



Restaurant celebrates 20 years of business in Mansfield

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Coyote Flaco, a family-owned restaurant in Mansfield, is celebrating its 20th anniversary today.

The restaurant is celebrating with \$3 tacos and \$6 house margaritas from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. There will also be a Mariachi band playing from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

“Thank you to everyone that has made this possible. We are celebrating a special milestone, come and celebrate with us,” the restaurant posted on its Facebook page.

Coyote Flaco is located at 50 Higgins Highway, Mansfield Center. The restaurant originally opened in Hartford in 1999 by Alcibiades and Esperanza Cabrera in 1999. Five years later, they expanded into Mansfield.

Their son, William Cabrera, who now owns the restaurant with his brother Jose Cabrera, said in a press release that the community in Mansfield was the reason his parents decided to open a second location there and the reason the business thrived.

“My parents drove out here to just experience the town and its people multiple times before finally deciding to make the call and open the location here. Twenty years



A classic tamal from Coyote Flaco's Mansfield location. Coyote Flaco celebrated 20 years of business on March 26, 2024. PHOTO COURTESY OF COYOTE FLACO MANSFIELD ON FACEBOOK

later and there is no doubt in my mind that they made the right decision,” he said.

The restaurant underwent the change in ownership in January of 2023, with the brothers taking over for their parents.

According to the press release, Coyote Flaco is known for its traditional Mexican dishes and craft cocktails. The restau-

rant prides itself on high quality ingredients and fresh sauces made in-house every day.

Coyote Flaco also participated in the recent Taste 2 Towns event, in which Mansfield and Windham restaurants offered promotional deals from Jan. 29 to Feb. 11.

“This restaurant was born from the dreams of my parents,

and I along with Jose and Jaime, our head chef, have seen it transform before our eyes from a restaurant trying to make a name to a place where members of the community happily and regularly come to eat, drink, and spend time together,” Cabrera said in the press release.

Cabrera also thanked the community for supporting

and enjoying the restaurant.

“In this way, we have achieved what my parents set out to do 20 years ago, and we are grateful to have been lucky enough to do so. We are happy to be celebrating 20 years this month, and every person who has ever walked through our doors has played a part in our story,” Cabrera said.

Academics challenge Florida law restricting research exchanges from prohibited countries like China

MIAMI (AP) — Two graduate students from China whose studies were put on hold, and a professor who says he is unable to recruit research assistants, sued Florida education officials on Monday, trying to stop enforcement of a new state law which limits research exchanges between state universities and academics from seven prohibited countries.

The law passed last year by the Republican-controlled Florida Legislature and signed by Gov. Ron DeSantis was designed to stop the Chinese Communist government and others from influencing the state's public colleges and universities. The countries on the prohibited list are China, Russia, Iran, North Korea, Cuba, Syria, and Venezuela.

The law is discriminatory, unconstitutional and reminiscent of the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, which instituted a 10-year ban on Chinese laborers immigrating to the United States, according to the lawsuit filed in federal court in Miami.

The new law also usurps the power of the federal government, which has exclusive authority over immigration, national security and foreign affairs, the lawsuit said.

The law has forced two of the plaintiffs who are from China to put their graduate studies at Florida International Universi-

ty on hold and denied them entry into their research labs. The University of Florida professor who also is originally from China said the law has stopped him from recruiting the most qualified postdoctoral candidates to assist with his research, which has slowed his publishing productivity and research projects, according to the lawsuit.

In their lawsuit, the plaintiffs said they aren't members of the Chinese government nor the Communist Party.

According to the law, international students from the prohibited countries can be hired on a case-by-case basis with approval from the Board of Governors which oversees state universities or the state Board of Education, but the lawsuit said the law's “vagueness and lack of adequate guidance empowers and encourages arbitrary and discriminatory enforcement across Florida.”

The law “is having and will have far-reaching stigmatizing effects against individuals from China and of Asian descent who are seeking academic employment in Florida public universities and colleges, including plaintiffs, as Florida law now presumptively deems them a danger to the United States,” the lawsuit said.

The governor's office and the state Department of Education didn't respond to emails seeking comment.



Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis answers questions from the media, March 7, 2023, at the state Capitol in Tallahassee, Florida. Later that month, DeSantis signed bills that increased the prison and jail sentences for immigrants who are living in the United States illegally if they are convicted of driving without a license or committing felonies. AP PHOTO/PHIL SEARS, FILE

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News

ANIMAL CHAPLAINS OFFER SPIRITUAL CARE FOR EVERY SPECIES

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(RNS) — Sarah Bowen says she's been doing the work of an animal chaplain since she was 6 years old.

Raised in the Midwest as a Presbyterian preacher's kid, she was often hauled to hospice facilities and funeral homes but noticed that the chipmunks and other animals crumpled by the side of the road weren't treated with the same compassion shown to people.

"At a very young age, I began picking up those little animals, putting them in my lunchbox, and giving them burials in the way my father did when he was working with humans," said Bowen, who recalls saying "May the force be with you!" after the burials.

Today, Bowen is an interfaith animal chaplain with credentials from Chicago Theological Seminary, One Spirit Interfaith Seminary and Emerson Theological Institute, and she continues to create rituals that both dignify the death of animals and empower those grieving that death, whether it's the loss of a loyal golden retriever or the untimely death of a "feisty, beloved goat."

"That's one of the more powerful things I think I've ever witnessed in my life," Bowen said. "That goat was originally intended for a dinner plate."

Bowen remembers getting the call from the animal sanctuary in 2022, reporting a favorite goat had been fatally wounded in a vehicle accident. Bowen led sanctuary staff and volunteers in a ritual that involved writing letters to the goat on dissolvable paper, then dropping them in a bowl of water, "representing all of the tears that were being shed or the tears that people felt they could not shed," said Bowen. She also held a "furry wake," where humans gathered alongside other goats and sheep

to share stories about the goat's antics. Bowen left the group with a wind chime placed where the accident happened.

The field of animal chaplaincy — including pet and veterinary chaplaincy — is nascent but growing and involves ministering to animals, pet owners, animal care providers and entire communities affected by wildlife conflicts.

"The scale can really vary widely, but any place where there is a relationship between some number of humans and some number of animals, that is where an animal chaplain is going to work," said Michael Skaggs, director of programs for the Chaplaincy Innovation Lab.

What started as a few individuals offering ad hoc support for people grieving pets has become an informal network of professionals, both paid and unpaid, providing spiritual support everywhere from veterinary clinics to animal shelters. Animal chaplain training programs are reporting increased enrollment year over year, as well as a growing recognition that the work they do is no joke.

"This is beyond animal blessings and pet funerals," said Bowen. "What we're talking about are deep systemic and existential questions about our relationships with other species."

The definitions of animal, veterinary and pet chaplains aren't universally agreed upon. Most often, animal chaplaincy is used as an umbrella term, and while veterinary chaplains may work in a veterinary clinic, some also use the term interchangeably with animal chaplains. Rob Gierka, who founded the Pet Chaplain organization in 2004, owns the registered trademark for the phrase "pet chaplain" and says the term refers specifically to his organization.

Though not always overt, faith is central to many animal chaplains' practices. Some provide spiritual care for animals themselves, holding animal blessing events, praying for pets or being a grounding presence during euthanasia.

It's not just pets and their owners who require spiritual

support. Veterinarians are more likely than the general population to die by suicide, and many in animal care fields grapple with moral injury and compassion fatigue.

"Some shelter workers euthanize 100 cats a day as part of their job. So attending to loss in the community is important," said Bowen.

Scott Campbell, a veterinary chaplain at the Washington State University College of Veterinary Medicine, said it was seeing the toll of the veterinary field up close that drew him to becoming a veterinary chaplain.

"I became aware of the suicide statistics in the veterinary profession. I've been around the veterinary profession for, like, 45 years now," said Campbell, whose father-in-law and wife both worked in the field. "I realized that that's an area that really needed help."

About every 10 days, Campbell said, he wanders throughout the teaching hospital, offering a listening ear to everyone from the veterinarians to folks working in shipping and receiving.

For many animal chaplains, their vocational path stems from personal loss. That was true for Valerie Richards, a cradle Catholic and longtime social worker now enrolled at a Buddhist seminary, and for Delores Hines-Kaalund, who completed a training program through Pet Chaplain in 2021.

Both lost longtime pets — Richards, a cat named Ellington; and Hines-Kaalund, her Chihuahua, Taz — and were taken aback by the intensity of their grief.

"It left such an impact on me, in terms of grief or bereavement. It was far beyond what I'd experienced with a human loved one," said Hines-Kaalund, who describes herself as a "charismatic and nondenominational" Christian. She integrates her pet chaplaincy training into her full-time work as a hospice chaplain, helping patient families make decisions about the pets of their dying loved ones while also supporting people grieving dying pets.

A few years after Ellington died of cancer, Richards attended a Chaplaincy Innovation Lab webinar on animal chaplaincy hosted by Bowen, when something clicked. "I was like, I have to do this," said Richards, who enrolled in Bowen's online course on animal chaplaincy, hosted through the Compassion Consortium, in September 2023. She hopes to become a full-time animal chaplain supporting others struggling with pet loss and illness.

"People are often really surprised by how intensely they



Valerie Richards holds a Northern Saw-Whet Owl named "Thor" during a Pasadena Audubon Society docent training program. This occurred on Oct. 5, 2023, at Peck Road Water Conservation Park in Arcadia, California.

PHOTO COURTESY OF VALERIE RICHARDS VIA AP

grieve. We hear it all the time, people saying they're ashamed to say this, but they grieved more for their pet than when their mother died," said Karen Duke, who, along with her partner Gierka, runs the Pet Chaplain organization where Hines-Kaalund was trained.

Gierka added that, unlike other chaplaincy fields, animal chaplains often support people whose grief is minimized by family, employers and faith leaders.

Animal loss can also trigger existential questions about God's existence and character, or whether animals are in the afterlife. Trained chaplains aren't there to provide answers but are familiar with a range of religious and spiritual worldviews and can help people make meaning from their circumstances.

Campbell recalled one man he met with at a veterinary clinic who seemed to be in good spirits as his dog received chemotherapy.

"I was preparing to close, and the client stopped, was quiet for a moment, looked at me and said, 'You know, I have the exact same kind of cancer my dog has. And so I'm seeing my future laid out before my eyes,'" said Campbell. "All of a sudden, that turned into a completely different kind of conversation."

Because veterinary and animal chaplaincy are still emerging fields, there's little consistency around training and credentials. According to Skaggs, ordination is common for non-animal chaplains who work in highly institutionalized settings, like hospitals or the military, but it's rarely a requirement for animal chaplains.

Financial compensation is also inconsistent, with some animal chaplains charging hourly rates or being paid by an institution and others working on a volunteer basis and accepting donations.

Gierka and Duke are passionate about empowering lay people to be animal chaplains and did so for years through their online Introduction to Pet Chaplaincy course. What started two decades ago as a six-week course with six people became a 15-week course with more than 30 people a semester. In 2022, the pair paused the course to translate it into a book series, which is expected out later this year.

"We're seeing, after 20 years, now we're at a tipping point," said Duke. "There's definitely a need."

Campbell is hoping to help animal and veterinary chaplains connect through the American Association of Veterinary Chaplains, a professional membership organization he recently founded he hopes will eventually certify veterinary chaplains.

And Bowen launched an online animal chaplain training program in 2022 and told RNS that more than 50 people are completing the nine-month program each year. Her students include ministers, rabbis, veterinarians and animal activists. While there's not a professional board for animal chaplains, Bowen is currently completing a Ph.D. program where she's developing guidelines for the field.

"What I would say is, the field is gathering," Bowen said. "This field started around pet bereavement. This field has grown to encompass so much more than that."

CORRECTION: On Thursday, March 21, 2024 in the article "A legacy of care among Black Americans" The Daily Campus incorrectly attributed the quote "Only recently did I fully realize this: that through years of listening to my mother's stories of her life, I have absorbed not only the stories themselves but something of the manner in which she spoke, something of the urgency that involves the knowledge that her stories — like her life — must be recorded," to UConn professor Martine Granby, when it is actually from Alice Walker's essay "In Search of Our Mothers' Gardens."

The Daily Campus

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Monday, March 25, 2024

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THE DAILY CAMPUS

CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 1 "The ___ of the Furious": film sequel also known as "F8"
 - 5 Orange juice bits
 - 9 Former Speaker of the House Pelosi
 - 14 Atmospheric glow
 - 15 Teri's "Young Frankenstein" role
 - 16 Honolulu hello
 - 17 Box office attraction
 - 19 Like an area with many farms
 - 20 Tee or cami
 - 21 Suffix with oct-
 - 22 Letters sent by plane
 - 24 Scott Turow work
 - 25 Timely blessing
 - 26 Ancient vintner's quaff
 - 31 ___ and pestle
 - 32 Dr. Jekyll creator's monogram
 - 33 Celestial sphere
 - 35 Belgium money
 - 36 Heaven knows where, for short
 - 37 Subway in Washington, D.C.
 - 39 Flight safety org.
 - 40 Casual hellos
 - 41 Lox fish
 - 42 Makeup bag contraption
 - 46 Part of speech
 - 47 Classic TV role for Ron Howard
 - 48 Millennium Falcon pilot
 - 51 Surgery ctrs.
 - 52 Gain a lap
 - 55 Renowned baseball family
 - 56 Words said over a lit birthday cake, and upon the start of 17-, 26-, or 42-Across
 - 59 Word after dime or dollar
 - 60 Early school yrs.
 - 61 ___ and hearty
 - 62 Game piece
 - 63 County fair attraction
 - 64 Sign of the future

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62							63					64			

By Amy Johnson 3/25/24

- DOWN**
- 1 "The ___ and the Furious": action film franchise
 - 2 Car
 - 3 U-shaped part of a drainpipe
 - 4 Spot for an AirPods
 - 5 Trailblazer
 - 6 Not feeling up to par
 - 7 Size up from med.
 - 8 Curve in algebra class
 - 9 Not wide
 - 10 School reunion attendees
 - 11 "Julie & Julia" writer/director Ephron
 - 12 Spiced tea brewed in milk
 - 13 Southern collective pronoun
 - 18 Bamboo-eating bears
 - 23 Atomic particles that carry charges
 - 24 Hardly fooled by
 - 26 Drench
 - 27 Wide variety
 - 28 From Donegal
 - 29 "Get anyone else"
 - 30 Infielder's blunder
 - 31 "Have we ___?"

Saturday's Puzzle Solved

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- 34 "___ voyage!"
- 36 Inappropriate handle
- 37 Oscar winner Tomei
- 38 French feminine pronoun
- 40 Heist booty
- 41 Highest in rank
- 43 Big name in nutritional shakes
- 44 Undo a bit, as a tie
- 45 Not raw
- 48 Biblical verb
- 49 Voice range for some boys
- 50 Cozy reading spot
- 52 Thailand, once
- 53 Cruise ship stop
- 54 Back in the day
- 57 "Sting like a bee" boxer
- 58 "Doctor ___": BBC series starring Ncuti Gatwa

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Life

'UNHEARD' UNTIL NOW... HOZIER'S NEW EP SHAKES THE INTERNET

by **Thaomy Phung**
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Left and right, Irish singer-songwriter Hozier has been surprising his fans. He has announced tour dates, a new album called "Unreal Unearth" and a celebratory song for the fifth-year anniversary of his sophomore album "Wasteland, Baby!" Most recently, he unveiled a new EP on March 22, 2024. The EP, titled "Unheard," is a compilation of the songs he wrote but did not release.

The four-song track list begins with "Too Sweet," which sounds like a mix between the sadness of "Unreal Unearth" and the melancholy pursuit of "Wasteland Baby!" "Too Sweet" was spread generously over TikTok, gaining millions of people's attention. But did it live up to people's expectations? When most musicians release a sneak peek of their soon-to-be-released song, the snippet is of the most elaborate part, which means people may lose interest once the full song is released and less intricate parts are heard.

"I think I'll take my whiskey neat / My coffee black and my bed at three / You're too sweet for me"

Hozier took control of social media with his account, @hozierofficial on TikTok, alongside countless posts with the snippet of his chorus, which has a solid beat led by an electric guitar and a similar-sounding chime to that of death bells. It feels like a symbolic representation of the act of destroying a relationship. Imagine realizing your partner is too good for you and having to painfully let them go so they could be more happily fit with someone else — that's the vibe. The song has a slow start and a repeti-

tive rhythm that leads to the passionately written chorus; however, it feels as though the chorus really was the main attraction. The instrumentals in the background are a bit dry, which do not bring the lyrics to the brightest light.

However, the connection between "Too Sweet" and "Almost (Sweet Music)" from "Wasteland, Baby!" are almost comical. In "Almost (Sweet Music)," he sings about being in love with the rejuvenating feeling of finding oneself again after having been followed ghostly by a past relationship in a new one. But in "Too Sweet," he surrenders this relationship because he believes he doesn't deserve it. The contrast in time and meaning is enticing.

The second song on the track list, "Wildflower and Barley (feat. Allison Russell)" is where Hozier truly taps into his church-choir-like essence.

The song starts off slow and peaceful but picks up with the arrival of Russell's angelic voice, mixing with Hozier's soft, lower pitch, which creates a hypnotizing melody during the chorus.

"(The healers) This year, I swear it will be buried in actions (Are healin') / This year, I swear it will be buried in words (The diggers are diggin' the earth) / Some close to the surface, some close to the casket / I feel as useful as dirt, put my body to work"

These lyrics and the song title itself portray some kind of symbolic reference to the physical and emotional persistence of nature. It falls under one of

Hozier's recurring themes, the continuity and cyclic nature of mankind and romance.

The third song, "Empire Now," sounds exactly like a mix between "Talk" from his sophomore album and "It Will Come Back" from his debut. It has a midwestern country feel to it. This would be perfect in a walk-in scene with dust blowing in the background and tumbleweeds scattered across the area. Hozier completely shattered listeners' ears with the authentic and stumbling instrumentals in the pre-chorus, which followed his eerie voice in the beginning of the song.

"After all, darlin', I wouldn't sell the world / The way that things are turnin' / If it falls, I would hold on for

all it's worth / The future's so bright it's burnin'"

Akin to the hair-raising half step repetition in the infamous "Jaws" soundtrack, "Empire Now" begins slowly, but aggressively. After a minute into the song, the drums themselves get carried away alongside Hozier's singing, which is him practically yelling at his listeners to truly listen to the words he's spewing.

The last song on the track, "Fare Well," is upbeat and sounds much more light-hearted compared to the other songs on "Unheard" — despite its completely opposite meaning.

"Any solitary pleasure that was sorrow in disguise / Let the sun only shine on me through a fallin' sky / I'll be alright / Joy, disaster, come unbound here / I'll deny me none while I'm allowed / With all things above the ground"

The lyrics reflect a struggle and search for solidarity within challenging circumstances. Coupled with the folk-influenced use of acoustic guitar, he appears to be in denial when he says, "I'll be alright," even though he asked to "let the sun only shine on me through a fallin' sky." Incredibly euphonic sounding, the song is nothing but miserably accurate of what it feels to lie to oneself as a coping mechanism.

Between Hozier's lyrical genius, interconnected songs in completely different albums, double entendres and use of powerful instrumentals and vocals, he certainly earns a point for complexity in this review. Although "Too Sweet" may not have lived up to the strongly-held expectations that it formed, the rest of the EP was enough for listeners to fall in love with his music all over again.

Rating: 3.75/5



Hozier is currently on his Unreal Unearth Tour for his latest album, "Unreal Unearth." He recently released his new EP, "Unheard" on Friday, March 22, 2024.

IMAGE COURTESY OF @HOZIER ON INSTAGRAM

by **Sarah Barker**
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While in Chicago on the GUTS World Tour, Olivia Rodrigo announced the deluxe version of her sophomore album "GUTS" would release on March 22; the clever title of this extended project being "GUTS (spilled)." Fans could now hear bonus tracks included on the different vinyl variants from the album's initial release in September 2023. In addition to those four songs, a fifth song called "so american" is the final track of the deluxe edition.

The first track, "obsessed," has quickly become a fan favorite as she performs it as part of her set on tour. It keeps the same rock sound that is found throughout the rest of the album, while adding an angst that comes with being a 19- or 20-year-old. The premise of the song is simple: she's obsessed with her boyfriend's ex-girlfriend. With lyrics: "Cause I know her star sign, I know her blood type" Rodrigo showcases the feeling of being insecure in a relationship because of a past love.

"girl i've always been" is a different sound than we've heard before. It uses an acoustic guitar and has an almost-folk sound to it. If you've seen "The Hunger Games: Ballad of Songbird and Snakes," it's similar to Lucy Gray's music. The song expresses how a relationship is ending and her partner is accusing her of changing. In verse two she sings, "So don't say that I've been acting different / I'm nothing if I'm not consistent / You knew everything you'd be getting / I told you right from the beginning." While this song isn't my favorite, I like the message of staying true to yourself, especially in a bad relationship.

Rodrigo knows how to write a ballad and that statement stands true with the four-and-a-half-minute song "scared of my guitar". This song ties back into the relationship she sings about throughout the album. In this track she describes pretending that you're happy in a relationship that you know isn't good for you. The chorus goes, "But I'm so scared of my guitar / 'Cause it cuts right through to the heart / Yeah, it knows me too well so I got no excuse / I can't lie to it the same way that I lie to you." As a songwriter, playing guitar and writing music is a way of therapy and getting things out; not being able to create because you know it'll show you the truth is something relatable to many.

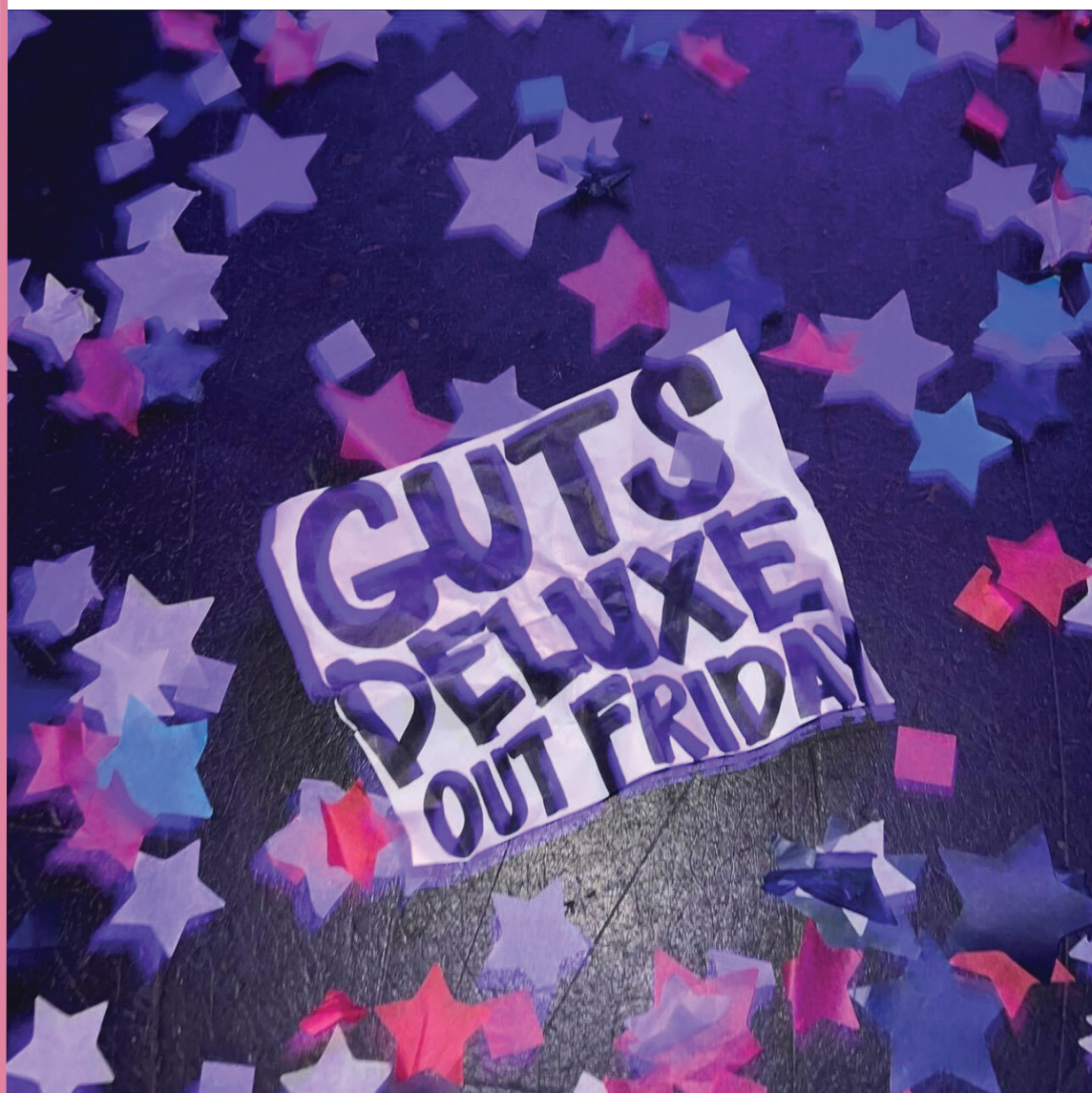
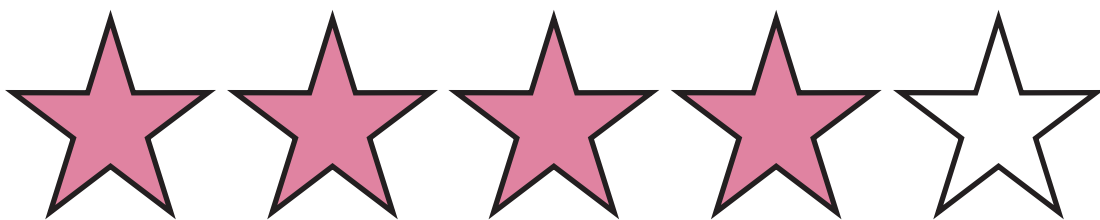
"Stranger" chronicles the feeling you have when you realize you've gotten over someone completely. She sings reliving the hurt of the breakup and how being hopeful that the pain would relieve itself seemed impossible. There's no bad blood with the other party, but it's clear that she wants him far out of her life and mind.

Finally, "so american" seemingly hints at a new relationship, possibly with Louis Partridge. The two have been rumored to be together for a few months now and this track does nothing to falsify those rumors. It's romantic and catchy, and seeing as Rodrigo hasn't had the best luck with relationships, a track that shows she's in a happy and healthy relationship gives hope to us all.

Overall, revisiting "GUTS" to listen to the new songs reminded me how talented Rodrigo is and how amazing the powerhouse duo Dan Nigro and her are. I don't necessarily think these songs add to the story that is "GUTS," but as bonus songs they work so well with the album.

Olivia Rodrigo continues to spill her

'GUTS'



Olivia Rodrigo's deluxe album, "Guts (spilled)" is available for streaming on all music platforms. The deluxe version of the album was released on Friday, March 22, 2024 and the original album was released in Sept. 8, 2023.

IMAGE COURTESY OF @OLIVIA RODRIGO ON INSTAGRAM



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

The Backlog: Live your rural fantasies in ‘Farming Simulator 19’

by Desirae Sin
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Hello and welcome to The Backlog, where we review video games based on a certain genre each month. As the last edition of March, we’re wrapping up our reviews on simulator games. For those who fantasize about living on a farm away from city life, “Farming Simulator 19” might be for you, given you know how to drive a stick shift.

Released at the end of 2018 by Focus Entertainment and developed by GIANTS Software, “Farming Simulator 19” captured my interest for being an escape from suburban life. Playable on PS4, PS5, Steam and Xbox Series X and S, “Farming Simulator 19” is everything you’d expect from a name like that. Players can enjoy owning acres of land and grow any crop they wish, along with driving heavy machinery for planting and harvesting said crops.

Instead of solely relying on profits from harvesting crops, you can also raise livestock and even ride horses. The machinery is based on real-world brands, such as John Deere, Case IH and New Holland. These brands offer tractors and extensions for many crops. “Farming Simulator 19” has 11 crops: wheat, canola, barley, oats, corn, soybeans, sunflowers, potatoes, sugar beet, sugarcane and cotton. Each one ranges in the amount of time it takes to grow and how you should prepare for them.

Players will find that the game is unfortunately accurate in the world of agriculture. A lot of money is put into farming with small profits in the short run. It takes a while for real profits to be seen, not to mention that there are many expenses involved. You will make regular trips to the gas station to fill up any vehicles, along with realizing that driving tractors with a trailer is more difficult than you’d expect. Being in the third-person camera makes driving immensely easier, as compared to the first-person camera where you can enjoy the full tractor experience.

Luckily, “Farming Simulator 19” allows you to change a lot of aspects of the game, one that many new players will find they change is crop destruction and weeds. Crop destruction refers to how you may accidentally destroy your crops (or other farms as well) with the wrong equipment. Weeds appear in your plots if your crops have been ready to harvest for too long.

Players can earn money by harvesting crops and selling them at various price points. Generally, each sale point accepts the basic crops, but four specialized sale points accept specified goods. The Spinnery accepts wool and cotton; the Barn takes loose grass, hay, straw and silage; the Sawmill accepts wood chips and the Biogas Plant takes silage, slurry and manure. It should be noted that the sale prices fluctuate, so players should view all the prices listed at each of the sale points to garner the most profit. This could involve driving around to different locations for each type of crop sold, but the benefit is seen in your wallet.

There is a bit of a learning curve with “Farming Simulator 19.” Navigating the store can be annoying as there are many options and it doesn’t overtly tell you what equipment you need. Sometimes it can feel overwhelming as there are too many options for each type of machinery. Not to mention how many controls are associated with each vehicle. There is a long list of controls when players operate vehicles. If you aren’t fork-lift certified it could cause players to stop and try to remember which button does what constantly.

There are easy jobs that players can accept while waiting for their crops to harvest. Given that you have the correct equipment, players can accept contracts from other farms to complete a specific task. Sometimes this involves harvesting their fields or plowing them; either way I found that it’s a good way to become accustomed to the controls of your vehicles. It’s an easy way to make more money while waiting for your own harvest.



CLIPART COURTESY OF WANNAPIK



Life

@dailycampuslife

Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies affects students from all fields

by Karla Perez | ASSOCIATE LIFE EDITOR | SHE/HER/HERS | karla.perez@uconn.edu

Last week, the Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies (WGSS) program celebrated 50 years since its beginning with two days' worth of events examining what social issues are just as prevalent now as they were 50 years ago.

The celebrations took place on Thursday and Friday, with events being held in the Student Union, Graduate Hotel, Oak/Herbst Hall and the Benton Museum. The conference was themed "The Uses of Anger," named after the speech Audre Lorde, who described herself as a Black lesbian poet, warrior and mother, delivered at the third annual National Women's Studies Association (NWSA) conference which was held at the University of Connecticut in 1981.

Members of the organizing committee and core faculty of the WGSS program, Jane Gordon and Sherry Zane, said that they decided to build the conference off of this speech because it was an intervention that addressed the women at the 1981 conference for missing an opportunity for growth.

According to Gordon, while the NWSA has since responded well to this and become a multiracial organization, there are things we as a society are still failing to listen to. "Part of celebrating is also reckoning. We've accomplished a lot; what do we still have to do?" she said.

Zane, the interim director of the WGSS program, said, "The same things are happening right now in the United States, and I would say even globally, that were happening in the 1980s. We often think about history as 'We're moving forward,' but we have a lot of the same challenges that those women did then."

The events included multiple panels and presentations,

a workshop, concert, art exhibit opening, lunches, a dinner and a career roundtable. These events featured a variety of guest speakers.

Gordon and Zane said that they valued promoting inclusivity and intergenerational learning through this conference, which primarily drove their outreach when seeking out speakers.

The career roundtable took place on Friday morning at the Women's Center Program room, at which six WGSS program alumni returned to campus to answer questions about how the program affected their lives post-graduation. The event was moderated by current UConn students Morgan Keating, a psychology and WGSS major, and Kate Wagner, a political science major with a minor in WGSS.

Returning to their alma mater were Castella Cope-land-Smith, a political science, WGSS and human rights major with a minor in urban studies from the class of 2017; Adam Kocurek, a history and WGSS double major with a minor in English from the class of 2016; Matt Gray, a WGSS and human rights major from the class of 2017, Annika Redgate, a political science major with a WGSS minor from the class of 2021, Brit-tany Dias, a double major in molecular cell biology and WGSS from the class of 2020 and Megan Handau, a political science and WGSS major from the class of 2018.

Keating and Wagner came in with a prepared set

of questions, two of which asked about what hard and soft skills the WGSS program taught the alumni that gave them a leg up in their professional careers.

Handau and Redgate both touched on how the WGSS program provided an environment in which they could develop their own political ideas. Redgate elaborated by saying how the WGSS program taught her how to critically think and analyze media and documents and trained her ability to eloquently defend her beliefs.

"Especially now, [in her job] defending my ideas and thought processes comes more naturally," she said.

Smith joined by say-

ing how the WGSS program taught her how to come from a place of empathy and understand how compassion is not a weakness. She worked in education shortly after graduation and entered her career knowing that she could come from a place of intersectionality and integrate that into how she wanted to teach her classes. She also said that she realized how well the WGSS program set her up for her career when other teachers or UConn students would ask her where she got this way of thinking from.

"When I started my teaching career, I had a lot of other teachers come up to me and say, 'Where'd you get this from?' or I had other UConn students who are like, 'Wait, I was also a poli-sci major and I didn't get this skill,'" she said.

The final question of the roundtable asked each of the alumni to offer advice to prospective students seeking out a similar career path to them and what advice they would give to their college selves. Generally, the alumni had similar responses. The most prominent advice given was to be flexible, be kind to yourself and to know your boundaries in the workplace.

"[The WGSS program] made me realize that there is more than one road to travel on to make an impact in the world," Dias said.

program] made me realize that there is more than one road to travel on to make an impact in the world," Dias said.

Brenna McNeece, a sixth-semester secondary English education major, and Aubrey Nash, a sixth-semester allied health science major, attended this event in support of their many friends in the WGSS program. Though they do not have direct ties to the WGSS program themselves, they said that they attend many WGSS events to tie in the perspectives that they gain from the events into their majors and eventual careers.

"Even if we're not taking a lot of these classes, it's still important to have that information and bring it into your own field," Nash said.

McNeece and Nash expressed appreciation for the variety of careers represented at the roundtable. They also shared pieces of advice the alumni gave that they plan to carry into their future endeavors.

McNeece commented that she resonated with Smith's comments about the education environment and how it has changed since the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Education after Covid, it is a very toxic environment and it's very unpredictable, so being flexible and knowing your boundaries with the administration is a big thing," she said.

Faculty handed out a book written by the organizing committee titled "Lessons From Audre Lorde's 'The Uses of Anger,'" along with tote bags. If you would like to read more advice from WGSS alumni, you can find it at wgss.uconn.edu/alumni-statements/. If you have more questions about the history behind the NWSA conference or the WGSS program, you can contact any member of the organizing committee.



IMAGE COURTESY OF PRINTerval

I AM NOT FREE WHILE ANY WOMAN IS UNFREE, EVEN WHEN HER SHACKLES ARE VERY DIFFERENT FROM MY OWN.



Opinion

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COMIC BY VAN NGUYEN, ARTIST EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

IN HAITI OR GAZA, INTERVENTION DOES NOT EQUAL FREEDOM

by Nell Srinath | OPINION EDITOR | THEY/THEM/SHE/HER | nell.srinath@uconn.edu



FILE LOGO/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Last week, I wrote about the resignation of unelected Haitian Prime Minister Ariel Henry because of popular unrest, increased militancy of street organizations and the Caribbean nation's overarching economic precarity as a result of centuries of colonial dependency — or, more accurately, overexploitation and underdevelopment. I argued that the international community's hair-trigger solution for solving the crisis in Port-au-Prince, foreign intervention by installing yet another unelected government, would be ill-advised and utterly fail to address the root problems of imperialist exploitation and suppression of the Haitian people's democratic voice.

This week, my goal was to further explore the recent history of Haiti. However, my plans took a hard turn when I caught wind that the United Nations Security Council passed a resolution calling for a temporary ceasefire in Gaza on Monday, March 25. The vote was near unanimous, with the United States abstaining from the vote after vetoing three previous ceasefire resolutions and having its own, largely symbolic and ineffectual, proposal vetoed by fellow permanent member states Russia and China last week.

In addition to calling for a cessation of hostilities for the remainder of the month of Ramadan, with hopes of leading to a "permanent sustainable ceasefire," the resolution pressed for the "unconditional release of all hostages," according to Reuters. This includes some Palestinian prisoners held by Israel, although it is unlikely that this would mean freedom for the thousands of Palestinians arbitrarily held in "administrative detention" in Israeli prisons. Nor would it mean an end to violent land grabs in the West Bank by the Israeli government, Zionist capitalists and 700,000 civilian settlers; the Israeli military occupation of Palestinian territories; the perpetual siege on Gaza; and other devastating consequences of the Zionist settler-colonial project as a whole.

Furthermore, in a very real sense, the ceasefire resolution does not guarantee an end to Israel's genocidal war on Gaza. The UN Security Council's power to enforce a ceasefire resolution are derived from chapter seven, article 42 of the UN charter, which stipulates those members of the council "may take such action by air, sea, or land forces as may be necessary to maintain or restore international peace

and security" should non-military measures fail. However, having not committed to any sanctions on Israel, military or otherwise, the Security Council will likely rely on cooperation from both Hamas and Israel to implement the ceasefire.

The outlook of this arrangement appears to be bleak; shortly after the resolution passed, Israel canceled its delegation's visit to Washington D.C. in response to the U.S.'s abstention. Clearly unfavorable to the terms of the ceasefire, it is unlikely that Israel will comply without the invocation of article 42, which would require another fraught Security Council vote without a U.S. veto.

The ceasefire resolution itself only lasts until the end of Ramadan — that's two weeks. Successful implementation of the resolution would provide much-needed respite for two million Palestinians in Gaza resisting a vicious military and starvation campaign by Israel; that much is true, however the physical and psychological trauma of genocide in Gaza would linger, and there is no certainty of an end to Israeli aggression in Gaza.

It is also true that the U.S. has changed its tone slightly regarding unconditional support for Israel's assault on Gaza. On Sunday, Vice President Kamala Harris warned of "consequences" should Israel commence its planned invasion of Rafah, a city bordering Egypt where more than one million Palestinians are currently sheltering with no means of egress. However, throughout the weeks-long push-and-pull between Israel and its chief financier over the Rafah invasion, the U.S. has remained non-committal over holding Israel accountable for its past and present violence, outside occasional sanctions on individual settlers.

Although I departed from my intended focus of Haiti, the connection between its current political situation and the genocide in Gaza are far more related than meets the eye. The U.S. and Caribbean countries' support for the installation of a transition government in Haiti and the resolution for a ceasefire in Gaza both represent solutions left in the hands of the states responsible for these crises in the first place. Their provisions do nothing to resolve the fundamental contradictions leading to the present violence, and only ensure that history will repeat itself on a greater scale.

Relying on intervention by imperialist superpowers like the United States will not free Haiti or Palestine; the people of Haiti and Palestine will free themselves, by resistance or other means set on their own terms. Students at the University of Connecticut who are sympathetic to these struggles and aspire to become leaders in international relations should be highly skeptical of these remedies imposed from without. We must recognize when intervention, even when seemingly benevolent, can be used to maintain or exercise further control over oppressed populations. And though I welcome every moment that bombs are not falling on Palestinians and Haitians are safe from state and non-state violence, this sentiment is worth nothing if the political and economic causes of harm remain unchallenged.

Opinion StudyBreak

Photo of the Day | Early birds



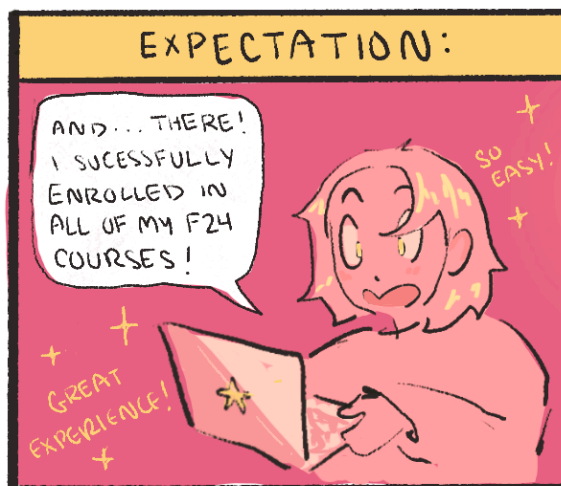
Geese watch the sun rise over Mirror Lake in Storrs, Conn. on Monday, March 25, 2024. Sunrises over Mirror Lake have always been a beautiful start to the days of early bird students.
PHOTO BY ZACHARY MOLLER, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

THE DAILY CAMPUS COMICS



COMIC BY VAN NGUYEN, ARTIST EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

ENROLLING IN COURSES:



COMIC BY SARAH CHANTRES, STAFF ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

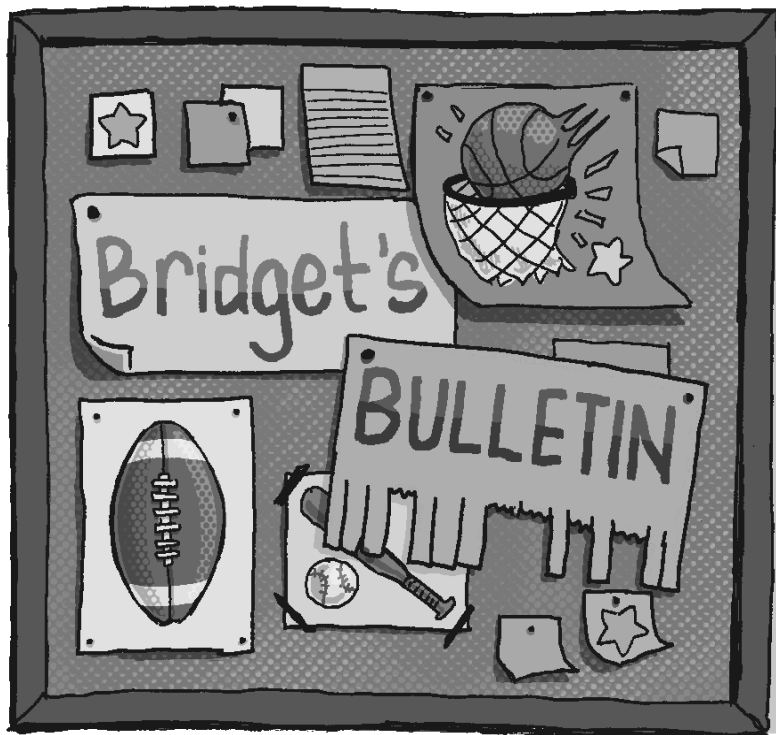
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FLIP THE PAPER UPSIDE DOWN FOR THE SUDOKU ANSWERS!



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

Where do the Red Sox stand with the regular season on the horizon?

by **Bridget Bronsdon**
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With opening day just a few days away, the Boston Red Sox will kick off their 2024 season at the Seattle Mariners.

Last year, the Red Sox had a disappointing

end to the season with their second consecutive last-place finish in the American League East. With a 78-84 record in 2023, the Bostonians faced a bit more difficulty than triumph.

In a lot of ways, the 2023 campaign was nearly identical to their performance in 2022 as they once again finished at the bottom of the league. Although they had the occasional victory run every now and again, they fell to the basement of the

league for the third time in four seasons.

The last time the Red Sox experienced the most notable and outward triumph was their 2018 World Series win over the Dodgers. Now, only one player from that season remains, Rafael Devers.

Devers, a third baseman from the Dominican, will begin his eighth season with the Red Sox. The now-veteran emerged on the scene in 2017 when he made his MLB debut in Boston and has stayed ever since. In the 2018 season, he batted .240 but has since improved to .271. In 2023, Devers was a team leader racking in 90 runs scored, 33 home runs and 100 runs batted in. Although Devers has struggled a bit on defense and has been called "inconsistent" by critics, his offensive skill has shined through in recent years.

Alongside Devers on the World Series stage was MVP Steve Pearce. The MVP sealed the Bostonian's deal in the fifth game of the series with two home runs, contributing to the 5-1 win. Since then, Pearce has parted ways with the Red Sox and retired.

However, team manager Alex Cora refused to dwell on the

past. "We can talk about '18 all we want. The magical run in '21 or [the championships] of '07 or '04 or '13, none of that matters. We've got to turn the page, man. That's gone." He said.

Now, the team has been left wondering for several years what they can do to remedy the drought.

Down in Florida as part of the Grapefruit League, spring training has been pretty successful for the Bostonians. With a 17-12 record, the group is outwardly doing well. However, spring training is no true indication and doesn't necessarily translate into regular-season success.

Essentially, the spring game is largely different from the regular season. With minor leaguers in the mix, veterans using the matches as practice and pitchers refraining from using their best pitches, the game is different at its core. ESPN even noted that the correlation between spring and regular season records is 0.15. So although the Red Sox may be enjoying a favorable spring training record, their regular season fate still remains up in the air.

Heading into the 2024 season, Trevor Story, who will be entering his third season with the Red Sox, will be a name to watch. Story's 2023 season was largely derailed due to elbow surgery which kept him sidelined for a portion of the year. Although Story did not return to his full batting potential, the shortstop provided instant defensive support with eight defensive runs saved in just 36 games.

The team will also be supporting manager Cora in his last contract year with the Red Sox. Cora took the position ahead of the 2018 season and rode the World Series high that same year. While Cora told ESPN it's too early to discuss his future plans, the group still has a full season ahead of them.

As for the Mariners, they posted 88-74 and a third-place finish in the American League West last season. The Red Sox have their final spring training contest on Tuesday and will quickly pivot to the regular season in just 48 hours for a Thursday night season opener.



IMAGE COURTESY OF @REDSOX ON TWITTER

Sports

Photo of the Day | Game day



No. 3 UConn begins its NCAA tournament with a first-round win against No. 14 Jackson State at Gampel Pavilion on March 23, 2024 with a score of 86-64.
PHOTO BY SKYLER KIM, PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

The Weekly Reed:

My thoughts on MLB's Seoul Series

by Noah Reed
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For one of the worst marketed sports in North America, Major League Baseball decided to have two teams start their regular season a week before everyone else and not many knew about it. The San Diego Padres and Los Angeles Dodgers played in Seoul, South Korea this past week in a two-game series to kick off the 2024 MLB season.

While the Padres and Dodgers series marked the first regular season games played in Korea, MLB has been doing this for decades. The Mets and Padres played each other

in Mexico back in 1996. Every four years between 2000 and 2012, MLB had a team start the year in Japan. The Dodgers and Diamondbacks played games in Australia in 2014. The Red Sox and Yankees played the first series in London in 2019. We're not even done with international games this season; as we're getting a Houston Astros and Colorado Rockies Mexico City game in April and a Philadelphia Phillies and New York Mets London series in June.

The issue that I have with this is that I'd prefer to see teams start the year at their own ballparks.

Opening Day is one of the best things about this sport. You're forcing fans of these home

teams to miss out on seeing their teams' first meaningful games in months so MLB can grow their international audience. To me, making it so much harder for diehard fans to watch their team play is disrespectful to those who have been lifelong fans. This hurts regular fans of the game. With the time zone differences, it made it difficult for most in North America to get up and watch the start of the regular season.

The Los Angeles Dodgers have a completely rebuilt team, highlighted with the addition of superstar Shohei Ohtani. Los Angeles also signed Yoshinobu Yamamoto, one of the most hyped up international free agents in

recent history. Both made their regular season debut at 6 a.m. EST, or 3 a.m. PST. These games, by the way, were played during the middle of the week on a Wednesday and Thursday. Fans across several teams were excited to watch Ohtani's Dodger debut and Yamamoto's first start, but the time difference hindered the ability to do so.

Another odd thing was that both teams then proceeded to return back to their spring training facilities and play another week of preseason games, despite having already made two regular season appearances. This was highlighted by some sloppy play by both teams during this series, neither of them looked to be in regular season form.

Of course, the main objective of these international

games is to provide a great experience for the players. In this series alone, Padres shortstop Ha-Seong Kim had a little bit of a homecoming as the South Korean native had a chance to play in front of his home country. The Red Sox and Rays just played a pair of Spring Training games in the Dominican Republic which allowed players like Rafael Devers, Brayan Bello and Amed Rosario to have that same experience. International games are great for the game of baseball, for the players and the fans, but taking away Opening Day from home crowds doesn't sit right with me.

The sport has faced some serious rejuvenation over the past few seasons. With games going by quicker due to rule changes, viewership and attendance have increased. Major League Baseball has (surprisingly) done really good things for the sport as of late, but still has room to do even better.

Opening Day is sacred to the game, and I want fans to be able to share that experience with the team. It's the balancing act of growing the game and embracing those who've been behind you that makes it hard. MLB understands that you cannot force two teams to fly themselves to another country during the middle of the season with that severe of a time zone difference, so having it put at the beginning of the year makes sense.

It's nearly impossible to build a schedule that allows a team to start at home then travel to

another country halfway across the world to play a two-game set because of how it affects the players.

This forces MLB to choose between these two; home crowds or growing the game. As much as it hurts me to say, I think they should pick growing the game. For those who were able to watch, the crowds made the atmosphere great for both games. That's something that the sport desperately needs, getting people all around the world invested in its product.

international series is to grow the game and build it into a global platform, which is definitely important. These series allow players to connect and grow fans all across the world, which any baseball fan should want. It's also

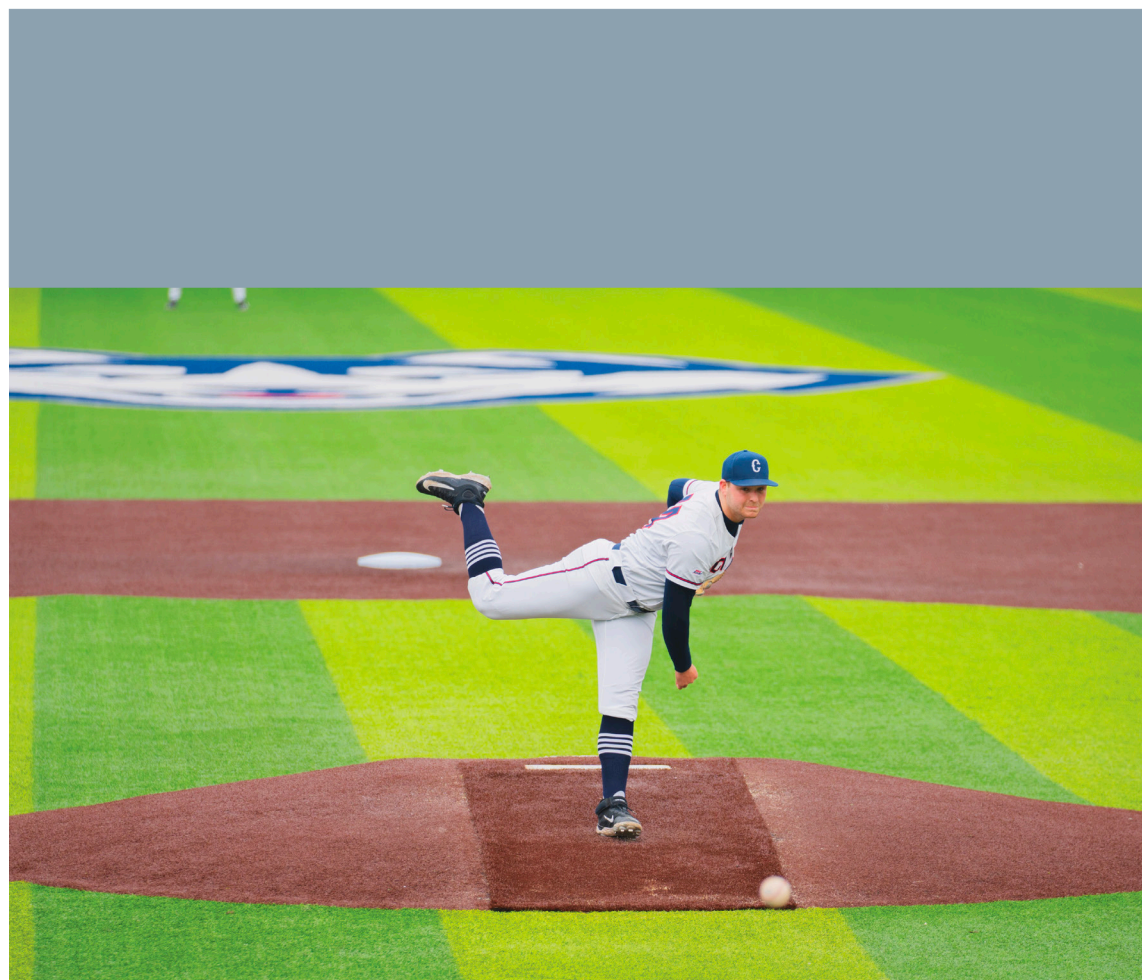
Yu Darvish, pitcher of the San Diego Padres, playing against the Los Angeles Dodgers on March 20, 2024. The game took place at the Gocheok Sky Dome as part of the MLB's Seoul Series.

PHOTO COURTESY OF @MLBONFOX



BASEBALL:

Huskies return home for Northeast matchups with Boston College and Northeastern



by **Evan Rodriguez**
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Following a 1-2 result against Rutgers on the road, it's time for the UConn baseball team to return home on Tuesday for matchups against Boston College and Northeastern.

Connecticut will continue to look to carve out some more positive momentum for their season, as while the program could not win two of the first games of their series against the Scarlet Knights, they ended the weekend with a 5-1 victory. Two wins against their upcoming opponents would be a massive confidence booster for Jim Penders and Co.

Looking at Boston College, they've had an up-and-down season. The program is coming off a series in which Virginia Tech swept them. When you combine that with an additional loss against Northeastern, the Hook C's opponent on Wednesday, that's four losses in a row. Just like UConn, they're going to be looking for a big win to get back on track.

As the Huskies have seen over the years, Boston College still has plenty of talent to give this squad some issues on the diamond. Sophomore Kyle Wolff has been a big play for this Eagles roster, batting .353 with 27 RBIs at first base. Not far behind him as an impact hitter in this lineup is senior outfielder Cameron Leary, hitting .325 with 21 RBIs.

Lastly, infielder Nick Wang has been a massive contributor to this Boston College roster and someone who could really do some damage at the plate. After finishing with a .233 average in 2023, he's stepped up to a .315

average, 27 RBIs and a team-leading nine home runs.

As far as what Northeastern brings to the table, they've had a fantastic start to the season. Not only is the program coming into this matchup with a series win over Hofstra, but they're also standing at a 16-6 record. After starting their year with a series loss to Arizona, they've stacked impressive performances and walked into this game with confidence. Following a quick matchup with fellow state opponent Central Connecticut State, they'll travel up to Storrs to take on UConn.

One thing is for certain. This Northeastern roster could give the Hook C arms plenty of trouble, and it all starts with the duo of Alex Lane and Tyler MacGregor. As the team leader in average, homers and OPS, the graduate hitter has been a beast at the plate, smacking .434 with a 1.339 OPS. MacGregor has been just as impressive for this Huskies roster, hitting .387 with a 1.172 OPS for the program. In its entirety, this program has a ton of offensive firepower, and while Connecticut has had some highs this season on the mound, this will be a massive test for the strength of its arms.

"It'll be nice to be home," said manager Jim Penders following the Sunday win at Rutgers. "We've got a weird quirk in the schedule this coming weekend where we don't have a game, so everything has gotta be poured into these next two <games>."

In a test for the entire Hook C unit, you can catch the 3:05 games against Boston College and Northeastern on Tuesday and Wednesday, respectively, on UConn+.

UConn took down LIU 14-8 during their home opener. LIU fell in the second half to a strong UConn offense.

PHOTO BY JORDAN ARNOLD, ASSOCIATE PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Softball:

Huskies host Boston University, Providence in hopes of bouncing back

by **Sam Calhoun**
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Connecticut seeks to avenge a loss at Butler University on Sunday—which snapped a 13-game winning streak—by facing two New England opponents this week. UConn will begin the week with a weekday game against Boston University (25-3, 3-0 Patriot).

The Terriers have been lethal this season, receiving votes in the most recent ESPN/USA Softball Poll.

Boston University is on a six-game winning streak and is undefeated against Northeast softball teams this season (Binghamton, Queens, Canisius, Villanova, Yale, Army).

The Terriers have three players batting over .400 this season, including senior Kayla Roncin, the preseason Patriot League Player of the Year. The other two include senior Lauren Keleher and graduate student Caitlin Coker. Coker was named the Patriot League's preseason Defensive Player of the Year.

If Boston University goes full throttle for this game, they will have an ace in Kasey Ricard in the circle. The sophomore from Littleton, Mass. has a 12-2 record with a 1.64 earned run average. The preseason Patriot League Pitcher of the Year has pitched 11 complete games this season.

Since both programs met for the first time in 1997, the Terriers have bested the Huskies in 12 of their 19 meetings. UConn has dropped the last six meetings, with the last win coming at Boston University in 2013.

Today's game against Boston University also includes two promotions: Huskies & Heroes and High School Day. The first pitch from Burrill Family Field at the Connecticut Softball Com-

plex is set for 3:15 p.m. and is available to stream on UConn+.

Following a showdown with the Terriers, UConn will get back into Big East play with a three-game series with Providence College (11-13, 3-6 Big East).

Both UConn and Providence were featured in the Big East weekly awards, which were released on Monday afternoon.

UConn junior Rosie Garcia had six hits and produced eight runs batted in, including four homers. The San Fernando, California native was named the Big East Player of the Week.

Providence freshman pitcher Alyssa Twomey was excellent in the circle. She pitched three victories this week, with an earned-run average of 0.31 across 22.1 innings. The Warwick, Rhode Island native struck out 28 batters as she was named the Big East Pitcher of the Week.

UConn senior pitcher Hallie Siems started three times last week for the Huskies, putting up a 0.51 ERA while giving up just one run and striking out 18 batters in 13.2 innings pitched. With the Stuttgart, Ark. native's strong performance, she was named to the Big East Weekly Honor Roll.

It will be a homecoming weekend for sophomore Sara MacKinnon, who grew up in Danbury.

On offense, the Friars are led by junior Hanna Aldrich, who leads the team in batting average (.365) and runs with 19.

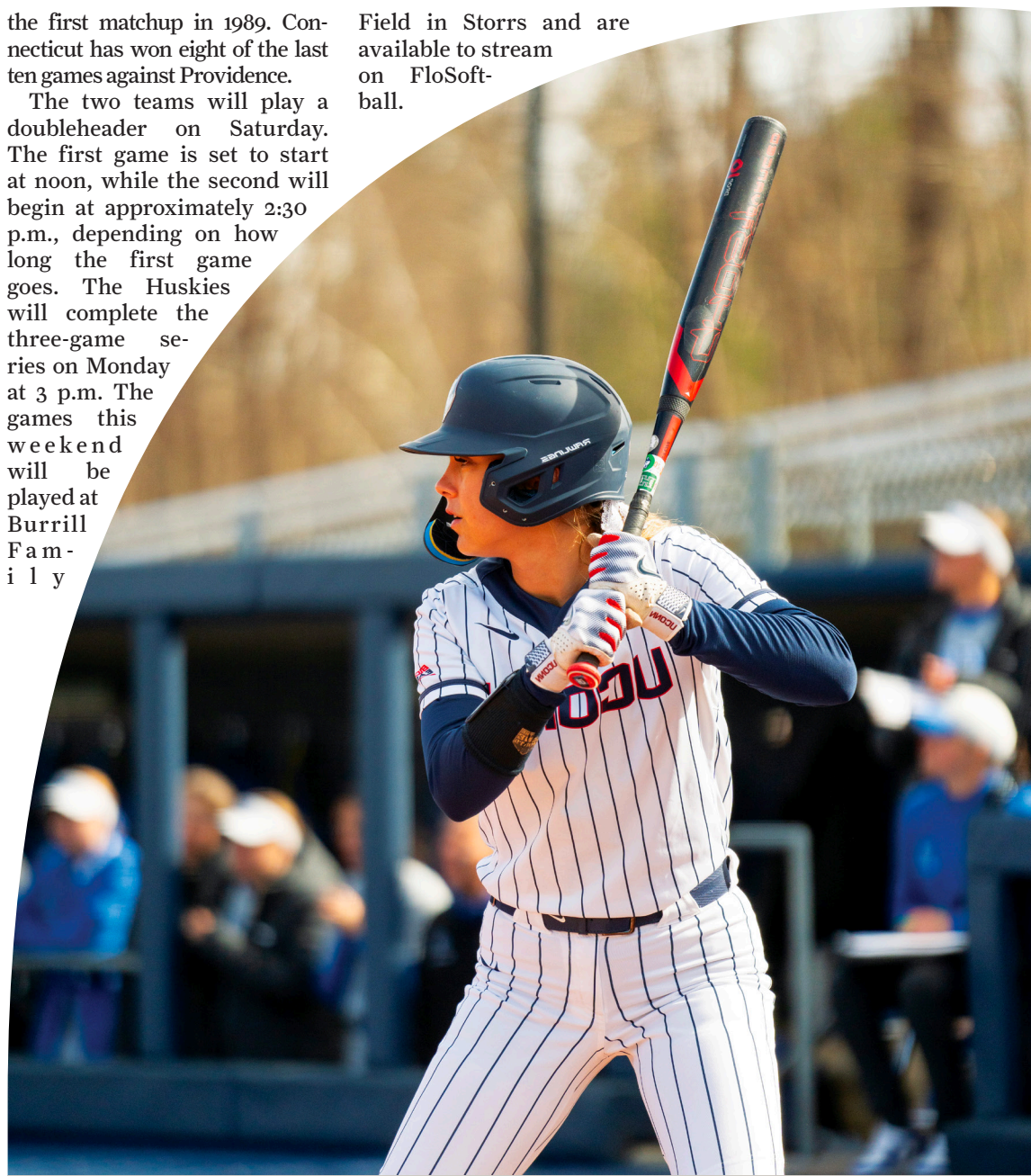
Providence is coming off a series win over St. John's University, losing the first game in a doubleheader on Friday before cleaning up two hours later and on Sunday. Outside of a loss on Friday, the Red Storm have won four of their last five games, including two mercy rules against Stonehill College last Wednesday.

UConn holds a 52-24 record against the Friars all-time, with

the first matchup in 1989. Connecticut has won eight of the last ten games against Providence.

The two teams will play a doubleheader on Saturday. The first game is set to start at noon, while the second will begin at approximately 2:30 p.m., depending on how long the first game goes. The Huskies will complete the three-game series on Monday at 3 p.m. The games this weekend will be played at Burrill Family Field

in Storrs and are available to stream on FloSoftball.



UConn beats CCSU on March 19, 2023 in Storrs, Conn with a score of 6-0. They faced Yale on March 20 continuing their series of the Battle for CT.

PHOTO BY JORDAN ARNOLD, ASSOCIATE PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Daily Sports

Women's Basketball: No. 3 UConn holds off No. 6 Syracuse; advances to 30th-consecutive Sweet 16

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For four decades, the UConn women's basketball team and the Syracuse Orange battled as Big East Conference foes. Monday night inside the Harry A. Gampel Pavilion became another memorable chapter in that rivalry.

Third-seeded UConn and sixth-seeded Syracuse delivered an epic game in Storrs, going back and forth up until the final buzzer. The Huskies-majority crowd delivered an energy harkening back to the days when the programs dueled annually. In the end, UConn topped Syracuse 72-64 en route to their 30th-straight Sweet 16 appearance.

"We have some pretty tough-minded kids ... that knew how to win the game," coach Geno Auriemma stated about his players in the postgame press conference. "That is what you need at this time of year. You need people who can make winning plays at big moments."

Redshirt junior Paige Bueckers etched herself into history in front of the sellout crowd. It was not just her 32 points on 14-25 shooting that made the moment; Bueckers contributed on both ends of the floor. The First Team All-American recorded her third double-double in four games with 10 boards, dealt six assists and had four steals.

"She is our rock," senior guard Nika Mühl said about the redshirt junior in the locker rooms after the game. "She is going to win us every game if she has to."

20 of Bueckers' 32 points came in the first half. She picked up the spark that first-year guard KK Arnold started in the opening frame and ran with it during those opening 20 minutes. From her one-handed block on Alyssa Latham to her presence in the post, the red-shirt junior attacked over and over again. She had the final say twice in the first half, landing two mid-range jumpers in the last minute as UConn went in the locker room up 11.

The Orange allowed the Huskies to shoot 52.9% from the field in those opening 20 minutes, but their defense held them without a bucket in the first five minutes and five seconds of the second half. This helped Syracuse go down 11 to within three in a 75-second span. Senior forward Aaliyah Edwards and Big East Freshman of the Year Ashlynn Shade responded with consecutive floaters, but Third Team All-American Dyaisha Fair had a response. The latter of those two had the last laugh with a triple from near Connecticut's bench at the buzzer.

Both teams started out the final frame on fire, combining to make their first six attempts from the field. Shade's final three of the night was the lone field goal by either program in the ensuing five minutes.

Mühl went from having two fouls to going to the



No.3 UConn survives a tight match against No.6 Syracuse in the second round of the NCAA tournament on March 25, 2024. The match in Gampel Pavilion came to a 3 point game in the final minutes until KK Arnold's field goal and Aaliyah Edwards' free throws, securing the win with a score of 72-64.

PHOTO BY SKYLER KIM, PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS



bench after fouling out in 29 seconds halfway through the frame. The Huskies had been in this situation once back on Jan. 27. UConn's entire offense struggled in the fourth quarter of that contest, losing at home by

15 to the then-No. 15 Notre Dame Fighting Irish. Having gone through that experience prepared the Huskies

for the final five minutes and 16 seconds.

It did not start out that way; Syracuse responded to Shade's jumper with two-straight triples and pulled within two on a second-chance layup.

The Orange had all of the momentum down three when junior guard Georgia Woolley rebounded Bueckers' miss. But the Indiana native struck again, swiping the ball out of Fair's hands as the Big East Player of the Year swiftly called timeout with 50 seconds remaining.

Bueckers, with three defenders closing in on her, tossed it to a wide-open Arnold as the shot clock winded down. Almost instantly, the six-time Big East Freshman of the Week let it fly from behind the arc. The ball bounced off the top of the rim and hit the backboard, holding the hearts of every Husky fan in the building.

It fell through on the second bounce. Deafening cheers roared all over the arena. Arnold herself was fired up after Syracuse called timeout. It was Connecticut's biggest dagger of the year.

Edwards finished off the contest at the charity stripe following several suspenseful Syracuse shots on the other end. As she collected a double-double, the Huskies secured their first victory over a team with an AP All-American this season.

"I did not want my last game to be played in Gampel on [a loss]," the senior forward explained. "I know we needed a dub and I think as a team we just knew that we were not done yet."

While it ended in disqualification, Mühl also left a mark in her last-ever contest in Storrs. The senior guard needed two assists to possess the program's career record. It took almost three minutes for Mühl to tie Moriah Jefferson on the all-time list, doing so on a Bueckers' breakaway bucket. She officially stood alone six minutes later. Shade, who buried the shot that gave Mühl the record, shined in the post-season spotlight once again with five triples and 19 points to go with four rebounds.

Fair averaged 22.3 points per game heading into the second round. Although she had a 20-piece behind four second-half triples, UConn's defense held her to a less-than-efficient 6-22 clip and a 2-10 mark from inside the perimeter. Syracuse's other two double-figure scorers, Woolley and Sophie Burrows each finished with 18 points. The Orange, as a team, buried 13 triples and scored 14 second-chance points, but despite forcing 17 turnovers, their 10-35 mark from two did them in.

UConn departs for Portland, Ore., later this week. The seventh-seeded Duke Blue Devils, who knocked off the second-seeded Ohio State Buckeyes in Columbus, await at the Moda Center.

There is one thing on everyone's mind going into the Sweet 16 from the Emerald State: redemption.

"We are fortunate, and we get to go back to where it ended for us last year," Auriemma commented. "We are a different team, different mindset, and we are hoping for a different outcome."