

Tuesday, April 9, 2024

The Daily Campus

HUSKIES WIN 6TH NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP



UCONN 75 - PURDUE 60

On Monday, April 8, 2024, the University of Connecticut's men's basketball team defeats the Purdue Boilermakers and takes home the NCAA National Championship trophy. The highly anticipated game marked the end of an incredible season, with UConn dominating Purdue 75-60.

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

DESIGNED BY EMILY O'BANNON, ASSOCIATE MANAGING EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

News

UConn Waterbury to host spring celebration today

by **Hallie LeTendre**

STAFF WRITER
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SHE/HER

Lovers of spring, the University of Connecticut's Waterbury campus is hosting an event for you this afternoon.

From 12:30 p.m. until 2:30 p.m. the UConn regional campus will be hosting a Spring Into Gardening celebration.

Go to the Waterbury campus main building, MPR 113/119 to participate in the fun.

The celebration will include several spring-related events and activities for those who stop by, the event webpage said. These events include coloring stations where participants can design ornaments, suncatchers and pinwheels.

There will also be gardening stations where attendees can plant their own seeds to kick off the growing season.

The Waterbury campus Associated Student Government and Rainbow Spirit club are collaborating to make the event happen.

Refreshments will be provided and the event is open to everyone.

UConn's Waterbury campus will be hosting several other events this month including a crafting event this Wednesday where students can take a break from their studies to do arts and crafts while enjoying pastries, which the event will provide.

ASG AND RAINBOW SPIRIT PRESENTS: SPRING INTO GARDENING

what's in store:

- design your own spring ornament, sun catcher, and/or pinwheel.
- plant your own herbs, flowers, and/or succulents.
- and enjoy delicious pastries from brooklyn bakery!

Everyone on campus is invited; let's celebrate the season together.

12:30 PM TO 2:30 PM | APRIL 9 | Multi-Purpose Room | 2024

See you there

UConn Waterbury's Associated Student Government collaborated with UConn Waterbury's Rainbow Spirit organization to host the Spring into Gardening event on Tuesday, April 9, 2024. The event will feature DIY sun catchers and pastries from Brooklyn Bakery.

PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF INSTAGRAM

This Thursday, the regional campus will be hosting a sexual assault awareness workshop as well as an EID celebration.

Later in the month, events include a bake sale, Asian American Cultural Center tabling

events, bowling events, pride events and an undergraduate recognition ceremony.

The events calendar provides all of this month's events at UConn's Waterbury campus and their details.

THE SECURITY COUNCIL REVIVES THE PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY'S UN HOPES

THE US SAYS NOT YET

(AP) — The U.N. Security Council on Monday revived the Palestinian Authority's hopes of joining the United Nations as a full member.

But the United States said relations between Israel and the Palestinians are far from ripe. That all but quashes the Palestinian Authority's U.N. membership hopes for now.

The U.S. is one of five permanent members who can veto any council action. Members of its U.N. delegation reiterated Monday that the Palestinian Authority needs to exert control over all of the Palestinian territories and negotiate statehood with Israel before it wins statehood.

The Palestinian Authority administers parts of the Israeli-occupied West Bank. Its forces were driven from Gaza when Hamas seized power in 2007, and it has no power there.

"The issue of full Palestinian membership is a decision that should be negotiated between Israel and the Palestinians," U.S. deputy ambassador Robert Wood told reporters Monday.

After years of failed on-and-off peace talks, the Palestinians have turned to the United Nations to fulfill their dream of an independent state. Israel says such steps are an attempt to sidestep the negotiating process. Israel's current right-wing government is dominated by hard-liners who oppose Palestinian statehood.

Supporters of the Palestinians' request for full membership in the United Nations asked the U.N. Security Council last week to revive its application for admission submitted in 2011.

The Palestinians' fresh bid for U.N. membership comes as the war between Israel and Hamas that began on Oct. 7 nears its sixth month and the unresolved decades-old Palestinian-Israeli conflict remains in the spotlight after years on the back burner.

Israel's U.N. ambassador dismissed any possibility of Palestinian statehood, reducing the issue to a question of his country's very ability to survive.

"From well before the establishment of the U.N., the Palestinians' goal has been clear: the annihilation of the Jews," Ambassador Gilad Erdan told reporters. The U.N. was found in the wake of World War II and "the same genocidal ideology that this body was founded to combat is still prevalent among the Palestinians," he said.

The Security Council decided to make a formal decision on Palestinian U.N. membership this month and a committee that weighs membership applications will meet again on Thursday, said Malta's U.N. Ambassador Vanessa Frazier, the current Security Council president.

"This is a historic moment again," said Riyadh Mansour, the Palestinian U.N. ambassador.

Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas delivered the Palestinian Authority's application to become the 194th member of the United Nations to then Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on Sept. 23, 2011, before addressing world leaders at the General Assembly.

"It was a historic moment then, and now that historic moment has been revived again," Mansour told reporters.

TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE SWEEPS ACROSS NORTH AMERICA

(AP) - Millions across North America witnessed the moon block out the sun during a total solar eclipse Monday.

The eclipse's path of totality stretched from Mazatlán, Mexico to Newfoundland, an area that crosses 15 U.S. states and is home to 44 million people. Revelers were engulfed in darkness at state parks, on city rooftops and in small towns.

Most of those in North America, but not in the direct path, still witnessed a partial eclipse, with the

moon transforming the sun into a fiery crescent.

Totality's first stop on land cast Mazatlán's sparkling beaches into darkness before continuing northeast toward Eagle Pass, Texas, one its first stops in the U.S.

Total solar eclipses happen somewhere around the world every 11 to 18 months, but they don't often cross paths with millions of people. The U.S. last got a taste in 2017, and won't again see a coast-to-coast spectacle until 2045.

The U.S. last got a taste in 2017, and won't again see a coast-to-coast spectacle until 2045.

ADITI RAMAKRISHNAN



The Daily Campus

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StudyBreak



Study Number C5561001

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NewHavenCRU.com



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The Pfizer Clinical Research Unit in New Haven, Connecticut is seeking healthy volunteers age 18-49 for a clinical trial comparing a study vaccine for flu to another flu vaccine.

This study involves:

- 7 visits over 7 months, about 2-4 hours each
- 2 doses of study vaccine or comparator vaccine/placebo
- Compensation up to \$3,000*, plus a bonus for travel

*Based on 7 planned visits, inclusive of screening

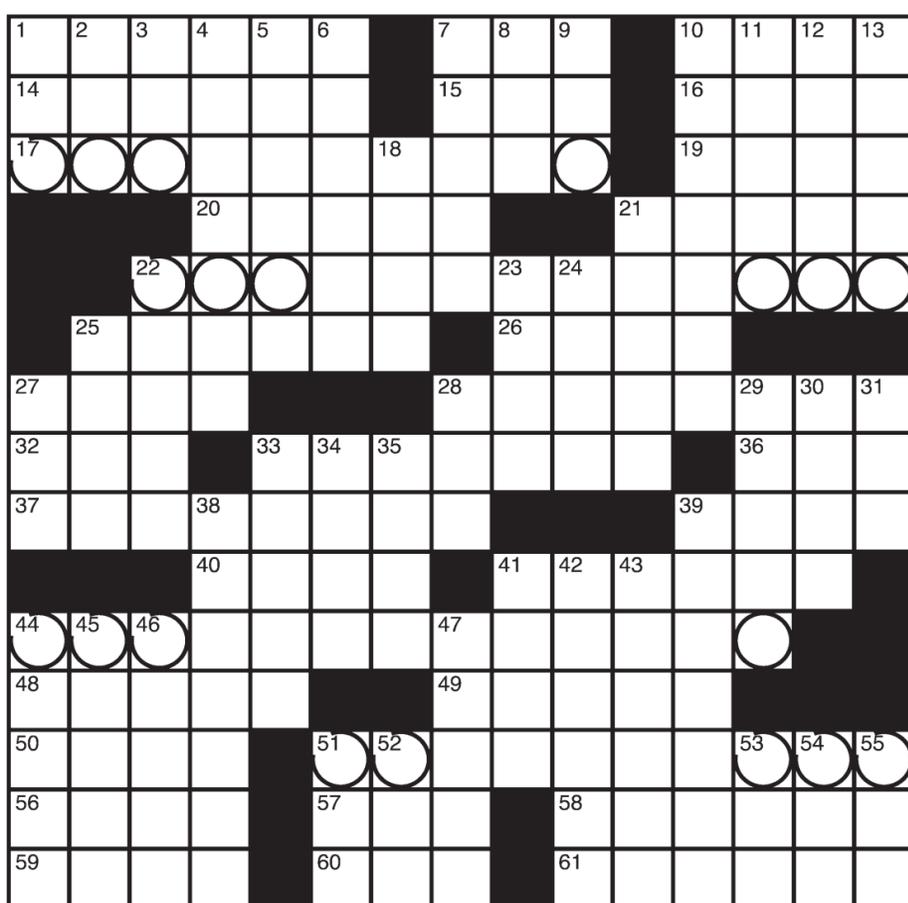
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1. Schedule your appointment
2. Tell your friends to sign up and say you referred them
3. You and your friend complete a screening visit

Call or visit our website to learn more about our referral program.

The Daily Campus CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 1 Use for support
 - 7 PC key below ~
 - 10 Distort, as data
 - 14 Calm and Restore skin care brand
 - 15 MLB stat
 - 16 Valley west of Sacramento
 - 17 Garlic bread option
 - 19 Site with a Craft Supplies section
 - 20 "Spider-Man" trilogy director Sam
 - 21 "Come on down!" announcer Johnny
 - 22 Column of super-heated ash and sulfur dioxide during an eruption
 - 25 Superficial layer
 - 26 Statistician Silver
 - 27 Not here anymore
 - 28 Word that can follow goal or detail
 - 32 __-country music
 - 33 One of a pair on a library shelf, as well as one of a pair in each set of circled letters
 - 36 Joey pal of Piglet
 - 37 Saddle attachments
 - 39 "Can't you take a __!?"
 - 40 Flow slowly
 - 41 Broad neckties
 - 44 Nightshade relish
 - 48 Geological period
 - 49 Cries miserably
 - 50 Casual get-together
 - 51 Reading on a decibel meter
 - 56 Elm or ash
 - 57 "Noah kept bees in the ark hive," e.g.
 - 58 Act as a go-between
 - 59 Utters
 - 60 18-wheeler
 - 61 Begins, as a project



By Zachary David Levy

4/9/24

- DOWN**
- 1 Lab animal in a maze
 - 2 Night before
 - 3 Superman foe Luther
 - 4 Jack Black film with the tagline "Meet your ancestors"
 - 5 Available for purchase
 - 6 Recognize
 - 7 Rail rider
 - 8 Core group?
 - 9 Drill insert
 - 10 Herman whose chart is topped with a giant "E"
 - 11 Panko-breaded chicken dish
 - 12 __ salts: bathwater additive
 - 13 Hockey Hall of Famer Gretzky
 - 18 Actor Sharif
 - 21 Chose
 - 22 Starbucks size
 - 23 Memo phrase
 - 24 Abel's brother
 - 25 Battery unit
 - 27 Need for some hybrids
 - 28 Approves
 - 29 Like stale expressions
 - 30 Ages
 - 31 Ellipsis element
 - 33 Liquid diet component

Monday's Puzzle Solved

B	A	W	L		S	O	A	R		A	R	F	E	D
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P	O	R	T	S		S	N	O	W		A	R	T	S

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4/9/24

- 34 Anise-flavored aperitif
- 35 Cartel whose "O" does not stand for "oil"
- 38 Kitchen invaders
- 39 "On the spot" spot
- 41 Part of a basic Latin conjugation
- 42 Showroom pitches
- 43 Dog with a strong herding instinct
- 44 Battery units?
- 45 Verdi composition
- 46 Amble
- 47 Yet to be paid
- 51 Steve Inskeep's network
- 52 French yes
- 53 Sue Grafton's "___ for Vengeance"
- 54 Superlative suffix
- 55 Sign between Cancer and Virgo

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This study involves:

Study Number C5561001

- 7 visits over 7 months, about 2-4 hours each
- 2 doses of study vaccine or comparator vaccine/placebo
- Compensation up to \$3,000*, plus a bonus for travel

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**Based on 7 planned visits, inclusive of screening*



TBH

I

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FOR

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You could receive up to \$100 for bringing a friend with you. Just:

1. Schedule your appointment
2. Tell your friends to sign up and say you referred them
3. You and your friend complete a screening visit

Call or visit our website to learn more about our referral program.



We've all got someone we're daydreaming about... Who's yours?

by **Thaomy Phung** | SHE/HER/HERS | CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT | thaomy.phung@uconn.edu

In just 72 hours a new band, daydreamers, have already hit 200,000 plays on their first song released on Spotify. Showcasing their songs on Instagram and TikTok, the group has gained a massive following which led to their new song's success. Finally, after months of teasing the song, the single "Call Me Up" was released on April 5, 2024.

Infatuation and puppy love is what this song is about; Puppy love can be joyful and exciting, with all the hope and butterflies that spur in the moment of young romance. It provides you with a sense of emotional connection during the formative period of a relationship, but it's too soon to know if it'll last for a while, let alone forever. It's sweet and innocent. The urge to call someone any time of the day, regardless of what you or

they are doing, just to hear their voice before the night ends is what "Call Me Up" revels in.

"If you get low and you're needing my touch / You could call me up, honey, you could call me up / If you need a rush / Call me up / Call me up"

The repetition of "call me up" suggests a yearning and longing for intimacy, offering oneself as a source for excitement and change or comfort and love.

"I'm a little drunk and I don't need that much / You could call me up, honey, I could sober up"

The song comes from the perspective of someone who would do anything for that special person. They would set aside your plans, current or future, just to spend some time with their lover. But who can blame themselves? Puppy love works its magic in mysterious ways.

"Let me meet you in the dark side of your bedroom"

"If you still want somethin' else to do / Let me call you while your friends are in the bathroom"

Indicating a desire to provide company or companionship during idle moments and offering to be a layer of support or comfort, infatuation takes over the heart and the mind, sacrificing logic and throwing away time. At the same time, there's a sense of spontaneity in doing something you probably should not be doing. The song captures such a spontaneous, yet risky romance.

One piece of criticism for this song is that it is extremely repetitive, but what is there to expect of a band's first song? Although it sounds like a perfect catchy summer drive-along-song, the repetition

gets boring quickly, making it hard to listen to on repeat.

The repeated plea to "call me up" is a reflection of the "honeymoon stage" and wanting to find a connection to someone else, doing whatever it takes to spend just seconds with them is worth it all. The lyrics also touch on the complexities of modern relationships and how it can be difficult to build relationships with other people due to poor timing, the influence of technology and failed talking stages.

Their ability to form such an upbeat song based on a brutally honest and tragic truth of romance makes for a song worth listening to. Hopefully for their next single, or even album, daydreamers take these notes into consideration to make an even better summer hit!

Rating:



VAMPIRE WEEKEND OFFERS THE STANDARD INDIE-ROCK AFFAIR WITH NEW ALBUM

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

When discussing indie bands of the 2000s, several big names often pop up. Many are quick to throw out Arcade Fire, MGMT, The Strokes and eventually the name Vampire Weekend as well. While maybe not viewed in the same way that Gorillaz or The National are revered in the musical zeitgeist today, they had an undeniable presence in the scene.

Forming in the mid-2000s as undergrads at Columbia University, Vampire Weekend quickly gained buzz. Led by guitarist and vocalist Ezra Koenig, the band put out several singles throughout 2007, leading to decent popularity despite not being signed to a major label. Following a European tour opening for The Shins, the group released their self-titled

debut in January 2008 to massive success in the indie rock world. Spin Magazine declared Vampire Weekend the "Year's Best New Band," and the quartet performed on "Saturday Night Live" and the "Late Show with David Letterman" in support of their new record.

Vampire Weekend became known for its unique inspirations and flavors folded into its alternative sound. Koenig and drummer Chris Tomson originally bonded over their shared love of Afrobeat and world music, which was made apparent in the band's debut work and subsequent efforts. While simultaneously being held as one of the best rock acts of the late 2000s, many were quick to dismiss the band as stuck-up preppy kids

from an Ivy League university, detracting from the image of the indie scene.

The group released their fifth studio album, "Only God Was Above Us" on Friday, April 5, through Columbia Records. It features a mix of influences from trip-hop to jazz. These influences come together to create a cohesive baroque pop record that begins and ends with mundanity. The more grandiose and lush pieces on this album, like the piano-laden power ballad "Capricorn," have a lot of soul and intricate layers put into them. However, there was nothing on this record that hadn't been explored by Vampire Weekend before, or other bands from the same time.

The production on this al-

bum is grand, and at times larger than life, thanks to its echoey production and heavy use of church choirs and string ensembles. The hip-hop drumbeats added to the overall vibe of the record, however, they could become obtrusive at times — especially when one tries to really focus on the intricacy of instrumentation throughout the album. "God Was Only Above Us" comes in at 47 minutes and feels way shorter than that. The best way I can describe this album is that it sounds like what you would expect a new Vampire Weekend album to sound like and doesn't break many barriers beyond that. It's definitely good, but nothing mind-blowing.

For fans of Vampire Weekend, this album is something

you'll enjoy. For fans of other bands, you might get more enjoyment listening to the new MGMT album, or just sticking to the classics and staying away from what the 2000s indie artists are up to in their early 40s.

At times, this record felt like a crossover of the soulful baroque pop sound from The Decemberists mixed with melancholy reminiscent of an electronic tune written by Radiohead's Thom Yorke. Koenig's lyrics delve into themes of isolation and loneliness, and his voice sounds just as full as it did on their first record. Despite multi-instrumentalist Rostam Batmanglij departing some years ago, the band has carried on in much of the same way, holding the same spirit throughout their music.

RATING: 3.5/5

GROWING "OLDER" WITH SOMEONE IS THE DREAM, BUT WHAT'S THE REALITY?

by **Thaomy Phung** | SHE/HER/HERS | CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT | thaomy.phung@uconn.edu

Lizzy McAlpine, talented singer-songwriter from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, has wreaked havoc — the good kind — once more with the release of her third album. Dating all the way back to 2021, while preparing "five seconds flat," she began writing "Older." According to an interview with Variety, McAlpine commented: "I was trying to figure out what my sound was, and that was what came out of that period of experimentation." While writing the album, she "could immediately feel that it was different sounding. It just felt different. It felt a little bit more mature and grounded." Finally released on April 5, 2024, "Older" came to all music platforms.

Listening to the album right at midnight when it came out, I can definitely say that out of all three of her albums, this is the most intricately crafted tracklist McAlpine has produced. The instrumental, key and lyrical choices that went into each song on "Older" made for an emotional whirlpool for listeners.

Now, here are some highlights from the tracklist.

The first song, "The Elevator," is like a 1:40 minute build up to the saddest moment of your life. So solemnly sung, her words, "Can we stay like this forever? / Can we be here in this room 'til we die?" show what it's like to

cling onto something so tightly even after knowing it's done for. I like to think of the song in direct relation to the title itself, "The Elevator." A never-ending wait to arrive at the next stage of life. The song ends with about 35 seconds of strong instrumentals that exactly depict the feeling of confusion and nervousness in forcing yourself to move past something you never thought you'd have to overcome, like a break-up or death.

The second song, "Come Down Soon," was one of the songs she performed on stage whilst on tour for "five seconds flat." The style this song is sung in is unique in that it's talkative or conversational, which sometimes doesn't work out to the artist's benefit, but this is not the case for McAlpine.

"Here's a cigarette / He offers in his outstretched hand / I remind, him 'I don't smoke these' / He says, 'I knew that'"

The periodic switch between a conversational tone and a traditional singing voice helps her tell her story of a romantic experience with a clear expiration date, and makes it feel like we're her friends (although listeners could only hope).

"All Falls Down" is another song she performed before releasing the album and is the most upbeat song on the

tracklist. Opening with a solid beat, a softly played flute and repeating descending chromatic scales, "All Falls Down," despite its cheerful attitude, is a brutally honest depiction of life's tragedies and mistrials.

"23 / And a sold-out show / I am happy, but / I'll probably cry after you go home"

"22 / Was a panic attack / I can't stop the time from moving / And I can never get it back"

Everyone goes through ups and downs, McAlpine included. Someone once told me that healing and living is not a linear path, which is completely true and fully represented with "All Falls Down," as she sings that her emotions and her tribulations are based on one sole person who she crossed paths with and must have broken her heart. The track captures the feeling of being let down by someone you depend on.

"You Forced Me To" is another highlight in "Older," as the key it's sung in, C# (D flat) major, makes for an eerie-sounding song that is very reminiscent of Edgar Allan Poe's "The Tell-Tale Heart." The suppression and echo of the piano with the incredibly repetitive guitar and piano arpeggio forces her audience into a mental spiral — a true villain's theme song.

"I want you to hate me / I deserve it for my crimes / I know that I loved you / But you

loved me harder / Every time / I am not the same as when you met me / I have changed because you forced me to"

The instrumental break in the song is nostalgic of a carousel and its repetitive nature, but carousels, like carnivals, can often be abandoned for better, modernized activities. McAlpine represents this image of a carousel's never-ending cycle of spinning, spiraling like a tragic mind, with her never-ending guitar and piano melody that remains constant throughout the entire song. The paired instruments along with her voice, all played in C# major, make for the perfect creepy, circus song.

Ending the song with "Vortex," McAlpine seals the album with a beautiful and innocent melody. With just her and her piano, she rules the world with her voice and her passion. Listening to this song, you can hear her insanely controlled breaths, as it sounds like she continues to go on a tangent, running out of breath, but her capability to maintain such a strong voice is incredibly impressive.

"And I'm tired of this and the way that it feels / I'm not there anymore, this has never been real / We're just awful together and awful apart / I don't know what to do anymore"

Sounding conversational with

her audience, McAlpine is able to portray this as her spiraling deeper into a void — vortex — of her emotions and confusion in love and broken romance. This must have been just at the beginning of the end, just before she or the person she is singing about breaks it off with the other. What's truly captivating about "Vortex" is that when the lyrics stop, the music does not. She ends the album just as it started: With instrumentals. The song finishes with about two more minutes of instrumentals and her humming, which is very dreamy in that it reminds me of that one cloud scene in "How to Train Your Dragon," when Hiccup and Astrid ride on their dragons through the clouds during sunset. A perfect ending to the album, "Vortex" is ambiguous in its meaning and melody.

As noted in my review of "Older," her single released before her album, I noted that her album was believed to be "brutally honest and wistful." Finally listening to the full album has only proved this to be true. "Older" is the most sophisticatedly crafted work she has created to date. Truly, an exceptional artist, McAlpine deserves much more recognition.

So, to answer this article's title's question, growing old with someone is the dream, but the reality, according to McAlpine, is love, loss, pain and palpitation.

RATING: 5/5



Life

@dailycampuslife

‘ABZÛ’ and the beauty of the unknown

by Desirae Sin

SHE/HER/HERS
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Welcome to The Backlog, where we review video games based on a certain genre or word each month. For April, we are exploring “relaxing” games. Today’s review dives into a game that displays the beauty and awe of the ocean, “ABZÛ.”

Released in 2016 by 505 Games and developed by Giant Squid, “ABZÛ” is a shorter experience than previous games mentioned. Yet it makes up for this through stunning graphics and an overall relaxing experience. The best thing I could compare it to is exploring an aquarium as a child and seeing aquatic creatures up close and personal.

There is no overt story or dialogue in “ABZÛ,” but it does tell the story of this world through the environment itself and the player’s interactions with it. The environments range from shal-

low reefs to caverns, and as you progress you come across more and more creatures. The encounters start with the common fish you’d find in real coral reefs, but later you find aquatic life that has been extinct for millions of years.

You can do more than just watch these creatures swim by, for some of them you can join them along their paths — like pods of dolphins and schools of fish — or even ride them. “ABZÛ” doesn’t just let you interact with the animals but allows you to live among them.

While exploring you constantly come across a great white shark, it doesn’t act as an antagonist but instead you follow it, as if you are curious about it just like the other creatures you’ve come across. By following the shark through seven chapters, you find remnants of an ancient civilization and technology that looks strikingly like your character.

Sound design is crucial for ocean exploration games, it

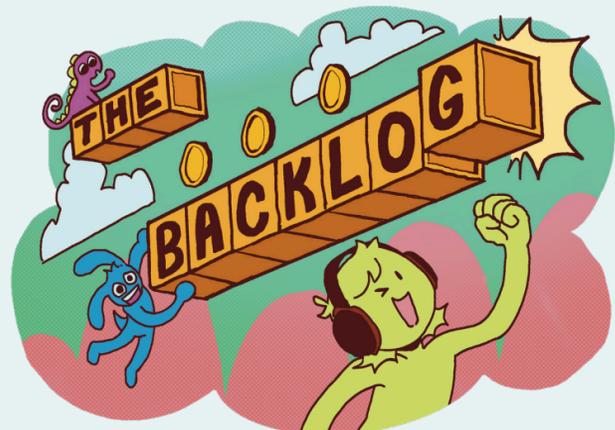
sets the tone for what kind of environment the player is in and what players can expect. For “ABZÛ” sound is especially important since there is no dialogue. The composer, Austin Wintory, outdid himself by capturing the essence of the ocean. In the sunnier areas there is a lighter tone to the music, while the deep caverns’ music contains a sense of wonder and mystery.

While “ABZÛ” doesn’t have a clear narrative, through gameplay it’s understood that our little diver is meant to reintroduce various species back into environments that are devoid of life. As you explore and interact with the environment, life is added to these desolate areas. It’s through progression that we also discover the diver is some sort of robot, a piece of technology created by the ancient civilization we come across while exploring.

Once again, “ABZÛ” is the perfect game for relax-

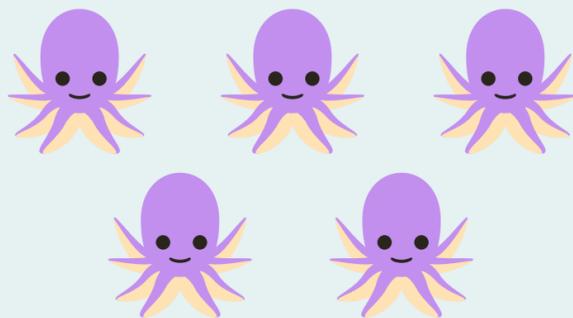
ing. There are few sequences where the player is rushed in their exploration, and taking your time is encouraged. One mechanic that I adore is the ability to meditate in each of the chapters. In some areas you can find a statue or some sort of pedestal to sit and appreciate the world around you.

Some may be nervous to play an underwater game like “ABZÛ” because of thalassophobia, a fear of the ocean or large bodies of water. It’s understandable as the idea of drowning or coming across a creature you can’t hope to swim away from is terrifying. Yet “ABZÛ” manages to dispel this fear with brightly lit environments and a friendly aesthetic. No aquatic animals are out to get you, in fact “ABZÛ” pushes the player to interact with the sea life and appreciate the beauty of this unseen world. It’s less so a video game than it is a work of art. My only complaint? The experience wasn’t long enough.



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

Rating:



‘Triple Digits (112):’ RiTchie’s graceful victory lap in the rap game

by Lilith Rampertab | SHE/HER/HERS | CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT | lilith.rampertab@uconn.edu

RiTchie, also known as Ritchie with a T, is best known as one of the rappers in the transgenerational and multiracial rap group Injury Reserve with producer Parker Corey and late rapper Stepa J. Groggs. He is also known for the sister project By Storm with Corey after Groggs’ passing. As Injury Reserve built their discography, their music became more and more unpredictable and experimental, exemplified by the critically lauded “By the Time I Get to Phoenix.” This evidently leaked into By Storm’s “Double Trio,” and to a lesser but still noticeable extent, RiTchie’s “Triple Digits [112].”

“Wings [Intro]” is an entrancing synth intro that is reminiscent of “MG1” by Machine Girl if it didn’t have vocal samples or a witch house interlude. RiTchie’s beautiful auto-crooning enhances the song, but if you were to listen closely to the lyrics, it seems to simply be about RiTchie eating wings with someone. It’s certainly cryptic and metaphorical, but still an enjoyable intro that has replay value, especially with the “Ed, Edd n Eddy” reference.

“WYTD!?!,” an abbreviation for “what you tryna do,” represents RiTchie trying to get the audience to think about what they want to do

with their lives. The lyric “It’s a vibe they say” demonstrates RiTchie trying to understand Generation Z’s language. If it weren’t for the lyrics, “By the Time I Get to Phoenix” era booming vocal inflections and experimental production patterns, “WYTD!?!” would sound like a summer song from the 90s with its bright and peppy electric guitar-led instrumental — just like how the person sampled at the end of the song said it would be perfect for “a sunny day.”

The first single, “RiTchie Valens,” is a diss track to rappers who RiTchie thinks are hateful and backwards. The mesmerizing and cathartic instrumental was produced by RiTchie with his “We’re worried about you, RiTchie” producer tag and J. Fisher, the latter of whom previously only self-produced. The namesake of the song is a tribute to 1950s rock-and-roll artist Ritchie Valens.

Produced by FearDorian, “The Keepers” follows the evolving sample drill movement with a deconstructed house flair to it. The lyrics are critical of the practice of gatekeeping or acting as an authority to try and discourage others from enjoying the same things the gatekeeper enjoys.

“Only You” is the outro for “The Keepers” and offers an open-ended interpretation of

why RiTchie focuses on the number “112” while still leaving more questions than answers. There are themes of “112” being a temperature, time and speed.

The title track is incredibly dense percussion-wise, and RiTchie flows eloquently throughout the song. The melody sounds similar to “Dummy!” or “Amalgam” from the “Undertale” official soundtrack.

“Dizzy” features Portland, Oregon’s Aminé, who previously collaborated with Injury Reserve on their tech-savvy banger “Jailbreak The Tesla” and Aminé’s introspective and forward-thinking “Fetus.” The song makes fun of people pushing thirty about their age with odd self-absorbed priorities over practical ones. A prime example of this is the first two lyrics that Aminé starts his slightly humorous verse with “You the type to link and build at a urinal. Your granny died, you taking fit pics at the funeral.”

“Looping” features existential themes with its motif of the lyric “We don’t know where to go” and RiTchie experimenting with multiple voices. The production has heavy usage of the bass drum.

“Your Worst Nightmare” is an interlude with a freestyle from someone else threaten-

ing to put pesticide in the recipient’s food as a threat.

“How?!” is another sample drill cut that is more maximalist and upbeat than “The Keepers” with a feature from up-and-coming rapper Niontay, who previously worked with MIKE and Earl Sweatshirt.

The lyrics of “Get A Fade” read like poetry and are supplemented by a beautiful lo-fi instrumental and bit-crushed vocals. The detailed lyrics “Last night, I saw your face in the hallowed light, you were standing taller than the mountain side, your long locks flowed down in blues and whites, I just stood there, bathed in the quiet” add a level of crypticness like “Wings [Intro].” The song ends with RiTchie acting out the roles of a barber and a client who wants a haircut.

“The Thing” features underground rap veteran Quelle Chris. This song is likely the most conventional song on “Triple Digits [112]” apart from “RiTchie Valens,” but the sample is off-kilter, and the flows are still unconventional and impressive. The long, old-school-sounding vocal sample at the end fits the upbeat and jazzy production.

“5onthe.” (read as “five on the dot”) is reminiscent of Injury Reserve’s “What A Year It’s Been” with how lyrically heavy it is, how RiTchie auto-croons and how he references other songs in the dis-

cography. In this case, RiTchie references the “hee-hee-ha-ha” in “RiTchie Valens.” He also delves into themes of mortality, mentioning real issues like how his rent is two months overdue and how he wishes that everyone could be clothed and fed. The song is open-ended without much closure, with RiTchie crooning at the end “We’ve been here before.” The production is mostly a quiet synth with loud hi-hats, 808s and other percussions added later. The snoring in the background adds to the dream-like atmosphere.

“[Credits]” is a shoutout from RiTchie to the producers Genny, MelikXYZ, J. Fisher, FearDorian, AJRadico and Corey, the mixer and masterer Zeroh — presumably Injury Reserve’s manager Nick Herbert and the audience under an eerie ambient production.

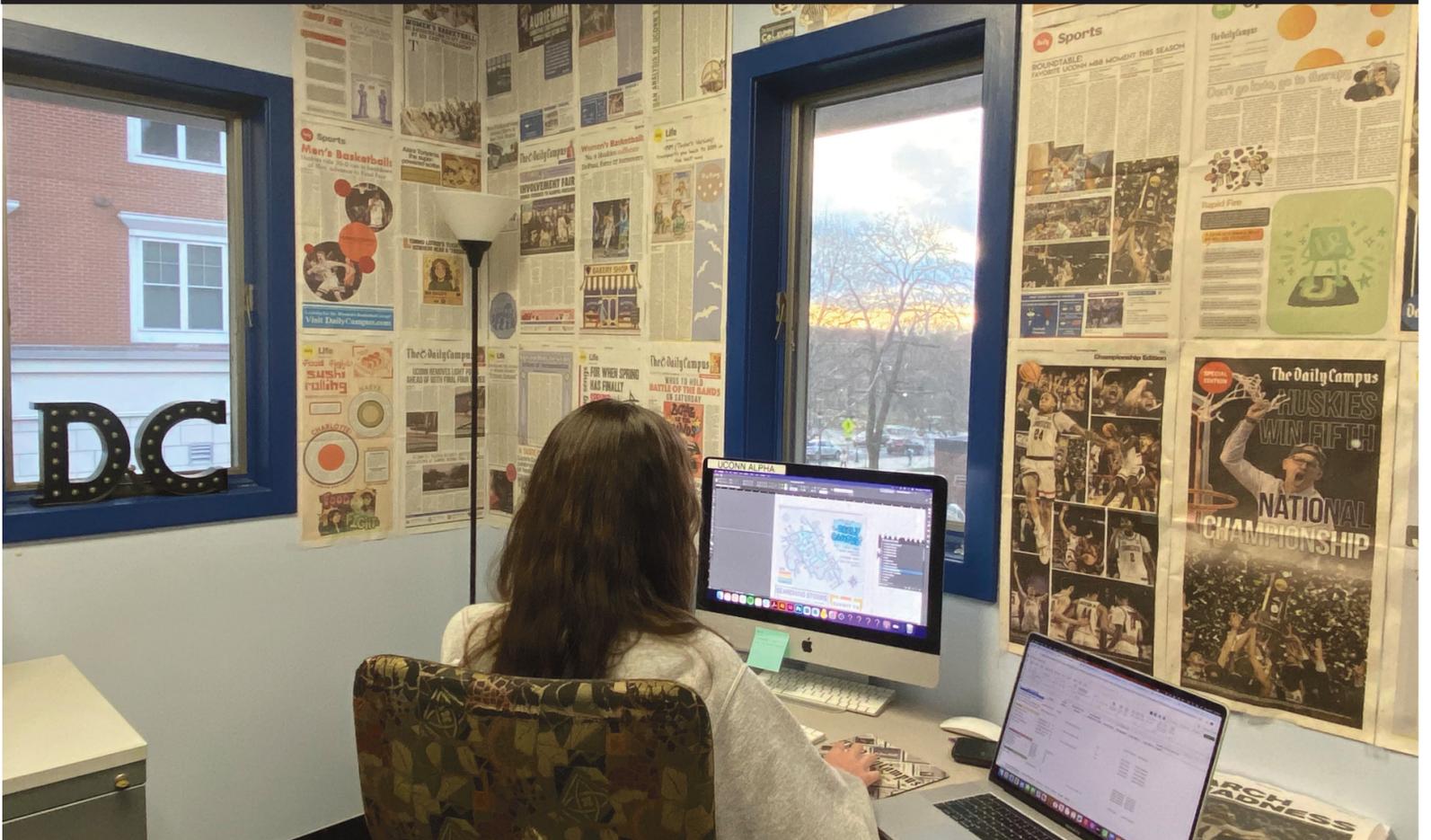
RiTchie has come a long way since his involvement in Injury Reserve’s “Cooler Colors” EP and “Depth Chart.” While participating in the rap game, he never lost his integrity both as an artist and as a human being. RiTchie and his team curated something that, while more playful than “By the Time I Get to Phoenix,” is still thoughtful and something that time will treat nicely.

Rating:



Opinion StudyBreak

Photo of the Day | Working hard or hardly working?



A Daily Campus employee designs a page of the coveted newspaper in The Daily Campus building located behind Moe's Southwest Grill in Storrs, Conn. The Daily Campus has been publishing campus news since 1896.
 PHOTO BY RAQUEL MONTELINDO, MANAGING EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

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KEY

- DINING HALLS
- EXTERNAL LOCATIONS
- ACADEMIC BUILDINGS
- UConn BUILDINGS

SEARCHING STORRS

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- GANT PLAZA
- DODD CENTER
- GAMPEL PAVILION
- HOMER BABBIDGE
- BENTON MUSEUM
- HUSKY VILLAGE
- TEDS
- ALUMNI CENTER
- BOOKSTORE
- OAK HALL
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- STUDENT UNION
- REC CENTER
- DAIRY BARN

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.

<https://dailycampus.com/culture-shock/>

The Puck Drop:

The league of brotherly love

by Avery Becker
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As the 2023-2024 NHL regular season slowly comes to a close, many fans will remember it for the drama currently happening in the playoffs, the plethora of new talent that entered and the family ties within the league.

With that, let's start with a statistic.

There were 20 sets of brothers who played in the NHL this season.

You know how they call Philadelphia, the "City of Brotherly Love?" With those numbers, it's safe to say that the NHL is the "League of Brotherly Love."

For this edition of the Puck Drop, I'll highlight some of these brothers and how they've been impacting the league.

Matthew and Brady Tkachuk
Sons of NHL player Keith Tkachuk, Matthew and Brady have both made waves in their time in the NHL.

Matthew, a forward and alternate captain of the Florida Panthers, has helped lead his team to playoff contention. The 26-year-old has notched 25 goals and 55

assists on the season, second on the team behind Sam Reinhart with the most points.

On the other hand, his brother Brady, 24-year-old forward and captain of the Ottawa

Senators, is also second on the team in points with 68, behind Tim Stützle. Even though the Senators aren't in playoff con-

tion this year, Brady is still regarded as an elite player around the league.

Both brothers have been known to take after their dad and

throw some punches around, bringing a very

physical aspect of their game.

"We are each other's biggest fan...When we play against each other now, especially [being] in the same division, we have to beat each other, our teams have to win. It creates that healthy competi-

tion. It's a very good relationship the two of us

have."
Matthew Tkachuk said in an

Jack, Luke and Quinn Hughes

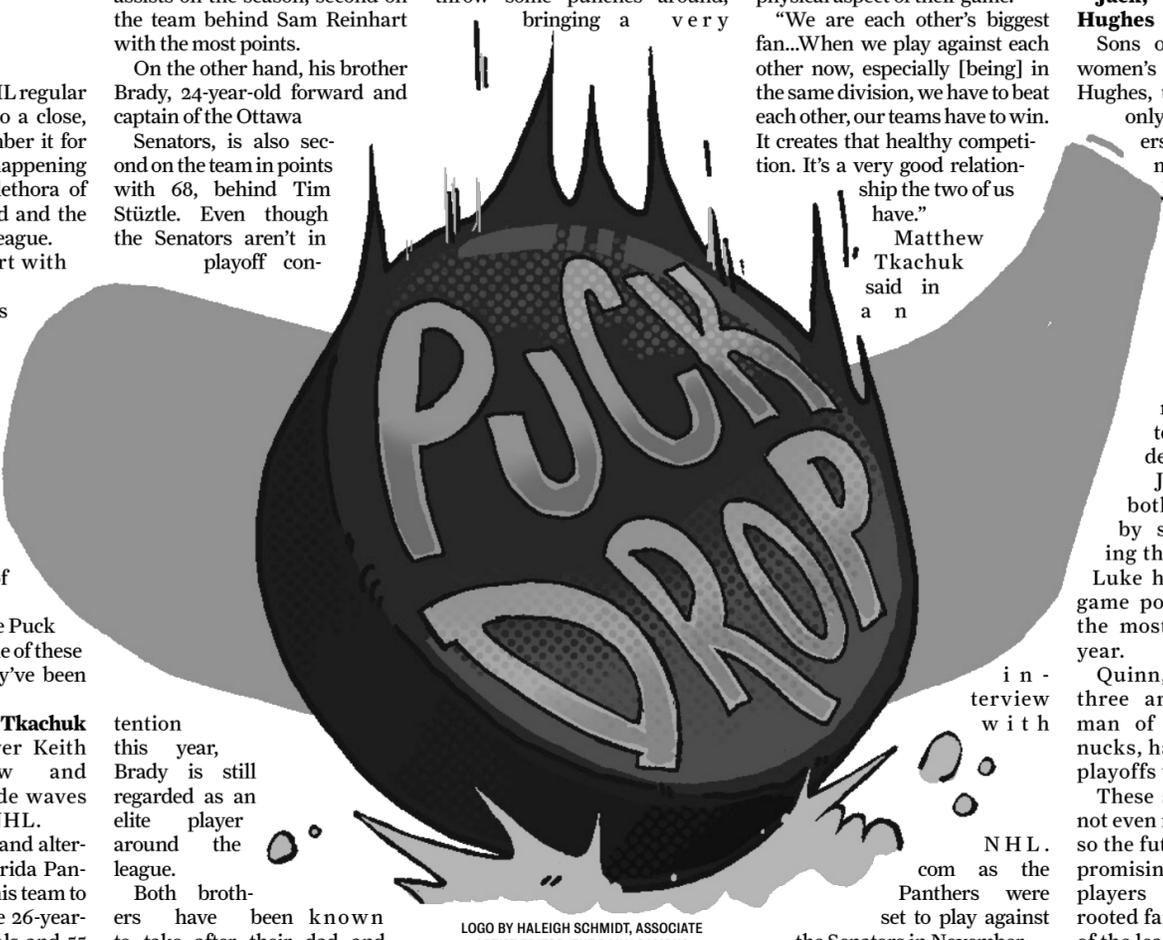
Sons of Jim and legendary women's hockey player, Ellen Hughes, these brothers are the only group of three brothers in the league. What makes it even better? Jack and Luke both play for the New Jersey Devils.

"I think he had a louder (cheer) than I did when they (announced) Luke Hughes was starting...I see where I rank," Jack joked after his brother's NHL debut last season.

Jack and Luke are both taking the Devils by storm and dominating the ice. This past week Luke has been on a seven-game point streak, which is the most of any rookie this year.

Quinn, the oldest of the three and captain defenseman of the Vancouver Canucks, has led his team to the playoffs with 86 points.

These sets of brothers have not even reached their late 20s, so the future of the NHL looks promising with these special players from these hockey-rooted families at the forefront of the league's offense.



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

in -
terview
with
NHL.
com as the
Panthers were
set to play against
the Senators in November.



IMAGE COURTESY OF @JHUGH86 ON TWITTER

Sports

Photo of the Day | Championship bound



In a fight against Alabama in the Final Four, UConn comes out on top 86-72 on Saturday, April 6, 2024. The Huskies' victory secured their spot in the national championship game against Purdue.
PHOTO BY JORDAN ARNOLD, ASSOCIATE PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Bridget's Bulletin: Will the Red Sox-Yankees rivalry return this season?

by **Bridget Bronsdon**
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The Boston Red Sox have gotten to work early and found their footing for a surprising start to the 2024 season. After an opening day win against the Seattle Mariners, a 3-0 series shutout against the Oakland Athletics and most recently a 2-1 series triumph over the Los Angeles Angels, the Bostonians have created newfound momentum.

While the trials and tribulations of the past several years have pervaded the Red Sox' media to occasionally overshadow their muted successes, the team has quickly clawed their way out of the American League basement where they've resided for several seasons.

After falling to the bottom of the league two years in a

row, the Bostonians trail just behind their long-time rival, the Yankees. Perhaps this season will be the year the true rivalry returns as the groups have quickly found their way to the top of the league.

While the iconic New York-Boston history has been littered with fierce competition, the occasional brawl and passionate fans, the rivalry has seemed to quiet in recent years.

The last time the duo saw the most significant difference in competition was in 2022 when the teams appeared on opposite ends of the league with New York (99-63) rising to the top spot and Boston (78-84) hitting the lowest spot. After New York shut out the Red Sox 6-0 in the 2022 season, there wasn't massive competition nor the historic nail-biting rivalry.

While the following year wasn't much better for the

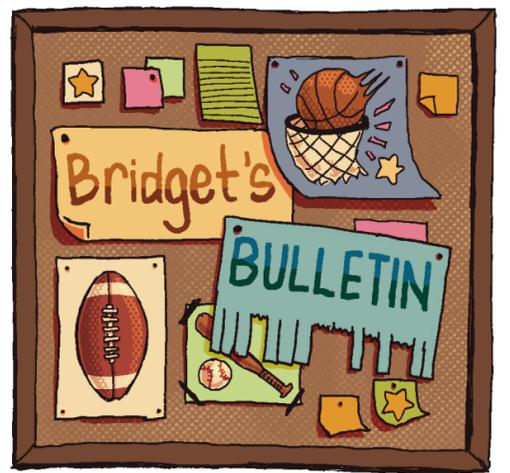
Red Sox, their opponent joined them at the bottom but still managed to score just slightly higher. Although the Yankees finished just slightly better off than the Sox, which may have been the twist of the knife for fans, the year still lacked a certain level of competitiveness. While the rivalry was still there, neither group was hitting anywhere near the top spot.

Although the teams went 3-3 against each other in the 2023 season, the occasional win didn't appear to be competitively satisfying enough.

The 2018 season may have been the last time the fire was truly burning in the rivalry. In an April evening game, benches cleared twice for an unusual brawl as tempers flared and the teams went tail-spinning.

The bench cleared for the first time in the third as New

Yorker Tyler Austin slid hard into second and unintentionally spiked Boston's Brock Holt. In the seventh, Boston's Joe Kelly nailed Austin with a pitch to send him slamming his bat to the ground and charging the mound. With tensions at an all-time high, dugouts emptied, punches were thrown and several athletes were ejected.



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

Despite the longstanding rivalry between the two, the competitive nature has usually remained within the bounds of the contest and fights have remained relatively uncommon.

That year, the duo faced off in the American League Division Series where the Bostonians came out on top 3-1 and went on to claim the World Series title.

Although it's barely two weeks in, the two may be giving each other a run for their money this season and while the team is a collective, the individual talent has shined through from both benches.

From Boston, right fielder Tyler O'Neill has been the standout. With a .357 batting average and 12 runs just 10 games in, all signs are pointing to success from the Canadian native. On the mound, the pitching lineup has performed exceptionally well, and many are crediting the new pitching coach, Andrew Bailey, for the early dominance. With fewer fastballs and more breaking balls, many are already applauding his lead.

From New York, shortstop Anthony Volpe, in his second year with the team, has been exceptional. With a .424 batting average, nine runs and three stolen bases, he's been offensively dominant. On defense, the collective .977 fielding percentage certainly appears to be a force to be reckoned with.

While the season is still in its early stages, the restoration of an old rivalry could be brewing on the East Coast to relight a flame that once burned bright between Boston and New York. The duo will meet for the first time this season in mid-July, but until then the two must focus on the matches at hand to keep their record in good standing.



The Boston Red Sox played a tough game against their long time rivals, the New York Yankees, on Sept. 22, 2022. The 10 inning game ended with the Yankees winning, 5-4.

PHOTO COURTESY OF @MLBONFOX ON TWITTER

Women's Tennis: Huskies split their two road matches

by Caleb Cook

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Over the weekend, the Huskies were on the road, taking on Georgetown in College Park, MD, and Villanova in Pennsylvania for the last two matches before their regular season finale. The program started out cold in this doubleheader, falling to the Hoyas in heartbreaking fashion 4-3, but bounced back to beat the Wildcats by that same score in another close match.

Vs. Georgetown

This matchup started in UConn's favor, securing the doubles point thanks to strong play from the top of the lineup. Juniors Olivia Wright and Maria Constantinou won the first game of the day in dominating fashion, defeating graduate student Chloe Bendetti and freshman Katie Garofolo-Ro by a score of 6-1. The Connecticut lead was built upon by junior Isabel Petri Bere and freshman Caroline Hinshaw, who got the better of seniors Olivia Ashton and Morgan Coburn in an amazing comeback. The Georgetown duo jumped out to a 4-0 lead, finding themselves at match point, but Petri Bere and Hinshaw fought all the way back. From there, the pair didn't drop another game and won the match 6-4, securing the doubles point for the Huskies.

Singles play is where the Hoyas started to come into their own and make it a close match. In the opening singles match, Bendetti defeated Wright in an exhilarat-

ing three set affair that finished 6-2, 5-7, 6-1. Constantinou pulled some momentum back UConn's way in the second match, defeating senior Avantika Willy in straight sets while only dropping one game (6-1, 6-0). With UConn leading 2-1, Georgetown kicked it into high gear, winning the next two singles matches to take the lead. Freshman Emily Novikov made light work of Petri Bere, winning 6-3, 6-1 while Garofolo-Ro made up for her doubles loss with a 6-4, 3-6, 6-2 victory over Hinshaw.

Now sitting at 3-2 in Georgetown's favor, Cameron Didion stepped up big in a sophomore showdown against Paige Gilbert, securing the 6-4, 6-3 straight set win. After all the games, sets and matches, everything came down to one final match between UConn freshman Isabella Asenov and Georgetown sophomore Ashley Kennedy. Knotted at three, Kennedy left no doubts, coming out with a commanding straight set victory (6-3, 6-2) and securing the 4-3 dub for the Hoyas.

Vs. Villanova

UConn was having some déjà vu at the start of this matchup as they stormed out to a commanding lead in doubles play. Wright and Constantinou kept cooking, breezing past graduate student Ami Grace Dougah and freshman Miriam Gondorova in a match that finished 6-2. To secure the doubles point and an early lead for Connecticut, Petri Bere and Hinshaw secured a resounding 6-1 victory against sophomores Maggie Gehrig and Emi Callahan.

To start singles play, Dougah

got her revenge

against Wright in a very closely contested three set match. After winning the first set 6-4, the junior fought back to tie it up with her own 6-4 victory, but Dougah was able to outlast Wright's efforts to win the last set once again with a 6-4 score. Constantinou brought things back for the Huskies, though, keeping her red-hot form going with a dominant 6-2, 6-2 win versus Gehrig.

In a similar fashion to the Georgetown match, Villanova would win the next two matches to snatch the lead from UConn. Gondorova and fellow freshman Jenna Stevens came out with some huge results, defeating Petri Bere (3-6, 6-2, 7-6) and Hinshaw (4-6, 6-3, 6-4) respectively. Up against the ropes, Didion once again stepped up big to tie things up, securing a straight set victory over freshman Lauren Monti. Once again, it all came down to the last match fea-



The UConn women's tennis team plays against Scared Heart University in Manchester Conn. on Feb. 29, 2024. The Huskies brought home a win against the SHU players going 5-2 on a windy Thursday afternoon. PHOTO BY SIHAM NEDLOUSSI, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Georgetown loss. She didn't let the lead go to waste and the 6-4 set victory locked up the 4-3 win for Connecticut.

What's Next

In the final match of the season before the Big East tournament, the Huskies will host Seton Hall in Storrs, CT at tennis courts on Discovery Drive later this week. The match will be held on Friday, April 12 at 3 p.m.

The Weekly Reed: The MLBPA versus the MLB

by Noah Reed

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Times in the MLB have become a little hairy over the past few weeks with a handful of issues being tossed around. What has been highlighted the most, however, are the persistent issues between the MLBPA and the MLB. The Major League Baseball Players Association

The Jerseys

One of the more publicized issues concerns MLB's new jersey partners. Nike, who oversees the uniforms, has Fanatics manufacturing them this season. Since they were a n -

forms yet. Things started to blow up when spring training photos were taken, and the pants were see-through and the lettering for the names was too small. This led many fans to complain online, and players to complain to their union. The Kansas City Royals had to fight to keep the larger lettering for their players a n d

MLB against each other in recent weeks. MLB has again announced that they'll work on fixing the issues but have not yet taken action.

The Coup

An internal spat was brought to the forefront of the sporting world just a few weeks ago when a group of players attempted to oust current MLBPA deputy director Bruce Meyer and replace him with lawyer Harry Marino. This coordinated coup had players like Detroit Tigers pitcher Jack Flaherty address the MLBPA's executive council demanding that the union replace Meyer with Marino to no avail. Players seemed to be concerned with the chokehold Scott Boras has over the union, an agent who typically performs well for his clients in free agency but failed miserably this year. With five of MLB's top free agents under his agency (Montgomery, Snell, Chapman, Bellinger, Martinez), Boras essentially secured them all one-to-three-year deals, dragging out free agency deep into March. Marino is a former minor leaguer who helped re-shape the collective bargaining

this can become a bigger problem over time, and eventually boil over in 2026 when the current CBA is up.

The Injuries

The final issue I'll talk about is the abnormally high rate of pitching injuries. In the last week alone, pitchers like Shane Bieber (Guardians), Spencer Strider (Braves) and Eury Perez (Marlins) have gone down with significant arm injuries. The reason for this uptick in long-term arm injuries is currently being debated between the union and the league. The MLBPA came out with a statement arguing that the number of rule changes over the past few seasons has contributed to the number and severity of pitching injuries and that some of these rules should be reconsidered. MLB followed up with a statement of their own, claiming they've done the research and found that not to be the case and that they are working on solving the issue. In a sense, the MLBPA believes that the pitch clock, timer between inning and some of the other changes has been putting more stress on pitchers arms, creating a situation where forcing pitchers to deliver faster is doing damage. Some inside the MLB have brought up the argument that pitchers arm angles have changed drastically while putting more emphasis on velocity and movement. This once again pins the MLBPA and MLB against each other with differing views.

There is a lot brewing between these two parties, none of which is good. As I previously mentioned, the CBA is in effect until 2026, but it would be no surprise if there is another lockout. As for possible solutions, I'm not sure. Fans and players can at least celebrate the fact that commissioner Rob Manfred announced he'll be stepping down at the end of his contract in 2029. Hopefully the league hires someone willing to represent both the league and the union well (my money's on Theo Epstein).



The MLB recently released new jerseys in collaboration with Nike, which were immediately hit with backlash. Players and fans complained of cheap material and unwanted changes in iconic designs. PHOTO COURTESY OF @USATODAYSPTS ON TWITTER

CLIPART COURTESY OF RAWPIXEL

(MLBPA) is the labor union that represents all active players and is currently led by former player Tony Clark. Relations between the league and the union have been increasingly tense since the last collective bargaining agreement (CBA) that was signed in 2022, and these past couple weeks have added fuel to the fire.

nounced, there have been nothing but issues and complaints from fans and players, but it doesn't seem like the league will respond. Players say the uniforms feel cheap, some pants and jerseys aren't the same shades of gray or white, players are easily sweating through them, fans hate them and some teams haven't even received their alternate uni-

are the only team that's maintained them over the transition. Many have seen this a n d called out the MLB for being unwilling to cough up the money to produce the best quality for their players. This has pinned the MLBPA and

many players, Marino wants the union to gain more independence and a stronger voice, something that the current regime has hindered. While not everyone was for this change, Flaherty has come out and apologized after the news went public. While not much else has been reported on this issue, many are worried that





Sports



Baseball:



Huskies look to stay hot at home against Bulldogs and Black Bears

by **Evan Rodriguez**
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After a massive series win on the diamond against the Xavier Musketeers at Elliot Ballpark, the UConn baseball team will look to stay hot in two more matchups at home, facing the Bryant Bulldogs on Tuesday and the Maine Black Bears on Wednesday.

The Huskies will look to build on a terrific pitching performance on Saturday and Sunday, holding the Musketeers to just two runs between both of those days. While Connecticut's offense still has some strides to make at the plate, the weekend series was a massive step in the right direction.

Both Tuesday and Wednesday will be another pair of tests for the Hook C, especially when you consider the season that Bryant has had up to this point. The Bulldogs are sitting at 19-10 ahead of their matchup at Elliot Ballpark and are coming off a dominating performance against Albany on the road. That series showed that this squad can truly put up some strong offensive numbers, scoring a combined 39 runs against the Great Danes. Now, they'll have to see if they can replicate that success against the Huskies.

UConn's arms do have a few places to look when considering some weapons with these Bulldogs hitters. At the top of that list stands Gavin Noriega, a senior outfielder who is currently batting .336 with 10 home runs and 28 RBIs. In Bryant's last game of their previous series against Albany, the former Marist transfer was a game changer, tallying four

cut. In fact, this player will be quite familiar to this squad. After opting to transfer from the Hook C program in 2024, Gavin Greger will have the opportunity to face his old team

luck on their side with this matchup, as innings leader Tyler Horvat won't be pitching against UConn after appearing on Sunday in their win against the Great Danes. However, there are plenty of other arms in the bullpen like Jared Burrows, another Connecticut

The team is coming off a split doubleheader against the New Jersey Institute of Technology and are currently sitting at the bottom of the America East. They too have some players to look out for, more specifically Zach Martin. He's sitting fifth in the conference with a .333 batting average, just one spot below Noriega. He may not have a massive amount of plate appearances like the top guys in the America East, but he's certainly a player who will be looked upon to deliver big if needed.

The next three top hitters for Maine are all big contributors, with Jeremiah Jenkins being the

scarcest. He leads his team in homers with 12 and is a .309 hitter at first base. Both Myles Sargent and Jake Marquez have also been essential at the plate for this squad.

Ultimately for Connecticut, what the program needs to look for in these two matchups is to continue to make progress. After starting the season at a low point, they've made some massive strides since then, especially at the plate, and that's been a big storyline as they began conference play at Xavier. As these next two games prepare them for another weekend Big East series, this time against St. John's, they must play to their potential.

First pitch against Bryant will be at 3:05 p.m. on Tuesday, while Wednesday's game against Maine will also begin at 3:05 p.m. Both games will be available to watch on UConn+.

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UConn's arms do have a few places to look when considering some weapons with these Bulldogs hitters. At the

RBIs of his own to help bring his team to victory. He's been a big reason why this team is so successful in conference play at an 8-1 record.

However, Noriega is not the only player in this outfield that can cause trouble for Connecticut.

back at Elliot Ballpark for the first time. This season for the Bulldogs, he's been a mainstay in their lineup with just two fewer at-bats than Noriega's 107, a .257 average and a team-leading 11 stolen bases.

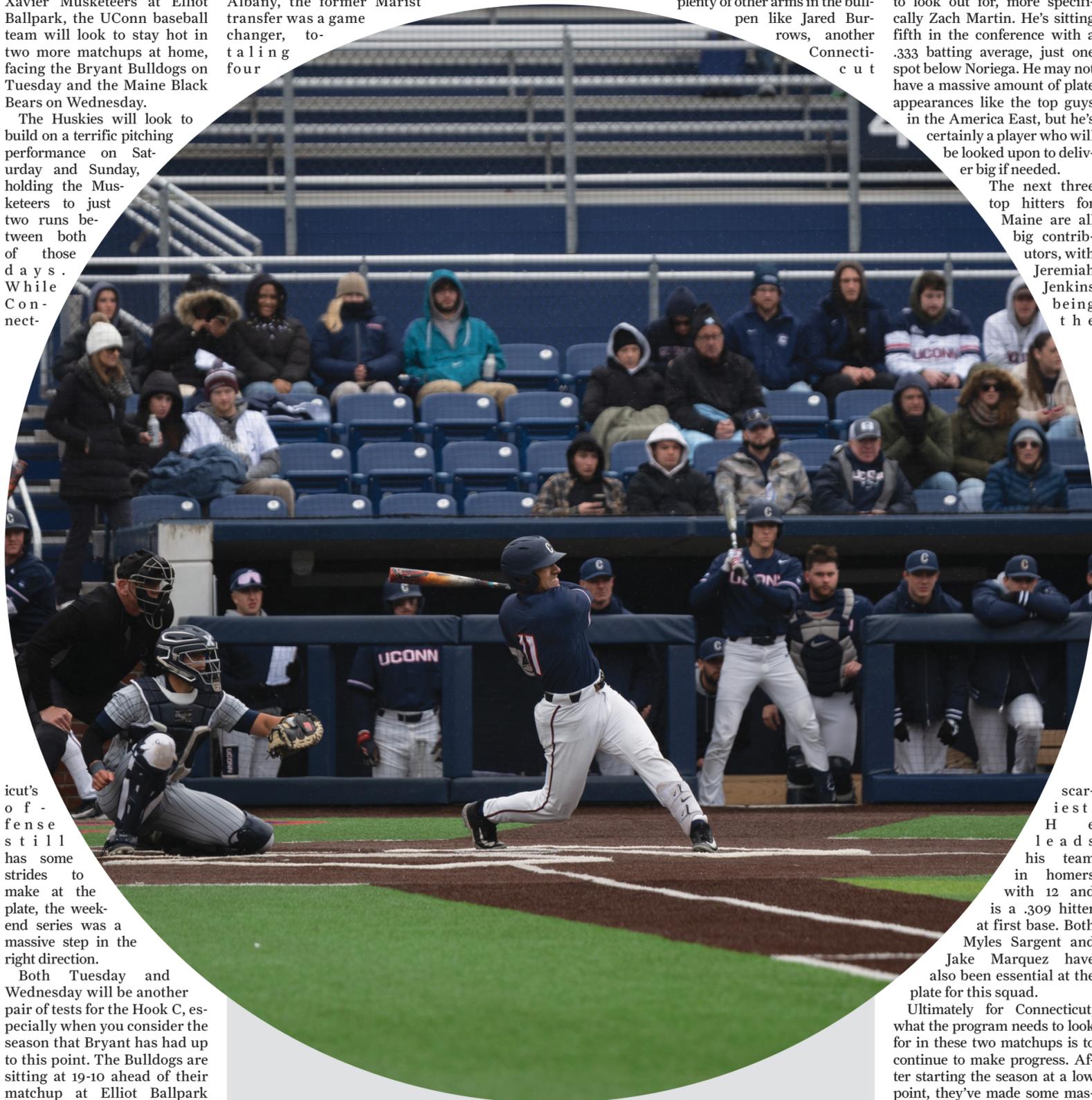
The Huskies will have some

native, that could give these hitters plenty of trouble.

As for what Maine brings to the table compared to Bryant, it's been more of the opposite. The Black Bears sit at 7-19 and have had some massive struggles throughout the season.

UConn baseball wins their matchup against Xavier at Elliot Ballpark in Storrs, Conn. on April 6, 2024. The Huskies took an early 3-0 lead in the first inning and led the entire game, winning with a final score of 8-2.

PHOTO BY BLAKE SYKES, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS



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