



## Fire in CVS on Saturday doesn't cause structural damage

by **Liliana French**  
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A fire broke out in the CVS at 8 Royce Circle on Saturday evening, the fire department was called at 9:40 p.m., according to deputy fire marshal Andrew Franklin.

The CVS is located beneath a section of the Oaks on the Square apartment complex in Downtown Storrs. The store and apartments above it were evacuated due to the fire, according to Franklin.

"There was no structural damage to the space," Franklin said.

According to a CVS employee who was not working when the fire broke out, the building was filled with smoke, but it reopened on Sunday by noon.

"One of the refrigerating units overheated," Franklin said about the cause of the fire. "They discovered a malfunction in one of the coolers."

The fire department arrived at 9:45 p.m., and their response included three fire trucks from Mansfield and one from UConn's fire department, according to Franklin. UConn's fire department has a mutual aid agreement with the town of Mansfield, according to UConn Today.

Mutual aid agreements between fire departments exist so that fire departments can assist each other in the event that one department receives too many calls to handle independently or too large of an incident to handle independently.

Mansfield's fire department is made up of three fire stations and employs over 20 full-time and part-time firefighters and EMTs. It also has additional volunteers, according to the town website. The department



The CVS in Downtown Storrs on Oct. 10, 2024. Housing over 70 businesses, the area was first developed in 1999.

PHOTOGRAPH BY CONNOR SHARP, PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

was formed in 2005 in a merger between the Eagleville Fire Department and the Mansfield Volunteer Fire Company.

UConn's fire department consists of 50 employees at maximum staffing, according to UConn's website. The UCFD is made up of three divisions: Fire Operations, Fire

Marshal Unit and Fire Administration. It responds to over 5,400 calls annually and response times are faster than the national average.

"UCFD headquarters responds to approximately 100 actual fires annually, which include mutual aid fires, building fires, cooking fires, car

fires, dumpster fires and other various fire emergencies," the website says.

Franklin stressed the importance of paying attention to fire alarms in fire safety.

"In the event of a fire alarm in a place like Oaks, you should heed the alarm and evacuate and not return until given the

all clear by the fire department," he said.

Franklin also gave fire prevention advice.

"For college age students, we stress the use of attentive cooking. Don't turn something on then leave it," he said. "Most fires in the home start in the kitchen."

## UConn Investments Grow: How this money is used to benefit students

by **Patrick Boots**  
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It's no secret that running a large institution like the University of Connecticut comes with a hefty price tag and a variety of costs and expenses. Being a student also comes with its own price. The UConn Foundation recently announced that the endowment fund designed to benefit university programs and students has seen returns of 12.1% in the last fiscal year, adding \$57 million dollars.

The UConn Foundation, a separately incorporated non-profit organization, is the primary fundraising body for the university and accepts donations to contribute to UConn and UConn Health outside of state-provided or grant fund-

ing. The endowment fund is managed by the foundation and its market value is listed as just under \$600 million dollars, according to the foundation's 2023 annual endowment report. Included in that figure is the value of multiple investments held by the foundation in public assets like stocks and bonds, and private equity in businesses and other interests.

The announced returns bring the total value of the endowment fund to \$634 million dollars.

"I want to congratulate the [Foundation] Board of Directors Investment Committee and our investment staff for decisions that led to strong growth, generating millions to support students, faculty, innovation, and a vibrant Husky community," said Amy Yancey, president of the UConn Foundation, in the

announcement.

In 2023, \$240.6 million dollars were allocated for student scholarships and fellowships, \$151.2 million dollars for professorships and resources for professional staff and \$185.5 million for experiential learning, research and technology programs, according to the report. Like any volatile financial interest, the value of the foundation's assets can change over time, so just 4 percent of the three-year average total value of the fund is distributed to UConn per foundation policy.

The fund grows through investment returns and through donations to the foundation as part of their fundraising efforts. Last year, over \$150 million dollars in new donations and commitments were received. Gifts can be earmarked for certain uses, such as money for student

scholarships, the UConn Health system and the Division of Athletics, with the largest recipient groups receiving gifts totaling upwards of \$50 million dollars in 2023 according to the foundation's annual report.

The School of Nursing, which received a single gift of \$40 million dollars last year, is using the funding to support the construction of a new building facility for the program. The state of Connecticut also contributed \$30 million dollars, according to the School of Nursing project page. Over 1,314 specialized funds exist for a variety of educational and extracurricular initiatives, and donations are used to offset costs related to these programs.

Some of the UConn Foundation's choices as a private organization have been criticized by students and outside organiza-

tions, including their choices in contractors and into what they've invested. According to the announcement, the UConn Foundation hopes to grow the endowment fund to \$1.5 billion dollars by 2032; as these goals are realized, some people hope the cost to attend UConn decreases. The UConn Foundation exists as a primary element in the university's ability to maintain stable income whilst maintaining the potential for financial growth, albeit through a private organization according to the foundation's 2023 report to the state of Connecticut.

The UConn Foundation was founded by former UConn President Homer Babbidge in 1962, and merged with the UConn Alumni Association in 2015.

For more information or to learn about donating, visit [foundation.uconn.edu](http://foundation.uconn.edu).

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"Table is set" for Samson Johnson

**THE DAILY CAMPUS**  
8 AM BLAST  
NEWSLETTER

# News

## One year later, the ban on racial consideration spells uncertainty for UConn admissions

by **Gabriel Duffany**

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On June 29, 2023, the admissions process for institutions of higher learning throughout the United States, including at the University of Connecticut, changed overnight. With the Supreme Court's decision in the case Students for Fair Admissions, Inc. v. President and Fellows of Harvard College, alongside a partnered case at the University of North Carolina, the consideration of race in college admissions was officially banned.

"Held: Harvard's and UNC's admissions programs violate the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment," stated the Court's official decision.

In a 6-3 ruling, the precedent set by 2003 case Grutter v. Bollinger, which, in the words of Justice Sandra Day-O'Connor, declared, "in the context of its individualized inquiry into the possible diversity contributions of all applicants, the law school's

race-conscious admissions program does not unduly harm nonminority applicants," was found unconstitutional.

The reaction from UConn administrators to the abrupt shift in admissions procedures was one of overwhelming concern for its potential implications on equitable access to higher education.

"The university and its president do not typically comment on cases before the court or its decisions unless those decisions have a direct impact on UConn," noted university President Radenka Maric in a statement published to UConn Today. "This one unquestionably does impact us - and we are deeply dismayed and disappointed by it."

Although university spokespeople and admissions officers both declined to comment on any compensatory changes made to the consideration process, the inability to account for the cultural background of prospective students has heightened the importance of community outreach programs.

In an effort to minimize im-

pacts on the diversity of UConn's student body, President Maric noted that "outreach to community-based organizations and urban school districts, and partnering with existing campus programs in schools, colleges, centers, and institutes," would become a key tool in securing opportunities for marginalized applicants, per UConn Today.

One such group, Hartford Communities That Care, services the students of greater Hartford as they prepare to graduate high school and potentially enter the world of higher education.

"Equalizing education requires addressing inequities in course access, improving school environments, enhancing parent-teacher communication, and providing emotional support" states HCTC's 2024 educational policy brief.

Antoine Chisholm, the leader of HCTC's 2023-2024 Child Safety Cohort and a third-semester UConn student, explained some of the practical ways the nonprofit group prepares students for a professional

life after high school.

"It's helpful in getting down to brass tacks, how to apply for loans, what are loans, what is the world that you're about to get into," said Chisholm. "In Hartford, the education system isn't the most proactive in telling their students how exactly to prepare for college."

Students are given the tools they need to apply for admission into academia, with workshops on money management, scholarship application and how to build a schedule.

The strategy of community

outreach has proven itself powerful in maintaining a diverse incoming class, with the class of 2028's tentative demographic data, provided on the tenth day of classes, largely mirroring the data of the previous year's admissions. The percentage of students from groups underrepresented in higher education for both the class of 2027 and 2028 sat at 27 percent, and students of color composed 47 percent of this year's incoming class compared to the prior year's 43 percent, per UConn spokesperson Stephanie Reitz.



The outside of the U.S. Supreme Court building in Washington, D.C. The Supreme Court was established in 1789, while the building was constructed in 1908. PHOTO COURTESY OF RAWPIXEL

by **Samantha Brody**

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Multiple University of Connecticut experts met in a public forum to discuss the upcoming presidential debate on Tuesday, Oct. 8. Titled "Historic Firsts: The 2024 Presidential Election," and taking place at Connecticut's Old State House in Hartford, the forum was centered around the historic significance of this year's election.

Questions were primarily asked by moderator Catherine Shen, current host of Connecticut Public Radio's podcast "Where We Live", with a half hour saved for questions from the audience. The panelists for the event were UConn professors Evelyn M. Simien and Christopher Vials, as well as Manisha Sinh, who is the James L. and Shirley A. Draper Chair in American History at UConn.

Shen began the forum with the question "What is historic about this election?" Simien, a professor of political science as well as the director of the Africana Studies Institute at UConn, noted that Democratic nominee and current Vice President Kamala Harris is significant not only due to her gender and racial heritage, but also the way by which she achieved the nomination.

"Biden made a decision to put

the country first," Simien said. "What I think I will never forget, especially as a political scientist, is just the way she came to be the Democratic nominee."

Vials instead discussed what he referred to as the "darker aspect" of the election. "It's the first time we've had somebody in this century who doesn't believe in the rule of law," he explained, discussing Republican nominee and former President Donald Trump. "There is now a change within the political right that is, in certain ways, post-democracy."

"What I'm surprised about was the way Kamala Harris immediately stepped into the role," Sinh added, referring to Harris's sudden nomination by the Democratic party after President Biden announced that he no longer planned to run for president in the 2024 season. "Historically, I think this is probably one of the first times we've had a presidential nominee so late in the game, who has been able to step up."

Furthermore, she noted that Harris has also been primarily focused on what a future for America would look like. "It's rather extraordinary to have a presidential election where it's not just going to be decided who will be the next president, but the fate of the American public," Sinh said.

Shen then brought up the dis-

## Political science experts discuss the upcoming election in public forum

cussion of Harris's nomination, noting that "we're at a crossroads. But this doesn't seem to be the first time that America has been at this crossroads," referencing Sinh's discussion of the future of America. "Have we seen this before? Is this new?"

Sinh brought up the American period of Reconstruction, during which the nation was recovering from the Civil War. In the eyes of Sinh, there was "authoritarian rule in the South. You had racist domestic violence, you had people launching mini coups, overthrowing elected governments, assassinating people. And I thought we had turned the page on that history. But when January 6th happened ... I said no, this has happened before. But we have actually gotten through that period."

Vials discussed what he referred to as "facism-esque politics," which he originally had believed was unlikely to crop

up in America, although he has since changed his mind.

"There are debates, very smart debates, about whether or not MAGA is in the fascist tradition," he said, referring to the Make America Great Again movement, which Encyclopedia Britannica describes as a "nativist political movement that emerged in the United States during the 2016 presidential campaign of its putative leader, Donald Trump."

"I would say that it brings together this mix of anti-Marxism, of masculine fetish for action, of authoritarian drive for national renewal. All of these things that put it within range, very much so," Vials continued, discussing MAGA's relationship with fascism. "I didn't expect to see that."

Shen next asked Simien about what Harris represents in term of a "first" for America, referring to her status as America's first female, African American and Southeast Asian vice president.

"How do you think that impacts the psychological decision making with voters?" Shen asked.

Simien responded with a discussion of the way voters see their candidates, and what kinds of emotions candidates can bring, equating "pride" specifically with the way voters view candidates that represent their demographic.

"There's something to be said about the progress that is made when someone from a historically disenfranchised group emerges on such a platform to assume commander-in-chief," Simien said.

Shen and the panelists also discussed voting, with topics related to the voting process, what a person's vote truly means in America and the current process of early voting in America.

The forum was livestreamed on YouTube and is currently saved as a recording on the CTOldStateHouse channel.

# The Daily Campus

Printing since 1896, The Daily Campus is the oldest and largest independent student publication at the University of Connecticut. The Daily Campus circulates 1,500 newspapers daily and strives to serve the student body by delivering accurate, relevant and timely news and content, both in print and online at DailyCampus.com. Our staff is comprised entirely of students, with roughly 200 undergraduates gaining professional development while contributing to the daily production of the paper, with positions including writers, photographers, copy editors, page layout designers, graphic designers, advertisement representatives, receptionists, delivery drivers and digital producers. Thanks for reading.

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# Daily Campus Crossword

**ACROSS**

- 1 Mishandle, as a grounder
- 5 Accelerated sci. class
- 10 \_\_\_ Eats
- 14 Colorful deepwater fish
- 15 Hospital prep area
- 16 Aviation milestone
- 17 Hook
- 20 Sentimentality
- 21 IMO relative
- 22 Orangutan, e.g.
- 23 Chilly product prefix
- 24 Line
- 33 Basic decision-maker
- 34 Weak poker hand
- 35 Actress Zadora
- 36 Sometime in the past
- 37 Inconsiderable
- 38 Fantasy franchise letters
- 39 Amanda Gorman's "An \_\_\_ We Owe"
- 40 \_\_\_ dish
- 41 Prefix with -genarian
- 42 Sinker
- 46 Plant sci.
- 47 "A spider!"
- 48 Take by force
- 51 "Sadly, yes"
- 56 Hook, line, and sinker
- 59 New Rochelle campus
- 60 Hook, line, and sinker, e.g.
- 61 One on a seal
- 62 "Yep, already spotted that"
- 63 Hard to navigate
- 64 John or Paul, but not Ringo or George

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56					57	58								
59					60						61			
62					63						64			

By Rich Norris

10/11/24

- 8 Lithium-\_\_\_ battery
- 9 Reveal, in verse
- 10 Tried to influence with
- 11 Order (around)
- 12 Director Kazan
- 13 Good-looking?
- 18 "Snow Angel" singer Reneé
- 19 Key type
- 23 Barbecue rod
- 24 Slide on a seat
- 25 Vrbo listing
- 26 The Owls of the NCAA
- 27 Jumping chollas, e.g.
- 28 Victor Vasarely's movement
- 29 Frenzied
- 30 Holocene, for one
- 31 Tucci's "Road to Perdition" role
- 32 Deck with kings and queens
- 37 Equinox mo.
- 38 "You have a dictionary, don't you?"
- 40 Snap
- 43 "Pygmalion" playwright, for short

**Thursday's Puzzle Solved**

G	R	I	M		T	E	R	M		F	A	R	S	I	
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10/11/24

- 44 Grounds for excommunication
- 45 Drinks with scones
- 48 "Captain America: The First Avenger" backdrop, briefly
- 49 Spanish flowers
- 50 Italian volcano that's a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- 51 Turquoise hue
- 52 Low state
- 53 Shape of some chicken nuggets, briefly
- 54 First course, often
- 55 Generous offer
- 57 Young'\_\_\_
- 58 Long or short measure

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## Life

# SUBOG Hosts 'Mason Jar Sundae': A sweet way to promote student involvement

by Patrick Boots  
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I scream, you scream — sometimes, we all scream for ice cream. At the University of Connecticut, ice cream is one of our specialties. On Thursday, Oct. 10, the UConn Student Union Board of Governors (SUBOG) kicked off their fall program of events by giving away sundaes to promote getting involved on-campus.

Students lined up on the Student Union lawn to receive ice cream from the Dairy Bar On Wheels, presented in souvenir mason jars, reminiscent of old-fashioned jelly glasses. Classic flavors were offered, including Husky Tracks, strawberry cheesecake and chocolate brownie fudge. SUBOG student representatives dished out toppings.

"I'm a happy customer," said Paige O'Keeffe, a fifth-semester elementary education major.

The event serves as a promotion for SUBOG's upcoming itinerary of events like the annual homecoming, which will be held the week of Sunday Oct. 20. Highlights of the celebration include a campus parade featuring the UConn marching band and student groups, and a carnival with fun-fair amusements and food trucks. A performance by comedic musical group Lewberger will also be featured alongside SUBOG's lip sync battle, a student tradition. The week concludes with the homecoming football game on Saturday Oct. 26 against Rice.

This year's homecoming

theme is "double trouble," referring to the UConn men's basketball team's back-to-back NCAA National Championship wins.

Other SUBOG events include comedy performances, film screenings and "major weekends." They're also the organization behind "One Ton Sundae," a longtime UConn winter tradition; SUBOG often integrates Dairy Bar ice cream into its events.

"It's really popular with students, and who doesn't love ice cream? I do," said Lillian LaFemina, a third semester pre-teaching major volunteering at the event.

SUBOG acts through a number of subcommittees, which plan student events and support initiatives based on their purpose. The comedy and concert planning committees, for example, work to book artists to come to UConn and arrange trips to off-campus performances. The sports committee sponsors excursions to major and minor league games across New England. According to the SUBOG webpage, their fee-supported fund is split between the committees and other initiatives like training, recruitment and staff apparel. 86 percent of the budget goes to student programs and events, a majority of which are free to attend.

Owing to such a large population of UConn undergraduates, some of SUBOG's choices have come under fire by some students in the past. However, they encourage students to be part of the planning process, stating on their webpage: "we like to highlight the fact that our group

is completely made up by regular undergraduate students like you and me, who are committed to providing the student body with events that will create ever-lasting memories for years to come."

A student event programming board for the Student Union has existed in one form or fashion since 1952.

For more information about SUBOG and for a schedule of upcoming events, visit [subog.uconn.edu](http://subog.uconn.edu).

Note: Lillian LaFemina serves as the Associate Artist Editor at The Daily Campus.

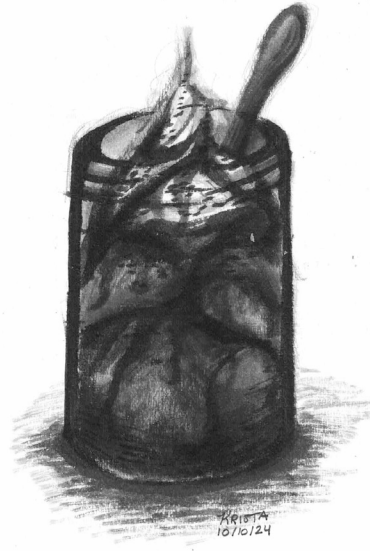


ILLUSTRATION BY KRISTA MITCHELL, STAFF ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS



Students line up to receive toppings on their sweet treats. Mason Jar Sundae is an annual event hosted by SUBOG.

PHOTOGRAPH BY PATRICK BOOTS, CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT/THE DAILY CAMPUS

## Small Town Music Festival: A festival that's anything but small

by Dan Stark  
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Looking to see some live music this weekend and check out some new artists? Look no further than Small Town Music Festival, a free festival in Danielson, Conn being held on Saturday, Oct. 12.

The festival will feature 13 artists hailing from Connecticut, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and even West Virginia in one of the biggest lineups assembled in recent years in eastern Connecticut. Music is set to start at 11:45 a.m. and will continue until nearly 10 p.m. in a 10-hour marathon of sound. The show will take place in the parking lot next to Chubby Dog Coffee Company, located on Main Street.

The lineup features a wide variety of genres, including alternative rock, pop punk, hardcore punk, metalcore, rap and folk, creating a diverse mix of music where there's something for everybody.

Among the artists performing on Saturday are Ruby Leftstep and Wavy McGrady, two bands who have performed frequently at the University of Connecticut and are some of the biggest names in the Storrs scene. Ruby Leftstep goes on at 12:20 p.m., while Wavy McGrady performs at 7 p.m. In addition to the performers, the festival will host vendors, food trucks and a beer garden featuring local breweries. The festival was organized by John Nelson, who said that this is the first time he's been in charge of putting together a show, especially one of this caliber.

"I've always participated and helped people [with shows], especially in a lot of hardcore scenes," he said. "But putting an event together of this magnitude was my first time and I've been nothing short of grateful. The people we've brought on to help us with it have been amazing."

Among those people who have helped Nelson is Austin Hailey, who plays guitar in Cinema Stare, one of the bands in the lineup, and runs Knowhere, a recording studio and venue in Tolland, Conn. Hailey will be running sound at the festival and he's someone that Nelson said he's been grateful to have had help.

Nelson said that he took a "go big or go home" approach in organizing the festival and getting the lineup together. It was this approach that led to him getting 13 acts on the bill, more than he ever thought he would get. He also said that organizing the festival allowed him to discover more bands and be more aware of local music scenes.

"The biggest thing was getting to know and get more familiar with what's going on around me and around us music-wise," he said. "And all [of the artists] are on my playlist now."

Nelson also said that he loves that the festival features a diverse array of music with artists from different places and music scenes that may not get much attention.

"The diversity is what we're really excited for," he said. "It's really cool to be able to show and share multiple genres and multiple facets of music scenes around Connecticut, Massachusetts, Rhode Island or all these places that maybe aren't as con-

ned or might get overlooked. So to be able to bring this to more people, as well as provide a space for people already in it is fantastic."

If it goes well this weekend, Nelson said that he hopes to make the festival an annual event.



Punk band Sunday Morning CT poses in a recent photo for Small Town Music Festival. The festival will take place this Saturday, Oct. 12.

PHOTO COURTESY OF @SMALLTOWNMUSICFEST ON INSTAGRAM

# Are midterms helpful?

by **Maleena Muzio**  
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Let's be honest: I am pretty sure that nobody — not even professors — enjoys giving or taking midterms. Midterms are stressful. Personally, I wish I never had to take one again.

However, they do bring some benefits that possibly even overpower the immense amount of dread they create.

Midterms allow students and professors to assess progress in the course. If every student happens to fail the midterm, then the professor will know that something needs to change. Though, if the class average is rather high and a student does poorly, they will also realize that something needs to change before finals hit. More positively, if a student does well, then they know to keep up with the same habits.

On that note, midterms can help build better study habits. I know that they count for a huge portion of a course's final grade, but try thinking of midterms as a practice final. Figuring out the way you retain information best can help alleviate stress when the much larger exams at the end of the semester come around.

Not to mention, midterms also force students to review the content of the course midway through the semester. This way, you can make sure that you are actually learning something. If your finals are not cumulative, then you can thank midterms for that! However, if they are, then you have already heavily studied (and hopefully now understand) half of the content of the course and will have to review less in December.

Productivity can also increase as a result of midterms. Going into the school year, September can often feel light in terms of work, with reality setting in during exam season in October. College is supposed to be fun, but you have to remember why you are here in the first place: to learn.

Midterms place pressure on students to put time and effort into their studies, reminding them of the hard work that is necessary to succeed in school and through a career. Exams halfway through the semester can be a wake-up call for students who need it.

Rather than letting midterms hang over your head, take full advantage of them. Use this as a time of self-improvement and a time to stop being hard on yourself.

There is only so much you can do to prepare if you have been taking the correct steps all along. If a midterm does not go your way, just focus on doing better next time. Maybe these exams are what you need to finally step foot in the Academic Achievement Center or to attend a supplemental instruction session. There is no shame in asking for help, and if it takes an exam to show you this, maybe it was worth it.

I am fully aware that a test may not always be the best measure of intelligence and comprehension, but in lecture halls consisting of three hundred plus students, what other options do we have? The day somebody answers that question will be a wonderful one, but until then, exams are all that we have got.

October, with all of its festivities, may not be the ideal time of year to be studying for exams, though the timing has some benefits. My advice is to go grab a pumpkin spice latte and get to work in the library. Maybe you can even try to romanticize studying! Just remember, once finished you will feel so accomplished and finally be able to binge your favorite Halloween movies. Good luck!

# Split Record Review: 'TA1300'

by **Henry St. Pierre,**  
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Welcome again to "Split Record Review," where two writers each provide their take on the same album. This week, the often melodic and somber "TA1300" by Denzel Curry is covered. Consisting of three acts, or discs, the landmark set of songs in Curry's catalog was released in July 2018. Immediately, fans marveled over Curry's introspection and ear for production, which has arguably grown better since. On his previous album, "Imperial," Curry ensured his legacy wouldn't be defined by fast raps, and "TA1300" strengthened the argument that he was one of the best rappers to emerge from the 2010s. Let's see what these writers have to say about the record.

## Henry's Review:

Now that we're on the third edition of "Split Record Review," a clear divide between me and James' core taste in music is evident. Personally, I'm more excited about this review than last week with King Gizzard and the Lizard Wizard. Denzel Curry has long been lauded as one of the greats of trap and conscious hip hop. While I've heard his work before, this is the first time I've sat down and listened to one of his records cover-to-cover.

Something that immediately stands out is the album's format, being split into three discs, acting as three distinct acts. It's a little corny, as James mentions, but adds a flavor to the album that's something to think about, despite how cheesy it may be. The first disc is full of ear worms. The first three tracks are nonstop infectious hooks, ethereal synths with slick TR-808 beats underneath. "Black Balloons" is a personal favorite; however, I might just be a sucker for upbeat choruses and slap bass.

The last track, "Sumo," takes a drastic turn to a darker sound, ushering the record into the realm of hardcore. Curry's writing ability shines on this track, cramming countless double entendres and puns over an uneasy, siren-filled instrumental. As a counter to the slick, considered instrumentals of the former three songs, "Sumo" has a much more urgent sound, complete with the

loud and crunchy bass sound that has become a hallmark in trap.

The second act continues the loud, hardcore sound with "Super Saiyan Superman." At just over two minutes, it's the shortest track on the record, however Curry's lightning-fast bars still offer a lot to take in.

"Mad I Got It" is one of my favorites; blending an infectious hook with head bobbing bars on top of a dark, sparse beat. It's very dreamlike, a feeling that can be found lingering throughout the record but is most concentrated on this track. "Clout Cobain" is one of the darkest tracks on the album. Living up to the record's title, Curry's lyricism is at its bleakest on this song, making several references to death and Kurt Cobain's untimely demise. The track again features a very sparse instrumental; the subject matter and Curry's voice take center stage.

The third and final act of the album opens with one of my favorite tracks, "The Blackest Balloon." Curry's flow is incredibly infectious and shines through the growly bass and reverb-drenched beat. The shouted chorus is one of my favorite hooks throughout the record and hasn't left my mind since I heard it.

Another one of my favorite cuts, "Vengeance" has easily the most memorable features on the record from JPEGMafia, who we covered earlier on "Split Record Review." The track is one of the most intense on the album, with many verses towing the line of shouting. Another standout feature, ZillaKami's gravelly voice is most at home under a heavy beat like this one.

While hardcore might not be my favorite genre of hip-hop, this record is a standout. I might not have as much to say in terms of analysis as James, however, I'd like to thank him for putting me on to Denzel Curry, who's been on my ever-expanding list of artists that I need to explore more.

**Rating: 4/5**

## James' Review:

While I hate to refer to music released in the past decade as "nostalgic," I must admit I've heard the collection of songs on Denzel Curry's "TA1300" too many times to count. I'll be the first to admit the shtick of having your 43-minute rap album contain three acts is a tacky way to make the album seem deeper than it is. Nevertheless, the songs are banging. I find the four disjointed songs in "Act I: Light" to start the record off on a

weird note, though the introductory/title track gives a harrowing glimpse into Curry's childhood as he discusses past trauma in the third person, lining with the dissociation one may feel when experiencing childhood trauma.

Immediately following are "Black Balloons" and "Cash Maniac," two chorus-heavy cuts that are both strong on wordplay in the verses but are sonically dissimilar to the title track. Revisiting "Cash Maniac" made me discover the bar, "I like 'Black Beatles,' but act like Black Sabbath / I smoke the O-Z when shit gets erratic," which I likely didn't understand in 2018 but appreciate even more now. The Charlie Heat production on "Sumo" sounds a little dated by now and the chorus does get grating over time, but it's a safe song that Curry used as the first single for "TA1300." Upon further research, Ski Mask the Slump God was supposed to be featured on the track. It's a shame that he wasn't because he and this beat would've been as compatible as bread and butter.

The mysterious bass-backed beat on "Super Saiyan Superman" keeps the song feeling new, and Curry's flow is favorable for fans of his popular track, "Ultimate." "Switch It Up" is a breath of fresh air from this more conventional area of the record, with production by long-time collaborator Ronny J and authoritative delivery from Curry that almost sounds as if he's preaching. I will highlight this disc, "Act II: Gray," does a better job of providing a consistently ominous mood, giving the listener a lingering feeling that a sharp turn in tone is soon to happen.

"Sirens" is a star-studded track with Billie Eilish on the chorus and JID on a featured verse. Both were still fairly up-and-coming at the time, but their talents shone through, and Curry still carries his weight. "Clout Cobain" is another single with a memorable chorus and a murky trap beat. The predominant theme is about Kurt Cobain and his untimely death but bars like "I'm feeling like Raichu 'cause everything shocking to me" turn this track up mood-wise. It additionally has its own artwork, depicting Curry wearing clown makeup that he smears on the artwork for the entire album, as well as the subsequent "Act III: Dark."

As alluded to in a previous paragraph, there is a major tone switch in sound and on Curry's part in this act. Frequent references to his deceased brother,

Treon "Tree" Johnson, are made in "The Blackest Balloon" and "Percs." The former is easy to get confused with a previous song due to its title, though the many themes it addresses make it a departure from the lighter "Black Balloons." "The Blackest Balloon" mentions school shootings and further references to deceased acquaintances of his, including Lil Peep and XXXTENTACION, as he imitates X's trademark flow when mentioning him.

"Vengeance" is a highlight for many, featuring the previously discussed JPEGMafia and screamo rapper ZillaKami, both of whom make strong cases for themselves as artists in their verses. Curry delivers a divisive and distorted chorus that I could go without, but the song as a whole is impeccable. Finally, "Black Metal Terrorist" would fit right on Curry's follow-up album, "ZUU," with more production from Ronny J and the most intense beat on the album by far. It's

quite the outro for the final disc, where Curry finally brings this album together into something cohesive. Three batches of tracks that were of the quality found on "Act III: Dark" would've made for one of the best albums of the 2010s; instead, there are sporadic moments of genius in between many passable tracks throughout the entire record.

In hindsight, I would've swapped the scores I give to this record and what I gave to "Nonagon Infinity" by King Gizzard and the Lizard Wizard in the last edition of "Split Record Review." Either way, both are excellent records that have a lot to unpack. Henry hadn't listened to "TA1300" fully until now, and I hadn't heard all of "Nonagon Infinity," so being able to enhance our collective encyclopedic knowledge of music one album at a time is enjoyable.

**Rating: 4/5**



ILLUSTRATION BY SAMANTHA HASS, ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS



# Life

@dailycampuslife

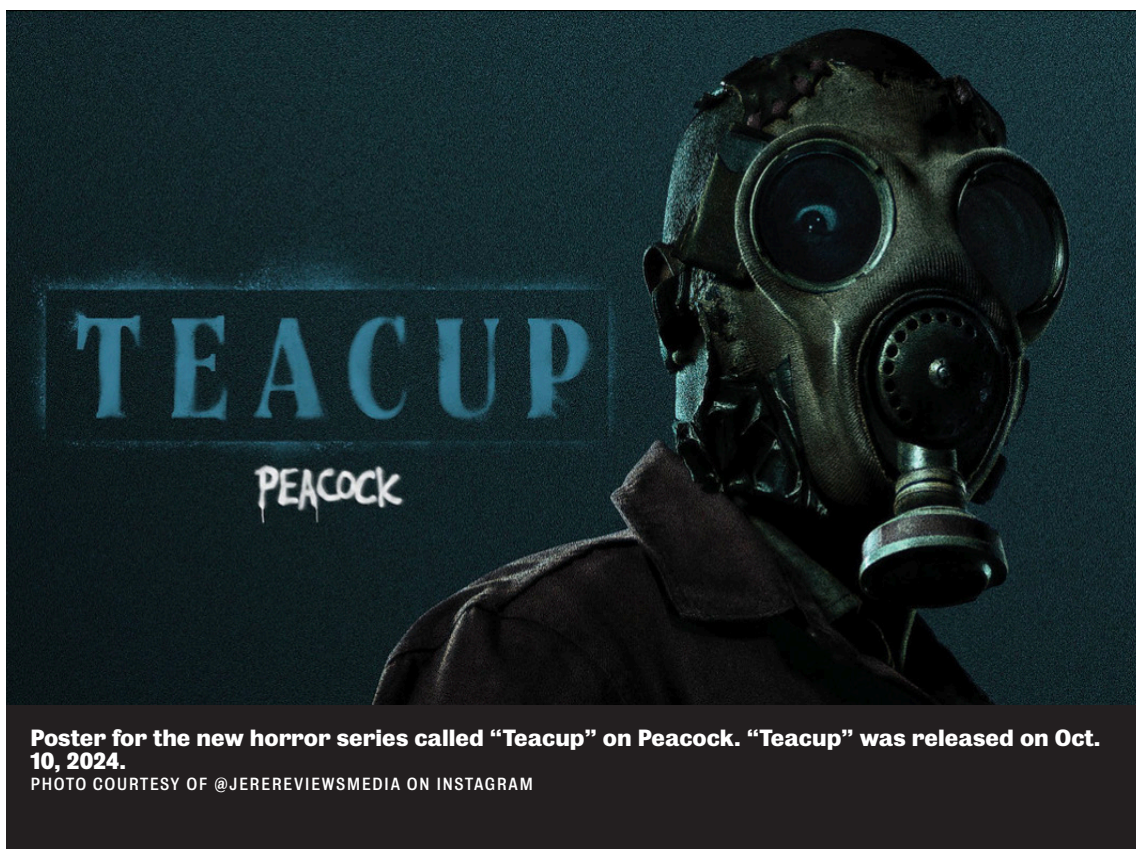
## ‘Teacup’: A fresh take on horror

by **Michelle Pawlos**  
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Horror may be one of the most challenging genres in making quality movies and shows. Originality, cinematography, acting and more all must be included in the film to intrigue an audience, and “Teacup” does all that and more. On Oct. 10, Peacock released the first two episodes of their new original show titled “Teacup.” Though the title itself doesn’t tell you much, there is a lot to unpack.

Before I start, to clarify, I only watched the first two episodes as that was all that came out initially. The show begins with an intense scene where we see a distressed (and kind of crazy-looking) woman in the woods. You know things will go down in the show from the first few minutes. It then takes you to a calm scene of the Chenoweth family who live in the countryside, although this all happens in the same area. This family consists of the mom, Maggie, the lead in the show, James and their two children, Meryl and Arlo.

Everything escalates once Maggie notices that their horses in the barn start to act strange. She then heard from other neighbors that their animals were also going missing. Arlo later spots one of these animals and goes into the forest to find it himself. Two families show



Poster for the new horror series called “Teacup” on Peacock. “Teacup” was released on Oct. 10, 2024.  
PHOTO COURTESY OF @JEREREVIEWSMEDIA ON INSTAGRAM

up with problems regarding their animals, but they then focus on the missing Arlo. By the end of the episode, Arlo is found, but it is clear that he has changed and experienced something while in the forest.

In the second episode, the families realize they are now all trapped together around the Chenoweth family’s house and barn. A mysterious figure shows up who draws a line around the whole area where they are and allowed to walk. Crossing this line would cause them extreme harm, so the families couldn’t leave the house even if they

wanted to. Some of them saw firsthand what would happen.

Something I noticed unfolding within the two episodes was the secrets and tension between the families. James Chenoweth and Valeria Shanley, from the Shanley family, had an affair, although neither one of their spouses knew that it was with the other. Maggie does seem to figure it out, but given the circumstances, there are more important things to focus on. The Kelly family (the third and final family in the show) has different views

from the other two families in the sense that they are more of a classic country family. With these secrets and differences, I assume that they are all going to struggle to get along while being stuck together.

Overall, this show kept me intrigued, unlike what I had expected. I will admit to having judged “Teacup” just by its title. One of the main things I admired about it was everyone’s acting. You can clearly see each character’s personality and how the occurrences may be the downfall of survival. Our main

character, Maggie, can stay calm during stressful events (which is essential for what will happen in the show).

Even after two episodes, I am still extremely confused, which usually annoys me. However, the show does so well in blending everything and keeping it interesting that it isn’t bothersome in this case. It isn’t one of your typical horror stories with a masked murderer or haunted objects, and it incorporates new ideas I have never seen before. The music used in “Teacup” matches the setting perfectly and what is occurring. There is eerie music in places where needed, and more country-themed music in some parts that relate to more of their lives.

The only thing about “Teacup” is that some things are, while still entertaining, predictable. For example, as I mentioned earlier, I believe that the clashing personalities of all the characters may indicate trouble in the future. By the end of episode two, the mysterious figure who drew the line around the house writes, “don’t trust anyone” on a whiteboard. So, we know that these families being together in this situation will make it harder rather than easier for them to survive. After paying \$8 to watch the second episode, I will say that I don’t regret it, as I am excited to watch the next episodes as they come out and see how everything unfolds.

**Rating: 4.5/5**

## Healthy Huskies: Therapy at UConn

by **Abigail Bonilla**  
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Mental health is something that everyone must deal with at some point in their lives. We all get upset, stressed and anxious from time to time. Many people are able to get through tough times on their own. However, some people may need extra support in taking care of themselves and/or their mental health. Talk therapy has proven to be a useful tool for many people going through difficult times in their lives and can even be life-changing. Unfortunately, many people do not end up having the resources to access private therapy services.

Luckily, the University of Connecticut offers many options for mental health support to its student body through Student Health and Wellness (SHaW). Brief individual therapy sessions are offered to current students for any type of mental health concerns. These sessions are free of charge to students and are meant to be a short-term solution. However, SHaW can help connect you to local providers around the state if you are in need of more services. Many group therapy sessions are also available to students free of charge.

SHaW offers more generic group therapy to both undergraduate and graduate students, and identity-specific groups are also available. The groups are designed for specific populations of students. There is a men’s group, a group for students of color and a group for pregnant or parenting students, among others. SHaW also has introduced more creative avenues of group therapy, such as their “Dungeons and Therapy” group. This group utilizes role-playing games

such as “Dungeons and Dragons” to explore your personality and work on any goals you may want to focus on.

For some people, avenues such as medication may be the extra support needed to take control of their mental well-being. SHaW offers consultations for students wanting to explore the option of medication to decide if treatment is right for them. Once they finish the consultation, SHaW can refer students to local providers that can help them start medication.

Starting your mental health journey or even just talking about your feelings can be hard. Luckily, UConn remains committed to providing resources for struggling students. There are many options for beginning services at school, however many students opt to start with therapy. Brief individual therapy is an option. If you need longer-term support, SHaW can refer you to a list of providers throughout the state who can take your insurance.

There are also many group therapy options available that may be able to help you during the semester. These groups are mainly identity-focused, allowing specific populations of students to have focused support. However, there are groups centered around general mental health and wellness, and the medication route is also available to explore if you find that individual or group therapy is not enough to support your mental health.

Everyone finds that they need support from time to time, and there are many resources available at UConn to assist struggling students. If you need support, call SHaW or visit their website for more information. The most important thing is to not be afraid to ask for help.



LOGO BY VAN NGUYEN, STAFF ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

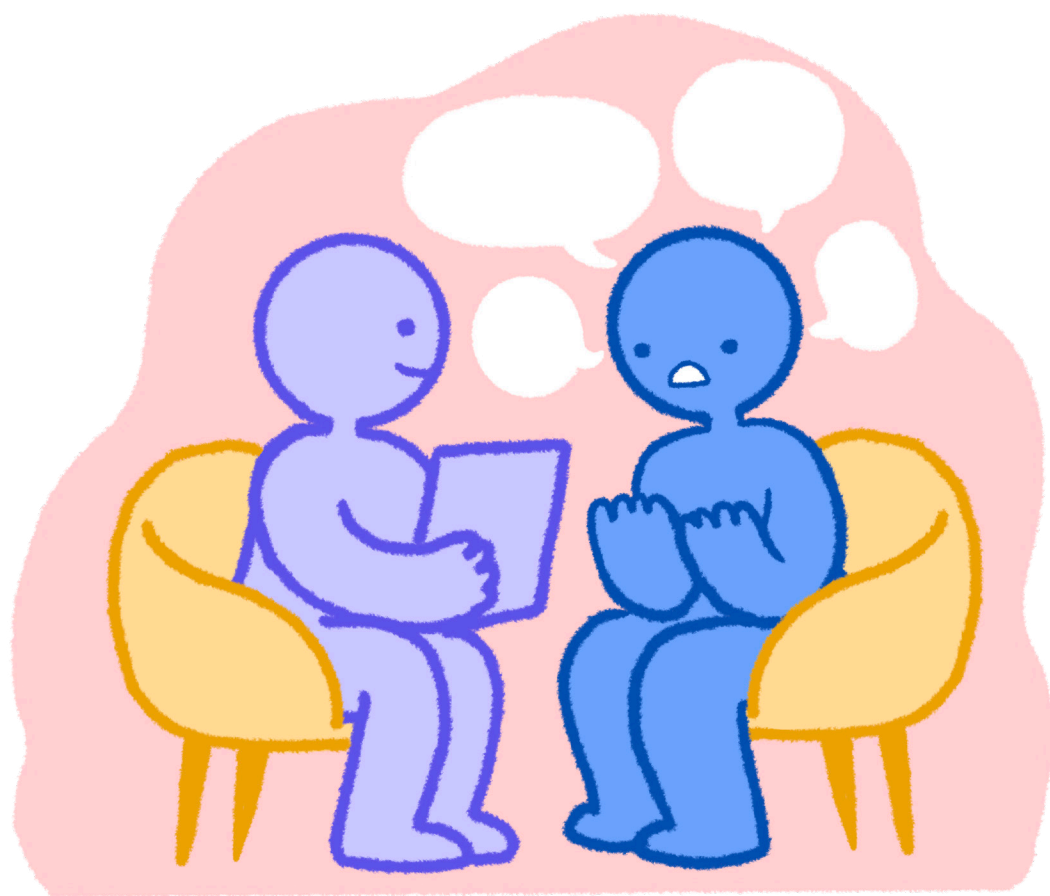


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# Opinion

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COMIC BY SARAH CHANTRES, STAFF ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

# Op-Ed: A Journey through Yom Kippur

by Jessica Nirschel | SHE/HER/HERS | CONTRIBUTOR | [jessica.nirschel@uconn.edu](mailto:jessica.nirschel@uconn.edu)

Yom Kippur, the Jewish "Day of Atonement", is the holiest day on the Jewish calendar. No day, except the Sabbath, is more sacred than Yom Kippur. Jews seek to get closer to God and are given space to connect with their souls. This day embodies the themes of forgiveness and spiritual renewal.

The preparations for Yom Kippur start the night before, this year on Oct. 11, to enhance the spiritual and physical aspects of the holiday. To start, a meal is eaten amongst guests and family (think Thanksgiving but in October) to give sustenance as one prepares for the 25-hour fast which will start after the meal. Yom Kippur is nearly a week and a half after Rosh Hashana, the Jewish New Year. These 10 days encompassing both holidays are referred to as the "Ten Days of Repentance" and give Jewish people a chance to make amends through acts of charity and kindness. Yom Kippur culminates in the final evening prayer service called "Ne'ilah," which translates to "closing." This service sym-

bolizes the gates of heaven closing and prayers for God's benevolence and mercy are often in these final moments. As tradition goes, when there are three visible stars in the sky, a ram's horn is sounded to conclude the closing service and to signify the end of Yom Kippur and the fast. It is customary for communities and families to gather for a breakfast meal consisting of light foods to celebrate with joy, our faith in God's forgiveness.

Yom Kippur is a day to shape one's destiny for the next year. The day is historically significant as it commemorates Moses climbing down Mount Sinai with the Ten Command-

ments or the Decalogue. This extends even more of a significance to committing to faith

nology and the 25-hour fast, where those observing often abstain from food, drink and any other pleasures to elevate our focus on the spirit and connection to the Divine. Additionally, it is tradition to wear white as a symbol of purity; the idea is to be somewhat angelic and associated with pure beings.

Yom Kippur Day is spent in prayer services in the synagogue, among the community, to foster personal and communal betterment. These observances are representative of recalling the greater mission of repairing the world, "Tikkun Olam," which is a pillar of Judaism. The journey from the celebrations of Rosh Hashana—a time for new beginnings—leads

to the arrival of Yom Kippur, the day to finalize the New Year's resolutions and ensure a meaningful year ahead.

On a college campus, it is possible to observe Yom Kippur; however, most who observe Yom Kippur fully often go home, as that is more appropriate for the observance of this holiday. Some common practices are to mend relationships, apologize, wish loved ones a good year and ask for forgiveness from peers. It is a great time to make stronger connections with those most important to you.

At UConn, those interested can observe all of Yom Kippur starting on Friday, Oct. 11, through the resources on campus. From the meal before the fast to being one with the community, to the closing service and the break-fast, the options are available and open to all. Hillel and Chabad on Campus will be hosting dinner and services on Friday and on Saturday, there will be services and a break-fast. I wish all those who observe a good year, a meaningful fast and spiritual strength on this holy day.



CLIPART COURTESY OF WANNABO

and spiritual cleaning. Yom Kippur is observed through refraining from tech-

# YOU SHOULD STUDY ABROAD

by Isaac Grad

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Most students at least consider studying abroad, but only about 5.9 percent of students seize this opportunity. There are, of course, many valid reasons to not study abroad such as cost or citizenship limitations. However, for those who are able, studying abroad provides you with an experience that is much harder to replicate outside of university. It isn't easy to find a way to live in a different country for multiple months if not working or studying. Along with that, your university helps you with the more complicated aspects of deciding to live abroad for multiple months, most notably the visa application and preparation of all necessary documents.

Studying abroad gives you

the opportunity to experience a culture and language different from your own. For many students, it may also give you the chance to connect with your own culture in a way you previously hadn't been able to. It gives you the chance to learn another language, which is very useful moving forward in life in terms of communication and connection with others. If you are put off by the notion of being in a place where you can't understand the language, there are plenty of location options where the native language is English. However, I highly recommend pushing yourself to be in an environment with a language different from your own as it's the best way to learn a new language if you take advantage of the opportunity. For me this meant studying in Italy, despite originally wanting to find a program in France,

as that's my second language. However, Italy worked better for my requirements and is close enough to France that I could visit. Additionally, by studying in Italy, I had the opportunity to learn another language that I wouldn't have otherwise pursued.

There is a large variety of locations to study abroad. This also means there's a large variety in cost to study abroad. For many students, this may mean that studying abroad for a semester is cheaper than studying at their home university. Therefore, it's worth doing some research on your various options and their costs before assuming studying abroad will be too expensive.

Along with the obvious perks of studying abroad, with it comes a new sense of self. After completing each aspect of studying abroad, even just

the application, you feel more capable and independent. You are able to show yourself that you can take a huge step and accept the fears you may be having but face them head on and come out on the other end. You prove to yourself that you can do anything you set your mind to, and you learn the importance of not letting worry or fear stop you from trying new and exciting things.

While the preparations necessary for studying abroad feel very daunting at first, it is more than doable, especially with the help of staff who do it with hundreds of students a year. Picking a location itself can be difficult and time-consuming, but in the end, you should make a decision based on what is most important to you. This may mean accessibility to surrounding countries or cities that you want to visit, the language spoken

and more. For example, you can choose locations from all around the globe, but if you want to be able to easily travel to different countries while you're abroad, you may want to choose a country in Europe. This also gives you the opportunity to speak various languages, including the one you may have studied in school.

Studying abroad offers a truly once in a lifetime opportunity where your housing and visa will be taken care of, you have a legitimate reason to be there and access to experienced people who are there to help you. To be able to immerse yourself in a culture and language for months while living in another country is a gift. Universities around the world offer this amazing opportunity to their students and if you have the chance to take advantage of it, you definitely should.



ILLUSTRATION BY ALEXA PAPPAS, CONTRIBUTING ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

# Opinion

## Photo of the Day | Aurora Borealis



The sky over Storrs, Conn. lit up red by the northern lights on the evening of Oct. 10, 2024. This event rarely occurs at this level of Earth's latitude  
PHOTO BY SIHAM NEDLOUSSI, ASSOCIATE PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

# UConn's proposed "institutional neutrality" would be anything but neutral

by **Tomas Hinckley**  
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As Desmond Tutu, a Nobel Peace Prize winner and one of the foremost activists involved in the fight to end South African apartheid once said, "if you are neutral in situations of injustice, you have chosen the side of the oppressor". Across history this message has been echoed by many other famous names in the struggle against oppression, such as Martin Luther King Jr, Elie Wiesel and Paulo Freire. It is one of the clearest lessons that history has attempted to teach through the words of those venerated as visionaries and heroes. Today, the University of Connecticut seeks to reconsider this idea, as there are "active discussions" within the administration of adopting a policy of institutional neutrality. This stance, which comes in response to months of student protest over UConn's alleged complicity in the Israeli genocide of Palestine, would have UConn "limit their public statements to only matters that affects school operations, and refrain from taking a stance on social or political issues," according to CT Insider. If history is to be the teacher, then the answer is clear: it is an ethical and moral imperative that UConn must reject the idea of institutional neutrality.

UConn is not alone in considering institutional neutrality, as a solution angers universities participating in international hu-

man rights abuses. Harvard, the University of Wisconsin, the University of North Carolina system, Stanford and many more across the country have already adopted such measures, and now even within the state Yale is undergoing similar talks on the topic. One of the only schools which has taken an active stance against the policy also happens to be in Connecticut, with Wesleyan University President Michael Roth going to the New York Times and Time Magazine to voice his opposition to the idea.

The problem with policies like these are that, in UConn's case, they are fundamentally dishonest and vague. What counts as "matters that affect school operations" in today's interconnected world? When three of the top ten employers of UConn graduates are military contractors Pratt & Whitney, Raytheon Technologies and General Dynamics Electric Boat (Lockheed Martin was #11), and these same companies have extensive financial ties to the university, is the profit of the companies off the slaughter of Palestinians not incredibly relevant to the university itself? When President Radenka Maric herself and CT Governor Ned Lamont

traveled to Israel in 2022 to advance currently ongoing partnerships with Israeli universities and government leaders, did that not constitute school operations that might be worth questioning given recent events? The idea that UConn can simply back off from the issue entirely

portant to understand the entire premise need not apply as well. When the idea was first popularly applied to college campuses by the University of Chicago's Klaven Report in 1967, it was seen as a general principle that could be applied in limited fashion to specific instances. Nowadays, it's used as a blunt scapegoat that administrators can point to whenever they need out of an issue.

Plus, it explicitly mentions exceptions to neutrality that concern certain corporate actions like "university ownership of property" or "its receipt of funds" that go against "paramount social values." There are also legal scholars who refute the idea that institutional neutrality is even beneficial to the academic freedoms it claims itself necessary to protect, saying that "it's not a matter of logic or of inevitability, but of specific factual events."

Yet, aside from addressing institutional neutrality as a failed solution to UConn's problems, it's also important to address why it's even in conversation in the first place. This policy comes at a specific time and that is no mistake. UConn has always taken sides in its messaging following significant social events from when then-Vice President of Research,

Innovation and Entrepreneurship Radenka Maric condemned the death of George Floyd in 2020 to when the Human Rights Institute condemned the Russian invasion of Ukraine. The only difference now is the subject matter itself, and the fact that UConn has too much to lose from the calls to divest from war. This tactic is an attempt to stonewall activists and community voices by hiding behind the same concept which was originally intended to quell student voices raging against the Vietnam War (a movement frequently looked back at with regret). Instead of meaningfully engaging with valid questions over the ethical decision-making processes of the university and its endowment, there is now potential for an even further backslide into worse communication and accountability towards the community through policies like institutional neutrality.

As always, it is the current struggle which faces the most backlash, but that is why we look towards the past to see what must be done now. Although UConn appears determined in its willingness to sidestep the issue, the moral weight of this challenge shows why action must be taken. This change towards institutional neutrality cannot be permitted at UConn, and it is the responsibility of community members, students and faculty alike to ensure that UConn does not remain silent in the face of oppression.



FILE LOGO/THE DAILY CAMPUS

and say that it doesn't affect them is completely absurd, they are actively involved in ongoing events all across the world and don't have the right to shy away from answering questions about that.

Aside from the clear hypocrisies that exist within UConn's specific application of institutional neutrality in this case, it is im-

# Jason J Sampson Contributing Artist

Paper Boy Sam



# COLLEGE FOOTBALL COACHES ON HOT SEAT

by **Matthew Chmura**  
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The leaves have turned, the weather is getting cooler and the college football season is about halfway through. Each week is filled with jaw-dropping upsets, standout players and heart-stopping plays. This is also the point of the season where you give a report card grade on your teams. Some programs are passing with flying colors while others are in desperate need of help. For those that are not doing so well, the scapegoat typically becomes the head coach. This article will take a dive into the coaches currently on the hot seat and predict whether they will last the season.

**Billy Napier**

The Florida head coach came into the season on the hot seat, and after the first five games, his seat remains sizzling. The Gators are 3-2 but have yet to fare well against top competition. In week one, they were blown out by rival Miami, 41-17. Two weeks later, they lost to Texas A&M, 33-20, in their SEC opener. Their wins have come against Samford, Mississippi State and UCF. While Napier has a winning record, Florida has yet to play the toughest part of their schedule with Texas, Georgia, LSU and Ole Miss waiting in the distance. If the Gators can survive that stretch and win the games they should, Napier should survive. If not, the Gators will be looking for another coach in the offseason.

*Prediction: Napier gets fired after Florida goes 5-7 and fails to make a bowl game.*

**Trent Dilfer**

The former Super Bowl champion quarterback and ESPN mogul is facing a tougher time than expected with the Blazers. Through his first 17 games, Trent Dilfer has compiled a 5-12 record and seems to be making more noise off the field rather than



**Billy Napier celebrating a hardfought win at the conclusion of a game. His team, the Florida Gators, are currently 3-2 after their first five games of the season.** PHOTO COURTESY OF @ESPNGAINESVILLE ON INSTAGRAM

on it. Last week, after a blow-out loss to Navy, Dilfer made a comment in his press conference that mocked Alabama and UAB. These comments made local and national news, sparking some outlets to call for his job. While he is only five games into his second season and a firing may seem abrupt, UAB has been much worse than expected. They are not only losing games, but getting throttled, losing their last two games by 84 points combined. UAB has winnable games remaining but also has playoff candidate Army and a much-improved UConn on their schedule. With a 1-4 start, it seems evident that a bowl game is out of reach. However, with it only being year two, if Dilfer shows progress down the stretch and keeps away from controversy, he should keep his job.

*Prediction: Dilfer gets a chance to prove himself with a third year in the program.*

**Sam Pittman**

The Razorback head coach may have saved his job on Saturday with a shocking win against Tennessee. Sam Pittman is in his fifth year at Arkansas and holds a 27-27 record at the school. In the offseason, the program hired the controversial Bobby Petrino as their offensive coordinator to save his own job. Pittman has his team off to a 4-2 start, and after their biggest win in years against Tennessee, the program is progressing to better days. However, Arkansas has a brutal schedule ahead and it will be difficult for them to manage the success of the first half of the season. On top of this, Arkansas has a history of putting their coaches on a short leash, and Pittman may have outstretched his time already.

*Prediction: Arkansas cannot keep up their hot start and Pittman loses his job after year five.*

**Mike Norvell**

This time a year ago, it would have been a shock to see Mike Norvell on this list. However,

Florida State is off to their worst start in program history. After going undefeated and being left off the playoffs, the FSU program has fallen into a steady demise. They lost the Orange Bowl to Georgia (63-3) after more than 20 players opted out and lost many to the draft. However, after success in the transfer portal and a good recruiting class, they were ranked No. 10 to start the year. Florida State is off to a 1-5 start and has losses to notoriously mediocre teams: Georgia Tech, Boston College and Memphis. Transfer quarterback DJ Uiagalelei has been terrible for the Seminoles and backup Brock Glenn did not fare much better against Clemson. Another thing to remember is that, prior to last season, Norvell was on the hot seat.

*Prediction: Norvell barely survives this season as the Seminoles' coach, but his seat will be on fire at the beginning of the season next year.*

Huskies look to improve winning streak during in-state matchup

by **Jackson Crainich**  
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The UConn field hockey team has won six straight matches and find themselves ranked No. 7 in the country with an 11-1 record heading into this weekend.

The Huskies will play one game rather than the normal two, against Big East and in-state rivals, the Quinnipiac Bobcats.

The Bobcats have struggled this season owning a 2-10 record, with their only wins coming in a 1-0 overtime battle against Stonehill and a dominant 7-1 performance against Merrimack. In their matchup against the Huskies, Quinnipiac is looking for their first conference win of the season, as they currently have a 0-3 record in conference play and sit at the bottom of the Big East standings as the only team to not yet have a conference win.

While the Bobcats sit at the bottom of the Big East standings as the only team without a conference win, the Huskies find themselves at the top, sitting at 3-0 in conference play and looking to improve this weekend. Connecticut has been nothing short of dominant in conference play this season, outscoring their conference opponents 12-0 so far this season.

The defense of the Huskies has been nothing short of incredible. Since the 4-3 loss at Harvard, the Connecticut defense has only allowed three goals in six games, dominating their opponents for all four quarters.

Connecticut has never lost to the Bobcats, holding an all-time record of 22-0 against them and are 12-0 when playing Quinnipiac in Storrs. While the Huskies haven't fallen to the Bobcats, UConn edged out a 3-2 victory in overtime when they traveled to Hamden just a season ago.

UConn looks to do more of the same this weekend and continue their dominance against the Bobcats, looking to advance to 12-1 on the season and remain undefeated in conference play.

The in-state matchup will begin at 2 p.m. this Friday, Oct. 11, at George J. Sherman Family Sports Complex, the home of the five-time national champion UConn Huskies.

# Men's Soccer: Connecticut set to face Georgetown on Saturday for Whiteout Game

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After a heartbreaking first loss of the season to the Vermont Catamounts on Tuesday night, the UConn men's soccer team (7-1-3) is set to face Georgetown (5-3-4) on Saturday in Storrs.

The Hoyas are coming into this matchup after a recent scoreless

draw against University of Maryland, Baltimore County on Tuesday night and a 3-0 shutout win over Providence last Friday.

Since Georgetown occupies the No. 2 spot in the Big East, just below Connecticut, they may be the toughest conference opponent the Huskies face this season.

The history between the Huskies and the Hoyas dates all the way back to 1990, but the most recent

time these two teams faced each other was on Nov. 9 of last year. In the matchup, Connecticut was shut out by Georgetown 2-0, with the Hoyas scoring their two points in the second half of the match.

Another important fact to note is that the Huskies have not won a single match against the Hoyas since 2012.

A player the Huskies will have to look out for is freshman forward

Mitchell Baker who leads his team in points. The native of Melbourne, Australia has notched four goals and two assists in the 10 games played, throughout his first-year campaign.

Baker has made himself the focal point of the team's offense and is just one of the Hoyas' competitors that will require the Huskies to play their hardest in order to add another win to their season resume.

One of Connecticut's secret weapons is freshman goalkeeper Max Kerkvliet. The two-time Big East Freshman of the Week has been a constant for the Huskies and was their saving grace versus a tough Vermont team.

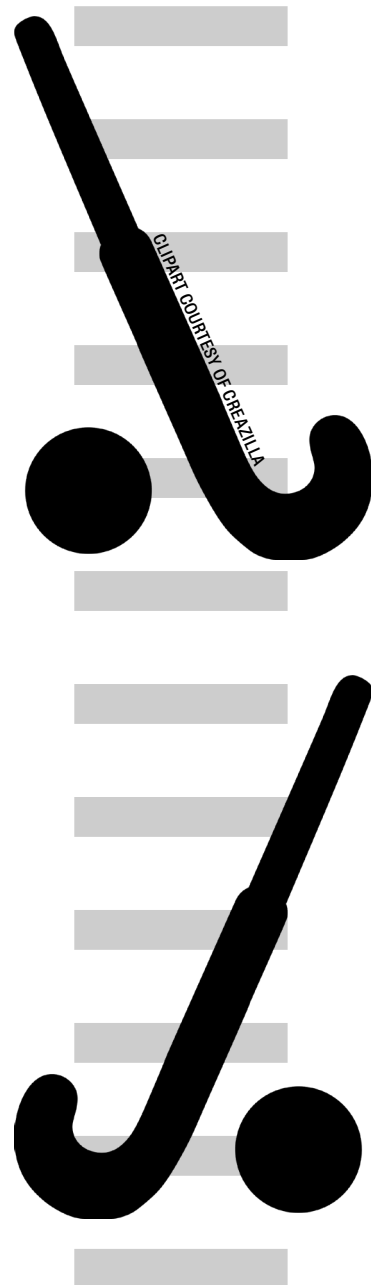
Kerkvliet has a 0.848 save percentage on the season so far and will be one of the key parts for Connecticut to take this win.

Georgetown is the beginning of many tough opponents that Connecticut will have to face in the latter half of their season. Along with Kerkvliet, players like Scott Testori, Eli Conway and Sabri Hanni will have to step up on the offensive side of the ball. This also includes Kwame Adu-Gyamfi who has been consistent about the midfield line for the Huskies.

Kickoff between these two Big East Foes is scheduled for 7 p.m., under the lights at Joseph J. Morrone Field for a whiteout game. If Husky fans cannot make it to the match, they can tune in through the UConn+ livestream.



**UConn men's soccer (number 24) faced Seton Hall University (number 15), at Morrone Stadium on Sept. 28, 2024. The ninth game for the Huskies resulted in a tie, 0-0.** PHOTO BY HANNAH GRIMES, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS



## Sports

## Photo of the Day | Men's ice hockey



The UConn men's hockey team versus Colgate on Oct. 6, 2024. Despite a quick goal by Colgate, the Huskies rallied back with a final score of 6-2.  
PHOTO BY BLAKE SYKES, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

## Ice Bus ready for the second weekend of season against Holy Cross

by **Ava Inesta**  
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The UConn men's hockey team is set for the second weekend of their season against Holy Cross. They will start on the road at Holy Cross in Worcester, Mass. on Friday, Oct. 11 with puck drop set for 7:00 p.m. They will then travel back home to finish off the series in Hartford at the XL Center at 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 12.

UConn is coming off of a 2-0 weekend to start the season against Colgate. The Huskies saw a lot of success on all three zones on the ice and look to build on that this weekend against the Crusaders.

"I thought that we played well in all three zones on the weekend, and this week is going to be a whole different challenge - we had a lot of trouble with Holy Cross last year. We're going to have our hands full, that's for sure," said the Huskies' head coach, Mike Cavanaugh.

The all-time record between UConn and Holy Cross

is 12-10 with the Huskies at the deficit. The last home-and-home series did not end in UConn's favor as they dropped both games to Holy Cross. They fell to the Crusaders 2-1 on Oct. 13, 2023 in Mass. and they lost again with a score of 2-0 on Oct. 14, 2023 in Storrs, Conn. The Huskies are aware of their history with Holy Cross and are looking to flip the script on those patterns this weekend.

In their first series of the season last weekend, the Huskies scored ten goals in a 2-game span last weekend against Colgate. Junior Jake Percival led the offense with three goals on the weekend along with sophomore Jake Richard with two, junior Tabor Heaslip with one, junior Ryan Tattle with one, sophomore Oliver Flynn with one, freshman Ethan Gardula with one and freshman Kaden Shahan with one.

The Huskies also saw success in their four newly developed lines and Cavanaugh was very pleased with their performance in the first weekend.

"I thought that line was very, very good with Whitcomb, Richard and Muldowney," said Cavanaugh. "They have a mix of everything. Muldowney's kind of a burner, he can really fly and skate. Richard is excellent with the puck, and as you said, Jake knows what he wants to do with the puck before he gets it, which is a skill that is really hard to teach. I thought Ethan did a nice job at center and he was distributing pucks and he can also finish too and shoot it. He had some good chances as well. It was great chemistry between all three and I'd like to see them build on that this week."

"I thought all four lines gave us something on the weekend. You know Schandor's line created a lot of offense - they created a lot and played with a ton of speed. I thought Tattle's was where they excelled - we played them a lot after goals were scored or when we got scored on and they gave us great shift af-

ter goals and swing shifts, I thought Tattle's line was excellent all weekend long," he continued.

There's a ton that this year's

Ice Bus will have a chance to build on this weekend in its two-game series against Holy Cross.

## Men's Ice Hockey

## Women's Ice Hockey:

### UConn looking to sweep New Hampshire in a two-game series

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The UConn women's ice hockey team faces off against New Hampshire in a two-game series that consists of a home and away game, with the Huskies first traveling to the Wildcats to start the weekend.

Beating New Hampshire is crucial for the Huskies after falling 1-3 in the season's first four games and climbing back to .500 needs to happen now rather than later. After starting 1-3-1 in the first five games last season, the team proved that a comeback was possible as they eventually finished 25-8-5.

As for the Wildcats, they come into the series at 1-0-1. Since 2001, the team has won 46 out of 76 games, losing 25 and tying in five. Although New Hampshire may be the favorite to win, recent history says otherwise.

The two in-conference rivals face each other three times a season. In the 2023-2024 season, the script flipped, and UConn won

the series 2-1. The team beat the Wildcats on the road and held them to zero goals, pushing momentum to Connecticut's side.

One thing that UConn currently struggles with is finishing. Although the team has scored eight goals and has taken 71 shots across the first four games, the group will continue to improve offensively and connect with the back of the net. The leading scorer for the team, Christina Walker, put up two goals and the forward looks to add a couple more by the end of the weekend.

As for UConn's team leaders, Ava Rinker has also been a massive asset, racking up six assists, four shots and 13 blocks in the past three matches. A major component of a team is the defense and Rinker not only protects the net, but opens the ice up for opportunities.

The star for New Hampshire, Andi Calderone, scored two goals in their two-series clash with Assumption. Calderone will look to continue her hot streak in this series as the playmaker for the team.

Another massive contributor to

the Wildcats, goalkeeper Carissa Mudrak, has only allowed one goal in the two games so far this season. A challenge for UConn arises if Mudrak plays the same way.

Coming into this weekend, Connecticut looks to start fresh with a sweep while New Hampshire tries to find a way to intervene.

Puck drop is scheduled for 6 p.m. in Durham, N.H. on Friday, and 6 p.m. in Storrs, Conn. on Saturday.



UConn women's hockey kicks off their season at home against the University of Minnesota on Friday, Sept. 27, 2024. The Huskies fought until the end of the game, but ultimately lost 4-1.

PHOTOGRAPH BY SYDNEY CHANDLER, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

# Ava's Angle:

## The magic of the New York Mets

by **Ava Inesta**  
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Against all odds, the New York Mets have been one of, if not the best team in baseball since June, advancing to the NLCS after defeating the Philadelphia Phillies 3-1 in the NLDS series. Since June 12, when the classic McDonald's mascot Grimace threw out the first pitch at Citi Field, the Mets have had a 61-36 record.

The first hurdle the Mets had to overcome was the NL Wild Card race, which was neck and neck between the San Diego Padres, Arizona Diamondbacks, Atlanta Braves and the Mets since the end of the summer. The Mets have been running on fumes since the middle of September. They spent most of the month on the road, traveling from Atlanta-Milwaukee-Atlanta-Milwaukee-Philadelphia, which led them to now, where they just clinched the NLCS back at home at Citi Field.

Coincidentally, after Grimace threw out the first pitch on June 12, the Mets started a seven-game winning streak, and the team was quickly able to recognize the shift in momentum in the clubhouse. Grimace quickly got praise from players on the team like Tylor Megill on Instagram and even first baseman Pete Alonso, who paid tribute to the purple mascot by wearing purple cleats during a game in

late July. Grimace has brought great karma to the Mets and has made consistent appearances at Citi Field since that first day to support the team.

But the actual baseball is what really stands out here. The 'OMG' Mets have put on a cinematic performance on the field for the last 10 days with back-to-back comebacks and plays that really define what true postseason baseball is. Francisco Lindor is at the forefront of the Mets and has been the absolute glue to the team all season long. In game four,

when the Mets clinched an NLCS berth over the Phillies, Lindor was the hero of the night once again after he drilled a grand slam in the bottom of the sixth inning to put New York in the lead 4-1, a lead that they would ultimately keep for the rest of the game.

"That 341 (million) is looking pretty freakin' good right now," said team owner Steve Cohen, per the

New York Post's Mike Puma.

Alonso has been another guy on the team who has been able to take the Mets to new heights and have kept them alive in potential season-ending situations. In game three against Milwaukee, in the top of the 9th inning with two outs and the Mets staring elimination in the face, Alonso launched a three-run homer to give New York the lead and save their season. Alonso has been swinging for the fences all postseason long and it is one of the main reasons why the Mets are still fighting for the

championship. Alonso has been clutch on so many different occasions during the postseason and it will almost be impossible for Cohen and the Mets not to sign him to a life-long contract.

The New York Mets roster is so deep, especially with their starting pitching rotation of Kodai Senga, Jose Quintana, Sean Manaea and Luis Severino pitching lights out, followed by their bullpen who has handled business for the majority of their playoff games. Players from all sides of the field have stepped up and that is why the Mets are in the position that they are in. From the veterans to the young stars and the all around pitching performances, the Mets almost seem unstoppable.

However, the road ahead does not get easier for New York as they await the winner of the other NLDS series on the west coast between the Los Angeles Dodgers, who had the best record in baseball this season, and the Padres, who are looking like one of the most dangerous teams in baseball currently. But the Mets have the fire, heart, drive, talent and motivation to take them as far as they need to go in order to make a run for the World Series.

"I've been waiting for this for years," Cohen said, per SNY's Phillip Martinez. "I wanted this place packed. I want to slay the negative Met fan perception and we're on our way to doing that. Let's keep it going."



# Women's Soccer:

## Huskies travel to Marquette for crucial Big East tilt

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The UConn women's soccer team travels to Milwaukee on Sunday for their second consecutive road game. After falling to Creighton 2-1 last Sunday, Connecticut looks to bounce back against a pesky Marquette team.

The Golden Eagles currently sport a 4-7-3 record and are 1-2-1 inside the conference. None of Marquette's losses in Big East play have been by more than one goal. With a win over St. John's and a draw versus DePaul, both teams are in a similar spot midway through conference play. A win for either team would immensely boost their chances at a

Big East Tournament bid. Marquette is winless against the Huskies since they have returned to the Big East. They salvaged a draw the last time out, but UConn defeated them in 2021 and 2022. Before 2021 it was all Golden Eagles, as they went 5-1-1 in the first handful of matches between the two schools.

Graduate student Tess O'Connell leads the team with five goals and 11 total points. The Wilmington, Mass. native spent her first four seasons at URI and was responsible for the lone goal when the Golden Eagles tied with DePaul. Haley Christianson has stepped up during her sophomore season, already assisting on five Marquette goals

this year. Goalkeeper for the Golden Eagles rotates between Elise Krone and Chloe Olson. Krone has been playing more as of late, but Olson was superb in net in her six games besides letting five goals past her against No. 9 ranked Notre Dame.

On the other side, UConn made a goalie change of their own, switching to Marykate Ward in the last two matches. The senior did not see any shot attempts come her way in Connecticut's 1-0 victory over Providence, but she did make four saves and concede two goals against Creighton this past Sunday. Ward replaced reigning Big East Goalkeeper of the Year Kaitlyn Mahoney at the end of the Huskies' loss to Georgetown and has been in net ever since. After a highly successful non-conference performance, Mahoney and the defense have not gotten on the right page in Big East play. The team allowed seven goals in the first three Big East games en route to a 0-1-2 record in those matches.

The offense has not been a problem for Connecticut, as they have scored at least one goal in all 13 games this season. Chioma Okafor added goals 10 and 11 during the past two games, continuing her scorching pace this season. The assist numbers also continue to be great, as both of Okafor's goals include assists from Laci Lewis and Sophie McCarthy, respectively. UConn now has 21 assists on their 26 goals scored, a great showing of both team chemistry and the ability to score at will.

The game will begin at 2 p.m. this Sunday, Oct. 13, and fans can tune into FloSports to see Connecticut take on the Golden Eagles.



UConn women's soccer takes on Providence College at Morrone Stadium on Oct. 3, 2024. The Huskies took home the win with a final score of 1-0. PHOTO BY BLAKE SYKES, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS



# Sports

## Hurley: “Table is set” for Samson Johnson to have breakout year

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Since the UConn Huskies joined the new Big East Conference following the 2019-20 academic year, the center position on the men’s basketball team has been dominated by Adama Sanogo and Donovan Clingan. Forward-turned-center Samson Johnson, who went to The Patrick School in Union, N.J., the same school as Sanogo, looks to be the next center to help compete in the Big East.

At the beginning of the 2022-23 season, Johnson was the starting power forward before getting hurt in the season opener against Stonehill. He did not see the floor much in that season, playing in just 12 games.

However, his role changed dramatically during his time at UConn, and now has a chance to be the starting center after appearing in 40 games as Clingan’s backup last season.

“The table’s set for him to get out there and now he’ll have this opportunity,” head coach Dan Hurley said about Johnson’s development. “He’s taken all the steps in his career here, and last year, obviously, was a big confidence builder.”

Hurley and his coaching staff aim to play the Lomé, Togo native the way that Marquette head coach Shaka Smart played Oso Ighodaro, who made the All-Big East second team the past two seasons.

“We had him watch a lot of Ighodaro,” he said in a media availability on Sep. 27. “I love the way that Marquette deployed him and the way they used him, and he’s got a lot of those attributes. He innately does a lot of things that Ighodaro does, so we’ve asked him to look at that a lot and we’re trying to implement some of that.”

Johnson started at center seven times last season, which was due to the brief absence of Clingan. This year, however, he will need to earn his spot among the starting five.

“He knows it’s his time for the role he’s wanted here,” Hurley said. “He’s got to, obviously, earn it over the next 29 practices/moments to compete. I think he sees an opportunity for himself now to be a featured player on the team. He’s been a



Number 35 on the UConn men’s basketball team Samson Johnson going for the ball. The Huskies won the game against Mississippi on Nov. 14, 2023. PHOTO BY CONNOR SHARP, PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

key player, especially last year—a major impact player, but now he’s got a chance to be a frontline player.”

Hurley was asked if there was a player over the years used similar to how he plans to use Johnson, and he said that there was not.

“He’s unique,” he explained. “We’d like him to get the ball off the backboard, advance the ball, let the guards get down the court. He came into school as a stretch-four without a consistent 3-point shot. So, he’s had to reshape and reshape himself and develop a different identity.”

With all the hype coming into the hunt for a historic third-consecutive national championship, his teammates believe that Johnson, in his senior year, is up to the task.

“He’s done a lot,” forward Alex Karaban said. “He’s playing off the dribble a lot more, and he’s really transformed his game to kind of like a point-center at times.”

However, there will be a competition between him and Michigan transfer Tarris Reed Jr., who is expected to get playing time for the Huskies this season.

“He’s physical, tall, strong. He can do a lot of things,” Johnson said, noting that Reed will be a “good fit with the way we play.”

The last time a center finally broke through in a starting role as a senior was Souleymane Wane during the 2000-01 season. They both had assistant coach Tom Moore on the coaching staff, who said they had “very similar” paths to their respective starting roles.

“They’re very similar in the sense that when we got them, they were very raw, weren’t very refined,” Moore said in an interview over the phone Wednesday night. “It was a lot of work that went into developing them.”

Moore praised assistant coach Luke Murray, who works with the centers, for how he developed Johnson.

“Samson really has benefited a great deal from having to go up against Adama and Donovan every day,” Moore continued. “We have a saying that ‘iron sharpens iron.’ So, Samson’s been sharpening some pretty good iron in practice over the last couple of years.”

Moore also noted that those physical battles helped Johnson prepare for taking on Reed in practice.

“Samson’s a much tougher player than people probably give him credit for because he’s a nice kid and a quiet kid,” Moore said. “But he battles, and he never backs down and he does it every day. The best thing that he does is he consistently comes into practice every day with eyes wide open and a great attitude, and he’s always trying to get better.”

Moore said the best word to describe Johnson is “reliable.”

“He’s much more reliable,” Moore said, comparing to when Johnson was a freshman. “He’s got that ball screen and lob

threats that’s become elite, really.”

His threat on lob passes was prominent last year, with guards Tristen Newton, Cam Spencer and Stephon Castle all considered good lob passers. Expect the lob passes to Johnson to continue this season. Moore said that guard Hassan Diarra throws them well and noted that former Saint Mary’s guard Aidan Mahaney is now learning to throw a lot of lob passes to Johnson.

“I think he’s probably as good as any mobile five in the country at how quick he is getting out of a dribble handoff or a ball screen and rolling for a lob,” Moore said. “He’s such an incredible, like quick, twitch athlete. He’s fun to watch every day in practice.”

The Huskies will begin their search for a third-consecutive national title on Oct. 14, where they take on Rhode Island, Hurley’s former school, at Mohegan Sun Arena in a charity exhibition game.

## Cross Country:

## Huskies’ turnaround has the team focused on Bruce Kirsh Cup

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The UConn women’s cross country team will travel 96 miles north to compete at the Bruce Kirsh Cross Country Cup at Franklin Pierce University on Friday, Oct. 11.

The six-day turnaround is the Huskies’ shortest of the season, with all remaining meets being spaced out by at least eight days each.

Franklin Pierce’s Hopkinton Fairgrounds is a prestigious course known for its mostly grass path. The course also plays host to many important postseason meets, including the D1 Regional Championship, which the Huskies will be competing at on Nov. 15.

The Huskies will be running in the Crimson Women 6k race, which will start at 1 p.m. on Friday. The list of competitors has not been published publicly.

Senior Chloe Thomas will look to continue her tear through the northeast cross country circuit by eyeing the course’s 20:48 6k record set by WPI’s Grace Hadley last year. Thomas has set the course record at every meet she has ran this year en route to being named the National Female Athlete of the Week by the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association this past Monday.

Jenna Zydanowicz and Caroline Towle will look to improve on top-10 finishes from the Paul Short Invitational that helped the Huskies claim second overall and finish with the fastest average time of all 43 teams.

A name carrying lots of momentum this season is sophomore Loghan Hughes, who will look to build off a 21:25.5 performance last Saturday. Hughes was the highest placing Husky at the team’s first meet of the season at Marist. Other Huskies to keep an eye on are Chloe Trudel, Malin Rahm,

Rachel Woodruff and Claire Paci—the lone Husky freshman.

The team has benefited greatly from a youthful infusion of underclassmen pairing well

with stable veteran presences like Thomas, Zydanowicz and Towle to help UConn get off to one of its best starts in recent program history.



Chloe Thomas running cross country on Oct. 5, 2024. Thomas was named the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association national athlete of the week. PHOTO COURTESY OF @UCONNFXC ON INSTAGRAM