



TRUMP WINS

by Jenna Outcalt
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Donald Trump will claim the presidency after winning both the electoral college vote and the popular vote after Election Day.

The Associated Press officially called the race in Trump's favor at 5:34 a.m. on Nov. 6 after he won Wisconsin, one of the essential battleground states in the election.

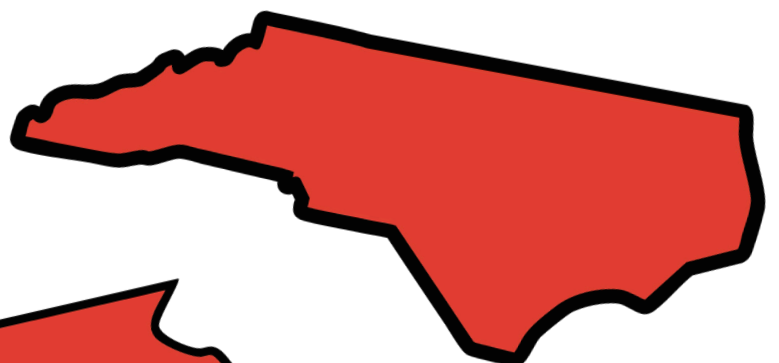
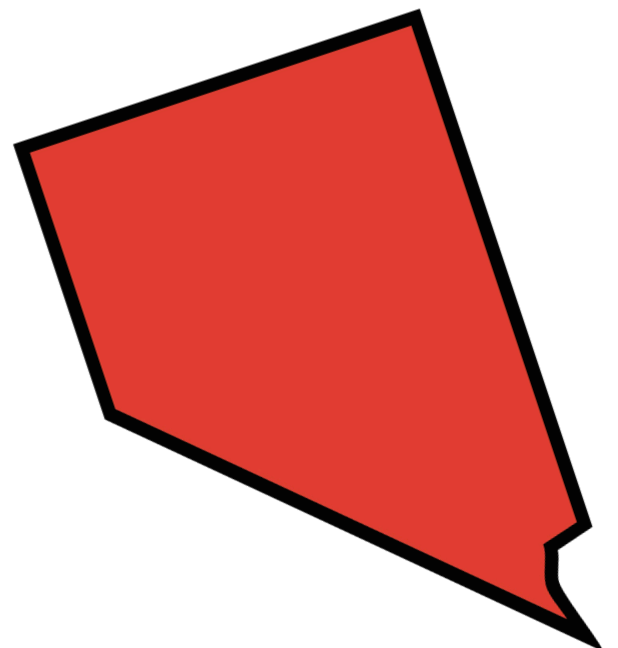
During his victory speech, Trump called this "the greatest political movement of all time" and said he would "help our country heal."

"I WILL NOT REST UNTIL WE HAVE DELIVERED THE STRONG, SAFE AND PROSPEROUS AMERICA THAT OUR CHILDREN DESERVE AND THAT YOU DESERVE," SAID TRUMP. "THIS WILL TRULY BE THE GOLDEN AGE OF AMERICA."

At 1:41 p.m. on Nov. 6, the AP reported Harris called Trump to congratulate him and discuss a peaceful transfer of power. In a concession speech beginning at 4:25 p.m. on Nov. 6, Harris told a crowd at Howard University that it was important to accept the results of the election and engage in a peaceful transfer of power. She said that although she conceded the election, she would continue to fight for the values she emphasized on her campaign.

"THE OUTCOME OF THIS ELECTION IS NOT WHAT WE WANTED, NOT WHAT WE FOUGHT FOR, NOT WHAT WE VOTED FOR," SAID HARRIS. "BUT HEAR ME WHEN I SAY, THE LIGHT OF AMERICA'S PROMISE WILL ALWAYS BURN BRIGHT AS LONG AS WE NEVER GIVE UP AND AS LONG AS WE KEEP FIGHTING."

Republicans also took the majority of the U.S. Senate in this election, allowing Trump an easier path to forward his policies. As of 5 p.m. on Nov. 6, the election has yet to decide control over the House of Representatives, as Republicans need 16 more seats to win control and Democrats need 29.



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ROUNDTABLE | PAGE 6
When does the holiday season begin?

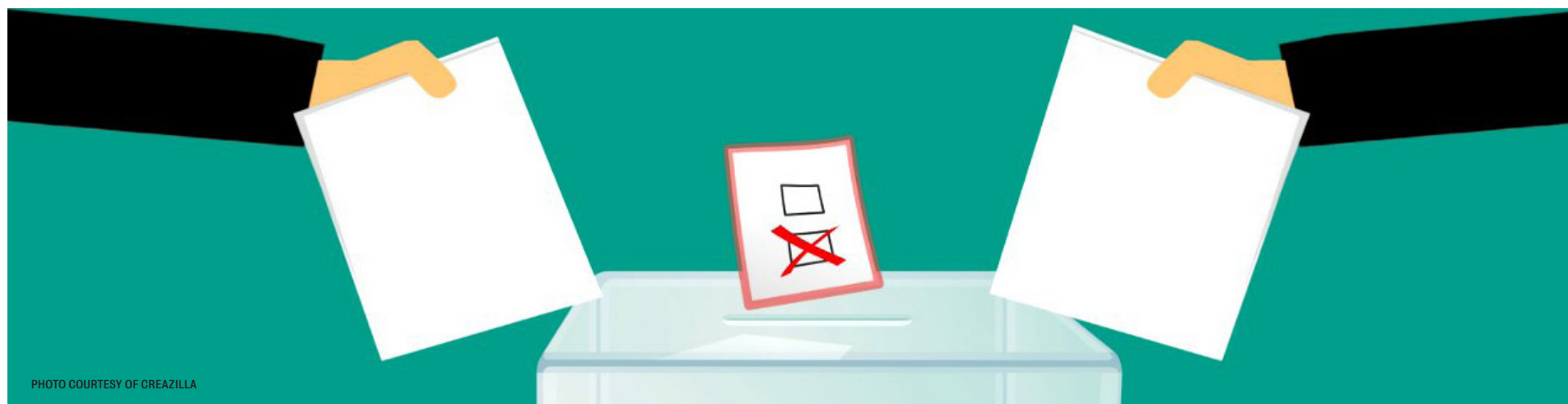
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Election Debrief

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Recap of the game against Sacred Heart

THE DAILY CAMPUS NEWSLETTER
8 AM BLAST

News

Legal challenges to election integrity persist as polling results are tallied



by **Gabriel Duffany**
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With the outcomes of the 2024 voting cycle solidifying, election integrity cases levied by political interests of all affiliations remain under debate as new and pending litigation persists in state and federal courts.

Ahead of the general election, over 160 lawsuits were petitioned to U.S. courts by partisan groups contesting the integrity of election procedures, a trend described by many experts as a preemptive defense measure pending the outcome of election results.

While both ideologically liberal and conservative groups declare the goal of ensuring fair and representative elections, debate between the parties has emerged surrounding claims of political bias as a motivating factor in election integrity investigations.

The questions of provisional ballots, voter registration lists and overseas voting have served as the foremost conceptual battlegrounds between Democrat and Republican interests, now under the process of judicial review. Despite each case grappling with different aspects of election integrity, one central question frames the broader discussion: in pursuit of representative democracy, is voter accessibility too expansive, or not expansive enough?

Recent decisions from the Supreme Court and district courts show a mixed consensus from American jurisprudence, proving election integrity is a complex and ongoing issue.

In a Nov. 1 order authored by Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito, the highest court denied a request from the Republican National Convention to limit provisional ballots under certain circumstances in the swing state of Pennsylvania, according to a legal document on the American Civil Liberties Union's website.

Summarizing the opinion of the court, Alito wrote, "Even if we agreed with the applicants' federal constitutional argument, we could not prevent the consequences they fear."

In context, the "consequences" feared by the RNC are concerns of widespread voter fraud, an issue granted specific attention by right-wing forces. The Heritage Foundation, a highly visible and hotly contended conservative think-tank responsible for over \$1 million in campaign contributions during the 2024 election cycle, notes opposing election fraud as a key issue for officials to address.

"The Heritage Foundation has outlined several policies states should adopt, including requiring government-issued identification and proof of citizenship to vote," states the organization's website. "States should enter into interstate voter registration crosscheck programs to identify voters registered in multiple states."

In a letter issued by the American Bar Association's Democracy Task Force, current and former ABA presidents condemned the widespread filing of election integrity litigation as unsubstantiated and conspiratorial.

"Many of these lawsuits aim to tighten ballot rules by purging voter lists and imposing stricter requirements on mail voting, even though there is no evidence of widespread voter fraud," states the letter.

The ABA's statement further criticizes the court filings as lacking a basis in fundamental legal morality. "Ethical foundation prevents the courts from being misused to sow confusion, pursue a political agenda or harass opponents," reads the document. "Filing election-related lawsuits without a solid factual and legal foundation endangers the very institutions lawyers are oathbound to defend."

Countering efforts from Republican action committees,

Democratic court petitions argue that flaws in the process of vote counting, not an influx of illegitimate ballots, are the chief threat to representative polling.

In a submission by the Democratic National Convention to the Supreme Court, Abhiraman v. State Election Board, rogue electors in the state of Georgia are highlighted as an eminent opponent to democracy.

Writing in assent to Abhiraman, the American Civil Liberties Union stated, "These rules invite rogue officials to obstruct and delay certification if they disagree with the choices made by voters. The rules also add confusing and untested new reconciliation requirements that do not exist under Georgia law."

Spokespeople from the University of Connecticut School of Law declined to comment on legal developments, citing a present lack of experts in the field of election law.

Connecticut and Mansfield races lean primarily Democratic

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Preliminary voting numbers from the Connecticut Secretary of State website show positive results for Democratic incumbents throughout the state as of 5 p.m. on Nov. 6.

In the senate race, incumbent Democrat Christopher Murphy is ahead with 57.46% of the vote in Connecticut, while Republican challenger Matthew Corey has 40.80%, according to the unofficial results from the secretary of state website. In Mansfield, Murphy has 73.85% of the vote.

In the district congressional race, Democrat Joe Courtney leads Republican Mike France with 57.88% of the vote to France's 42.12%. Courtney also has 76.40% of Mansfield's votes.

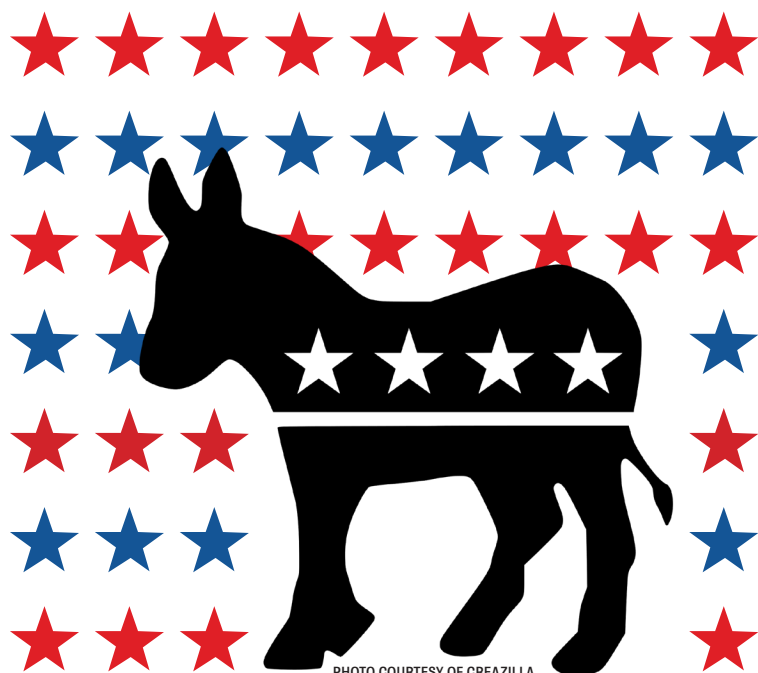
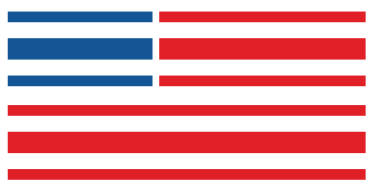
Democrats John B. Larson, Rosa L. DeLauro, Jim Himes and Jahana Hayes won the other four congressional races in Connecticut.

In the race for state senator in the 29th district, Republican challenger Chris Reddy leads with 50.11% of the vote to defeat Democratic incumbent Mae Flexer, who has 48.20%. In Mansfield, Flexer has 70.46% of the vote to Reddy's 27.43%. Green Party candidate Alice Leibowitz has 1.69% of the

vote in the district and 2.11% in Mansfield.

In Mansfield's race for state representative, incumbent Democrat Greg Haddad leads with 72.45% of the votes. Republican Aaron Bowman has 27.55% of the votes.

As of 5 p.m., the secretary of state has not yet officially called the races in Connecticut. To follow the results and track specific towns or races, visit the Secretary of State's website.



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University Senate discusses provost’s review in meeting Monday



Students walking past UConn sign. 245 low-enrollment degree programs may be cut.

PHOTO COURTESY OF @UCONN ON INSTAGRAM

by **Liliana French**

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University of Connecticut Provost Anne D’Alleva and members of UConn’s Senate discussed potential cuts to approximately 245 programs at a Senate meeting on Monday.

University president Radenka Maric told senators that the Higher Education Sustainability Advisory Board has requested data from UConn on low-completion programs over the past five years.

D’Alleva answered questions from senators regarding the review process.

“Earlier this calendar year, early on in 2024, we revamped the low-completion review process for programs. That number that triggers the conversation, I think of it as an opening to discussion, not a cutoff point,” said D’Alleva. “It doesn’t mean that there’s necessarily a problem with the program.”

According to D’Alleva, 90% of students are in programs that will not be impacted by the review process. She also said some programs are intentionally small, but that “small doesn’t necessarily mean underenrolled.”

D’Alleva referred to the list of 245 academic programs listed in the low-enrollment program review as a “working document” and said that some colleges and schools were aware that programs which have been cut showed up on the list.

“But instead of pre-editing and assuming that we knew what was going on, we released the full list, password protected, Net ID protected to our associate deans and department heads and deans to begin the work,” said D’Alleva.

Faculty in the College of Agriculture, Health and Natural Resources received a statement on Oct. 23 from Dean Indrajeet Chaubey which said that incorrect statements were made in press coverage about CAHNR majors, though that statement did not mention that the list of 245 programs was a “working document.”

Some pages of the spreadsheet differentiated between bachelor’s degrees and associate degrees, though others were not. Concentrations in horticulture, turfgrass and soil science were listed with majors.

D’Alleva said that the Office of the Provost has already had conversations with deans about programs that were terminated previously.

D’Alleva spoke about ways to solve underenrollment, suggesting offering more general education classes and workshops to high school teachers so they understand the range of programs UConn offers. She said some programs could also be cut.

“I’m not coming into this with any predetermined outcome,” said D’Alleva. “I’m not saying we have to cut x number of programs or x number need to be combined.”

“What I’m saying is, let’s make sure we have an active plan

to enroll students in all of our programs so every program is strong, is robust and is thriving at the university, whatever its right size,” continued D’Alleva.

According to D’Alleva, the Office of the Provost received about half of the evaluation reports back from schools and colleges at the time of the senate meeting. D’Alleva said she wanted to stress that reporting to the Board of Trustees regarding low-completion programs and votes by the Board of Trustees on cuts to majors were separate processes.

“We’ll give a report and update on what’s going on to the Board of Trustees in December,” said D’Alleva.

“There may be a handful of those housekeeping votes that need to happen. That’s not clear to me yet, whether they’ll be ready at that point.”

D’Alleva said that votes on frozen majors and majors that were not enrolling students would take place at the December meeting.

“If there is a program that the faculty does want to think about, either combining majors, heavily revising a major, terminating a major, nothing like that is going to be ready by December,” said D’Alleva. “And there’s no automatic timeline—I’m not saying that well, all these decisions need to be made by, you know, May 2025. Those discussions have to take their course.”

Materials for the Academic Affairs Committee Meeting will be made public on Dec.

6, according to D’Alleva. She said that once the Board votes, programs are effectively terminated, but decisions to terminate programs need to be brought before the State Board of Education.

“I expect there will be multiple votes as we move through the process, as we consider programs, as we modify programs. Again, it’s routine work for the Board of Trustees and an important part of what the board of trustees does.”

D’Alleva said that the review process is not about layoffs.

“This isn’t a process that’s about driving layoffs in any way, this isn’t about eliminating faculty of grad students in any way, this is making sure that each of our programs is as full and robust and thriving as it can possibly be.”

UConn senator Jeffery McCutcheon spoke about the review and called it a PR disaster.

“We were totally left out of this process. Last I heard, the senate had jurisdiction over courses and curriculum. Last I heard, we had jurisdiction over the budget in many of the academic affairs,” said McCutcheon.

University senator Alvaro Lozano-Robledo asked for a town hall meeting to discuss the provost’s review.

“We were all in the dark and the news caught us all by surprise,” he said. “I believe that the Senate Executive Committee has asked the dean to have some sort of town hall meeting to let us know what

is happening in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.”

Lozano-Robledo claimed that CLAS Dean Ofer Harel refused to hold a town hall meeting. Harel replied that he held two town hall meetings since news of the low-enrollment program review broke, with no participants.

Consent agenda items, which consisted of changes to courses and converting general education courses to fill new common curriculum criteria, were approved.

The Senate approved a motion to recommend that the Board of Trustees continue a tuition waiver for the daughter of Susana Ulloa, a UConn employee who died last year. A tuition waiver for Ulloa’s daughter was brought up in the past two Board of Trustees meetings.

McCutcheon filed a motion to change university bylaws. The proposed motion would have raised the threshold to call for an emergency Senate meeting from a request by 25% of senate members to a request by 67% of senate members.

McCutcheon argued that the current level of 25% was too low and was met too easily. He said that he thought that the emergency May 20 senate meeting, which was called in response to the arrest of 25 students and one alumnus at the UConn Divest encampment, could have waited until the semester started again.

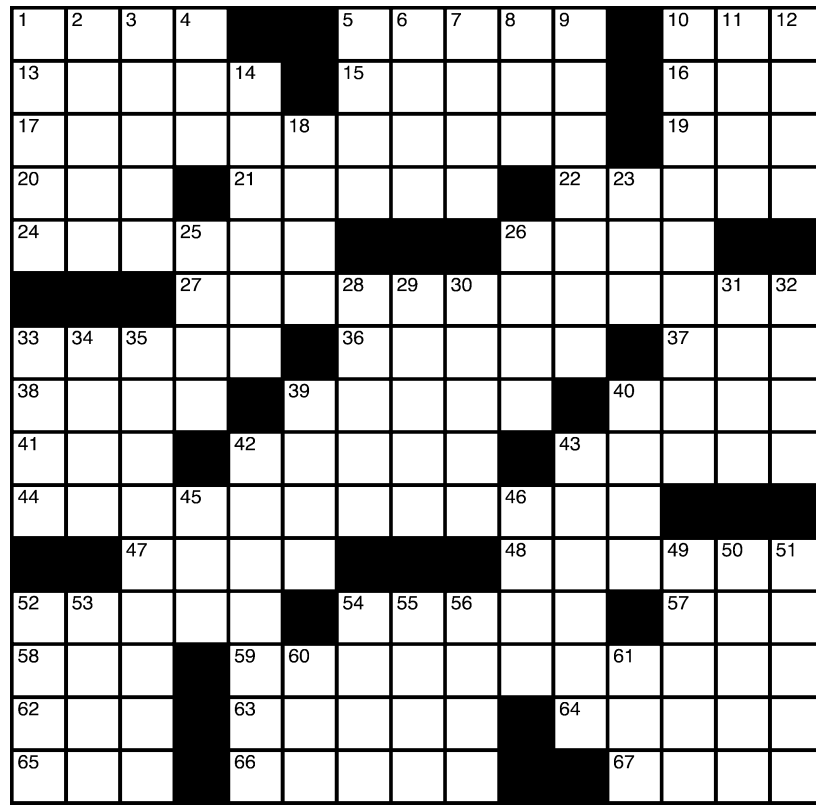
After senators voiced opposition to the measure, the motion was rejected by over

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Study Break

- ACROSS**
- Mobile app for staying mobile
 - "In your face!"
 - Draw
 - ___-gazing
 - "Funeral Blues" poet
 - Short expression of surprise
 - Earnhardt and Andretti work as ushers?
 - Snub-nosed dog
 - Lyricist Gershwin
 - Assays
 - Mispronounces esses, maybe
 - "Gracias" response
 - Parcel (out)
 - Gerwig and DuVernay work at the barbershop?
 - "We are not amused" type
 - Potential queens
 - Sorority letter
 - Texted titters
 - Eyelashes, anatomically
 - Cry of pain
 - Açaí bowl grain
 - Daytona entry
 - Swear words
 - Austen and Morrison choreograph a play?
 - Surrounds in a rush
 - Fools (with)
 - Chihuahua, for one
 - "Haters ___ hate"
 - Pop star Rita
 - Statues, paintings, etc.
 - Hook and Kirk haul timber?
 - Mirror image?
 - Word from the Greek for "chasm"
 - Fashion designer Kate
 - Total
 - Valuable one
 - Aphrodite's consort



By Simon Marotte & Trenton Lee Stewart 11/7/24

- DOWN**
- Overtaken
 - Dance studio rail
 - Dasani alternative
 - Fire (up)
 - Barbershop quartet part
 - Boot from power
 - Praiseful poems
 - Affirmative vote
 - Moose feature
 - Upper-level clearance level
 - Cry from the recently roused
 - Spurs (on)
 - Allow to peter out
 - Caboose
 - "___ not for me to say"
 - Puts in
 - Title at the Louvre
 - Heroic accounts
 - McLaughlin of "Stranger Things"
 - Take for a spin?
 - "Whoops!"
 - Tugs along
 - Ground-breaking invention
 - Crowd eruption
 - Demand that rarely ends in compromise

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

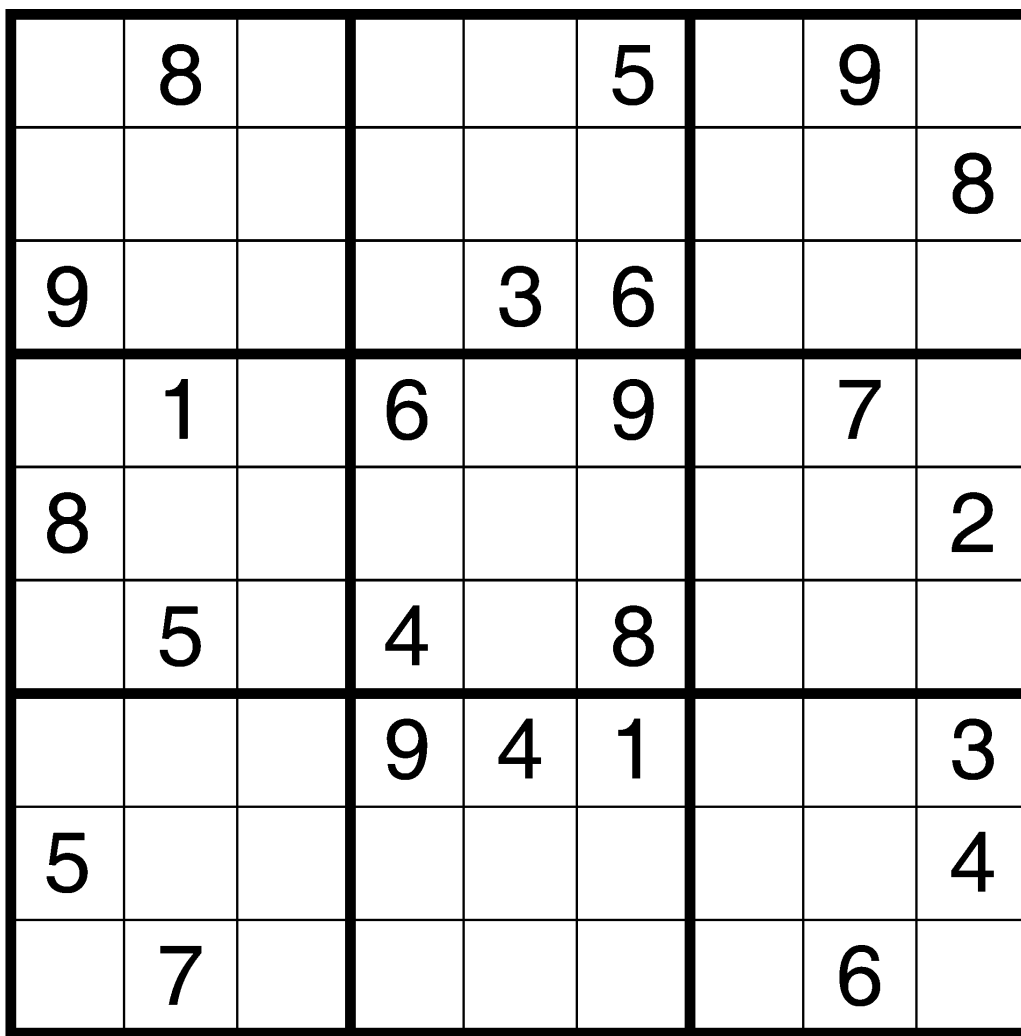


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- Pixar film set in Radiator Springs
- Hairy beasts
- Only Hitchcock film to win Best Picture
- Current locations?
- Young'un
- Prefix with -vore
- Geothermal alternative
- Wear away
- Learned ones
- Utters
- Pants, informally
- College figs. people
- Condé ___
- Sounds heard at a 61-Down
- Massage locale

Sudoku By The Mepham Group

Level **1** **2** **3** **4**



Solution to Wednesday's puzzle 11/7/24

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



Monsieur Lazhar



by Isaac Grad
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Welcome back to another issue of Your Movie Mage, where I discuss underrated movies across genres. Last week we delved into the Halloween-esc, underrated sci-fi “Donnie Darko.” This week, we’ll be discussing another unknown film which has a sadder tone—“Monsieur Lazhar.”

“Monsieur Lazhar” is a French-Canadian film made in Québec that follows Bachir Lazhar (Mohamed Fellag), an Algerian man who left his home seeking a safer life in Canada. Lazhar’s family was killed in Algeria, so he is trying to get refugee status in Québec to remain there safely.

The plot follows Lazhar’s navigation of this tragedy and the difficulties of proving he is not safe in Algeria. He grapples with feelings of guilt and remorse, despite not being responsible for his family’s death. After the tragic death of a schoolteacher in Québec, he applies to fill the vacancy and gets the job. Lazhar is grieving the death of his wife and children, teaching a class of young students grieving the loss of their teacher.

The film explores the role of education in shaping the humanity of children. The dynamic between Lazhar and his students shows the complexity of student-teacher relationships, and how to teach and connect with them. We see more common challenges involved in teaching regarding parents and



PHOTO COURTESY OF GREAZILLA

difficult students, although Lazhar doesn’t use common solutions. He refuses to label students as difficult like other teachers had.

Through one student, Alice, we learn about the profound impact teachers have on students. Alice connects more with her teachers than her peers and parent. The plot portrays Alice without using stereotypes, which is unlike usual representations of students like her.

The children express complex emotions without overarticulating or being unrealistic. Viewers understand what they are feeling and are reminded that children experience the same emotions as adults—they just

aren’t listened to.

While this film was nominated for an Oscar, indicating reception of attention and praise, it is quite unknown. I have never met another person who has heard of or seen it. This could be because it’s in French, which may deter many English speakers, though I love it; it’s very helpful in learning Québécois, which differs from the French we are often taught in school. Québécois culture is also very intriguing but largely unknown in media.

The scenery in this film is incredibly well done. I’m biased because I love Québec and winter, but the way the film is shot is special. The camerawork seems

to be mostly handheld, providing a more intimate and realistic shot. The coloring is dreary yet bright and almost blinding with the snow, reflecting the emotions expressed throughout the film. These techniques capture the feeling of adulthood and childhood all in one film. This successfully shows the viewers that we can feel complex emotions throughout childhood and adulthood.

The acting also stands out in this film, especially considering the cast is mostly child actors, and the portrayal of grief is powerful.

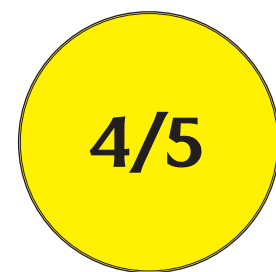
The story is unique because it’s very raw and intriguing, despite being seemingly slow.

The ending is a mix of emotions, adding to the realistic portrayal of feelings. The introductions and explorations of each character are also strong, especially because there was a focus on several individuals.

A lot was left unsaid about the characters, as we were introduced to them without full knowledge of their past. Nevertheless, we are able to explore and engage with multiple themes throughout the film.

Even with the multitude of themes, the film still isn’t dragged out; it’s well-paced and doesn’t feel chaotic or overdone.

“Monsieur Lazhar” is very unknown but is a truly special film which deserves more attention. Those who have seen it recognize its greatness, so the ratings are high. It was nominated for an Oscar and did receive some accolades. For these reasons, I give it an underratedness score of 4/5. Every aspect of this film is so well done and comes together to create an interesting and impactful movie. If you had a teacher that profoundly impacted you, you should give this movie a watch.



Happy Halloween Tomato Soup

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Welcome back to “I Made It So You Don’t Have To,” where I cook good-looking recipes from social media. The last few days, I have been feeling a little under the weather. Maybe Halloween spooked away my immune system and left me running for the hills. Regardless, I thought this would be a perfect segue into cooking moods. What is one thing that we crave when we are sick? Comfort and warmth.

Comfort food is one of my favorite things to prepare because I know it makes us feel secure, warm and happy. These foods share some familiar qualities. They often contain simpler ingredients, are served super-hot, elicit feelings of intense satiety and can be the best medicine.

I am not arguing that food is more important for your health than medicine (Definitely take your meds, people!). However, one thing that can fight illness is a nice bowl of hot soup. So, let’s get into that nostalgia!

This week, I decided to make tomato soup. I have no doubt that many of you have seen a tomato soup recipe on TikTok, given that we are moving into the colder seasons and the bright orange color nicely complements the fall foliage. Yes, this is a dish that can easily be romanticized when made in the fall, much like a nice cup of thick hot chocolate in the winter. Now, let’s see if it is worth romanticizing taste-wise.

This recipe was taken from the TikToker @breadbakebeyond. I would recommend the rest of the channel with its very well-shot instructional cooking videos. First, I started by adding the cherry tomatoes, a halved onion with the insides facing up for better browning, two garlic heads, a halved red pepper (skin side up) and olive oil to a deep casserole dish. Make sure to take the seeds out of the bell peppers before adding them to the dish.

I thought of using cherry tomatoes instead of traditionally-used large round tomatoes. These give it a sweeter taste, whereas many other recipes will add sugar and use vine-ripened tomatoes. Both work but I think this saves time, and you know we love time-saving on this column. Generously season with salt, pepper and chili flakes. Cook at 400°F for 45-50 minutes. When I saw I had to cook vegetables in a hot oven for so long, I got nervous about burning them. However, only the tops will brown, and this contributes to the smoky flavor, complemented by the chili flakes for extra heat.

When I was waiting, I assembled the grilled cheese using a nice sourdough loaf, which is perfect for achieving a brown buttery crust. I used sharp cheddar cheese and provolone. In retrospect, I would go heavier on the cheddar and not use provolone at all. Given that these are the quintessential college sandwiches, I trust that all of you have perfected a version of your ideal grilled cheese. I have seen many different techniques to make grilled cheese, such as adding mayo to each outer side for perfect browning, cheddar/taco blend combinations and even using up to a half-stick of butter.

Make sure to check your vegetables five to 10 minutes before they are done to see that they have not browned to the point of burning. Many ovens radiate heat differently, so this could change the cooking of the veggies. Take them out and add them to a food processor or preferably a blender which will create a thin soup. My blender broke so I used a food processor, which resulted in a chunkier soup. This might be your preference, but I like mine thinner. Along with the vegetables, be sure to add your heavy cream as well. The recipe uses some basil, which you can definitely add, though I did not.

Now to make the soup in a pot, add the pureed vegetables to a boiling pot at medium-low

heat and add the water. Let this simmer for 10 minutes. Make sure it is simmering; otherwise, increase the heat to medium. This is so the water boils out and does not make the soup too thin. Throw in your grated parmesan cheese all at once. Add more water or heavy cream to adjust thickness, and season with salt and pepper for taste. For additional seasoning, you can add paprika, oregano, thyme, bay leaves or even nutmeg. My tip for spicing is to start in moderation and get used to tasting food a lot while adding spices in. In the case of cooking, it is best to get permission from your taste buds and then ask for forgiveness.

I really enjoyed this recipe. For one, it was a perfect pick-me-up from feeling sick. Also, it kept things simple and used nature’s ingredients—the veggies—to flavor the bulk of the dish. I love when you get earthy tones in a soup and that natural cure-all feeling. As I said before, I do wish the veggies were chopped finer from the processor, but that depends on the equipment you are working with. This is also inexpensive and can feed three to four people comfortably. All in all, this is super delicious and comfort food material for sure!



The finished product: Happy Halloween Tomato Soup!
PHOTO BY OLIVER POWER, CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Ingredients:

- One red bell pepper
- One large white onion
- Two garlic heads
- One tablespoon salt
- One tablespoon black pepper
- One teaspoon red chili flakes
- One sourdough loaf
- Cheddar Cheese in slices
- One-quarter cup of parmesan Cheese
- One-half of cup water
- Three-quarters cup of heavy cream
- Two tablespoon olive oil

Price: \$33.01

Rating: 4/5



Life

@dailycampuslife

LIFE SECTION ROUNDTABLE: WHEN DOES THE HOLIDAY SEASON BEGIN?

ILLUSTRATION COURTESY OF CREAZILLA

2024 has reached the awkward late stage that every year goes through: fall and winter start to blend and both seasons' holidays fall into each other like dominoes. Yet, despite the scares of Halloween abruptly getting sidelined by the thankfulness of Thanksgiving (and finally the joy of the holidays), everybody seems to have a starting and ending point for the holiday season. It's a topic of heated debate and the eagerness of stores to sell you the next seasons' goodies, only adding fuel to the fire. But, in a collaborative effort, let's hear opinions on when the holiday season begins for Life writers.

Ben Lassy, Life Editor (he/him/his):

On Oct. 20, 1963, the Beach Boys recorded "Little Saint Nick" at Western Studio in Hollywood, California. How could they record the magnum opus of Christmas music in October? Because it was chilly enough, festive enough and certainly a perfect time to get into the festive Christmas spirit.

I use music to gauge the holiday I'm celebrating. Halloween music is great, with "Spooky Scary Skeletons" and others occupying "Hallo-weekend," but the music usually gets stale once people put their costumes away. And although I have recently learned about Thanksgiving-themed music, with "Greens, Beans, Potatoes, Tomatoes (You Name It)" by DJ Suede the Remix God standing out, it also doesn't stick with me.

With temperatures (at least at night) dipping below 40 degrees Fahrenheit in October, that is more than cold enough for me to listen to wintery themes like "Frosty the Snowman" with no remorse whatsoever. Even now I have my Christmas playlists going on full volume, it's never too early to feel some of that infectious holiday joy.

I do admit though: The Beach Boys did start recording the rest of the album in June. I don't know if I can go that far.

Patrick Boots, Campus Correspondent (he/him/his):

The holiday season officially starts when the radio stations switch their music formats, and Santa crosses over Herald Square during the annual Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

Halloween takes prior-



ILLUSTRATION BY KRISTA MITCHELL, STAFF ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

ity during the month of October, and November does have some other minor holidays but once the spooks and ghouls go away, I don't mind thinking ahead and getting a little in the spirit. But not enough to deck the halls and play Christmas music. The joke is that 24/7 Christmas begins at 9 p.m. on Halloween — walk into any big-box store and you can already see it. Who wants to encounter a six-foot-tall animatronic Santa this early in the year anyway?

The Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade is always a good televised memory — you know the air is cool, and hopefully, you're spending some quality time with family. Maybe later in the afternoon we can watch some football and eat a nice hearty meal. The leaves finish falling off the trees, and then the first snowfall is right on the horizon. Those are Mother Nature's way of reminding us to start the ho-ho-holidays — a great way to give thanks if you ask me. And yes, I know Mariah Carey is defrosting, but remember in her music video when she's sledding on the snowy white slopes?

Now, completely separately, I do celebrate "Christmas in July," but more so the kitschy novelty music kind of enjoyment. Nothing's stopping anyone from enjoying a candy cane the other times of the year, that is if you can find one for sale — and there are some silly songs and stuff you can enjoy, but a summer-time reminder of the freezing

cold winter isn't everyone's jam.

As we inch closer to Thanksgiving and December, know that your time is coming! But it's not here quite yet.

Sarah Barker, Campus Correspondent (she/her/hers):

I'm not a Christmas person, I haven't been in years. I'm partial to Thanksgiving and New Year's Day. With that, I like the holiday season to stay within its limits: after Thanksgiving and a few days into the new year. But I'm also not here to yuck anyone's yum. If you want to watch "Home Alone" in the middle of July, go for it. If your Christmas tree is up year-round, who cares if it's not hurting anybody? I know this roundtable is supposed to be definitive but honestly, who am I to tell someone when they can and can't celebrate something?

Bonnibel Lilith Rampertab, Campus Correspondent (she/her/hers):

How should we define "the holiday season?" What is it about and who is it for? Most people only think of Christmas when they think of the holiday season, but there are other important holidays in the season such as Hanukkah and Kwanzaa.

The holiday season, I would argue, is for everyone even if you don't observe any of the holidays under the term. It's a reminder to surround yourself with people you love and care for. You probably can't escape it no matter who you are; it's something we share.

The holiday season is a time to share culture and connect. Capitalism wants you to think it starts right after Halloween and especially after Thanksgiving, but I think the real holiday season is in our hearts and is therefore timeless. Or maybe it lives and dies with us. Either way, the holiday season isn't just a time to celebrate and consume; it's a time to express and give, however that looks for you. I refuse to let corruption taint this joyous time.

Tomas Hinckley, Opinion Editor (he/him/his):

Let the Christmas season start in December; give it a month of hype as it deserves for being such a special holiday for so many people, but no more than that. You see, a month is a solid amount of time to be dominated by a single holiday. It fits well with the rest of the year which roughly abides by the same schedule (Halloween has October, November has Thanksgiving, February has Valentine's Day; you get the point). If we allow it to creep any further past this socially acceptable mark, the real loss is on us.

As Christmas is arguably the most corporatized holiday of them all, the only real goal of extending the "holly jolly" is to get you to spend more money and consume more products. The earlier you start listening to Christmas music, watching Christmas movies, buying special Christmas food and so on, the more the grip of capitalism extends further into your

year, getting you to spend more. The Christmas spirit is bought and paid for and your consent is manufactured through the rosy cheeks of Santa Claus and the dulcet tones of Michael Bublé. Keep it contained within its own time, and no more.

Noa Climor, Campus Correspondent (she/her/hers):

When I first joined this roundtable, I thought that Christmas things should begin in December — as that is the season of Christmas. Upon further reflection and analyzing the state of many things right now though, I realized that the holiday season can start whenever it pleases people, so long as it makes them happy. If you are having a tough time right now and decorating for the holiday season is what brings you joy, go for it! Who am I to decide that this can't happen on Nov. 1?

This is your reminder that you matter, you are important and that the holiday "spirit," if you will, is all about kindness and community. Decorate for your holiday of choice, bake all the things and create crafts that make you happy.

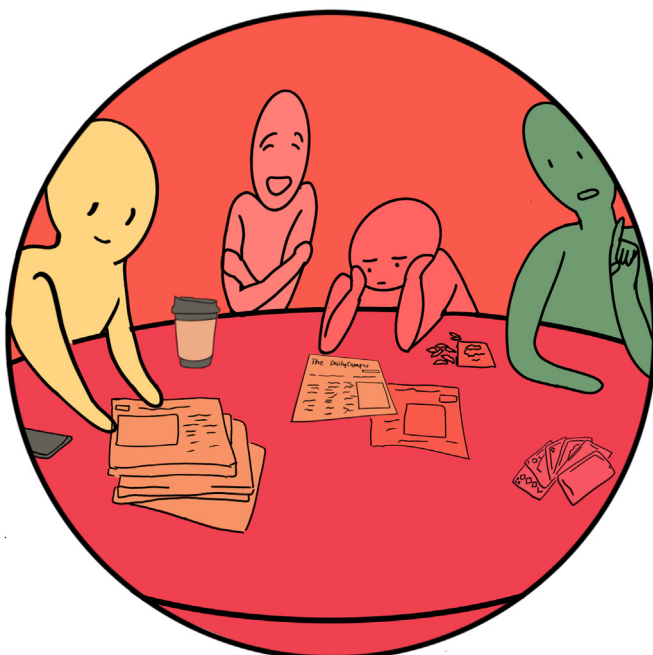
The holiday season comes when you need it the most, and I think we could all use cheer and community, especially right now.

Maleena Muzio, Campus Correspondent (she/her/hers):

Before answering this question, I must preface what "the holiday season" is. For the purposes of this roundtable, "the holiday season" will be referring mainly to winter holidays, such as Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanzaa.

Now I as much as anyone — as an avid Christmas celebrator — am tempted to put up the tree and throw decorations around the house as soon as Halloween ends. However, I have been trying to put a hold on this behavior for the last couple of years. November needs time to live just as much as the other months of the year do. As you wind down from whatever events occurred during the "Hallo-weekend," take a couple of weeks to relax before jumping into another holiday.

Get into the Thanksgiving spirit! Put on "A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving" and eat some turkey before worrying about the winter holidays. This way, you will not get sick of them before their season is in full swing!



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



Opinion



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Rapid Fire: Election Debrief

by the Opinion Section

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 tweet-length takes that can be explained in just a sentence or two — no more justification needed. Although there's many long essays sure to come after former president Donald Trump's victory in last night's presidential election, right now isn't the time for such things. After Tuesday night's presidential election, the Opinion Section asks its writers for a little debrief:

What just happened? What does this mean? How are we feeling? Where do we go from here?

by Tomas Hinckley
OPINION EDITOR

I was 11 when Trump first won the presidency in 2016. I will be 23 when his second term ends. For my entire adult life, he has been the dominant factor in national politics. I'm at least hopeful that soon he will die (because he's old, this is not a threat) and I will outlive him.

by Evelyn Pazan
ASSOCIATE OPINION EDITOR

This election is obviously the one I've been most present for. It is also the first one I've voted in. That being said, aside from political views, the participation and dedication from our generation has been encouraging. I am filled with hope that today's young people will continue to be active in fighting for the kind of country they want to live in.

by Patrick Minnerly
WEEKLY COLUMNIST

I have great fear for where this country is headed, but we can't give up. There will be much work to do in trying to stop what Trump has in store.

by Dan Stark
STAFF WRITER

If Trump upholds his word and goes after every journalist who's ever spoke against him, then The Stark Tank might land me in jail.

PATRICK'S POLITICS:

AMERICA HAS CHOSEN HATE, BUT THIS IS NOT THE END

by Patrick Minnerly
HE/HIM/HIS
WEEKLY COLUMNIST
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As Election Day arrived, I had faith in the United States. I had faith that America would see through the constant lies, division and hate of Donald Trump. I had faith that America would finally elect its first female president in Kamala Harris.

Clearly, that faith was sadly misplaced.

There were those who heeded the call to protect democracy and human rights by casting their vote to preserve what America should be, but they were not in the majority. No, the victory went to Trump, a man with 34 felony convictions, who tried to overthrow the peaceful transfer of power because he lost the previous election.

Perhaps the greatest concern for the next four years is that Trump has now been unchained. In his first term, Trump at least had respected governmental officials working with him in the executive branch who didn't always follow his demands, including four-star Marine general John Kelly, who served as his chief of staff from 2017 to 2019 and recently called Trump a "fascist." Trump's former vice president, Mike Pence, did his constitutional duty after the 2020 election and certified the results, despite the wishes of his boss. Trump has made sure no such disloyalty will occur in this next term; his new VP, J.D. Vance, made a magical turnaround from Trump hater in 2016 to fervent defender eight years later, even asserting Trump did not lose in 2020. In the last election Trump won, a

bit of the old guard was still around to try and mediate his worst tendencies, but they are gone in favor of loyalists.

This transformation of the party is also evident in Congress. Mitch McConnell, who has been leader of the Senate Republicans for years and often clashed with Trump, is retiring from the position after this election cycle, opening the Senate to be even more receptive to Trump's ideas—and Republicans now have a majority in the chamber. The current Speaker of the House, Mike Johnson, is a wholesale supporter of Trump, and he'll likely keep his job if election results keep trending as they are in the House.

The Supreme Court has also been dramatically reshaped. Trump appointed three justices to the court—Neil Gorsuch, Brett Kavanaugh and Amy Coney Barrett—to give conservatives a 6-3 majority. This year, the Supreme Court granted Trump widespread immunity for so-called "official acts" during his presidency, a decision that organizations like the American Civil Liberties Union have criticized for putting him above the law. In essence, Trump will have the full backing of government power behind him to achieve his goals, a perfect storm of control.

What do those goals entail? One of the most consequential issues is an effort to deport millions of people who are in the country illegally using the National Guard and other forms of enforcement. Vance has estimated 1 million may be deported per year if the plan goes through. Here, Trump's xenophobic message that immigrants are destroying the country will be put

into action.

For the economy, Trump wants to cater to the rich by lowering the corporate income tax rate and reversing President Biden's efforts to raise income tax on America's wealthiest individuals. At the same time, he has proposed a 20% tariff on foreign goods that figures to increase costs for the average consumer; companies are already looking at raising prices in anticipation of these proposed tariffs.

There are many other things Trump wants to do in his second term, including eliminating the federal Department of Education, increasing America's reliance on fossil fuel for energy and rolling back environmental protections, cracking down on LGBTQ+ rights and cutting off support to Ukraine.

The U.S will soon remember why it voted Trump out in 2020: the chaos of his administration and the terrible and inhumane policies; the villainy of the man who was already impeached twice in his previous term, who has lied and spewed hateful rhetoric, who has actively tried to undermine democracy and who is now our president again.

In the face of such a horrifying victory, it would be easy to give up and bow to all that the next four years throw at us. But that cannot be the way we proceed. America has survived this long because we have believed in the power of democracy and of hope. So, as many had faith in a win for Harris this election, we must keep that faith for the coming times. We must fight back wherever possible, in the courts and with our voices, against Trump's efforts to wield unchecked power and impose his awful ideas on the country.



LOGO BY SAMANTHA HASS, ARTIST EDITOR/ THE DAILY CAMPUS

Opinion

Photo of the Day | Coffee break



UConn Dunkin' workers strike a quick pose during a busy shift on Nov 6, 2024. Dunkin' Donuts, located in the Student Union, is quite popular among students due to its accessible location. PHOTO BY CAROLINE SUTHERLAND, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS



COMIC BY VAN NGUYEN, STAFF ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS



COMIC BY CHRISTIAN BARBARA, CONTRIBUTING ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS



COMIC BY CONNOR SZREJNA, CONTRIBUTING ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

The Daily Campus Comics

SARGEANT'S



ILLUSTRATION BY VAN NGUYEN, STAFF ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Sargeant's Orders: The moves the New York Yankees should be making this offseason

by Connor Sargeant

HE/HIM/HIS
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After 15 years, the New York Yankees finally made it back to the Fall Classic, pitted against the Los Angeles Dodgers in a series many fans were looking forward to. However, coupled with the pressure of the moment, a lack of fundamentals and questionable managerial decisions, New York was gentlemen's swept by their West Coast rivals. With over \$90 million set to come off the books due to free agents- not including player or club options, according to Spotrac- we will explore key players Brian Cashman should bust out the paycheck to keep and candidates to replace those the front office should let walk.

The Yankees made possibly the easiest decision ever last Friday, picking up Luke Weaver's \$2.5 million club option, as he is one of the most effective relievers in the sport. Gerrit Cole and the Yankees agreed to a four-year, \$144 million deal after the ace initially opted out of his player option, seeking either a new deal or an additional year tacked on.

Juan Soto: Resign

The biggest question heading into this offseason is what team will land 26-year-old generational talent Juan Soto. With potential suitors in the

Dodgers, Mets and Phillies, among others, the demand for Soto is massive. After all, the lefty is coming off an excellent season where he slashed .288/.419/.569 from the dish, including 41 home runs and 109 RBIs. What makes Soto even more valuable is his ability to excel under pressure, as evidenced by his excellent postseason career, including when he carried New York to this year's World Series. His biggest moment in pinstripes came in game five of the ALCS in extra innings, where he launched a no-doubt, three-run shot to right-center field, sending the Yankees to the Fall Classic. Despite these highlight moments in the Bronx, Soto and his agent-Scott Boras, have made it clear this will be a business transaction, and the highest bidder will likely win- meaning we could see a contract of around \$550 to \$600 million. To remain competitive, Cashman needs to make an offer near this figure and build around superstar Aaron Judge.

Anthony Rizzo: Walk

Last Friday night, the New York front office declined Anthony Rizzo's one-year, \$17 million club option, and the 35-year-old will hit the free agency market-although the team will cough up \$6 million for his buyout. While the former Chicago Cub has brought the clubhouse a solid veteran

presence for the younger players to learn from, the Yankees need a stronger bat at the other hot corner. A realistic candidate the front office should pursue is Christian Walker. The 33-year-old is off the heels of a down season, playing in only 130 games and missing all of August with an oblique injury. Despite that, he still put up a respectable .251/.335/.468 slash, all while mashing 26 home runs and 84 RBIs. Considering his consistency with the Diamondbacks and his reliable bat, shelling out \$20 million plus a year for the righty would be a wise move for Cashman, considering he would be on a short team deal of two to three years. If Rizzo comes back to the Bronx, it should not be as a starter or close to \$17 million a year. There are rumors that the 2016 World Series champion will hang up the cleats for good, although that is undetermined, and his time in pinstripes may not be over.

Gleyber Torres: It depends

The Yankees are in an odd spot regarding second baseman Gleyber Torres. He is a fan favorite who has had some success in the Bronx, although he is coming off one of his worst years offensively in both the regular season and playoffs. However, if this price is right, Torres could be a steal for Cashman and Co.

Paying more than \$14 million annually for the second baseman is a hard sell, as the Yankees have many options and need to prioritize money elsewhere. However, it's hard to ignore the regular season and playoff success he had in the past, and that could influence New York to shell out the money to keep him.

If the salary works out or the team misses out on Soto, Alex Bregman is an excellent option. The Houston slugger is a third baseman, meaning Aaron Boone would slide Jazz Chisholm Jr. to second base and revamp the New York infield. However, if Bregman isn't available due to the high salary, Cashman can call Caleb Durbin up. The 24-year-old is a young prospect in the farm system who is coming off a solid campaign in the Arizona fall league. Resigning Torres would be the best move, but him walking won't be the end of the world, as inking Soto and Walker are the biggest moves the Yankees need.

Alex Verdugo: Walk

For the first time in his career, 29-year-old outfielder Alex Verdugo will not be under club control and will be an unrestricted free agent. The left fielder is coming off his worst season yet, owning a WAR less than 1.0. Verdugo's postseason performance from the dish wasn't anything special either, with a batting average just above .200. This is an

issue for a team like the Yankees, who stranded 11 bases in their game one World Series loss at Los Angeles. This figure only increased as the series progressed and was a primary reason why New York lost.

There are many high-end replacements in the free agency class, including Tyler O'Neill and Jurickson Profar. Verdugo will look for a contract with an AAV of \$15 million, so an outfielder in this class will cost only a little more than Verdugo. Another option exists, and it's the most cost-effective of them all: Jasson Domínguez. "The Martian" has been in the New York farm system for years now, and in that time, he has shown much potential. Yankee fans got a look at the outfielder briefly last season, although he only played in 18 games. While his .179 batting average is a concern, he is coming off only eight MLB games the year before and was putting up impressive numbers in the minor leagues. It's only a matter of time before the 21-year-old figures it out, and it's too early to give up on Domínguez. The smartest thing would be to give Domínguez at-bats at the MLB level and let him reach his potential, which Verdugo's departure sets this up perfectly. However, New York should seek out a veteran, as the team is in win-now mode, and putting Domínguez in this role carries some risk due to his inexperience.

Sports

Photo of the Day |



The UConn Huskies take on UMass at Toscano Family Ice Forum on Oct 26, 2024. The Huskies closed the game with a 3-2 victory.
PHOTO BY EMMA MEDINGER, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Women's Soccer: Huskies meet familiar opponent Georgetown in Big East Tournament semifinals

by **Brayden Gorski**
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After a thrilling 2-0 victory on the road against Creighton last Sunday, UConn hits the road once again. This time, it is a rematch with the No. 20 team in the country, the Georgetown Hoyas.

Georgetown came to Storrs in late September and handed Connecticut its first loss in Big East play. Two early scores proved to be the difference as Lizzie Heller and Maja Lardner both netted goals within the first 12 minutes of play. UConn's star Chionma Okafor responded with a breakaway goal on a smooth center pass from captain Abbey Jones, mere minutes after the pair of Georgetown goals. Unfortunately, that would be the lone Connecticut goal, as goalkeeper Anna Karpenko subbed in for the second half and shut down the Huskies offense from that point on. The Hoyas would tack on a third goal as Natalie Means broke free of her defender and scored the dagger.

A story started brewing late in the 3-1 defeat to Georgetown. With 13 minutes left, reigning Big East Goalkeeper of the Year Kaitlyn Mahoney was pulled from the game and replaced by senior Marykate Ward. Mahoney was subsequently benched for two games in hopes that she would be ready to play upon return. Mahoney has been nails since her two-game hiatus, allowing only three goals in six games. UConn is 4-1-1 since Mahoney's resurgence and is streaking at the perfect time coming into Thursday's



The UConn Women's Soccer team wins their game at home in Storrs, Conn. on Sept. 8, 2024 against the University of Rhode Island. The team was able to start the second half strong as they scored their first goal, followed by two more to secure the win.

PHOTOGRAPH BY SYDNEY CHANDLER, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

contest.

Connecticut and Georgetown have had their fair share of matches in the Big East Tournament, dating back to 1999. The Huskies took the first two at home before losing at Morrone Stadium in 2007. UConn bounced back with a win on the road in the 2008 tournament and returned to Washington D.C. in 2021 to announce their return to the Big East Tournament in style.

The Huskies lost a heartbreaking match to the Hoyas at neutral site Maryland SoccerPlex last year. Connecticut was holding their ground for most of the game but could not get the ball past Georgetown goalie Allie Augur. The lone goal came at the start of the second half when Tatum Lenain put one through in the 47th minute. The Hoyas beat Xavier in the Big East Tournament finals and advanced to the round of 32 in last year's NCAA Tournament.

It has been eight years since the Huskies played in the NCAA women's soccer Tournament. With a win on Thursday, UConn can almost guarantee a tournament berth for the first time since 2016. Last year, three Big East teams made it, including Providence, who lost to Xavier in the Big East Tournament semifinals and still earned a tournament spot. If Connecticut can beat a ranked team away from home, it would be a massive resume boost for the voting committee to acknowledge.

For the second year in a row, the game will be played at Maryland SoccerPlex and kickoff time is slated for 7:30 p.m. tonight.



LOGO BY SAMANTHA HASS, ARTIST EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Sam's Section: Overreactions from the first night of college basketball

by Sam Calhoun

HE/HIM/HIS
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College basketball began on Monday, picking up right where it left off last season with upsets and close games. Teams lost buy games, which in the words of Jon Rothstein, is the "epitome of brutality."

With the first week of college basketball underway, and most teams playing games already, this edition of Sam's Section will highlight some of the overreactions in college basketball from opening night.

Kam Jones will be the nation's leading scorer

For the past three seasons, I have loved what Jones brings to Marquette's starting backcourt. In the Golden Eagles' season-opener against Stony Brook, the Memphis, Tenn. native put up a 32-point performance while shooting 14 of 16 from the floor. This is a player who averaged 15.1 points per game as a sophomore when Tyler Kolek won Big East Player of the Year and averaged 17.2 points per game last year, leading the team in points for the last two seasons. In addition to

Kolek being gone, big man Oso Ighodaro has departed after averaging 13.4 points last season.

Gonzaga might be the best team in the nation

In a late-night top 10 battle in Spokane, Wash., No. 6 Gonzaga crushed No. 8 Baylor 101-63. Leading the way for the Zags were Nolan Hickman and Graham Ike, scoring 17 and 15 points, respectively. While former Creighton guard Ryan Nembhard did not live up to his expectations scoring-wise, he dished out 11 assists. My favorite player in Monday night's rout was Braden Huff, who came off the bench to score 14 points on 7-11 shooting. The Bulldogs shot 57.1% from the floor and made 13 three-pointers. They outrebounded the Bears by 13 and played more like a team offensively with 25 assists total. It is early, but my hot take is that Gonzaga should be the No. 1 team in the country when the AP Poll rankings come out on Monday.

Cooper Flagg may be the star, but watch out for Duke's other freshmen

Flagg rightfully has the spotlight put on him. He is coming

in as the No. 1 freshman in the country and has held his own against the NBA's best on the USA Select Team. However, Duke is more than just him, as demonstrated on Monday night against Maine. Kon Knueppel, a 6-foot-7 freshman guard, scored 22 points on 8-14 shooting. Despite only playing 18 minutes, there is a lot to like about Khaman Maluach, who went a perfect 3-3 from the floor and brought down six boards. In addition to that, the South Sudan native had three blocks.

Wade Taylor IV has been crucial for Texas A&M's offense, but his percentages are frighteningly low

Taylor was one of the best scorers in the SEC last season, averaging 19.1 points per game. However, his shooting percentages are still a problem. In Texas A&M's upset loss at UCF, the Texas native shot just 4-15 from the floor, with 11 attempts and all four made shots coming from behind the arc. While I loved how he dished out the ball, finishing the game with seven assists, the Aggies will go nowhere if he is shooting 26.7% from the field.

Texas was severely overrated and Ohio State was severely underrated

In Las Vegas, on Monday night, Ohio State went wire-to-wire to upset No. 19 Texas. Leading the way was junior guard Bruce Thornton, who scored 20 points on 70% shooting, including three three-pointers, along with five assists. Also matching his assist total in the win was senior guard Micah Parrish, who scored 17 points on 5-11 shooting. Key reserves Devin Royal and John Mobley Jr. scored 16 and 14 points, respectively. Texas, on the other hand, did not live up to the hype. The only player who did was five-star Tre Johnson, who scored 29 points on 10 of 20 shooting, including five three-pointers. He was excellent and showed why he will be selected in the 2025 NBA Draft. The other Longhorns did not step up, and I expected more out of a talented roster. Texas shot just 36.8% from the field and 25% from long-range. Arthur Kaluma, who had a major impact in his two years at Creighton and last year at Kansas State, underwhelmed in his Longhorns debut. Even though he scored 10 points, I would have expect-

ed him to be more of an offensive presence. He turned the ball over three times and did not produce much on either end of the court in the 30 minutes he played. Maybe Ohio State will end up being one of the top teams in the country, but that does not look like the case when the Buckeyes have turned the ball over 15 times.

Braden Smith may be the next Tyler Kolek

Remember when Kolek led the nation in assists during his final two years at Marquette? Smith might accomplish that feat in his junior season at Purdue. In the 17-point win over Texas A&M-Corpus Christi, which was surprisingly close, Smith scored 12 points and handed out a whopping 15 assists. He also grabbed eight rebounds, two short of the second triple-double in program history (Joe Barry Carroll, Dec. 10, 1977). The Westfield, Ind. native was a great passer for the Boilermakers last season, averaging 7.5 assists per game. Expect the scoring to jump up this season, but Smith might be a first-team All-American if he can continue to dish the ball like he did on Monday night.

WNBA coaches caught in shuffle, leaving vacant slots in five teams

by Patrick Boots

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The WNBA offseason has been marked by an unprecedented level of coaching turnover, with nearly half of the league's teams making changes at the helm. With five teams currently seeking a new head coach, the shift raises questions about the future of coaching stability in the WNBA.

The turmoil began on Sept. 24, just five days after the regular season ended, when the Los Angeles Sparks parted ways with head coach Curt Miller. He had been hired by the Sparks in 2022 after seven seasons with the Connecticut Sun. Other teams traded coaching staff; Chicago Sky coach Teresa Weatherspoon was let go in late September after one season, in favor of Tyler Marsh, a former assistant coach for the Las Vegas Aces and the NBA's Indiana Pacers.

The Connecticut Sun ended their relationship with two-season head coach Stephanie White on Oct. 27, a move that didn't leave her unemployed for long. The Indiana Fever fired their two-season coach Christie Sides on the same day, hiring White on Nov. 4. White previously served as

Fever head coach from 2014-2016, but helped the Sun reach the WNBA semifinals during both of her seasons.

"This is coming home for me," said White in a Fever press release on her appointment as coach. "It has been such an experience with this franchise for nearly 25 years from day one, and the opportunity to come home and to lead this young, exciting, talented team...It feels like home." White also played for the Fever for four seasons from 2000 to 2004.

Dallas Wings coach Patricia Trammell and Washington Mystics coach Eric Thibault were also relieved of their duties in October. The Atlanta Dream's Tanisha Wright departed on Oct. 2, with team management saying in a press re-

lease, "We believe a change is needed to lead our players and organization to the next chapter in our efforts to be a top team in the WNBA."

While the reasons for these coaching changes vary, several factors are believed to contribute to the high turnover rate. One key factor is the

increasing pressure to win in a league that is becoming more competitive and demanding; the WNBA is 27 years old, but has seen increasing public exposure in the last four years with an expectation of a growing audience. With the rise of new talent and the league's expansion, teams are seeking coaches who can deliver immediate results and build sustainable success.

On Monday, Oct. 21, the New York Liberty won this year's WNBA Championship title against the Minnesota Lynx. The management of teams that did not advance to the competitive final stages may feel that a coaching shift will contribute to their teams' future success.

According to ESPN, 58.3% of WNBA teams will start next season with a new head coach, a statistic

they say is the highest percentage of offseason coaching changes in league history. It may be due to the WNBA's surge in popularity, receiving transplants from successful women's college basketball programs. Vox News reported that Caitlin Clark's first game playing for the Indiana Fever saw 2.1 million viewers on ESPN. The women's NCAA Final Four also enjoyed record viewership, with 18.7 million viewers for the Clark-anchored Iowa-South Carolina championship game and 14.2 million for the UConn-Iowa Final Four contest, according to the Sports Video Group. It's part of a larger trend toward supporting women's sports, as Nielsen Media, the broadcast ratings tabulation company, says that professional, collegiate, and international women's sports are on the rise.

As the WNBA enters a new era, it remains to be seen how the league will navigate this period of transition and uncertainty. One thing is certain: the coaching carousel will continue to spin, and the landscape of the WNBA will be shaped by the decisions made by teams and coaches alike.

For more information about the league, visit wnba.com.



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Sports

Men's Basketball: No. 3 UConn routs Sacred Heart in season-opener, 92-56

by Sam Calhoun

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The reigning back-to-back national champions are 1-0 after a dominant season-opening win over Sacred Heart University (0-2).

UConn is now 92-30 in season-opener and is 22-1 against non-conference opponents over the last three seasons.

"I hate opening night," Dan Hurley said. "It's like the worst day of the year. That'll be the thing that drives me out of coaching: how you feel when you wake up on opening night and you have no idea what your team's about to go do."

Hurley changed the team's starting lineup from the charity exhibition game against Rhode Island. Instead of Hassan Diarra, the reigning Big East Sixth Man of the Year, in the starting lineup, Hurley decided to put Saint Mary's transfer Aidan Mahaney in the backcourt.

"I think that's just a little bit we're trying to figure out: how we want to start games," Hurley said. "Jayden Ross would have started this game if he was available."

UConn started the game hot, beginning with a 7-0 run including a fastbreak steal and dunk by Samson Johnson.

Alex Karaban did not take long to live up to the preseason All-American hype he was receiving. The Southborough, Mass. native had five blocks in the first half, a career-high for him in a game. The last time a player had at least five blocks in a game was Donovan Clingan in the second round of the NCAA Tournament last year against Northwestern, where he had eight rejections. Along with those five blocks, Karaban finished the half with a team-high 13 points and five assists, shooting a perfect 5-5 from the floor—three of those attempts were from down-

town.

"I was roommates with Donovan Clingan for two years," Karaban said on his seven-block performance. "When you're roommates with the best defender in the country for the last two years, you learn a couple of things from him. So, I'm going to give credit to him for the blocks."

Only one player on Sacred

Heart managed to score double figures in the first half. Amiri Stewart came off the bench for the Pioneers and scored 12 points on 4-8 shooting.

The Huskies led by as many as 15 points in the first half, but the scoring turned up a notch in the second half. Michigan transfer Tarris Reed Jr. scored 11 points and brought down eight rebounds.

The St. Louis, Mo. native finished with a double-double in his first regular season game as a Husky, scoring 15 points and 11 rebounds.

"At halftime, I was overthinking a little bit too much, and I got in foul trouble," Reed said. "But overall, the team picked me up."

Heading into the game, five-star freshman Liam McNeeley was likely to make his regular season

debut in the opener due to a calf strain. He made his debut and did not disappoint. The Richardson, Texas native also had a double-double with 18 points and 10 rebounds on 6-11 shooting.

"I play my best game when I just play and I stop thinking about everything," McNeeley said, crediting Hurley for putting the team in positions to make plays.

Karaban added two more blocks to his total in the second half to increase his career-high to seven. He finished the game with 20 points on 7-8 shooting, including five from downtown.

"[Karaban] played like an All-American," Hurley said. "[He] kept us organized in games like this, that's what you're supposed to do."

Sacred Heart finished the game with just two players scoring double figures, with Stewart leading the way with 13 points. Bryce Johnson had 10 points. Tanner Thomas, who scored 22 points in the season-opening loss to Temple, only had six points.

"We have to be more like UConn," Sacred Heart head coach Anthony Latina said. "The way they share the ball, the way they play together is really a joy to watch."

Latina's raving is no hyperbole. The Huskies had 25 assists on 32 made baskets, shooting 51.6% from the field.

"We probably should have shot mid-to-high 50s," Hurley said. "I think it's just part of who we are, part of how we play and what we're going to get better at. We're going to get drastically better throughout the year."

Sacred Heart will continue on the road to face Dartmouth College on Saturday afternoon, continuing a road trip that ends on Nov. 21.

The Huskies are now 8-0 against the Pioneers this season and will face the University of New Hampshire to open the XL Center slate of the home schedule on Saturday night.



UConn Men's Basketball takes on SHU at Gampel on Nov 6, 2024. The Huskies open their season at home starting off the night with a championship banner unveiling.

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

Women's basketball: Huskies open regular season in Hartford with match versus Boston University

by Jake McCreven

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The UConn women's basketball team tips off its regular season tonight, hosting Boston University at the XL Center in Hartford.

The Huskies and Terriers have met four times previously, with Connecticut winning all four meetings by an average of 38 points. The most recent meeting, 11 seasons ago in 2013, saw Breanna Stewart and Stefanie Dolson combine for 48 points as the Huskies romped the Terriers, 96-38. UConn went on to go 40-0 and win the National Championship that same season.

Connecticut returns three starters from last season's team, including redshirt senior Paige Bueckers and dynamic guards KK Arnold and Ashlynn Shade, forming a powerful scoring nucleus heading into head coach Geno Auriemma's 40th season at the helm. Princeton graduate transfer Kaitlyn Chen will make her official debut as a Husky after playing four years with the Tigers and will likely slot in as the point guard.

The frontcourt will be made up of three sizable post scorers Auriemma alluded to as the "key to the team." Red-shirt sophomore Ice Brady got the start at center in Connecticut's scrimmage against Fort Hays State, with freshman Sarah Strong holding down the forward spot. Jana El Alfy came off the bench mid-way through the first

quarter and played over 11 minutes of game time, grabbing nine rebounds and scoring twice.

"In a perfect world, I would love to be able to play all three of them together sometime," said Auriemma.

Off the bench, underclassmen Qadence Samuels and Allie Ziebell combined for 20 points and seven rebounds as the Huskies pulled away from Fort Hays State in the second half. The hope is that the two sparkplugs integrate well when Carolina Ducharme and Azzi Fudd return from injury at later points in the season.

The Terriers were voted fifth in the Patriot League preseason poll, receiving two first place votes—the same as last season, when BU was voted second overall.

The centerpiece of the Terrier offense is senior guard Alex Giannaros, who was voted onto the Preseason All-Patriot League team following a 14.2 ppg, 2.9 rpg and .452 FG% season in 2023. The savvy veteran also plucked 54 steals on the defensive end as BU won 20 games and went to the Patriot League conference final.

In Boston's first game action this season, Giannaros scored a game high 23 points, while sophomore Aoibhe Gormley had an all-around game with 8-7-6. The Terriers shot an excellent 43.8% from beyond the arc and led for all but 31 seconds in a definitive 60-48 win over city-rival Northeastern.



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

PHOTOGRAPH BY ZACH MOLLER, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS