



Four UConn Neag programs rank highly in U.S. News Report for first time



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UConn students line up outside Gampel Pavilion on Monday, Nov. 6, 2023 before the UConn men's basketball team faces off against Northern Arizona University. Countless UConn students, alumni, and fans have enjoyed games played in Gampel since its opening in 1990. PHOTO BY ZACHARY MOLLER, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

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The University of Connecticut's Neag School of Education has been ranked among the best in the nation for four of its graduate programs in the U.S. News & World Report, for the first time in history.

For 2024, Neag has tied at No. 24 in the top 25 U.S. public graduate schools of education. This marks the ninth consecutive year that Neag has appeared in the top 25, according to a university press release. Neag also tied at the No. 34 position for both public and private graduate schools of education.

Neag tied for its 13th, 25th and 28th positions in special education, educational administration and curriculum, respectively. Neag also placed 23rd in educational psychology programs. All three of the Neag School's departments—curriculum & instruction, educational leadership and educational psychology—were represented this year in the 2024 special education program rankings.

While Neag's special education has ranked high previously and rose four spots from No. 17 in the 2023 rankings, this is the first year that the other three programs made it to the rankings.

"I'm immensely proud of the hard work and dedication of our faculty, staff, and students that have led to these impres-

sive rankings," Neag Dean Jason Irizarry said, according to the press release. "Four of our programs being named to specialty lists is a testament to the high standards we set across all our Neag School departments, and I'm thrilled we are once again recognized as one of the top public graduate schools of education in the nation."

According to the press release, U.S. News surveyed a total of 456 educational schools in fall 2023 and early 2024, 265 of which responded and 255 of which met the requirements to be included in rankings.

Ranking calculations and statistical data consisted of nine indicators such as total research expenditures, student selectivity and assessment scores by peers.

In addition to the Neag School, UConn's Schools of Business, Law and Social Work earned high marks in this year's U.S. News & World report as well.

The School of Business's part-time MBA program, FLEX MBA, ranked No. 33 in the nation this year, four spots up from last year's No. 37 position. The School of Law also rose 16 steps to the 55th position in the 2024 best law schools ranking, with its part-time Evening Division program placing No. 10 in the nation. The School of Social Work rose to No. 28 in the national graduate schools of social work ranking, placing the school in the top 9% of social work programs in the nation.

New Haven Makes it Official! It is the 'Pizza Capital of America'

AP — On National Pizza Day, February 9th, 2024, Connecticut Governor Ned Lamont announced, "We now declare New Haven the Pizza Capital of America."

New Haven has long been known as a pizza destination, with a history dating back to the early 20th century when Italian immigrants first brought their pizza-making skills to the area.

The city's unique style of pizza, known as "apizza" (pronounced ah-BEETS), is characterized by its thin, crispy crust and slightly charred edges. The toppings are typically simple, focusing on high-quality ingredients like fresh mozzarella, San Marzano tomatoes, and locally sourced meats and vegetables.

New Haven Pizza has been lauded in almost every food magazine since, from Thrillist to Food and Wine, The Guardian, and Food Network.

New Haven kept its "apizza" secret for decades until the Daily Meal declared Pepe's Pizza the best pizza in America. Two of Pepe's New Haven competitors also ranked in the top 10. The word is out.

What makes New Haven pizza different from other pizzas?

New Haven Pizza is different from other pizzas in several ways.

Thin Crust: New Haven pizza is known for its thin crust, often crispy and slightly charred from its time in high-temperature coal-fired ovens. The crust's slight chew makes it both crispy and soft. **Simplicity:** Traditional New Haven-style pizza boasts simplicity. The classic "apizza" is a plain pie with only tomato sauce, oregano, garlic, and some grated pecorino cheese. **Mozzarella must be specifically requested.** **Structural Integrity:** Consumers can order their favorite toppings but proceed cautiously. The thin crust may compromise the stability of heavy toppings. Sometimes, less is more. **Coal-Fired Ovens:** Many of the most famous New Haven pizzerias use coal-fired ovens, which can reach higher temperatures than standard pizza ovens. The high heat contributes to the quick cooking time and the characteristic char on the crust. **Tradition and Expertise:** New Haven has a long history of pizza-making. Some pizzerias, like Frank Pepe Pizzeria Napoletana and Sally's Apizza, date back to the early 20th century,

each pie baked with decades of experience and tradition. Where Can You Get Apizza?

Head for one of the Big 3: Pepes, Sally's, and Modern, the most popular and well-reviewed spots. The Big 3 started in the 1920s and '30s and have influenced many other pizza spots throughout Connecticut and the United States.

According to Gorman Bechard, the director of the film *Pizza, a Love Story*, "There are 3 pizza places on the planet; Sally's, Modern, and Pepes."

Not everyone agrees. More than 70 different places throughout the U.S. sell New Haven-style pizza, but if you want the best, head to New Haven.

All three spots have lines starting at lunch until dinner is over. Locals and tourists alike line up to experience delicious apizza, washed down with Fox-on Park White Birch Beer.

This writer's favorite pizza is the fresh tomato pie at Pepe's, an exclusive summertime delicacy. Its fresh tomatoes pair perfectly with the charred crust and mozzarella. Also worth mentioning is the Italian Bomb pizza at Modern, piled high with bacon, sau-



A woman eating a slice of New Haven style pizza, the new 'Pizza Capital of America'. New Haven pizza is historically known for its thin crust and lack of toppings. PHOTO COURTESY OF AP (WEALTH OF GEEKS)

sage, pepperoni, mushroom, onion, pepper, and garlic.

Visitors wanting to explore newer spots should head to Bar for an unexpected Mashed Potato and Bacon Pizza or NOLO for its Fughi Pizza with Wild Mushrooms and Burrata.

Will More Crowds Come After the New Declaration?

In response to the announcement that New Haven is officially the "Pizza Capital of America," the area may expect more visitors. But the popularity of New Haven-style pizza has been growing for years,

with many people already traveling to the city specifically for its apizza.

It's hard to say whether the announcement will impact the thriving pizza scene in New Haven. Regardless, those who love pizza should consider a visit to New Haven to try out the famous apizza.

The new distinction for the pies of New Haven is a well-deserved title that recognizes the city's storied pizza-making history, tradition, and expertise. New Haven's pizza scene will undoubtedly continue attracting pizza lovers worldwide, distinction aside.

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News

Job seekers rewrite the resume rules in 2024

AP — According to recent data from LiveCareer’s Resume Evolution Report, in just five years, the average word count of resumes has surged to 503, close to twice their average length in 2018. Two-page resumes are the new normal.

Job hunting isn’t what it was in 2018. To meet the demands of a transforming job market takes new strategies. With economic uncertainties, increasing desire for remote work, technological advancements, and fierce competition, what was once considered standard resume-writing practice is now outdated.

LiveCareer analysts extracted data from 50,000 resumes built by international job seekers with its resume builder between 2018 and 2023.

The results carry profound implications for both candidates and employers alike. The skills job seekers prioritize, and their strategies to showcase their suitability for prospective roles shifted radically in the last five years.

The Rise of the Two-Page Resume

In 2018, resumes averaged around 312 words. By 2023, that number increased by 61%.

“All the uncertainty around the pandemic changed how we present ourselves on paper, and a simple one-pager wasn’t cutting it anymore,” says Sarah Miller, a hiring coordinator with a mid-size United States tech company.

“People realized they needed to show off everything they’ve got, all their skills and experiences, just to stay competitive. So, they started building up their resumes, turning them into these detailed accounts of who they are and what they can do.”

Beyond the Basics

While the fundamental sections of resumes remain unchanged — personal information, education, work history, skills, and a professional summary — applicants increasingly include additional information.

Certificates, languages, and accomplishments sections have roughly doubled



A woman sitting in a chair with resume in hand waiting for her interview. The resume shown is one page, but with changing norms two page resumes may begin to become more common. PHOTO COURTESY OF AP (WEALTH OF GEEKS)

in prevalence, putting growing emphasis on specialized training and expertise. Candidates leverage these sections to showcase dedication to learning in-demand skills required by a diverse, global economy.

Soft Skills Take Center Stage

A striking evolution in resume writing is the shift in emphasis from hard to soft skills. While technical proficiencies once dominated the spotlight, job seekers now highlight interpersonal qualities like time management, critical thinking, and active listening.

Increases in leadership, critical thinking, and written communication have put these soft skills in the top five. None made the 2018 list. These qualities likely emerged due to an increased interest in remote work, with job seekers demonstrating

their ability to work independently.

The Rise of Coding and IT Skills

In parallel with the increase of soft skills, coding languages have emerged as the new kings of technical skills. The rise of remote work also amplified the need for tech-savvy professionals capable of navigating an increasingly digital-centric workplace.

In 2023, eight of the top 10 hard skills listed on resumes were coding languages. That’s a stark contrast to 2018, when IT-specific skills comprised only three of the top 10.

Resilient Skills Amidst Change

Amid these changes, some specific skills have proven resilient. Time management, customer service, verbal communication, self-motivation, and quick learning remain in the top 10 most common resume soft skills. As for hard skills, project management, C, HTML, Java, and Excel remain as pertinent today as they were in 2018.

Increased Hybrid Work

The advent of remote and hybrid work models has left an indelible mark on resume

language. In 2018, only 2.4% of resumes included “remote” or “hybrid.” By 2023, this increased to 7%.

“Over the last five years, the employment landscape has changed, and so has the way job seekers write resumes,” explains LiveCareer’s Career Expert Eric Ciechanowski, CPRW. “During the period we studied, we experienced a global pandemic — which took a huge toll on some industries while others thrived — so it doesn’t come as a huge surprise that job seekers have changed their approach to resume writing to meet the changes in the job market.”

While some see remote work as a luxury, some see effective remote working as a skill. Highlighting experiences and competencies gained from gig jobs and other online endeavors allows job seekers to incorporate remote work on resumes when they lack experience otherwise.

“Resumes aren’t exclusive to traditional jobs anymore,” Miller adds. “Including gig work and side hustles isn’t just a nice addition — they show how adaptable and resourceful you are and that you can work on your own.”

Job Title Progression

The most common job titles have also significantly changed, mirroring which industries are growing or declining. While traditional roles like server and administrative assistant have waned in prevalence, newcomers like project manager, recruiter, and account manager have risen to prominence.

However, financial analysts, customer service representatives, accountants, and teachers appear in the top 10 job titles in 2018 and 2023.

Navigating the New Normal for Resumes

The world has changed since 2018, and so have resumes. Job seekers must remain aware of these emerging trends and employers’ expectations to succeed in a competitive and ever-evolving job market.

Despite the rise of the two-page resume to the prioritization of soft skills, one thing remains the same. To get an interview, job seekers must create resumes that stand out in a crowded field and showcase their unique value to prospective employers.

This article was produced by Media Decision and syndicated by Wealth of Geeks.

CORRECTION: In the Monday, April 15th edition of The Daily Campus, the text of the sports softball preview at the bottom of page 1 contained inappropriate filler text that was missed during the production and editing process. The production team at The Daily Campus profusely apologizes for this mistake and is taking measures to ensure it does not happen again.

The Daily Campus

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By Ricky Sirois

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Grief and music: A review of 'THE GREATEST HITS'

by Sarah Barker | SHE/HER/HERS | CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT | sarah.barker@uconn.edu

On Friday, April 12, 'The Greatest Hits' hit Hulu after a limited theatrical release. 'The Greatest Hits' isn't your average romance movie as its sci-fi elements help it stand out amongst other 2024 romance releases.

The film opens in the main character Harriet's house. She's looking at a wall filled with photos, cards and gifts. Viewers can see boxes of records — some marked 'tested' and others 'untested'. Harriet puts on a specific song then sits down and is transported to a memory of her and her boyfriend Max getting into a car accident. She then wakes up the next morning and goes about her day. This is when we see her wear earplugs and headphones while driving to work. She listens to a playlist called 'SAFE HAPPY,' which is difficult to find a reason for until the movie is over.

She goes through her day and then ends up at a grief support group where the lady who runs it mentions seizures and medications. While

driving home, Harriet accidentally rear-ends someone. When she gets out of her car, she hears another song that pulls her into a memory of her and Max at a Halloween party. On the outside though, it looks like she passed out on the street. She goes to meet her friend Morris immediately after. It's at this point that viewers begin to understand what is truly going on.

Harriet has what she calls "Max moments." This is when she hears a song that she and Max listened to and they pull her back to when they first heard it. Because of this, she has been able to find "safe songs," but wears headphones everywhere out of precaution. Harriet believes that if she can find the song played when Max was buying a chair for their house, she'll be able to stop him from dying. That's where the 'tested' and 'untested' records come into play.

Harriet also knows what songs bring her to what memory,

and the audience sees throughout the movie that she picks specific songs to be brought back to those moments in time.

On the second anniversary of the accident, a new person comes into the grief support group. His name is David, and he accidentally interrupts Harriet by knocking over a bunch of chairs.

Harriet invites him to come by the record store where Morris will be deejaying. When he arrives, they start looking through the records together trying to find the one playing in the store. David ends up finding it they agree to share it. This scene was so cute. Watching two awkward and broken people trying to flirt with each other will never get old. Harriet grapples with the fact that she still loves and wants to save Max, but she can't fight that she's interested in David. Even though she messes up a few times it seems that David can see and understand the grief and that she truly wants to try

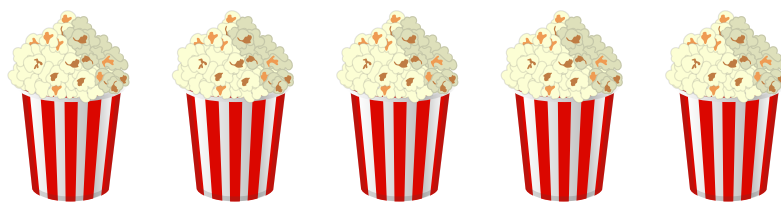
to work things out with him.

He takes her on a date to a silent disco, so she's not the only one wearing headphones. After they go to David's parent's shop, Harriet realizes that she's been there before — the day of Max's accident. She finds the record and proves her time travel abilities to David. In the memory, it is revealed that they also saw each other the day she was in his family's store.

The end of the movie isn't necessarily happily ever after. It does, however, show that time heals wounds and that you can meet people more than once in your life. I'm not the biggest music nerd, but with music being one of the main focuses of the movie, I think they did stellar in this department.

The other main focus of this movie is grief and how we handle it. It's emotional but also uplifting because we watch Harriet go on her journey of coming to terms with loss and coming out the other side okay.

Rating:



Maggie Rogers' new album 'DON'T FORGET ME' will definitely never be forgotten by chamber folk fans

by Grace Jos
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Alt-pop American singer-songwriter Maggie Rogers gained widespread recognition after she released the song "Alaska" in 2016. The track gained popularity after she played it for producer Pharrell Williams during a masterclass at the Clive Davis Institute of Recorded Music at New York University's Tisch School of the Arts. Known for her wise, clear-eyed, melodious voice, this prodigy is coming into her voice as she produces her third studio album. On Friday, April 12, Rogers released her new album — a splendid blend of modern pop, country, and psychedelic rock that work together to create "Don't Forget Me."

This 35-minute album consists of merely ten songs, but the length does not affect its exemplary use of country folk. She imitates the soaring vocals of floaty country singers and intertwines melodies similar to artists that flourished in the early 1980s and '90s such as Fleetwood Mac or Mazzy Star.

The overall process of Rogers' journey parallels her navigation with love and loss on her way to finding a calmer, more assured version of herself.

Starting the album with the upbeat track "It Was Coming All Along" brings a steady guitar-backed propulsion similar to that of a road movie. Listeners soon take a gloomy yet forgiving ride with a soft and accepting current. In this, Rogers' reflections of memory and nostalgia intertwined with the pain that coincides with the revelation of the past are apparent.

Moving onto "Drunk," Rogers sings "And I see stars that never, ever, ever looked this bright to me / Feeling on your skin never felt this right to me." The music embodies the natural intoxication one feels by a person's presence.

The first two tracks on this album propose to be a sheer introduction to a relationship filled with new excitement and exhilaration, but it is simply just a foretaste of what is yet to come.

The piano ballad "I Still Do" benefits from Rogers' raw delicacy as the acoustic track shines into simplicity. Rogers playfully toggles with her

heartbreak, bringing a period of pain and deprivation into a groovy upbeat sensation. Her voice is beautifully nourished by the bass strings in this piece which are expressive in their synergistic entirety.

Though not the most well-known, "The Kill" remains to be my favorite track on the album. It's a churning spin on the push-pull dynamic and adds an exasperated cry of frustration to a somewhat otherwise desperate undertone. The western-inspired guitar riff and a thumping kick drum channel the empowered country-folk songstress of the '90s. The fresh composition proves to be her most cohesive and adjacent storyline yet. Rogers proves she can profoundly merge from any sort of heartbreak—whether it stems from love, loss or unexpected change.

"So Sick Of Dreaming" is a close second favorite on this album because the composition evokes a feeling of brightness and sets the scene for a more confident chapter as Rogers seeks meaning and purpose. She isn't centered around sadness or heartbreak, but rather the self-

awareness and assuredness that comes as a byproduct of growing through emotional turmoil.

Rogers lacks the use of belting and instead chooses to express such ardent emotions through a series of strings and intimate blips. "Don't Forget Me" uses a delightfully wobbly bassline as she sings, "A good lover / or someone who's nice to me." Rogers grapples with feelings of uncertainty but is optimistic about the possibility of finding someone who is fully devoted and accepting of her faults. Rogers often sounds like she's outrunning a certain life. Whether it is the white-picket-fence ideology or the thought of settling down, Rogers is in no rush to live a traditional life.

"Don't Forget Me" represents acceptance and emotional enlightenment for Rogers. It is also her most sonically and lyrically cohesive work yet. Featuring some of her most captivating, folkloric songcraft — this album showcases the vivid storytelling and catchy melodies she's become known for. Rogers, at last, sounds sure of her destination.

RATING:



Start your vacation early in ‘Animal Crossing: New Horizons’

by Desirae Sin
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Welcome back to The Backlog, where we review video games based on a certain topic each month. In April, we’ve been exploring “relaxing” games to dispel the tension and stress from upcoming finals. Although the popularity of this title has died down since its release, I still believe that “Animal Crossing: New Horizons” deserves to be mentioned in this column.

Nintendo released “ACNH” for the Nintendo Switch in 2020. The COVID-19 pandemic contributed to its sales because audiences were stuck in their homes and needed more forms of entertainment. I distinctly remember playing the game while sitting at my desk on Google Meet calls with my class — trust me we all did it. “ACNH” is the fifth main entry to the “Animal Crossing” franchise. Other games were playable on systems like the Wii and the Nintendo DS.

Generally, each game involves the player moving to a town or city as a new resident, but “ACNH” expands on this by having the player move to a remote island as its first inhabitant, courtesy of Tom Nook’s getaway package. You are joined by two other

residents who come with their own quirky personalities. You must turn the island into a five-star destination by building infrastructure and greenery and adding more residents.

The closest thing to a plot that “ACNH” has is building the necessary infrastructure and upgrading your own home. A tanuki named Tom Nook loans the player bells — the currency in all the “Animal Crossing” games — in order for you to progress. Essentially, the game is about taking out loans and scrambling to pay them back. In retrospect, it’s not quite as relaxing when put this way since it reflects the experience of many college graduates.

It’s much easier to repay loans by selling bugs, fish, flowers, fruit and other goodies on your island. There is

also no interest added onto these loans (wish the same could be said for mine). Some buildings you help create are the museum, Nook’s Cranny, the Able Sisters and the Campsite. Certain

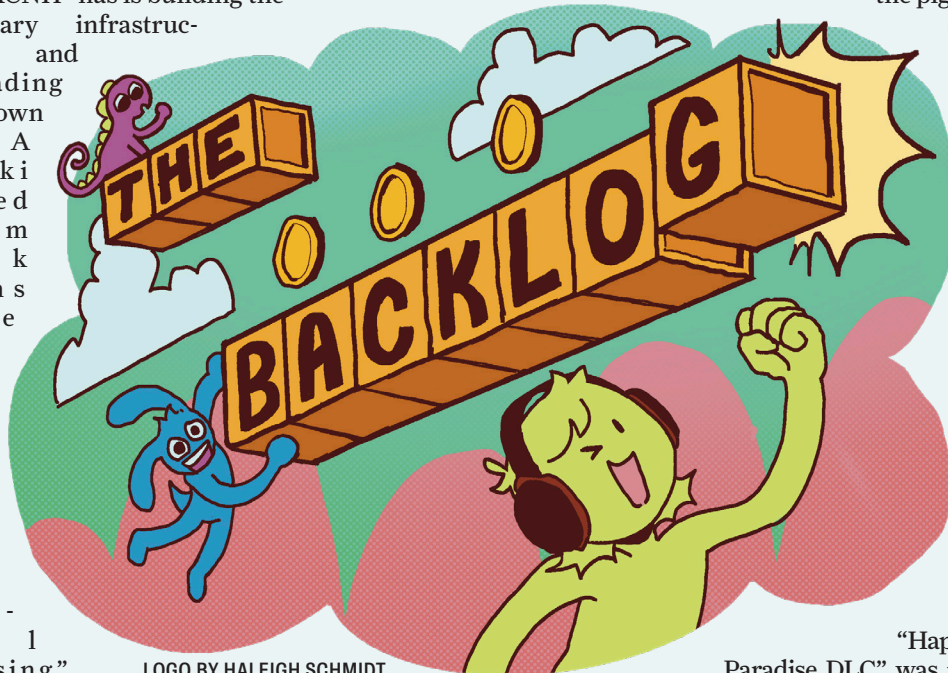
the “Animal Crossing” games, collecting all the creatures and fossils scratches the completionist part of my brain. In one of the recent updates, the museum has also become the home of The Roost, a cafe operated by the pigeon Brewster. Even though I don’t like the taste of coffee, I appreciate the aesthetic associated with it, plus the little cafe cups are cute!

“Happy Home Paradise DLC” was released in November of 2021. It comes with more customizable features in your home along with the opportunity to create vacation homes for more NPCs. As a member of the Paradise Planning Team, players can fulfill their dreams as interior designers and have fun sharing their designs with others.

Although “ACNH” is a great way to unwind from society, it also comes with multiplayer fea-

tures through online or local play. Multiple people can play on the same island on the same Switch, but only the player who started the game can be the Resident Representative, who can make buildings and such. You can also have players visit you from different islands, meaning different Switches. This feature is what made it so appealing during the pandemic, people could interact and play with each other during quarantine and still feel connected.

The main pitfall with all of the “Animal Crossing” games is that once you’ve grinded out all of the quests, there’s nothing left to do besides customize. “ACNH” is no exception to this. Once you’ve decorated your island and moved all the buildings to your pleasure, there isn’t much else to do in it. The seasons do change in real time so there is some incentive for you to play and collect all the fish and bugs but beyond that it can become dull. Once all of your loans are paid, there isn’t much else to do. Also, players may find themselves exhausted with how much time and effort they’ve put into their island. Once the initial excitement wears off you come to realize you’ve played the game to completion, even though there is no real ending to the game. At that point, the only thing left for you to do is restart the game and begin from scratch again.

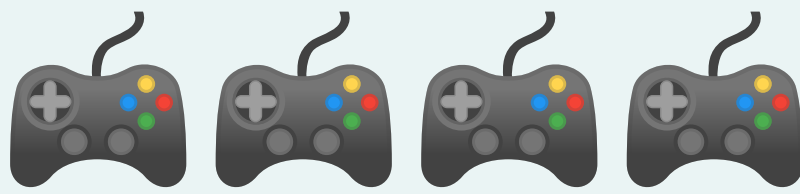


LOGO BY HALEIGH SCHMIDT, ASSOCIATE ARTIST EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

NPCs are designated to each of these facilities: the twins Timmy and Tommy (also known as the Nooklings) run Nook’s Cranny, the hedgehogs Sable and Mabel run the Able Sisters as a clothing store and the owl Blathers runs the museum.

Personally, I’ve always loved the museum the most in all of

Rating:



TONIGHT: THE WORLD-FAMOUS Ray Chen COMES TO UCONN

by Kenneth Van Dyk
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The Lenard Chamber Music Series has seen some great performances this year, and with the spring semester closing up, it’s time for one last concert. For the last performance of the season, we have Ray Chen, the famous virtuoso violinist, performing at the Jorgensen Center for Performing Arts tonight.

Chen was accepted into the Curtis Institute of Music, one of the most prestigious music schools in the country responsible for teaching America’s most skilled musicians, at just 15 years old. Since then, he has played in the best orchestras worldwide and won many impressive awards. His concerts have amassed hundreds of thousands of audience members, and his talent has landed him positions as an ambassador for SONY Electronics and a music consultant for Riot Games, the studio behind League of Legends.

He’s used his talent to inspire a new generation of classical music lovers by engaging with people through his internet platforms. His videos

ranging from violin tutorials to classical music-themed tier lists and challenges have amassed almost five hundred thousand subscribers on YouTube and 900,000 followers on Instagram. His most popular video on YouTube has been watched 13 million times. Believe it or not, it is a 23-second clip of him playing the violin to two horses.

Tonight, Chen will be joined by Julio Elizalde on the piano, a great musician who frequently tours with Chen. Their program includes Beethoven’s Violin Sonata No. 7 and Bach’s Partita No. 3, and it is hinted that works by composers such as Dvorák, Bazzini and Corea will be played.

Beethoven’s seventh violin sonata is an important work for violin and piano. It was published in the early years of his hearing loss, and as a result, is filled with emotions associated with the impending loss of a musician’s most important sense. The first movement, written in a form that pits two melodies against each other, is filled with turmoil and struggle in a brave display of force. While still loosely following the style of Mozart and Haydn, this piece is a prelude to the emergence of the Ro-

mantic movement and showcases Beethoven’s contribution to this style where emotion and expression triumph over reason and order in music.

Bach, who many might know for his works on the keyboard or his religious music, was also a great violinist. This work is strictly for solo violin, which means no piano accompaniment at all. Still, using just four strings and a bow, Bach’s compositional and musical skills create a thoroughly interesting piece. His music carries an improvisatory tone as melodies and patterns come back and forth in unexpected ways, and his usage of different ranges of the violin in close succession gives the impression of multiple voices being played at once as if one performer were two or three at the same time. The beginning of the piece may be familiar to those who had an old Nokia phone, as it was used for one of their ringtone presets.

These are all the pieces that we know about, so if this sounds intriguing to you, then make sure to attend tonight! As always, through the Lenard Chamber Music Endowment Fund, all students with a valid UConn ID can attend the event for free. See you there!



Life

@dailycampuslife



by **Thaomy Phung**
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Formerly a lead in the Disney series “Girl Meets World,” Sabrina Carpenter began her music career in 2014 with her single, “Can’t Blame a Girl for Trying” and an EP titled after the song. She followed this up-ramp of music with six albums, each gaining more popularity. After she finished touring with Taylor Swift on the global leg of the Eras Tour, Carpenter released her new single, “Espresso” on April 12, 2024.

Carpenter revealed in an interview with Zane Lowe that “Espresso” was written while she was in France and that “there was so much personality throughout the entire song,” adding that it would be “really, really fun to sing live with a crowd.” Perfect for people who don’t know or listen to her music, “Espresso” is a song that is a great introduction to Carpenter’s sense of humor and music style.

After listening to this song, I can attest that it will reel you in within just the first 30 seconds. “Espresso” will leave you addicted to not just coffee, but the vibe it brings, too. The beginning instrumentals transition into the inclusion of drums and her vocals, a blend that will undoubtedly get you up and dancing.

“Now he’s thinkin’ bout me every night, oh / Is it that sweet? I guess so / Say you can’t sleep, baby, I know / That’s that me, espresso”

Her unwavering confidence is one that listeners can only dream of having. The lyrics of “Espresso” seem to be about power, poise and pride. It’s not a bad thing though; being prideful is good, it’s just a testament to one’s self-worth — something every person should have. Putting herself on a pedestal, Carpenter’s sweet rhythm and excitement make for the perfect hype-up song. The lyrics bring out the energy even further:

“I can’t relate to desperation / My ‘give a fucks’ are on vacation / And I got this one boy / And he won’t stop calling / When they act this way / I know I got em”

The energy that this song pours out upscores its feel and electricity entirely, almost reaching that of Bruno Mars’ “Runaway Baby” — another confident song with a similar meaning to “Espresso.”

The lyrics, though, are repetitive, which makes it difficult to listen to on repeat. “Espresso” is a solid song to put on a playlist to listen to once or a couple of times but doesn’t stand on its own. Although it’s somewhat easy to dance to, “Espresso” is quite repetitive. The lyrics and the jazz-like bass-playing bring a uniqueness to the table, setting it apart from the unfortunate mediocre, but this only slightly raises its appeal. Despite the shortcomings of “Espresso,” fans are still raving over her new song, but equally antsy for the album drop, whenever that may be.

Rating:



girl in red makes label debut with ‘I’M DOING IT AGAIN BABY!’

by **Henry St. Pierre** | HE/HIM/HIS | CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT | henry.st_pierre@uconn.edu

In the ever-expanding world of alternative/indie pop, Norwegian singer/songwriter Marie Ulven Ringheim, better known by the moniker girl in red, has gained monumental attention through her infectious mix of classic chamber pop, DIY production and soulful lyrics that any teenager or twenty-something can shout along to. girl in red has also become a queer icon, with millions of queer fans across the world aligning themselves with her music.

Gaining prominence alongside other bedroom artists like Clairo and Cavetown, girl in red pioneered the modern wave of independent artists, amassing over 16 million monthly listeners on Spotify just short of six years after releasing her first EP, 2018’s “Chapter 1.” After opening for Conan Gray and Clairo in Europe around that time, the single “We Fell in Love in October” climbed to No. 14 on US billboard rock charts. She is currently on tour across the United States before touring Europe with Momma — another DIY rock band that recently played at the University of Connecticut for WHUS’ Spring Fling event.

girl in red’s first studio album dropped in 2021. “If I Could Make It Go Quiet” was released with a mixed reception. While some people heralded the record as a beautifully melancholic look at life, others were quick to point out its repetitive and derivative nature.

With all that said, going into this album was a mixture of excitement and apprehension. Signing onto a major label can be a blessing and a curse. Especially in the underground, signing to a major label has always been something that so-called “true” music fans find abhorrent. On the contrary, a major label can provide enough equipment, money and outside help to allow an artist to fully realize their ideas and creative potential.

With this new record, the major label has certainly provided an upgrade in production. “I’M DOING IT AGAIN BABY!” has amazing production. girl in red’s voice echoes with provocative power, and the orchestral swells that are so common on the former half of the record are intensely grand and enticing.

The album is fairly short, with 10 tracks lasting just under 28

minutes. Influences on this record range from electronic, baroque pop and folk. The aforementioned orchestral arrangements on songs like the opener, “I’m Back,” feel like they could be a lost song from the “Abbey Road” side two medley, albeit with a modern tinge.

“You Need Me Now?” features Disney star turned pop sensation Sabrina Carpenter — an intoxicating and bubbly dance track that will undoubtedly be on millions of summer playlists and featured in some commercials five years down the line. Though the track was one of the lead singles, it’s one of the more forgettable tracks, save for the feature from Carpenter on the back half of the song. This style of loud in-your-face pop rock has been done countless times in the past few years, though it definitely is infectious.

“A Night To Remember” features a soft, twinkly piano and showcases girl in red’s ability to craft powerful and intimate love songs that slowly build out into something massive and grandiose. “Ugly Side” opens with an infectious bass line and evolves into a groovy rock number that takes influ-

ence from Arctic Monkeys’ “AM.” It’s a highlight of the record, though the spoken word near the end and shooing about starting a podcast detract from the highlights.

“New Love” has one of the most infectious vocal melodies on the album, and its breakneck switches from anthemic to intimate felt some of the most satisfying on the entire LP, though it did feel a little derivative of other songs on the album.

The album’s closer features a base of industrial machinery sounds that lead into an anxious dance number, borrowing heavily from electronic music that wouldn’t feel out of place at a club in Europe. The song is the shortest of the bunch, which feels criminal as it’s a fantastic closer that ties everything together nicely.

“I’M DOING IT AGAIN BABY!” serves as a warm introduction to what girl in red could accomplish with the backing of a major label; however, it does come at a cost. This record falls into a lot of pop clichés that can make it tiring — but that might just make others love this album even more.

Rating:





Opinion

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COMIC BY SARAH CHANTRES, STAFF ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS



FREEDOM ISN'T FREE, AND SOLIDARITY ISN'T CONVENIENT



FILE LOGO/THE DAILY CAMPUS

by Nell Srinath | OPINION EDITOR
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Last year, nearly \$125,000 in damages occurred as fans set fires, flipped vehicles, knocked down lamp posts and smashed through windows after the University of Connecticut men's basketball team won the national championship, which left 15 arrested and 16 hospitalized.

In an effort to avoid a repeat of that level of destruction, UConn implemented sweeping security measures temporarily removing lamp posts on Hillside Road and replacing them with wall lights along the School of Business. However, it was not just campus infrastructure that was changed; in addition, the university restricted the number of individuals able to attend the watch party in Gampel Pavilion. Only UConn students were allowed in and were required to show their UConn ID upon entrance. Additionally, no alcohol was sold in the arena and the entire lower bowl was closed off to avoid the court being stormed like last year.

Nearly 1,700 students were denied entry into Gampel Pavilion on April 8 for the 2024 NCAA Men's Basketball Championship watch party according to reporting from The Daily Campus.

An email from Mike Enright, UConn's deputy spokesperson, explained that "There were 6,741 tickets distributed for the event, based upon seating capacity in the upper bowl, and 5,014 were admitted." 5,014 tickets were scanned, and no statistically significant number of additional people had entered according to Enright.

Enright said that the building had reached a safe capacity with 5,014 seats filled; according to a UConn facilities website, Gampel Pavilion has a capacity of 9,882 people.

"A decision was made by the Fire Marshal to close admission to Gampel before the game started based on concerns related to crowd size and available seating capacity, the safety of our student body and all those in Gampel Pavilion and on campus was the paramount concern during this event and the decision was made on that basis," said a statement released by the university. "However, the university would still like to extend its sincere apologies to those students who held valid tickets to the Watch Party and were not able to be admitted."

UConn was adamant in the build-up to the national championship that the experience for this year's Final Four would be fundamentally dif-

ferent from the prior years. "There's a wonderful group that has been meeting to prepare for the 'campus festivities,' shall we say, around Final Four week," according to UConn Provost Anne D'Alleva. "No outsiders in Gampel," she promised. "The UConn community in Gampel only."

Despite these promises, the university slashed the seating capacity of the only venue for students to watch the game for free without providing any real alternative for students. We at The Daily Campus Editorial Board are disappointed by the university's lackluster response to a problem they largely created. We want to be clear: the rioting that occurred last year was inexcusable. However, it is disappointing to see that the university gave no clear alternatives to students who were either denied admission or were unable to get a ticket to the watch party in the first place. The gravity of UConn's logistical failure is underscored by the fact that dedicated Huskies fans only had one chance to witness this historic back-to-back victory. Student outrage is completely valid given how UConn arbitrarily squandered a once in a lifetime opportunity for many, on a campus filled with viable venues for a student watch party.

There are options at the main campus: Morrone Stadium, a nine-minute walk from Gampel, has a seating capacity of 5,300, or a bleacher capacity of 4,169. Sherman Sports Complex, located behind Gampel, has a seating capacity of 2,000. According to Enright, the difficulty with holding watch parties this year arises from enforcing fire codes and the chance of inclement weather. Despite advertising this year's watch-party for the UConn community-only, the university was content with allowing students to be left stranded outside of Gampel, some of which were paying up to \$250 for a ticket. Meanwhile, UConn is aware how popular these events are, with numerous social media posts hyping up both watch parties and encouraging students to go.

Event-planning is an inherently challenging process. While it's clear that UConn did extensive preparation when it came to the protection of its property, it is disheartening that it seems like they didn't extend that same level of preparation to their own students in ensuring every member of the UConn community had somewhere to watch the biggest college basketball game of the year.

Ten protesters were arrested for blocking the entrance to a Pratt & Whitney facility in Middletown the morning of April 15. Videos circulating social media show keffiyeh-wearing protesters chained to the entrance gate chanting "From the bombs on Gaza's children, CEOs make their billions!" and singing "For Palestine together, we shall not be moved," an alteration of a spiritual hymn of a similar name sung by enslaved people in the 1800s.

The protest was in opposition to the engine manufacturer Pratt & Whitney's role the State of Israel's ongoing assault on Gaza, which has killed nearly 34,000 Palestinians since Oct. 7, 2023 and was ruled by the International Court of Justice as plausibly constituting an act of genocide in January. Pratt & Whitney, a subsidiary of the weapons conglomerate RTX, signed a 15-year contract to supply the Israeli military with fighter jet engines in 2015, to which the protesters called for an early end. F-15, F-16 and F-35 fighter jets are all currently deployed in the Israeli Air Force, and a stymied effort by Congress to approve an \$18 billion F-15 sale to Israel threatens to provide more firepower for the devastation and slaughter in Gaza.

The Middletown protest was one of dozens of direct actions taking place in conjunction with "A15 Action," a "coordinated economic blockade in over 30 cities around the world" to end American military support for Israel, according to an Instagram post by the Connecticut chapter of Dissenters, a U.S.-based anti-imperialist organization. In Philadelphia, A15-aligned protesters blocked rush hour traffic and held a car procession through I-95, which resulted in the arrest of at least 67 people by city police and state troopers, according to the Philadelphia Inquirer. Protesters in Chicago shut down traffic entering O'Hare International Airport, and traffic stopped for hours in San Francisco when protesters blocked Golden Gate Bridge.

Although the economic value of stopping "business as usual" isn't likely to be calculated any time soon, an emphatic headline from the Hindustan Times credited the protesters with stoking "travel chaos," speaking to the local and international perception of Monday's stoppages.

It's hard to imagine that the goal of the arrested protesters is to draw attention to their well-being; instead, they'd probably ask us to direct our attention and outrage to the ongoing massacres in Gaza. However, I can't help but think about all the people who were willing to put their bodies on the line to oppose the U.S. and Israeli war machines. Spending a few hours in the back of a police cruiser or the night in a jail cell is nothing compared to being one of the 76,000 Palestinians who've been injured in bomb blasts or under a collapsing building, nor does it hold a candle to being

one of several Palestinians who've been crushed to death by falling aid packages while the region faces systematic starvation. But these relatively tame legal penalties are something that the majority of people claiming "solidarity" with Palestinians have not experienced, and probably never will pending drastic cultural shifts in how we show up for oppressed people.

As a college student, I understand that there are a multitude of personal circumstances that might make getting arrested undesirable. It seems like there isn't enough time to get everything done that needs to get done — case in point, this article will be about an hour late as of writing this because I had other school commitments that I scrambled to finish. For a lot of students, getting arrested is probably the last block that would topple their precarious Jenga tower of academic commitments.

But the crucial thing is that, among the hundreds, if not thousands of people who got arrested at an action Monday, many of them were probably students sacrificing school commitments to stand with Palestine. Many arrestees likely had disabilities (and this certainly wouldn't be the first time people with disabilities got arrested for activism). Numerous arrestees may have been queer or trans, and concerned about the conditions of jail, where they may be more vulnerable for how they present and identify — but need I repeat the classic aphorism that the first Pride was a riot? Many arrestees were probably elderly people, low-income workers and people with a precarious immigration status. These people had their own situations to worry about, but they showed up for Palestine anyway.

An even more important point here is that Palestinians have disabilities. There are queer Palestinians, despite what the chauvinistic screeds of "pinkwashers" tell you. There are Palestinian students, who no longer have any universities left standing in Gaza to invigorate their thirst for knowledge and advancement. These groups are suffering under occupation and genocide, but they are also resisting. What good are our excuses?

I'm sure many of the people who were arrested at an action were spurred to mobilize through social media. But we're past the paltry goals of spreading awareness in "solidarity." Solidarity requires sacrifice, now more than ever, and the more we normalize putting the collective needs of humanity first, the more meaningful that solidarity will be. To repurpose a phrase and make thousands of Cold Warriors turn in their graves, freedom isn't free. The cost isn't of the imperialist U.S. military or any of that jingoistic nonsense. It's to people experiencing and resisting extraordinary oppression, and to those who are willing to put aside their daily concerns to end it in the belly of the beast.

Opinion

Photo of the Day | Studies in the sun



Graduate student Utku Sonsayar works outside on a beautiful day at the University of Connecticut Storrs campus on Monday, April 15, 2024. Students are seeking outdoor study spaces as the weather gets warmer in the northeast. PHOTO BY EVAN RODRIGUEZ, ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Am I privileged?

by Hodaya Naor | CONTRIBUTOR | SHE/HER/HERS | hodaya.naor@uconn.edu

I have always wondered if I am privileged. I grew up with a happy family, even though we'd fight sometimes. We always had food in the fridge or the game we wanted. We have traveled abroad multiple times. I have a functioning body; I'm able to walk, talk and work out. I can hear and see our wonderful world. I met true friends along the way, and I'm studying my favorite subject. Does that make me a privileged person? I'm not so sure.

I also grew up in a war zone. In my reality, an alarm isn't just an ambulance rushing to save lives; it's a missile siren. When we hear an alarm, we run. We stop what we're doing and run to the nearest bomb shelter to protect ourselves from another missile attack. When I traveled the world, I avoided the question, "Where are you from?" just in case the other person is antisemitic. Even if they hide it,

they will act differently while speaking with me. In the place I grew up, you can't enter a public place like a mall, a supermarket, a school or just a regular office building without having your bag and pockets checked. You're on guard at a bus stop because of a possible car-ramming terrorist attack, such as one which killed one person and injured 17 others in Tel Aviv on Jan. 15. You dread the idea of seeing a lost bag on a random bench or in the street because it might contain a bomb. As a Jewish person from Israel, these are all daily dangers that I and my loved ones experience regularly. Does living life like this make me a privileged person?

People living in countries free from domestic or regional conflict might find this difficult to understand. Some of you are opposing the war in Gaza, advocating for a ceasefire or for "justice," whatever that may look like. I

wonder how many of you are able to travel to any country you want, or not to have to memorize the location of bomb shelters around you. I assume that it's easier to protest from your safe university, surrounded by people similar to you and have the privilege to return to your normal routine after the rally ends.

To me, the Israel-Hamas war has changed the meaning of the word privilege. All the minor problems we have in life feel irrelevant in comparison. It doesn't matter if your boyfriend broke up with you or if you forgot to submit some trivial assignment. As long as you're not being held hostage by a terror organization — you're good.

It feels like the news is concentrating on only one side of the story of the Israel-Palestine conflict. It is not interesting to post a video of a Palestinian child stabbing soldiers when the soldiers are from the Israeli army. It is also not interesting to post Arab students sitting in classrooms, earning degrees in Israeli universities. The world is so convinced that Israel is the bad guy that it remains blind to Israel's remarkable actions for a peaceful life and for protecting all people living within its borders, not just Jewish. Just recently, Israel's amazing defense systems rescued thousands of civilians from a deadly Iranian missile and drone attack.

Still, life in Israel is not privileged. We struggle with fighting for keeping our name of an honorable place that respects a variety of people, including Palestinians. Hamas made it difficult to prove while using the terrible situation of the Palestinians for its selfish purposes and by



A woman looks at posters on a wall in Hostages Square, a public plaza in front of the Tel Aviv Museum of Art. The posters call for the release of the hostages of the Oct. 7, 2023 attacks. PHOTO COURTESY OF AUTHOR


turning down ceasefire proposals while asking for the release of terrorists in return.

Despite all the difficulties that Hamas created for the Israeli people, it didn't break our spirit. Perhaps this is what being privileged is all about, feeling loved and belonging to a supportive community.

I grew up in a beautiful country, surrounded by

amazing people, with a happy family. I'm able to hear, see, talk and walk. I have loving friends, and I study my favorite subject. Yet, amidst all that, I live in a country surrounded by violent people and powerful enemies who are fighting to erase my people. So perhaps, after all, I'm not privileged because privilege is living without violence.

SUBMIT TO CULTURE SHOCK



Culture Shock is a column for underrepresented and marginalized UConn students to anonymously discuss their stories and experiences as members of those groups at UConn.

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- UConn BUILDINGS



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

The Weekly Reed:

The Baltimore Orioles shouldn't have called up Jackson Holliday, yet

by Noah Reed
HE/HIM/HIS
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The Baltimore Orioles shocked the baseball world by calling up the MLB's #1 prospect Jackson Holliday to play in their series against the Boston Red Sox. Jackson, the 20-year-old son of former MLB player Matt Holliday, was selected with the first overall pick back in the 2022 MLB draft and has quickly made his way through the Orioles organiza-

tion, being promoted to Triple-A Norfolk in his second career season. There were people who fully expected him to make the opening day roster for the Orioles but ultimately ended up back in Norfolk to start 2024. However, things once again developed quickly for Holliday as on April 10, the Orioles selected his contract and called him up to the big leagues to make his MLB debut at Fenway Park.

Through his first five games, Holliday has just one hit across 15 at-bats. Nine of his first 15 ABs ended in a strikeout and he hasn't drawn a walk. Some people have pointed out some shaky defense, specifically at the games in Boston with multiple fly balls dropping over his head. Despite this, he made some nice plays on the field, including a solid sliding stop in Thursday's game against the Red Sox that stopped a hit.

As kind of expected, Holliday is hitting a learning curve with his transition into the MLB. For being as young as he is and not having played professional baseball for that long, it makes sense that he isn't hitting the ground running in his first few games as a major leaguer.

With that being said, I think the move to call up Holliday was a little premature and another player should've been called up instead.

This is not to discredit how good a player Jackson Holliday is as he is clearly talented.

In spring training, the 20-year-old had an OPS of .954 with

two home runs and six RBI with seven of his 14 hits going for extra bases. In his 10 games in Norfolk before being called up, Holliday had an OPS of 1.077 with five doubles and two homers to go alongside his nine RBI on probably the most talented lineup in minor league baseball.

The thing is, Baltimore's farm system is one of the most stacked in baseball. They had plenty of guys they could've called up to fill their roster while Jackson Holliday got more experience under his wing. It's crazy to even think that they have players that had a hotter start to their season in Triple-A, but Heston Kjerstad is proof that someone is. Kjerstad has played in 15 games in Norfolk this year and already has seven home runs and 27 RBI. This along with a .361 BA, .770 SLG and a 1.208 OPS are just insane numbers to be produced at the highest level of the minor leagues. What Kjerstad offered too over Holliday was already having MLB experience. The outfielder made his debut in 2023 and played in 13 games for the Orioles and already has two major league home runs and three RBI.

Now roster construction wise it makes sense

why Holliday was called up. Being a shortstop/second baseman, Holliday filled the gap that was left when the team released Tony Kemp from the roster. But Baltimore's outfielders have been off to a so-so start so far this season. Austin Hays (.086) and Anthony Santander (.180) are both batting below the Mendoza line, but Colton Cowser and Cedric Mullins seem to be doing just fine. Mullins has three home runs and 10 RBI while Cowser, another young star on this Baltimore team, has been absolutely crushing the ball lately, including a two home run game against Boston on April 11. Meanwhile Baltimore's infield is already loaded with talent, with players like Gunnar Henderson, Jordan Westburg and Ryan Mountcastle all producing at high rates this early this season. Especially with the way Austin Hays has been playing this season, it would make a lot of sense for Kjerstad to be called up soon; I am a little surprised Holliday was called up before him. I think the Orioles' organization got a little jumpy with trying to rush Holliday to the majors that they didn't care if he was ready for it or not.

High strikeout rates (60%) and a low average exit velocity (84.2 mph) show

that he might not be ready to play on the biggest stage at the moment, but there is still plenty of hope for the future. Getting him this experience now also isn't a completely awful idea, to be fair. The MLB debut is out of the way as well as his home debut which should help take away some of the stress that might be weighing down on such a young player. Getting Holliday to a point where he can swing the bat confidently at the highest level of the game should be the Orioles' main concern with him now, and I think that involves just a little more time in the minor leagues before being called up again.



IMAGE COURTESY OF @ORIOLES ON TWITTER

Sports

Photo of the Day | The Champs



Cam Spencer aims for a basket at UConn basketball's First Night on Friday, Oct. 13, 2024 at Gampel Pavilion. The men's team went on to a very successful season, returning to Storrs with yet another national championship.
PHOTO BY ZACHARY MOLLER, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Women's Basketball:

Sarah Strong's commitment and what it means for UConn

by Stratton Stave

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The morning after the UConn women's basketball team fell in the Final Four to Iowa, everyone's mood went in the complete opposite direction. Instead of focusing on the sadness and frustration of defeat, the choice of one 18-year-old turned everything around.

Months after the majority of prospects announced their commitments to universities, the top player in the class remained uncommitted. That player was Sarah Strong, who wanted to focus on everything that involved her high school journey before looking ahead to college. Once she racked up accolades and left no doubt that she was the best player in the 2024 recruiting cycle, Strong announced her commitment to UConn.

Strong is a one-of-a-kind player who possesses skills that can take UConn to the next level. In a 6-foot-2 frame, it's hard to categorize the McDonald's All-American game MVP into one position. She has all the normal abilities of a power forward, the typical position for someone her height. Strong has solid post moves that she can use when she's matched up against smaller opponents and she's able to finish well inside.

One issue is that she has often been the biggest player on the floor, which will not be the case in college. Strong misses several layups, but she is big enough compared to the opposition that it hasn't hurt her. She's historically been able to get a handful of rebounds and putback attempts in one possession. Top college teams have players who will snatch up those rebounds after the first attempt. That is very fixable, and given her growth in high school, it's of little doubt that she'll adapt upon arrival in Storrs.

Moving on to her biggest strength is her ability to pass. She isn't quite Paige Bueckers or Nika Mühl, but Strong has an excellent sense of the floor and where her teammates are. Many compare her to Nikola Jokic and Magic Johnson with the way she's able to find teammates from the interior as a big, which isn't crazy.

Strong gets positioning on the low post and is able to find cutting teammates or open

ones on the inside, which is especially helpful when she's being double-teamed. Her vision extends past the post too, with an ability to facilitate in the fastbreak and on the perimeter. In year one, it's unlikely that Strong will be given the keys to the offense, especially when considering Bueckers' world-class abilities. However, if Strong can use year one to get comfortable with the college game, there's little reason why she wouldn't be able to ease into a more prominent facilitating role in the following years.

Another reason why she is the top player in the class is her ability to hit shots from distance. Most traditional bigs can hit occasional threes at best, but Strong isn't a traditional big. She has a beautiful stroke from 3-point land and the ball looks poised to go in every time she releases it.

Not only does this help in terms of getting her team frequent threes, it also opens up the floor. When opponents have to respect Strong on the perimeter instead of waiting in

the paint for her to drive, it opens up a lot in the paint. Teammates have clearer cutting lanes and Strong has more of an ability to drive herself. Once downhill, she has an easy time getting a layup to fall or finding another teammate.

There's a world where UConn could have Strong at the center position with four guards alongside her, which opens up a lot of possibilities on the offensive end. Five players who can shoot, pass and handle the ball? That lineup would be among the best in the country on that end of the floor and Strong's defensive abilities wouldn't hold them back there either.

She's great at swatting shots, with hand-eye coordination that is exceptional. She

doesn't have the size to swat many shots from centers, but if smaller players drive and challenge Strong at the rim, then she'll make them pay.

Looking broadly, Strong's commitment takes the Huskies to a completely new level next year. There's a chance she could be a day one starter and her diverse skillset would allow her to morph into whatever role UConn needs her to fit into. If she needs to play as a big wing in a game against an opponent with more size, she can do that. If there's a fast paced, smaller matchup and she needs to hold down the inside, she can also do that.

Strong's versatility is super helpful for the UConn women next year and takes them towards the top of the title conversation. They still do have some question marks on the interior, with the uncertainties of what Jana El Alfry will bring and how much Ice Brady will develop, but their backcourt is as good as any other in the country.

Bueckers will likely be the face of the sport, Azzi Fudd is an exceptional shooter, KK Arnold should take a sophomore leap and there are many others who can pitch in around the rotation. As usual, their biggest obstacle will be health. If they can make it through the year without injuries, there's little stopping them from contending for national title No. 12.



STRATTON'S

STAND

FILE LOGO/THE DAILY CAMPUS

UConn's loss comes at the hands of Iowa in the Final Four in Cleveland on Friday, April 5, 2024. A hard fought performance against Iowa brought the Huskies within a two point game with a final score of 69-71, closing out the game and season.

PHOTO BY CONNOR SHARP, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

UConn women's lacrosse defeats Villanova at Storrs with a final score of 16-6 on Wednesday, April 3, 2024. The Huskies took a huge early lead and didn't let up even in the cold weather.

PHOTO BY CONNOR SHARP, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS



UConn softball loses their second game against Creighton at the Burrill Family Field in Storrs, Conn. on April 13, 2024. The Huskies went 2-1 for their entire three game series with Creighton over the weekend.

PHOTO BY MERCER FERGUSON, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS



UConn men's soccer takes on University of Rhode Island at Morrone Stadium on Saturday, April 13, 2024. UConn beats URI 3-1 after a rainy game.

PHOTO BY CONNOR SHARP, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS



UConn hosts the Dog Fight Invite at Storrs on Saturday, March 30, 2024. The men took first place totaling 170 points in 20 scored events. The women finished first, putting up a huge total of 186.75 points in 19 scored events.

PHOTO BY CONNOR SHARP, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS



The UConn baseball team goes up against Boston College at their home field Elliot Ball Park in Storrs, Conn. on Tuesday, March 26, 2024. The Huskies unfortunately could not keep up with the BC Eagles and went home with a 4-7 loss.

PHOTO BY SIHAM NEDLOUSSI, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS



Sports

BASEBALL:

Huskies host Kansas State; seek revenge at Boston College in marquee midweek matchups

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With each triumph during their 12-game homestand, the UConn baseball team has gotten hotter and hotter. Since Easter weekend, the Huskies have gone 7-2 and collected critical conference series wins over the Xavier Musketeers and St. John's Red Storm. Connecticut has outscored their opponents 62-30 over their past six games and 99-61 during their current homestand.

The Hook C's season-long stretch in Storrs concludes tonight in a nonconference clash against the Kansas State Wildcats before heading to Boston for a rematch with the Boston College Eagles tomorrow.

Graduate infielder Paul Tammaro had the game of his career in the series finale against the Red Storm on Sunday. Tammaro tallied a career-best nine RBI that afternoon, three of which came on a series-clinching walk-off blast in the bottom of the ninth inning. With a team-leading .322 batting average and hits in six out of

his last seven games, expect UConn's shortstop to continue doing damage at the dish.

Senior outfielder Corey Morton and graduate third baseman Luke Broadhurst will each do likewise. Both veterans are batting .296, with the latter having recorded a hit in nine out of his last 10 contests. Broadhurst has homered four times and raised his batting average by 90 points in that span. Morton, meanwhile, has been consistent all season. No player has more than the Norwalk native's 40 hits, and his 23 RBI are second behind his graduate teammate.

Each Nutmeg State native brings as much power to the plate for the Huskies as first baseman Maddix Dalena does. Dalena became the first Connecticut player since Mike Olt in 2010 to have a three-homer game on Friday night and leads the team with eight longballs. With how well he has been seeing the ball recently, the 6-foot-3 sophomore should be able to add on to his 10 RBI in his past five games.

As has been the case with most midweek contests, expect true freshman Ben Schild and Seton Hall transfer Joe Cinnella on the bump. Cinnella, who will likely start tomorrow, did not pitch against the Eagles three weeks ago but will look to limit his walks in

Massachusetts. Schild previously pitched 3.1 innings of one-run ball against the Bryant Bulldogs last Tuesday and faces one of his toughest challenges in a potent Kansas State offense.

The Wildcats travel to Storrs for their first-ever meeting against the Hook C after being swept by the Oklahoma Sooners. Despite their 7-8 record in Big 12 play, Kansas State ranks 38th in Warren Nolan's RPI standings and grabbed their first two wins of the year against UConn's next two opponents after tonight.

Wichita State transfer Chuck Ingram, who went 3-5 against the Sooners on Sunday, has delivered at the dish in his first year as a Wildcat. Ingram hits for both average and power as his 52 base knocks rank fourth in the Big 12 Conference and his eight home runs complement his .979 OPS.

Redshirt junior Brady Day has as many hits as the Missouri native does in 23 fewer at-bats, and his .394 batting average ranks second in the conference behind Texas Tech's Damian Bravo. Paired with his team-leading 1.142 OPS and 38 RBI, Day is the most dangerous hitter in the Wildcats' lineup. The New Hampshire native returns to New England with hits in seven out of his last eight games and a double in three games straight.

Juniors Kaelen Culpepper and Brendan Jones are Kansas State's other sluggers that have at least a .900 OPS and a .300 batting average. Culpepper whacked six hits in his last four games and leads the team with four triples. Jones

UConn Huskies go up against Northeastern in an afternoon game on March 27, 2024 at Elliot Ballpark. UConn lost with a final score of 6-7, leaving them with a record of 9-15.

PHOTO BY MERCER FERGUSON, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS



UConn baseball wins their home game against University of Maine at Elliot Ballpark in Storrs, Conn. on April 10, 2024. The Huskies managed a blowout with a final score of 20-2.

PHOTO BY MERCER FERGUSON, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

is just as fast with 20 stolen bases on 21 attempts.

Expect either sophomore righty Mason Buss or true freshman Blake Dean to take the bump versus the Huskies tonight. Buss saw his ERA rise from 1.93 to 3.18 following his most recent outing against the Wichita State Shockers, but that will not stop him from trying to keep the Huskies off the bases. Dean, meanwhile, struck out 35 batters in 32.2 innings.

Connecticut tallied just five hits, three of which came in the second inning, in their 7-4 defeat against Boston College at Elliot Ballpark on March 26. While Hook C goes on the road for the first time in three weeks, the Eagles are wrapping up a nine-game homestand at Harrington Athletics Village.

Boston College has four qualified hitters batting over .300, including senior outfielder Cameron Leary. The veteran slugger leads the Eagles in several offensive categories with his power. Leary sits in the top 10 in the ACC with 12 longballs, his most recent giving Boston College their lone win against the Wake Forest Demon Deacons on Saturday. Add in his 18 stolen bases on 19 attempts, and a spot on the All-ACC First Team may be in the senior outfielder's sights.

There might also be a spot waiting for first base-

man Kyle Wolff. The sophomore's .348 batting average leads the team, and he is one of the Eagles' top extra-base hit producers with seven homers and 12 doubles. Three of those doubles have come in his last four games, and following a 3-5 afternoon on Sunday, expect Wolff to remain on an extra-base tear.

Keep an eye on junior infielder Nick Wang and senior outfielder Patrick Roche in the heart of Boston College's order. Both poised hitters are batting .306—with Roche doing so in 23 fewer at-bats—and have three of the Eagles' eight triples.

Instead of Brian McMonagle on the mound, UConn will likely see senior righty Evan Moore, who pitched four innings against the Northeastern Huskies in his most recent start. If that outing and his 2.1 scoreless innings in relief on Sunday are any indication, it may be hard for the Nutmeg State's Huskies' torrid offense to muster anything.

First pitch against the Wildcats tonight is at 6:05 p.m. on CBSN, while tomorrow's contest in Chestnut Hill is at 3 p.m. and will be available on MIXLR.