stone never cared a whit about the problems of everyday Americans when he was working as a lobbyist and GOP operative. But, on Fox News, fraudsters and influence peddlers only deserve jail time if they play for the wrong side. That is why Carlson demands a pardon for Roger Stone while he simultaneously celebrates the conviction of Democratic operative Michael Avenatti, whom he calls a "sleazy chancer," "an undoubted criminal" and "the most reprehensible kind of guy."

One of Carlson's recent headlines encapsulated the Republican Party's hypocrisy when it comes to being tough on crime. The article's headline was, "Roger Stone case is about the left wanting to send political enemies to jail." Do not be fooled. Tucker Carlson does not clutch his pearls

Republican hypocrisy on the issue of punishing criminals reflects the absurdity of our post-truth world.

while defending Roger Stone, an undoubted criminal, because he believes it is wrong to throw one's political enemies in jail. If Carlson disapproved of using the justice system for political retribution, he would not support a president who wants Barack Obama, Hillary Clinton and Robert Mueller convicted of treason. Republican hypocrisy on the issue of punishing criminals reflects the absurdity of our post-truth world. The people pumping their fists to chants of "Drain the swamp!" and "Lock her up!" are the same people who demand unaccountability for a gangster president and the felons who work for him.

★ The Right answer ★ No Stone left unturned

by Kevin Catapano
WEEKLY COLUMNIST
kevin.catapano@uconn.edu

Last week, federal prosecutors recommended a sentence of seven to nine years for long-time Trump confidant Roger Stone, who was indicted on charges of witness tampering and obstruction of justice in January 2019. Upon learning of the sentencing recommendation, President Trump tweeted about the "horrible and very unfair situation," adding, "Cannot allow this miscarriage of justice." When later that day the Department of Justice offered a revised sentencing memorandum — stating that the original sentence was "extreme and excessive and disproportionate to Stone's offenses" — all four prosecuting attorneys withdrew from the case.

To some Americans this series of events was of little consequence. Roger Stone, a nonviolent, first-time offender, was convicted by a poorly-vetted jury on charges of lying to Congress and recommended for a bloated term on the high end of the sentencing spectrum. The DOJ, headed by Attorney General Wil-

liam Barr — whose job it is to seek justice by recommending the applicable enhancements and reductions in sentencing — recognized the incongruity between Stone's offenses and his punishment and offered a more appropriate, non-binding sentencing recommendation. In the interim, President Trump mouthed off on social media because that's what Trump does.

For other Americans, though, this was the latest in a terrifying saga of

Democrats have no credibility to wield in decrying the politicization of the Justice Department.

presidential abuse by a tyrannical despot bent on subverting the rule of law for his own personal and political gain. Last Wednesday, Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) suggested that Trump would prefer America to be a dictatorship in which "the Justice Department is the president's law firm — not a defender of the rule of law." Rep.

Adam Schiff (D-CA) characterized the events as a "direct attack on our rule of law" and claimed that Trump was "normalizing this attack on the independence of the justice system." Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) complained, "He thinks he's above the law. He has no respect for the rule of law. But where are the Republicans to speak out on this blatant violation of the rule of law?"

Where are the Democrats who spoke out against former President Barack Obama when he asserted executive privilege to shield Attorney General Eric Holder from indictment amid the fallout from Operation Fast and Furious? Where were the Democrats to speak out about the infamous tarmac meeting between former President Bill Clinton and then-Attorney General Loretta Lynch in 2016, days before the FBI decided not to recommend charges against his wife for her improper usage of a private email server? Where were they in the '60s, when President Kennedy appointed his brother attorney general?

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Life

@dailycampuslife

Head on over to Husky Market

by **Hollianne Lao**
STAFF WRITER
hollianne.lao@uconn.edu

UConn's Undergraduate Student Government (USG) and UConnPIRG are inviting undergraduate students to stop by Student Union 106 later this week for some free groceries. This event, dubbed Husky Market by the collaborating organizations, will run from 3:30 to 5:30 this Friday – and don't forget to bring your own bag! Following in the footsteps of the UCafé Coalition, a similar initiative run by students Wawa Gatheru and Abhishek Gupta, the Food Insecurity Task Force of USG, led by Ethan Werstler and William Schad, seeks to tackle the issue of food insecurity on campus.

"Husky Market is essentially a location where students can go to receive free groceries and other essentials, like toothpaste or paper towels," Schad, a fourth-semester political science major, said. He serves as a USG Senator representing students in the exploratory program. "People can expect [it] will be a judgement-free area where any undergraduate student can

come and get what they need at no charge. We plan to run the market every other week at the same time in the same place. If the first few weeks are successful, operations will likely increase to meet demand."

Schad and Werstler, a fourth-semester political science and communications double major and USG Alumni Senator, established the task force last semester. They started planning Husky Market after the survey on food insecurity sent out to the student body was completed.

"The results were not made public, and admin made no announcement of a plan to deal with food insecurity, so we decided that it was the Undergraduate Student Government's turn to step in until an official plan was put into place by [them]," Schad explained. He works as a logistical coordinator for the task force. "We came up with the idea of a food pantry, run by students for students, that offered more than just food."

Planning for the market involved logistical planning around timing of the event

and financial restraints.

"Originally, we wanted to run the market at least a few times a week, but because of funding and logistical restraints we opted on a bi-weekly model," Schad said. He accredits guidance from the people of the Cafe Coalition. "Both Abhishek Gupta and Wawa Gatheru's insights were very useful in developing our model. In addition, if it becomes clear that biweekly is not enough, then we have tentative plans to increase the frequency of the market."

The task force hopes to tackle the overarching issue of food insecurity at UConn, which is often overlooked because it is not a "visible issue."

"The mission of the Food Insecurity Task Force is to work to ensure that all UConn students have access to plentiful nutritious food and other essential goods," Schad said. He describes commuter students by food insecurity, since they are not required to have a meal plan. "Few students are actually unable to get food on a regular basis. The issue is more to do with resource

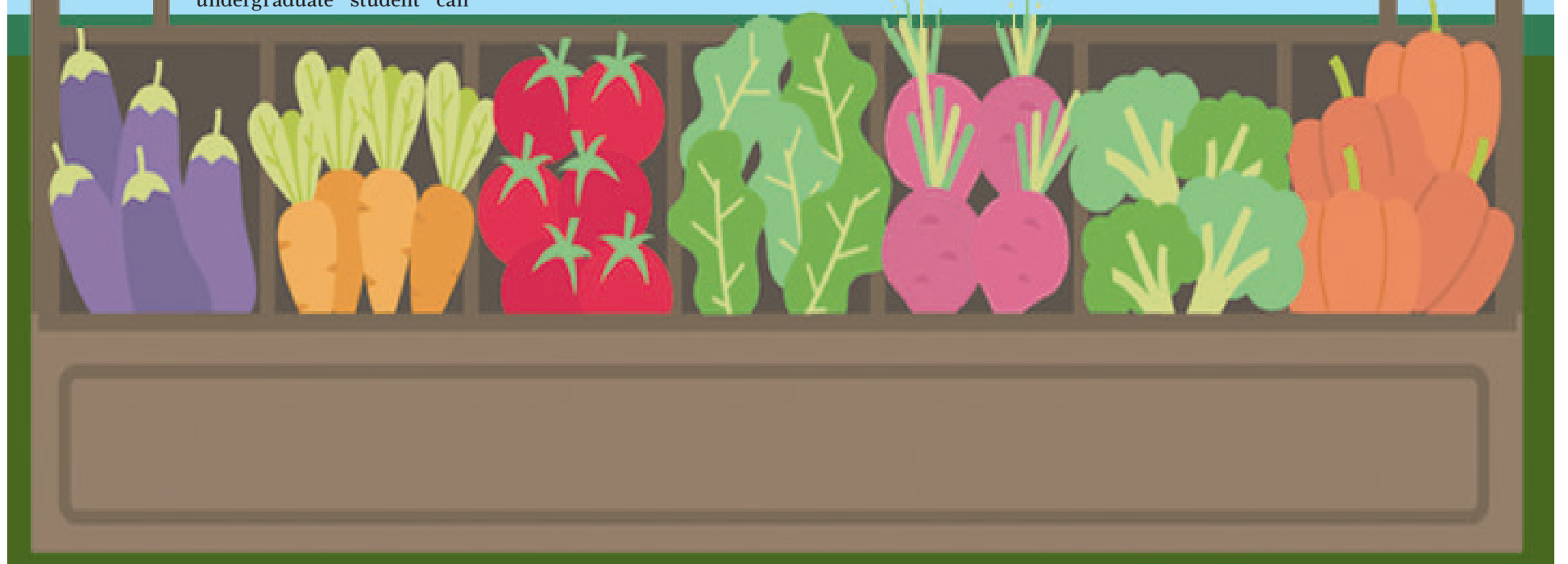
allocation. We do not believe any student should have to make the choice between food or books."

Along with Husky Market, the task force collaborates with other organizations on their initiatives.

"UConnPIRG is our main partner in this endeavor, helping with funding, volunteers and logistics" Schad said. He also referred to the halal food expansion that is planned for later this semester. "Last semester, the Food Insecurity Task Force also worked with the Muslim Student Association to bring Halal options to more places on campus."

With a student-run initiative, the task force always accepts support from anyone interested in tackling food insecurity.

"We are just very excited to be having our first market this week!" Schad said. "We are always looking for new ways to ensure UConn students are getting the things they need, and if there is anything we are overlooking, we welcome suggestions at our biweekly meetings."



HOW TO SAVE MONEY AS A COLLEGE STUDENT



Ever hesitated to upgrade to Spotify Premium or to buy the latest fashion piece? As college students, we spend a chunk of our savings on college books and other necessities. We are restricted in how we spend our money, especially in buying items we want to purchase. In the age where there is an app for everything, you'd be surprised how many deals can be found for students. Here is a list of apps and deals that will make you rethink paying full price for anything.

Unidays

This app brings deals, content and internships that are essential for college students. You can get coupons for stores such as Pacsun, Journeys and H&M. But there are many other stores where you can get discounts. Unidays gives instant access to student discounts, with no student ID required. The only thing you need to do is enter your school name. Coupons can be used in stores as well. Just show the coupon to the retailer, and the discount should go through. Unidays is perfect for getting deals from your favorite stores. Whether you like online shopping or like to browse the mall, Unidays will send coupon codes to save you money.

Honey

Honey is heavily advertised on YouTube, but how many people actually downloaded it? For those who don't know, Honey is a browser extension that makes it easy for you to find coupon codes. This browser extension will search the internet for valid coupon codes that you can use at checkout. Honey is relatively safe to use, however it does collect user data.

Honey tracks users' web browsers so it can appear on specific pages, mostly pages of stores and companies. Not only will you save yourself time searching for codes, you only need to click the Honey icon on your browser to get it working.

Spotify Premium

If you use Spotify, you should upgrade to premium. The individual premium plan is \$9.99 per month, but students get a package of \$4.99 per month. The student plan includes a Hulu and Showtime plan, as well as the ability to listen to music anywhere with no ads. If you are annoyed with ads disrupting you while listening to your favorite tunes, you should consider making the move to premium.

Pocket Points

I was introduced to Pocket Points during my freshman year at UConn. This app rewards students points for their hours spent offline. This means you must shut your phone completely off in order to win points. The app tracks the time spent offline and allots a certain number of points to each time period. With your points, you gain discount codes and coupons that can be used at restaurants or clothing stores. A pro about this app is that it forces you to turn off your phone and focus on something else, such as school work.

Other apps for student discounts/sales:

Depop
Amazon Prime
GoPuff

by **Cindy Lam**
CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT
cindy.lam@uconn.edu



‘Seasons’ change, but Bieber never will

by **Stephanie Santillo**
SENIOR STAFF WRITER
stephanie.santillo@uconn.edu

Along with his lackluster new album, Justin Bieber recently released an uninspired 10-part YouTube docuseries that “reveals” what the star has been doing these past few years.

“Justin Bieber: Seasons” tells the story of Bieber leaving the spotlight, “changing” and then returning. Among views of Bieber in the studio, the series introduces his wife Hailey (Baldwin) Bieber and tells of his struggles with substance abuse and other mistakes he’s made.

While dealing with some heavy topics, everything about the show felt very shallow. It

a cautionary tale about fast fame and its unavoidable consequences than a story of redemption.

The documentary focuses a little on what Bieber has done and is doing to manage his physical and mental health. It introduces viewers to his doctors, takes them along to one of Bieber’s treatments to recover from substance abuse and demonstrates the inflatable sort of hyperbaric-type chamber that Bieber uses to breathe in more oxygen that helps to alleviate his anxiety.

of marriage. They sit around in upscale loungewear, go on vacation together and plan their lavish wedding. After watching the series and seeing how much time Hailey Bieber spent in the studio with Justin, I felt like she had no other goal in life than to be his constant companion and support system.

And I wasn’t even sure how good she would be at that: It seemed like every time the camera panned to her, she was on her phone.

The series would have been more interesting if certain topics were fleshed out. For example, “Seasons” shows Justin in the recording studio trying to get his tracks perfect, but it doesn’t show

It seemed as if Bieber’s management produced the docuseries to repair his reputation and acknowledge his mistakes but didn’t actually care to elaborate on what he changed to fix things.

seemed as if Bieber’s management produced the docuseries to repair his reputation and acknowledge his mistakes but didn’t actually care to elaborate on what he changed to fix things. The series simply doesn’t feel genuine. It says “I’ve changed” when what it should be saying is “This is what I’ve changed” and “This is why I’ve changed.”

Bieber has often marketed himself as “relatable” — just a regular kid posting videos on YouTube before being plucked from the crowd and making it big time. As a young kid, his squeaky clean surface image earned him leagues of teen and tween fans. But as he’s grown up, Bieber has had to deal with the repercussions of his not-so-cute actions, and he hasn’t always done so humbly. In fact, the series feels more like

Though the series glosses through some of these treatments, the most important coping mechanism portrayed in “Seasons” is perhaps Bieber’s marriage.

The docuseries spends a lot of time interviewing Hailey Bieber, showing her with Justin and celebrating their relationship. Hailey is portrayed as the light of Bieber’s life. Bieber’s management praises how good she is for him and how happy they are together.

But when you watch the series, their marriage seems like just another quickie celebrity coupling. The two appear like lovesick teenagers who have no concept of reality or the stakes

where the inspiration for any of the music comes from, leaving his music feeling purposeless and generic.

What also would have been nice is a more mature explanation of the Biebers’ love for each other. The series shows the couple’s first meeting as kids behind the scenes of a morning show, but it doesn’t fully describe how the two fell for each other as adults or how they worked through issues they faced (they were together and then broke up once before they reunited and got married).

This deeper exploration of the several featured themes of “Seasons” would have added what the series was missing. A more sophisticated approach could have created the vulnerability and purpose that are necessary to an intimate, tell-all celebrity docuseries.

Rating: 2.5/5



by **Rebecca Maher**
SENIOR STAFF WRITER
rebecca.l.maher@uconn.edu

Love was truly in the air this Valentine’s Day when six girls and I decided to ditch both Florence and the silly concept of “sleeping at night” for basically a 72-hour-long day in Budapest.

Why no sleep? It all comes down to the fact that we planned our flights with no information except it was the cheapest possible way to get there and back. So, although our flight out of Rome was at 8:40 a.m. (which usually means you can get a full night’s sleep), the only train to Rome from Florence that would get us to the airport before boarding was at 11 p.m. And also, the only way to that particular airport, which was completely closed after midnight until 4:30 a.m., was by taking two different trains and a bus. Thus, although the flight was significantly cheaper than the one right out of Florence, transportation to and from the airport brought the overall cost to about the same level. Basically, we spent the first night wandering around Rome in the darkness.

Although we were fairly sleep-deprived that first day, we jumped straight into being the perfect tourists. We explored the Hungarian Parliament Building, which appeared to vie for the title of “Most Ornate Building in Europe.” With ancient stained glass windows, intricate golden ceilings, statues of nearly every ruler they’ve ever had and floral patterned everything, the building was absolutely stunning. After the tour, we hopped onto a boat that ferried us up and down the Danube River as the sun set over Budapest. Drinking mulled wine — a.k.a. the best part of Europe — we got to see the beautiful old architecture lining the river. Once we left the boat, we ate a questionable meal of traditional Hungarian dishes, which left us understanding just how the country got its name.

The absolute best part of Budapest was the nightlife, and we refused to miss out on it in favor of something as silly as sleep. On the first night there, we went to one of the city’s famous ruins bars — humongous bars made out of the city’s old ruins. The one we went to was endless, with different themed bars and sitting areas scattered across the huge building. The bar was decorated with plants, colorful lights and some truly eclectic decorations, which paired nicely with the array of remixes blasting from the speakers. The bar also had the cheapest drinks I’ve come across so far in Europe, with wine costing only 600 forints, or 1.94 USD. That night ended with the only night’s sleep of the weekend: Five whole hours.

On Saturday, we ate at the cutest restaurant on the planet: Vintage Garden. Decorated to the nines for Valentine’s Day, it also had amazing non-Hungarian food. Afterward, we aimlessly explored the city, visiting beautiful places like Fisherman’s Bastion to bide our time for what we came to Budapest to do in the first place: Go to the Sparty! The Sparty is an absolute must for any young person visiting Budapest. In essence, it’s a huge party with fire dancers, great club music and cool lights ... inside of a natural thermal bath. Clad in bathing suits in early February, we danced and waded around the pool for hours. The bath was packed with people dancing, splashing, drinking and making out. It was like a club on steroids. Time flew by at the Sparty, and at 3 a.m. we made it back to Airbnb just in time to head to the airport at 4 a.m.

To sum up what it’s like to travel to Budapest, Hungarian food isn’t that great, the city is absolutely beautiful and the nightlife is life-changing. But above all, it’s definitely a city you’ll want to stay up for.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF INSTAGRAM



thirsty thursday



MARTINIS THREE WAYS

by Daily Campus Life Section

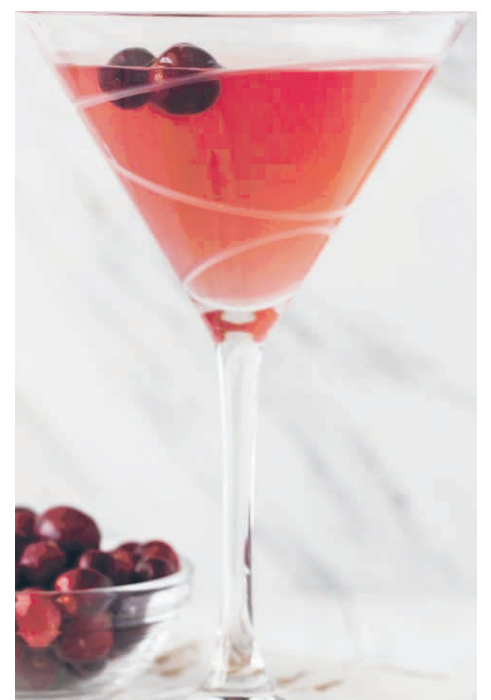
Martinis, like cosmopolitans, have always seemed like a luxurious, inaccessible drink. It's the cocktail that the lead female actress sips on in every blockbuster. It's the drink fabulous men and women swish around at the blackjack table before placing their bets. I don't know if it's the tall-stemmed glass, the unidentified clear liquids I can't pronounce or the olive spear twirling around in there, but there's something about a martini that makes it seem superior. As a college student, I never order or make martinis. But why must there be so much mystery around the drink? In an effort to demystify the martini, I've found three casual, easy recipes that make the martini more manageable.

Cranberry Martini

INGREDIENTS:

1 oz. vodka
1 oz. peach schnapps
2 oz. cranberry juice
Lime wedge for garnish

To make this fruity cross between a cosmo and a martini, simply add all the liquid ingredients to a cocktail shaker with ice. Shake well before straining into a highball glass. Garnish with a lime wedge or twist.



Hollywood Martini

INGREDIENTS:

2 oz. vodka
3/4 oz. black raspberry liqueur
1/2 oz. pineapple juice

This martini screams Tinseltown glamor but the short ingredient list makes it an easy option for any cocktail party. Again, combine all liquid ingredients in a cocktail shaker and shake well. Strain into a chilled glass and garnish with a chunk of pineapple and a raspberry.



Single Ladies Sangria

INGREDIENTS:

1 3/4 oz. vodka
1 1/2 oz. apple cider
1/4 oz. ginger liqueur

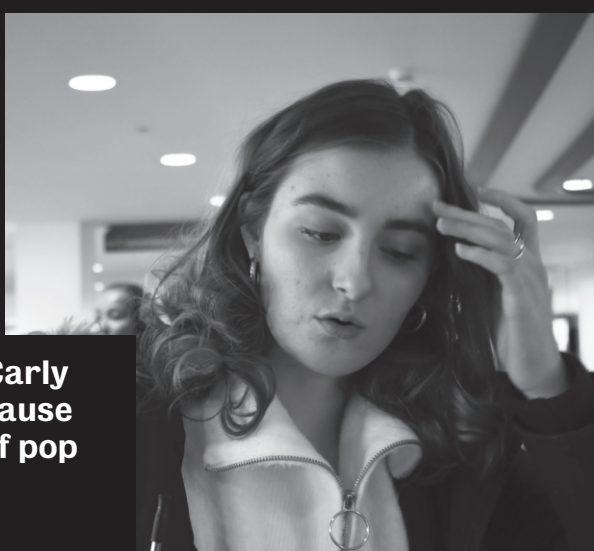
Enjoy the taste of apple cider while you still can! Simply combine all liquid ingredients in a cocktail shaker with ice and shake vigorously. Strain into a chilled glass. Garnish with a cinnamon stick.



After my deep dive into alternative martini recipes, I've learned two things: Martinis are actually super easy to make, and not everyone likes a traditional gin martini. Most of these recipes only call for three ingredients and a cocktail shaker. Adding a fruity element takes some of the intimidation out of the traditional, classic martini, so feel free to experiment and add a new cocktail to your list of favorites.

Opinion Study Break

Huskytalk | What's one thing you need to get through an 18-hour dance marathon?



"Any music by Carly Rae Jepsen because she's the soul of pop music."

Caroline LeCour
Communications
Sophomore



"A reusable water bottle."

Lily Stiffler
Political Science
Junior

"Some really good music."

Padampdeep Singh
Undecided Engineering
Sophomore



"Some water."

Jared Dumaine
Electrical Engineering
Sophomore

UConn bureaucracy resembles company

ADMIN, cont. from p. 4

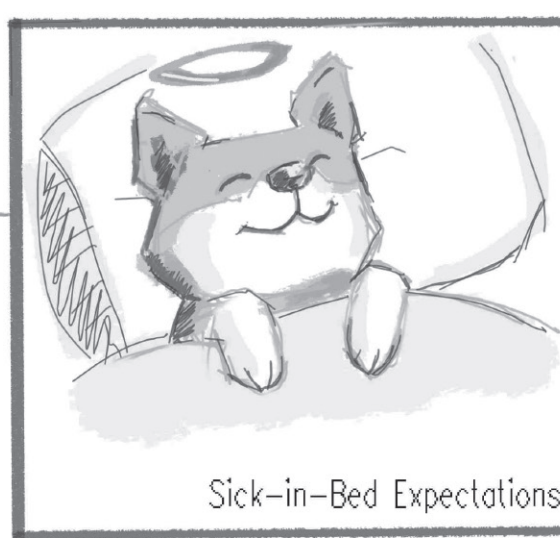
Why? Shouldn't we have the ability to participate in institutions like public universities which have our best interests at heart? Furthermore, aren't we funding UConn through our tuition and tax dollars? In spite of these truths, the administration's behavior is so often at odds with our interests because it responds to a set of structural incentives which have little to do with us.

One reason for their behavior is that UConn is a very large institution reliant upon many administrative staff. These bureaucrats, as is the case in many hierarchical organizations, are incentivized to demonstrate the largest possible purview. In business administration, compensation and prestige are strongly linked to the amount of one's employees or subordinates and the overall amount of activity they oversee, to the extent that they can influence this, will opt to increase the total number of students and faculty here on campus. They aren't bad people; they are simply responding to an established set of incentives as any human would.

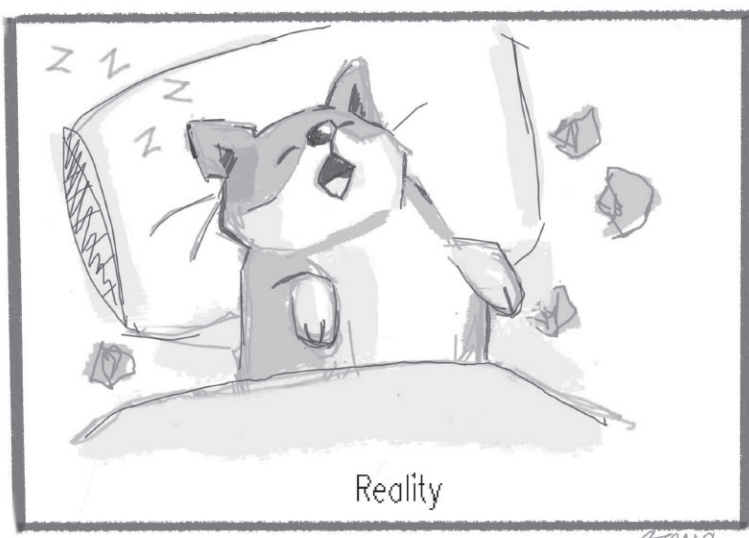
What's even more important than this hierarchy is that the administration responds to changing sources of revenue. Obviously, there is an extent to which the university relies on tuition from students whom it must satisfy. But demand for UConn's product (education) is somewhat inelastic. In other words, we attend UConn because it's a strong public research university offering in-state tuition, and we need a higher education to have a basic standard of living. There's not much they could do to screw this up, and many of us continue attending UConn for these reasons despite the administration's many policy failures which negatively impact our quality of life.

Other more mutable revenue sources help better to explain the university's behavior. Private individual donors want to contribute to the most prestigious schools. Many of UConn's corporate donors are interested in schools that promote a large and educated labor market in addition to technological development.

For more of the story visit DAILYCAMPUS.COM



Sick-in-Bed Expectations



Reality

COMIC BY CANDACE TNG

CRING

Designer Brands: If you're not rich, it's not worth it

by **Clara Gomes-Ferres**
CONTRIBUTOR
clara.gomes-ferres@uconn.edu

Despite the idea that we live in a society where more people are adopting progressive ideals, our common tendency to value appearance so much is still very much applicable today. Here at UConn, it is not rare to come across students who strut to class in their Gucci, Prada, Fendi, Givenchy or Saint Laurent clothing articles. Though everyone is free to have their own values and spend their money on what they please, I think we ought to work on receiving more out of spending less.

Walking around big cities, I'll see huge billboards and posters featuring the latest watch or shoe alongside a fierce face. Elegant and sophisticated, the products come across as sturdier and shinier. The thing is, however, that this doesn't necessarily guarantee a better quality. Many times we'll be excited about ordering things online only to receive that awesome new pair of shoes that is three sizes too small, yet this is not money's fault. When ordering a new windbreaker on Amazon for only \$15, you'd usually come to terms with the idea that there are probably strings

attached. The jacket will probably be thinner and fail to keep you warm. This is expected. However, when we choose to order designer clothing online or purchase it in stores, it is really only one thing that makes the difference: the name. The petrochemical-derived and leather materials are going to be the same for the most part in any type of shoe, so wearing those Gucci's for an extra \$530 is just ridiculous.

I've always known that these famous brands were expensive, but I wasn't aware of how much. Toward the end of 2019 when I was given the opportunity to travel to New York City with the Humanities Learning Community here at UConn, my friends and I decided to step out of the ordinary and onto 5th Avenue. Looking into all these designer brand stores that each looked like they had five handbags laid out in them, I was overwhelmed. This may be an exaggeration, but it is not as far off as you might think. I couldn't help but think to myself about how the stores were probably well-off just by selling one item a month. I was also pretty stunned by the lengths people would go to buy things that were quite unflattering and unconventional in a bad way. Doing some

research on prices that baffled me at the Gucci store, I found out that one pair of Gucci tennis shoes can cost \$650, a simple handbag can cost \$3,800 and a dainty necklace can cost \$450. This leads me to my next point about how the pretty necklaces I buy usually don't cost more than \$12. These prices aren't just enormous, they are terrifying.

People will also associate costly clothing and accessories with better looks, but you can easily own the fancy look for much less. Looking around, I find that there are many inspiring looks and cool ideas that people have to offer with their style. A lot of those times, there are no designer products involved. Though "beauty is in the eye of the beholder," I think many people would agree that spending excessive amounts isn't needed to pull off a great look. Browsing around stores with affordable and nice items like H&M and Forever 21, I don't have to put in a lot of effort to find a pair of casual sneakers that resemble those Gucci tennis platform shoes. In fact, many times there are designer items that look super ordinary — ordinary enough to find at your local thrift shop. This only emphasizes the reason why I question how people could feel it right to spend \$600 on a dress when they could be saving so much. Lots of people I know shop at GAP, but because it's a bit pricy for me, I was super happy with the deal I found at a local Plato's Closet. I ended up buying a jacket that was originally \$100 for only \$20. You get the point. I may be stingier than most people my age, but I know I am not alone when I say that there are so many other things to spend money on.

Yes, people do care about looks. We can't control that. However, people care to a point. In the end, nobody really cares about where they got their shoes as long as

they have shoes at all. Though you might be fashion-savvy and genuinely enjoy keeping up to date on the newest looks, it's still a really important thing that we save up and use money on things that are most vital and useful. I'm sure you can survive without that new luxury tote. You'll be just fine. In the meantime, you should be thinking more about how much tuition costs, what you're planning to do for future housing, how much those textbooks cost, gas money, etc. I don't think there's ever a valid reason not to work on saving money, even if you just so happen to prosper with rich family members. Not only does saving money help with disciplining oneself, but it could also come to show other people that you're not out of control or spoiled. Though you can't understand everything about something entirely because of appearance, looks definitely do help people predetermine what kind of person you are. You'd be fooling yourself if you couldn't see how wearing name brands all the time didn't come across as somewhat shallow. You can still be interesting and humble, and you'll be great in the long run.

Money constitutes so much of society's problems. From schooling to politicians, healthcare to heating, money sadly does buy happiness much of the time. If having a lot of money and flaunting it is one of your goals in life, then go for it. Nobody is stopping you. In order to get there, however, it usually takes more work and years of dedication unless you are super lucky. Because this kind of getting-rich-without-working-luck doesn't strike very often, it's better to have a backup plan. You're probably not rich or famous, but there's always room in there to become a better, happier version of yourself... without Prada in the picture.

Gilson's Sports Guide: The new All-Star game format made the weekend exciting again

by **Conner Gilson**
STAFF WRITER
conner.gilson@uconn.edu

In 1951 the NBA hosted its first All-Star Weekend. The game brought together the best players from each conference to take part in an ultra-competitive matchup, providing the fans with lots of entertainment while also giving the players much needed rest at the halfway point of the season.

As time went on, the league added more events to the weekend like the dunk contest (1976), 3-point contest (1986) and skills challenge (2002) to keep the fans interested, but the crowd pleaser was always Sunday's game between the league's brightest and best.

As of late, however, the All-Star Game has lost its footing a bit, and the game that was once incredibly competitive has become a game of errant shots and lackadaisical defense that has made it borderline boring to watch. Adding the All-Star draft in the 2017-18 season helped a little by adding a bit more of a personal agenda to the game, but even then, it did not bring it back to what it once was.

Fast forward a couple more years and Adam Silver has completely rewritten the All-Star script in an attempt to return it to its former glory. After just one round, fans and players alike are thrilled with the changes. Star athletes like Kawhi Leonard, Giannis Antetokounmpo and Anthony Davis went on record saying how great they thought the new game was, and it appears the changes Silver made will have a lasting impact.

The new rules for the All-Star Game are as follows: In-

stead of following the format of a regular NBA game, there is a winning team at the end of each respective quarter who earns \$100,000 for the charity of their choice, with their scores being set back to zero after each quarter. Heading into the fourth, the teams' scores will be totaled, and whichever team was in the lead at the start would need 24 more points to reach the "target score" and win the game.

To add to the drama, the clock gets turned off in the fourth quarter to ensure that there will be a game-winning shot. When the final buzzer metaphorically sounds, the winning side goes home with another \$200,000 dollars for the charity of their choosing. All this together made for the hyper-competitive environment fans had been craving for the past several years, as there was much more on the line for the players, and it absolutely showed.

Never in my time watching the All-Star Game had I seen players giving 100% from beginning to end, especially in the final quarter. With \$200,000, the game and most importantly their pride on the line, each team picked up their play to another level with the target score nearing, so much so that people said there was a playoff-type atmosphere. And I couldn't agree more.

Both sides looked hungry on defense and moved the ball on offense, doing whatever it took to ensure they'd come out on top. Antetokounmpo was rejecting shots from all sides, including in a nice one-on-one exchange with LeBron. Players were arguing with the refs on missed calls. Even Kyle Lowry got involved, drawing two



LeBron James of the Los Angeles Lakers celebrates with James Harden of the Houston Rockets and Kawhi Leonard of the Los Angeles Clippers during the second half of the NBA All-Star basketball game Sunday, Feb. 16, 2020, in Chicago.

PHOTO BY NAM HUH, /AP

huge charges in crunch time in an attempt to help his team out. You just got the feeling that these guys really wanted to win, which is the biggest thing that's been missing from the contest in recent years.

Sure it was a disappointing end to the game with Anthony Davis hitting a free throw to

earn Team LeBron the win, but even with the mediocre finish fans and players left the game feeling good about the game and, more significantly, the upcoming second half of the season. The new format of the All-Star Game brought more energy, more intensity and a sense of competition that it was

missing, and it will hopefully inspire teams to find a second gear as the season nears a close.

This past weekend got me even more excited for the playoffs than I already was and looking forward to next year's All-Star Weekend. Kudos to Adam Silver for the changes.

Column: Ranking the sports of Wii Sports Resort

by **Andrew Morrison**
SPORTS EDITOR
andrew.morrison@uconn.edu

Almost exactly one year ago, I published perhaps the most controversial column I've ever composed: Ranking the sports of Wii Sports. If you're wondering, my thoughts haven't changed — tennis is still the best, boxing remains horrendous.

One year later, I've decided to attempt an even more ambitious feat: To rank the sports of Wii Sports Resort. Since there are a whopping 12 different sports, and people probably aren't interested in a 3000-word column about a video game from 2009, I'll try to keep it brief. I'll also be excluding golf and bowling, given that they were also included in Wii Sports. So without further ado, here's the definitive ranking, from worst to best:

10. Frisbee

I'm convinced the only reason Frisbee is even in the game is so Nintendo could advertise a full dozen sports, because no one could possibly be interested in standing still and throwing a virtual Frisbee over and over again. The Frisbee dog game was enjoyable only because there was a cute dog in it, and if you want to do an 18-hole golf course, just do the regular golf minigame. If Frisbee was never included in the game, it would lose absolutely nothing besides an adorable puppy. Just, like, find a dog in real life.

9. Canoeing

Canoeing is fun in kind of an infuriatingly frustrating way, but it's easily the worst water sport in the game. If you play alone, you're suddenly aware of your complete and utter loneliness, paddling along in a virtual canoe. If you play with friends, you can all pack into a single canoe and are forced to work cooperatively. Sometimes yelling at friends is fun, but canoeing is definitely capable of tearing friend groups apart. Avoid at all costs.



Andrew Morrison ranks his favorite Wii Sports Resort sports in a follow-up column for his rankings of the original Wii Sports from a year ago. PHOTO BY SHENGWD/FLICKR

8. Basketball

Much like baseball in Wii Sports, I really wanted basketball to be good. Unfortunately, it's really not. Basketball is a tough game to code — I mean, 2K still struggles with basic mechanics in 2020 — and the result is a clunky, unrealistic experience. Imagine NBA Jam, but 15 years later and less enjoyable. The 3-point contest is better than the pickup games, but the shot timing is awkward and unresponsive at times. I admire the attempt, but the end result is disappointing.

7. Archery

The best part about archery is the innovative way in which you use both the Wii remote and the nunchuk, pulling the nunchuk back like the string on a bow. It's obviously one of the slower-

paced games, but I appreciate how it rewards patience and precision.

6. Power cruising

Essentially wakeboarding but worse. Racing against the clock adds a sense of thrill, and the wave physics are impressive. But it's not particularly memorable or replayable, and the speed boost system doesn't really make sense. It's okay.

5. Table tennis

Maybe you expected this a little higher on the list given tennis's No. 1 ranking last time, but a big reason why that topped my ranking was net play and volleying, and unfortunately ping pong by nature has nothing of the sort. With that said, the core mechanics are the same, and I enjoy the attention paid to spin

and timing.

4. Swordplay

Swordplay Duel is basically everything boxing should have been in Wii Sports. It's far more responsive and just as much of a workout, plus the added bonus of making your opponent plummet off the platform into the water below. The Showdown mode makes you feel like Batman, pummeling crowds of attacking Miis. I'd say all of the top four here are very solid, but swordplay just barely misses the top three.

3. Cycling

This one might be a little controversial, but I absolutely loved the cycling game. For one, it was easily the most exhausting of all the games, rapidly swinging the remote and nunchuk, and

I mean, Wii Sports is meant to be somewhat healthy, isn't it? The course was excellent, full of different types of terrain and inclines, while also displaying the scenery of Wuhu Island. It has the same competitive racing feel of MarioKart, with the added satisfaction of burning calories in the process.

2. Wakeboarding

Wakeboarding might have the most simplistic controls in the game, but it's wildly addictive. Landing insanely high jumps and pulling off about seven flips mid-air was super rewarding. As you moved to higher difficulties, the obstacles added an extra challenge, and the graphics — surfing on orange-tinted waves in front of an Instagram-worthy sunset — were actually pretty impressive for a 2009 Wii game. Maybe it's just that I wish I was that talented at wakeboarding in real life, but I put way too much time into this one.

1. Air sports

Besides the bottom few, every sport is fairly entertaining, but really there's no competition for the top spot. Skydiving is a perfect introduction to the game and the Dogfight mode is a cool two-player experience, but the Island Flyover mode is by far where I spent the most time of any game in Wii Sports Resort. There are 80 information points to find, and I probably spent hours trying to track down every one. It was a relaxing change of pace while still having an element of achievement and depth. While I do wish the plane was a bit faster, this was the mode where you felt most immersed in the island and could really appreciate the scope and attention to detail that went into it. Remove every other sport, and I would still pay full price for solely the air sports modes. It's one of the most memorable gaming experiences I had on the Wii, and easily the best Wii Sports Resort has to offer.

Sports

Photo of the Day | Hyped up in Hartford



The women's basketball team celebrates its midweek win over conference foe Tulane at the XL Center in Hartford. PHOTO BY CHARLOTTE LAO, PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Men's Basketball: Down 2 starters, Huskies search for new approach at Temple

by **Andrew Morrison**
SPORTS EDITOR
andrew.morrison@uconn.edu

Coming into the season, if you had told head coach Dan Hurley that three starters — Akok Akok, Alterique Gilbert and Tyler Polley — would all be out of the starting lineup by mid-February, he probably wouldn't have believed you.

But due to season-ending injuries to two and inconsistent play from the third, that's likely the scenario Hurley faces as UConn (14-11, 5-7 The American) travels to Philadelphia for a rematch with Temple (13-12, 5-7) on Thursday.

An MRI performed on Monday confirmed UConn's worst fears, revealing a completely ruptured Achilles tendon for redshirt freshman Akok Akok. Surgery to repair the damage was successfully completed on Tuesday evening, spelling the end of Akok's season and, given the nine to 12 month recovery timetable typically required, likely a sizable portion of next season as well.

Despite undergoing surgery just the day prior, Akok arrived at practice on Wednesday and was im-

mediately swarmed by teammates with hugs and smiles. Numerous teammates, including Polley and James Bouknight, posted heartfelt messages to Akok on social media this week.

"Sometimes I question why the worst things happen to the best people," Bouknight wrote in an Instagram post "When you came to my room and asked if you would come back and be the same player I had to look to the floor trying to fight back tears ... I promise you'll bounce back and be stronger and better than ever ... We're going to be great together!!!"

In response, Akok commented, "Love u too my brother, hope we share the court again."

Hurley was in tears after Sunday's inspiring victory over Memphis, saying, "You have no idea how close these kids are with each other, with the coaches. It's a family."

That family now has to move on without the conference's leading shot blocker and Akok's reserved, calming presence. Although he was searching for his shot as of late (2.3 points per game in his last four

complete games), Akok's ability to block and alter shots at the rim was a game-changing component of UConn's defense.

Although we don't know who will take Akok's place in Thursday's starting lineup, junior Isaiah Whaley certainly looked like starting material on Sunday. Whaley, who has been superb all season backing up forward Josh Carlton, had seven rebounds and a career-high six blocks against Memphis, including two massive swats in the final minutes.

Last time the Huskies squared off with Temple, they snapped a four-game losing streak with a dominant 78-63 victory at Gampel Pavilion. It was an ugly shooting performance on both sides, but UConn held the dangerous Owls backcourt duo of Quinton Rose and Nate Pierre-Louis to a combined 12-of-32 performance from the field and never trailed in the second half.

This time around, UConn comes in from a very different position — fresh off the win of the season rather than a four-game slide. But the stakes are certainly higher than



In the wake of redshirt freshman Akok Akok's ruptured Achilles, the men's basketball team heads to Philadelphia to take on Temple. PHOTO BY MAGGIE CHAFOULEAS, ASSOCIATE PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

the first meeting, as UConn and Temple sit tied at seventh place in the American Athletic Conference standings. With six games remaining in the regular season, every game matters for tournament seeding, especially with tightly-packed middle of the conference standings.

On one side of the coin, the Hus-

kies are just 1-7 on the road this season and just 2-6 all-time at Temple. On the other, UConn has won three of its last four, while the Owls are coming off a 20-point blowout loss at home to Villanova.

The game can be found on ESPN2, tipping off from the Liacouras Center at 7 p.m.

Roundtable: Who's the worst mascot in sports?

by **Sports Staff**
sports@dailycampus.com

Team mascots have been in sports for over 100 years thanks to the 1908 Chicago Cubs. Since then we've seen the rise of costumed mascots, like Mr. Met and UConn's own Jonathan the Husky. There are so many great ones out there, it would almost be easier to name the worst ones. So that's what the DC Sports staff is here to do, figure out which mascot is the worst in sports.

Jonathan Synott
Campus Correspondent

Syracuse has affiliated themselves with the color orange since 1890, and they have had just as long to come up with a cooler mascot. Images of fierce tigers, cunning orioles or whatever the hell Gritty is come to mind, yet instead, the absolute best they could come up with is an anthropomorphic fruit. The orange part of Otto itself is less than three feet tall, making the six foot tall person inside him look all the more awkward. The color scheme of dark blue and orange is anything but visually "appealing" (literally any other color could look better), and his arms are positioned where his ears should be. His shape is not round, but rather flatter on the bottom, reminiscent of a pumpkin. Mascots have one job, to spark competitive en-

ergy at sporting events. With that task getting more difficult at Syracuse every year as the men's basketball team continues to decline, how can you expect to hype up the crowd with a fuzzy (moldy?) orange blob?

Jorge Eckardt
Staff Writer

Otto the Orange is just the worst. I cannot think of a dumber looking mascot than that orange blob they have at that school in upstate New York. For one, what school actually uses fruit as its mascot? That's the most idiotic thing I have ever heard of. It's like being named the Massachusetts Apple, the Vermont Strawberry or the Maine Lemon. Seriously, who's bright idea was it to be the Syracuse Orange? On top of that, they somehow manage to make it even dumber in physical form. It's a person in what looks like a blue tracksuit with an orange circle on from the waist up. When sitting down, he looks supremely dumb, as you can see in a tweet from former Daily Campus Sports Editor Dan Madigan (@dmd1433) in 2016. Otto is just sitting on the ground against the wall. The orange looks deflated to the point where the smile looks like a frown, and the person inside has pulled his arms inside the costume so Otto is armless. It, like the school it represents, is just the worst.

Dylan Barrett
Campus Correspondent

Back in the 1980s Syracuse was in dire need of a new mascot, and somehow this misshapen orange goof broke out as a potential candidate. "A juiced up, bumbling citrus fruit from which two legs protrude. It's known on campus as the official embarrassment," said Sports Illustrated in an article discussing possible new mascots for the university. In 1995, students and school officials agreed that this was the absolute perfect symbol to represent their school, and with that, Otto became the official mascot. Since then, Syracuse supporters have been repeatedly humiliated. Opposing fans start laughing at them before their teams even come out to play. This is a walking piece of fruit that we're talking about here that they have made the face of their school and athletic programs. The demented face, misplaced limbs, clash of colors — it is all a horrifying sight. To really top it off, they went out and bought the ugliest, orange striped sweatpants you could find for this protrusion to walk around in. Otto, no question, is the worst mascot in all of sports.

Matt Severino
Campus Correspondent

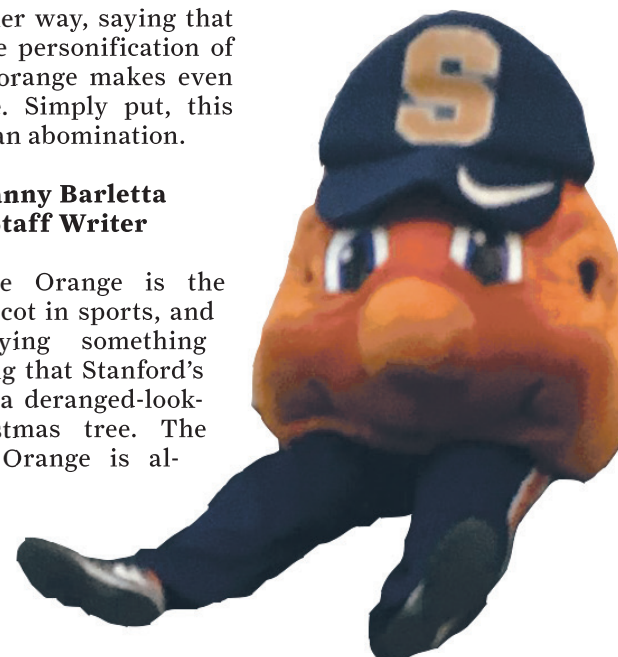
There are plenty of bad mascots when it comes to both col-

legiate and professional sports. But if you had to narrow it down to just one, Otto the Orange has to take the cake. As if there weren't already enough things to despise about Syracuse, they practically did this one to themselves. For what should be some kind of nod to the university's history or the surrounding area, I'm not entirely sure an orange puffle from Club Penguin really fits the bill. Of course they claim that Otto is actually a fruit-like that makes it any better. For a city that is buried under several feet of snow for months on end, I don't think making a citrus fruit the mascot is by any means better. Then again, you can't really be sure if they mean the fruit or the color. Either way, saying that Otto is the personification of the color orange makes even less sense. Simply put, this mascot is an abomination.

Danny Barletta
Staff Writer

Otto the Orange is the worst mascot in sports, and that's saying something considering that Stanford's mascot is a deranged-looking Christmas tree. The Syracuse Orange is al-

ready one of the all-time worst names for a team. If it's the color orange, that's just stupid and uncreative, and if it's the fruit, that makes no sense considering Syracuse, New York, isn't exactly known for its ability to grow oranges. But somehow the school made matters worse by making the mascot something that looks like it should be on an episode of "Barney and Friends." Otto is so bad as a mascot, I'm pretty sure Syracuse fans would rather he not even show up to the games. Who I pity the most is the sorry people who have to wear that idiotic costume. Pour one out for them.



Women's Basketball: Huskies ride the wave, Tulane stuck in the sand

by Sean Janos
STAFF WRITER
sean.janos@uconn.edu

The Green Wave is washed up, folks.

It was smooth sailing for the Huskies at the XL Center Wednesday night. UConn took down Tulane 74-31 behind a terrific defensive effort.

The Green Wave mustered just 10 points in the second half, with their two highest scoring players for the game scoring just seven points apiece. 31 is the lowest opponent score that the Huskies (22-3, 12-0 The American) have allowed so far this season.

"For the last week, we've really been harping on some defensive stuff," Geno Auriemma said.

Tulane (12-14, 7-6) shot 20 percent from the field and turned the ball over 24 times. They had twice as many turnovers as they had made baskets. UConn scored 31 points off of those turnovers. Remarkably, the Huskies' 14 steals isn't their highest this season ... or even in the last week. They had 17 steals Sunday against USF.

"That's two straight games that we've played really well defensively. Even in the South Carolina game, we had a great first quarter defensively and in the second quarter we weren't bad," Auriemma said. "Our defense is starting to give us some confidence."

Megan Walker and Anna Makurat were the primary beneficiaries from the defense-turned-offense, each scoring a game-high 18 points. Each of them did so with incredible efficiency, taking just 12 shot attempts to do so, with each of them adding five rebounds. Makurat also had

six steals, five assists and two blocks, but five turnovers.

"Anytime you play great defensively, it probably carries over to your offense," Auriemma said.

Walker was tasked with guarding Krystal Freeman, Tulane's leading scorer and rebounder. She rose to the occasion, holding Freeman to half of her season averages in those categories with just seven points on 3-for-9 shooting and four rebounds.

"Megan had a big challenge today, and she said, 'I'm going to do a great job on this kid.' And she did," Auriemma said. "She had a great all-around game today."

"I just followed the scouting report. I forced her left, didn't give her any open threes and played for the drive. That's what I did in the 1-on-1 matchup and took care of business," Walker said. "This year I feel like I can guard a little bit of anything, whether they're bigger, taller, quicker or faster."

Olivia Nelson-Ododa recorded her first double-double since her 27 point, 15 rebound effort against Oklahoma on Dec. 22. Wednesday night, she had 10 points and 11 rebounds, shooting 5-for-9 and swatting away one shot.

"There was no one on the floor that could handle Liv. So, the strategy was, 'Liv, run as fast as you can down to the block, post up and you guys better throw it to her.'" Auriemma said. "That's the strategy we've had for 30 years here."

UConn extends their record since joining

the American Athletic Conference in 2013 to 132-0. Having never lost to a conference opponent since



joining the AAC, it's tough to gauge where the team is from blowouts like these. Geno thinks the defense is in a good spot, but the offense could stand to improve.

"Except for long stretches of the second quarter, I don't think our offense was in peak form. We still have a long way to go there."

We still have to move the ball better," Auriemma said. "The ball has to change hands, and the ball has to go in the basket. It's not the easiest thing in the world. We keep working on it and trying to get better at it."

After scoring just nine points apiece in their last game against USF, guards Crystal Dangerfield and Christyn Williams were held in single figures again Wednesday. As the team's second and third highest scorers this season, contributions from the star guards would surely bolster the offense.

Next for UConn is Senior Day Saturday at Gampel Pavilion. This year's seniors will be honored before taking the court against UCF (16-8, 8-4). The Golden Knights are coming off of a 56-48 victory over their neighbors to the south, USF. Saturday's game will tip off at 1 p.m.

The UConn women's basketball team routed the Tulane Green Wave 74-31 Wednesday night in Hartford. Crystal Dangerfield scored just five points with three assists and a pair of rebounds. PHOTO BY CHARLOTTE LAO, PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

"That's two straight games that we've played really well defensively. Even in the South Carolina game, we had a great first quarter defensively and in the second quarter we weren't bad. Our defense is starting to give us confidence."

HEAD COACH GENO AURIEMMA

"This year I feel like I can guard a little bit of anything, whether they're bigger, taller, quicker or faster."

JUNIOR FORWARD MEGAN WALKER

Women's Basketball Notebook: Makurat has strong but by no means perfect performance

by Jorge Eckardt
STAFF WRITER
jorge.eckardt@uconn.edu

First, I just want to apologize for Sean's lack of impulse control when it comes to making puns. If you read his recap, you know what I'm talking about. But now on to the actual content.

Anna Makurat has shown a lot of positives in her freshman season for UConn. She can shoot the ball effectively from under or near the basket, midrange and behind the arc, she has excellent court vision which helps her pull off some spectacular passes and she has been improving throughout the season on the defensive end.

Wednesday night versus Tulane, Makurat had an overall great night, even recording a five-by-five. For those who do not know, a five-by-five is when a player records five or more in five statistical categories in a single game.

In 32 minutes on the court, Makurat recorded 18 points, five assists, five rebounds, six steals and ... five turnovers.

Of course, this isn't a true five-by-five, which usually consists of points, rebounds, assists, steals and blocks. However, by the literal definition, it qualifies.

"I was especially happy when she started knocking down shots early, and her confidence, just kind of, you could see it," head coach Geno Auriemma said. "She couldn't wait to shoot it, and she was so happy, she started passing the ball to the other team too. You know, because that's the kind of kid she is. Some of our guys were open she threw it to them, some of their guys were open she threw it to them, I think she had a great all-around game for both teams. She was terrific."

Makurat agrees.

"I would say the same thing right now," Makurat said. "I

wasn't happy about those turnovers."

It was the third time this season Makurat has turned the ball over five or more times, the first coming against UCF just over a month ago and then again at East Carolina a little over a week later.

For Makurat and a lot of players of her age, Auriemma said they need to stop having each and every possession change their thinking.

"You gotta stop thinking that everything you just did is gonna affect everything that's about to happen," Auriemma said. "Ball goes in, you're not gonna make the next one. Ball doesn't go in, you're not gonna make the next one. Players are like that, they make two or three, they see it go in the net, they think they can make 23. They miss two or three, 'I can't buy a bucket.'"

It's something that's been noticeable about Makurat from the very beginning of the season. Despite being a very good three-point shooter, she started her UConn career 0-for-11 from beyond the arc. Even recently, before tonight, she was 0-for-9 from three in her last three games.

But she's also had other times where it seems like she can't miss, most notably her game versus East Carolina - the same game where she had five turnovers - where she went 8-for-10 from three.

"I'm talking with coach about it all the time," Makurat said. "To have a short memory, just be focused on the next possession, just on the things that I can do well. You can't change the past, so just be better in the next possession."

With a final stretch of regular-season games coming up and then the conference tournament, the Huskies will need Makurat to really step up her game and have more nights like tonight versus, say, two Fridays ago against Memphis,



The UConn Women's Basketball team crushes Tulane 74-31 at XL Center on Wednesday night. Their final game at Gampel Pavilion this season is this Saturday against UCF.

PHOTOGRAPH BY CHARLOTTE LAO, PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

when she had two points and three turnovers in 32 minutes.

"They're putting her at the one a little bit more, so she's handling the ball, finding open people and knocking in shots," junior Megan Walker said. "She gives us another scoring option."

That scoring depth that Makurat, who has just recently returned to the starting lineup after a lengthy absence from it, opens up a whole new range of possibilities for the UConn offense. If she continues to be a threat, then not only will her better play alone benefit the

team, but it will also open up opportunities for the rest of the players on the floor.

If UConn is going to make a run in the NCAA Tournament, they're going to need all five starters - which includes Makurat - to be at the top of their game.

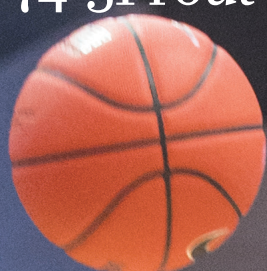


Sports

Ridin' the Wave

Huskies improve to 114-0 all-time in The American after 74-31 rout of Tulane

Read more on page 11



Olivia Nelson-Ododa scores two of her 10 points in the mid-week win over the Green Wave.

PHOTO BY CHARLOTTE LAO, PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS