

# The Daily Campus

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Thursday, September 12, 2024

## Trump vs. Harris: “You’re not running against Joe Biden; you’re running against me.”

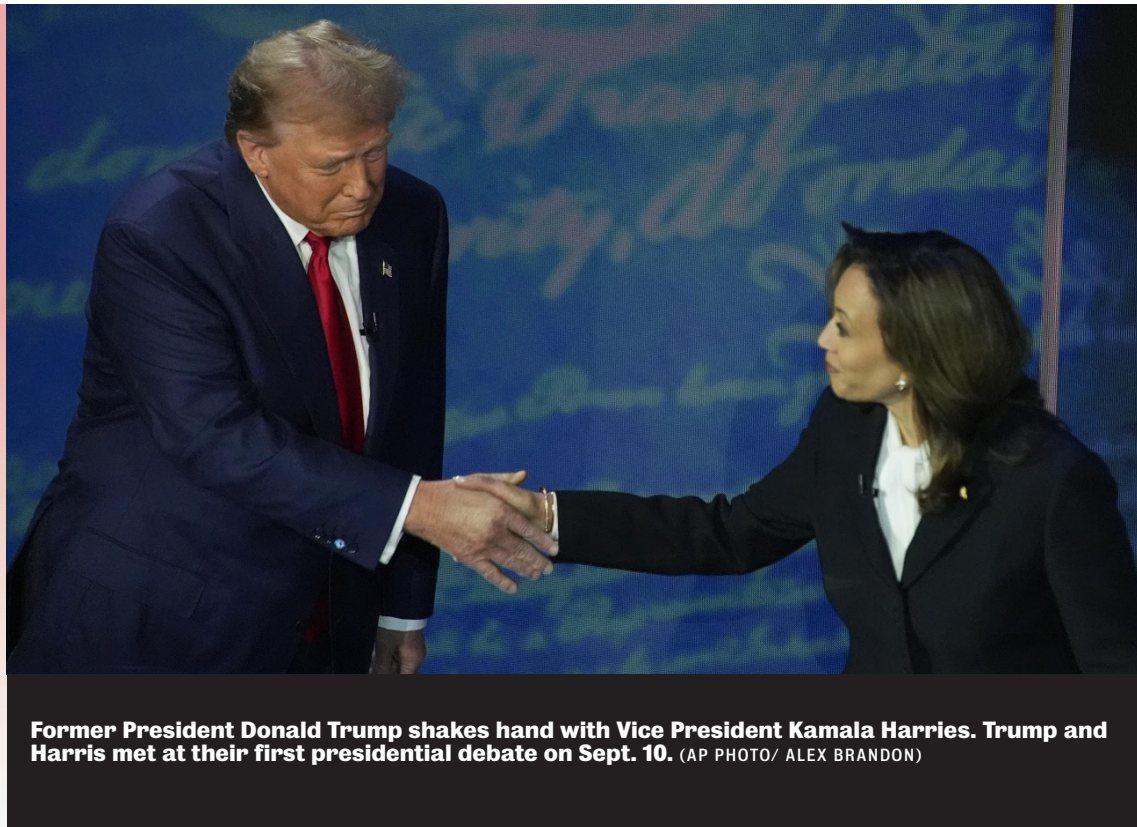
by Mikayla Bunnell  
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Vice President Kamala Harris and former President Donald Trump had their first, and possibly only, debate on Tuesday, Sept. 10. The debate was hosted by ABC News and held in Philadelphia’s National Constitution Center. The moderators were David Muir, anchor of “ABC World News Tonight” and Linsey Davis, anchor of “ABC News Live Prime with Linsey Davis”.

The debate was 90 minutes long with two commercial breaks, beginning at 9 p.m. The questions and topics were not shared with the campaigns before the debate. Each candidate had two minutes to answer each question, two minutes for rebuttals and one minute for follow-ups, clarification or responses. The microphones were muted until it was that candidate’s turn to speak. There were no pre-written notes and no audience.

As the candidates were invited to the stage, Harris made her way over to Trump to shake his hand and introduce herself. Muir began the debate by asking about the economy, which he said is voters’ most important issue. Harris began by discussing her upbringing in a middle-class household and her plan to build an “opportunity economy”. She talked about her plan for a \$6,000 child tax credit and to give a \$50,000 tax deduction to small business startups. In Trump’s response, he discussed his plan to impose, in some cases, “substantial tariffs” on other countries.

On the subject of inflation, Trump said, “We have inflation like very few people have ever seen before. Probably the worst in our nation’s history.” This, according to ABC News, is not true. Early in Biden’s presidency, the inflation rate was at 9%, but that was not the highest it’s ever been. After



Former President Donald Trump shakes hand with Vice President Kamala Harris. Trump and Harris met at their first presidential debate on Sept. 10. (AP PHOTO/ ALEX BRANDON)

World War II and during the oil shortages of the 1970’s-80’s, inflation went as high as 14.5%. As of July 2024, the inflation rate is 2.9%, the lowest in three years, according to ABC News.

Harris discussed Project 2025, a 900-page policy blueprint published in April 2023 by the Heritage Foundation, which is made up of some former advisors and allies to Trump. Some of the topics in it include the reorganization of federal agencies, national security, the economy and writing regulations. Harris claimed that Trump “intends to implement” this plan if elected, but Trump denied any association with it. He called the plan “seriously extreme,” though he and the plan support similar measures, such as mass deportation of undocumented immigrants and a border wall.

Davis then turned to the topic of abortion. Trump claimed that Harris and her vice president pick, Tim Walz, support abortion in the ninth month of pregnancy and support “execution

after birth”. Davis fact-checked him after this statement, saying that there is no state where it is legal to kill a baby after it has been born.

Harris claimed that Trump would “sign a national abortion ban” if reelected. According to ABC News, this is not true. Trump has stated multiple times that he “will leave the issue up to the states,” said ABC. Harris and Trump began arguing about abortion, interrupting Davis as she tried to ask questions. Both candidates’ microphones were turned on, despite the rule that they would be muted until it was their turn to speak.

The debate shifted to immigration, where Harris reminded viewers of her experience as a prosecutor dealing with “transnational criminal organizations.” She discussed the bipartisan bill from earlier this year that would have added 1,500 border agents to the U.S.-Mexico border and funded construction for a new border wall. Trump called for Republicans to

oppose the bill, and the bill died in the Senate in May.

In his response to Harris, Trump brought up the claim that Haitian migrants are eating pets in Springfield, Ohio. Muir fact-checked him, saying that the city manager of Springfield told ABC News there were “no credible reports” of migrants harming or eating pets. In response, Trump said, “We’ll find out.” Harris responded by calling Trump “extreme” and cited the 200 Republicans, including those who worked for Trump, who have endorsed her. Trump responded by saying he “fired most of those people.”

Throughout the rest of the debate, Harris and Trump discussed the attack on the capital on Jan. 6, 2021, and the legitimacy of the 2020 election. Trump denied involvement in inciting the attack and refused to acknowledge that he lost the 2020 election. He said that the U.S. needs two things: “borders” and “good elections.”

Regarding the Israel-Hamas

war, Harris called for a ceasefire and a two-state solution. She also said that she will “always give Israel the ability to defend itself.” Trump said that Harris was not present when Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu appeared before Congress to make a speech about the war in July 2024. Trump also said that if he were president, the Israel-Hamas war, as well as the Russia-Ukraine war, would have never happened. As conversation continued about Ukraine and Russia, Harris reminded Trump: “you’re not running against Joe Biden, you’re running against me.” Tensions grew high again as Trump told Harris “Quiet, please,” before he responded to a question. Both candidates were combative as the moderators tried to ask questions, eager to get their respective points across.

In her closing statement, Harris chose to highlight her vision that is “focused on the future.” She talked about “the aspirations, the dreams, the hopes, the ambition” of the American people. She recapped her career from district attorney to senator to vice president, and said she wanted to be a “president for all Americans.” Trump said that Harris has been in the White House for three-and-a-half years already but has implemented none of the policies she discussed during the debate. He called the U.S. a “failing nation” and called Harris “the worst vice president in the history of our country.”

Harris and Trump’s campaigns have both said they are willing to meet again in another debate, but that has yet to be scheduled. The next scheduled debate, which will be between Trump’s vice-presidential pick, J.D. Vance, and Harris’s pick, Tim Walz, is scheduled for Oct. 1 in New York City, hosted by CBS News.

## Connecticut Repertory Theatre celebrates 75th anniversary

by Pierce Colfer  
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The Connecticut Repertory Theatre, the University of Connecticut’s professional theatre managed by the Department of Dramatic Arts, will be celebrating their 75th anniversary. This season, they will be producing four shows and a festival of original student works.

Megan Monaghan Rivas, the artist director of the CRT and head of the Department of Dramatic Arts, talked about what the CRT has in store for the 75th anniversary season in an interview, saying that the pieces have “really distinct profiles” and describing the season as “a banquet.”

The first show they’ll be putting on this season is “The Moors” by Jen Silverman. Rivas said the piece is, “a deep, deep dark comedy about a family of sisters who live in the wildest countryside in England... and

making that an advantage instead of a disadvantage. Out in the middle of nowhere no one takes [them] seriously, no one is paying attention to [them], that means [they] can actually pull off some fairly outlandish stuff.” This show will be directed by Kristen Palmer and will run from Oct. 10 to Oct. 20.

The show closing out the fall semester will be “The Old Man and the Old Moon” by the Pig-Pen Theater Company. This piece tells the story of “the old man whose job it is to catch the light that’s slowly leaking out of the moon and pour it back in, so the moon never goes dark,” according to Rivas. Rivas also talked about this production’s heavy use of puppets.

“[UConn] has the only puppet arts degree granting program in the world that gives a master’s degree in this discipline,” said Rivas. “We also have an undergraduate [program] including a BFA and a minor, so we have this exceptional artistic

presence here at UConn, so this season we really wanted to embrace and include and celebrate that. ‘The Old Man and the Old Moon’ is a project that enables us to do that. It’s a puppet-forward, music-forward... offering.” “The Old Man and the Old Moon” will be directed by Matt Sorensen and will perform from Nov. 14 to Nov. 23.

After students return from winter break, they will be able to attend the 2nd Annual Jerry Rojo Festival of Original Student Works, an event that will showcase entirely original material written by students, which will be happening between Jan. 30 and Feb. 2. Rivas talked about what led the CRT to create this festival.

“We started producing this festival last year because the students were already doing a lot of original playwrighting,” said Rivas. “They were creating and choreographing movement pieces, the puppet art students were creating original puppet

projects, and they didn’t really have a house to live in. So, we built them a house to hold and celebrate all of the original student works in one place for a shared audience.”

Two more full productions will wrap up the spring semester. First, the CRT will put on a production of “Pocattello” by Samuel D. Hunter. This play takes place in an “Olive Garden-type restaurant” which is “about to be closed,” according to Rivas.

Rivas described the play further, saying “the manager has not told the staff that they’re going to be closed in a couple of weeks... It’s the heartbreak of having your whole way of life change due to forces beyond your control.”

Paul Mullins, a frequent director of CRT productions, will be directing this piece, will run from March 27 to April 6.

Lastly, the CRT will have performances of William Shakespeare’s “Much Ado About Nothing.” Described on the CRT’s website as a “joyful 16th century rom-com, replete with intrigue, hijinks, mistaken identity, and a conniving ne’er-do-well,” this show will close the CRT’s 75th anniversary and their 2024-2025 season.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CONNECTICUT REPERTORY THEATRE ON FACEBOOK



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## News

# Evolve your learning: Pokémon-inspired app helps students “level up”

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Universities across the globe are increasingly trying to incorporate technology into students' daily lives. With students' attention spans rapidly declining and the obstacle of procrastination becoming ever so prevalent, creator and developer Milton Ren thinks he could have the next big thing with his new Pokémon-inspired multiplayer app that dropped earlier this year.

The app's name, 'Focumon,' is a play on the words "focus" and "Pokémon" to encapsulate the app's main goal. It is a gamified productivity app that turns everyday tasks into a multiplayer adventure using a Pomodoro-style system.

"The app spawned from a desire from the founder to cater to people struggling with ADHD, but it has grown to help anyone be more productive," said marketing professional and member of the Focumon team Jeffery Magtubo.

By completing work or study sessions, users can collect and level up over 100 virtual creatures called Focumon. The app

aims to motivate users to stay focused by offering immediate feedback and rewards through these digital creatures, similar to an idle Pokémon game in which users can collect, level up and evolve cute monsters. It adds a reward layer to work to give the user an initial push to focus.

Focumon also supports collaborative productivity, where users can join others in focus sessions and "battle bosses" together, creating a social, engaging way to tackle goals, according to a press release.

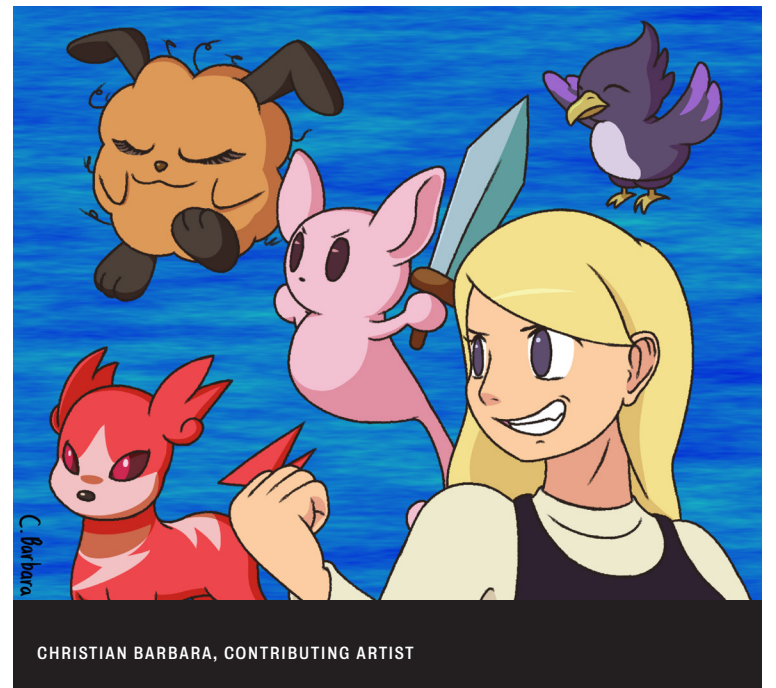
The app is structured around "The Third Time / Flowmodoro" system, a new and slightly-tweaked version of the Pomodoro method, which breaks up work into concentrated intervals—however long the user feels necessary. Work is then followed by a brief rest period that differs depending on the length of the work being done.

"Instead of half-working all day, it's better to work in focused stints with breaks in between to recover," said Magtubo. Magtubo added that the technique's flexible style can provide one with a feeling of control, and for those who

struggle with ADHD, who frequently have time blindness or have trouble seeing and measuring time effectively. This model is beneficial to help them.

At the heart of this new indie productivity tool is a small three-person team spearheaded by Ren. Ren is helped by designer Yana, the artist behind some of the graphics and the creatures for Focumon and Magtubo, who according to the focumon website, contributes significantly to the creation of instructional materials and blog posts about gamified efficiency techniques on the Focumon blog. One of his notable contributions is writing about the Flowmodoro technique.

According to the press release, Ren worked with organizations like Persona and Amazon Web Services before launching Focumon, where he obtained significant experience in developing and growing products like identity verification systems and worldwide data synchronization services. Ren said that he took on the challenge of releasing nine software prod-



CHRISTIAN BARBARA, CONTRIBUTING ARTIST

ucts in nine months in 2023 which improved his knowledge of various markets and the gamification process.

Milton had trouble maintaining his motivation and concentration when performing everyday responsibilities, which led to the creation of Focumon, according to the press release. His goal was to develop a platform that transformed work from a chore into a pleasurable activity. The press release also stated that Milton said he created Focumon to provide users with an enjoyable and encouraging atmosphere where they may work toward goals at their own pace, based on his knowledge of gamification.

Product Hunt, an American website created to share and discover new products, has Focumon rated 5/5 stars with three reviews and 647 followers. Despite the lack of a stand-alone mobile app, users can download the app at focumon.com/app to install it on their phones or go to focumon.com to try it out on a computer.

The app is free to download and use, with zero content hidden behind paywalls. According to the press release, a mobile app for the App Store and Google Play is reportedly in the works, as the app is still in its early stages and many new changes and improvements are yet to come.

## Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation selected for \$1.5 million clean energy grant

by **Gabriel Duffany**  
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On Sept. 5, the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation received a \$1.5 million federal grant for the transition to an electric vehicle fleet, expanding charging infrastructure and providing rebates to residents who opt to transition from gas to electric for their personal automobiles.

"The Tribal and territory leaders selected today will fund innovative projects that improve air quality, deliver cleaner affordable electricity and create economic and workforce opportunities that can be scaled up and replicated across Tribal lands and U.S. territories," said Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Michael S. Regan in a Sept. 5 press release.

The funding has been appropriated through the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) passed by Congress in Aug. 2022. The IRA's clean energy provisions are the most expansive of any piece of legislation

to date, offering a total of \$5 billion in federal funding to sustainability initiatives around the nation.

The Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation, located within the southeastern corner of Connecticut, has joined a list of 34 total Tribal Nations and territories selected by the EPA for green energy funding. According to an EPA press release, the purpose of the recent grant initiative is to "implement community-driven solutions to tackle the climate crisis, reduce air pollution, advance environmental justice, and accelerate the clean energy transition."

Collectively, the 34 grants are projected to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 7 million metric tons by 2050 according to the EPA press release.

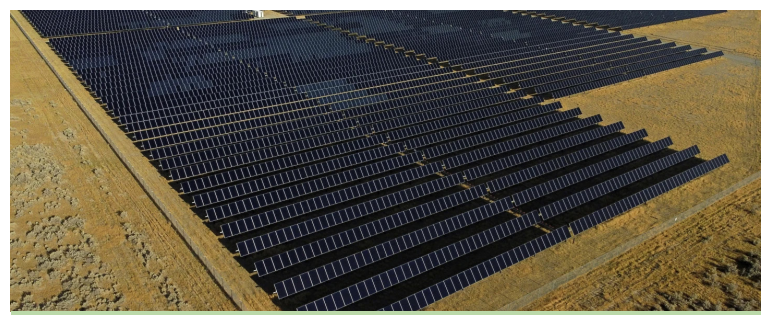
The grant marks a step forward not only in the push for sustainable development, but for the positive relations between Indigenous Tribal Nations and the federal government as well. In a Dec. 6, 2023 executive order, the Biden administration affirmed their commit-

ment to tribal self-determination and expressed a readiness to support Tribal communities through federal grants.

"We must ensure that Federal programs, to the maximum extent possible and practicable under Federal law, provide Tribal Nations with the flexibility to improve economic growth, address the specific needs of their communities, and realize their vision for their future," stated Executive Order 14112.

Although electric vehicles have been lauded for their lower rates of greenhouse gas emissions, some critics view their production and implementation as a more complex issue of human rights. Citing problematic rare mineral extraction by vulnerable workers in the Global South, the critiques leveraged against the broader shift to electric vehicles (EVs), emphasizing their perpetuation of existing social inequalities.

In a paper titled Ensuring a just transition: The electric vehicle revolution from a human rights perspective, researchers



A Solar farm sits in Mona, Utah. (AP PHOTO/RICK BOWMER, FILE)

from the University of Connecticut have identified the problems and potential solutions surrounding the widespread shift to electric automobiles.

"Prioritizing low-income communities, communities of color, and regions facing chronic disinvestment would signify a significant step toward restorative justice, as it ensures that the benefits of transitioning to low-carbon transportation are equitably distributed among all communities," states the research paper.

Although the application of funding to Tribal Nations may not address every shortcoming of the "electric vehicle revolution," the targeted investment of clean and stable infrastructure in historically underfunded Tribal lands indicates progress in the technologies of the future, benefitting all of society.



Mashantucket Pequot Schemitzun (Green Corn) Festival  
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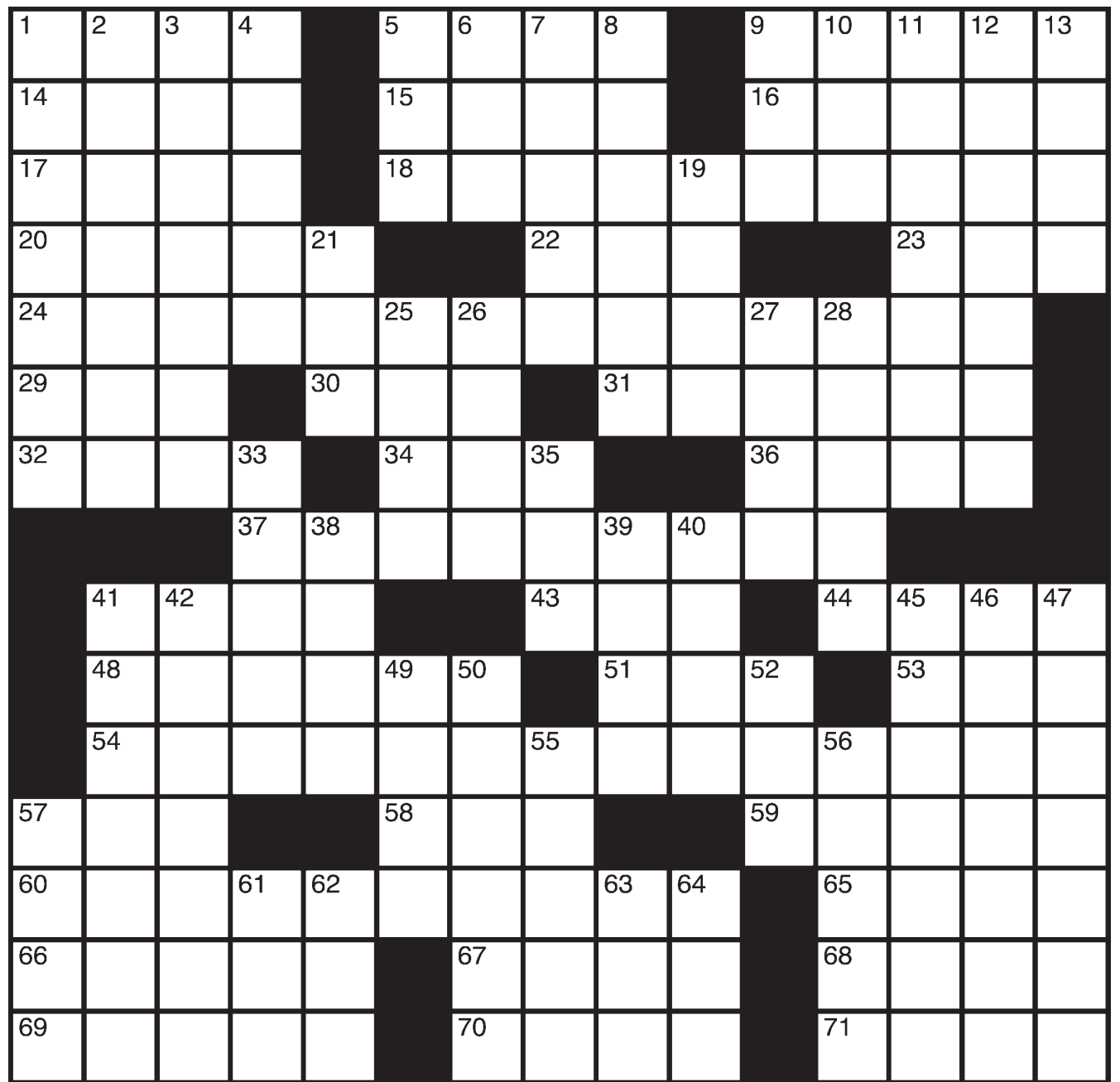
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# THE DAILY CAMPUS WORD SEARCH

### ACROSS

- 1 News magazine whose cover has a red border
- 5 Last year's frosh
- 9 Make merry
- 14 Grows older
- 15 German woman
- 16 Kansas governor Kelly
- 17 Gumdrops brand in a yellow box
- 18 Fuel for Greek gods?
- 20 Present, as an idea
- 22 "I've heard enough, thx"
- 23 Mystery Hunt sch.
- 24 Dirty sheets?
- 29 Meadow
- 30 1990s girl group
- 31 Fillet
- 32 "The Little Red Chairs" novelist O'Brien
- 34 Wanted poster letters
- 36 Commedia dell'\_\_
- 37 Really obnoxious infants?



By Jeanne D. Breen

9/12/24

### DOWN

- 41 Fruit tree in a Christmas carol
- 43 Upper limb
- 44 Ireland, to a native speaker
- 48 U-shaped river bends
- 51 Security aid, briefly
- 53 First name of two Spice Girls
- 54 Commit to eating leafy greens exclusively?
- 57 Pt. of ABV
- 58 Letter after pi
- 59 Fast-food chain with retro flair
- 60 "I'm absolutely not interested," and an apt title for this puzzle
- 65 Lack
- 66 When "The Room Where It Happens" happens
- 67 Desert plateau
- 68 Decorative pitcher
- 69 Some big-box stores
- 70 Seeing things
- 71 Start over

- 1 Pond youngster
- 2 "Oops, my bad!"
- 3 Many a baseball enthusiast in Queens
- 4 OPI rival
- 5 Bay Area hub, for short
- 6 Fla. NBA team
- 7 Fee-based service
- 8 Ran smoothly
- 9 Yalie
- 10 French body of water
- 11 Enhance
- 12 Many a new hire
- 13 Vane point
- 19 Accumulate, with "up"
- 21 Demo letters
- 25 Generous slice of cake
- 26 Gross
- 27 Flanged girder
- 28 Viking tongue
- 33 Addis \_\_, Ethiopia
- 35 Judicial org.
- 38 Nickname of the slugger who was the youngest player to hit 600 home runs

### Wednesday's Puzzle Solved



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9/12/24

- 39 Killer whale
- 40 Actor Epps
- 41 Painter nicknamed "Jack the Dripper"
- 42 Carry out
- 45 "Mind. Blown."
- 46 Like some sugar
- 47 High-voltage enemy of Spider-Man
- 49 Heartfelt
- 50 Hatch a plot
- 52 Rx writers
- 55 Bunk
- 56 Farther down
- 57 Smoothie berry
- 61 Actress/director Vardalos
- 62 "\_\_\_ better to have loved and lost ..."
- 63 Put to work
- 64 Some grad students, for short

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# The Lavender Resilience Collective September Series begins, supporting LGBTQ+ students

by **Bonnibel Lilith Rampertab**  
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On Sept. 10, 2024, the Lavender Resilience Collective, brainchild of the University of Connecticut's Student Health and Wellness and Rainbow Center, held the first virtual seminar of many between September and October about the intersection between queerness, transness and internalized bias and overcoming that struggle.

At the beginning of the call, Health Education Specialist Nishelli Ahmed and Certified Sexuality Educator Joleen Nevers established group agreements of confidentiality, active listening, using "I" statements, being vulnerable with others in the space and being comfortable with silence. "We do a lot of hard work quietly," Nevers said, referring to how processing information is a steady and time-consuming process that should be embraced instead of expedited. The health educators were willing to give the participants as much time as they needed to process and communicate about the subject material.

The topic of the call was unpacking the process of coming out as queer or transgender. A slide was displayed with the stages of opening up to yourself, coming out and living openly. "Coming out is a continuous process," Nevers elaborated. "Nobody has to come out as straight, right?" Nevers added on, segueing into watching three videos

where queer and transgender people talk about the type of intrusive and offensive things some non-queer, cisgendered people have said in the past.

The crux of the meeting was the reflection questions Ahmed and Nevers asked the participants. First, they asked what the participants thought of the videos shown and then had them elaborate on their feelings.

The next reflection prompt was: "Reflect on a time when you didn't get the support you wanted or you were asked a question you weren't ready to respond to in regards to your gender identity and expression and/or your sexual orientation." Participants shared their responses and received feedback from Ahmed and Nevers in terms of knowing what the affected individual can do to ease the pain from the lack of care, including setting boundaries. Accepting selfishness as a necessary part of self-betterment and rejecting the stigma behind it was a key theme in the discussion. "Is it really selfish to be happy and safe?" Nevers asked. "There's vulnerability in depending on people," Nevers added after the conversation moved to the topic of balancing independence and dependence.

The next reflection prompt: "Imagine someone you love coming out to you. What would you say to appreciate their identity and encourage them?" The participants theorized what that would look like, emphasizing the importance of not overwhelming the person coming out.

Focusing the conversation

back on the self, Ahmed then asked, "Think about your own gender and sexual orientation identities: What would you say you appreciate about yours?" Ahmed added, "This is a true challenge because we're not used to thinking about ourselves." Both educators attempted to get the participants to think about themselves like those they care about instead of someone they hate. "Unlearning is a forever journey," Nevers said.

The atmosphere of the call was very relaxed and calming as both educators made it abundantly clear that this was a safe space to express yourself. The participants opened up about their hardships and were met with support. Nevers told the participants, "We do not want to judge. We want to learn."

The Lavender Resilience Collective will meet six times total, including three times in September and three times in October. Each meeting will cover subject matters beyond coming out, such as body image and challenging microaggressions.

The Lavender Resilience Collective program can be a tremendous support for queer and transgender students, especially those struggling with mental health. Having a space to dissect how negative feedback from gender and sexual expression can become internalized is important. The fact that this is a free resource for UConn students who are queer, transgender or both is wonderful, and more people should take advantage of this opportunity.

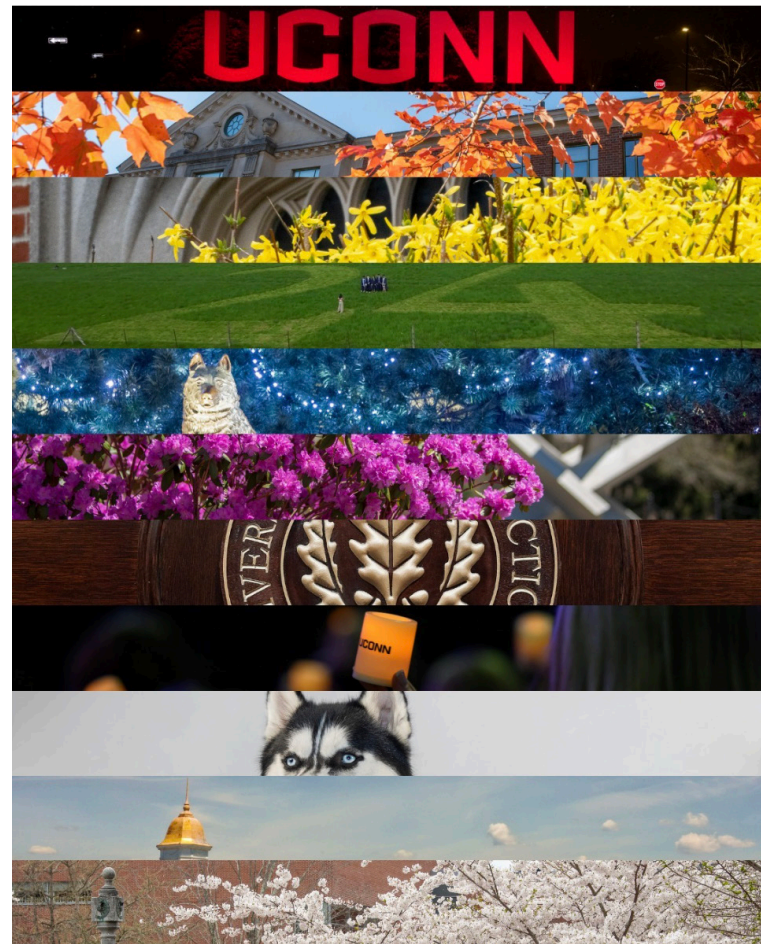


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## TIPS TO IMPROVE YOUR SLEEP SCHEDULE!

by **Ayyan Tamjeed**  
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During my second semester of senior year of high school, I had a free first period for study hall. My high school had a block schedule, so this meant I could sleep in for an extra hour for three days out of the week. During this summer, I would take one-to-two-hour naps after eating lunch, mostly because I would have been up since 6 a.m. by then, having gone for a morning jog. These two experiences- and this past year in general- have made me realize just how important it is to get a good amount of sleep to get ready for the day. I felt better and calmer as I was able to think better and focus on my classes. I was able to build long-term memories, not just of biological terms or mathematics equations but also of the great times I had during senior year and over the summer. I hope the advice I give in this article can help you reap the same benefits.

### SET TIMES FOR SLEEPING AND WAKING UP

Humans are creatures of habit, so a helpful way to get more sleep is to create a routine for when you will sleep and when you will wake up. According to the Sleep Foundation, adults need at least seven hours of sleep a day and at most, eight, so that's what we'll aim for. And if your schedule permits, you should try to sleep during the night. We're creeping into fall/winter season, so that shouldn't be too hard.

Hopefully, by carving out at least seven to eight hours in your day for sleeping, it will make it easier to sleep at night as you'll feel relaxed when you wake up in the morning and your sleep patterns will become more consistent over time.

### DON'T TAKE CAFFEINE/ NICOTINE

It's a bit obvious at this point, but make sure you don't down some coffees from Dunkin' before you nod off. The same goes for nicotine as well, as the stimulating effects of both drugs (and other stimulants) will make it hard for you to relax and fall asleep. If you want a good night's sleep but still need some caffeine to keep awake, make sure you take it at least eight hours before you actually go to sleep.

### GO OUTSIDE A BIT

Hopefully, you are already doing this. If not, I won't comment. Research shows that doing about 30 minutes of aerobic exercise during the day could help someone sleep better, as it can decompress the mind and make someone feel better, as exercising also raises your body's core temperature and around 60 minutes after a work out, you start to decline in temperature, which helps you transition into sleep mode a lot better.

### CREATE A RELAXING ENVIRONMENT

Before you go to sleep, do your best to create a dark, cool and quiet environment inside your room. If you can do so, set the thermostat to less than 70 degrees Fahrenheit, turn off or dim the lights and reduce any noises. Consider shutting down your laptop, turning off notifications on your phone, and closing the window. Or, keep it open if you like the ambient sounds of the UConn campus at night.

### TAKE (SOME) NAPS

If you miss out on getting seven hours of sleep at night, you could try to make it up later in the day by taking a nap to feel more rested. Be warned though- it is best to take naps for about an hour and before it is too late in the day so it does not interfere with your sleep. For example, napping after 3 or 4 p.m. may be too late as it could mess up your nightly sleep routine.

### FINALLY: WIND DOWN!

If you feel stressed about any upcoming events, you can try certain tasks to take your mind off it, such as stretching breathing exercises, and organizing your plans for the week. Try not to look at your phone or laptop in the minutes preceding your bedtime, as the blue light could harm your sleep. It's important to feel relaxed while sleeping as that could help you go to sleep faster and feel more rested in the morning.

It may be tough to reduce all the stress in your mind and body before going to bed, especially as midterms and finals start to creep up, but if you give your best effort to do so, that's great!

In conclusion, a good sleep schedule can lead to good physical and mental well-being. It is also a passive process- it's not something to be maximized or forced, but something you should protect. With a good, consistent and relaxing sleep schedule, you can approach any new day feeling well-rested and ready for success!



ILLUSTRATION BY HANNAH BRUNO, CONTRIBUTING ARTIST/ THE DAILY CAMPUS



# Opinion

## The Daily Campus

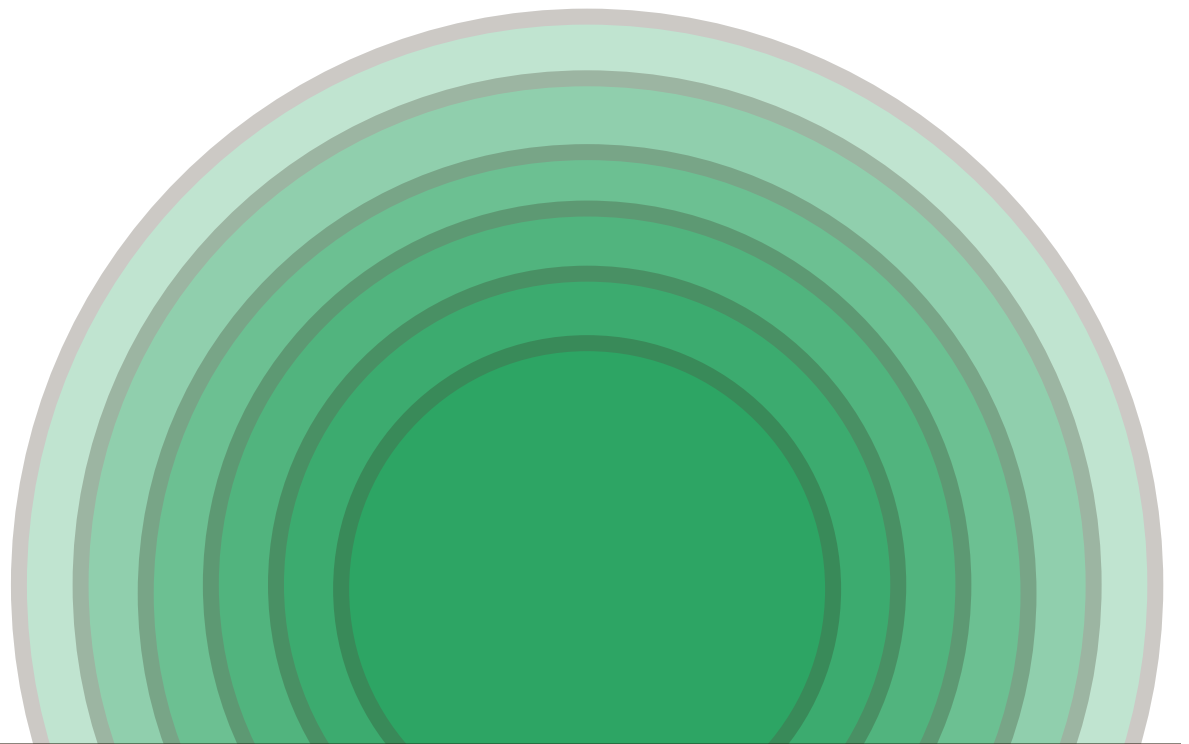
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# TU Adaptations don't have to be completely comic-accurate

by Isaac Grad  
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It's a common belief among comic-enjoyers that when judging the movie adaptations of characters, comic-accuracy is of the utmost importance. I believe that, just as we see in various comic runs, movie adaptations should allow filmmakers to have creative freedom and bring something new to the characters. If we confine these characters to their comic portrayals, there will be a lack of development and change. Anyone that reads comics knows characters and their stories shift and develop across runs as different writers and artists bring new concepts and views to characters. Sometimes it doesn't work, but it often leads to the creation of characters that people know and love.

The "Moon Knight" series is a great example of inaccurate adaptations that were better for it. Moon Knight is a lesser-known Marvel character, meaning it was easier for people to overlook the inaccuracies or changed traits of the characters. However, some fans of the Moon Knight comics didn't appreciate the changes made. I will mostly refer to the 2016 Lemire and Smallwood comic run of Moon Knight, as this is the one most similar to the show. In these comics, we follow Marc Spector, a former Marine, mercenary and the fist of Khonshu. Marc has several alternate personalities, including Steven Grant, who is a millionaire playboy in the comics. While he is normally a side character to Marc, he gets much more screentime in the show. In the TV series, he is a shy British guy who is obsessed with Ancient Egypt and works in a museum gift shop. Steven is kind, quiet, scared and a push-over—very different from his character in the comics.

The story itself is also very different, with some important changes made. A big one is the cause of Marc's Dissociative Identity Disorder (DID). In the comics, Marc develops DID after witnessing a Nazi, who is masquerading as a prisoner to torture a Jewish man. Marc's Jewishness plays a much stronger role in the comics as opposed to the show, where it is only shown in subtle ways. Throughout the series, Marc's complicated relationship with Judaism is an integral part of his character, seeing as in the comics, it played a huge part in his development of DID. It seems they tried to maintain his complex feelings despite having changed the origin story of his disorder. Some people are unhappy about the changes made, believing they erased a crucial part of Marc's identity. I would argue they kept the core of his Jewishness and complicated relationship to it, despite the changes made to the character and story. It seems they favored realism (for a Marvel series), wanting

to focus on the struggle with this complex disorder. They chose to create a plot in which Marc developed DID due to abuse, a common cause of the disorder, thus adding more realism to it.

Another important aspect of the Moon Knight comics is their confusing nature. The reader isn't able to understand what is real or not as the story is told from the perspective of Marc. This interesting approach is utilized greatly in the television series as well, despite being done differently. In the comics, the scene may switch without warning and neither the reader nor Marc knows where he is or what's going on. A strong component of this is the references made by other characters implying Marc has been in a mental hospital and is imagining his life as Moon Knight. We are meant to question if any of Marc's life as Moon Knight is real. This is done in an entirely different way from the Lemire run, where we are introduced to Marc in a mental hospital. In the series, we are introduced to Steven, and then Marc. Then, in the second to last episode, we see Marc in a mental hospital. All the other characters and events we have seen up until this point are implied to be a figment of Marc's imagination due to his disorder. We are told Marc has always been in this hospital and that Moon Knight is not real but something Marc created to cope, emulating the comics. They went about this concept in a different way but still managed to create the same feelings of confusion and bewilderment in a different medium.

Not everybody can be pleased, of course, as there are people who want their characters to be done justice. For them, this may mean being accurate to the comics, but I would argue that changing the medium used to express this character may come with changes to said character. I think that as long as the core features are maintained, which in this case are Marc's disorder, main backstory and powers, you can expand characters without confining them to what others have created. In my opinion, the characters were enhanced greatly, and this adaptation of them was creative and new. I really enjoyed the focus on Steven initially, as it showed his disorder in a way not seen before. It created a world in which we could explore Marc's alteration on a deeper level, connecting with Steven and understanding the confusion and daily struggles he has. It made for a much more interesting character since in the comics he's rather surface level, and I would argue we don't need another rich playboy character in the MCU. They managed to create another layer of the story by having two very engaging and opposite characters coming from the same backstory. To give creators the freedom to make the characters their own is to give viewers the opportunity to experience their favorite characters in a new way.



ILLUSTRATION BY LEE ERNEST, CONTRIBUTING ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

# You are worth more than what you might believe

by Hayden Cromer  
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As college is our last few steps before entering the "real world," we spend our years here trying to understand who we are and who we want to be. Lately, I have been constantly questioning who I am supposed to be and if I am living correctly. You could answer these in many different ways depending on your field of study. If you're studying anthropology, this becomes 'nature versus nurture.' Maybe you're studying psychology and it becomes something to do with the brain. Or maybe you're studying biology and it's all about genetic makeup. I've read through all my psychology notes, trying to put my tuition to use in real time, but I've realized that only I can really answer those questions.

The idea of self-worth and how you value yourself can either make or break you—literally. It branches out into many facets of your life, from your interpersonal relationships to academic experiences. Your self-worth is important, but you should remember it is most important to you. It is yours to look after, care for and cultivate.

I have had a storied history grappling with the idea of self-worth—20 years of it so far. It's a tricky thing to understand but from what I have learned, it's only as hard as you make it. Throughout my life, I have attached my self-worth to many different things, whether it was competition, academics or personal success. In doing this, I learned that it is probably the absolute worst thing you could do. I consider myself to be a competitive person, however competition is so extremely volatile that there is no singular strategy for winning. This is why you'll always lose at least once, no matter who you are or what you're doing.

Competition requires training to mitigate your chance of losing. Placing your self-worth into something so unpredictable is unhelpful and you are setting yourself up to fail. Measuring your self-worth in academic achievement and personal success is comparably unhealthy. Most of you may know that progress is not linear. There is no quick fix or turnaround to a personal problem. Rather, it's a rollercoaster. Why attach your self-worth to something so out of your grasp?

While coming to understand self-worth, I've learned the idea of "self-love" is to care for my well-being and happiness. There is significant gratification in your own presence. I often see people scared of being alone; I can understand that being alone for too long is miserable since I've been there before. However, to grow, you need to find solace within yourself. That's when you can truly figure out who you are.

It's hard to escape the feeling of wanting to hide behind groups and masks to feel worthy of love and feel a sense of belonging. A façade can only be held up for so long. How long until it catches up to you and eats you alive? Taking the steps toward understanding who you are will ultimately lead to a network of people that you want and deserve to be around. Through trying to understand who I am, I've learned that you attract what you put out — so you don't want to put a facade out there, do you?

Understanding who you are is a very complicated and convoluted process. Some people already have it figured out while others will take years to create a healthy view of their own worth. It's something that takes hard work, dedicated time and even isolation. Don't come to conclusions before you figure out who you are in the first place.

You are worthy of love, belonging and respect. You just have to figure that out yourself.

# Opinion

Huskytalk | If you had to lose any of the five senses, which would you choose?



“Smell”

Sara Watanabe  
Ecology & Evolutionary Biology  
First semester



“Smell”

Abby Krim  
English  
First semester



“Smell”

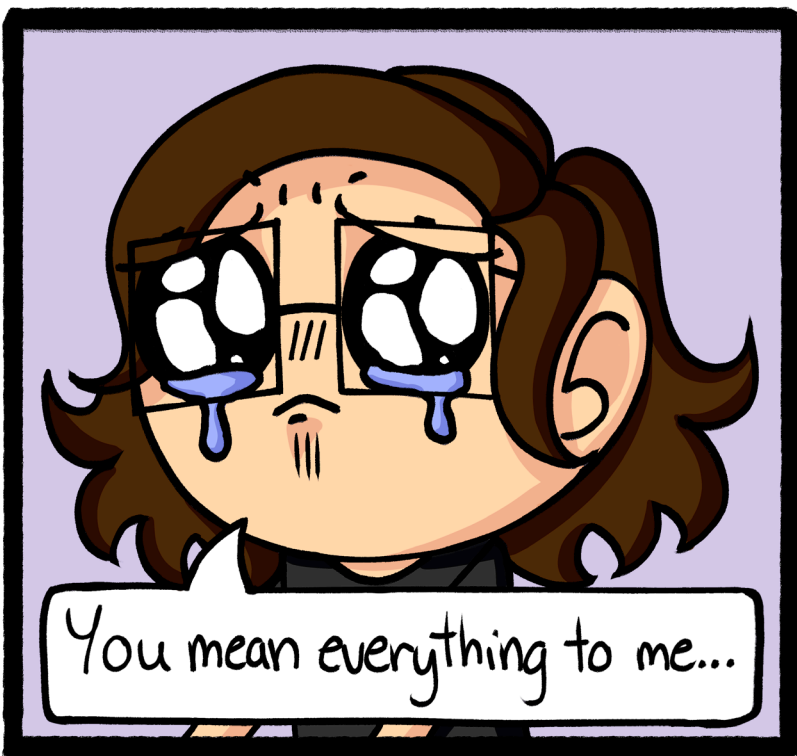
Zoey Gilroy  
Music Education  
First semester



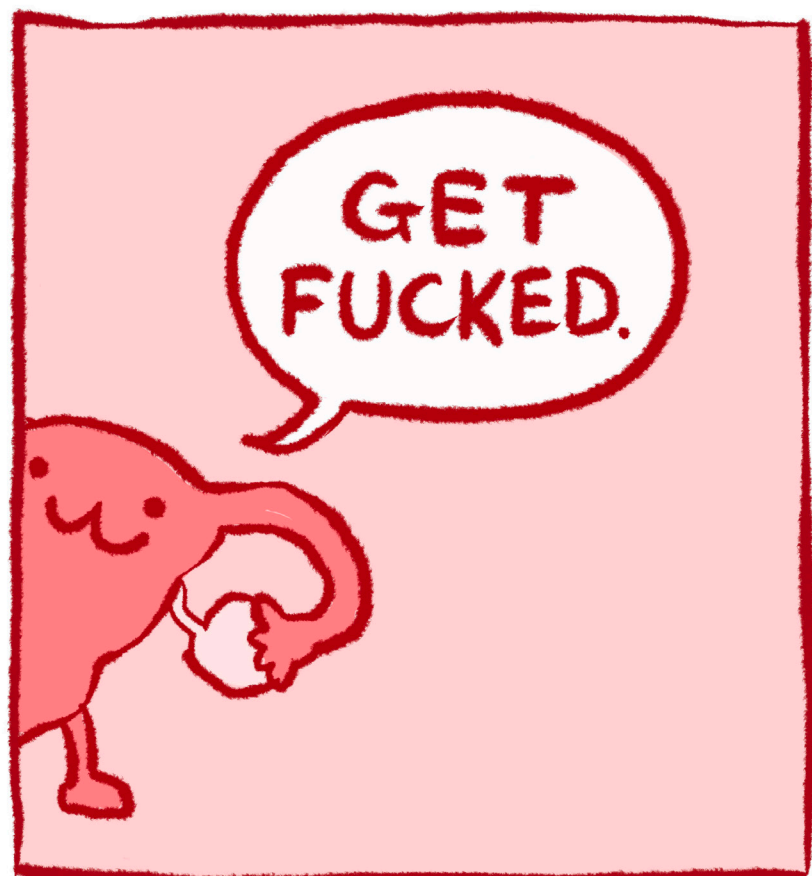
“Smell”

Morgan Mettica  
Music Education  
Third semester

# COMICS



COMIC BY ALEXA MALAZZI, CONTRIBUTING ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS



COMICS BY VAN NGUYEN, STAFF ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS



The UConn Women's Field Hockey Team versus #13 ranked St. Josephs on Aug. 30, 2024. The Huskies took an early 1-0 lead and secured the win with a final score of 5-4.

FILE PHOTO/THE DAILY CAMPUS

# Huskies going into Thursday's match with all the momentum on their side

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On Sunday, UConn field hockey came up with a massive win against the No. 9 ranked team Rutgers University, improving their record to 4-0. This win bumped the Huskies from No. 9 to No. 16 in the country. UConn hopes to continue this success as they face Brown University on Thursday, Sept. 12, at 4 p.m.

Thursday's clash will be the first time in over 20 years these teams have seen each other. They have played each other 10 times, with the last game in 2002. The Huskies

have an impressive 9-1 record against Brown.

This will be the Bears' third game of their season, and they have struggled to earn a win so far. They played the University of Massachusetts Lowell in a 3-2 loss and Boston University in a 3-2 loss. In both games combined, Brown took 48 shots, with 19 shots on goal and four shots making it in. In the past three games combined, the Huskies took 57 shots, with 47 shots on goal and 19 shots making it in.

After last week's games, Connecticut continues to have outstanding players making the Big East weekly awards. Goalkeeper Natalie McKenna was named Defen-

sive Player of the Week, and forward freshman Sophie Perschk was named Freshman Player of the Week.

Starting every game, McKenna saved 15 shots across all four games. Not only is McKenna a big asset for defense, but she's also a gamechanger. She can watch out for some-

one on the field despite playing keeper.

Perschk has played in all four games, but only started in one. Perschk has had two goals and three assists across all four games. In the last couple of games, Perschk has made a name for herself. If Perschk or someone like Madi

Herb- who's made great assists leading to goals- can get the ball to players like Juul Sauer, Sophia Ugo or Sol Simone, this match-up will be deadly on Thursday.

Thursday's game should be an easy win for Connecticut- but then again, expect the unexpected.



UConn field hockey faced off against Providence on Oct 13 at the Sherman sports complex. After a double overtime game UConn lost to Providence with a final score of 1-2.

FILE PHOTO/THE DAILY CAMPUS



COURTESY OF RAWPIXEL.COM

## Sports

## Photo of the Day |



On Sept. 7, 2024 UConn football defeats Merrimack 63-17 at The Rent. UConn broke the program record in the first quarter for most points scored in a single quarter. FILE PHOTO/THE DAILY CAMPUS

## UConn set to meet Yale for battle of Connecticut's top dog

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Today marks the battle for Connecticut's top dog as UConn women's (4-1-1) faces in-state rival Yale (3-2) at Morrone Stadium.

The Huskies have had great success early in the season. After a draw and a loss, UConn bounced back with a four-game winning streak, including two on the road. They are coming off another New England battle against Rhode Island, which saw the Huskies win 3-1 after an early goal deficit.

Yale is coming off a loss to Fordham and has not secured any road wins this season. The Bulldogs are hoping to change that with an upset against the Huskies. The Huskies have historically beaten the Bulldogs, with UConn winning the 20 past matches against Yale. However, in their most recent

matchup in 2023, Yale prevailed, and UConn is looking to avenge that loss.

Connecticut has made a statement in their style of play, specifically in their offense. On average, UConn recorded 13.8 shots per game, compared to their opponent's 7.7 average. So far, forward Chioma Okafor has led the Huskies to this dominant offense, leading the team in goals with four. She has found great help through Abbey Jones and Laci Lewis, who both have recorded two assists.

One cannot overlook the goalkeeping abilities of Kaitlyn Mahoney, who is tied for fifth in shutouts for the UConn program. Mahoney has registered 22 for Connecticut and has her sights set on breaking more records with the Huskies.

The Bulldogs are looking to improve from their last season. Coming in seventh in the Ivy League, Yale failed to clinch a playoff position and

missed out on postseason action.

One strength the Bulldogs can leverage over UConn is their ability to create goals in set pieces. In fact, before their loss at home, they produced a goal through set pieces in each of their last three games.

One player to watch from the Yale side is midfielder Tanner Cahalan. Cahalan leads the team in shots per game and even produced a goal for the Bulldogs this season. Cahalan's attacking ability could rival the strong frontline UConn has developed.

UConn's next match will be their last non-conference game of the season, which will be a home game against Texas A&M on Sunday September 15th at 1 p.m. This will mark the Huskies' final test before starting Big East play on the road against St. John's.

This Connecticut matchup will kick off tonight at 7 p.m. at Storrs and will be livestreamed on UConn+.



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The UConn women's soccer team take home a victory today at Morrone stadium in Storrs, Conn. on Sept. 5, 2024. The Huskies triumphed against the Titans, winning the game 2-0.

FILE PHOTO/THE DAILY CAMPUS

# President Joe Biden honors Dan Hurley and the UConn men's basketball team at White House

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WASHINGTON, D.C. — As is tradition for all champions of American sports leagues, the UConn men's basketball team was finally able to make the trip down to 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. The program hopes this becomes an annual pilgrimage, and President Joe Biden believes there's a good chance it will be, saying, "I won't be here next year, but you may be."

The President and White House had a busy morning. Right before the Huskies' arrival, Biden honored the South Carolina women's basketball team for their similar dominant March Madness run, although the President couldn't help but express how historic UConn's back-to-back run truly was.

"Man, you proved everybody wrong. You were a force." Biden said in his speech last Tuesday. "Winning the Big East regular season title, winning the Big East tournament, winning the NCAA tournament games by an average of 23 points."

As hard as it may be to believe, Connecticut did come into this season viewed as an underdog. Three of their starters, Andre Jackson Jr., Adama Sanogo and Jordan Hawkins, all left for the NBA; and as a result, UConn wasn't even picked to win the Big East. Despite this, from day one head coach Dan Hurley never lost faith in the team he and the Connecticut coaching staff built. He always believed this was a squad that could overcome any obstacle. Last Tuesday, Hurley expressed

just how historic that 2023-2024 team's journey was.

"A team that will go down as one of the most dominant teams in college basketball history, in the way we just destroyed everyone," said Hurley.

Despite all the good that this team accomplished this past year, it wasn't without its challenges. There were instances where this team was shorthanded. Four out of the five starters—Donovan Clingan, Cam Spencer, Stephon Castle and Alex Karaban—all suffered injuries throughout the season. Despite missing some of these key pieces at times, the team took the "next man up" mentality to another level. They never made excuses. The program kept moving forward one game at a time and never lost sight of the end goal: meeting POTUS for the second year in a row.

Another challenge for UConn nation popped up this offseason. Other programs, including an NBA team, tried poaching Hurley from Connecticut. Although no official figure is known, Kentucky made a "massive offer" to try and sign Hurley. The Los Angeles Lakers also joined in on the sweepstakes, offering the former Seton Hall guard a six-year \$70 million deal. Despite this, after much anticipation, Hurley decided to stay. Biden believes that this decision will bring much success to Connecticut basketball for years to come.

"Coach, you've said that UConn has been running college basketball for 30 years; with you at the helm, I think they better get ready for another 30."

Last Tuesday was likely the last time for a long time that this championship squad



UConn men's basketball team's head coach Dan Hurley walking alongside President Joe Biden inside the White House. The team was invited to celebrate their sixth and second in a row NCAA Championship victory on Sept. 10, 2024.

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will be together in one place. Newton, Spencer, Clingan and Castle are all at the next level and beginning their NBA journeys. However, Tuesday also represented a befitting ending to this historic team. They will go down as arguably the greatest team in college basketball history, and what better way to honor them than in the East Room of the

White House? After all, not just anyone gets to step foot in this historic room.

"Only the champs come in here. There's no participation or higher scorer." Hurley noted in his speech last Tuesday. "Triple doubles don't get you in the White House; you got to be a champion to get in here, and we're in here."

With this visit, many now

consider UConn to be one of the great programs in basketball history. Most people rank them in the same class as schools like Duke, UNC and Kentucky. However, President Biden put them in a class of their own last Tuesday.

"So now there is no doubt at all about who are the "blue bloods" of [college] basketball."



The outside of the White House, located in Washington, DC. Built in 1792, the White House has been the home of every American president since 1800.

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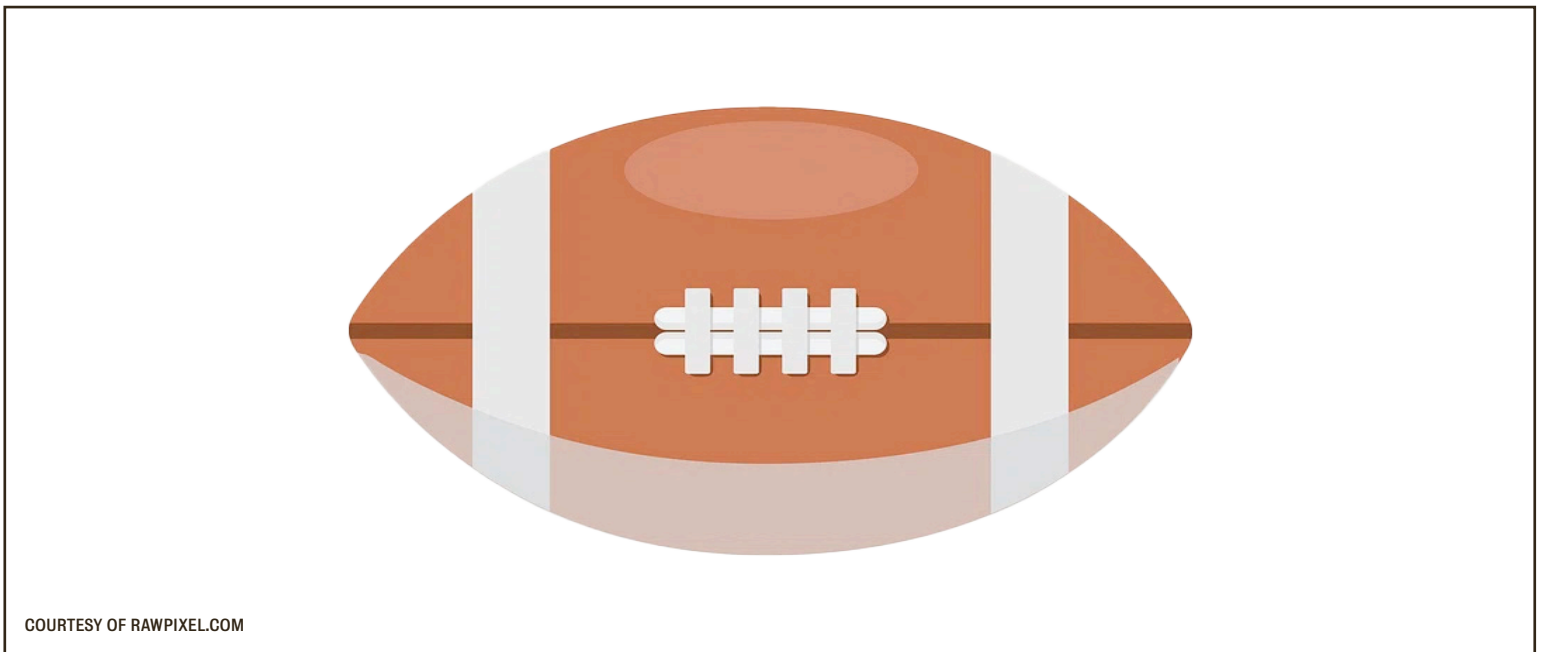


# Sports

# Way too early MVP candidates

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The NFL season got underway this weekend and it was full of upsets, thrilling finishes and great performances. The usual stars were out in full effect, but a few under-the-radar players also caught the eye during opening week. This week was also the kickoff of the race for the MVP award, which is given out annually to the best player in football. However, many have started to call it the QB award, due to recent winners being mostly quarterbacks. This column will look at some of the best individual performances from week one, as well as front-runners and sleeper picks for the MVP award.



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**Lamar Jackson**

Last season's winner of this award and two-time MVP started his campaign off on the right track. Lamar Jackson played exceptionally despite the Ravens losing their opener to the Chiefs last Thursday night. The signal caller threw for 273 yards and a touchdown, but his ground game was the most compelling part of his performance. Jackson was vintage, running 16 times for 122 yards against a stout Chiefs defense. He also nearly had the first MVP moment of the season by leading the Ravens down to tie the game, but he fell just inches short.

**Cooper Kupp**

The emergence of rookie Puka Nacua last season led to a significant decrease in Cooper Kupp's numbers. Many thought this year would be more similar, but that was not the case on Sunday night. Kupp was back to his usual, self-tying his career-high of 14 receptions for 110 yards and a touchdown. Unfortunately for the Rams, Kupp's production was impacted by an injury to Nacua. The Rams announced on Monday that Nacua will miss a minimum of four games. Look out for Kupp to re-emerge as Matthew Stafford's number one target.

**Josh Allen**

Josh Allen has had an exceptional career that has earned him many honors and awards, but one that has always eluded him is the MVP. Allen started his 2024 campaign in a strange way. Late in the first half, Allen had only thrown the ball twice and fumbled once. However, Allen led the Bills from down 17-3 to a 34-28 victory. Allen threw for 232 yards and two touchdowns while rushing for 39 yards and two touchdowns. The biggest issue for Allen this season is who he will throw to after the departures of Stefon Diggs and Gabriel Davis.

**C.J. Stroud**

After a stellar rookie season, the Texans' second-year player came into the season with lofty expectations. C.J. Stroud won rookie of the year last season and won a playoff game for the Texans who were supposed to be among the league's worst. The acquisition of Stefon Diggs makes Stroud a frontrunner for MVP. Stroud threw for 234 yards and two touchdowns with a passer rating of 115.8. He also completed 24 out of 32 of his passes in Houston's victory over the Colts. With the addition of Diggs joining an already loaded receiver room, Stroud may be the frontrunner to win MVP.

**Patrick Mahomes**

Three-time Super Bowl champion and two-time MVP Patrick Mahomes is looking to three-peat with the Chiefs this season. He started the season calmly throwing for 291 yards with a touchdown and interception apiece. Mahomes was going against the top-ranked defense from a season ago, so look for his numbers to steadily improve game by game. His touchdown was to first-round rookie Xavier Worthy, who will have a vital role in their offense. Mahomes struggled last season due to a lack of weapons, but with the additions of Worthy and established vet Hollywood Brown, his game will certainly improve.



Kansas City Chiefs' number 15 Patrick Mahomes snapping the ball during a game against the Washington Commanders. The Chiefs took home the win on Oct. 17, 2021 at Northwest Stadium in Landover, Md.

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**Sleeper MVP Picks**

- Dak Prescott
- Breece Hall
- Jalen Hurts
- Jared Goff
- Tyreek Hill

# UCHI Fellow's Talk: An exploration of historic Jewish life in Vienna

by Benjamin Lassy

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LIFE EDITOR

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Background image courtesy of  
Creazilla



Joscha Jelitzki speaking in the Heritage Room on the fourth floor of Homer Babbidge Library

PHOTO BY CONNOR SHARP, PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

On Wednesday, Sept. 11, the Heritage Room on the fourth floor of the Homer Babbidge Library was filled with listeners ready to hear a presentation by PhD candidate Joscha Valentin Jelitzki. Hosted by the University of Connecticut's Humanities Institute, the focus of the presentation was Jelitzki's research titled, "Rethinking Vienna: Jewish Difference, the Evil Inclination, and the Study of Culture." His work provides a colorful and detailed perspective on Jewish life and culture in 20th-century Vienna. A response from Associate Professor of History and Women's Gender and Sexuality Studies at George Washington University, Sara Matthiesen, followed.

Jelitzki has a background in German Jewish literature and is pursuing a PhD in the University of Connecticut's Department of Literatures, Cultures and Languages. He has also studied in Berlin, Frankfurt and Jerusalem. More information about his academic career can be found on the UConn Events Calendar at [events.uconn.edu](https://events.uconn.edu).

To begin his presentation, Jelitzki explained the question at the heart of his work: How can research approach a cultural period such as the 20th century and focus on Jewish perspectives when

many Jewish artists produced secular works?

Jelitzki's work dives deep into that question, focusing on "drive" and sexual desires, especially in the concept of the "Yetzer Hara." This impulse was a common link throughout Jelitzki's sources and it proved to be a lens to analyze the Jewish culture of 20th-century Vienna through. To do so, he introduced five frameworks through which he examined the available historical sources.

The first was the Gombrich hypothesis, bearing the name of art historian Hans Gombrich, born in Vienna. Gombrich escaped the city in the pre-war 1930s, and later went on to a career in academia. In 1996, Gombrich was invited to speak on Jewish culture in Vienna but he refused, taking the stance that isolating artists because they were Jewish was backstepping on post-war progress towards equality. Thus, Jelitzki analyzed sources in this way, maintaining a careful distinction between Jewish and non-Jewish works.

The next framework, the antisemitism hypothesis, relies on the sociopolitical trends of the 20th century towards the hatred and dehumanization of Jewish peoples across Europe and much of the world. Jelitzki took the

stance that his sources did not have any direct references to antisemitism, however, as follow-up speaker Matthiesen noted (and Jelitzki agreed), there are many ways in which antisemitism can be hidden yet present. Both noted that it affected every Jew—even those who didn't identify as one. For instance, the increased number of Jewish Marxists during the 1920s suggests a countermovement to other political forces.

The third framework, called the Beller hypothesis, comes from a 1989 book by Steven Beller, "Vienna and the Jews, 1867–1938: A Cultural History." The book was the first attempt at a "quantitative" look at "Vienna's Jewry," according to Jelitzki. Beller notes that the Jews were a separate social entity, belonging to a class which they built. Jelitzki noted statistics and other percentages which were useful to him during his research on the demographic makeup of Viennese Jews.

Next, the Rozenblit hypothesis constructs an approach revolving around a "Jewish social universe." It relies upon the evidence that Jews tended to live with other Jews and that a "rich network of organizations" allowed for Jews to "reassert their Jewish identity."

Last, yet perhaps the hy-

pothesis that sparked the most discussion, was the Silverman hypothesis, based upon Lisa Silverman's work on the "critical theory of Jewish difference." Established in her book, "Beyond Antisemitism: A Critical Approach to German Jewish Cultural History," Silverman applied social-constructionist perspectives on the concept of being Jewish or non-Jewish. While the terminology is still missing for a full perspective on Jewish identity in this respect, the concept of sexual passions and identity, as is the focus of Jelitzki's work, tied into many aspects of this theory.

With the five hypotheses set up, Jelitzki next explored the Yetzer, examining its historical appearances and its general ambiguity, noting that it can be attributed as "evil, good or without attributes."

Generally, the Yetzer is a drive, typically in a young male, which urges them to engage in illicit sexual acts. There are many varied explanations of the concept and its use and meaning changes over time. However, that is what makes it a great basis for research like Jelitzki's.

With sources ranging from Max Brod to connections with Yiddish translations of Sigmund Freud's work,

Jelitzki had plentiful and varied sources from which he frequently pulled quotes and evidence to support his analyses.

While the full depth of Jelitzki's research cannot be contained to one article, he received an applause upon wrapping up his statements, and Matthiesen noted that she was "excited to see where the work goes next."

Matthiesen commented on the politics of Vienna and the possible effects that Red Vienna, a period of socialist political dominance of the city, may have had on Jelitzki's sources. She also noted the significance of Silverman's work, and in response, Jelitzki commented, "It struck me so hard that I hadn't noticed it."

Questions from the audience followed, including an in-depth dialogue on Freud's role in the history, as well as the implications of Yetzer possibly developing a modern psychological meaning.

The talk concluded with light food and continued dialogue between the audience and speakers. Upcoming events include a talk on the role of the humanities in loneliness, on Oct. 1. UCHI Fellow's Talk continue every Wednesday, with a full schedule available at: [humanities.uconn.edu/news-and-events/](https://humanities.uconn.edu/news-and-events/)



# Life

@dailycampuslife

## Daily Campus Life Section Roundtable asks... Is the Husky Book Bundle worth it?



DRAWING BY VAN NGUYEN, POSITION/THE DAILY CAMPUS

The controversial Husky Book Bundle allows some people to quickly obtain their books for a fixed cost each semester. However, for many students, the \$285 price point is an unnecessary charge, as books are getting cheaper due to digitized versions replacing the big and bulky textbooks of the past—if they are required at all. What does the Life section have to say about all this?

**by Benjamin Lassy**  
LIFE EDITOR  
HE/HIM/HIS

As one of the elusive history majors on campus, I have to say that the Husky Book Bundle has been a blessing in disguise throughout my past three years at UConn. Nearly every history class requires a textbook, but many mention three or four. It's a lot to keep track of and when the list of books gets above 10, things start to fall apart.

The pure convenience of the Husky Book Bundle makes it a double-edged sword, but for now, let's look at the immediate positives. Those 10 books are now sorted by class, given a UConn Bookstore price, packaged in decent materials and then either shipped to you or ready for pick-up in time for the first day of classes. It's pretty much perfect. But, if it seems too good to be true at UConn, then there's obviously some money-grabbing scheme going on behind the scenes.

I have enjoyed the Husky Book Bundle for three years, but as a fourth-year senior starting this semester and shifting focus away from history to a computer-based major, GIS, I almost got charged the \$285 for one book. A book for a class I didn't need to take. I now understand the disdain for the book bundle: It's a business scheme. For those who didn't really realize what they were signing up for, the university easily pockets a profit. So, be careful out there, if you're like most UConn students (i.e. not a history major), the book bundle makes absolutely no sense.

**by James Fitzpatrick**  
ASSOCIATE LIFE EDITOR  
HE/HIM/HIS

I have a bone to pick with the Husky Book Bundle, and it can be summed up in one word: greed. I remember being at the University of Connecticut's Waterbury campus when the book bundle was launched, and for how small that campus is, there was a disproportionate number of banners saying how good of a deal it is. I won't act like I had a better intuition than others when it came out, but there wasn't a chance I was ever planning on participating in the program, and that's coming from an English major who frequently needs new books.

Also, it's quite a pain to get it canceled. They take the classic "Are you sure you're sure you want to cancel?" and that's when it confirmed to me that it's a cash grab. Most professors (thankfully) don't require the newest editions of textbooks to succeed in their classes and sometimes, they'll provide the books if they're old enough. I even had a professor recently express her disdain for the books in her class being on backorder for students with the book bundle, which you would think wouldn't happen with all the money UConn rakes in from the program.

I'll leave readers with this: If I opted into the book bundle, or more accurately, didn't opt out of the program, my \$28 lab manual would've cost me \$285. I obtained the rest of my books for free, so this would've been a 1000% markup!

**by Hayden Cromer**  
CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT  
HE/HIM/HIS

To put it bluntly, I don't think that the Husky Book Bundle is worth it at all. As someone who fell victim to the Husky Book Bundle due to laziness, I am a big advocate for opting out and getting your \$285 back.

You can do a lot with \$285. That's like 285 AriZonas, which is a lot of AriZonas. Even if your books cost more than \$285, you can get them through other, cheaper means, including eBay, your upperclassman friend or a very legal and very legitimate alternative method.

If you are worried about not getting a code for iClicker, TopHat, Cengage or whatever subscription-based website a class makes you use, you'll just have to bite the bullet and buy a subscription yourself. For some, an iClicker remote may be a great long-term investment, ranging from \$20 to \$60+ depending on where you look, or even for \$0 if you borrow from friend. But please, opt out of the Husky Book Bundle. Don't procrastinate like me because they have you jump through all the hoops in the world just to opt out. Jump through them! Don't lose your \$285!

**by Abigail Krim**  
CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT  
SHE/HER/HERS

I'm playing a little bit of devil's advocate here. I have the super unpopular opinion that the book bundle can be worth it. It's not possible to have a definitive answer for every single student across the board, but for some, it's worth it.

For example, this semester I have a class with 11 required books. That class alone covers the \$285 fee. If I didn't take this class and only had one or two books, I would've canceled my book bundle as soon as I could.

I encourage every student to look into each course you're enrolled in and what they require. In the end, it is truly up to you! If you think the book bundle may be worth it for you, don't let people talk you out of it. I recommend keeping the book bundle for your first semester of freshman year— you have too much on your plate to worry about finding alternative ways to get your books. Figure out how to be a college student first, find books elsewhere later!

**by Dan Stark**  
CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT  
HE/HIM/HIS

I think the merits of the Husky Book Bundle depends on your major. As a journalism and political science major, I typically don't have to buy many books, if any, for my classes, as most readings are either posted to HuskyCT or can be found for free—and legally—online. The most I've had to spend on textbooks was \$200, which is still substantially less than the \$285 cost of the bundle.

