



## Moon Club goes on hiatus, looks to revamp club after restrictions from Event Services

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On Oct. 12, the University of Connecticut's Moon Appreciation Club made an announcement on their Instagram page notifying members that the club was going on an indefinite hiatus as they revamp the club, following restrictions imposed by UConn Student Union and Event Services.

The club is known for hosting monthly meetings during the full moon on the Great Lawn that generally consist of a two-band concert. According to their announcement, the restrictions causing the hiatus are a result of "excessive smoking, drinking and other behaviors" at their most recent meeting.

Event Services is requiring the club to pay \$1,200 to host events that would include live music and \$400 for events without any bands. This money would be used to try to control the behavior, including hiring security and setting up barricades. Given these costs, the Moon Club executive board decided "the best option for us is to go on hiatus until we can get things sorted," according to their announcement.

President Angelina Lyras, a fifth-semester animal science major, and Secretary Joseph Kosover, fifth-semester speech, language and hearing science major, spoke about the hiatus in an interview with the Daily Campus. Lyras and Kosover talked more about why Event Services



ILLUSTRATION BY KRISTA MITCHELL, STAFF ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

imposed these restrictions.

"Unfortunately, everything is a liability," said Kosover. "Anything that happens within Moon Club reflects on us as the e-board legally and then that reflects on UConn, so things like moshing, which we all enjoy at meetings, isn't okay because it's a liability and, like... what if someone gets hurt? Drinking, smoking, climbing trees, all that stuff becomes a liability."

Lyras talked about how they were aware of these issues, but didn't think it was violating UConn rules.

"We knew people were doing it, we knew it was happening, however we did not think it was

that crazy," said Lyras. "We thought as long as it's between the guidelines that union gave us, which are it has to be a certain amount of feet between the buildings and the event, we didn't think it'd be that big of an issue. However, it became a lot more of an issue once [Event Services] reached out and was like, 'Hey, this is just straight up not allowed.'"

Lyras talked about the restrictions that were imposed upon their meetings and the effects on the club.

"What they told us about future meetings... [was] if you guys want to have this type of meeting, if you're going to have

the two-concert meeting on the Great Lawn, you'd have to pay for security, wrist bands, barricades, all things like that just so that the Union would be okay with being able to regulate the things that were happening at those meetings," said Lyras. "[This is] totally fine, except it's a big cost, so moving forward with meetings, if we were to have meetings like that, it would be quite a big cost."

Lyras and Kosover said the club will be getting a "full revamp this year" to comply with the Event Services restrictions.

"We're still working on [the revamp], we're still getting

information from our members [about] what would they like," said Lyras. "We're getting a lot of info from all our members and people outside of the club and thinking what would people be interested in doing before we start making hard set plans."

Kosover talked about other events on campus that students can engage with while Moon Club is on hiatus.

"In the meantime, SUBOG has been trying to put on a lot more musical events," said Kosover. "There's one that's coming up soon in November, they just put one on for Sunset Fest. The effort to try to bring in what we tried to bring in, with music and exposing it to new audiences, that's definitely appreciated, so [Moon Club's hiatus is] not an end either."

Although Moon Club is on "concert-hiatus," Lyras is still making sure that Moon Club stays active.

"[The hiatus] doesn't mean we're not still active as a club," said Lyras. "We're still active on our Instagram page, we're still active around campus, we're still posting stuff. It's a full moon tonight, so I'm sure we're going to get a lot of stuff for that. Honestly, it's just a matter of keeping the spirit of the moon alive and keep doing your thing. The only thing that's really stopped us is we're not meeting for now while we sit and we try to figure things out properly."

For anyone interested in the Moon Appreciation Club, more information can be found on their Instagram, @uconnmoonclub, or on their UConn contact page.

## Annual Haunted HEEP trail walk returns to UConn

by Samantha Brody | CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT | SHE/HER/HERS | sab23059@uconn.edu



More than 800 students, families, and community members gather on the Haunted HEEP Trail. Office of Sustainability has hosted the event every year since 2020.

IMAGES COURTESY OF @UCONNONS ON INSTAGRAM

Haunted HEEP is back on campus. Run by the University of Connecticut's Office of Sustainability (OS), the annual Halloween trail walk will return on Oct. 23, running from 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. The trail will take place at the Hillside Environmental Education Park (HEEP) and will feature "terrifying scenes," as described by the OS Instagram.

"Students can expect one of UConn's spookiest and most fun traditions - walking into the dark woods at night, exploring the creepy scenes set up, and getting scared by our talented volunteer scare-ers!" said Amogh Chaubey, a seventh-semester student who is an intern at the OS and the event manager of the Haunted HEEP.

The Haunted HEEP event is designed to allow students to engage with nature in a creative way to increase sustainability on campus.

"The HEEP is closely tied to UConn's sustainability history," states the OS website. "It contains a remediated landfill and provides miles of trails for the community to enjoy the physical and mental health benefits of nature."

The HEEP relies on volunteers to scare attendees, and student organizations can sponsor different scare

stations on the trail. This year, these organizations include the EcoHouse, the Outing Club and the UConn Department of Finance, according to the OS Instagram.

"While we are all set for volunteers this year, we encourage you or your club to come down and help scare people next year!" wrote Chaubey. "In the meantime, you should come attend and have a great time."

Although the Haunted HEEP is both free and open to all—including non-UConn students—it does require a waiver, which can be found on the website for the Office of Sustainability. If an individual fills out the waiver prior to Oct. 21 and follows the OS Instagram account, they will be granted access to the VIP line, allowing them to skip the wait on the night of the Haunted HEEP.

"We want more students to experience and hike on [the HEEP trails], especially as the gorgeous fall colors are in full bloom," said Chaubey. "The HEEP itself is living proof that we can create a more sustainable world."

On its website, OS describes itself as "building a sustainable campus and a greener future." One of the ways it works towards this goal is by hosting educational engagement events, which

include EcoMadness, Green Game Days and, of course, the Haunted HEEP trail walk.

"It's a former landfill site that was remediated to preserve about 31 acres of wetlands and 33 acres of uplands," explained Chaubey regarding the event location. "Not only do you get to experience the gorgeous hiking trails, but you're also surrounded by the living history of what sustainability efforts can do. In terms of effects that have been seen, 98% of attendees from previous years said the event made them want to go hiking on the trails on their own!"

The OS website lists some of the benefits from hosting the yearly event, stating that it has "enhanced sustainability connections and community at UConn." Beginning in 2020, the Haunted HEEP had over 700 attendees last year alone, 81% of whom "had never visited the HEEP before the event."

The Haunted HEEP trail walk is about a mile long, located behind the Innovation Partnership Building. Check-in starts at 7 p.m. at the Trailhead Parking Lot, and the first 100 students to exit the HEEP will receive a free T-shirt. More information can be found on the OS Instagram page.

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## News

# Student group starts petition to add more **vegan, dairy-free** options to UConn menus



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by **Patrick Boots** | CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT | HE/HIM/HIS | [patrick.boots@uconn.edu](mailto:patrick.boots@uconn.edu)

The University of Connecticut is known for many things - its early history, academic programs and extracurriculars like athletics and fine arts. One of those things is ice cream; owing to UConn's agricultural origins, the Dairy Bar on-campus creamery has been scooping for over 65 years. One student group, UConn Plant Futures, wants to increase the amount of vegan and dairy-free menu selections on campus, including at the Dairy Bar.

UConn Plant Futures is a registered student organization that operates as a chapter of the national Plant Futures Initiative. A student-led network, their mission is to advocate for plant-based food systems, social justice and environmental sustainability, according to their webpage. Recently, the group started distributing an online petition with the goal of adding dairy-free options at the UConn Dairy Bar.

"By introducing non-dairy alternatives, the Dairy Bar can become more inclusive, ensuring that everyone in our diverse community can enjoy a delicious treat," reads the petition's description. "We urge the Dairy Bar to consider adding a variety of non-dairy ice cream flavors, making it a place where all Huskies can indulge and feel included."

Currently, the Dairy Bar offers Italian ice as its dairy-free alternative. It's a different type of sweet treat made from frozen fruit juice, with lemon, mango and watermelon flavors for sale. The majority of the Dairy Bar's ice cream flavors are vegetarian, according to the UConn dining nutrition webpage, but still contain dairy. In the dining halls, only ice cream using lactose-free milk is available on request—but the group says these offerings aren't enough.

"Introducing vegan alternatives aligns with growing sustainability

efforts and can help promote the environmental and ethical benefits of plant-based diets," said the organization in a response to the Daily Campus. "[We've] heard lots of stories of people who've wanted to go to the Dairy Bar and get ice cream, but couldn't simply because of the lack of options."

Although ice cream is traditionally made with dairy milk, there are popular ways to make a facsimile treat without it; Commercial ice cream distributors frequently have dairy-free options for sale that make use of almond, coconut and oat milks. Real dairy milk has a unique flavor and texture, thanks to the fats and proteins present; some non-dairy cuisiniers may find it difficult to replicate milk's unique properties without using the real thing.

UConn Dining Services, who operate the cafeterias on-campus, have promoted a "plant-forward"

initiative. They describe that vegetarian and vegan options are available at all residential dining halls, cafés, the Student Union food court and as part of their catering menu; they also furnish a list of vegetarian products and vendors. The Crossroads Café, located in the Wilbur Cross Building, is listed as offering 100% plant-based foods and they've partnered with local vegan brands in the past.

"We have always been very proud of our vegan program and have seen a steady increase in consumption of vegan dishes on campus" reads the Dining Services webpage.

The difficulty in manufacturing a specialty dairy-free ice cream may be why UConn hasn't offered it. All of the ice cream in the Dairy Bar is churned on campus, at the Kellogg Dairy Center. The creamery opened in 1910 and is integrated into UConn's food technology and agricultural sciences programs.

"They mention that they do have sorbet, but if you're going to the Dairy Bar, you're going because you want some sort of ice cream, not sorbet," UConn Plant Futures also said in a message.

Students are divided on the success of the vegan options on the UConn campus. UConn Plant Futures promotes their cause on social media and through student events, and says they would like to work with students and Dining Services to improve the menu. Some chapters of Plant Futures at schools such as Harvard University have produced favorable changes to student dining choices, encouraging more vegan and vegetarian options.

For more information about UConn Dining Services and their plant-forward initiative, visit [dining.uconn.edu](http://dining.uconn.edu). The UConn Dairy Bar is located at 17 Manter Road on the main UConn campus in Storrs-Mansfield.

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By Bryant Shain

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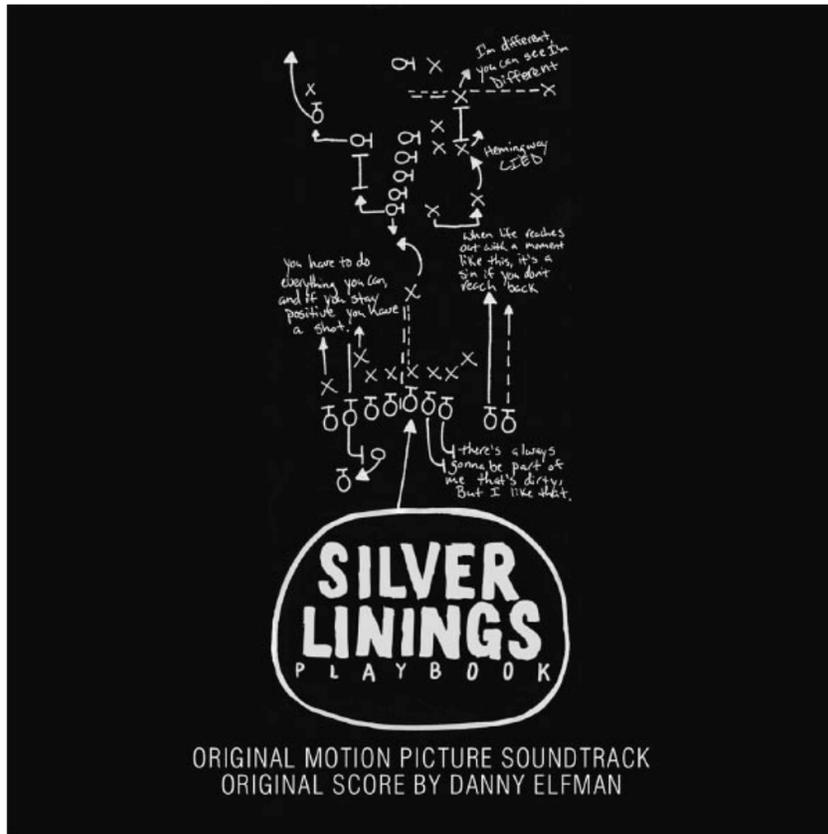
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# Silver Linings Playbook



Album cover of "Silver Linings Playbook" soundtrack. *Silver Linings Playbook* is a romantic comedy starring Bradley Cooper and Jennifer Lawrence. PHOTO COURTESY OF FLICKR

Welcome back to another issue of Your Movie Mage, where I discuss underrated movies across genres. Last week we delved into the romantic sci-fi comedy, "Palm Springs" and this week we'll be covering a more popular and well-known romantic comedy, "Silver Linings Playbook."

**Trigger Warning: Discussion of mental disorders below.**

"Silver Linings Playbook" follows Pat (Bradley Cooper) and Tiffany (Jennifer Lawrence), as they're both getting back up after their lowest points in life. Pat was institutionalized for eight months after physically assaulting the man his wife was having an affair with. Tiffany's husband died and her subsequent coping actions got her fired and put on medication. Pat's goal throughout the movie is to win back his ex-wife. He's being treated for bipolar disorder, which he was diagnosed with after the incident that got him arrested, though he had unknowingly been dealing with it his whole life. Tiffany is dealing with an unnamed disorder, most likely depression and potentially borderline personality disorder, as theorized by some viewers.

I'm not generally a huge fan of romantic comedies, but this one stands out to me. Like many rom-coms, it's very obvious where the plot is heading; what makes this film different are the two main characters and their friends and family. Each character is well-thought out and feels very real. We know Pat and Tiffany are meant to be struggling because they are on medication or being treated for mental illness. However, it soon becomes apparent that everybody is struggling, and the line of mental illness can be blurry.

Pat also reminds us that people who are judging him have no place to do so. He says this to his friend Ronnie, who is having marital issues. Pat reminds Ronnie he shouldn't judge him or Tiffany for being in therapy. In fact, Pat recommends Ronnie attends therapy too. This is an important message and a significant change from the common portrayal of mental illness as incomprehensible.

The movie has been criticized for its portrayal of bipolar disorder because it doesn't show the depressive episodes involved in the disorder, which are often overlooked. However, this criticism neglects the fact that the movie focuses more on mania, a symptom of bipolar disorder that isn't portrayed as much in the media and is less understood.

Having an accurate portrayal of a depressive episode would have altered the film greatly. So, at the expense of portraying each aspect of bipolar disorder, viewers get a more entertaining, albeit less realistic film.

The portrayal of mental illness subverts typical stereotypes. Disorders aren't blown out of proportion so viewers can laugh at Pat and Tiffany. Instead, viewers are meant to sympathize with and understand them. It highlights that mental illness doesn't always manifest in extreme forms and can go undetected. Pat lived over 30 years without a diagnosis, despite having struggled with this disorder for a long time. This shows us an all-too-common problem for many people suffering from mental illness.

Another aspect that I appreciated was the depiction of medication in treating mental disorders. Upon meeting, Pat and Tiffany get into a discussion about what medications they've been on. The entire discussion boils down to them not feeling good or like themselves on medication. Pat expresses this feeling throughout the film, although this does not mean the film is anti-medication. Rather, it accurately portrays issues involved in medication and why so many people, especially those with bipolar disorder, go off their medication—even when not advised by their psychiatrist. Once Pat actually begins taking his medication, he levels off and is much more balanced. From there, he's able to put in the work to have a happy and fulfilling life. Medication isn't portrayed as a fix-all, but rather an important aspect of treatment.

A lot of Pat's manic actions actually seem positive. This is another new way they depicted mental illness. Movie portrayals of mental illness often make it obvious why a person should be

medicated but, in reality, it can be hard to tell. People feel productive and happy and decide to not go on medication or seek treatment. We can understand why Pat thinks he's doing better and doesn't need treatment.

One discrepancy is some may take away that love beats mental illness, as Pat and Tiffany end up together and are happy. I personally do not read it this way at all and see it as two people pushing each other towards treatment and a more positive life. Ending up together just happened to coincide with other events pushing them towards recovery. Pat had the full support of his family and friends, which allowed him to work solely on his mental health. Tiffany was also living at home and had more freedom to improve her mental health as well.

Could you assume the film implies their mental illness is fixed because they fell in love? Sure, if you want to. However, I assumed they stayed together but are still constantly working on staying on top of their mental health. They aren't "fixed," as they will still struggle, but they have a support system. Also, people with mental illness fall in love too. Those with mental illness are much better off with a support system and in a healthy relationship, so the ending is completely realistic while keeping the classic happy rom-com ending.

It's true that struggling with mental illness is not easy and there may be people who don't want it portrayed in a lighter way. However, I thought it was a much-needed change in the depiction of mental illness. Movies that depict mental illness realistically and with a positive ending are few and far between, so I was happy to see one that instilled the viewer with hope.

I give "Silver Linings Playbook" an underratedness score of 2/5, as the film has been recognized for its greatness and is beloved by many. I do think it's still underrated because not many college-aged people have seen it, considering it came out in 2012. I have also seen a lot of criticism of its portrayal of mental illness and lack of representation of the lows in bipolar disorder, which I don't think it deserves.

# Dining Services hosts first outdoor pop-up food pantry

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ILLUSTRATIONS COURTESY OF CREAZILLA

On Wednesday, Oct. 16, University of Connecticut Dining Services held their first outdoor pop-up food pantry, Husky Harvest, for “anyone with a UConn ID.” The event was set up on the Student Union Lawn, starting at 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. or until supplies ran out. For participants to enter, they had to share a way to be contacted by Husky Harvest and show their UConn ID.

Students were able to stop at a variety of tables with food options in similar categories. For example, the first table in the queue had several electrolyte drinks, capped at three items per participant. This year, more shelf-stable food items were offered such as cereal, peanut butter, grape jelly, ramen, cookies, goldfish and fruit cups. The last table featured hygiene items including toilet paper, facial tissues, razors, toothpaste and

soap.

Senior Associate Director of Dining Services, Tracey Roy, provided an in-person interview as the event began. Roy shared that UConn Dining Services has been working on this project for the past month.

“We have been working on a lot of logistics including finding places to store all donated food, working with partners to pick up foods, since many partners cannot deliver, and coordinating with the Student Union to find a date that worked for everyone,” said Roy.

When asked if there were any major changes from previous years, Roy focused on the change of location. “This is our third pop-up, but first time outside. The last two were inside and not as many students came. We are much happier with being outside and where students

can easily find the pop-up food pantry.”

Many students who utilized the pop-up pantry shared that they only discovered it because of its location. Both Syrai Parker, a first-semester material science and engineering major, and Naia Ocio, a first-semester undecided major, shared they were leaving class and stopped to see what the line was for.

“I had never heard of Husky Harvest. I think it is a great event, and people can take advantage in a positive way. Not everyone can go grocery shopping every week to look for food or things you need like soap and tissues,” Parker shared.

Ocio added, “As freshmen, everything is really far and if it is on campus, it is expensive. This is a great way to get some food without having to go far off-campus.”

In addition, upperclassmen found the change in location made the entire event more approachable. Amira Veldman-Wilson, a fifth-semester chemistry major, said, “I heard about this event last year, but I never went through the Student Union to go see the ballroom. I walk past the Student Union Lawn every day, so seeing it outside was a lot more accessible than upstairs and inside.”

Similarly, Audrey Hom, a fifth-semester psychology major, shared that for students who do not have kitchens and live in traditional dorms, the timing of this event during midterms week was really well thought out.

As an attendee at the pop-up pantry last year, Livian Shi, a fifth-semester psychology major, felt that the variety of food was greatly improved upon. “I

felt that they took feedback from last year. Most of us do not have kitchens and cannot grab food that requires a kitchen. This year, there’s more variety in terms of snacks or things that don’t need to be cooked.”

For those unfamiliar, Husky Harvest works in partnership with Connecticut Foodshare. Their mission statement, according to their website is “to address food insecurity across UConn. The food pantries are accessible to anyone with a UConn ID and provide the campus community with non-perishable food items, toiletries, and more.”

Despite this being a one-time event, anyone with a UConn ID can still visit Husky Harvest located in the community center of Charter Oak Apartments. They are open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

# UConn Law School Fair brings schools across the country to UConn

by **Thatcher Slocum**  
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If one had to use a word to describe the University of Connecticut’s School of Law 2024 Law School Fair, it would have to be “diversity.”

Representatives and admissions officers, many of whom have extensive experience in the field of law, came from schools across the country to offer guidance to UConn pre-law students. Schools in attendance hailed from across the country, from California Western School of Law, located in San Diego, California, to Purdue Global Law School, an online program. Local names included the University of New Hampshire Franklin Pierce School of Law, the Vermont Law and Graduate School, the City University of New York School of Law, Yale Law School and, of course, the UConn School of Law.

Each school offers diverse options and career paths for its applicants. Vermont Law and Graduate School, for example, focuses on environmental law and justice (the school’s freebie swag reflected this, with pens with casings made from rolled paper instead of plastic), while the City University of New York (CUNY) School of Law is dedicated to public interest, human rights and racial justice. The University of New Hampshire Franklin Pierce School of Law is well-known for its prominence in intellectual property law.

Connecticut’s own law schools, including the UConn School of Law and Yale Law School, often regarded as among the nation’s best, drew the largest crowds at the event.

Each school emphasized

how their law education serves the unique needs of each student, who will in turn serve the unique needs of their clients during their future law careers. Unlike many pre-professional tracks, pre-law has no clear, set path. Students from all majors — political science, business, engineering, and theater — can all approach law with their own unique life and academic experiences to have a successful career in their own niche of law.

The Law School Admission Test (LSAT) test-prep com-

panies, such as Kaplan and TestMasters, were also in attendance to promote their test preparation platforms and offer help to UConn students preparing to take the exam. While the LSAT is important and required by most law schools, many institutions stress that one’s own story, dedication and personal interest in their desired field of law often matters more than their test scores.

Students present at the event included those from all types of academic backgrounds, each with different goals.

John Haslun, a fifth-semester political science major set to graduate in his sixth semester, noted that law is a great option for those considering careers serving the public. His potential professional plans include teaching, administration, public policy and law.

Sofia Rebelo, vice president of the UConn Law Society, a student-run organization that aims to prepare pre-law students for a career in law, aims to attend law school to pursue intellectual property law. At UConn, she is a dou-

ble major in computer science and cognitive science with plans to get a master’s in computer science before pursuing law school. Her experience in STEM and plans to gain experience outside of school are often valued by law schools, highlighting the customizability of one’s own path to a career in law.

Carson LaFemina, president of the UConn Law Society and a business major with aspirations in corporate law, emphasized the importance of choosing a major that best serves one’s unique interest in law. Carson notes he personally chose business, as it equips him with the networking, collaboration and project management skills he is most likely to need when working with a company in corporate law. He further noted that “the great thing about law is that you learn skills that you use in all walks of life, whether you’re an engineer, a doctor or a teacher.”

Carson noted the usefulness of the Law School Fair and how it exposed him to many law schools and their opportunities in his specialty in business. “I’ve talked to a lot of amazing law schools here that have great business programs. There are some amazing opportunities out here.”

The UConn Law Fair, with its diverse set of schools from locations that span the United States and specialties that span the entire field of law, is sure to be of immense utility to all pre-law students and those with an interest in a career in law.

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Daily

Life

@dailycampuslife

# How to cook mushroom orzo risotto with lemon chicken

by Oliver Power

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Welcome to the first installment of “I Made it So You Don’t Have To” where every week I will make a new recipe and let you know exactly what to do and what to avoid.

TikTok is the new cookbook of our generation. My saved album consists exclusively of recipes that food influencers make that are worth a try. I figured that if these folks spend the time and energy to try and broadcast their recipes, I should try them out as well. Plus, TikTok is perfectly free, whereas many cookbooks—sadly—are not. This will hit home for many fellow college students who are trying to save money while still enjoying the comfort of a well-made meal you do not need to go home for.

For the first recipe, I decided to make something that was comfortable and utilized easy techniques that will make you look like a pro in the kitchen. I will give a shoutout to the TikToker “@cookingwithnoa,” who gave us this wonderful recipe, which I hope I did justice.

As you can see, the pictures are not super similar; however, despite missing an ingredient, I made do. I began with a typical sauté pan and started it off on low heat so when you are done prepping the chicken, the pan will be hot.

Prep the chicken by first washing it and, if using chicken breasts, butterflying them. This means cutting the chicken breasts in half like a hot dog bun, leaving one side attached and opening it up, so the chicken is not as thick. Add the salt, pepper, paprika and half of the thyme to a bowl and mix. This is the “rub.” Add your rub to the chicken on each side. Once the pan is hotter, turn it up to medium-high heat (around notch six-seven), add olive oil and throw your chicken in. Cook until golden brown on both sides. If you are afraid of undercooking the chicken, cut a piece in half to see if it is cooked on the inside.

Once it is done, put the chicken and its juice on a plate or a bowl and cover it so it does not lose its heat. I wanted to improvise a bit, so I added a splash (less than one-fourth cup) of white wine to deglaze the pan, which means picking up burnt bits stuck to the pan from the chicken that hold lots of flavor. Turn the heat down to medium once the alcohol boils out and then add chopped mushrooms, onion and garlic for five minutes while monitoring so it does not burn. Once these are all moderately cooked, add the orzo and toast for one minute while stirring. I thought it was weird to add to a pan without any liquid in it, but the toasting actually contributes to the depth of flavor.

Once this is done, add one-half cup at a time of chicken stock and stir on medium heat. Every time the chicken stock evaporates, make sure to add more. It is imperative that stirring is continuously done throughout. Do this until you get two cups of chicken stock. Taste the orzo to make sure it is moderately

soft and not crunchy. If it is still hard, add more stock and repeat the steps until the desired softness is reached. Now, add the juice and the chicken from earlier to the pan along with butter, parmesan, parsley, lemon and the rest of the thyme. Stir for five minutes and then let sit until serving.

This recipe took me about one hour, but it was certainly worth it. I think the mushrooms check vegetables off the list nicely and it comfortably makes two to three portions. Perfect for your Sunday meal-prep, for leftovers or even for trying to impress a date with your cooking skills.

## Ingredients:

- One-half tbsp of olive oil
- 500 g / 1.1 lbs. of chicken (I used thighs)
- One-half tsp of paprika
- One tbsp of butter
- One small onion, diced
- Two cloves of garlic or one tsp of garlic powder
- One cup of orzo
- Two cups of chicken stock (to be added slowly)
- Zest and juice of one small lemon
- One-half tsp of dried thyme
- One-half tsp of salt
- One-half tsp of pepper
- One-half cup of light cream or one-fourth cup of parmesan
- Finely chopped parsley to taste
- Eight ounces / 227 grams of baby Bella mushrooms

Cost: \$56.17 (note that this includes every ingredient that may already be in your pantry such as salt and pepper)

Rating: 4.25/5



ILLUSTRATION BY ALEXA PAPPAS, CONTRIBUTING ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS



The finished product. PHOTOS BY OLIVER POWER, CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT/THE DAILY CAMPUS



# Opinion

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# How is UConn responding to safety concerns?

### ► Editorial

The University of Connecticut released its Clery Annual Security and Fire Safety Report and a report from the Office of Institutional Equity in September, detailing policies and data regarding sexual assault, intimate partner violence and stalking. According to the Clery report, the number of rape incidents reported remained the same between 2022 and 2023 at eight, and domestic violence incidents increased from seven in 2022 to nine in 2023, though fondling reports decreased from 11 in 2022 to four in 2023.

In the state-mandated report by the OIE, of the 42 sexual assault incidents with connections to UConn, only nine were investigated and only one resulted in disciplinary action. The other eight investigated claims found "No Violation or Not Responsible." The disparity between cases reported and investigations conducted is alarming and reveals that UConn students do not feel comfortable reporting or following through proceedings on incidents of sexual violence. According to the Student Experience survey in the same report, of the eight percent of students who

experienced sexual violence, only 69 percent of students reported it to ShaW, UConn Police or another UConn employee. When asked why they didn't report it, the most common responses were that the victim did not trust UConn to take the report seriously, they would not get the desired outcome or they were worried that they would be blamed or not believed.

The failure to improve safety on campus is disappointing and it does not seem like it will improve in next year's report. Just in the past two weeks, a Stamford assistant professor has resigned after investigations opened into his alleged sexual misconduct with a student and a member of the TKE fraternity was arrested and charged with assault and breach of peace. The latter is just another addition to the list of fraternity-related criminal cases at UConn. Fraternities tend to be breeding grounds for violence, as studies have found that fraternity men are three times as likely to rape than non-affiliated peers, likely due to the increased level of male peer support and culture of silence, as noted by a UConn

petition during protests in 2022.

It isn't just the data that highlights safety issues at UConn. For years, students have been advocating for increased safety measures and better support for victims when crimes occur. Since their release of 16 Demands for the UConn Administration in 2022, Revolution Against Rape has been demanding that the Emergency Blue Phones system be expanded, more regularly tested and at the very least, be functional. The Emergency Blue Phones system is a series of emergency alarms placed around campus for students in distress to call for and receive assistance. Included in the 16 demands by RAR are ideas meant to reduce the frequency of sexual assault and protect victims throughout the investigation process.

It would be unfair to say UConn has not tried to increase student safety. In 2022, President Radenka Maric announced the formation of the President's Task Force on Combatting Sexual Violence and Supporting Our Students. The group includes faculty

and administration from various programs at UConn but fails to represent the general student population at UConn, as there are only two undergraduate students represented. However, while the group issued a report in August 2022 detailing recommendations to improve safety at UConn, there has been no further news from the group, and they have not put out a report for the year of 2023. After its initial year, the President's Task Force on Combatting Sexual Violence and Supporting Our Students has failed to follow through on any meaningful action.

The Daily Campus Editorial Board has been vocal in the past about prioritizing student safety and confronting the prevalence of violence and sexual harassment at UConn. We believe that students from all backgrounds should be able to live and work on campus without fear. We encourage student groups and the general student population to speak out for resources to make the campus a safer place that is more conducive to learning and growing as individuals.

# In this election, the U.S. risks autocracy

by Patrick Minnerly

HE/HIM/HIS | CONTRIBUTOR | patrick.minnerly@uconn.edu

In the waning days of the 2024 election race—which remains virtually tied between the two candidates—we are faced with a crucial choice: democracy or autocracy? Looking at recent events, it is clear Republican nominee Donald Trump represents the option of authoritarianism.

Former president Trump has long been associated with dictators from foreign countries, notably Russian president Vladimir Putin, who unlawfully invaded Ukraine in 2022 and has turned Russia into an authoritarian state. During his presidency, Trump repeatedly praised Putin and congratulated him on winning an election in 2018 that most observers described as illegitimate. Now, new details have arisen regarding their controversial relationship. In legendary reporter Bob Woodward's new book "War," he reveals that during the pandemic, Trump sent COVID testing machines to Putin when such machines were in short supply in the U.S. Furthermore, according to Woodward, Trump

has continued to make regular calls to Putin as a private citizen after losing the 2020 election.

In addition, Trump also has a concerning relationship with Viktor Orban, prime minister of Hungary, who has created what he terms "illiberal democracy," eliminating freedom of the press and backsliding towards autocracy. In Trump's 2024 debate with Vice President Kamala Harris, he declared that Orban, who has endorsed Trump's candidacy, was "one of the most respected men" and a "tough person," according to NPR. The embrace of authoritarian leaders underscores that Trump likes the power they have to control their countries and block out dissenting voices. In praising them, he seethes at an America where he can't always get his way.

The events of Jan. 6 laid bare this tendency to fume at losses. Because of his defeat in 2020, Trump made a final attempt to overturn the results and encouraged the worst attack on American democracy since the

Civil War. Then, Trump's vice president Mike Pence defied him and certified the election for Joe Biden. Now, in Trump's reelection campaign, there is nobody left to constrain him, by his own design—and his autocratic rhetoric is becoming clearer.

In a Fox News interview on Sunday, Trump claimed America was dealing with an "enemy from within," namely "radical left lunatics...like Adam Schiff," referring to the Democratic congressman from California who led the prosecution of Trump's first impeachment trial in 2019. He went on to say these "lunatics" should be handled by either the National Guard or the military. This follows previous comments by Trump that those who investigated him after Jan. 6 "should go to jail" and describing himself as his supporters' "retribution." The line of thinking from these pronouncements is not hard to follow. Trump wants to silence and repress those who prevented him from holding onto power or disagree with him.

This process is already complete in the Republican Party. Of the 10 Republican House members who voted to impeach Trump for his actions on Jan. 6, just two won reelection in 2022, thanks to the former president's endorsements of their primary opponents. In purging who Trump calls "RINOs", Republicans in Name Only, he has fully remade the party in his image. Republican politicians who once criticized him have been forced to bend the knee; for his running mate in 2024, Trump selected Ohio senator JD Vance, who previously referred to Trump in 2016 as "America's Hitler." Vance, in order to stay in Trump's good graces, has defended him in the face of facts. During the vice presidential candidate debate between

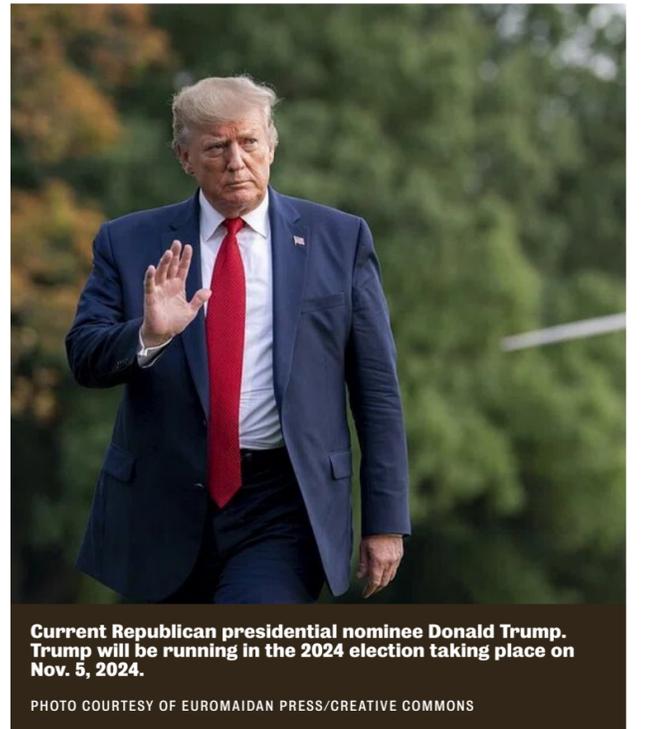
Vance and Tim Walz, Kamala Harris' pick for VP, Vance refused to say that Trump lost the 2020 election. He didn't acknowledge the evidence because he couldn't without breaking his fealty to the former president. Through Vance, Trump has found a reliable surrogate who will do whatever he asks, unlike Pence.

Similarly, Virginia governor Glenn Youngkin, seen as a relatively moderate member of the GOP, was asked in an interview with CNN's Jake Tapper about Trump's "enemy within" comments previously discussed. Youngkin sputtered and tried to turn the conversation to immigration, later saying he believed Tapper was "misrepresenting [Trump's] thoughts." Like Vance,

Youngkin couldn't denounce Trump's comments because he needs to stay popular with Trump and his supporters.

This brings to mind a famous quote from George Orwell's 1984, one that has been applied to various autocratic regimes: "The Party told you to reject the evidence of your eyes and ears. It was their final, most essential command." Trump needs people like Youngkin and Vance to provide an air of legitimacy around his authoritarian agenda.

We should read the warning signs and proceed accordingly. In this election, choosing Trump would bring the darkness of despotism to America, putting the foundations of democracy at risk.



Current Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump. Trump will be running in the 2024 election taking place on Nov. 5, 2024.

PHOTO COURTESY OF EUROMAIDAN PRESS/CREATIVE COMMONS

# Opinion

## Huskytalk | Will the DC finally win the Pearlman Cup this year?



**"I think the DC will lose because of their losing streak"**  
Dana Saccardi  
Natural resources  
First semester



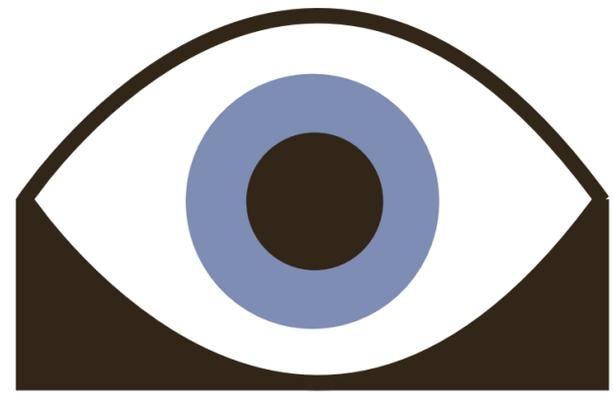
**"I don't think so, but hopefully they will"**  
Ganga Mahesh  
Data science and engineering  
First semester



**"No"**  
Mikayla Murphy  
Economics  
First semester



**"Yes, because we're motivated to win"**  
Patrick Minnerly  
Political science  
First semester



GRAPHIC BY GOLBI LORANGER, ASSOCIATE MANAGING EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

# Expect the unexpected: "Big Brother" is better than you think

by Raegan Skelly  
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We are now almost a month into fall, which is an important time in cable television. Cable conglomerate CBS is very busy with sitcoms as well as reality competition shows. Their long-tenured show "Big Brother" follows 16 contestants in a house cut off from the world for around three months competing for a \$750,000 cash prize. Each week, there are two challenges to earn safety and two houseguests are nominated for eviction, with the rest of the houseguests voting someone out of the house (and game) every Thursday. "Big Brother" at its core is a social experiment. How do people act when they are cut off from the entire world and living with strangers? What do these actions say about them? How does it affect the other houseguests? How does this affect their psyche? With the 26th season of "Big Brother" ending this past Sunday, Oct. 13, there is no better time to appreciate this underrated gem.

"Big Brother" has constant content, entertainment and societal breakthroughs. Despite this, "Big Brother" is underappreciated among reality competition shows and on its own network. "Survivor" is no doubt the network's favorite competition show, whether it's because of award show success or because they air two seasons a year. Despite both premiering in 2000, "Big Brother" just finished its 26th season while "Survivor" just started its 47th season. "Survivor" also has 69 Emmy nominations with seven wins, while "Big Brother" has never been nominated. You can also look at the prize money as an example of CBS favoring "Survivor," with the winner being gifted one million dollars compared to "Big Brother"'s recently-increased prize of \$750,000 (formerly \$500,000 for the first 22 seasons).

"Survivor" may have been the #1 reality show on Paramount Plus for the 2023-24 season, but this doesn't mean it is a better show. When "Big Brother" is at its best, it makes you think, keeps you laughing and more importantly, keeps you engaged. There

are many components that make a good player, and good players equal a good season. If a contestant wins competitions, has a strategy to evade nomination and has a good social game, you are very likely to have a good season, or at least an entertaining storyline. These plotlines are more satisfying to witness on "Big Brother" than on other shows, since you are following a player's journey for so long. Look at season 24 winner Taylor Hale, who was ousted by the house the first couple of weeks but fought her way to finale night and left not only the winner, but America's Favorite Houseguest.

CBS airs three episodes of "Big Brother" a week and a 24/7 live feed of the house is available to watch on Paramount Plus. This is a factor unique to "Big Brother"; no matter the time of day, you can tune in and watch the houseguests. This endless stream of content is the show's greatest strength, as it is always available to the viewer and there is always something new to show. The length of "Big Brother" can also contribute to your enjoyment as a viewer. Viewers watch houseguests play a game for 80 to 90 days, which helps the audience become invested in players throughout the course of the season. "Survivor" only has a 26-day run, and there is so much more you can learn over 90 days.

"Big Brother" immerses viewers in the show's environment and wraps them up in all the contestants. Some could say "Survivor" creates the same experience, but I don't think it's possible. "Survivor" may sport 90-minute episodes every Wednesday, but it can't beat the three one-hour long episodes of "Big Brother," plus the live feeds. Since episodes of "Survivor" are edited and there is no live stream, viewers are reduced to knowing only what the editors show. Also, "Survivor" isn't a live show, as they typically film a season in the spring and release an edited version in the fall. "Big Brother" shows mainly raw, un-edited content. This factor contributes to "Big Brother" creating greater audience bonds than "Survivor." Despite "Survivor"'s acclaim, "Big Brother" deserves more recognition.

# comics

## Sarah Chantres Staff Artist



# Van Nguyen Staff Artist





LOGO BY LILLIAM LAFEMINA, ASSOCIATE ARTIST EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

# Tyler's Take: The Boston Celtics' overview

by Tyler Pruneau  
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Defending their championship in just six days, dominating the court is all the Boston Celtics are thinking about. Boston opens their 2024-2025 season against the New York Knicks at TD Garden. Winning banner No. 19 is the expectation for the team and anything else is considered a failing season. Achieving a back-to-back championship season is possible, but the league wants to tell a different story.

After four years of coming close to the NBA finals, switching up the team was a must. Since trading away Marcus Smart, Robert Williams, Grant Williams and Malcolm Brogdon, the team has never looked back.

After making moves and re-signing key players during the off-season, the team is ready for the season. Signing a four-year, \$45 million contract extension, Sam Hauser slowly made himself into a great sixth man. For improving every year and averaging seven points, 2.8 rebounds and 0.9 blocks, things are looking up for Hauser.

Signing on the same day, Jayson Tatum and Derrick White found contract extensions. Looking to build around their star player, the Celtics signed Tatum to a five-year deal worth up to \$315 million. Averaging 23.1 points, 3.5 assists and 0.7 blocks, Tatum is worth the cost.

Boston officially robbed the league after trading for Derrick White back in 2022. Continuously making game-deciding plays and proving his worth, White plays a key role for the team. Averaging 12.3 points, 3.5 rebounds, 4.1 assists and 0.9 blocks, the two-way player signed a four-year contract just over \$118 million.

Defensively, Boston acquired Jrue Holiday from the



Boston Celtics' Jeff Green, no. 8, dribbling the ball down the court. PHOTO COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Brogdon trade. Averaging 18.4 points, 4.8 rebounds and 6.7 assists for the Bucks, Holiday declined in points with the Celtics. Given the team's talented offense, Holiday was primarily signed in his defensive skills.

While he only averaged 5.4 rebounds, 4.8 assists, 0.8 blocks, 0.9 steals and 12.5

points a season ago, the defensive player can put up 20 points on any given day. Signing a four-year, \$134.4 million contract, Holiday looks to add a third ring this season.

Tatum's right-hand man, Jaylen Brown, locked up a five-year extension worth up to \$303.7 million in the 2023 off-season. Averaging 18.6

points, 5.3 rebounds and 2.4 assists, Brown's work is not done. After missing the All-NBA teams last season and not making the 2024 United States Olympic team, a chip sits on Brown's shoulder. A big season is necessary for Brown to prove the doubters wrong.

Returning for his 18th sea-

son, Al Horford is hungry for more. Recovering from a foot injury in the playoffs last season forced Kristaps Porzingis to the sidelines. Porzingis is returning sometime in December and Horford is stepping in for the time being. Downgrading to a sixth man last year, Horford returns to the starting lineup, understanding the expectations. Shooting here and there, the veteran big man thrives on the defensive side of the game.

The presence of Porzingis is unmatched. From defending to shooting threes, the 29-year-old exceeds in every category. Losing the final piece of the puzzle, Porzingis challenges the Celtics' potential. Contributing 19.7 points, 7.9 rebounds and 1.8 blocks per game, Porzingis impacts the game greatly.

Injuries reoccur for the 7-foot-2 forward every season. Moving at a fast pace hurts tall players, which makes them injury-prone. However, the Celtics played great ball with Porzingis out last year, so worrying is not a problem for head coach Joe Mazzulla.

Watch out for Holiday this season, who may see an increase in production. Shown to put up 20-plus points, White is another player to consider. Since 2022, the franchise's trust in White increased tremendously over time. Incorporating him more on the court is an option to look at.

Looking for nothing less than a back-to-back championship season, history stands in the Celtics' way. Competing in the NBA playoffs is difficult, and winning one trophy is tough enough. Since 2019, the reigning champs have failed to make it past the second round the following year.

Continuing to haunt every championship team, the Celtics plan on breaking that curse and hanging up banner No. 19, despite the challenges they face.

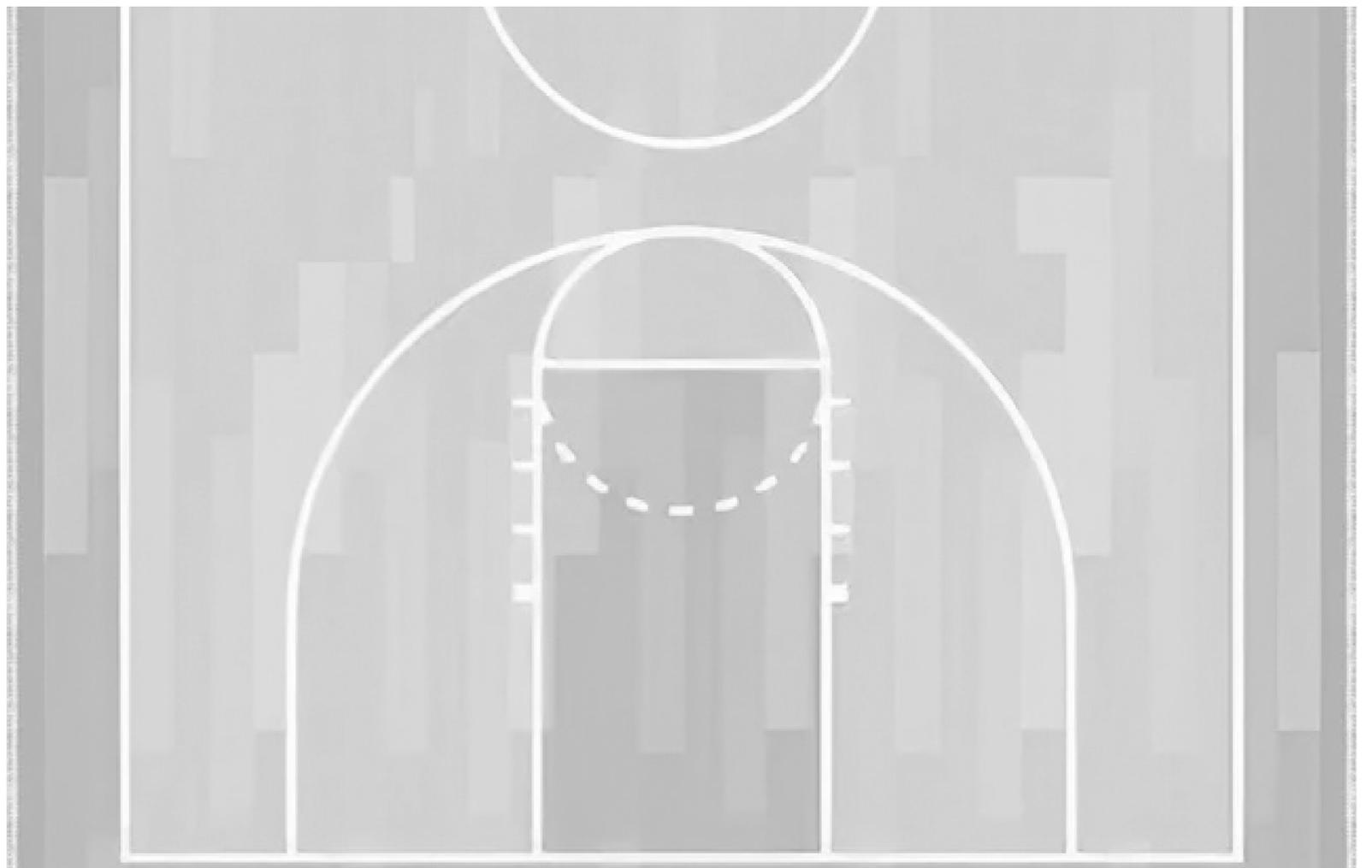


PHOTO COURTESY OF PINTERVAL.COM

## Sports

Photo of the Day |



UConn's men's basketball team takes on Oklahoma State in an energy filled game at Gampel Pavilion on Dec. 1, 2022. The UConn Huskies defeated the Oklahoma State Cowboys 74-64 after a slow start for the no. 8 Huskies. FILE PHOTO/THE DAILY CAMPUS

## Women's swim and dive: UConn looks to carry momentum against reigning conference champs

by **Ryan Lombardi**

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The UConn swimming and diving team will have their second meet of the season on Thursday, Oct. 17 at 11 a.m. when they travel to Villanova University for their first Big East matchup of the season. The Huskies hope to carry their momentum into conference play after a strong season opener against Sacred Heart and Southern Connecticut State University. They displayed impressive performances all-around and will

look to maintain that consistency as they dive into more competitive waters.

Freshmen Stella McCardie and Julia Fondersmith impressed in their 200-meter butterfly debuts, capturing first and second place respectively. Their contributions could be pivotal for the team as the season progresses; the program hopes to continue their success this week. Freshman Sydney Perkins also made a solid impact on the dominant 200-yard medley relay team, alongside graduate student Kayla Mendonca, sophomore Maggie Rhodes and junior

Alexis Martino. Senior captain Maggie Donlevy looks to improve upon a strong first performance, impressing for her own relay team and capturing a close second in the 50-yard freestyle, just behind Rhodes.

On the diving side, Connecticut also had an equally successful start. UConn swept the podium in the one-meter dive, thanks to the efforts of senior Julia Pioso, sophomore Kate Cooper and junior Darah Ostrom. Their depth and consistency will be key as they go on to face a tough conference schedule.

Now, the Huskies face a

significant challenge as they travel to Pennsylvania to take on the reigning Big East champion, Villanova. The Wildcats will make their season debut and are likely eager to defend their title. Finishing runner-up to them last year by a score of 154-146 is still fresh on the minds of UConn, and they seek redemption this time around.

Villanova returns a strong roster, including juniors Katie White and Winnie Jalet. These two key members were on last year's championship team, where they both earned first place in their events against Connecticut. Villa-

nova's 200-meter freestyle relay team, which clinched first in their last meeting with the Huskies, also remains intact this year. Facing this roster is no easy feat for any opponent, especially shown by their dominance last year.

The Wildcats will likely prove to be one of the toughest challenges UConn will face this year. However, the Huskies look poised to challenge the Wildcats with their talent across the board. Building on the success of the first meet, UConn should expect an exciting and competitive matchup this Thursday.



UConn Swim and Dive takes on Sacred Heart University and Central Connecticut State University on Oct 3, 2024, in Storrs, CT. UConn fans showed up and cheered on the team and watched as they had an impressive performance. PHOTO BY SYDNEY CHANDLER, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

# Women's soccer: Big East dogfight is set between the Connecticut Huskies and the Butler Bulldogs



The UConn Women's Soccer team versus Providence College at Morrone Stadium. The Huskies fought hard and were rewarded with a win, with a final score of 1-0. PHOTO BY BLAKE SYKES, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

by Nahum Valiente

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The UConn women's soccer team (8-3-3, 2-2-2) has their eyes set on the Big East Tournament as they enter the final stretch of the regular season. They will continue their season with a home game against Butler (6-4-3, 1-2-2) on Oct. 17.

Connecticut has had some success in the Big East Conference. Coming off a 3-0 win on the road against Marquette, the momentum is on their side at a pivotal time in the season. With those three points, Connecticut set itself in a good position in the conference. Sitting at No. 4, if the season were to end today, they would not only qualify for the Big East Tournament, but also be the host site for a first-round fixture. Butler, on the other hand, sits in ninth place and has a bleak road ahead of them to qualify for postseason play. For them, this is a must-win game. For Connecticut, this game would be key to further establishing their playoff berth.

The Bulldogs have lost the last four matches, and they hope to break the streak with an upset against the Huskies. They have also failed to capitalize on home fixtures and have only won one game at home, which has also been their only win in Big East play. Their last fixture was also a low for Butler, with their largest loss so far of 3-0.

Abbey Jones, a UConn senior from Nottingham, England, had an impressive performance against Marquette. Recording a brace for the Hus-

kies was a critical part of UConn's dominance on the front-line. Another reason Jones is key for the Connecticut offense is her shot-making ability. She has recorded 39 shots attempted, with 17 being on target. Alongside Junior Chioma Okafor, the leading goal scorer for the Huskies with 11 goals, Butler's defense has a lot of work ahead of them if they want to avoid an avalanche of offensive attacks.

The Bulldog's key lies in their ability to shut out teams through their goalkeeper Junior Anna Pierce. Pierce is second in the Big East for shut-outs, recording five this season.

Aside from their recent match with Xavier, Butler has only scored two goals in the last five games. With UConn typically outshooting opponents when they are on the attack, the Bulldogs must rely on Pierce to prevent UConn from getting on the board.

As for their history, it's on Butler's side, as the Bulldogs have always had the upper hand in this series. Butler has a 1-4-1 advantage over the Huskies. In fact, in the first four matchups between the teams, Butler left victorious. It wasn't until last season that UConn recorded its first win against Butler. The Huskies are looking to create a winning streak and improve their record in this series.

The Huskies will face the Bulldogs this Thursday with kick-off set to 7 p.m. at Morrone Stadium for the annual Breast Cancer Awareness Game. The fixture is available for streaming on FloSports.





# Sports

## Women's basketball: Huskies begin 2024 in search of 12th NCAA title

by Jake McCreven and Avery Becker

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The stage is set. Head coach Geno Auriemma spent little time wallowing in the agony of a season-ending Final Four loss to Iowa this March and the departure of two starters to the WNBA. Auriemma swiftly plucked a vital addition out of the portal and added three top 11 recruits to surround superstar Paige Bueckers for her final season of eligibility in Storrs.

Connecticut opens the 2024 season as the No. 2 ranked team in the Associated Press Top 25 Poll, marking the sixth time in school history the Huskies begin the season at the No. 2 spot and notching Auriemma's 91st appearance at No. 2 in his illustrious 40-year career in Storrs.

**Departures:** Although Bueckers elected to return to Storrs for a fifth season, the Huskies lost two members of its starting lineup from last year: center Aaliyah Edwards (Washington Mystics - WNBA) and guard Nika Mühl (Seattle Storm - WNBA). The two now-professionals were high-octane contributors on both ends of the court, combining for 215 starts and 2,625 points since 2020.

Along with Edwards and Mühl, forward Amari DeBerry and guard Inês Bettencourt opted to leave the program and enter the transfer portal, ending up at Maryland and Gonzaga, respectively. The transfer of DeBerry opened the roster spot and brought in former Princeton guard Kaitlyn Chen for her post-grad season of eligibility.

**Non-Conference Schedule:** The Huskies open the 2024 regular season on Nov. 7 against Bos-

ton University in Gampel Pavilion and will welcome South Florida to Storrs just three days later on Nov. 10. UConn will then head to Greensboro, NC to take on No. 15 North Carolina in the First Horizon Coliseum for an important early season ranked showdown.

The Huskies will travel to Nas-sau in late November to compete in the Continental Tire Baha Mar Women's Championships against Oregon State (Nov. 25, 7:30 p.m.) and either Mississippi or Boston College (Nov. 27).

A key stretch for the Huskies will be a five-game sequence in mid-December that starts with No. 17 Louisville in the Barclays Center on Dec. 7, immediately followed by a mid-week trip to South Bend to take on the No. 6-ranked Fighting Irish of Notre Dame on Dec. 12. The Huskies will get a three-day break before opening Big East play against Georgetown in the XL Center on Dec. 15 and have a quick two-day turnaround, as No. 8 Iowa State visits Mohegan Sun Arena on Dec. 17.

The three most pivotal non-conference matchups all happen within the heart of Big East play. The third-ranked USC Trojans will pay a visit to Hartford to take on UConn on Dec. 21, a series UConn leads 3-0 all-time. Connecticut will then visit a pair of SEC powerhouses in Tennessee and No. 1 South Carolina within a ten-day stretch in February.

Out of the Huskies' 12 out-of-conference opponents this season, six open the year ranked inside the top 20 of the Associated Press Top 25 Poll, with four ranked inside the top eight.

**Newcomers:**

The Huskies welcome three new freshman, ESPN's No. 1 ranked recruit Sarah Strong, Allie Ziebell and Morgan Cheli, as well as a new transfer graduate student from Princeton, Kaitlyn Chen.

At the team's first practice, Auriemma described the roles he would like each player to have as they enter their careers as a Husky.

For Chen, Auriemma sees utilizing her as a depth player to the roster, adding more physicality to the program as a whole.

"She's at practice every day, she's an incredibly hard worker, she's incredibly aggressive - she's smart, she picks things up very quickly," said Auriemma after their first practice of the season. "The ball goes in—a lot—when she gets to the lane."

As far as Sarah Strong is concerned, Auriemma wants her to have the same role on the team as she did when she was in high school at the Grace Christian School.

"I think we need her to have [a] role that impacts winning for us," stated Auriemma.

One thing Auriemma is worried about for his team is the size out on the court this season. He wants the size he does have to be on the hardwood at all times, which is one of the facets of Strong's game that will come in handy.

**Injuries:** Last season, Auriemma and his team were plagued with injuries, ending with Edwards breaking her nose during the Big East tournament.

To start out their 2024-2025, Auriemma describes his current



"I took advantage of it," said Bueckers. "Everybody saw the world tour, they didn't see the work tour, which is fine."

"Just trying to hone in on my skills, get stronger in the weight room, that was a big emphasis this summer as well," said Bueckers, touching on how she wanted to start this next season as strong as ever.

Another thing the redshirt senior wanted to spend her summer working on was her mindset of the game and switching it around.

"Obviously, having the game I had in the Final Four was not what I wanted to have, and I think it really set in and stung me in a different type of way where I have a reality check," said Bueckers. "I sat down myself and wanted to

with self and wanted to

**UConn destroys the Georgetown Hoyas in the Big East Tournament final 78-42 to punch their ticket for the NCAA tournament.**  
PHOTO BY CONNOR SHARP/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Bueckers is back...again! During the annual senior night ceremony last year, Paige Bueckers announced she is back and has some unfinished business after falling short to the Iowa Hawkeyes in the Final Four.

However, this past summer, instead of spending the summer rehabbing her injury, Bueckers spent it traveling to various sporting events, but also working with various trainers to help her get stronger.

get my goals out in front of me and make sure how can I attain those goals. I have a completely different mindset on how I want to approach playing basketball and how I play on the court."

The new and improved UConn women's basketball team is locked and loaded and prepared for their quest for No. 12.

It all kicks off on Sunday, Nov. 3 as they take on Fort Hays State at Gampel Pavilion.

## Meet the second of the UConn men's basketball 2025 recruiting class, Eric Reibe

by Sam Calhoun

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POTOMAC, Md. -- Following the commitment from four-star guard Darius Adams, UConn men's basketball has landed another big commitment.

Meet Eric Reibe, a 7-foot center from Potomac, Mary-

land who will graduate from The Bullis School after this academic year.

Reibe committed to UConn over Indiana, Kansas, Oregon and Creighton, announcing his decision on 247Sports' YouTube channel. He is No. 27 in his recruiting class according to 247Sports, along with being the No. 4 center in the class.

"First off, it was the special

culture at UConn," said Reibe on his decision. "Their offensive playstyle suits me very well."

UConn offered Reibe on June 29, 2024, and made his top 11 on July 18. Reibe officially visited Storrs on Sept. 6 and has since taken official visits to Indiana and Oregon. Following the Huskies' White House visit, Hurley and the coaching staff went to Potomac to meet

with Reibe.

I think it's the best place for me to develop as a basketball player," continued Reibe. "My relationship with the coaches is really good. They also just won back-to-back [national championships], so that doesn't hurt."

Adam Finkelstein, 247Sports' Director of Recruiting, called Reibe "one of the most skilled big men in the national class." He added that he is "a major floor-spacing threat" and is considered a stretch-five.

His passing ability is strong, making reads and hitting cutters from various spots on the floor. Finkelstein said he can play out of dribble-hand-off action. Considering how UConn head coach Dan Hurley runs his offense, Reibe will fit right in. In Hurley's offense, Reibe can bring over his brush screens when appropriate. He is tough to cover in screens because of his ability to roll into space, make decisions in the lane or pop behind the arc.

Like past centers to come through the program, Reibe is a threat in the post, especially when you consider his footwork. He makes it exceedingly difficult for opponents defending him to get around. With his size advantage, he is often able to shoot over post defenders. With the passing ability mentioned above, he is hard to double-team because he has a great passing vision.

The downsides Finkelstein mentions include his mobility, physicality and durability. He has gotten stronger and improved his conditioning in recent months, but to maximize his potential, he needs to avoid bringing the ball down inside, avoid unnecessary fadeaways

and learn to play through contact more.

According to On3, Connecticut is the closest school from home out of his final choices. Reibe will benefit from playing a yearly road game at Georgetown University, which will be a homecoming game for him.

Reibe was a top performer on the Puma Pro16 this summer. He attended the NBAPA Top 100 camp, which was only one of the many high-level camps he attended.

He is originally from Germany and joins Marc Suhr, Enosch Wolf, Niels Giffey and Leon Tolksdorf as the only German basketball players in program history. He played with the German U18 FIBA squad this past summer and was on that team when they won the European Championship in 2022.

Reibe recently told Dushawn London of 247Sports that he sees himself playing alongside Michigan transfer Tarris Reed Jr., which was one of the indications Hurley and the staff made clear to him. Reibe said that he may be used like former UConn center Donovan Clingan.

"You're getting a kid with high effort and a great work ethic," said Reibe on what UConn's getting. "I want to be fully in the UConn culture. I want to get better every single day no matter how I'm feeling. Can't wait to be on campus and play for the best fans in the country. I'll bring everything I have, all my energy I have. I'm happy to be a (expletive) Husky."

UConn is expected to have a full-court press on five-star guard Braylon Mullins, who will announce his commitment on Oct. 23.



**UConn men's basketball blows past DePaul capturing a 88-59 victory at home in the XL Center in Hartford, Conn. on March 1, 2023. This was the last home game of the season for the Huskies, as they will end their regular season in Philadelphia competing against Villanova on Saturday.**  
PHOTO BY SOFIA SAWCHUK, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS