



Businesses open in renovated historic Mansfield General Store building

by Patrick Boots

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An over-100-year-old local landmark has reopened and is now home to three small businesses in Mansfield. Located at 534 Storrs Road in Mansfield Center, the Mansfield General Store building was constructed in 1886 and recently completed a major renovation project to preserve the historic location. Storefronts for Lisa's Chocolates 'n Gifts and Line Art Studio now occupy the building in addition to the offices of Kiwami Triathlon.

The Mansfield Downtown Partnership celebrated the building's reopening with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Nov. 13. Members of the town council were present alongside the new owner, Andre Bennatan, and representatives from KBMS Enterprises, the construction firm that worked to renovate the historic location.

"The reopening of the Mansfield Center General Store is a moment of pride for our town...This beautifully restored building isn't just a nod to our past; it's a cornerstone for future growth," said Mansfield town manager Ryan Aylesworth in a press statement.

Lisa's Chocolates 'n Gifts occupies the first floor, featuring a selection of candies and baked goods with antiques and specialty gift products like candles, quilts and toys,



The reopened Mansfield General Store building is now home to several vendors. The Mansfield Downtown Partnership celebrated the opening with a ribbon cutting ceremony on Nov. 13. COURTESY OF @THE MANSFIELD GENERAL STORE ON FACEBOOK

according to the shop's Facebook page.

"There is just so much gratitude from so many people that the General Store building was saved and brought back to life," reads a post by owner Lisa Schweitzer. "I still get teary-eyed every time I think of how lucky, happy and grateful that I am back in here doing what I love," she said.

The business operated for a stint in 2018 but had to close due to the sale of the building and the complete interior overhaul, according to the *Willimantic Chronicle*.

Line Art Studio, a new tenant, is based in the building's ground floor and plans to offer various art classes to the

local adult community. The new business was founded by Jennifer Jeffreys, a local artist who formerly served as the education coordinator for the William Benton Museum of Art, according to the studio's Instagram profile.

"I'm dedicated to growing as an artist alongside my students, which helps create a dynamic and collaborative learning environment," explains Jeffreys' mission statement on Line Art's webpage.

Kiwami Triathlon, a local business specializing in athleticwear and wetsuits, will also be utilizing office space in the restored building. The company has been based in Mansfield since 2008.

The Mansfield Historical Society details that the Mansfield General Store building was constructed in 1886 by Charles Weeks. The building operated as a storefront under various local operators, notably including Alfred Oden, partners Thomas Arthur Barrows and Gertrude Burnham and mom-and-pop owners Willard and Ann Robb. Throughout the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the building also acted as the Mansfield Center post office according to the Historical Society's timeline.

Shafer Properties operated a deli at the building in recent years; the *Daily Campus* first reported in 2017 on the begin-

ning stages of the reconstruction of the historic storefront's porches following a Town of Mansfield assessment that repairs to the façade and entrances were necessary.

According to the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office, the Mansfield General Store building is listed in the State Register of Historic Places as "Week's Store" and anchors the Mansfield Center Historic District, which is included on the National Register of Historic Places.

For more information on historic properties in Mansfield and the surrounding areas, visit the Mansfield Historical Society webpage at mansfieldct-history.org.

Four more years: A look at Donald Trump's nominations to his administration

by Samantha Brody

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Ahead of his second presidential term, which begins on Jan. 20 of next year, President-elect Donald Trump has begun declaring his nominations for key Cabinet and White House staff. Positions include cabinet secretaries, directors of federal agencies, White House staff and ambassadors. A full list of his nominees, as of Nov. 18, has been reported by CBS News.

It is common for United States presidents to completely overhaul the government positions associated with the upper levels of the executive branch. Notably, presidents Barack Obama, Joe Biden and Donald Trump's first term had no overlap within any major cabinet positions, according to their respective White House archives. Trump's proposed staff for his second term is entirely different from his staff during his first term as president.

Trump's proposed staff also does not include a secretary of education — a position currently belonging to Miguel Cardona under the Biden administration, according to the White House website.

One of Trump's campaign promises was to "close the De-

partment of Education in Washington, D.C. and send it back to the States," according to his official platform. Closing an entire department, however, would require congressional approval.

Trump's proposed nominees hail from various corners of the political landscape. The most famous names on his list include Marco Rubio, Matt Gaetz, Robert F. Kennedy Jr. and Pete Hegseth.

Nominations to Trump's administration require Senate approval to be officially sworn in. However, it is possible for Trump to make temporary administration appointments without Senate approval, provided the Senate is in recess. According to CNN, the Senate would need to take a recess of 10 days or more to justify recess appointments — a type of recess that hasn't occurred since 2016.

Rubio, a Republican senator from Florida, is expected to replace the current secretary of state, Antony Blinken. If Rubio is approved by the Senate, he will act as the United States' leader in foreign affairs and diplomacy.

Governor Ron DeSantis of Florida posted on X that Rubio is "expected to resign from the Senate to assume duties as Secretary of State when the Trump administration takes power on

January 20th." The open seat in the Senate will be filled by a candidate selected by DeSantis.

Gaetz has been nominated for the role of attorney general, a position currently held by Merrick Garland. The attorney general represents the United States in legal matters, and the position is often held by former lawyers and judges. Gaetz was voted in as a Republican representative in Florida but resigned from the position when his nomination was announced.

The House Ethics Committee revealed, in a June 18 press release, that Gaetz was being investigated for allegedly having "engaged in sexual misconduct and illicit drug use, accepted improper gifts, dispensed special privileges and favors to individuals with whom he had a personal relationship and sought to obstruct government investigations of his conduct." The committee has yet to make a final decision on these claims against Gaetz, although the allegations may affect how the Senate votes when the time comes to approve or deny his nomination.

Robert F. Kennedy Jr. has been nominated to replace Xavier Becerra as the secretary of health and human services. Kennedy ran against Vice President Kamala Harris and Trump in this year's election as an inde-



COURTESY OF @DONALD J. TRUMP ON FACEBOOK

pendent but dropped out of the race and endorsed Trump.

Kennedy's nomination has sparked controversy among opponents, including his cousin, U.S. ambassador Caroline Kennedy, who has openly criticized his views on vaccines. An article from MSNBC notes that "despite overwhelming scientific evidence that supports the safety and efficacy of vaccines, Kennedy has repeatedly promoted debunked theories inaccurately linking vaccines to autism and other health issues."

According to CBS News, "it will be Kennedy's decision alone to decide who sits on the [Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices for the Center for Disease Control]. Kennedy's pick to head the CDC would also have the authority to override the panel's votes, as was done in 2021 to roll out some COVID-19 booster shots."

Hegseth, who has been nominated to take the role of secretary of defense, has also faced controversy. The former Army National Guard officer and Fox

News commentator was previously accused of sexual assault in 2017, according to the *Washington Post*. The *Post* also noted that Hegseth paid the woman who accused him "as part of a nondisclosure agreement, though he maintained that their encounter was consensual."

In addition to his nominations to his administration, Trump has also proposed a Department of Government Efficiency. According to NPR, this department will be led by Elon Musk and Vivek Ramaswamy, who "will focus on regulating government spending."

NPR noted that "it is not yet clear whether this entity will exist within the federal government or outside," although "an official government agency cannot be created without an act of Congress."

All nominations must be approved by the Senate in order to officially assume their proposed positions. Additionally, nominations are not permanent, and Trump is free to change nominations as he wishes.

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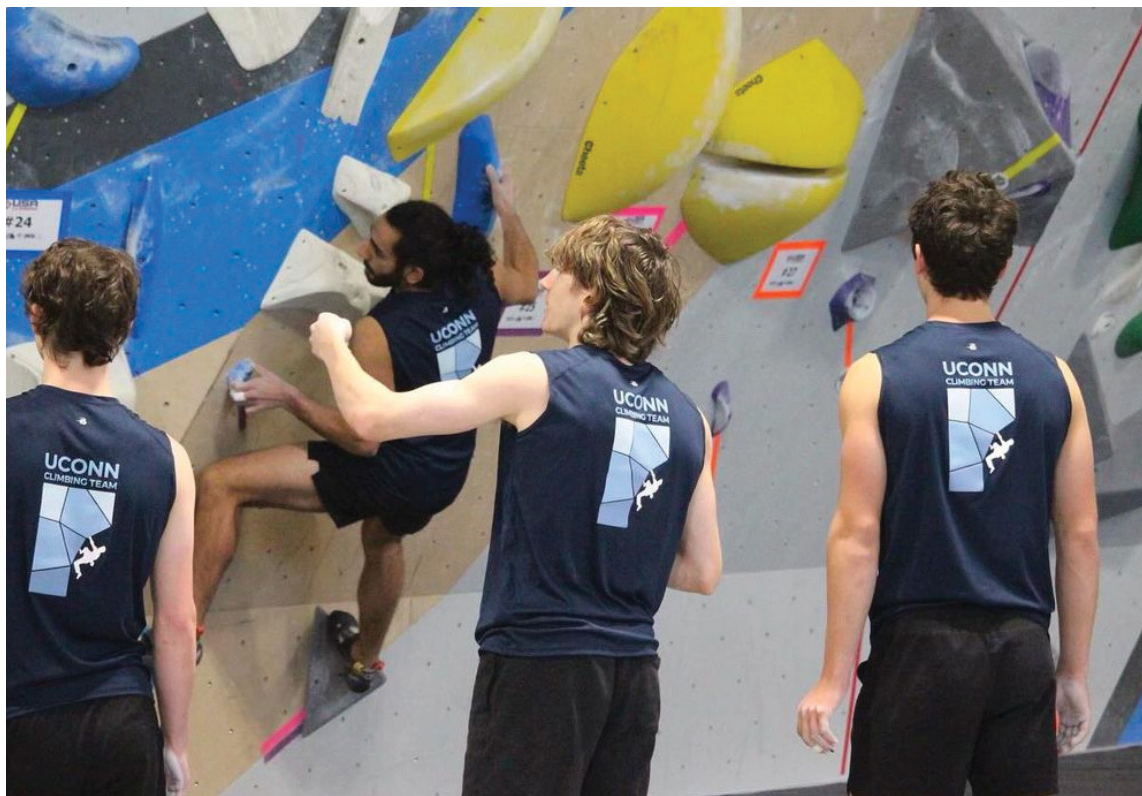
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News

UConn Climbing Team struggles due to lack of funding and not being recognized as a Club Sport



COURTESY OF @UCONNCLIMBINGTEAM ON INSTAGRAM

by **Pierce Colfer**
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The University of Connecticut Climbing Team is a Tier-II organization that competes in competitive climbing tournaments through USA Climbing, a national rock-climbing organization that hosts collegiate-level events. Last year, the team sent 10 out of 24 members to the Collegiate National Championships, the best the team has ever done. However, the team struggles from a lack of adequate funding, which stems from the team not being recognized as a Club Sport by UConn's Recreation Center according to the team's president.

The Recreation Center sponsors teams that are recognized as Club Sports at UConn, and provides those teams with "advisement, facilities, and resources to compete at the highest level against other colleges and universities," according to the Recreation Center's website. According to the team listing, the center currently sponsors 36 teams, but the climbing team isn't one of them. Because of this, the team relies exclusively on the \$15,000 in funding that Tier-II organizations receive from the Undergraduate Student Government.

The president and a member of the climbing team, who both asked to remain anonymous, spoke about the issues that the lack of funding has caused their team.

The team's president talked about what the \$15,000 of USG funding goes toward, saying it isn't enough to cover all the team's expenses.

"Climbing as a sport is kind of

inherently expensive. The membership we pay for at the gym we train at is \$80 per month per person, so ... the majority of our money goes to memberships just to allow us to train," the president said. "So, we've actually had to cut back on the amount of competitions we've attended because of this. [Two years ago] we would attend three competitions per semester. This year... we only have enough money to fund one bouldering competition in the fall, one ropes competition in the spring, and the national qualifiers."

According to the president, the Climbing Team has reached out to the Recreation Center multiple times in the past few years to try to receive Club Sport status, but were told that the center doesn't have the funding or space to accommodate another Club Sport.

"I do understand why the Rec is saying no ... I know it's not personal at all from them, I fully believe UConn has an increasingly lower and lower budget for Club Sports and it's probably hard for them to choose if they're to accept a new one on ... I understand why it would be difficult, but I also think, with climbing being such an emerging sport, they need to consider newer sports, otherwise overtime it's just going to become stagnant," the president said.

Jay Frain, the interim executive director of the Rec Center, said that this was "the first [he is] hearing of any challenges for the Climbing Team," and talked about the support that Club Sports receives.

"In general, the 35 teams we support receive an average of \$3,500 in allocations annually which is a small percentage of most teams overall operating

budgets (team dues, fundraising, etc., making up the bulk) and significantly smaller than the \$15,000 available per team from USG as a Registered Student Organization," Frain said.

Frain also said that while the Rec Center accepts applications for additional teams, there is a limited number of teams they can support.

"We do accept applications for teams via the UConn Club Sports website — Team Resources section, but we maintain the cap at 35 as resources are limited and we do not want to negatively impact the experience of the current teams," Frain said. "Should availability open up, we would be open to evaluating a new team for admission."

According to the president, members of the team must pay out of pocket to attend most events.

"We have other optional competitions that we, as a team, really want everyone to go to, but we can't force the people to go to it because they're not funded by the team... then on top of that there's the [National Championships]. If anyone makes nationals, there's no money left over to go to that," the president said.

The club currently practices three times a week. However, because they're not a Club Sport they don't have access to on-campus facilities and must carpool to a climbing gym in Glastonbury, according to the president.

The climbing team member said the price of carpooling to practice and competitions, on top of competition fees, is beginning to add up.

"We don't have the money to reimburse our members on gas. I'm one of the carpool drivers, I fill my gas up once a week, maybe sometimes even twice a week if we're going to events far away," the member said. "The money is adding up and I'm having to pay it out of pocket."

The president added onto this, saying, "Two years ago we used to do gas reimbursement because we had a little bit more money, but now it's just essentially impossible. Also, you have to take into account too that the membership prices have increased over the years, just with inflation and other factors. There's a USA Climbing membership ... which is the entry fee to have access to the collegiate circuit. We used to pay [for the membership fee], but now we have people pay out of pocket."

The president said that being recognized as a club sport would help the team grow past where it is currently.

"Right now, from a team perspective ... we're at a stopping point," the president said. "We

would keep doing this year-end, year-out until we have the ability to grow and with that Club Sport title we could have the funding. We could have the ability to get a coach, new facilities, transportation, and I think a good point is the comparison to other climbing teams around us. Why do 75 percent of teams we compete against have a coach and have their own transportation methods like a bus or a van? UConn is one of the stronger of those teams, if not the strongest of those teams in the northeast."

According to the president, having access to on-campus facilities to practice would greatly benefit the team, allowing them to cut costs on membership fees and lower the necessity of carpooling. The president also said there is an out-of-use climbing wall in the Hugh S. Greer Field House which they would greatly benefit from using, saying "having access to facilities on campus seems like a no-brainer."

The hiring of a coach is another benefit that the team would receive by being recognized as a Club Sport, according to the president.

"It completely changes the dynamic of our club if we had a coach. [Currently, the executive board] isn't just running the club, but leading the training, and that's so much work for us. Having a role that is a coach would completely elevate us," the president added. "You look at all of the strong climbing teams in the northeast and nationwide they have a full-on dedicated coach and UConn should for sure be one of those names."

The president stated that "there's a lot of things that we just can't do because of the money, that's what it comes down to."



UConn's student Recreation Center stands in the center of campus across from the bookstore and Gampel Pavillion. The center offers a variety of athletic facilities.

PHOTO BY MADISON HENDRICKS/THE DAILY CAMPUS

The Daily Campus

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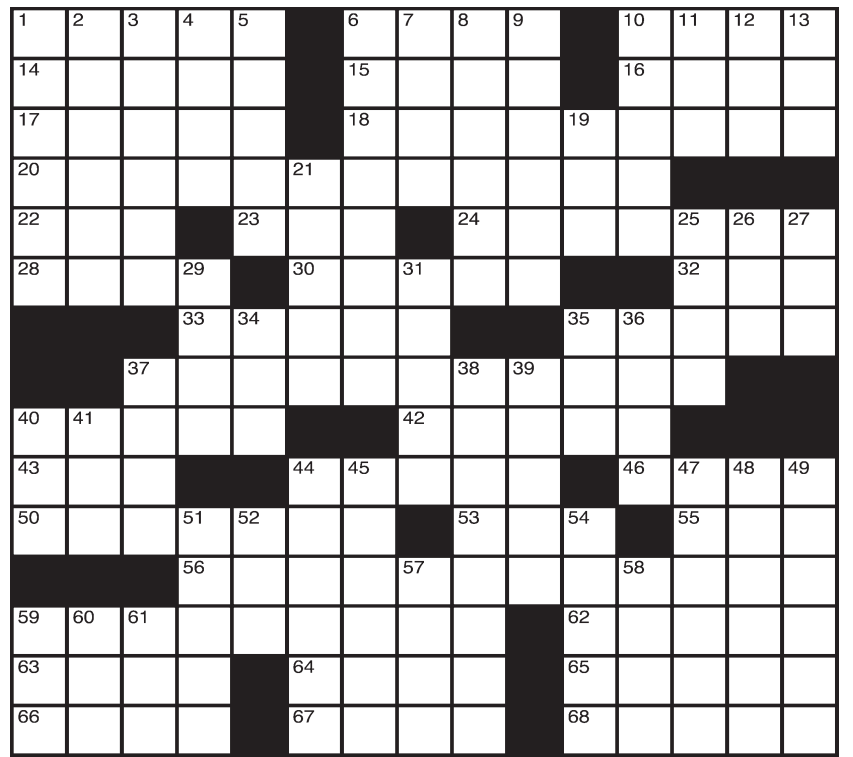
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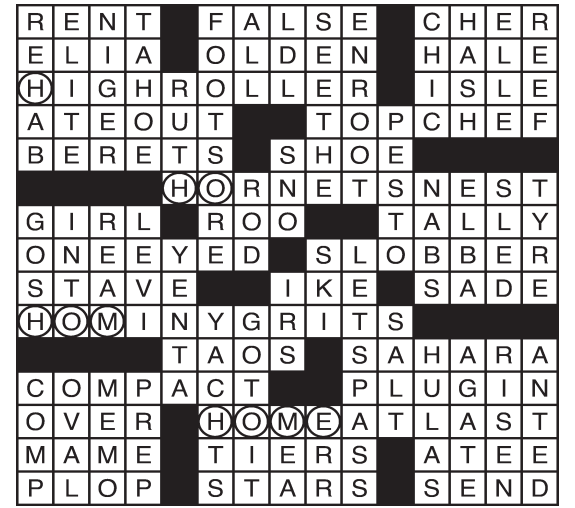


By David Poole

11/20/24

- ACROSS**
- 1 Parenthesis, in an emoticon
 - 6 Automaker — Romeo
 - 10 London elevator
 - 14 Word with roll or code
 - 15 Bank claim
 - 16 Actress Taylor-Joy
 - 17 Sundance film, e.g.
 - 18 Tailgating seat
 - 20 Brunch choice
 - 22 Freight weight
 - 23 Pointer
 - 24 Use an X-ray on
 - 28 Meyers of late-night TV
 - 30 Umami, for one
 - 32 Clod
 - 33 Soul singer Baker
 - 35 Porcine proboscis
 - 37 Part of a formal place setting
 - 40 Annual NBA event
 - 42 Small change
 - 43 Sully
 - 44 Land parcel
 - 46 Earth Day sci.
 - 50 "America's Got Talent" judge Sofia
 - 53 RN workplaces
 - 55 British pop singer Rita
 - 56 Medium for an artist whose work is in-creasing?
 - 59 Easy-to-store piece of furniture
 - 62 Poker player's concession, and what 18-, 20-, 37-, 56-, and 59-Across might say?
 - 63 Potatoes, in Indian cuisine
 - 64 Spanish cat
 - 65 ___ and effect
 - 66 Like new
 - 67 Spengler of the Ghostbusters
 - 68 ATM keypad key
- DOWN**
- 1 Work periods
 - 2 Curtis and Lemmon's "Some Like It Hot" co-star
 - 3 Use a Tab key
 - 4 Pork portion
 - 5 Put up
 - 6 Conventional doctor, to an alternative medicine practitioner
 - 7 Actor Neeson
 - 8 Smallest in number
 - 9 Founder of the American Shakers
 - 10 "Chicago Hope" Emmy winner Christine
 - 11 Food Network host Garten
 - 12 BTW relative
 - 13 La Brea ___ Pits
 - 19 So-so grade
 - 21 Bandleader's cry
 - 25 Halfway to midnight
 - 26 Sigma follower
 - 27 Many a time, in verse
 - 29 ___ Dome: Yosemite attraction
 - 31 Present day celebrity?
 - 34 "___ on my watch!"
 - 35 Reggae precursor
 - 36 Reebok rival
 - 37 NFL quarterback Derek
 - 49 Food storage spot
 - 51 Beckett's "Waiting for ___"
 - 52 Works in a gallery
 - 54 Liven (up)
 - 57 Silicon Valley city Palo ___
 - 58 Anonymous admirer's sign-off
 - 59 Zoom meeting need, for short
 - 60 Lord of the rings?
 - 61 Actor Perlman

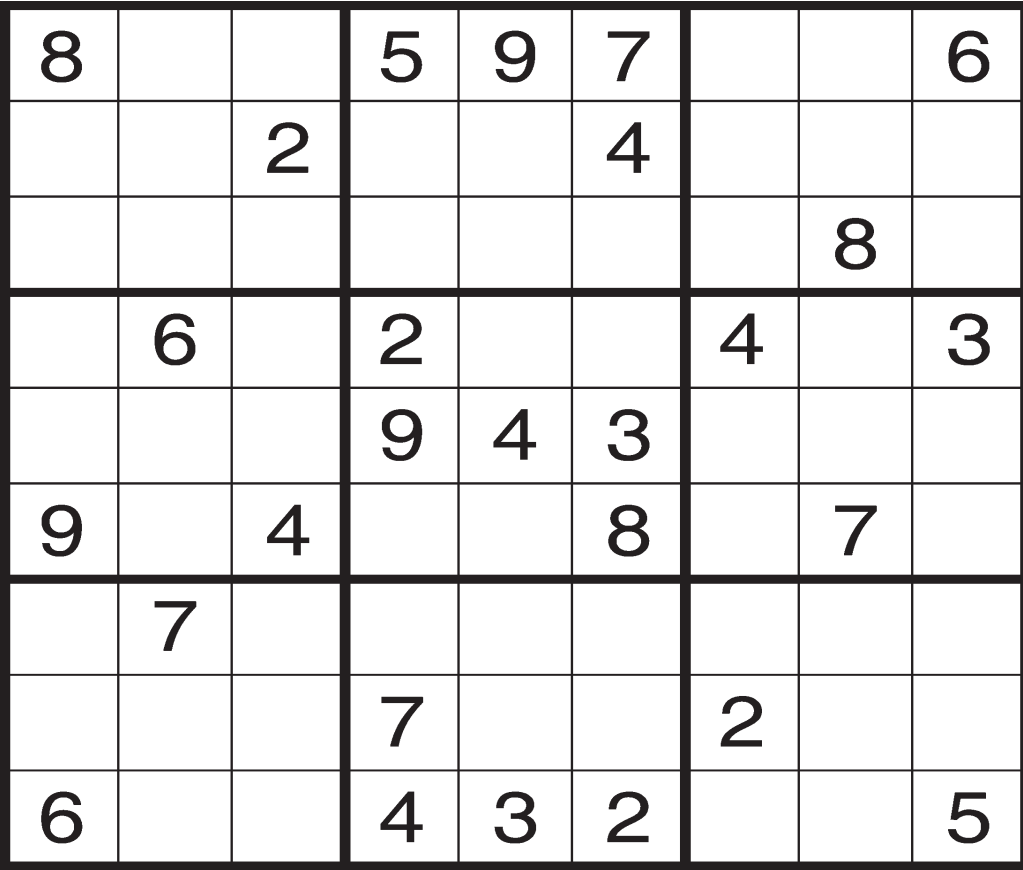
Tuesday's Puzzle Solved



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11/20/24

Level 1 2 3 4



Solution to Tuesday's puzzle

11/20/24

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

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit sudoku.org.uk.

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LIFE SECTION ROUNDTABLE:

WHAT ARE THE BEST AND WORST THANKSGIVING SIDES? 2024 EDITION

While Thanksgiving's most important aspect is to spend time with those you care for, people use the opportunity to flex their cooking skills and whip up some exquisite dishes. Turkey is often the main attraction, though side dishes are not to be under-appreciated. Last year, the Life section went to battle over their favorite sides and this year is no different. Complementing the boring meat is usually stuffing, rolls, various casseroles and potato-based sides. We won't explore whether cranberry sauce is a condiment or a full-blown side, but here are thoughts from the Life section about good and bad side dishes for 2024!

by James Fitzpatrick

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I'll give a brief synopsis of my history with Thanksgiving food. Instances of sickness have spoiled my love for stuffing and my indifference for sweet potatoes transformed into hatred. I love rolls with butter and don't enjoy the dry turkey that is often served at the table, though I'm more optimistic about it after last year's slow-roasted turkey. Regardless, ham is my preferred meat of choice and goes perfectly with the rolls.

I do not like corn in mashed potatoes. The clashing of textures is too much with the squishy corn and mushy mashed potatoes. I also don't enjoy the over-cooked whole potatoes, sweet or regular, even if they're loaded. Cranberry sauce is too tart for my liking and doesn't blend with any of the savory flavors of the main side dishes. I am under the presumption you need to save stomach storage for dessert, though.

As other members of the Life section will validate in tomorrow's roundtable, pumpkin pie sucks, and I love blackberry and boysenberry pie even more now. Apple pie is whatever, and ice cream is always top tier when paired with some coffee.

by Noa Climor

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This is controversial, as food rankings often are, but I have a reason for everything. I only discovered Thanksgiving nine years ago when I moved to the United States, so I'm new to the business! But I do have some thoughts on the best and worst sides you can bring to the table.

The best are mashed potatoes ... if done right. Dry mashed potatoes are evil and shouldn't exist. One could argue that cranberry sauce is unnecessary, but I think it's zesty and fun (if homemade). The canned version is, to me, not great. Stuffing is elite when made well, since it can soak up all the gravy, while mac and cheese is awesome no matter where you put it.

But the enemy? The enemy is the green bean casserole. I am very much a texture person, and the texture of green bean casserole makes me sad. Maybe I have only had bad ones, and I would be open to trying it again, but not anytime soon.

by Ben Lassy

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Thanksgiving may just be the most food-oriented holiday that my family celebrates each year. Seemingly every member of the family has a certain dish that they either bring or expect to be brought to the table. So, the table is usually a patchwork of flavors, and people often sit closely to their certain casserole or style of turkey (my family is split on whether grilled or baked is better). Where am I among this cacophony? I am sitting awfully close to one side item, and as far away from another as possible. Last year I said corn was the best, but that is no longer.

The worst: rolls. Although a safe carb option for most dinner tables, I think rolls are best served when you need a little extra to fill you up or have a soup that needs a dunker. But my mind has been made up on rolls at Thanksgiving. If you have a table full of potatoes, carb-forward casseroles and stuffing, those rolls are simply an unneeded waste of space on the plate.

The best: stuffing. In my family, the traditional and cross-generational style stuffing is at the epicenter of the table. It's a delightfully chunky, aromatic and heart-warming dish that brings out the best flavors of the turkey and goes with every other side dish. Truly the stuffing is glue that holds the whole dinner together and it often becomes a struggle to stop eating it in my family. When you're stuffed after Thanksgiving, it's usually thanks to the literal stuffing.

by Maleena Muzio

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Turkey — the staple of Thanksgiving. It's a symbol of the holiday itself. But do you know anyone who gets excited about eating the bland bird? I do not. We all know that Thanksgiving is all about the sides ... and giving thanks of course!

The first category is vegetables. From green beans to carrots to squash, vegetables are prominent on Thanksgiving dinner tables. In my opinion, ranking at number one is: carrots. Carrots (boiled, specifically) are warm, soft and do not leave a bitter taste in your mouth. On the other end of the scale are Brussels sprouts. They do not go well with gravy, and they taste just a little too earthy to be on the plate.

Next up are mashed potatoes. Need I say more? Mashed potatoes are easily the best side of Thanksgiving. Mashed potatoes come in a variety of forms ranging from classic creamy mashed potatoes, sweet potatoes or garlic and cheesy ones, they somehow manage to make turkey taste amazing. A bite of mashed potatoes with gravy followed by turkey is the perfect combo. Stuffing, which I would consider to be mashed potatoes' biggest opponent, cannot compare.

An honorable mention for another best side is cranberry sauce — from the can — not homemade! Yes, for once the strangely packaged, slightly off-putting canned version of a food is better than the option made from scratch.

Whether or not you agree with this list, have an amazing holiday and make sure to eat these sides until you are stuffed!

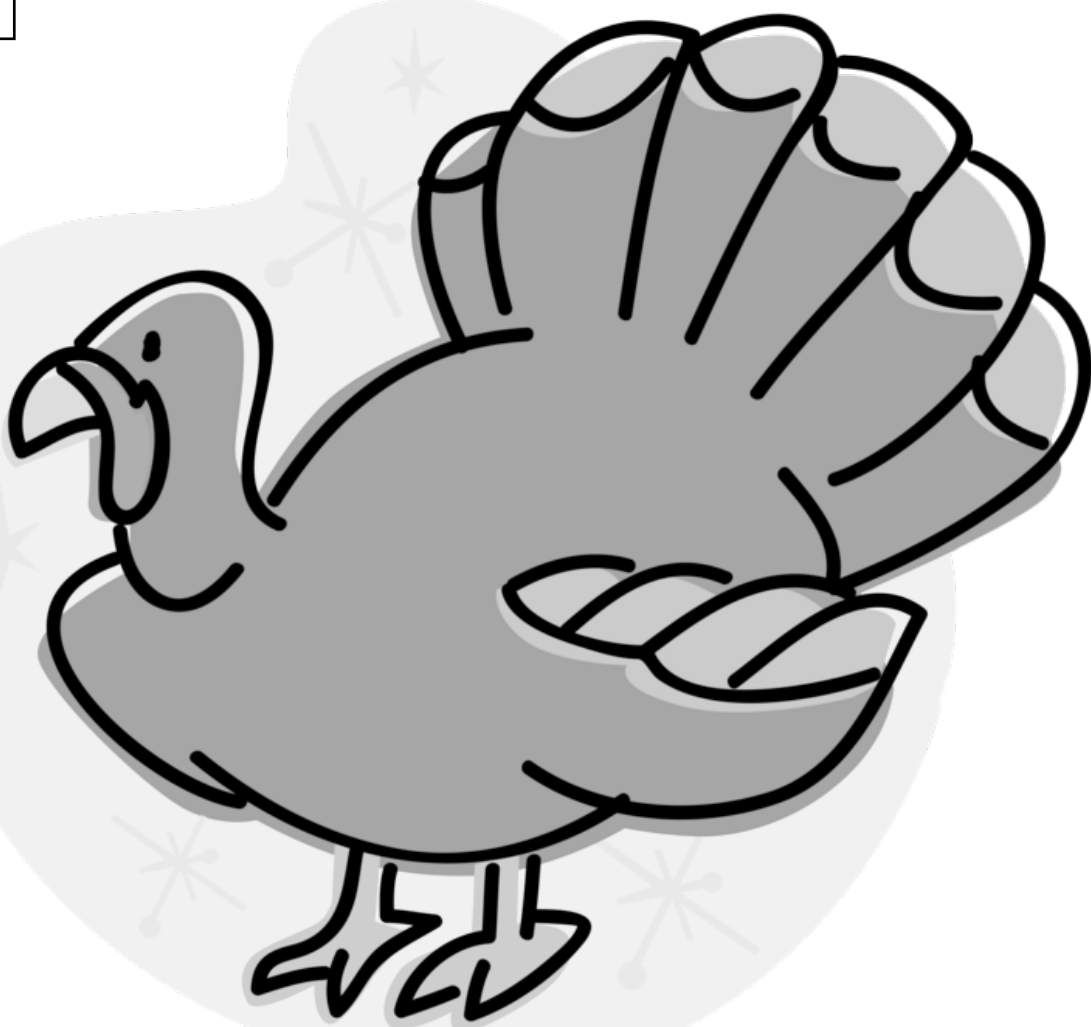
by Thatcher Slocum

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It was tough deciding on the top and bottom side dishes. There are so many great ones, yet also so many that are grossly overrated. Every turkey I've eaten has been cooked dry to high heavens, but cranberry sauce never fails to moisten the meat and make it tastier. Collard greens tend to be too bitter, cornbread dry and squash casserole — no thank you. My complaints out of the way, which side is the best, and which is the worst?

Worst: stuffing. This is a controversial choice. I'll admit that I do enjoy stuffing when cooked right, but I find that it's far too easy to cook into a goopy mess. A poorly cooked, soggy stuffing leaves me feeling gross, bloated and most importantly, very, very sad.

Best: macaroni and cheese. I hadn't considered this as a traditional Thanksgiving side until just a few years ago, when it finally started making appearances at my family's annual Thanksgiving gatherings. Cheese works as a perfect complement to any palate, whether salty, sweet, sour, or spicy. There's a reason cheese is a culinary staple in the world's gastronomic capitals, such as France and Italy. With pasta serving as a perfect distributor of cheesiness, mac and cheese is difficult to do wrong, and always makes Thanksgiving dinner better.



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HOW TO COPE WITH EARLY SUNSETS

by **Maleena Muzio**
SHE/HER/HERS
STAFF WRITER
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Early sunsets got you down? November can be a tough time for everyone, especially students. As the semester drags through its final weeks, the sun begins to set earlier and earlier each day. The class that you once walked out of in the sunlight now greets you with darkness. Luckily, there are a couple of things that we can all incorporate into our lives to help with the sudden change.

The largest and probably most important factor to keep in mind during the change is prioritizing your physical and mental health. Maintaining a proper sleep schedule is essential during this time. As soon as the sun goes down I know many of us are ready to curl up and go to sleep, but this is just not realistic. However, to help with the early evening burn out, getting a decent amount of sleep the night before will prove to be immensely helpful. Waking up earlier than usual is also recommended during this time to make the most of the hours of daylight.

Rather than waking up in the late morning, when the sun has already been shining for hours, try getting yourself on a new schedule. Waking up earlier followed by

going to bed earlier (and therefore experiencing less hours of darkness) is said by professionals to help with feelings of tiredness and sadness during the colder months.

Now, other than sharing advice you have probably heard a million times before, there are other, more enjoyable methods of coping with early sunsets than simply sleeping. One key strategy is to get out of your dorm more often. Go to the library to study with friends rather than staying locked up in your room. Even a mere meal with the people you are close with can make the dark sky feel a little brighter.

On the topic of getting outside, take advantage of the time the sun is up and go outdoors! Whether walking to class, or sitting on a bench with some friends, being exposed to sunlight is very important for the human body. Doctors recommend at least 10-15 minutes a day of sun exposure. While you may get this simply by walking to class, it definitely helps to experience a little more. With such a beautiful campus around us, it is hard to not want to be outside.

The sun setting also does not need to be a topic of dread. Make the sunset something to look forward to, rather than negatively awaiting. Our campus is home to one of the best sunset-watching

spots I have been to — Horsebarn Hill. Grab a couple of friends and hike the hill to watch the sunset together or even go alone! The hill is a very peaceful spot and making an activity out of watching the early sunset gives it meaning and excitement.

Winter sunsets are unique and deserve to be celebrated like those in summer are. The plentiful hours when light is not present are not ideal but try not to dwell on this. Admire the beauty of the pale colors and take a couple minutes each day to take a break from whatever you are doing and look out the closest window (or go outside) to observe the early sunset.

For the time spent indoors, there is something that can also aid the darkness — lighting. Not just any lighting, but warm tone lighting. Warmer lights allow a space to feel homier. If you are not on campus, light those candles or that fire, but if you are, turn on your salt lamp or string lights! Creating an environment for yourself that does not center around sterile fluorescent lighting can make the sun going down not such a bad thing. I even look forward to getting to turn on all of my atmospheric lighting.

On the topic of lighting, light therapy is also an option. Those with seasonal affective disorder (SAD) have often been recom-

mended by doctors to purchase a lamp specifically made to mock the sun and help treat the condition. This form of therapy is also helpful for other mental health issues. If you think this could be beneficial for you, please reach out to a health professional before buying one!

The final recommendation I can make to cope with early sunsets is

taking the time to do the things you enjoy. Taking up new hobbies or practicing old ones or simply putting on your favorite movie can make the biggest difference. Keep up with all the things you would normally be doing and remember that the seasons are constantly changing. That being said, stay bright and remember to take care of yourselves!



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

The Music Never Stops: SEB BERNAL



LOGO BY SAMANTHA HASS, ARTIST EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

by **Dan Stark**
HE/HIM/HIS
STAFF WRITER
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In the Connecticut music scene, showgoers will often see familiar faces taking the stage with different groups. Whether it's being a fulltime member of multiple bands or helping a band out by filling in, it's not uncommon to see someone take the stage with more than one band. Seb Bernal is one of those many musicians who has pulled double-duty.

Bernal is a singer-songwriter and guitarist who fronts the garage punk group Death Valley Sun Troopers. He has a long history in the Connecticut music scene, bringing his musical talents to anyone who needs them while also making a name for himself as the Sun Troopers' lead singer.

Bernal first picked up a guitar when he was 13 years old, but the first instrument he learned was bass. It was this instrument where he would get his start playing shows in Connecticut when he joined Justin Esmer — a Hamden-based singer-songwriter who has made regular appearances in Storrs — as his bass player when he was 15. Bernal said that Esmer has been “a total influence on me since we started” and someone who has greatly inspired him.

“He’s such a talented singer, musician and writer,” he said. “I felt so inspired to keep up with him and I really feel like the bulk of my musical development was there.”

He also was the bass player in Brooke Dougan’s backing band, who he had played with

in Esmer’s backing band. He considered himself a bassist-for-hire during this time as he “learned about playing and what it means to be a local Connecticut musician.”

But Bernal would prove to just be a background gun-for-hire, as he soon started writing songs of his own. He started playing with his childhood friend and drummer Dan Lindberg in jam sessions that would evolve into

the start of Death Valley Sun Troopers. Bernal noted that as the two played more, his songwriting efforts became more collaborative, feeding off of Lindberg’s input.

“When I started, it was just me writing songs, piecing together riffs and trying to figure out how to play the guitar,” he said. “Eventually I found out that [Lindberg] was also a drummer. And ever since then, it’s gotten more

and more collaborative.”

Bernal explained that the two will get together to jam and shoot ideas off each other, something he noted is “really important for how the song ends up turning out.” The two have written together so much that Bernal said, “I don’t really write songs alone anymore.”

By 2021, Bernal and Lindberg started writing the songs that would be released on the group’s debut album “BREAKFAST” in May 2023. Bernal said that putting together the album was “a really weird process” since it was the first time the two had recorded anything and Bernal was still trying to find his musical voice.

“I was still figuring out my style on the guitar, how I wanted to sound singing and my lyrics or however the songs were going to be structured,” he said. “It took a really, really long time to get everything together.”

When the album came out, Bernal said that he was “immediately pessimistic,” as he was worried people would think that the release was “so unfinished, so unraw or so unpolished.” But the reception ended up being the opposite.

“I felt very worried about the reception and that I hadn’t spent enough time on it or I hadn’t worked on it hard enough,” he said. “But when I saw people’s reactions, it was overwhelmingly positive. And I felt more and more accomplished as time went on. I think I’ve gotten to a point where I’m at peace with how the songs turned out and I’m happy with that being our debut album.”

Since then, Bernal and

Lindberg have taken their duo across Connecticut, playing at some of the most prominent DIY venues across the state and making friends with many bands in the scene along the way.

“I feel like the Connecticut music scene is passionate about the music and the people in it are so kind and supportive,” he said. “Every band we’ve ever played with we have a funny friendship story with.”

To accompany the duo during their shows, the group features a rotating “army of musicians” from various Connecticut bands who hop in and fill out the sound. Bernal said he views the group like a collective now, with different people jumping in and out and giving the songs their own interpretations.

“I’ve always wanted Death Valley Sun Troopers to become kind of like a collective where everyone comes and helps out,” he said. “It’s still me and Dan at the core, but people’s inputs matter to me and I think it’s really cool to see that live.”

Bernal recently performed in Storrs for the first time on Saturday, Nov. 16 at The Dog Pound, a venue that he regularly attends shows at and that he said he had been wanting to perform at. The show lived up to his expectations, with the energetic crowd moshing and dancing along with the band.

“It was way better than I ever could have imagined,” he said. “Pretty much all my UConn friends were there, the mosh pit was crazy, the basement was packed. There was so much joy and that’s great when you look out into the crowd and you see everyone having a great time.”



Seb Bernal performing with the Death Valley Sun Troopers at The Shop in Hamden, Conn. Bernal is an impressive vocalist and instrumentalist.

IMAGE COURTESY OF JOHANNA JACKSON



Life

@dailycampuslife

EAR 2 DA SKY: CLAIRO CHARMS WITH HER NEWFOUND CONFIDENCE

by **Hayden Cromer**
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Welcome to Ear 2 Da Sky! Each week, I will be going over topics within music culture and reviewing albums and EPs across genres, eras and artists that are submitted by readers and listeners of my radio show every Monday at 11 p.m. on WHUS 91.7 FM! For this week's submission, I decided to go ahead and give Clairo's "Charm" a listen.

"Charm" was Clairo's most recent release, coming out in the summer of 2024. This was her third studio album, following her 2021 release: "Sling." The project clocks in at just over 38 minutes, spanning across a humble 11 songs. One of the biggest audible growths in this project compared to others is the fact that it was all recorded live on an analog tape recorder, creating this 1970s soft rock and jazzy feel that is integral to the sound of this album.

"Nomad" is the first track on the album, opening with a bluesy-sounding slide guitar and an upright bass, backed by extra electrical feedback picked up on the live recording. You might assume that the quiet feedback and slight scratchiness in the instrumental recording would diminish the sound quality of the album, but it does the exact opposite. The usage of analog rather than the industry standard of digital recording really adds to the intimacy of the album.

I know I've mentioned it a couple of times already but, personally, I really love the sound that's created through the recording style, although it isn't new technology at all. It's very refreshing, sonically. One thing that is supplemented by the recording style in my opinion is definitely the drums. From top to bottom, there is just absolutely hypnotizing and "charming" (sorry) percussion all throughout this album. I think the best example of this is in song six: "Terrapin."

An incredibly laid-back and rightfully freeing track, the drums and piano gracefully intertwine on "Terra-

pin" as she sings about the idea of living as a free spirit, able to go wherever she wants and doing what she wants. Going back through interviews and listening to the album over and over, you can see her confidence growing from who she was years ago recording music in her bedroom, to who she is now. You can hear it in her lyrics specifically as she says in the chorus, "It's a simple thing we're all afraid and shy away / Now I find / I guess I don't shy / I guess I don't shy." As she breaks away from the shackles of anxiety and shyness, she shows off a new, glaring confidence.

In the following track, "Juna," a fan-favorite off the project, we get another example of this wonderful percussion. She explores the theme of infatuation, as the song truly encapsulates the excitedness and the beautiful thoughtlessness of being deeply in love with someone, as she simply states, "I don't even try / I don't have to think / With you, there's no pretending."

Clairo is one of those interesting cases in music as she's been in the spotlight since she was a teenager, gaining most of her notoriety from her single, "Pretty Girl," released in the summer of 2017. The biggest thing that comes with being in the spotlight for so long and starting off so young is the looming idea of comparison, whether it's a comparison of other artists or your own works. With this most recent album, I think she fights off the fear that is comparison as this newfound confidence shines through, absolutely knocking it out of the park with "Charm."

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

**RATING:
5/5**

LOGO BY SAMANTHA HASS, ARTIST EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS



HOW TO HOST A FRIENDSGIVING

by **Michelle Pawlos** | SHE/HER/HERS | CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT | michelle.pawlos@uconn.edu

With the last weeks of the semester coming up, it's the perfect time to gather with your friends one more time before separating ways to go home for the holidays. From creating the ideal menu for planning activities, this guide will help you throw the perfect Friendsgiving.

Picking a day and time

As college students, we are all swamped, especially around this time. Whether your Friendsgiving plans are with your friends back home or friends here, you have to figure out what time works for all of you to have a stress-free Thanksgiving. For example, nobody wants to rush straight from their lab to make it to the party. Friendsgiving should be a time to reset and spend time with important people in your life.

Choosing a setting

If your Friendsgiving is with your college friends, this part will be necessary. If you invite a few friends for your Friendsgiving, having it in your dorm is a safe option. But even inviting five friends may make the place a bit crowded, especially when trying to find space for all the food and everyone to eat. Some residence halls have rooms that are usually empty, so that is always an option. Nonetheless, a good setting is essential, and you'll want to figure that out before further planning.

Send out fun invitations

A perfect way to get everyone hyped for Friendsgiving is by creating invitations. You can easily use templates from Canva and other platforms to surprise your friends with an invitation they weren't expecting. Surely, it would at least put a smile on their face and show your commitment to planning a fun event.

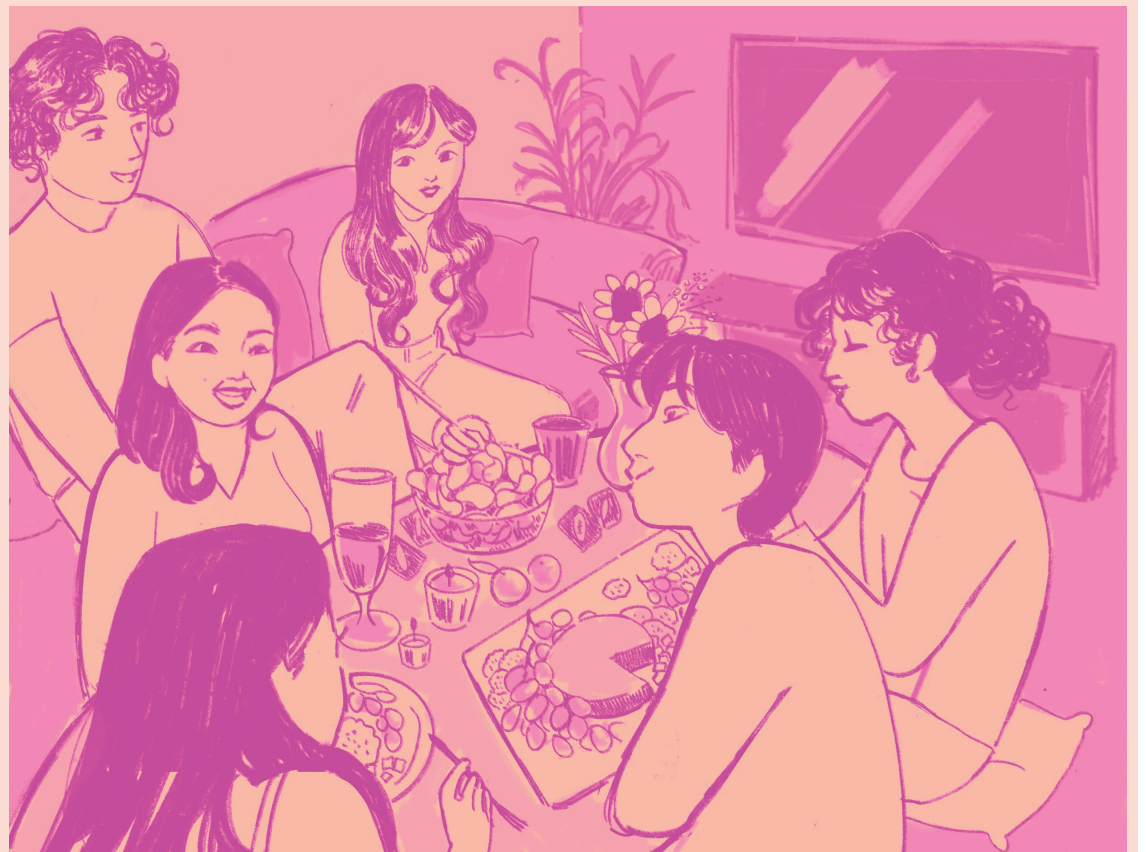


ILLUSTRATION BY ALEXA PAPPAS, CONTRIBUTING ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Coming up with a theme

What fun is the prep portion of a party without a theme? Perhaps you may follow a cultural theme where each person brings food from their culture to share. Or, if you don't know how to cook, a fast-food theme could work, where one person gets burgers and another brings fries. A theme could also have nothing to do with food at all. If you're a Christmas lover, you could defy the whole Thanksgiving idea and make it a Christmas-themed Friendsgiving by watching a Christmas movie.

Food planning

What is Friendsgiving without food? After figuring out who can attend your Friendsgiving, it's best to discuss who will bring what. You don't want people to get the same thing and want to ensure that there are various options. For example, you don't want everyone to bring a dessert or no one bringing something to drink. Also, make sure that someone will supply plates and utensils, because a Friendsgiving without them can be a struggle.

Create a music playlist

Music can help set the perfect mood. Play it quietly in the background while everyone is eating or while you are all participating in any activities. The best option is to create a Spotify playlist and invite all your guests to it so that they can contribute and add their personal favorites. Or, if someone doesn't have Spotify or another music platform, send out a Google form asking everyone what songs they'd love to have put on the playlist.

Planning your activities

The eating portion of Friendsgiving can only last so long, so it's time to plan your Friendsgiving activities. Similar to creating a playlist, you may want to ask your guests what activities they'd like to take place. If someone happens to own a board game, they may like to bring that for you all to play. Card games such as Uno are always classic, or even watching a movie could be an activity. Either way, you'll want to plan enough to keep the party going and ensure everyone has a good time.

Overall, hosting a Friendsgiving is a great way to show appreciation for your friends. With finals week coming up and all of us feeling a bit stressed, it's a great opportunity to enjoy yourself by spending time with those going through it as well. Although the act of planning and hosting a Friendsgiving can lead to more stress, the outcome makes it worth it.



Opinion

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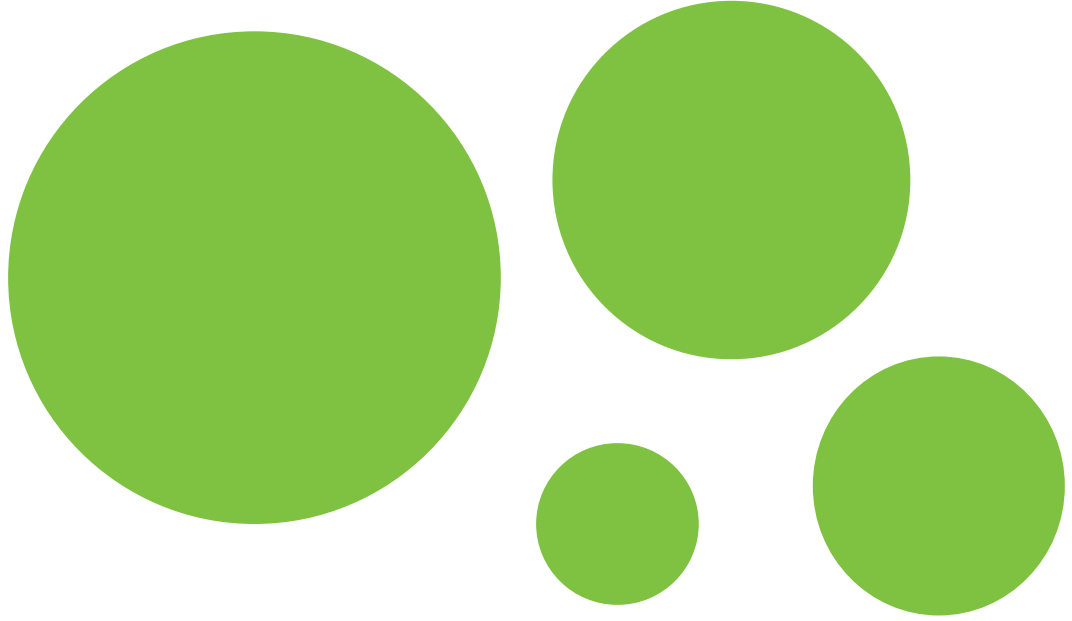
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BETTING HAS BECOME AN ABUSED LUXURY

by Amber Greene

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When people bet money on things like dares, it is usually just for fun. Usually. But for a lot of people, it is a thrill to let fate decide the most obscure things when they have money on the line. This thrill is a luxury. Very quickly, betting has become a pastime exclusive for privileged people who can afford to wager on the destiny of others.

Before 2018, sports gambling was illegal in almost every US state, but now fantasy football season has become just as anticipated as football season itself. A fifth of adults 18 and older play fantasy sports with a near 30 million people playing fantasy football. Fantasy football participants make up 79 percent of people who partake in fantasy sports in general. It is a huge deal, and everyone involved proves how dedicated people are to their "teams". Even in sports betting, those who take their parlays too seriously start watching the same sports they once enjoyed, uncomfortably on the edges of their seats because of how much money they spend on a single game.

At the end of each season the lowest performing member in each fantasy league is often given a punishment. These punishments can go as far as spending 24 hours in an IHOP and eating a pancake every hour, or commonly getting a bad haircut or tattoo. With these punishments, fantasy betting may seem mostly harmless, but legalizing sports gambling has opened an alarming can of worms in the betting world.

Being able to bet means putting faith in something you have little to no control over. In these terms, putting a bet down is having hope in something that seems impossible, and the money to spend on this impossible thing. The people making these bets are in a position to spend outrageous amounts of money. This suggests that they are already in a position of control and continue to bet with the idea that they would have more power. This power comes from accurately predicting the future which continues to boost confidence and keep them in control as they become more power hungry.

Popular betting site Kalshi has bets open for just about anything, most notably, bets on who was going to win the presidential race this election season. Outside of Times Square there was a live feed of all of the bets that were placed, some being as high as ten thousand dollars. While some

may say they have an influence on the outcome, spending thousands on something you get one vote on is a big risk. Nonetheless, people who bet on things like the election are proving they are willing to waste money.

Kalshi is also home to even more arbitrary bets, such as ranking Oscar winners, with \$25,000 already spent on predicting who will win the best supporting actress Oscar—all before nominations are even out. This makes things even more risky because not only are you betting, but betting with no indication of which way things may go.

Celebrity death pools are another type of bet that has reached a darker level. Sites like Doug Stanhope's Celebrity Death Pool allow people to wager on which celebrity they think will die next. When people make these bets, they are hoping to get something out of it. In this case, they want a celebrity to die at a certain time. Spending money for personal gain when anyone's life is at stake shows the extreme lengths people will go for money. It also demonstrates a privilege to blindly gamble on someone's life whilst knowing the consequences and ultimately not caring.

Other bets include betting on what a hurricane name is going to be right before hurricane season. It is concerning to see how hurricanes are being trivialized by making their destruction into a game for unaffected people to play. People place these with a lightheartedness that dismisses the thousands of people that the hurricane they are naming for fun will impact. The money that is spent on these bets could be used to raise more awareness and support for those impacted, but those who are in a financially stable position are more worried about making more money off others' misfortune.

It is way too easy for people with thousands of dollars to spare casually throw down money on bets because it will not affect them. The "thrill" that they get is some people's livelihoods and they are in a comfortable enough position to not have to care about it. The plethora of random bets reveals a society that more or less does not care about others. There are so many better things that can be done with money, and better ways to make more money that does not involve praying on someone's downfall for your own personal gain.

In any type of betting, it is easy to get caught up in the excitement of winning and to keep going. People must start thinking deeper about the implications of their bets and take a step back to ask, what are you really gambling on?



CLIPART COURTESY OF CREAZILLA

RAPID FIRE

If we're lucky in the Opinion section, we work through our beliefs completely and support them with great arguments. But sometimes, we don't need a deeper reason to hold our convictions. Rapid Fire is for those short length takes that only take a few sentences to get out — no more justification needed.

It's finally the holiday season, and with that comes one of the most mediocre and historically questionable fun holidays of the year: Thanksgiving! It's a time for showing your appreciation for those around you and all the things that are so special to us. It's great to be grateful, but you can only do so many years of "giving thanks" before it starts to feel phony. In this Rapid Fire, writers gave their opinions on the question: For a holiday on the third Thursday of November, what should we be "giving" instead of thanks?

by Evelyn Pazan
ASSOCIATE OPINION EDITOR

Money. We (the CT government) should be giving money to UConn so that we can escape this budget crisis.

by Tomas Hinckley
OPINION EDITOR

I'm giving out appreciation and love to all DC Opinion haters, especially those that made websites about us. You make working here fun!

by Noa Climor
CONTRIBUTOR

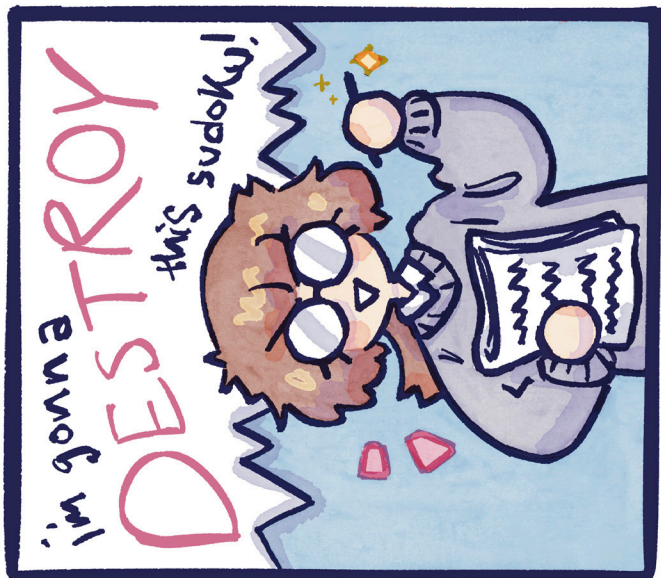
Man. Maybe instead of thanks we (UConn) should be giving us a nice, solid, and dependable Wi-Fi network that doesn't disconnect every five minutes.

Opinion

Photo of the Day | Warming up for an amazing break



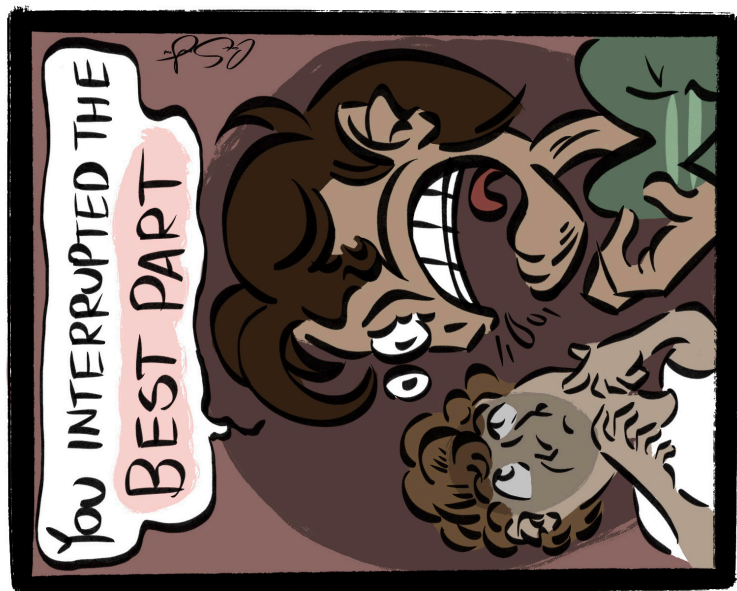
Students line up hours before tonight's men's basketball game at Gampel Pavilion on Nov. 19, 2024. Students will often camp out all day in hopes of getting a good seat in the student section. PHOTO BY EMMA MEIDINGER, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS



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



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



COMICS BY CONNOR SZREJNA, CONTRIBUTING ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

BRAYDEN'S BREAKDOWN: An overview of the 2025 MLB Hall of Fame ballot

by **Brayden Gorski**
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The annual MLB Hall of Fame ballot was announced on Monday with 14 newcomers and 14 holdovers earning a spot on the ballot. Ichiro Suzuki headlines the star-studded class of newcomers, while Billy Wagner is the lone player in his tenth and final year on the ballot. Wagner finished just five votes shy of the 75% threshold required to be inducted into Cooperstown, finishing with 73.8%. With the "steroid era" and the Astros cheating scandal still prevalent amongst players on the ballot, voters will have to make a choice in the age-old debate about the Hall of Fame's "character clause."

The shoe-in: Ichiro Suzuki
Before the time of Shohei Ohtani, Suzuki was a megastar in his own right and had the play to back it up. Debuting at age 27, the Mariners' outfielder broke George Sisler's 87-year-old record of 257 hits in a season with 262 in 2004. The 2001 MVP was the second rookie to win the award, joining Fred Lynn in 1975. From 2001-2010, Suzuki was named to the all-star team each year and won a gold glove for 10 straight years behind his cannon of an arm. He also earned three silver-slugger awards over that time span as his career batting average never dropped below .300 after his 10th career at bat in the majors. Suzuki's 4,367 career hits between Japan and the MLB, where he had 3,089 knocks, would rank first all-time above Pete Rose. Ichiro will waltz into Cooperstown next

summer, perhaps even joining Mariano Rivera as the second player to be unanimously elected.

Should get in: Billy Wagner
Being the only player in their last year of Hall of Fame eligibility should give Wagner the push he needs to surpass the 75% threshold. A career filled with injuries did not stop Wagner from putting up a remarkable resume over a 15-year playing career. Playing much of his career with the Phillies, Astros and Mets, the southpaw racked up almost 1,200 strikeouts and a whopping 11.9 strikeouts per nine innings. Wagner's final season might have saved Wagner's Hall of Fame chances as he passed the 400 save mark by closing out 37 games for the Atlanta Braves in 2010. Wagner entering the Hall of Fame will be very helpful for closers like Francisco Rodriguez, who is in his third year on the ballot.

Interesting cases: CC Sabathia and Chase Utley
These two late 2000s and early 2010s greats have an interesting case for Cooperstown this Hall of Fame election season. Utley earned 28.8% of the votes last year, while CC Sabathia is in his first year of eligibility.

Sabathia is one of 19 pitchers in MLB's 3,000 strikeout club. Every other member of that club is in the Hall of Fame, will be in it when they are eligible, or has a scandal tied to their name preventing them from entering the hall. Spending time in New York with the Yankees, Guardians and a legendary half-season in Milwaukee, Sabathia won the Cy Young Award in 2007. He was also a huge part of the

2009 World Series-winning Yankees and their playoff teams in the 2010s. Sabathia's durability in his early years benefited his statistics, boasting his win total to 251 career wins, which is still very important to many voters. The starters in later years with the Yankees could scare voters as the lefty never had an ERA lower than 3.65 after 2013. Sabathia entering the Hall of Fame on his very first ballot would be surprising, though there should be no doubt that he enters Cooperstown within the next three or four years.

Utley's all-around play might just sneak him into the Hall of Fame in a few years. The second baseman compiled 64.5 WAR during his 16-year career, with a career high of nine in the Phillies World Series season of 2008. Utley falls short of the 2,000 hits mark, which has become an unwritten requirement for hitters to enter the hall. Since 1960, the voters have not voted in a player with less than 2,000 hits to the hall within the 10 years of eligibility. Utley making significant gains on the ballot this year could help the case of Dustin Pedroia.

Various scandalized players:
Carlos Beltran would have been enshrined in Cooperstown by now if it hadn't been for the Astros cheating scandal in 2017. The 1999 rookie of the year clubbed 435 home runs to go along with his WAR of 70.1. The nine-time all-star was named as one of the biggest players in the Astros scandal, causing some voters to shy away in order to maintain the character clause. Beltran earned 57.1% of the votes last year, showing that voters

are not as harsh on Houston's players as they have been on past steroid users. If Beltran gets inducted at some point, it will raise a lot of debate about the character clause.

Andrew Jones' first 11 years in the MLB put him on pace for a first ballot Hall of Fame career. Unfortunately, injuries caused him to decline and he retired without 2,000 hits in his career. Jones earned 61.6% in 2024 and is entering his eighth year of eligibility. The 10-time gold glove winner was arrested for domestic assault in 2012, possibly making some voters hesitant to induct Jones into the prestigious hall.

Alex Rodriguez's history with steroids is a convoluted one that could keep him out of the Hall of Fame. Originally denying the use of steroids, Rodriguez backtracked and admitted to his use, getting tagged with a 162-game suspension. A-Rod's stats speak for themselves with 696 home runs and 3115 hits, earning him three MVP awards during his career. Rodriguez is in his fourth year on the ballot and needs to improve from his 34.8% last year if he wants to get over the hump.

Andy Pettitte and Manny Ramirez are the last of the steroid era bunch remaining on the ballot. Pettitte is regarded as one of the greatest postseason pitchers ever, winning five World Series' with the Yankees. The lefty admitted to taking human growth hormones to recover from an elbow injury, tainting his possible Hall of Fame resume. Sitting at 13.5%, Pettitte's chances are looking dim going into year seven on the ballot.

Ramirez was suspended twice during his career for violations of MLB's drug policies. The outfielder was one of the most feared hitters during his time in Boston, routinely leading the American League in batting average, on base percentage and slugging. If players like Barry Bonds and Gary Sheffield could not get in during their time on the ballot, Ramirez and his 32.5% of votes will most likely not make a turnaround in his final two years of eligibility.

Other newcomers:
Felix Hernandez and Pedroia should gain enough votes to stay above the minimum 5% threshold needed to return to the ballot in 2026. "King Felix" was dominant during his time in Seattle. However, his lack of support has brought down his incredible numbers. The 2010 Cy Young winner looked poised to have a resurgence with the 2020 Atlanta Braves before the COVID pandemic delayed the season, and Hernandez never played again.

Pedroia's career had a terrible ending, which might have prevented him from going to Cooperstown. "The Laser Show" only played nine games combined in 2018 and 2019, cutting him short of 2,000 hits. If he can remain on the ballot, Pedey's phenomenal defense and Pedroia's 51.9 career WAR could build an interesting case in years to come.

Rounding out the newcomers are Carlos Gonzalez, Curtis Granderson, Adam Jones, Ian Kinsler, Russell Martin, Brian McCann, Hanley Ramirez, Fernando Rodney, Troy Tulowitzki and Ben Zobrist.

COOPER FLAGG AND MANY MORE SHOW OUT DURING WEEK TWO OF CBB

by **Jake Loomis**
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The can't-miss kid
Cooper Flagg had the biggest test of his young college career last Tuesday against the Kentucky Wildcats. He did not disappoint, as the talented freshman from Maine put on a show. Flagg had 26 points and 12 rebounds versus Kentucky, though his No. 6 ranked Blue Devils fell to the No. 18 Wildcats. Flagg has shown that he can be the man when called upon, even though Duke is 3-1. The concerns with the team are more from a coaching perspective, and if Jon Scheyer can get his squad in order, other programs will have a much tougher time containing Flagg.

Welcome to the show
Freshman Dylan Harper was one of the top recruits in the 2024 class. He committed to Rutgers and is already making a statement in just his first couple of games. On Monday night, Harper faced off against the infamous St. Peter's Peacocks and was nothing but efficient. He had 24 points and six rebounds in the win while shooting a 47 percent clip from the field. Harper's three-ball has been slow to start the year. However, if he can pick it up along with Ace Bailey, the Scarlet Knights could be scary come March.

From plane fights to the court, Auburn big man leads his team
Johni Broome showed up for week two of college basketball with a chip on

his shoulder. Following a fight on the team plane where the Tigers had to turn around, questions about team chemistry and play were raised. Broome put those rumors to bed as he led his Tigers to a big win on Wednesday over Kent State. He poured in 18 points and 12 rebounds to secure himself a double-double on the night. The Tigers are currently ranked No. 5 in the nation, and the big man is their tone-setter.

Money in the bank for this unknown player
Montana is not a state that gets high praise for any of its sports, alone basketball. The Grizzlies of Montana, lost to ranked opponent Tennessee by over 30 points. However, there was a bright side. Sophomore guard, Money Williams, showed out for the Grizzlies, dropping 30 of the team's 59 points. Williams is a crafty combo guard with a high upside, and if he keeps this play up, there is no reason he will not be at the top of the transfer portal next season.

The veteran making headlines again
Hunter Dickinson is one of the stars of college basketball and a name that has been around for years. His Kansas Jayhawks are off to a red-hot start this year as he looks to lead them to San Antonio. On Tuesday, Dickinson poured in 28 points to go along with 12 rebounds as he led the Jayhawks to a win over Michigan State. Kansas will go as far as Dickinson takes them this year.

LATO'S LENS: WEEK 12'S BIGGEST UPSETS, TOP PERFORMANCES, AND MUST-SEE MATCHUPS IN COLLEGE FOOTBALL

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Although the college football regular season is ending, the excitement is far from over. Week 12 proved to be another thrilling week, with countless dramatic upsets and fantastic finishes that proved to shake up the playoff scene. With that being said, you know the drill: Here are some of week 12's greatest upsets, top performances by players and marquee matchups for the coming week.

Biggest Upsets
Kansas 17, No. 6 BYU 13
Star running back Devin Neal and his Kansas Jayhawks traveled to Provo, Utah on a mission: to upset the sixth-ranked team in all the land, the BYU Cougars. In his already record-breaking season, Neal rushed for the Jayhawks' only two touchdowns of the game on only 14 total carries. This is Kansas' second upset win in a row after knocking off No. 17 Iowa State the week before. Two more wins and the Jayhawks will become bowl-eligible after seeming nearly improbable due to a 2-6 start.

New Mexico 38, No. 19 Washington State 35
Led by sophomore quarterback Devon Dampier, the unranked New Mexico Lobos gave a steaming hot Washington State team all they had to upset them 38-35 in stunning fashion. With 21 seconds left in the fourth quarter, Dampier used his legs to score the game-winning touchdown to stun the Cougars. On the ground, Dampier ran for 193 yards on 28 carries with three touchdowns. In addition, the field general also tossed for another touchdown, completing 11 passes for 174 yards.

Florida 27, No. 22 LSU 16
Under the reign of third-year Head Coach Billy Napier, the Florida Gators have struggled this season while playing one of the toughest schedules in all of college football. Full of young talent, the 4-5 Gators have knocked out

the door of defeating SEC heavyweights like Tennessee and Georgia but have never been able to get the job done. However, Florida took care of business to stun No. 22 LSU at home by a score of 27-16. Coming off a hamstring injury, superstar freshman quarterback DJ Lagway completed 13 of his 26 passes for 226 yards and a touchdown, leading the Gators to victory over a highly touted LSU squad.

Top Performances
Ashton Jeanty, Boise State
Again, Boise State running back Ashton Jeanty continued his quest for the Heisman Trophy to help his team defeat San Jose State in a convincing 42-21 fashion. Despite the opposing defense keying in on him the whole night, Jeanty was still able to rush for 159 yards on 32 carries, scoring three total touchdowns. The power back has been putting up video-game-like numbers the entire season, scoring a whopping 26 touchdowns with two games left to go.

Matayo Uiagalelei, Oregon
In a hostile environment with an undefeated record at stake, sophomore defensive end Matayo Uiagalelei of the No. 1 Oregon Ducks came up clutch, intercepting a deflected Braedyn Locke pass to seal a 16-13 win on the final drive of the game against Wisconsin. Uiagalelei also recorded five total tackles, including a sack to keep the Badgers off the scoreboard in the fourth quarter.

LaNorris Sellers, South Carolina
The South Carolina Gamecocks, led by star quarterback LaNorris Sellers, have been on the biggest hot streak in college football, defeating previously 25th-ranked Vanderbilt, No. 10 Texas A&M and No. 22 Missouri all in a row. In their week 12 contest against SEC rival Missouri, Sellers tossed for an impressive five touchdowns, throwing for 353 yards on 30 attempts. Sellers has been nothing short of remarkable the whole season, wholeheartedly deserving of a spot on this list.

Games to Watch
No. 5 Indiana (10-0) at No. 2 Ohio State (9-1): Saturday - Noon
This year, sensational Head Coach Curt Cignetti has proved that Indiana is not just a basketball school. In the most important game of their season, the undefeated 10-0 Hoosiers will travel to the Horseshoe to take on the No. 2 Ohio State Buckeyes. This will be the ultimate task for the Hoosiers, who haven't defeated the Buckeyes since 1988; not only that, but the matchup will also have huge Big 10 Championship implications.

No. 14 BYU (9-1) at Arizona State (8-2): Saturday - 3:30 p.m.
Running back Cameron "Nature Boy" Skattebo has been a force this season, guiding the Arizona State Sun Devils to an 8-2 record with Big 12 Championship hopes in mind. If the Sun Devils win the matchup, their chances of making it to the Big 12 championship game will drastically increase. However, BYU quarterback Jake Retzlaff will have other plans, looking for vengeance after being upset by Kansas last weekend. This a must-win game for the Cougars in terms of securing a college football playoff berth.

No. 18 Army (10-0) vs. No. 6 Notre Dame (9-1) at Yankee Stadium: Saturday - 7:00 p.m.
This season has been nothing short of incredible for the Army Black Knights, cruising to an undefeated record and a top 25 ranking. On the other hand, since being upset at home by Northern Illinois earlier in the season, the Fighting Irish of Notre Dame have been on fire, winning eight straight games and making a strong case for a college football playoff bid. While the matchup will take place at the historic Yankee Stadium in the Bronx, the stakes couldn't be higher for both teams as they long for a spot in the playoffs. Keep an eye out for Notre Dame quarterback Riley Leonard, who has been a leader for the Irish thus far.

Sports

Photo of the Day | Strategic meeting



The UConn women's ice hockey team took a 2-0 win over Merrimack on Nov. 16, 2024, sweeping their weekend series. The Huskies are now 7-2 in Hockey East and 8-6 overall this season. PHOTO BY HANNAH GRIMES, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

PATRIOT PLACE: NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS WEEK 11 GAME REVIEW: PATRIOTS LOSE A TIGHT ONE TO THE RAMS

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The Patriots dropped to 3-8 last Sunday, continuing their streak of not having back-to-back wins all year. It was a disappointing game, in which the offense and defense each had their moments but ultimately couldn't put it together as a whole. In the end, Matthew Stafford's four touchdowns through the air paired with Cooper Kupp and Puka Nacua's hundred-yard days sank the Patriots, 28-22.

Offensively, this was the best Drake Maye has looked in my eyes. Particularly through the first quarter, Maye had several eye-catching plays. This included a strike to DemMario Douglas for a catch and run of 28 yards on a third down, which would finish with a pass from Maye to Kendrick Bourne for six.

After not playing a snap last week, Bourne recorded five grabs for 70 yards and a score, a very respectable total and the team's most productive receiver on the

day. The tight ends came to play again, with Hunter Henry and Austin Hooper each contributing 10 catches and 98 yards between the two of them. The same can't be said for rookie wide out Ja'Lynn Polk, who ended the day without a single target, and for the third time in the last four games, he ended the day without a catch. The 37th pick has just 11 receptions for 80 yards through 10 games this season.

With the release of Tyquan Thornton mid-week and K.J. Osborn's omission from the game day roster, it looked like there may have been a chance for Polk to produce, but no cigar. For yet another week, the team couldn't run the ball effectively, with Rhamondre Stevenson managing under four a carry. Offensive Coordinator Alex Van Pelt should receive some credit for his play calling, though, as Maye found left tackle Vederian Lowe wide open in the endzone for a score to keep the game close in the fourth quarter. While the unit only managed 22 points, Maye

certainly showed some things to build on with a second 300 total yard performance in the last three weeks. By no means was the offense perfect, but they weren't the centerpiece of the problem the team faced this week.

Defensively, the Patriots were slightly undermanned, particularly across the defensive line. Deatrich Wise missed the game with a foot injury while safety Marte Mapu and defensive tackle Jaquelin Roy, both key pieces to the unit as of late, each missed the game with neck injuries.

This was no excuse for allowing yardage as easily as they did, however.

After such an excellent week against Chicago, the secondary looked helpless against the Rams, who picked on Marcus and Jonathan Jones all day. Nacua had a field day, recording six of his seven catches in the first half with well over a hundred yards and a touchdown in just the first two quarters.

Kupp was the star of the second half, with a 69-yard catch and run to open the third. The defen-

sive backfield struggled tremendously, with Marcus Jones in the spotlight, similar to his struggles against Garrett Wilson and the Jets a few weeks ago. Slot cornerback is proving to be an area that will likely need some fortifying in the offseason, as the aging Jonathan Jones has seemingly moved to both the boundary and safety at different points this year.

While I excused the defensive line a bit for their struggles given the pair of injuries, Kyren Williams still ripped off almost six yards per carry, far too much to excuse fully. The linebackers were far out of their depth too, with Christian Elliss desperately struggling to tackle in space or cover Colby Parkinson on the Rams' fourth touchdown of the game. The defense as a whole struggled, and DeMarcus Covington's scheme looked very out of place for this quick pass Rams offense. While they did make a key stop to give the Patriots one last chance (which ended in Maye's game losing interception), they were very poor for the most part.

I go back and forth each week on whether to include a special team section, but there were enough ebbs and flows this week where I felt it was necessary. Javon Baker opened the game with a nice kick return to around the 45, so I'll give him some credit there. Joey Slye's kickoffs looked solid and so did punt and kick coverage. However, the real stinger was the blocked extra point following the Lowe touchdown, which kept the game a two-point affair, making the final minutes a whole lot more challenging for the team. Nonetheless, aside from the blocked kick I thought Springer's guys did an okay job.

Next week, the Patriots will take on Miami for the second time this year, facing a divisional opponent on the road. This will be Maye's first time against Tua Tagovailoa and company, as both teams will have new QB's compared to their first game, which ended in a 15-10 Dolphins win. I'd expect the Patriots to keep the game reasonably close but lose 27-18 during the one o'clock window this week.

Roundtable: What should the XL Center be renamed to?



In case you missed it, the insurance company, XL Group, failed to renew its contract with Oak View Group on June 30. While the Hartford arena will continue to be called the XL Center until another corporate sponsor buys its naming rights, our group of writers will give their take on what they believe the Huskies Hartford home should be named.

by **Sam Calhoun**
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The Hartford Civic Center

For those who were too young or not alive to remember, the XL Center was called the Hartford Civic Center from the day it opened in 1975 until 2007. Since then, the downtown Hartford home of UConn basketball and hockey, along with the AHL's Wolf Pack, has been called the XL Center. The current name is fitting, as Hartford is known to be the Insurance Capital of the World. Another insurance company based in the state capital is The Hartford.

The Huskies have been very successful in Hartford under that name, including a 33-game winning streak from the 1993-94 season to the 1996-97 season for the men's basketball team. Most of the women's basketball team's 197-17 record came under its original name. I could go on and make this roundtable response the longest in Daily Campus history, but I think I have proved my point that The Hartford should bid on the naming rights and bring back its original name in this era of nostalgia.

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The Eatjoy Amphitheater

When thinking about what the XL Center should be renamed to, I didn't care if it was feasibly possible, but instead what the best name for the stadium would be. Considering that most of the food at the dining halls in Storrs is garbage, most students will find themselves eating out often. I frequent Eatjoy in downtown Storrs the most, as their poke bowls not only offer variety, but are healthy and tasty. Not only this but in a media availability last season, numerous UConn men's basketball players have gone on the record noting the deliciousness of the store at 1 Royce Circle.

So, enough debate, let's give the people what they want and rename the XL Center to The Eatjoy Amphitheater. Since UConn is the best college basketball school in America, it must also feature the best eatery of any college town in America. Look no further than The Eatjoy Amphitheater to meet that goal and give the Huskies Hartford home a name all can get behind.

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Insomnia Center

A good name does two things: it represents the school and strikes fear into opposing teams. Now consider the 2 a.m. guilty pleasure for so many UConn students in downtown Storrs: Insomnia Cookies. And picture opponents having to face off at a place called the "Insomnia Center." It's hard to think of a name more intimidating than that. It might even be plausible financially, given that a couple of private investment groups just bought a majority stake in Insomnia for \$350M this summer. This could be a win-win for both the investment companies and UConn fans alike. We get an unrivaled name for our arena, and Insomnia becomes an even more recognizable brand. After all, getting naming rights to one of the homes of the basketball capital of the world would be a great way to get more customers to shell out their tuition money for late night cookies.

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Dunkin' Center

Dunkin' has been a morning staple not just for the state of Connecticut, but the New England region. The breakfast chain has a heavy presence at UConn and is popular with students. No matter the time of day, it seems that the Dunkin' in the Student Union is packed with students finding a fix for their caffeine needs. As the University sponsor, students are always treated to occasional gift cards. Whether it is gameday or casually walking by the union, Dunkin' is inescapable. With three Dunkin' locations around campus, expanding its presence to Connecticut's second home court makes the most logical sense! Additionally, across from the XL Center is Dunkin' Park, the home of the Hartford Yardgoats.





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Sports

MEN'S BASKETBALL: NO. 2 UCONN END FOUR-GAME HOMESTAND WITH 81-46 WIN OVER EAST TEXAS A&M

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The UConn men's basketball team (4-0), No. 2 in the country as of Monday's Associated Press poll, cruised to an 81-46 win over East Texas A&M, formerly known as Texas A&M-Commerce.

Samson Johnson won the tip for the Huskies, but two bad passes by Solo Ball resulted in East Texas A&M scoring the first basket. Ball redeemed himself by making a 3-pointer to give the Huskies the lead for good.

Turnovers were a problem for Connecticut. They exceeded their total from the Le Moyné game in one half, recording 11 at the midway point. Five of those came before the first media timeout. UConn finished the game with a season-high 19 turnovers. While that may be a lot, they turned the ball over less in the second half.

"Obviously, just silly mistakes," Hassan Diarra said. "It all starts with me; I had five turnovers."

A trend for the Huskies is their elite defense. That showed in the first half, with seven steals and seven blocks, with the latter stat coming from six different players. Diarra and Alex Karaban each had two steals, while Johnson led at the break with two rejections. Karaban continued to be a defensive beast at Gampel Pavilion, with eight blocks in 1.5 games.

Jayden Ross, coined as a "rocket" by coach Dan Hurley and his teammates, looked the part in the first half. He came soaring for a block at the 10:16 mark of the first half. He also soared for a second time for a ferocious poster dunk with

55 seconds remaining in the first half, getting the and-1 foul call.

One of the best sequences of the first half for Connecticut was when Diarra's steal set up Liam McNeeley for his first career dunk.

At the half, UConn was up 42-20, heading into the locker room on a 16-3 run, which began with the McNeeley dunk and ended with two free throws made by Ahmad Nowell. That run extended to 26-5 until the Lions' 3-pointer at the 17:06 mark in the second half.

The quiet offensive night extended into the second half,

with Ball leading the team with 12 points. The Huskies shot 55% from the field but had their lowest scoring outing of the season. It was the first game that there was not a standout performer, and Hurley noted postgame that these offensive lulls are something that needs to be cleaned up.

"No one played well today," the two-time national champion coach said. "It was across the board, overall, a poor performance. I mean, you shoot 54%, the other team shoots 25%, you should probably win by 55 or 60 points."

Tarris Reed Jr. nearly had his third double-double as a Husky, scoring nine points and grabbing 10 rebounds. All of Reed's 10 boards came in the first half. He was wincing at his hand heading to the bench but did not receive medical attention from the athletic trainers.

The Huskies needed a convincing win before the Maui Invitational with a field including No. 4 Auburn, No. 5 Iowa State and No. 10 North Carolina. However, they looked arguably their worst offensively.

"Maui [Invitational] is no joke," Karaban said. "You see the teams in there, playing the best of the best, and we have four games under our belt where we watch film and really learn from it and just be honest with ourselves."

While UConn outrebounded the Lions 44-35, the team looked like a shell of themselves in the second half on the glass, getting outrebounded 21-17. The UConn coaching staff noted postgame that this is something they want to clean up, especially with the big men they will face later this season.

Hurley emphasized that UConn is one of the best passing and ball security teams in the country. He was disappointed with that effort, as the Huskies had a negative assist-to-turnover ratio.

Karaban scored 11 points, a season-low for him. He took a season-low five shots from the field. Despite that, he looked comfortable playing off the ball, dishing out three assists and having a team-high +36 plus/minus.

"We can't have too many games where [Karaban] takes five shots in 30 minutes," Hurley said. "So, he's got to be more assertive out there."

Surprisingly, the Huskies were outshot at the free throw line, making 10 to East Texas A&M's 13.

"[It's] inconceivable," Hurley said. "I remember coming in [to UConn] at Wagner and I don't think we had out-shot UConn at the free throw line."

Connecticut's competition turns up a notch next week, with Memphis as their first-round opponent at the Lahaina Civic Center on Monday afternoon.



UConn men's basketball host Texas A&M for a Tuesday night match up right in the heart of Storrs Campus and Gampel Pavilion. It resulted in a blowout win for UConn with a final score of 81-46 on Nov. 19, 2024.

PHOTOGRAPH BY SIHAM NEDLOUSSI, ASSOCIATE PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL: CONNECTICUT TO CELEBRATE AURIEMMA AND DAILEY'S RUBY ANNIVERSARY WITH MATCHUP VERSUS FDU

by Avery Becker
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Head Coach of the UConn women's basketball team, Geno Auriemma, has the potential to become the winningest coach in college basketball history, as his team faces the FDU Knights on Wednesday evening.

The Huskies are coming off their first ranked matchup over the UNC Tar Heels on Friday, where Auriemma secured the 1,216th win of his career, with the game resulting in a 69-58 final score.

With this win added to his 40-year long resume of accolades, he tied former Stanford women's basketball coach, Tara VanDerveer as the winningest coach in college basketball history.

"40 years ago, UConn took a chance on me, those players early on took a chance on us [me and CD ...]" Auriemma said to media personnel after the game against UNC. "They should feel incredibly proud because we built it out of nothing in a place, they said it couldn't be built."

Breaking the record for Auriemma could not have come at a better time, because on Wednesday, UConn plans to honor Auriemma and his associate head coach Chris Dailey for their ruby anniversary behind the bench of this squad.

"It's all extra to him, but he deserves it, and we want to celebrate him, because he doesn't celebrate himself." Red shirt senior Paige Bueckers said to media personnel, when asked about why Auriemma is downplaying the festivities.

Against UNC, Bueckers notched 29 points and was shooting an accuracy of 57.1%.

"Obviously. I think our zone

offense could be a little bit better, and then our defense rebounding has got to get better." Bueckers said to the media when asked what she thought about her team's play through the first four games. "I always feel like in all areas of my game, continue to try to be a great leader, setting an example with how hard we play and the tournament you play and the intensity in the fire that we play with."

In addition to Auriemma being celebrated, Dailey will also be honored, who Auriemma joked at the media, was the only one willing to take the job 40 years ago.

Dailey touched on how when she first arrived in Storrs, their team was in the field house with no secretary, and they shared a rotary phone with the men's track team.

"We never looked at what we didn't have. We always focused on what we had." Dailey said to the media. "And at the beginning, we just had our vision and each other to kind of say, 'This is what we're going to do.'" And we were able to convince enough people to believe that same dream and eventually, 40 years later, a lot more has happened than we ever thought would have.

To celebrate this achievement, close to 60 former players are expected to attend the game, as well.

A player on the Knights that the Huskies will have to look out for is freshman guard Ava Renninger, who is averaging 14.6 points per game in five games played. In the Northeast Conference, the Knights were picked as No. 1 in the pre-season poll and are coming off their first loss of the season, resulting in a 77-58 score last Sunday.

Tip-off is scheduled for 7 p.m., however, the 40th anniversary ceremony will take place beforehand

and will promptly begin at 6:30 p.m. In addition, a fan fest will also begin at 4:00 p.m. in front of Gampel. If Husky fans cannot make it to Storrs but still want to tune in to this memorable night, they can do so by watching it live on SNY.

UConn women's basketball takes on Fort Hays St. in an exhibition game at Gampel Pavilion in Storrs, Conn. on Sunday, November 3, 2024. The Huskies took an easy win, ending the game 89-49.

PHOTOGRAPH BY ZACH MOLLER, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER POSITION/THE DAILY CAMPUS

