

UConn fraternity responds to member charged with assault



UConn's fraternity and sorority housing known as Husky Village. The houses were constructed in 2002.
IMAGE COURTESY OF @BLAKE GUMPRECHT ON FLICKER

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The University of Connecticut fraternity Tau Kappa Epsilon Delta Gamma Chapter (TKE) responded to the arrest of a fraternity member charged with assault on Tuesday, stating that they are working to remove the member from the fraternity. The fraternity is actively cooperating with law enforcement and conducting an internal investigation of their own.

The response comes after the TKE member, age 20, was arrested early Saturday

morning at his home after authorities had responded to a report of an assault that had occurred at 36 Boston Turnpike in Willington, Conn., according to the Connecticut State Police. The member was arrested on charges of assault of the third degree and breach of the peace of the second degree.

The UConn TKE Delta Gamma chapter explained in a press release that they are committed to “fully cooperating with authorities as they work to investigate this matter thoroughly and fairly” and “will continue to support the legal process as it unfolds.”

The fraternity also stressed that as a group they “condemn any forms of violence.”

“Acts of abuse or violence are unacceptable, and we are committed to upholding the principles of respect, safety, and accountability,” stated the fraternity in a press release. “The member who was involved has been suspended indefinitely while we process the necessary paperwork to have them removed from the fraternity.”

This arrest comes in the wake of another UConn fraternity assault case back in May in the Lambda Theta Phi fraternity was suspended after their former president

was arrested in connection to hazing allegations. The former president was arrested on the charge of disorderly conduct, assault of the third degree and strangulation and suffocation of the third degree.

The UConn TKE Delta Gamma chapter stated it is committed to preventing these types of incidents in the future.

“We reaffirm our commitment to promoting a safe and supportive environment for all,” stated the fraternity in a press release. “We will continue to take steps to address and prevent domestic violence within our organization.”

The organization also expressed their hope to address this issue through education.

Fraternity members are required to complete annual risk training before every school year and the fraternity plans on hosting an educational program this semester to bring attention to the “effects of domestic violence and how members of our community can work to prevent it,” according to the fraternity’s press release.

The former TKE member was released on a bond of \$5,000 and is set to appear at the Rockville Superior Court on Oct. 16, 2024.



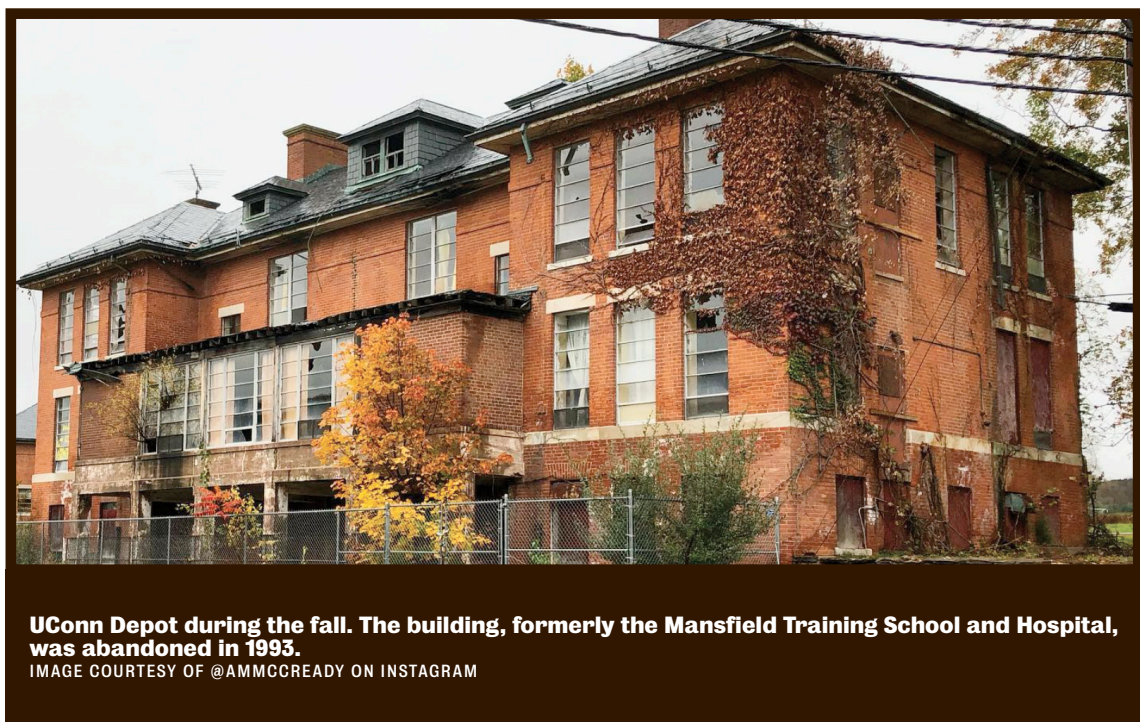
Advanced driving testing facility to be built at UConn’s Depot Campus

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The University of Connecticut’s long-abandoned Depot Campus will soon be the home to a state-of-the-art driving facility, acting as the testing ground for driverless cars and various other smart vehicle technologies with its acquisition by venture firm, Promesa Capital LLC.

The Board of Trustees approved the sale of 15 acres to Promesa at their latest meeting on Sept. 25, striking a deal of \$1.5 million and granting the go-ahead to a project that has been in the planning phase since its initial 2019 proposal. Although original plans outlined the acquisition of 105 acres, this was later reduced due to negative implications on the surrounding wetland ecosystem. After five years in deliberation, the program’s drafters are excited to move forward.

“This new test track facility will allow for us (and students) to build out the future of [autonomous vehicle] tech in stages and explore some of the challenges and opportunities to improve safety for the traveling public,” said UConn professor Eric Jackson, who serves as the executive



UConn Depot during the fall. The building, formerly the Mansfield Training School and Hospital, was abandoned in 1993.
IMAGE COURTESY OF @AMMCCREADY ON INSTAGRAM

director of the Connecticut Transportation Institute.

Jackson partnered with Promesa’s Steve Cortese to make their shared vision a reality under a collaborative effort titled Spectrum Park. “With a consortium of like-minded partners,” states the Spectrum Park website, “we can create a living lab environment to foster an innovative ecosystem for future workforce development.”

The duo is in talks with

various industry forces for development and investment in their facility, a necessary step for a project with an estimated price tag of \$15 million.

“We have talked with a number of manufacturers in this space and the smart city arena. From car manufactures, to infrastructure, to 5G, cybersecurity, sensors, and software,” noted Jackson, “We can’t release the names of those companies at this time.”

Depot Campus, once the

location of the controversial Mansfield Training School, has been largely vacant since the early 2000s. Although the grounds are currently used in a limited capacity by UConn’s Puppetry Institute, plans to convert the dilapidated site into a “Connected and Autonomous Vehicle Test Track, Smart City and Research Facility,” will soon be underway, per the Board of Trustees’ brief.

The project’s timeline is not

yet confirmed, but Jackson assured that tests have already begun and will grow rapidly in the near future.

“We already have some opportunities to test out car related infrastructure on the Depot Campus and did so this summer with the structural engineering group in civil and environmental engineering on an experimental wrong way rumble strip that would alert cars that they are traveling the wrong direction on the off ramp,” stated Jackson. “So, testing does not have to wait for 100% completion of the facility.”

The so-called “CAV Smart City” is hoped to serve as a stimulus for the educational, technological and financial interests of all those involved.

“Through sponsored research and startup companies, we hope that a facility like this will lead to opportunities that students will not have at other universities,” commented Jackson. “This will enable an undergraduate and graduate research experience unique to UConn that will build not only a diverse hands-on educational experience, but lead to demand for UConn students and innovative projects and new companies to be formed.”

UConn Humanities Council hosts first Humanities Involvement Fair

by Sonia Ahmed
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The University of Connecticut Humanities Advisory Council hosted its first Humanities Involvement Fair on Tuesday, Oct. 8 on Fairfield Way. The involvement fair featured clubs and organizations including the Writing Center, Long River Review and Experiential Global Learning.

The fair, according to the UConn Humanities Institute associate director Elizabeth Della Zazzera, is a great way to “present students with the many opportunities there are to get involved in humanities-related clubs and organizations across campus.”

The event was lined up with

various tables across Fairfield Way, with many giving out pamphlets, flyers and business cards with additional information. Some tables also gave out free treats; The Humanities Institute handed out free chocolate-covered espresso beans, and the Writing Center gave out free notebooks and pins to people after they had registered an account with them.

Brenna Bonner, a fifth-semester student majoring in human rights who organized the event, said the involvement fair gives “humanities students a chance to see themselves valued within the university as well as to present opportunities of ways to get involved.”

One opportunity that a couple of organizations mentioned

at the event was to apply for the Creative Writing Program Awards. These awards can reward the recipient with up to \$1,000, depending on what students apply for.

The Long River Review was one of the organizations that mentioned this opportunity. At their table, Sean Forbes, director of creative writing at UConn, encouraged students to submit their creative work not only to these awards, but also to the Long River Review.

The Long River Review, UConn’s literary magazine, hosts annual contests to receive awards. These awards include the Long River Graduate Writing Award, which is a \$250 award for graduate students, and the Long River Review Art Award, a \$250 award that goes



Involvement Fair on Fairfield Way at UConn Storrs Campus. Students can learn about the various ways to get involved in the campus community during the event.

PHOTOGRAPH BY JON SAMMIS, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

to one talented artist. For more information on creative writing awards, visit the Department of English awards page.

Despite the name of the fair, organizations represented were not limited to only the humanities. One institute present at the fair was Experiential Global Learning, UConn’s study abroad program. The booth presented multiple scholarship opportunities for students interested in studying abroad,

as well as general information about the program. EGL has more than 200 study abroad opportunities, and students can study on any continent except Antarctica, according to UConn’s Undergraduate Admissions website.

For more information on the Humanities Involvement Fair, contact Brenna Bonner at brenna.bonner@uconn.edu or Della Zazzera at elizabethdz@uconn.edu.

Free Alzheimer’s conference to be held in New Haven

by Pierce Colfer
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On Wednesday, Oct. 16, the Alzheimer’s Foundation of America will be hosting a free Alzheimer’s educational conference in New Haven, Conn. The conference will have sessions hosted by local experts in Connecticut that cover topics including caregiver strategies, healthy aging tips and local resources. The conference will be held between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. at the Hotel Marcel in New Haven.

Chris Schneider, the director of media relations for the AFA, talked about the AFA and the educational conference in a virtual interview with The Daily Campus.

“The Alzheimer’s Foundation of America is a national non-profit organization that provides support services and education to individuals, families, and caregivers affected by dementia related illnesses nationwide,” said Schneider about the

organization. “We also fund research for better [Alzheimer’s] treatment and [an Alzheimer’s] cure.”

The AFA was founded 22 years ago, and was created as “the place where families could turn to if Alzheimer’s or another dementia is in their life,” according to Schneider.

Schneider talked about the services that the AFA provides, including a help line specifically for dementia care.

“We offer a wide variety of programs and services; we have a help line which is open seven days a week and its staffed entirely by licensed social workers who were specifically trained in dementia care,” said Schneider. “They can also connect you with services in your area as well, so you can reach them by phone at 866-232-8484, by text message at 646-586-5283 or by web chatting through our website which is alzfdn.org.”

Schneider talked about the “Educating America Tour,” a national tour that travels throughout the United States to talk about Alzheimer’s and other

dementia-related diseases.

“[The Educating America Tour] travels across the country, bringing free Alzheimer’s and caregiving educational conferences directly into communities to connect them with helpful information and power them with knowledge, and also let them know about different support services in the area,” said Schneider.

The conference will have “a wide variety of different things” for students to learn about, according to Schneider, including tips and strategies about how to promote good brain health, the importance of being socially and physically active, self-care strategies if you’re caring for a loved one with Alzheimer’s and how social engagement promotes good cognitive wellness.

“[The AFA is] talking about healthy aging and the importance of all these different lifestyle choices... and it’s never too soon to start that, even among college kids,” said Schneider. “You may think you’re decades away from having to deal



Group of volunteers who advocate for those with Alzheimer’s, celebrating after receiving research money.

IMAGE COURTESY OF @ALZASSOCIATION ON INSTAGRAM

with this, but it’s never too soon to start taking care of your brain and developing these good healthy habits that can help your brain health as well as other parts of your physical health.”

Schneider also talked about the benefits for students interested in going into a professional career related to Alzheimer’s.

“If you have students who were looking to get involved

in a field like healthcare or social work or elder care, you’re going to learn a lot of tips that you’ll be able to take with you after college into your career,” said Schneider.

The conference will also offer free memory screening to anyone in attendance. For students interested in the conference, registration for the event and more information about the AFA can be found at alzfdn.org.

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THE DAILY CAMPUS CROSSWORD

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By Gary Larson

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Wednesday’s Puzzle Solved

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Daily Campus Fall Word Search

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- husky
- apples
- autumn
- leaves
- soccer
- october
- pumpkin
- swan lake
- volleyball
- mirror lake

A MORE PERFECT UNION: A DIALOGUE ON VOTING AND VOTER PARTICIPATION

by **Mikayla Murphy**
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On Wednesday, Oct. 9, the Dodd Impact’s Democracy and Dialogue Initiative, in collaboration with University of Connecticut’s Undergraduate Student Government (USG) and Office of Community Outreach, hosted a student-led dialogue on voting and voter participation in the Student Union. With the election fast approaching, it is more important than ever to be politically educated and involved. This dialogue was centered on issues regarding voting and voter participation at the local, state and national level. It also gave participants an opportunity to discuss potential reasons and solutions for the voting problems seen in America.

This event is part of a larger series of dialogues from the Gladstein Family Human Rights Institute. These “Encounters” style dialogues are meant to foster conversations about divisive issues through facilitated small group discussions, followed by a Q&A session with UConn faculty and experts. The goal of these style dialogues is for students to become better at understanding, communicating and challenging their political views.

To begin this event, a brief overview of the history of voting was given. The original Constitution did not protect the right to vote. It was not until the 15th amendment was ratified in 1870 that people other than white, property-owning men were able to vote. The ratification of the 19th amendment in 1920 extended voting rights to white women, and the

passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 extended voting rights to all African Americans. It also banned discriminatory practices like literacy tests, allowing people to have an easier opportunity to vote.

The first section of the dialogue consisted of three rounds of conversation. Before each round, some media was presented to prompt thought about the topics. The first round focused on quantity vs. quality. A quote from Frances Ellen Watkins Harper was presented — “I do not think the mere extension of the ballot a panacea for all the ills of our national life. What we need to-day is not simply more voters, but better voters.” A political cartoon from Nick Anderson was also presented, showing the irony of how many people don’t vote because they believe their vote doesn’t matter. The questions for this section

included: What does it mean to be a “better voter?” How did you feel voting for the first time? How did you feel if you did not vote? What comes to mind when looking at the quote and the political cartoon? Students were given two minutes each to answer any combination of questions. One student was allowed to answer during those two minutes and this repeated for all five students in a group. Common answers among the groups included whether students should vote in their hometown elections, despite not living there anymore, how it felt voting in local elections vs. presidential elections and how one way of being a “better voter” is by educating yourself on both candidates.

The second round of conversation focused on election integrity and access. The first piece of media was a video on

voter suppression, including banning certain voting methods and banning handing out water in voting lines. The second media piece was an excerpt from Georgia’s Election Integrity Act of 2021. Unlike the first round, this round was 10 minutes of open discussion, meaning anyone could talk during the allotted time. This round focused on these questions: Have you or anyone you know had an experience that made you/them believe voting fraud or voter suppression was happening? Are you concerned about election integrity? Common answers during this round were worries about whether all eligible voters are able to vote instead of if elections are rigged.

The third and final round of conversations focused on getting out to vote. A video from Carol Anderson on the effects of voter suppression was shown.

It specifically mentioned making sure you are on the list of registered voters because there is a history of purging the lists before elections. Similar to the second round, this round was also 10 minutes of open discussions. The questions for this round included: How should we increase voter participation in UConn and more broadly? How do we help members of our community become better voters? Common answers included becoming more educated, focusing on understanding the sides of both candidates and having small discussions with friends about politics. In these discussions, it was noted that it is best to focus on the next steps or ways to get involved, especially if they aren’t as educated or are just voting for the first time.

To wrap up the event, groups participated in an activity of writing down “concrete steps we can take as a community, as an institution and as individuals to build a more robust and responsive democracy” on a piece of paper and presenting their answers to the other groups. One specific step written down by many groups was expanding civic education. It was suggested by a group to add a component of civic education to first-year-experience courses. Another group suggested making both voting information and actual voting more accessible to UConn students.

After the event, students were invited to mingle and ask questions to the faculty about voting and voter participation. Light refreshments were also served.

Election day is Nov. 5 — to register to vote, please visit: <https://vote.gov/>, and to learn more about voting at UConn, please visit: <https://communityoutreach.uconn.edu/voting-information/>



ILLUSTRATION COURTESY OF CREAZILLA



LOGO BY SAMANTHA HASS, ARTIST EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

by **Isaac Grad**
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Welcome to the third issue of Your Movie Mage, where I discuss underrated movies across genres. Last week, we delved into the inspirational comedy, “Hot Rod.” This week, we’ll be discussing another underrated film from Andy Samberg, “Palm Springs.” While still a comedy, this movie is more emotional than anything.

“Palm Springs” came out in 2020, when the lockdowns were holding strong and most people were in their house watching movies every day. The movie premiered at the 2020 Sundance Film Festival and was bought by Hulu for \$17.5 million, setting a Sundance sale record. Despite the seemingly encouraging response at Sundance for this film, it is not very well-known. I believe this because there wasn’t much advertising for the film and it was only available on Hulu, limiting the audience significantly.

It took me a while to finally watch the film because I had not heard about it. Once I did watch the film, I rewatched it several more times. This movie is something special, as Samberg plays a more cynical role than his characters in other movies. He doesn’t make funny faces or voices, but rather opts for subtlety. While I love Samberg’s comedic acting

in his other films, I really enjoyed the change that this one brought, as we were able to see another side of his acting.

But what is “Palm Springs” about? Set in Palm Springs, California, the film centers around two main characters, Nyles, played by Samberg, and Sarah, played by Cristin Milioti. These two protagonists meet at the wedding of Sarah’s sister. Sarah notices Nyles after he gives a beautiful speech about the importance of love and marriage and then afterwards when he dances through the crowd. Unlike the other guests, Sarah didn’t buy Nyles’ speech. She recognized Nyles didn’t believe anything he said, introducing that both characters are cynical and feel trapped. We soon learn that Nyles is literally and figuratively trapped, as he’s stuck in a time loop and has given that speech and met Sarah countless times. Sarah, however, is only trapped by the constraints of time—until she too is stuck in the time loop with Nyles.

This movie was perfect during the pandemic, though feelings of isolation weren’t new then and didn’t stop when the lockdowns ended. At some point in life, many people feel like they are repeating the same day over and over again. They lose motivation and excitement

for the world around them. In the film, Nyles finally reaches the point of giving up. He had tried and failed to escape for decades through “a lot of suicides,” but ultimately decided to accept his new life and try to fill the void by interacting with people at the wedding through surface level interactions that couldn’t develop past one night of fun. That is until Sarah inadvertently enters the time loop trying to help Nyles. She is not happy about this new situation and immediately has the same reaction Nyles had, which is to try to escape the time loop by dying or traveling as far away as possible.

However, in this seemingly living hell, the two find love and companionship in one another. Nyles didn’t know what would happen if he got out with Sarah, so he wanted to stay in the loop, where everything was known and safe. Nevertheless, he took that leap because he knew he couldn’t convince Sarah to stay with him, and he would rather be anywhere else with Sarah than in his comfort zone without her.

If you’re looking for a movie that takes the seemingly mundane, repetitive constraints of the modern world and makes you feel like you can do anything as long as you’re happy,

this movie is perfect.

This is another movie with a soundtrack that I love. The soundtrack was done by Matthew Compton (aka Cornbread Compton), who did an amazing job creating pieces that match the sci-fi, emotional and romantic aspects of the film. I only wish they were longer, as each song is 30 to 90 seconds in duration.

In the end, they are (seemingly) free from this boring, repetitive trap of a world, and both decide to stay in the same place they’ve been trapped in for years, just chilling in the pool together. I love this ending because they’re happy together. Some may think you have to make drastic changes to be happy, but this proved that’s not always the case. Still, Sarah couldn’t bear waking up in that specific day repeatedly.

So, the solution wasn’t to make huge changes and have a mid-life crisis, but rather to evaluate what’s causing stress and make the necessary personal and external changes. Another lesson was we need one another. We can’t give in to isolation when sharing the mundane world with another makes life more exciting.

I give “Palm Springs” an underratedness score of 3/5 because, although I don’t feel it has received the attention it deserves, everybody that I know who has seen it has loved it. Along with that, there is some awareness of the film, as I do see it listed on best time loop movie lists. The film also broke Hulu’s opening weekend record. Despite this, it’s still very much underrated. It’s a great movie that will resonate with everyone and deserves even more praise.



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Life

 @dailycampuslife

IMPROVING FOCUS TO LOCK-IN FOR MIDTERMS

by Desirae Sin
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We’ve hit the middle of the semester, and it’s the dreaded mid-term season. Students can be found scrambling at the Homer Babbidge Library or various study spots around campus, trying to cram as much knowledge into their heads as possible before regurgitating it onto their exams. Finding an effective study strategy is crucial, but it can be hard to sit down and focus solely on your studies. Here are some ways to improve your focus, and avoid distractions.

Put your phone away

The biggest distraction for anyone under 50 is their phone. Most students end up using their phones in class for various reasons, such as looking up material on Blackboard, texting friends and playing games. The best way to set up your study space is to only have what you need in front of you. This may include your laptop, textbooks and notebooks. Smartphones are an addiction for some and a habit for most. Having your phone within reach will only steer your attention away from studying. Even while writing this, I’ve grabbed my phone about five times already. To avoid the urge to grab your phone, put it in a drawer or far out of reach and sight. Turn it off or put it on “do not disturb” mode. This way, you also won’t get notifications through your watch, if you have one connected to your phone.

Find solitude

People are another major distraction. Studying with friends sounds like a great idea, but in practice, it tends to become a hangout rather than a study session. In my experience, group sessions are better for going over the content you missed or are genuinely stumped on. Memorization, on the other hand, is best done alone. There are many spots around campus for students to work alone. The Homer Babbidge Library offers study areas on each floor, accommodating multiple people or individuals. There are also study rooms available to reserve through their website for students who need privacy. Solitude doesn’t necessarily mean silence, as some students work more effectively with background noise of other people working or walking by. Most people wear headphones or earbuds while walking around campus; it’s a universal sign that you should not bother that person or that they’re doing their own thing.

Listen to music

Working off that point, listening to music while studying can help eliminate unwanted background noise, or at least let your mind focus on what’s in front of you. Curate a playlist specifically for studying, or use Lofi

Girl, a YouTube channel with multiple livestreams of calming music. If you’re like me, however, you might be tempted to constantly choose which song to play next or have the urge to replay a song you just heard. This ends up becoming an issue where you are constantly on your phone. Use playlists or continuous videos to combat this. When I’m tired of listening to the same songs over and over again, I turn to movies or videos instead. As mentioned in a previous Life roundtable, I use YouTube videos of video games as background noise, especially if I’ve watched them before. Although it feeds into my habit of rewatching content rather than finding new stuff, knowing what happens next is a comforting feeling. This makes it easy for me to zone out and tune into studying.

Take it one step at a time

Midterm exams are often scheduled close together, leaving little time to prepare for each one separately. It’s tempting to cram every course in one study session, but this is an ineffective use of your time. Tackling multiple classes at once will burn you out quickly and won’t allow your mind to fully absorb the knowledge you’re consuming. Multitasking is meant for mundane tasks, like talking while washing dishes. To better focus on each topic, set aside a study session or day for each course. Plan according to which exams come first, or which material you are having the most trouble with.

Take breaks

I may sound like a broken record, but taking breaks is necessary to avoid burning out when studying. During the midterm and finals seasons, students start to look like zombies as they walk to their next class. Overworking yourself will only negatively impact your performance. This goes for any activity, not just exams. But, how we use our breaks or unwind varies from person to person. It may not be the healthiest option, but I tend to treat myself to a meal I’ve been craving or a sweet treat after a tiring study session. My go-to are bowls from Eatjoy, Thai milk tea from Whale Tea or an entire six-pack of cookies from Insomnia Cookies. If you don’t have an appetite, take a nap or watch your favorite show. Some turn to comfort movies like “Pride and Prejudice” to relax or play calming video games like “A Little to the Left.” Ironically, I’ve been playing “Mortal Kombat 1” to relax; performing grotesque fatalities is my safe space. No matter which advice you choose to take, everyone is trying their best to focus on studying and acing their exams. Considering the advice above, be considerate of those around you. Be quiet in study spaces, don’t take up all the room in the lounges and be mindful of your own health.



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End the torture: Stop the shock at the Judge Rotenberg Center

by Ashten Vassar-Cain | HE/HIM/HIS | CONTRIBUTOR | ashten.vassar@uconn.edu

Content Warning:
This article discusses sensitive topics including torture, ableism, institutional abuse, and death.

As outlined in both international and domestic law, torture is arguably one of the most egregious violations of human rights and dignity. You may be surprised to learn that the practice is alive and well in New England, funded by taxpayer money. People with disabilities are currently being tortured in Massachusetts.

The Judge Rotenberg Center, formerly called the Behavioral Research Institute, was founded in 1971 by behavioral psychologist Matthew Israel. Inspired by the work of behaviorist B.F. Skinner and his use of electroshock aversive treatments on rodents, Israel developed a device to replicate aversive electroshock conditioning on humans. Like other proponents of eugenic violence, Israel considered it his life's mission to start a "utopian community." He invented and patented the Graduated Electronic Decelerator (GED) for the purpose of behavior modification. This remote-controlled device is typically worn on the legs or torsos of patients and can deliver a shock nine times more powerful than a cattle prod. The GEDs are used alongside other forms of physical punishment and abuse, violent restraints, withholding food, medical neglect and sensory deprivation helmets. When the use of sensory deprivation helmets in "treatment" killed 22-year-old Vincent Milletich in 1985, the facility was ordered to close its doors. This decision was overruled by Judge Ernest Rotenberg, who the facility is now named after.

In 2012, the use of GEDs at the Judge Rotenberg Center was condemned by then UN Special Rapporteur on Torture, Juan Mendez, who was also a survivor of electroshock torture at the hands of the Buenos Aires police during the genocide. He was the second UN official to call for cessation of the practice and an investi-

gation into the facility.

While sometimes advertised as a "last resort," survivors of the barbaric practice have said this is not the case. In a particularly harrowing case from 2002, an autistic teenager named Andre McCollins was shocked after he refused to take off his coat. He was then held in a four-point restraint and received 30 additional shocks over the course of seven hours. The Center justified the continued administration of the shocks because of his pained screams in response to the torture, which they referred to as "major disruptive behavior." Unfortunately, McCollins was not the only resident to be subjected to such extreme and inhumane treatment. One anonymous survivor of the facility shared that "The electrodes had actually burned into [their] skin. [They] experienced long-term loss of sensation and numbness in [their] lower left leg, after getting a shock there. [They] felt searing pain all the way down to the bottom of [their] foot, and [were] left with no feeling in [their] skin from the knee down for about a year." Sadly, not all residents of the JRC are able to tell their stories. Since its founding in 1971, six residents have died due to medical neglect, violent restraints, aversive treatments and attempts to escape the facility.

Despite incessant advocacy by disability rights groups like the Autistic Self Advocacy Network, Disability Rights International, ADAPT and the ARC of the United States to ban the practice, Israel remained adamant that the devices should be used frequently and indiscriminately, supporting the expansion of the practice to schools and prisons. In a 2007 interview, Israel suggested the GEDs "could be used everywhere... It could and should be used—not as a last resort, because it has no side effects." He was forced to resign in 2011 as part of a plea deal after being indicted on charges of child endangerment and obstruction of justice.

Advocates were hopeful when the device was banned by the FDA in 2020, however, this hope was short lived. In July 2021, the ban was overturned

and the GEDs remain in use. The Judge Rotenberg Center is the only facility in the U.S to use the GED aversive. The facility grosses over \$78.6 million yearly from state governments, private donors and school districts, and seems to spare no expense at protecting its image. The Judge Rotenberg Center has notoriously cracked down on criticism, threatening survivors and activists with lawsuits alleging "defamation."

Abuse of residents at the JRC is not only a matter of dehumanization and ableism, but also racism. Residents of the JRC are predominantly black and brown disabled people from Massachusetts and New York, some being placed at the institution by the Department of Child and Family Services. In 2016, the National Center for Education Statistics reported that 87.4% of the JRC's school-aged population were people of color. Massachusetts and New York residents' tax dollars are funding this abuse.

This past weekend, a group of activists with the Stop the Shock Coalition held a protest outside the facility, wielding signs that read "This School Tortures Autistic People," and calling for the FDA to reinstate the ban on Graduated Electronic Decelerators. Survivors of the JRC spoke out against the abuse they faced and gathered to remember those whose lives were taken by the horrific practices.

Standing outside the JRC, knowing what was happening within its walls, was a deeply impactful experience. As a survivor of institutional abuse and a disability justice advocate, I am constantly reminded that we have to publicly relive our trauma in order to be heard. The Judge Rotenberg Center, while unique in its aversive methods, does not exist in a vacuum. It is part of a larger history of institutionalization in the United States, enabled by prejudice, greed and the exploitation of the most vulnerable. Shutting down the JRC would do far more than protect those currently being abused; it would be an affirmation of human dignity itself. Reject dehumanization, Stop the Shock.



Protesters from Stop the Shock Coalition outside of the Judge Rotenberg Center in Canton, Mass. The facility was founded in 1971 and ordered to shut down in 1985, but the ruling was overturned by Judge Ernest Rotenberg.

PHOTOGRAPH BY AUTHOR, CONTRIBUTOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS



Huskytalk | What’s your hottest take?



“Stanley cups suck”

Luiza Zima
Physiology and Neurobiology
Third semester



“Autocaps are better than lowercase texting”

Olivia McDade
Business Management
Third semester



“I prefer my drinks without ice”

Ruby Sember
Education
Third semester



“Hot coffee is better than iced coffee”

Matias Paredes
Finance
Second semester

Dancing with the Stars puts the reality in reality TV

by **Amber Greene**
SHE/HER/HERS
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What do Cleveland Cavalier Iman Shumpert, 80s movie icon Jenifer Grey and Jordan Fisher have in common? They have all been on, and won, *Dancing with the Stars*. After 33 seasons, *Dancing with the Stars* has become one of the most popular reality television competition shows. Celebrity-featured shows of reality television are often heavily scripted or just poor quality. However, *Dancing with the Stars* provides a genuine narrative with a diverse range of celebrities, which makes it the most realistic competition show.

Though I avidly watch reality dating, cooking and drama shows, I watch with the expectation

while dancing. These attention-grabbing celebrities are often seen at the start of each season, though they realistically will not win. For dancers in Baskin and Delvey’s position, their elimination proves that the show focuses on dancing ability, rather than boosting viewership through ingenuine means. The second typecast on the show is the athlete who comes in extremely stiff and relies on flipping their partner in the air. Sometimes these theatrics work, but like in Kareem Abdul Jabar’s case, they get eliminated pretty early. It is only with dedication that certain athletes stay. For example, Iman Shumpert found his own style and combined

pated in season 24 of the show. Morris is a trained dancer and former back-up dancer for Beyoncé, so she received hate for having a leg up. After consistently receiving high scores and enough votes to stay for five weeks, Morris was eliminated, even after receiving a perfect score from the judges. This is the same season that Simone Biles competed and lost, despite her popularity and dancing ability. Both eliminations drive home how only those who implement the judges’ advice will earn the votes and the scores to win the Mirrorball Trophy.

After rewatching seasons where I had a personal favorite to win, like the infamous Milo Manheim loss of season 27, it is always more rewarding to see how a celebrity grows into the ballroom dancing style, rather



ILLUSTRATION BY SARAH CHANTRES, STAFF ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

tion of predictability. That is because many of these shows write and edit their way to whichever plot line will give them more views. *Dancing with the Stars* combats this expectation of reality television through prioritizing dancing ability over viewership and not discriminating on what “stars” they take on the show. The types of celebrities can be broadly categorized into different typecasts. The first typecast of the show is a star with shock-value. Some of the most extreme examples include Tiger King’s Carole Baskin, and recently eliminated con artist Anna Delvey, who sported a bedazzled ankle monitor

it with classical ballroom training to win. His desire to become a better dancer was seen off-screen, and that gained him votes from fans, as well as points from the judges. Dances like his week six horror dance prove why he is one of the best winners of the show, as it is heartwarming to see someone who truly wanted to improve. Then, a final typecast includes young social media stars or former dancers. These stars are a shoo-in for votes and naturally keep a beat but most of the time, they do not win. One example is Glee star Heather Morris, who partici-

who starts off as a someone who is not a dancer. Ballroom dancing is one of the hardest forms of dance to master, so only the most deserving contestants with prior dance experience win—especially due to the high standards *Dancing with the Stars* holds contestants to. This show never fails to entertain me, even if I have no clue who the stars are at the beginning of the season. By the finale, I am dedicated to their improvement and stories. If more “unscripted” reality competition shows were like *Dancing with the Stars*, we would have better content to watch.

Trump’s political storm

by **Ashten Vassar-Cain** | HE/HIM/HIS | CONTRIBUTOR |
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Hurricane Helene made landfall in the Florida Panhandle on Sept. 26 and proceeded to tear a path through the Southeast, ravaging swathes of populated areas and killing at least 223 people. The town of Asheville, NC, once declared a “climate haven”, became a marker for the widespread devastation brought by the storm, with severe mudslides, flooding and massive damage. Lives and homes were destroyed and upended. What should have happened next was a focus on delivering disaster relief; instead, the Biden administration’s federal response was almost immediately made a political issue by presidential candidate Donald Trump. Why this occurred leads back to the singularly aggressive partisan game played by Trump, proving he cares little about the suffering caused by natural disasters and the underlying issue of climate change.

First, we must unfortunately dive into the rabid conspiracy theories and lies spread by Trump and his followers. On Sept. 30, Trump visited Georgia, one of the states affected by Helene, and claimed that in North Carolina, “the Federal Government, and the Democrat Governor of the state” were refusing to help people in Republican-dominated areas. When pressed, he was unable to come up with any evidence for the claim. The worst of the conspiracy theories, however, came when Trump claimed that Kamala Harris “spent all her FEMA money, billions of dollars, on housing for illegal migrants.” FEMA, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, was allocated \$650 million by Congress towards a program that assists states and local governments in providing migrants housing, but this money is entirely separate from the more than \$35 billion available for disaster relief, which is used to respond to events like Hurricane Helene. This batch of lies reflects the fact that Trump will say anything to advance his position. He will even distort the tragedy of a devastating storm for political gain.

Trump’s politicization of storms and other disasters dates to his presidency. A new report emerged this week showing Trump nearly refusing to allow the approval of disaster aid to California in the wake of destructive wildfires in 2018. Why? Because California is largely Democratic. Trump was only swayed when shown that Orange County, California, which had been extensively damaged, had more Trump voters than in the entire state of Iowa. But, he had no similar reticence when the

Florida Panhandle was hit with Hurricane Michael in 2019. Then, Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis asked Trump to have FEMA cover 100 percent of recovery costs, instead of the usual 75 percent, saying, “This is Trump country – and they need your help.” Trump readily agreed, replying, “They love me in the Panhandle. I must have won 90 percent of the vote out there. Huge crowds. What do they need?” Trump’s blatant concern with popularity instead of humanity lays bare that he does not care about the devastation natural disasters bring. He maintains a single-minded focus on politics despite the fact that these events should bring us together. A disaster doesn’t affect just Democrats or just Republicans; all who are caught in the path of a wildfire, hurricane or tornado are impacted.

This politicization is especially unhelpful when confronted with the growing reality of climate change. According to AP News, scientists found the effects of climate change increased Hurricane Helene’s rainfall by about 10 percent and wind strength by about 11 percent, while the high sea temperatures that helped fuel the storm were made 200 to 500 times more likely. In other words, climate change is making hurricanes more dangerous and powerful more often. By the time this article is published, the next major storm, Hurricane Milton, will likely have slammed the west coast of Florida as at least a Category 3, bringing a storm surge of up to 15 feet in cities such as Tampa. According to WWA, an international organization of scientists, hurricanes like Helene and Milton were once expected every 130 years on average. Now, they’re arriving within days of each other.

Climate change has long been an issue politicized by Trump. While in office, he rolled back more than 125 policies intended to help preserve the environment and lower emissions that contributed to global warming. In addition, he pulled the U.S. out of the landmark 2015 Paris Agreement, which set emissions limits for nations that signed the treaty. Biden restored our involvement in the agreement, but if Trump wins in 2024, he has confirmed that he’ll do so again, faced with pressure from conservative lobbying and fossil fuel industry lawyers. Trump has shown he is beholden to interests which are trying to undermine America’s efforts to help mitigate the climate crisis. He has shown that, when it comes down to it, he’ll choose himself and playing politics over truly caring about citizens’ plight.

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Solution to Wednesday’s Puzzle

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



On Saturday, Oct. 5, the Huskies secure their fourth win at home over the Temple Owls with a final score of 29-20. The touchdown was scored in the games final seconds by Jordan Wright following a fumble. FILE PHOTO/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Volleyball: UConn sweeps Providence, winning their third consecutive conference matchup

By Julia Sasso
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The UConn Huskies extended their winning streak after sweeping their matchup against the Providence Friars at home on Wednesday, Oct. 9. The Huskies continued their best season yet, with this being their third consecutive conference win.

The Huskies came into the first set with hopes of using their positive momentum to extend their winning streak. The Friars went into the

match wanting to end their dry spell and notch their first conference win. However, this would prove to be a very hard feat for Providence.

The first set started off with several errors from the Huskies that gave Providence an early 5-4 lead. The Huskies were quick to turn the game around with kills from senior Doga Kutlu, junior Hanna Tylska and redshirt sophomore Audrey Rome, putting UConn up 9-4. Providence responded, going in a 4-0 run. Aces from sophomore Grace Maria gave the Huskies the lead by one point. The Friars continued

to struggle with errors and the Huskies scored more kills thanks to junior Emma Werkmeister, extending UConn's lead 17-11. Following this run, Werkmeister had to leave the court due to an injury. The Friars tried to use the opportunity for a comeback, but after scoring just two points, freshman Dajah Williams nailed a kill and put a stop to their run. This kept the Huskies in the lead, 21-18. A final kill from Rome gave UConn the first set 25-21.

The Huskies started the second set with force, going on a 4-0 run. Two kills from Rome and an ace from freshman

McKenna Brand extended the Huskies lead to 8-4. Graduate student Taylor Pannell took the lead in the second set on both the offensive and defensive side, putting the Huskies up 15-7. Pannell continued to lead the team, recording her first ace of the season. A combination of errors from the Friars and a final kill from Tylska put UConn over the edge as they took the second set 25-18.

From the start, the Huskies took the lead of the third set. Maria was in the spotlight and nailed several aces and kills, putting the Huskies up 8-3. Tylska stepped in to score three

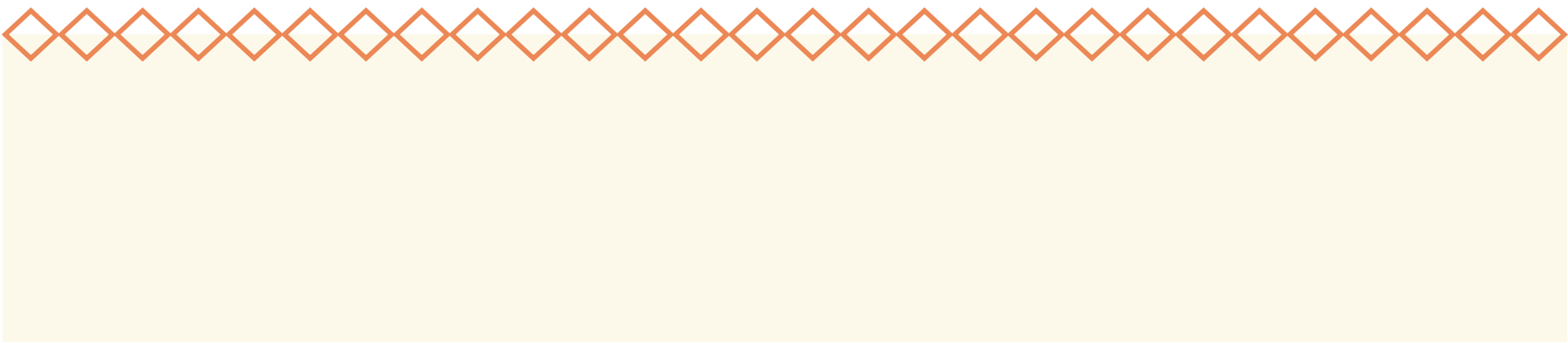
kills as consecutive errors from Providence helped UConn gain a larger 13-7 lead. UConn continued to assert their dominance as Maria scored three consecutive kills and put the Huskies up 18-10. UConn kept control of the match as a final kill from freshman Loren Winn won the Huskies the third set by 25-17.

With this win, the Huskies remain undefeated at home and extend their winning streak to three games. They will look to keep this momentum going as they face Butler in Indianapolis next Friday for their fourth conference game.



UConn Volleyball wins 3-0 against Providence College at home in Storrs, Conn. on Oct. 9, 2024. The Huskies played an incredible game, and the student section was there to cheer them on.

COMICS



CARTOON BY SARAH CHANTRES, STAFF ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS



CARTOON BY VAN NGUYEN, STAFF ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS



Jets pull the plug on the boss in the Big Apple



The New York Jets facing off against the Philadelphia Eagles. The Jets overtook the Eagles with the final score being 38-27 on Sept. 3, 2009 at the Giants Stadium in East Rutherford, NJ.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ED YOURDON/FICKR

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On Tuesday, the firing of Jets head coach Robert Saleh shocked the New York sports world. Saleh's tenure in New York showed promise at times, but failure at others. He spent 56 games with the franchise and only won 20 of them. Reports say Saleh was abruptly fired by the Jets owner and was not allowed to address the team on his way out. It was also reported that team security immediately escorted Saleh out after his firing.

Saleh had a perfect defensive mind and had the Jets' defense in a good position. However, the issue is that Saleh never meshed with the offense. This became a problem, as the team would still lose even if the defense posted great games. Now, the blame is not all on the head coach, as many players have not lived up to expectations this season, including Hall of Famer Aaron Rodgers. Rodgers has been under constant pressure through the first couple of games of the season, though

an elite level talent like him should be able to work around that. As the quarterback of the team, he also has plenty of talent in Breece Hall and Garret Wilson, who had his first breakout game of the season last week, showing promise for Jets fans. The Jets were 2-3 after their week five game in London versus the Vikings, and this was a questionable time to fire Saleh, as the squad only lost to the 5-0 Vikings by a touchdown. The team simply did not do enough to win and made too many mistakes when it mattered most, which comes down to discipline and coaching. Ultimately, the head coach gets the blame for losing, so Saleh is in the wrong.

The reason the Jets pulled the trigger this fast is they believe they have their best team in years. Their goal is to make it far in the playoffs and chase that elusive next title. They also have Rodgers, who is aging rapidly, so playing him while he is still elite is an important asset to the team. Saleh may not have been the whole problem, however it can't hurt to try someone new at the helm. Saleh had the

roster to be an elite team in the league. However, the results from the first five weeks showed that neither the team nor the coach was at that level. The higher-ups ultimately decided the coach was the

problem and not the team. I think Saleh deserved a couple more weeks to tinker with lineups and work with the team. At the same time, it was smart to fire him early because the team has time to

get back on track and acclimate to their new head coach before their next game. The new acting head coach will be defensive coordinator Jeff Ulbrich as the Jets look to make a playoff push.

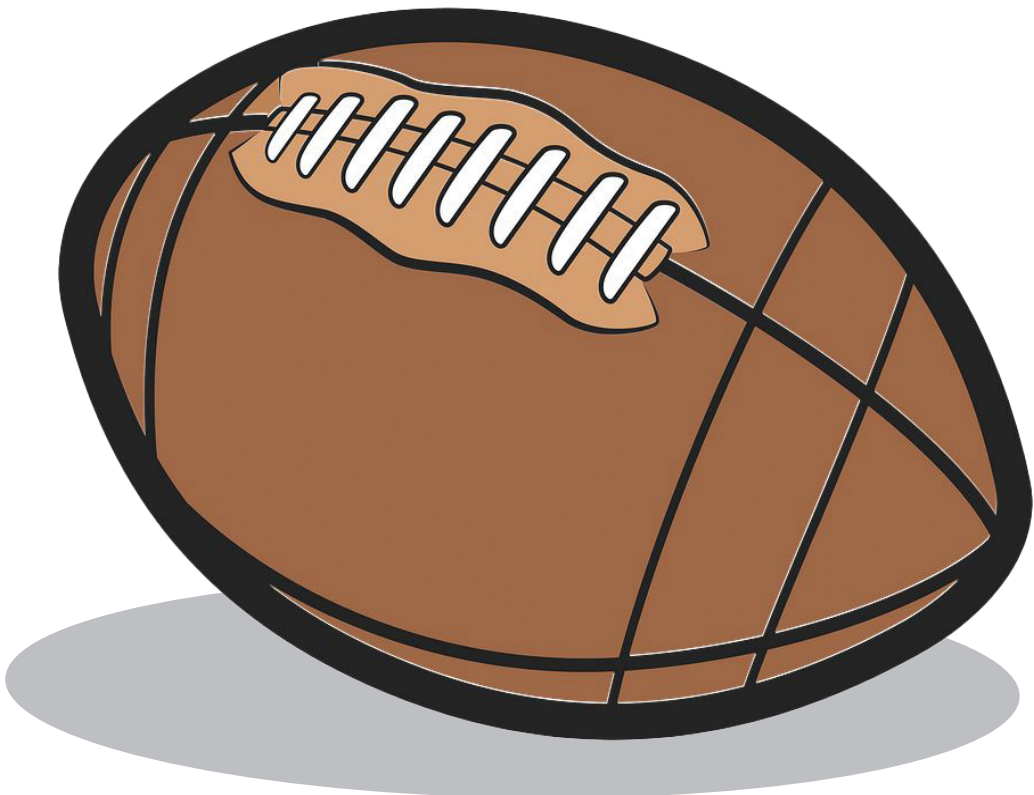


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