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## “We decline to agree to future meetings”: UConn administration condemns antisemitic imagery

by Patrick Boots

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University of Connecticut administrators have announced that they will no longer be meeting with the UConn Divest Coalition, a pro-Palestinian activism organization, after the group distributed flyers which depicted UConn President Radenka Maric with antisemitic exaggerations during a protest on Sept. 16.

The depictions showed Maric, who is Jewish, with red devil horns and as a wild boar alongside images of missiles and dollar bills. The illustrations were denounced in a letter addressed to the student protest group by Anne D’Alleva, provost and vice president of academic affairs, and Nathan Fuerst, vice president of student life and enrollment, as “grotesque and unacceptable.”

“We witnessed expressions and actions that are deeply disturbing, counter to our values as an inclusive community, and make further meetings or discussions with your student group at this time untenable,” the letter reads. “Whether the authors of these images were aware of it or not, these are well-known, long-standing, and unmistakable

antisemitic symbols.”

The UConn Divest Coalition, a nonregistered organization of students and members of the public, promotes disclosure and divestment of the University’s partnerships from entities that the group says support Israeli industries. UConn has educational partnerships with aerospace and defense contractors RTX-Pratt and Whitney, General Dynamics and Sikorsky, which all have major offices and facilities in Connecticut. The coalition demands that these companies and others be banned from recruiting at UConn-sponsored career fairs, and for the charges to be dropped against 25 students who were arrested at their protest encampment this past April.

The group posted a response to the letter on Instagram, saying in part, “We say it is deeply wrong and dangerous to invest in companies arming a genocide ...[and] to cooperate with universities on occupied land from which Palestinians have been ethnically cleansed in an ongoing Nakba,” making reference to the mass displacement of Palestinians during the Arab-Israeli War of 1948. UConn Divest has also previously used social media to show Maric as



Dodd Center for Human Rights on Sept. 19, 2024. The University of Connecticut has been the site for several protest throughout the past year.

PHOTO BY CONNOR SHARP, PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

a clown with makeup reading “I love genocide” and has used the nickname “Raytheon Radenka.”

The letter from administration included links to resources explaining the origin of the antisemitic imagery used by UConn Divest, including from the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, the Brandeis Center for Human Rights and the American Jewish Committee (AJC), a nonprofit organization confronting antisemitism. According to AJC’s “Translate Hate” glossary, antisemitic tropes and caricatures have existed for many

years and have evolved alongside mass media and communication changes.

“[UConn has] a duty to enforce our policies and an obligation to address acts of harassment and discrimination that create a hostile learning or work environment for our students, faculty, and staff ... Elements of what was witnessed during the demonstration do not represent our overall community or our values for an inclusive campus,” closes the letter.

In their statement, UConn administration maintained its commitments to discussing

student issues and their plans to meet with student representatives from USG and Muslim and Jewish student organizations, encouraging students looking for guidance to seek help through the Dean of Students and Student Health and Wellness offices.

UConn Divest, who did not respond to a request from The Daily Campus for comment, has also been known to pursue action through UNCHAIN and the UConn chapter of Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP), which are both registered student organizations.

## Middletown officials introduce “Save as You Throw”

by Juan Pineda

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In November 2022, the City of Middletown’s Sanitation district implemented a new program called “Save as You Throw,” to reduce waste and control trash costs, asking their residents to separate food scraps from trash.

The program has residents separate their garbage at the curb in orange and green bags each week. The city picks up the trash and delivers the green bags to QuantumBio Power, an anaerobic digestion facility located in Southington, where food scraps and other organic material are converted into green energy. Thus, their customers get to enjoy a lower sanitation bill by having to pay only for the waste they generate. The orange bags are sent to a disposal facility, either in-state or out-of-state.

On Nov. 1, 2023, the program proceeded to its next phase. The Sanitation District reduced its annual fees for residents and required residents to use city-issued trash bags.

In order to help pay the workers, residents of the district that comprise about 17 percent of the Middletown population must buy and use specific trash bags. Green bags are for any general use, while orange are for food scraps. If residents don’t comply, a \$30 fee is charged to their bill for noncompliance,

helping the workers make a second trip back to the residents’ house after they adjust to the city-issued trash bags.

In January 2024, in order to ensure compliance, the city conducted spot checks in city trucks that have cameras to ensure customers are using the required bags. If residents use the correct bags, they will have the disposal cost removed from their sanitation bill, resulting in lower costs. If they do not, their trash will not be picked up and they will continue to pay a full-priced bill.

Surveys have shown many residents have varying opin-

ions. Adjusting to this program has caused issues to its residents. Those dealing with unintended issues cost them an additional charge.

“No one in my family put a white garbage bag in there, but we got a notice. So again, if I didn’t cause the crime, I’m not going to pay the fine,” said Middletown resident Linda Luchonica, according to WTNH News.

There are some accommodations to this program. For low-income families, there is a form to fill out, asking for personal information and status for certain accommodations. There are also de-

livery options for senior residents and those with mobility challenges.

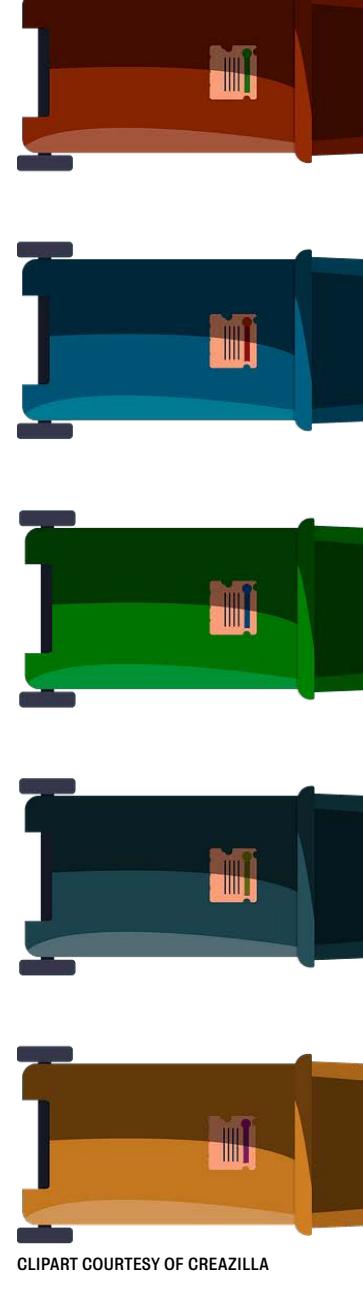
Forms created by the City of Middletown can be found online, where residents can respond with personal information that could potentially indicate a need for special arrangements.

In addition, the “Save as You Throw” program has been named the most effective strategy to combat waste and reduce long-term costs, by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. This program is funded by the Department of Energy & Environmental Protection to reduce the effects of waste on many towns.



View of Middletown, Conn. City residents have been adjusting to a new garbage pickup and disposal program, known as “Save as You Throw”

IMAGE COURTESY OF @ILOVEMIDDLETOWN ON INSTAGRAM



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Loving within the chaos on Dreamer Isioma “Princess Forever”



EDITORIAL | PAGE 7

UConn-Eversource hypocrisy



SOCER RECAP | PAGE 12

Men’s soccer vs. Fairfield



THE DAILY CAMPUS  
NEWSLETTER

## News

# Tearful Caroline Ellison gets 2 years in prison over her role in FTX fraud

NEW YORK (AP) — Caroline Ellison, a former top executive in Sam Bankman-Fried's fallen FTX cryptocurrency empire, was sentenced to two years in prison on Tuesday after she apologized to everyone hurt by a fraud that stole billions of dollars from investors, lenders and customers.

Ellison, 29, could have faced a much tougher sentence, but both the judge and prosecutors said she deserved credit for talking extensively with federal investigators, pleading

guilty and ultimately testifying against Bankman-Fried for three days at his trial last November.

U.S. District Judge Lewis A. Kaplan said Ellison's cooperation was "very, very substantial" and "remarkable."

But he said a prison sentence was necessary because she had participated in what might be the "greatest financial fraud ever perpetrated in this country and probably anywhere else" or at least close to it.

Ellison was ordered to report to prison Nov. 7.



In this courtroom sketch, Judge Lewis Kaplan sentences Caroline Ellison, Tuesday, Sept. 24, 2024, at Manhattan federal court in New York. (ELIZABETH WILLIAMS VIA AP)

FTX was one of the world's most popular cryptocurrency exchanges, known for its Superbowl TV ad and its extensive lobbying campaign in Washington, before it collapsed in 2022.

U.S. prosecutors accused Bankman-Fried and other top executives of looting customer accounts on the exchange to make risky investments, make millions of dollars of illegal political donations, bribe Chinese officials and buy luxury real estate in the Caribbean.

Ellison was chief executive at Alameda Research, a cryptocurrency hedge fund controlled by Bankman-Fried.

"I'm deeply ashamed with what I've done," she said at the sentencing hearing, fighting through tears to say she was "so so sorry" to everyone she had harmed directly or indirectly.

She did not speak as she left Manhattan federal court, surrounded by lawyers.

In court Tuesday, Assistant U.S. Attorney Danielle Sasso called for leniency, saying Ellison's testimony was "devastating and powerful proof" against Bankman-Fried, 32, who was found guilty of fraud and sentenced to 25 years in prison.

Attorney Anjan Sahni asked the judge to spare his client from



In this courtroom sketch, Caroline Ellison gives her sentencing statement, Tuesday, Sept. 24, 2024, at Manhattan federal court in New York. (ELIZABETH WILLIAMS VIA AP)

prison, citing "unusual circumstances," including her off-and-on romantic relationship with Bankman-Fried and the damage caused when her "whole professional and personal life came to revolve" around him.

Judge Kaplan agreed that Ellison's willingness to work with prosecutors was extraordinary.

"I've seen a lot of cooperators in 30 years here. I've never seen one quite like Ms. Ellison," he said.

But he said that in such a serious case, he could not let cooperation be a get-out-of-jail-free card, even when it was clear that Bankman-Fried had become "your kryptonite."

Bankman-Fried also testified at the trial, portraying himself to the jury as inexperienced and bumbling but not a criminal. He acknowledged making mistakes, but said he didn't defraud anyone and wasn't aware that Alameda Research had amassed billions of dollars in debt.

Sasso, the prosecutor, described that testimony in court Tuesday as "evasive, even con-

temptuous."

As the business began to falter, Ellison divulged the massive fraud to employees who worked for her even before FTX filed for bankruptcy, trial evidence showed.

Ultimately, she also spoke extensively with criminal and civil U.S. investigators.

Sassoon said prosecutors were impressed that Ellison did not "jump into the lifeboat" to escape her crimes but instead spent nearly two years fully cooperating.

Since testifying at Bankman-Fried's trial, Ellison has engaged in extensive charity work, written a novel and worked with her parents on a math enrichment textbook for advanced high school students, according to her lawyers.

They said she also now has a healthy romantic relationship and has reconnected with high school friends she had lost touch with while she worked for and sometimes dated Bankman-Fried from 2017 until late 2022.

## Capitol rioter mistakenly released from prison after appeals court ruling, prosecutors say

(AP) — The federal Bureau of Prisons mistakenly released an Iowa man from custody before he finished serving his 30-month sentence for storming the Senate chamber during a mob's attack on the U.S. Capitol, Justice Department prosecutors said in a court filing this week.

Leo Christopher Kelly of Cedar Rapids was freed last Thursday after an appeals court agreed to throw out one of his convictions stemming from the Jan. 6, 2021, riot.

But prosecutors believe Kelly's release was a mistake because he only served 11 months of his 30-month sentence. In a court filing Monday, they asked U.S. District Judge Royce Lamberth for a hearing to address Kelly's release.

The Bureau of Prisons told The Associated Press that Kelly was "inadvertently released" last week after a "misinterpretation of a court order." The bureau's statement doesn't elaborate on the reason for the error, but it says that Kelly, 39,

reported to a probation officer "as instructed" and remains free while awaiting a resentencing hearing.

Prosecutors also are asking the judge to schedule a hearing for resentencing now that Kelly's only felony conviction has been tossed by the federal appeals court for the District of Columbia circuit.

In May 2023, a jury convicted Kelly of all seven counts in his indictment. One of his convictions was for a charge that he obstructed an official proceeding, the Jan. 6 joint session of Congress for certifying President Joe Biden's electoral victory over Donald Trump.

In June, however, the U.S. Supreme Court limited the government's use of that obstruction charge. The justices ruled 6-3 that the charge of obstructing an official proceeding must include proof that defendants tried to tamper with or destroy

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documents.

After the ruling, prosecutors and defense attorney Nicholas Smith joined in asking the appeals court to vacate Kelly's obstruction conviction. His remaining convictions were for misdemeanor offenses.

Smith declined to comment Tuesday on prosecutors' filing.

Lamberth sentenced Kelly in August 2023 and refused to release him pending the outcome of his appeal. The judge

indicated last month that he was unlikely to reduce Kelly's sentence.

A Bureau of Prisons database doesn't specify where Kelly was serving his sentence when he was released last week.

A day before the Jan. 6 riot, Kelly drove to Washington, D.C., to attend then-President Trump's "Stop the Steal" rally near the White House. He marched to the Capitol, joined other rioters in entering the building and made his way to the Senate floor.

Kelly approached the dais where then-Vice President Mike Pence had just presided over the Senate. He took videos of documents on desks — including a ballot sheet, handwritten notes and a script — before police cleared the rioters out of the chamber.

Approximately 1,500 people

have been charged with Capitol riot-related federal crimes.

More than 600 of them have

been convicted and sentenced

to a term of imprisonment ranging

from a few days to 22 years.



In this image from Senate Television, Leo Christopher Kelly, walks on the floor in the Senate chamber Jan. 6, 2021, at the U.S. Capitol in Washington. The federal Bureau of Prisons mistakenly released Kelly from custody before he finished serving his 30-month sentence for storming the Senate chamber during a mob's attack on the U.S. Capitol, Justice Department prosecutors said in a court filing. (SENATE TELEVISION VIA AP)

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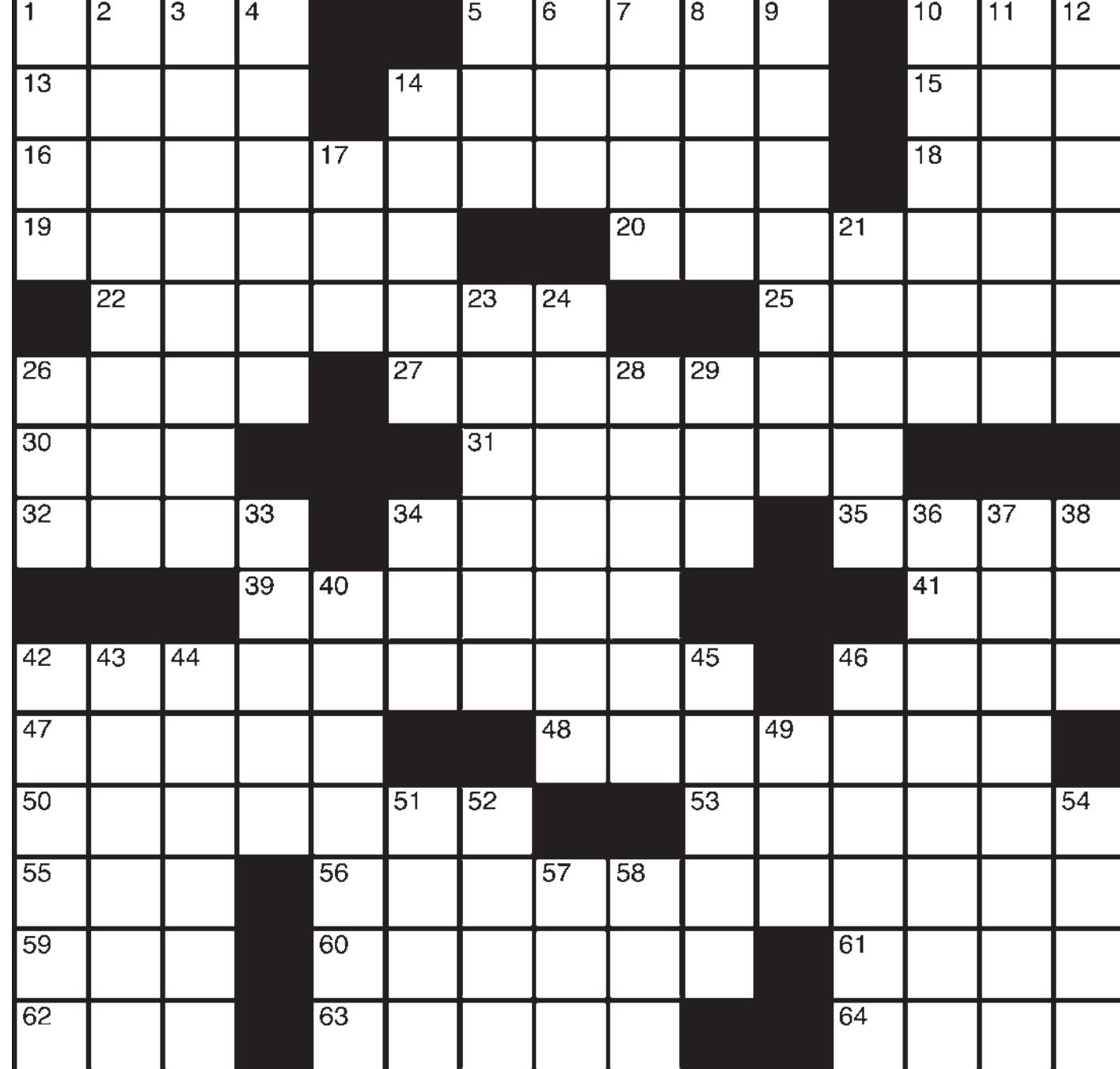
## Study Break

# The Daily Campus

## Crossword

**ACROSS**

1 Tunneling pests  
 5 T-shirt style  
 10 Hesitant sound  
 13 Bake or grill  
 14 Event that may begin at sunset  
 15 Highest number on an old clock  
 16 Margaret Thatcher biopic  
 18 "60 Minutes" network  
 19 Had dinner  
 20 Many profile pics  
 22 Fra \_\_\_: spicy Italian sauce  
 25 Course not requiring much effort  
 26 Carded at a bar, informally  
 27 Nickname in Metropolis  
 30 Affectionate treatment, for short  
 31 Actress Tomei  
 32 Like the sound of a double bass  
 34 Provide food for  
 35 Misplaced  
 39 Greenery symbolizing victory  
 41 Fox foot  
 42 Admirals, colloquially  
 46 Crumbly, briny cheese  
 47 Benefit  
 48 Carolina \_\_\_: superhot peppers  
 50 Casual eateries  
 53 Obscure for security reasons, perhaps  
 55 Degs. for English majors  
 56 Captcha confirmation well-suited to the people in 16-, 27-, and 42-Across?  
 59 Google Maps fig.  
 60 Opened for the doctor  
 61 One of the Gilmore girls  
 62 Rehoboth Beach's st.  
 63 PC key



By Kyle Dolan

9/25/24

64 Skating jump with a forward take-off

**DOWN**

1 Play segments  
 2 Football tactic for fast-paced offense  
 3 Ski binding part  
 4 Bypass button in some apps  
 5 Fashion designer Diane \_\_\_ Furstenberg  
 6 Soccer zero  
 7 Historic times  
 8 Turn over  
 9 Like some ignition systems  
 10 \_\_\_ tax  
 11 Marbled beef cut  
 12 Book in a pew  
 14 Biblical city  
 17 Go "vroom vroom"  
 21 \_\_\_ flaw  
 23 Hedy of Hollywood  
 24 Red-hot  
 26 "\_\_\_ be my pleasure"  
 28 Part of a vague threat  
 29 Many a Christmas tree

**Tuesday's Puzzle Solved**

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9/25/24

33 Hair braid  
 34 Grizzly baby  
 36 Spot for Statler and Waldorf on "The Muppet Show"  
 37 Fig. submitted with many a college application  
 38 Pan Am rival  
 40 Courtroom cry  
 42 Snagged  
 43 Take flight  
 44 Liege's tenant  
 45 Jazz singer Vaughan  
 46 Hat for Indiana Jones  
 49 According to  
 51 Arabian Peninsula country  
 52 Fit of pique  
 54 "bfm" reply  
 57 Tribute in verse  
 58 Hull sealant

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## Life

# WHAT'S THE BETTER WAY TO TAKE NOTES: DIGITAL OR HANDWRITTEN?

Once students at the University of Connecticut pay tuition, they are tasked with taking classes and with classes comes note-taking. Digital notetaking is a recent development, but if you're a fast typer it streamlines the arduous process of writing notes. Writing notes by hand is a tried-and-true method with its own benefits though. Either way, the debate narrows down to personal preference, so let's see what members of the Life section suggest!

by **Loretta Svedarsky**

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In terms of time, digital notes always have a step up over handwritten notes. But on the other hand, people tend to remember their notes better if they write them by hand. I prefer taking notes by hand on my tablet. I find paper notebooks to be cumbersome, and writing on a tablet gives more customization of my notes without juggling between different colored pens or spending \$20 on highlighters.

When writing notes in a lecture, I cannot write as fast as professors talk or how fast they switch slides. This means I have to summarize or only write out the important parts of the lecture, forcing me to think about the material. This makes me more likely to remember it than if I were to simply copy the words without thinking about what they mean.

In the end, it comes down to what you think is more important: remembering your notes more the first time you write them (but taking more time to do so), or taking less time to write your notes, but likely spending more time to study them later.

by **Mikayla Murphy**

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Through and through, I am a handwritten notes defender. My fourth-grade teacher told me that handwriting your notes helps you remember them, and I've never looked back. Until this year.

I started the year trying to take handwritten notes in lectures and on my readings for each class, but after lagging three chapters behind in anthropology by the third week of classes, I made the dreaded switch to digital notes.

It's quicker, first and foremost, especially during lectures when the professor spends five seconds on a slide and doesn't go back. I can copy and paste information from slides, so I've been taking more notes overall and it has honestly helped with my studying.

Additionally, digital notes are so much easier to organize than handwritten notes, so when I'm inevitably combing through my notes for one single definition, I can just use "Ctrl + F." I miss handwriting my notes, but I'm also not three chapters behind in anthropology anymore, so I'd say I made the right choice.

by **Thatcher Slocum**

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Digital.

The first thing to clear up is handwritten versus typed. This is a no-brainer. There are studies all over the place (probably) saying that handwriting solidifies knowledge better than typing.

So, why do I prefer my iPad and Apple Pencil over a notebook and a Pilot G2 0.7-millimeter pen? I must concede that I do enjoy the feel of a real ballpoint pen on paper. That's something the iPad can't replace. Something I don't like, though, is the space that notebooks, binders, paper and stationery take up. As the semester goes on, one's backpack balloons and mental state deteriorate as the content they'll have to study for finals season accumulates.

The iPad fixes this issue. I can maintain a slim-figured backpack and look super cool, all without feeling the weight of my notes. I also don't have any papers to lay out, so I can do my work under the comforting shade of a tree. Plus, I can use so many colors and shapes. My notes may look like those of an advanced 5-year-old who decided to pursue engineering in his playtime, but I'm more likely to come back and study them in my free time because they're fun and colorful. It's fun to feel like a kid again. Thanks, iPad.

So, Apple, want to sponsor my journalism career?

by **Bonnie Lillith Rampertab**

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I used to be solely digital as a notetaker, not because I particularly liked it, but because it's more convenient and I can use the "Ctrl + F" shortcut to search for specific words in my notes.

However, this semester I couldn't depend on my laptop to take notes because I have three classes back-to-back and the computer battery would almost die by the third class. Because of this predicament, I had no other choice but to physically write my notes for that class.

I had forgotten how therapeutic and helpful writing by hand was, due to my previous laziness. Being able to write in the margins and more accurately write symbols (and especially complex math equations) is great since you don't have to scramble and waste time using the insert tool or looking up symbols to copy and paste them. That's clunky, whereas writing by hand is more natural. It's also good for memory retention.

Although I dislike the aspect of wasting paper and prefer writing on a Google Doc to save time and sanity, writing my notes by hand is favorable to me in some respects. It's give-and-take with these modes of notetaking. I just don't want to pay for an iPad when I already have a laptop, although, an iPad would be a great compromise.

by **Ben Lassy**

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According to my older siblings, I'm a bit of an old soul. They use the evidence that I take my coffee black, wear too many polo shirts with pockets and listen almost exclusively to 1960s bands like The Beatles. That's a lot of evidence that I can't deny. However, when it comes to notetaking, I am confident I'm a new soul, a modernist, an experimenter: I take digital notes on Notion.

If you're a Notion user, you already know the usefulness and occasional stupidity of the platform. The software is free and lets you do a ton, but it's nevertheless a pain.

Notion incessantly pushes its pitiful AI while constantly expanding its shady data collection methods in the background. Regardless, features such as drop-down toggles, to-do lists, code blocks, Google Maps integration and countless plug-ins make it the most accessible way to essentially take notes on your own personal website. It's brilliant — if you look past the poor business practices.

Out of high school I was a handwritten notes purist, but the sheer efficiency of taking notes on Notion really blew me away during my first years at UConn. However, as I said earlier, I'm an experimenter. This year I have discovered the best-known notetaking method: not taking notes at all.



ILLUSTRATION BY VAN NGUYEN, STAFF ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

## Netflix's 'Penelope' and the dream of escaping into the wilderness

by **Samantha Brody**

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Netflix released a new show on Wednesday, Sept. 24, titled "Penelope" — created by Mark Duplass and Mel Eslyn, starring Megan Stott ("Little Fires Everywhere," "Just Beyond" and "Yes Day") as the titular Penelope, who decides to escape the trappings of society in favor of camping out in the woods. This review pertains to the first two episodes of the eight-episode series, which are creatively titled "One" and "Two."

"One" kicks off the start of the show with Penelope at a silent rave in the woods, colorful headphones flashing as she dances to the beat. She soon spots a coyote at the edge of the party, half-hidden behind a tree. Penelope takes off her headphones, symbolically removing herself from civilization in favor of admiring the coyote. The next day, Penelope hops onto a train headed to anywhere, leaving her family behind.

The first episode of "Penelope" concerns itself with this transition from society to nature. This does, of course, include Penelope purchasing camping gear and nearly panicking when she learns that the store doesn't accept Apple Pay — a feeling that many people can empathize with, specifically if they've ever entered a Walmart. Penelope escapes into the woods where episode two begins, where she struggles with the challenges of surviving off-grid, such as starting a fire to boil water.

For fans of wilderness survival, "Penelope" could become rather appealing. Based on the

first two episodes alone, the show does seem to try to follow the rules of the average woodland survivalist. Penelope navigates using the position of the sun and creates a campfire using traditional methods of fire starting, which does make her adventure much more appealing and realistic.

The character of Penelope herself is interesting and fun, but not necessarily exciting. Of course, the first two episodes of the show do not reveal every aspect of her character (including her exact reasons for abandoning society), but nonetheless, Penelope lacks some spice. Without any knowledge of who Penelope is, where she comes from, and what her goals are, it is difficult to fully connect with her. However, it is likely that this will change as the show continues.

The core of "Penelope" is the idea that humanity has an innate connection to nature, clearly displayed through Penelope's adventures as a solo camper. When Penelope finally makes it to the park where she plans to camp, she immediately takes in the plant life around her, going so far as to hug a tree and tearfully says "Hi, friend." Penelope isn't the only one to have this sentiment, however — she meets a pair of campers who, despite having next to no dialogue, clearly have a similar attitude towards nature.

"One" also features a character named Sam (Austin Abrams of "Euphoria" and "Do Revenge"), a solo guitarist/singer who exemplifies what the show appears to truly be about: knowing oneself in favor of a connection with society. Sam lives a simple life, in which he sleeps in a van and plays his music (which he acknowledges the subpar quality of) at a local cafe. When Penelope asks him

why he doesn't share his music through social media instead of relying on word of mouth, Sam simply says that he prefers the human experience of playing at the cafe. "There's like a, um ... like a sharing that's taking place, you know?" he says. "We're actually, like, connecting with one another, you know? It's something tangible."

This theme of connecting with nature and therefore connecting with others is the driving force of "Penelope." It's also a theme of "Into the Wild" by Jon Krakauer, a book about the real-life story of Chris McCandless. After graduating college, McCandless hitchhiked his way across North America in 1992, seeing as much of the nation as he could and meeting all sorts of people — many of whom he kept in contact with through letters and postcards. McCandless eventually made his way to Alaska, where he lived off the land for a few months before passing away. Although Penelope is still a safe distance from civilization and considerably more prepared than McCandless, her story echoes his.

The first two episodes of "Penelope" lack any real action or drama, with the show instead leaning towards a calmer, more grounded feel. Set in the modern day, it also feels very familiar. The show itself is entertaining with a highly appealing premise. Though it isn't a mystery, it does carry the question of why Penelope decided to abandon society. Fans of high intensity, action-packed television or fans of witty comedies and dramas likely will not gravitate towards "Penelope" and its serene nature, but it still has a lot to make it an enjoyable watch. The first (and so far, only) season of "Penelope" is available to watch on Netflix.



Penelope, now streaming on Netflix, revolves around the story of 16-year-old Penelope who abandons her friends and family to explore a new life.

IMAGE COURTESY OF @MARKDUPLESS ON INSTAGRAM

RATING:



# THE MUSIC NEVER STOPS: AIDEN BONILLA

by Dan Stark | HE/HIM/HIS | CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT | daniel.stark@uconn.edu

Many kids who grew up in the 2010s have tried their hand at starting a YouTube channel at some point in the decade. Kids would make these channels, use them and post on them for a bit. Then, they would eventually forget about them and move on to the next big thing.

But for Aiden Bonilla, a YouTube channel he started as a joke in 2019 would become an outlet for him to release original music. It would serve as a launching pad for his current band.

Bonilla is a singer-songwriter from East Haddam, Connecticut, who sings lead vocals and plays guitar for Overlöded, an indie punk band that has quickly risen the ranks and become one of the most energetic bands in Storrs. As the group's frontman, Bonilla brings a ton of energy whenever he takes the stage, capturing the audience's attention and providing an electric show.

Bonilla started learning guitar when he was 12, in his middle school music class. He quickly took to the instrument, noting that it was something that he was more interested in than anything else he was learning in school.

"It was something that I was genuinely interested in that was being taught in school, which is cool because a lot of times, it's hard in middle school to find a

subject that really grasps you," he said.

The next big step in his musical journey was when he started his first band, Flipside, with his friend Arlo Matthews in 2019. The two recruited a rhythm section to round up the group and started playing shows, which was the first time that Bonilla performed live. Though they were only playing small venues, he was happy to be out playing.

"I really liked it because it gave us a way to play out, which is something we hadn't really done before," he said. "We played community events in our town, anywhere we could set up and play."

It was at this time that Bonilla started a YouTube channel called Löded Diper, a reference to the fictional band from the "Diary of a Wimpy Kid" book series. The channel was a meme account where he posted instrumentals combined with audio from the "Diary of a Wimpy Kid" movie series.

But the channel would become more than a simple meme account in 2020, as Bonilla started writing and releasing music on the channel as Löded Diper. He released his first album under the name, "Cranium Shaker," in October 2021, which he wrote, recorded and produced all by himself.

Bonilla said that his songwriting process has no specific

pattern, describing it as a "very song-to-song process" that varies each time.

"I have some songs that I've started a year and a half before I actually finished it," he explained. And then there's a couple songs that I thought of in one night, wrote the whole thing that night and recorded it the next morning."

Bonilla said that while it's hard to pick a favorite song that he's written, one of the songs that means the most to him is "The Boardwalk," a track from "Cranium Shaker." He said that the song was the one that he "had done all on [his] own and that [he] was proud enough to release it" and that it represents what he was feeling as he was halfway through high school and beginning to write more.

"It encapsulates a time in my life that was so important to me when writing music," he said. "The song is about spending time with your friends before you go off in different directions. Even though it's a very simple song, I'm proud of it to this day."

After the release of "Cranium Shaker" and the single "Watch The World Burn," Bonilla brought in his friend Drew MacNeil to play drums in early 2022, turning it from a solo project to the duo that has made up the core of the band since then. Bonilla said that he wanted real

Aiden Bonilla plays a Rickenbacker guitar on stage. Bonilla has been involved in the Storrs-Willimantic music scene as the lead singer and guitarist of the band Overlöded.

PHOTO COURTESY OF AIDEN BONILLA

drums on his recordings instead of programming them like he had been doing.

"I started really getting into punk music and I realized that punk drums, at least with my skills, I can't program them very well and I understood the limitations of doing it all myself," he said. "And also, it's so much less fun when you're on your own."

The pair recorded the band's next album, "Love and Youth," which came out in October 2022. At the same time, Bonilla entered the group into a competition run by "Diary of a Wimpy Kid" author Jeff Kinney, where the winning band would get to accompany him on his upcoming book tour. The group didn't win, but they got on Kinney's radar.

The group changed their name to Overlöded in the spring of 2023 after Kinney's camp informed the band that they had trademarked the name Löded Diper. But this led to Bonilla, accompanied by MacNeil and friends, to be invited to a tour of Kinney's studio in Plainville, Massachusetts during May 2023, something that he never thought would have happened when he started his YouTube channel.

"The fact that this little joke that I started in 2019 escalated all the way to getting personally invited by [Kinney] to his stu-

dio was just insane, it didn't feel real," he said.

2023 would be a big year for the band, as Bonilla performed live with them for the first time and revealed himself and MacNeil as the two behind the project after being anonymous for three years. With the veil of anonymity lifted, the group started performing in the Storrs area and across Connecticut frequently.

One of the shows that stood out most to Bonilla was when they competed in WHUS Radio's Battle of The Bands in February 2024. It was the biggest show he had played up to that point, calling the night "so validating" for everything he had been working towards.

Another one of Bonilla's favorite shows he's played happened later that month when the group performed at Moon Club, where members of the crowd were yelling to play certain songs.

"Right before we started playing 'The Boardwalk,' a bunch of people were yelling for us to play it," he said. "And then someone in the front row was singing all the words to 'Fools to the End.' That show was just surreal, I still can't believe it happened."

Bonilla continues to share his energy and passion for music with the Storrs-Willimantic scene one show at a time. And it's all thanks to a YouTube channel.



LOGO BY SAMANTHA HASS, ARTIST EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS



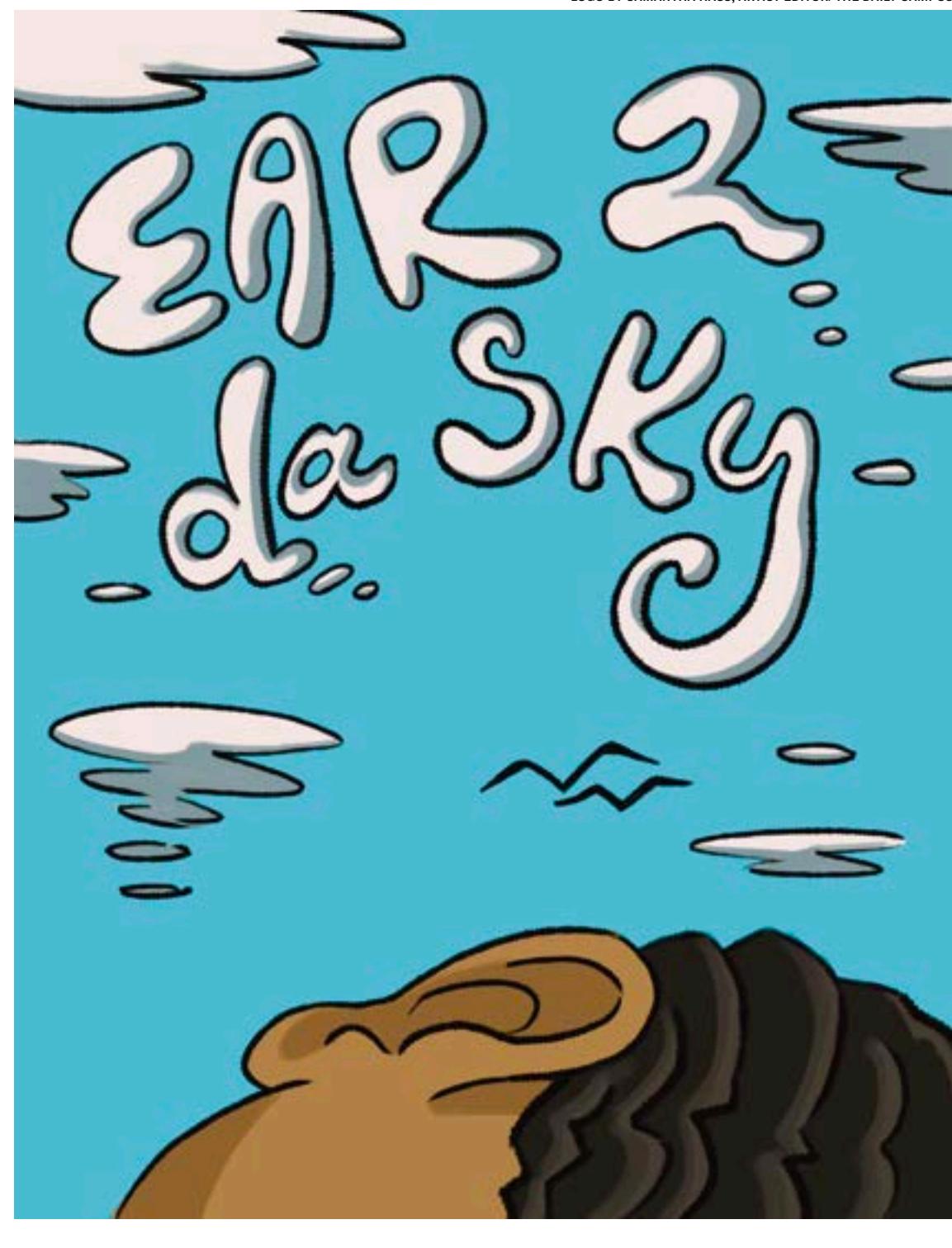
# Life

@dailycampuslife



ILLUSTRATIONS COURTESY OF RAW PIXEL

# EAR 2 DA SKY:



## LOVING WITHIN THE CHAOS ON DREAMER ISIOMA'S 'PRINCESS FOREVER'

ILLUSTRATION BY COLBI LORANGER, ASSOCIATE MANAGING EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS



### RATING:



by Hayden Cromer  
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Welcome to Ear 2 Da Sky! Each week, I will be going over topics within music culture and reviewing albums across genres, eras and artists that are submitted by listeners of my radio show every Monday at 11 p.m. on WHUS 91.7 FM and readers like you! For this week's submission, I will be going over Dreamer Isioma's 2023 album, "Princess Forever."

For those that don't know, Dreamer Isioma and their band, "The Celestials," have a bit of a storied history with the University of Connecticut. The group was set to perform in the spring semester of 2023 for WHUS's Spring Fling, but the show had been cancelled due to a fire inside the Student Union. Dreamer Isioma & The Celestials had finally been set to make their UConn performance debut in the 2023 fall semester at WHUS's Mischief After Dark. Finally, without outside forces interfering, they put on a great performance, with the help of the opener and local act: STAT-TIC.

"Princess Forever" is the artist's third studio album, clocking in at 37 minutes. This is a range-displaying project for the group, showing off some pop, R&B, funk and even afrobeats, all while drawing from the idea of "Afrofuturism." The album opens up with the simply titled track "Ah." The slow and soft piano and synth-heavy pop song eases the listener into the rest of the journey. They talk about the idea of fear in romantic nonreciprocity and questioning what "normal" life is like, setting the stage for the next track. "Dumb In Love With You" is a continuation in following their romantic life, as they are what the song title suggests — dumb in love.

The fourth track, and their 2023 tour's namesake, "Fuck

Tha World," shows the singer finding peace within nihilism, "Sayin', 'Fuck the world' brings me inner peace / It's all gonna blow up anyways / We're all gonna float to outer space." This is also the start of a three-track run of hits, followed up by "Technicolor Love." They talk about their toxic and seemingly physically abusive relationship with this person, but notwithstanding and enduring it all, strictly due to the fact that they can put claim over this love interest. It's a testament to how far the fear of unreciprocated emotions can go.

"Gimme A Chance" is track six off the album, and Dreamer Isioma shows off an "it-is-what-it-is" mentality over very bright and poppy-sounding instrumentals. The song, seemingly a cleanse of the negativity and fear of the previous tracks, tries to move on and put it all behind them.

Isioma calls on Merlyn Wood, a Ghanaian American singer and former member of the retired boyband, Brockhampton, for the seventh song. "Touch Your Soul" is a smooth afrobeat track that finds the two artists talking about their respective relationships: romantically, physically or both. Isioma puts claim over this new love interest, as it is much less abusive than previous ties.

Dreamer Isioma's 2023 album, "Princess Forever," is a dive into yearning and understanding real and genuine love, while traversing through adversities such as lack of reciprocity, ego death or even personal hubris and arrogance. The 13-song, 37-minute record is on the shorter end of albums, but the quality and soul are loud and clear in every song.

If you want to submit something to my radio show, hear your music on the radio and possibly even see an album you submitted get reviewed in the paper, submit it here: <https://bit.ly/ear2dasky>

Daily

# Opinion

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### ► Editorial

**UConn-Eversource connection reveals sustainability hypocrisy**

# Identity in Conflict: Being trans and Zionist in a polarized world

by Elena Gindin

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I grew up like any other modern orthodox Jewish boy in Seattle. Attending synagogue every Friday and Saturday, going to Seattle Hebrew Academy, eagerly awaiting my Bar Mitzvah and participating in the collective Jewish yearning to return to the land of Israel. In September 2021, after graduating high school along with many of my peers, I embarked on my gap year in Israel.

I spent nine months living in Ramat Efal, Israel, participating in the Bar Ilan Israel Experience (Bar Ilan), a program that provided Judaic and secular classes through Israel's Bar Ilan University. During that time, I fell in love with Israel and everything it has to offer: culture, nature, history, food and so much more. However, all that time I had a secret: I was a woman trapped in a man's body. The Jewish modern orthodox community tends to exist within a bubble and most people within it are completely unaware of the concept of being transgender. This made me feel like I needed to hide that aspect of myself because Bar Ilan wouldn't know what to do with that, and coming out would only serve to alienate me.

In August 2022 I came to UConn, and for the first time in my life I was able to live my truth as a woman. My first day at UConn was when I began living as Elena. I lived in gender inclusive housing and I was surrounded by other trans people. It felt like nothing I have ever experienced. However, I soon realized that most of the people living with me vehemently opposed the State of Israel. It is part of a widespread phenomenon I call the "cookie-cutter mindset," where people feel that because of one aspect of their identity, they must believe in a collection of other things despite barely knowing anything about them. This is clearly seen from videos that have come out from

the encampments in Spring 2024 at schools like Colombia University and NYU, where students admit to not knowing why they are protesting Israel. After realizing the viewpoints of those around me, I hid my Israeli flag and my Bar Ilan merch under my bed until I was able to bring them home.

At first, I was content with overlooking my friends' cookie-cutter tendencies and hiding my Zionist identity, because they made me feel so accepted with my trans identity. Again, I hid a part of myself out of fear, only this time the roles had reversed: I was hiding my Zionism but being proud of being trans.

That was until the attack on Oct. 7, when my friendships and those walls began to crumble.

For the first few months after Oct. 7, whenever I spent time with those friends, I had to tamp down the fear that I had for my friends and family in Israel, because I was worried about how they might respond. I didn't realize it yet, but living this double life was wearing me down.

Through UConn Hillel and Birthright Onward, I got the incredible opportunity to spend winter break 2023/24 volunteering in Israel. I spent two weeks repairing wheelchairs and testing remotes for hospital beds and Hoyer lifts with Yad Sarah, an organization that rents medical equipment at extremely low to no cost at all, to those who need it. It was so liberating! For the first time in my life, my trans and Zionist identities could coexist. During that time, I also realized how important posting pro-Israel content on Instagram stories can be. Doing so accomplishes two things: It opens the door for productive conversation with people who consider themselves pro-Palestinian, and more importantly, it shows other Zionists that we aren't alone even though it often feels that way.

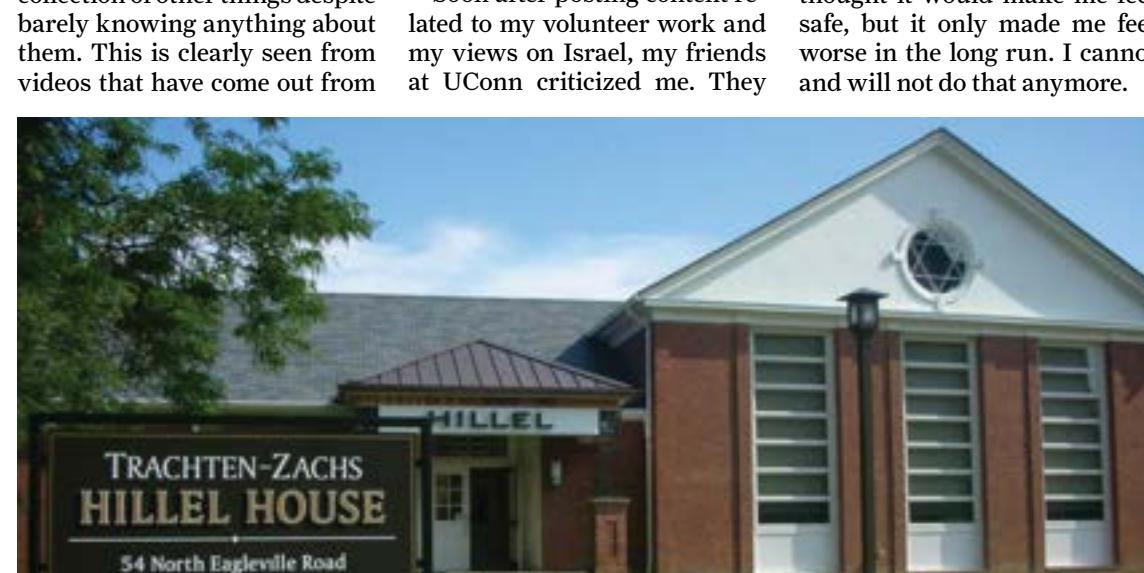
Soon after posting content related to my volunteer work and my views on Israel, my friends at UConn criticized me. They

told me to stop advocating for Israel because I "have nothing to do with it" despite my obvious connections to the situation. I was told that I was indoctrinated with propaganda. They told me to "do better" when I denounced Hamas for raping innocent women. One person even told me to "stop guzzling propaganda from a right-wing apartheid regime." When I tried to respond by asking where they got all their information from, one of them said "I learned in university and formed my own opinion by reading and hearing people speak, attending free Palestine protests, and having friends from many places." It didn't take long for most of the friends I had made in my time at UConn to decide that I was a genocidal maniac and cut all ties with me.

By spring break, I could count my close friends at UConn on one hand.

At that point, despite losing these connections, I was still afraid to live my whole truth as a transgender Zionist. There were posters on campus that incited fear in the Jewish campus community. Messages like "no justice no peace" were displayed in public places throughout campus. Most notably, was the encampment or "UCommune", which I had to walk past every single day.

Now I'm in my final semester at UConn, galvanized and unwavering in my entire identity. I've started being more vocal in my support of Israel, with tape on my backpack and on the door to my dorm that says "Bring Them Home Now!" Since making this addition, my door has been vandalized multiple times. In the past, this would have been enough to scare me and send me back into hiding, but not anymore. I will not hide any aspect of my identity any longer. Twice in my life I have tried to hide part of myself because I thought it would make me feel safe, but it only made me feel worse in the long run. I cannot and will not do that anymore.



UConn's Hillel House situated on the northern side of campus. This building is used to host community events. PHOTO COURTESY OF @HILLELHOUSE ON INSTAGRAM

On Monday, Sept. 23, The University of Connecticut and Eversource held its third annual Sustainable Clean Energy Summit, according to The Daily Campus. The summit's major theme, as announced by Penni McLean-Conner, Eversource Energy's executive vice president of customer experience and energy strategy, was "decarbonizing our grid and decarbonizing society." The event was characterized by discussion of new research into green technologies and their potential to create change, like with the Clean Energy and Sustainability Innovation Program which was the crowning highlight of the night.

This approach to sustainability at UConn is a very typical one. The Daily Campus Editorial Board has written about how this university purports small, incremental changes in sustainability policy as being much larger than they are. The focus on non-material future development is made out to be a surefire way to fix the existential problem that is climate change. These promises are made on a continuing basis with no requirement of an outcome or proof of concept. As an example, UConn's high hopes of acquiring federal funding led to lots of talk of hydrogen research and innovation, the likes of which resulted in very little when we lost the competition for funds.

While these promises float in the air, the consequences of UConn's current struggle with sustainability continues to be very real and tangible. For example, its partnership with Eversource is harmful for the environment. Although Eversource, like UConn, claims to be a sustainable leader, it has faced class action lawsuits for greewashing over the realities of its main product: methane gas. They have vocally stated their support of goals for decarbonization, but they continue to invest billions in new methane gas expansions, long term purchases that will be in place long after its stated goal of carbon neutrality in 2030. These choices and their effects are happening now, while loose notions of innovation only exist in an unknown future.

As UConn renewed for three more years its Memorandum of Understanding with Eversource to help decarbonize our grid, it is worth questioning whether this organization will help with that. 2030 is less than six years away now, and the time to dwell on future solutions is running out. Meanwhile, Eversource does not appear to be focusing on current sustainable solutions, as it is more committed to its methane gas business that it profits from heavily. The focus needs to be on what we can do now, and a tangible plan to put those solutions into practice. Given UConn's current lack of a sustainability action plan, the reality of this does not appear promising. Instead of focusing on events like these and partnerships like this one, UConn needs to focus on tangible sustainability work that will have an impact now.

## Photo of the Day |



Students walking to class on Gilbert Street. This street is where UConn's newest dorm and dining hall, Connecticut Hall, now stands.

PHOTO BY MADISON HENDRICKS, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS



CARTOON BY VAN NGUYEN, STAFF ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

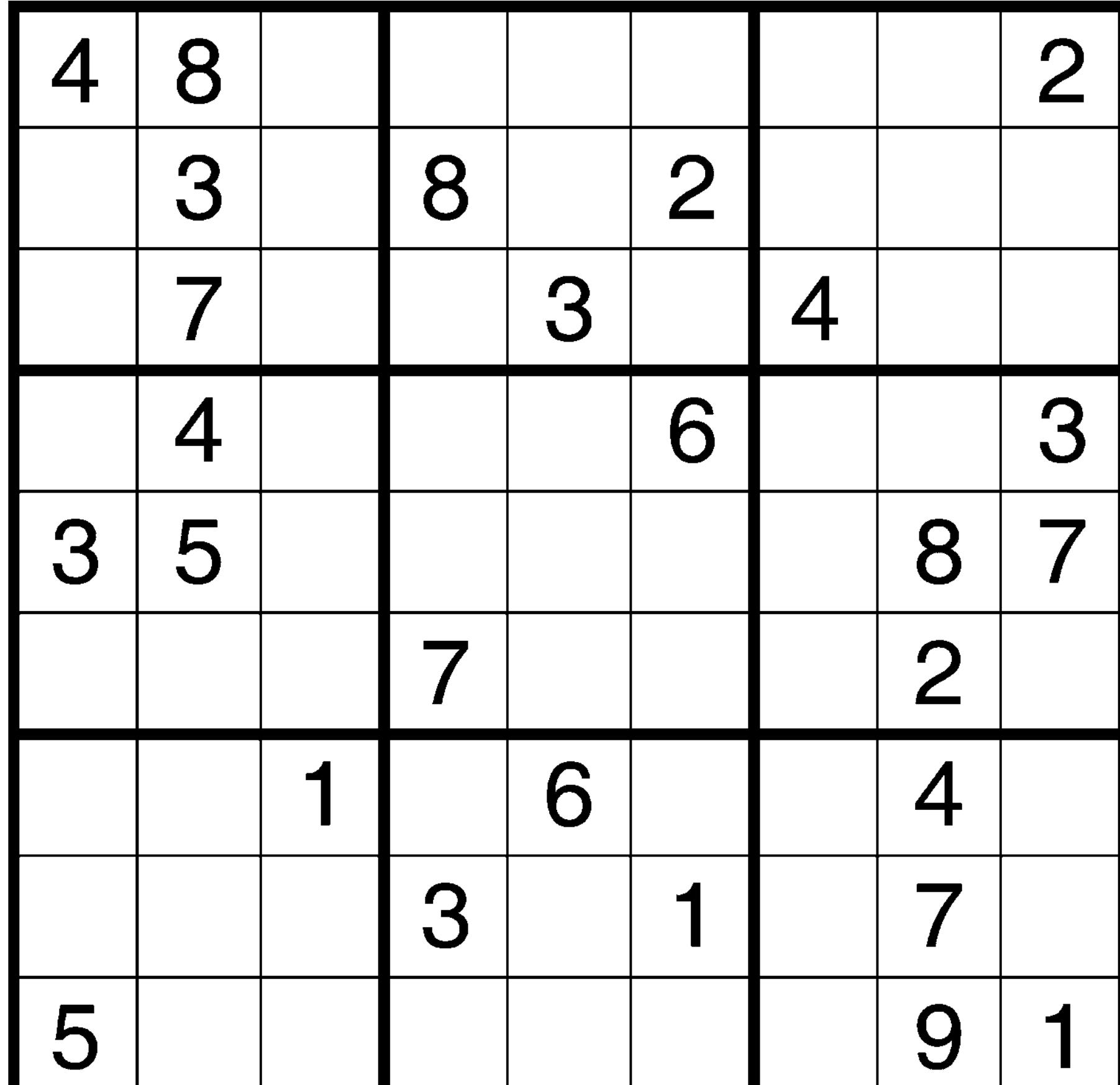


CARTOON BY SAMANTHA HASS, ARTIST EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS



CARTOON BY SARAH CHANTRES, STAFF ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

# THE DAILY CAMPUS SUDOKU



Solution to Tuesday's puzzle

7	9	5	4	3	6	8	1	2
4	3	8	2	5	1	7	6	9
6	1	2	8	9	7	5	3	4
9	7	1	3	8	4	2	5	6
2	6	3	1	7	5	9	4	8
8	5	4	6	2	9	1	7	3
3	2	6	5	1	8	4	9	7
5	4	7	9	6	2	3	8	1
1	8	9	7	4	3	6	2	5

## Photo of the Day | Pregame



UConn Women's Field Hockey triumphs 2-0 over Temple at home on Sept. 20, 2024. Madi Herb broke a scoreless first half, leading the Huskies to a dominant second half and eventual victory advancing the team's record to 6-1-0 on the season. PHOTO BY SOFIA DIGRANDE, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

# SAM'S SECTION: PLAYERS THE PATRIOTS SHOULD TARGET IN 2025 NFL DRAFT

by Sam Calhoun

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Like most New England Patriots fans, I lost interest in last Thursday night's game against the New York Jets before halftime.

The Patriots need an elite offensive tackle before they start quarterback Drake Maye, the No. 3 overall pick. While it would be great to go after one of the top receivers in the first round such as Arizona's Tetairoa McMillan, veteran starting quarterback Jacoby Brissett was sacked five times for 46 yards last week. According to Pro Football Reference, the Patriots were pressured on 30.2% of their drop backs. Only the Cleveland Browns, Tampa Bay Buccaneers, New York Giants and Los Angeles Rams have a higher percentage.

According to Pro Football Focus (PFF), New England's offensive line ranks dead last in the NFL. That is why Maye isn't under center on every play for the Patriots.

In this edition of Sam's Section, I'll go over the top prospects at offensive tackle and wide receiver in the 2025 NFL Draft. Maye will thank de facto general manager Eliot Wolf if he drafts an offensive tackle to protect him in the first round and follow up with an elite receiver in the second round.

#### Offensive tackles:

**Kelvin Banks Jr., Texas**

Banks is coming off a phenomenal 2023 season at the University of Texas at Austin. He was named to the All-Big 12 First Team and a preseason first-team All-American by the Associated Press, CBS Sports, ESPN, Sporting News and The Athletic. He is the Longhorns' starting left tackle, helping the No. 1 team in college football rack up 516 yards per game on average so far this season. According to CBS Sports, writer Ryan Wilson said, "He got the best of fellow top draft prospect Mason Graham." Graham is arguably the best defensive lineman in college football, playing for the University of Michigan. That's an impressive feat for Banks.

#### Will Campbell, LSU

Campbell was named to the coaches' All-SEC First Team last season, resulting in his bio on the team's website calling him "One of the top left tackles in all of college football entering the 2024 sea-



Will Campbell (top) walking off the field after a hard fought game for LSU. Kelvin Banks Jr. (bottom) giving a press conference after a game.

PHOTOGRAPHS COURTESY OF @LSUFOOTBALL (TOP) AND @TEXASFOOTBALL (BOTTOM) ON INSTAGRAM

son." Entering 2024, Campbell hadn't allowed a sack in 15 straight games and had only allowed three in his career at Louisiana State University. Fox Sports NFL Draft Analyst Rob Rang raved

about Campbell's "critical but underrated role in Jayden Daniels' run to the Heisman Trophy." He continued to say Campbell showing off size, agility and strength warrants a top 10 selection in April. I

would have included Emery Jones Jr., LSU's other offensive tackle, but he is primarily a right tackle for the Tigers, a position that the Patriots don't need. That position is occupied by Mike Onwenu,

arguably the best offensive lineman on the team.

#### Aireontae Ersery, Minnesota

Ersery was named to the All-Big Ten Second Team last season after starting all 13 games at left tackle, blocking for an offense that went for 1,864 passing yards and 2,264 rushing yards with 29 total touchdowns. To begin the 2024 season, the Kansas City, Missouri, native protected the Golden Gophers' offense to help contribute to five touchdowns against the University of Rhode Island. Rang talked about him possessing "the size and agility to warrant first-round consideration."

#### Wide receivers:

**Evan Stewart, Oregon**

Stewart is in his first season at the University of Oregon after two seasons at Texas A&M University. Stewart is the Ducks' top wide receiver after Troy Franklin's phenomenal season, resulting in him being drafted in the fourth round of the past NFL Draft. Stewart currently has 11 receptions for 153 yards and a touchdown. If he wants to stay in the first three rounds where he is projected to go, according to NFL Mock Draft Database, he needs to produce better numbers.

#### Isaiah Bond, Texas

Also with a new team is Bond, who transferred to Texas from the University of Alabama following legendary head coach Nick Saban's retirement. Most college football fans know him as the receiver of the game-winning touchdown against Auburn University last season. So far this season, Bond has caught 15 passes for 290 yards and three touchdowns. The Buford, Georgia, native will thrive with either quarterback, whether it is Quinn Ewers or Arch Manning. According to Tankathon, his range has him as a surefire draft pick in the first two rounds.

#### Tre Harris, Ole Miss

Harris has been phenomenal so far in his second season with the Rebels. The former Louisiana Tech receiver has caught 38 passes for 628 yards and four touchdowns. The Lafayette, Louisiana, native is already over halfway to his season total last year. According to CBS Sports writer Mike Renner, Harris looks to be a late-first-round pick at best, with many other mock drafts selecting him in the second round. If quarterback Jaxson Dart continues to throw him the ball, Harris may skyrocket on the big boards.



# BRIDGET'S BULLETIN: FANTASY FOOTBALL 101, A BEGINNER'S GUIDE

by **Bridget Bronsdon**  
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It's the most wonderful time of the year — that is, if you're a fantasy football fanatic — and if not, good luck keeping up. If you're anything like me and let the world of fantasy football go completely over your head, don't worry; there's still plenty of time to catch up. It's never too late to learn the lingo and the ins and outs of why Sunday is the most important day of the week.

#### The Draft:

The basic idea of fantasy football is relatively simple: select a team of real NFL players from different teams and positions and manage your squad throughout the season. Simple enough, right? First, however, you'll need to join a league and participate in a draft. While it's best to do some research or have some general knowledge about the players you're choosing pre-draft, you can always err on the side of beginner's luck and choose randomly, but good luck in the playoffs.

There are many ways to determine draft order: roll the dice, draw cards, compete in a running race or base it on last year's standings. But for the most part, it's random. If the competition ever gets too heated, however, just rely on an app such as the NFL app which will randomly select an order for you.

As for the actual drafting, most leagues use the "snake" draft method, which reverses each round. A time limit will also be in effect to ensure

you're not spending all day waiting for your friends or colleagues to decide.

So, who do you actually draft? You'll select a starting lineup and while leagues may

differ slightly, the NFL standard league offense consists of a quarterback, a tight end, two running backs and receivers, and a flex — which is a receiver, tight end or running back.

You'll also draft a team defense and a kicker to round out the roster. The commissioner of your league will also determine the number of bench spots.

While there's no official po-

sition to draft first, the consensus lies with the running backs, so aim for that position first.

#### The Basics

Once drafted, it's time to put your team to the test. Essentially, the scoring in fantasy relates to your player's real-life performance and statistics. Offensive points can be scored via a positive rush, a completed pass, a touchdown, field goal or two-point conversion, a reception, earned yardage and more. Defensive points can be scored through sacks, turnovers, special teams scores and more.

The most common method of play is head-to-head. In this format, your team will play against an opponent in your league each week. Based on both team's real-life NFL performance, you and your opponent will earn points in fantasy. If you earn more points than the opposing team, you win that week's matchup. If you win enough regular season matches, then you'll earn a spot in the playoffs. While some leagues differ in their style and method of playoff seeding and brackets, the basic idea is just like real life: don't get out!

And that's it! While each league has unique styles and methods that often get deep in the weeds with complexities, that's all the cut-and-dried information needed to grasp the basics. So, next weekend, when you're enjoying football on Sunday, feel free to impress your friends with your newfound knowledge, because, after all, fantasy is all about bragging.



**NFL statistics showing one of the worst possible fantasy football rosters to have in week three. Anthony Richardson of the Indianapolis Colts only scored 5.08 points after throwing two interceptions.**

PHOTOGRAPH BY NAME NAME, POSITION/THE DAILY CAMPUS

# INJURIES TAKING OVER THE NFL

by **Tyler Pruneau**  
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The fact of the matter is that the National Football League is a dangerous sport, and every player across the league understands the sacrifices it takes to play a physical sport at such a high level. Players risk long-term injuries each time they take the field, all because they love to play the sport and give it their all.

This year's football season is no exception to injuries though it is only week three, and teams have felt the effects of their star player's absence. Looking at the 49ers, Deebo Samuel not playing has negatively affected them in a big way, including this year.

Last season, they lost three games in a row with Samuel out due to a shoulder injury. This time, it is not just Samuel who's inactive; Christian McCaffrey is out suffering from calf tightness and Achilles tendinitis, which also held him out during training camp. To make matters worse, George Kittle injured his hamstring, meaning Brock Purdy is missing three major playmakers. Last season, star receiver Justin Jefferson got placed on IR for the same injury, so hopefully, luck is on Kittle's side.

Another team that is hurting big in the wide receiver room is the Los Angeles Rams. The impressive second-year receiver Puka Nacua hit the sidelines during training camp, injuring his PCL. The same injury haunted him in week one; this forced him onto IR. A couple of

games later Cooper Kupp, who escaped IR but will miss a few games, endured a high-ankle sprain.

In week three, the 49ers and Rams faced off in what should be called the "injury bowl." Both teams did not look comfortable and struggled offensively. With all these injuries, many players stepped up to make plays. Jauan Jennings hauled in 11 receptions for 175 yards and three touchdowns. Impressive as it is, the Rams stopped them from taking the win. Matthew Stafford drove the ball down the field to the underrated receiver duo of Tutu Atwell and Demarcus Robinson and handed the ball off to Kyren Williams for two touchdowns.

In the NFL, each position differs from one another, and opportunities for backup quarterbacks come once in a blue moon. While sacked, Jordan Love's leg bent the wrong way, kicking him to the sidelines with a sprained MCL. Malik Willis took the opportunity the Tennessee Titans never gave him and knocked it out of the park. From weeks two to three, Willis improved; against the Titans, he threw 13 for 19 for 202 yards and rushed for a touchdown. These unforeseen situations put players' jobs at risk. Look at Tom Brady, who took over the New England Patriots after Drew Bledsoe went down.

Moving from the north to the south in Miami, Florida, franchise quarterback Tua Tagovailoa slid head-first, resulting in another concussion. Ever since then, the productivity of Tyreek Hill and Jaylen Waddle vanished. The Se-

ahawks' defense only allowed the Cheetah to receive three catches for 40 yards and Waddle snatching four balls for 26 yards. Without the presence of Tagovailoa on the field, the offense is not functioning. If the dedicated former Alabama quarterback returns, the percentage of punching a ticket to the promised land in New Orleans is low, but never zero.

The injury pandemic even reached the back-to-back Super Bowl champs in Kansas City. Way before the season began, wide receiver Marquise "Hollywood" Brown dislocated his shoulder joint in the first preseason game, knocking him out for the entire season. After week two's game, Isiah Pacheco walked out of Arrowhead with a boot and crutches after receiving the news that he broke his fibula. With how hard and passionate the powerful running back plays, this is a devastating loss for the Chiefs. With Clyde Edwards-Helaire out as well, this pressured the Chiefs to go into the past and sign Kareem Hunt. In the meantime, rookie Carson Steele performed well enough to get first downs, allowing the Chiefs to drive down the field.

The NFL and NFLPA strongly promote the safety of the players, but injuries keep reoccurring. While the organization strives for health and safety, they cannot prevent every injury. The implementation of the new kick-off rule went into effect this season and many players have spoken out against the change. Every sport exhibits injuries and players understand what they signed up for.

Daily

# Sports

## MEN'S SOCCER: NO. 24 HUSKIES SETTLE FOR SURPRISING SCORELESS DRAW AGAINST FAIRFIELD

by Sam Calhoun

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STORRS — The No. 24 UConn men's soccer team (6-0-2, 1-0 Big East) was caught by surprise on Tuesday night as in-state foe Fairfield University (1-6-1) ended a two-game losing streak against the Huskies, settling for a draw.

Both teams went into Joseph J. Morrone Stadium with hat tricks in their previous games, with UConn forward Eli Conway scoring three goals in the team's Big East opener against DePaul University. Fairfield midfielder William Pierce scored the same amount in a win over Columbia University.

The teams had only met twice before Tuesday night. The two Connecticut schools met first in 1993 and most recently in 2008. The Huskies shut out the Stags in both games.

Despite not being in the net, it was a homecoming game for backup goalkeeper Kyle Briere, who transferred to Fairfield following last season.

Pierce was issued a yellow card in the 39th minute, leading with the studs of his cleats.

Connecticut forward Evan Pickering was issued a yellow card after pushing down a Stag.

Defender Max Gummesson went down due to a hard fall caused by Fairfield defender Jacob Vitale, who was issued a yellow card. He was attended to for over two minutes and left the game in the 44th minute. There was no immediate update on his status.

At the midway point, both teams were scoreless, but the Huskies had the edge on shots, 5-1. Connecticut also had all four corner kicks in the first half.

Fairfield defender Stephen Perno received a yellow card in the 57th minute.

Multiple saves were needed by Fairfield goalkeeper Viktor Nikolov as the Huskies had their best chance of the game to that point in the 59th minute, almost capitalized by UConn defender Mikah Thomas.

In the 63rd minute, forward Michael Suski almost broke away for a scoring opportunity but was held by Fairfield defender Jordan Blunschi, who received a yellow card for the action.

In the 70th minute, Fairfield defender Kris Naicker received a yellow card for unsporting.

Despite a burst of urgency in the final 15 minutes, neither team could break through.

The final tally on shots favored UConn, who had eight to Fairfield's two. The Huskies were able to put three of their eight shots on target but could not get past the brick wall that was Nikolov.

Fairfield was far more aggressive as they had nothing to lose in this game, committing 19 fouls to Connecticut's nine and having five yellow cards issued.

It was an impressive effort by the Stags defensively. The Huskies had not been scoreless in a game since their Sept. 1 draw with Long Island University. Tuesday's draw was

the first time the Stags were able to hold an opponent scoreless this season.

The draw was frustrating for the Huskies, who viewed the game as a tune-up before facing Seton Hall, the Big East preseason favorite.

The Stags will return home after an in-state road trip, hosting Marist College on Saturday night.

The Huskies will remain at home on Saturday night in front of a sold-out crowd as they host No. 15 Seton Hall University (6-1-0). The game is scheduled for a 7 p.m. start and can be found on FloFC. They will likely need a win on Saturday to remain in the United Soccer Coaches Poll next week, as a draw to the 203rd ranked team, according to Massey Ratings, would not help UConn's resume.

**UConn Men's Soccer takes on Fairfield University in Storrs, Ct on September 24, 2024. Their 8th game of the season ended in a 0-0 tie.**

PHOTOGRAPH BY EMMA MEIDINGER, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS



### WHAT TO KEEP AN EYE ON THIS WEEK

#### UCONN SCOREBOARD



Field Hockey  
Monday

#### Upcoming Games



Women's Ice Hockey,  
6 p.m. Friday

Storrs, Conn.



Women's Volleyball,  
8 p.m. Friday

Milwaukee, Wis.

#### INSTAGRAM OF THE DAY



@uconn

Fall colors coming soon

#### TWEETS OF THE DAY

UConn Huskies

@UConnHuskies

SAVE THE DATE

Friday, October 18 | First Night is BACK !!

President Biden

@POTS

Even if you made it look easy at times, you made a lot of sacrifices to cap off your success, @UConnMBB.

It was great have you back at the White House after back-to-back



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