

Languages, Cultures and Literature votes against cutting majors, concerns arise regarding misleading major count data

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Faculty in the Department of Languages, Cultures and Literature (LCL) voted against cuts to all individual majors in the department on Wednesday and Thursday. A university spreadsheet listing majors at risk of cuts contains misleading data.

The faculty vote means that all majors in the department, excluding Spanish, will submit evaluation reports and undergo the provost's review.

The department first scheduled to meet on Oct. 16, when they were asked to vote to merge all majors in the department into a single LCL major, to merge all majors except Spanish or to retain all majors, with all majors excluding Spanish submitting an evaluation report.

Spanish does not need to submit an evaluation report because it is above the threshold for evaluation.

This vote was held due to the provost's review, where undergraduate majors with 100 or fewer enrolled students were asked to accept a cut or submit an evaluation report defending their continued existence. According to a university spreadsheet with misleading data, 70 undergraduate academic plans, 72 master's degree programs, 76 graduate certificate programs and 27 doctoral programs are below thresholds and are at risk of getting cut.

Misleading major counts
Spanish professor Rosa Helena Chinchilla expressed concern that degree conferral numbers were not made public, making it harder to verify if degree totals are correct.

University documents listing undergraduate majors say that 70 academic plans are at risk of getting cut.

A university statement to the College of Agriculture, Health and Natural Resources faculty from Dean Indrajeet Chaubey says that the press made incorrect statements regarding CAHNR majors.

"In press coverage, incorrect statements were made about some CAHNR programs flagged as having low completion/enrollment," the statement stated. "For example, it was stated that Animal Science was below the threshold for review."

A university spreadsheet covering "low enrollment majors" at risk lists that the Associate's degree in animal science is an academic plan below the threshold, meaning that it



Susan B. Herbst Hall, formerly known as Oak Hall, on UConn's Storrs campus. This building went through a name change during the 2023-2024 school year. PHOTO BY COURTESY OF UCONN - DEPARTMENT OF LITERATURES, CULTURES, AND LANGUAGES ON FACEBOOK

is at risk of getting cut. However, the undergraduate major animal science is above the threshold, meaning that it is not at risk.

Horticulture, Turfgrass and Soil Science are also listed as academic plans on the spreadsheet.

"Similarly, Horticulture, Turfgrass, and Soil Science were highlighted as 'no enrollment,' which is true because they are no longer active majors," the statement stated. "However, they are still offered as concentrations within the active Sustainable Plant & Soil Systems/Plant Science major."

The spreadsheet does not define what is meant by an academic plan and does not differentiate between concentrations and majors. While a page of the spreadsheet titled "low enrollment majors" marks associate degrees "AAS," a spreadsheet page covering undergraduate programs in the CAHNR does not differentiate between undergraduate majors and associate degrees.

LCL vote
Italian professor Andrea Celli spoke about the impact of these cuts.

"This is something that created a lot of anxiety among the smallest programs," said Celli. "Some of the majors that were named were Arabic, Italian [and] Judaic Studies."

He said that the proposed alternative to keeping majors was establishing concentrations within the LCL as a way to protect the smallest majors.

"That was presented as a continuation of the cuts that were announced in December 2023," said Celli. "The Dean's Office, through a department head, suggested the solution was to make all the majors disappear and create a new one and then we should have many concentrations."

Chinchilla spoke about the impact of languages.

"Languages are important. For the state, they're important and I think they're important for federal grants and federal money that we get," said Chinchilla. "And I understand that maybe not all the languages fall under that rubric, but I still believe that languages that are spoken in the state by different minorities should be part of the curriculum of the university."

A statement from University of Connecticut President Radenka Maric and Provost Anne D'Alleva stated that humanities are not being targeted.

"There is a narrative taking hold that the humanities are being targeted at UConn. Nothing could be further from the truth," the statement stated. "We want to have vibrant humanities at UConn - this is essential to our mission as a flagship and Land Grant institution."

Maric and D'Alleva's statement outlined potential outcomes of the evaluation.

"This may include continuing the program as it is; making changes to the program such as curricular updates or consolidating it with others to increase its appeal to students; continuing the program with a strategic plan designed to increase levels of enrollment; or the closure of the program," the statement said.

Budget cuts
Celli explained that the goal of the review process was to continue budget cuts announced last year. UConn announced last year that it would implement 15% budget cuts over the next five years.

"The goal of the review was to [...] implement budget cuts," Celli said. "So in the mind of most of my colleagues, this was not something new but a continuation of budget cuts that were announced in December 2023."

Celli said that faculty were

not clearly told what was happening and why the university was continuing with cuts. He also said that faculty had heard from multiple sources that the impact of cuts to majors on the university budget would be limited.

"A problem that we have is we don't feel the information is clear," Celli said. "Is there a crisis? Or if there is no crisis, why we are doing it anyway?"

University Spokesperson Stephanie Reitz responded to this in a statement.

"No changes would be made in a vacuum based on budget considerations; they would reflect the outcome of the in-depth, holistic review process that balances the many considerations at hand," Reitz said.

According to Celli, the cuts were announced to LCL faculty and department heads in mid-September. Celli criticized the speed with which the evaluation process is taking place.

"I think the faculty felt it was very rushed and there was really no time to do things properly," Celli said.

Chinchilla explained the impact of information on budget cuts becoming public.

"Parents have been calling and students have been calling, and they should, to the provost's office, and frankly to the Board of Trustees," Chinchilla said. "I think that they should also let the Board of Trustees know that the way they're proceeding is unprecedented and really creating havoc for us."

Prior to the Dec. 11 meeting, the Board of Trustees will meet on Wednesday.

Maric and D'Alleva's statement says that programs change and close over time.

"Given the budget situation of the university, evaluation of low-enrollment/completion programs is essential to ensure that we maintain the

right balance of programs to support our institutional mission, standards of accreditation, and to meet the needs of our students, in addition to being common sense academic 'housekeeping' the university should engage in on a regular basis," Radenka and D'Alleva said in the statement.

Connecticut Senate President Pro-Tempore Martin Looney weighed in on the cuts in a press release.

"UConn is proud of its ranking as a Research 1 university, which only three percent of American colleges and universities achieve," Looney said. "Therefore, it is incongruous that Connecticut's flagship state university is adopting a Wal-Mart-like approach to some of its less-popular majors, to the extent that majors graduating only 100 or so students over five years could be put in some sort of academic 'close-out' bin."

According to a presentation by the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems to the Higher Education Sustainability Finance Board, Connecticut has grown less generous in funding higher education as a percentage of personal income since 2010.

"My hope is that the provost's office will find - perhaps through administrative savings - a way to maintain these courses and programs, in much the same way the General Assembly has year after year found a way to maintain or increase UConn's funding, even as we contend with state budget spending caps and the end of pandemic federal funding," Looney said.

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UConn's Panhellenic Council recognized for national excellence

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UConn's Panhellenic Council, which governs nine sorority chapters at the University of Connecticut, was awarded the College Panhellenic Excellence Award last week. The council received the award at the National Panhellenic Conference, which took place Oct. 17 through 19. The award recognizes councils that have demonstrated outstanding contributions to all award criteria, including academic innovation, community impact, leadership, recruitment, programming and marketing, according to the NPC website.

UConn was one of 12 schools to receive the award, out of 580 overall universities and colleges considered.

"[Receiving the award] shows the strength that we have built in the council over the past few years and shows how we grow with the changing world, practice diversity, equity, and inclusion, and counteract the stigmas that are typically drawn about us," said Panhellenic Council President Katherine Bates, who

is a seventh-semester economics and statistics major.

The council watches over all nine sororities at UConn and encourages them to make positive impacts on the community. According to Bates, a main goal of the council is to destigmatize the somewhat negative associations regarding Greek life.

"Joining Panhellenic allowed me to build a professional network," said Bates. "Without the leadership experience I gained through my sorority and the Panhellenic council, I wouldn't have become as well connected with the University and involved in other clubs. The social relationships lead to professional relationships. Panhellenic brings out the best in people by learning social and professional skills and applying them to their academics and jobs."

These efforts have led to an uptake in recent recruitment, with this year's Panhellenic recruitment increasing by 47%, according to UConn's Panhellenic Council. With the increase in recruitment, many students get to experience the benefits that come from Greek Life, according to Bates

The council's executive Vice



UConn's Panhellenic Council earns the College Panhellenic Excellence Award. The council is the governing body for nine sororities at UConn. PHOTO COURTESY OF THE SORORITY LIFE ON FACEBOOK

President, Naomi Mathew, who is a fifth-semester molecular and cell biology major, said she believes the Panhellenic community is a tight-knit group within UConn's large student body.

"Every single connection in the Panhellenic community is true, which has shaped my ex-

perience," said Mathew. "My life here would never be the same without my sorority chapter or this community, and I am so grateful to have found something that is greater than any degree."

The Panhellenic community at UConn aims to build relationships among communities, of-

fering leadership positions and networking opportunities, according to their website.

According to Mathew and Bates, "Being recognized on a national level not only acknowledges the outstanding achievements [of UConn's sororities] but promotes the uplifting and inspiring commu-



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By Catherine Cetta

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Saturday’s Puzzle Solved

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GLOHSOC Hosts Global Health Hackathon With \$400 in Prizes

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Multiple students won a cash prize at EnableHack 2024 on Saturday, Oct. 27 at Werth Tower. Annual hackathons are hosted by the University of Connecticut Global Health Spaces on Campus (GLOHSOC); this year's focused on improving accessibility for the elderly and disabled, according to the club's event website. Students began working at 6 p.m. on Friday and had until 10 a.m. on Saturday to develop their idea.

Ammar Alsadadi, Sahil Patel and Connor Lafferty were the winning group and won \$250 total with their idea, "Sensory Shield." According to their project presentation, their plan was to develop a phone app that would use artificial intelligence for audio and visual recognition to help people with impaired hearing or vision.

Their app would have two components to suit unique needs, according to the group's presentation. "Sign Sense" would convert American Sign Language to text or speech to better communicate with people with impaired hearing. "Scene Sense" would convert visuals to audio for people with poor vision and for general safety. The group demonstrated a working prototype of "Sign Sense" that could track hand positions to convert 15 different ASL signs into text.

Ammar Alsadadi, a seventh-semester actuarial sciences and statistical data science major, talked about the effort the group put in. After winning, he said, "We didn't sleep enough because we worked a lot." He also mentioned how each member made unique contributions.

"I contributed a lot for the presentation and also an understanding of the programming, I had some input there," Alsadadi said. "Sahil, he's computer science and Connor is [a] computer science student, and they did most of the backhand work for the actual model training."

Sahil Patel, a third-semester computer science and statistical data science major, elaborated on the work that went into the "Sign Sense" model. He highlighted Lafferty's coding work for the ASL recognition, who could not attend the presentation.

"Connor is a machine-learning cloud computing genius," said Patel. "Like, he's genuinely amazing at it. The way his mind works, bro, it's insane."

The second-place team won

\$100 with their project "After Arts," which emphasized improving the accessibility of after-school programs in public schools for children with disabilities. The third-place team won \$50 with their project that would help people with Tourette's syndrome monitor the amount and extremity of their tics.

A presentation by GLOHSOC's executive board outlined how projects would be judged. Groups were evaluated on the quality of their solution, innovation, prototype or policy design, teamwork and presentation quality. Teams were judged by Kush Kataria, who focused on the health aspect of presentations; Ashutosh Ahuja, who focused on the technical and coding elements and Ashten Vassar, who focused on whether solutions would actually help people with disabilities.

Dhruv Tyagi, a fifth-semester computer science engineering major and technology director for GLOHSOC, and Faizdeenkhan Pathan, a fifth-semester physiology and neurobiology major and director of operations for GLOHSOC, explained the goal for the organization and the hackathon. They highlighted the collaborative nature of the event and how it highlights people with different educational backgrounds.

"You'll notice like a business major is never gonna learn the same thing as a prep like a pre-med major," said Tyagi. "But if you put them in the same group, they have different skill sets and they come up with, you know, their own unique ideas and they combine them into whatever their project is."

Tyagi and Pathan explained that GLOHSOC members and the hackathon participants are made up of a diverse set of majors. They said that some focus on biology, some work with computer science and others specialize in business, among other majors. To make the event as inclusive as possible, the hackathons are meant to be more of a project creation event than exclusively coding.

"It's a quote-unquote hackathon, but it's more project development, more like innovation," said Tyagi. "It's more innovative than like, 'Here's a problem, code it.'"

EnableHack 2024 is the last main GLOHSOC event for this semester. The organization will host a Global Health Symposium in the spring relating to accessibility for the elderly and people with disabilities.

Reflecting on familial connection with Laura Marling on 'Patterns in Repeat'

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On Oct. 25, critically acclaimed English singer-songwriter and folk artist Laura Marling released her eighth studio album, "Patterns in Repeat." It is the first project she has released since "Songs For Our Daughter" in 2020, right after the global pandemic began. A lot has changed for Marling since then, most notably having her first child in 2023, who is the catalyst for making this album. A statement on her Bandcamp page says this album has Marling reflecting on her new maternal worldview and other familial connections.

With 11 tracks spanning 36 minutes, Marling leaves a brief yet powerful impression on the listener. Those accustomed to her music are familiar with the acoustic intimacy that permeates her discography, but this project is even softer than before. Acoustic guitar, piano and light string arrangements make up most of the instrumental palette. Unlike her previous endeavors, there are no drums on the album, allowing the delicate instrumentals and Marling's soothing vocals to shine.

The album opens with "Child of Mine," where Marling spotlights how she will cherish her relationship with her daughter. Indistinct conversation between a man, woman and a baby's cooing take up the first 20 seconds, setting the cozy and familial tone of the record. Marling acknowledges the difficulties of parenting a toddler in the lyrics, mentioning the long nights, the burden of teaching them everything and not always being there to comfort them. But despite the work, she vows to appreciate every moment and take nothing for granted.

The fourth track, "No One's Gonna Love You Like I Can,"

continues the emphasis on family, focusing on appreciating a partner. Delicate free-flowing piano guides the song as Marling divulges the intimate knowledge and love she has for this person. Everything slows down during the bridge and emphatic strings take the spotlight, creating one of the most beautiful moments on a song released this year.

The record takes an ominous turn on "The Shadows," the fifth track on the album. The lyrics detail someone the narrator was dependent on leaving and the inner turmoil this gives them. Marling sings quietly without any backing vocals, her guitar playing is slow and cryptic and the strings dramatize the narrator's despair. While not outright depressing, this is certainly the most somber moment on the album.

Marling doesn't wallow in darkness for long, however, as the following track, "Interlude (Time Passages)," is a jaunty instrumental segment that disavows its dooming predecessor. This is one of the more unique songs on the record, breaking from the standard instruments and adding woodwinds to the mix. The result is similar to some of Masakatsu Takagi's folk compositions. The mirthfulness of the song is remarkable, perfectly capturing what it feels like to be a little kid running around on a cool summer day.

The next couple of tracks on the album are fittingly placed after the "time skip" interlude. "Caroline" opens with spirited fingerstyle guitar reminiscent of Nick Drake's work on "Bryter Layter." The song is about a long-lost friend reconnecting with the narrator and the conflicted feelings this creates. The infectious chorus is a bit tongue-in-cheek, describing a song about Caroline that the narrator has forgotten by now. The words that would be there are replaced with a cluster of "la la las" instead.

The following track, "Looking Back," was originally written by Marling's father, Charlie Marling. It's a bitter-sweet cut from the perspective of an older person reflecting on their life and the love they shared with others over time. Old age looms threateningly, yet the confined and nostalgic narrator isn't bothered. They have learned to cherish their memories and live vicariously through those they have spent their life loving.

On the final stretch of the album, Marling returns to the family values that make this album so special. On "Lullaby," Marling softly sings her child to sleep by promising her safety. The stripped soundscape of the album complements this goal and leads to an unmatched soothing experience. The penultimate track, "Patterns in Repeat," shifts the adoration to her partner.

Marling sings of this person's different quirks and flaws that persist over time, their "patterns in repeat." But the bridge culminates in Marling loving this person indiscriminately and without regret, inviting them to embark on parenthood with her. Marling's backing vocals overlap dramatically here, really pronouncing the message before a beautiful outro of humming, strings and guitar take over.

The album ends on a shortened instrumental of "Lullaby," a peaceful resolution to the record. It's an invitation for Marling's daughter, partner and the listener to take a moment to breathe, relax and appreciate the delicate and thoughtful music that's been playing.

Laura Marling's "Patterns in Repeat" is a beautiful album that accomplishes a lot in a short amount of time and with a limited range of sound. It's a calming, well-written experience that will make you appreciate life and cherish the friends and family that surround you.

Rating: 4.25/5

Honors Council hosts a successful Halloween crafts 'destress' night

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Did someone say Halloween movies, painting pumpkins and playing with slime? On Oct. 24, Honors Council hosted a destress event for honors students at McHugh. Students got to take a break from their busy academic schedules with activities that they chose themselves. Whether you are a new student here at the University of Connecticut who wants to meet new people or are just looking for someplace to rest, events like this are essential for many reasons.

Before the event, students were able to vote on the movie they wanted to watch. This poll included "Hocus Pocus," "Ghostbusters," "Coraline" and a fourth option of suggesting a different film. As students came in, the movie was revealed to be "Coraline," so the event started. Before starting any activities, students were welcome to pizza, chocolates and candy corn.

When asked how the Honors Council came up with this exciting event, Lisa Liang, a seventh-semester chemistry major, said, "We came up with the idea for this event during one of our first meetings this semester because we wanted to do something fun and Halloween-themed. Our members had great ideas for slime making and pumpkin decorating, and we haven't done something like this in recent years, so we were so excited to bring these activities to the Honors community."

Members of Honors Council walked around with a slime kit, asking each honors student if they wanted a slime play with. This slime kit included many colors that each student could choose from. Honors Council also provided mini white pumpkins for students to paint if they wanted to. Beautifully painted pumpkins by honors students were all around by the end of the event.

Students enjoyed their time with each other as they talked and participated in these activities.

"I think it's so nice just to meet people that you are living with and going to class with. It makes it a tighter community and helps everyone feel at home here. I also transferred in, so it was nice to meet people," said Catherine Murphy, a third-semester actuarial science major. When in class, it may be hard for students to meet and talk to other honors students, proving these honors-specific events essential in building a tighter community.

"I connected a lot more with my friends even though we are in the same council. I feel like this destress event allowed me to learn more about them and where they come from," added Kaliya Barnes, a first-semester healthcare management major.

This Halloween crafts night destress event came just in time for midterms, granting students a time to reset and take a break from the immense stress, especially with being an honors student on top of it all.

"I think that we all put a lot of pressure on ourselves, like

there are a lot of expectations that most of us could relate to, like trying to be perfect in a way, so I feel like having these events dedicated to honors students who tend to put the most pressure on themselves is a way to destress and find an outlet for each other to find support," said Johanna Rivera, a first-semester allied health major.

Connecting with those dealing with similar stresses can remind you that you aren't alone, and that it is normal to feel stress as a college student around this time. So, if you are an honors student, you may want to consider attending one of the next events hosted by Honors Council as it may be exactly what you need.

As the movie ended, groups continued to be creative with painting their pumpkins, playing with their slime or just talking to their friends. No matter the activity one participated in, everyone was smiling and took advantage of this destress event.

"Through this event, we hoped to bring honors stu-

dents together with fun, sensory activities and help everyone 'staywhelmed,' a mantra often repeated in Honors. Our hope is that the Honors Council can help foster these opportunities to meet other people and feel a sense of kinship within the Honors Program," said Liang.

This brilliant and organized event by Honors Council ensured that truly everyone had a fantastic time through various interests. As students left McHugh, attendees seemed rejuvenated. In the beginning, students seemed to struggle to open up, and the room was a bit silent. By the end, everyone was focusing on each other and their conversations were louder than the movie itself. The event not only provided a break from academic pressures, but also proved to strengthen the sense of community within the Honors Program.

Upcoming Honors Events can be found on the UConn Events Calendar website.

‘No Skips’: Witch album do I review?

Life

by James Fitzpatrick
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In my search for a Halloween-esque album to review on “No Skips” this week — where we analyze albums that have no skippable tracks — I realized my answer was staring right at me. “Mista Thug Isolation,” a pivotal record in the underground music scene that influenced my preference to dig below the surface to find new stuff, is a haunting listen I hope you’ll check out this season. Plus, the Halloween-y album cover most listeners have familiarized themselves with depicts a decaying hand held up to a neon-green light emitting radiation.

Travis Miller is the creator of this masterpiece. Known as Shawn Kemp, Bedwetter, Vudmurk and Lil Ugly Mane, the final name is his most prolific and the one to whom this project is attributed. Lil Ugly Mane was predominately Miller’s rap alias until 2021’s “Volcanic Bird Enemy and the Voiced Concern,” where he toyed more with rock and psychedelia. Regardless, “Mista Thug Isolation” is his most well-known and occult record to date, for good reason. Recorded in Maryland, it shows up in much of the music it draws inspiration from, including Memphis rap, which originated in nearby Tennessee. Furthermore, he proves that dated aesthetics of 1990s and

2000s Southern rap have plenty of staying power in the modern day.

If you manage to get through the few minutes of white noise that initiate this album and his follow-up, “Oblivion Access,” Miller has a treat waiting for you with the saxophone-tinged “Serious Shit.” He lays down his inventive wordplay and his ability to flip samples off the jump. The chorus doesn’t even have any of Miller’s vocals on it; rather, a combination of Kurupt and M.C. Money, the latter of which the song’s name is derived from.

“Maniac Drug Dealer III” isn’t about drug dealing, though I would turn to his subsequent EP “Uneven Compromise” for a detailed exploration of the topic. This song is actually about murder. Calling back to other rap movements of past decades such as horrorcore, Miller raps, “Got me waiting outside of the club with the pump / Ready to dump, put you on slump / I know cats on your crew that all say you a chump.” He also gives love to the “Bling Era” when claiming, “When I smile, all you see is the diamonds in the cluster” in a time before most rappers had a mouth full of jewels.

“Wishmaster” is Miller at his prime, both in production and rapping to a self-aware degree, as he repeats “Don’t you wish you could be me?” to a sped-up sample of the funky “Don’t You Wish You Could Be There” by Crackin.’ Other vocal and vio-

lin samples during the verses, where he says he “blow[s] spots just like a Molotov” culminate into the most high-octane track on the album, and potentially the entirety of his expansive discography. “Bitch I’m Lugubrious” sees Miller spitting at an impressive speed whilst maintaining his lyrical hubris when he remarks, “Your YouTube page is viewerless, it’s humorous.” The piano melody and saxophone notes are yet another layer of this sleeper hit that keeps listeners returning based on its Spotify play count.

Linking this article back to Halloween, we have “Cup Fula Beetlejuice.” This is a music column, so don’t be shocked when I admit I haven’t watched either “Beetlejuice” movie and likely never will, despite this being one of my favorites on the record. The chorus is another example of Miller’s swagger when he proclaims, “Ain’t a killer on my level, I be wearing the crown,” and the verses are backed by ghoulish organs and other noises calling back to Halloween. The following three songs are notable for their use of cowbell and Miller just gets in a flow state, though I can’t wait any longer to discuss my favorite track from Miller.

“Twistin” features Denzel Curry, as the two were frequent collaborators during the 2010s, with Curry eventually blowing up in popularity. It’s unfortunate many fans haven’t heard

his verse on the front end of the song that, in hindsight, makes it unsurprising that Curry would release the fast-paced “Ultimate” two years later. Retrospectively, it’s also funny when he states “Fuck a man on the moon” in reference to Kid Cudi, whom he would later work with on “Talk About Me” with Dot Da Genius and JID. The infectious sample-based hook reappears, and somehow, Miller keeps the momentum of the track going, at least with bars like “Leave you imprisoned inside of a chalk line around your final position.” We got “JPEGUltra!” — this should’ve been called “UglyUltra.”

“Lean Got Me Fucked Up” is nothing but spooky vibes, from the sample of a child singing in the background to the alarming beginning of the first verse, “I’m a project ghost, I’m a hood apparition / Murder on my mind, money is my mission.” Miller’s most popular track, “Throw Dem Gunz,” flips “Small Cafe” by the late Leon Ware to create a cloud rap aesthetic, one that would become far more relevant in the coming years. Finally, the instrumental that finishes “Mista Thug Isolation” off is a small taste of the vocal-less hip-hop that dominates his “Three Sided Tape” series.

The most skippable track for many people is “Slick Rick” due to the piercing CRT TV sound that thankfully only annoys



CARTOON BY SAMANTHA HASS,
ARTIST EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

me a little since I grew up playing Mario games on old televisions. The same can be said for “Lookin 4 Tha Suckin” in which the shrill sound of a bed or chair creaking is looped, presumably to insinuate sex, though the beat is quite laid-back outside of this.

Nevertheless, this album is heat from front to back and I wish resellers didn’t hike the prices of the vinyl pressing up so much. Speaking of, someone had bought one of his later releases and immediately listed it online for an exorbitant price, so Miller’s label found out who the seller was and sent them a box of rocks. Don’t show up to this guy’s doorstep on Halloween; rocks in your candy bag will be the least of your worries. Just kidding — thanks for all the music, mane.

‘The Great Impersonator’:

Halsey dazzles with a brilliant, icon-inspired album.

Noa’s Review:

Halsey’s fifth studio album, “The Great Impersonator,” came out on Oct 25., and I couldn’t have been more excited. Halsey has shared so much of herself with us in the album rollout, and it feels special to get a new perspective on who they are and what they wish to share. I feel that I must be honest; I did stay up all night in anticipation and I don’t regret that decision one bit.

“I really thought this album might be the last one I ever made,” said Halsey in the official album trailer on YouTube. “Am I still Halsey? In every time? In every timeline? Do I still get sick? Do I still become a mom?” Halsey asks. “Am I happy? Lonely? I spent half of my life being someone else. I never stopped to ask myself, ‘If it all ended right now, is this the person you’d be proud to leave behind?’ Is it even you?” And so I asked too (prior to listening at 12 a.m.): Will “The Great Impersonator” answer this for us?

And with that, we begin: “Only Living Girl” is the first song of the 18-track album. It is over six minutes long, which I think is genuinely beautiful (petition to bring long songs back?).

“And if I ever try to leave behind my body, at least I know it was never mine...”

The song lays out not feeling like yourself; feeling like an impersonator, perhaps? Towards the end, the music becomes warped and loud, until it ends with softly sung lyrics. The track was beautiful, loud and unapologetic, and leads right into the next song.

The second song, “Ego,” feels very 1990s-inspired and invites the listener to examine the lyrics closely: “I think that I should try to kill my ego / ‘Cause if I don’t, my ego might kill me / I’m all grown up, but somehow lately / I’m acting like a fucking baby / I’m really not as happy as I seem.” sings Halsey. The lyrics dive into feeling invisible and wanting to be different than you are. “I wanna go back to the beginning / When it all felt right / A rooftop, Lower East Side / I’m singing / Didn’t give a fuck / If I was winning / It’s all done now, so who am I kidding?” These lyrics hit hard, and it feels like Halsey is trying to figure out what being themselves truly means.

In “Dog Years,” Halsey sings of trying to be positive and how hard it is. They feel alone and yearn for more. “I still live, but dying’s up to me” they sing. Halsey sings about their dog as well, and of how they told him they’ll meet soon. All dogs go to heaven, says Halsey, though the lyrics seem to suggest that maybe they themselves won’t. A recurring theme with this album has been asking questions that can get “uncomfortable,” so to speak. Halsey is incredible at writing songs that feel both like the crisis and its salvation.

“Letter to God (1974)” reminds me more of a voicemail — Halsey sings about someone and there’s dialogue. “Did he want to be a grownup?” they ask, and I do still wonder who “he” is.

Throughout “Panic Attack,” “The End” and “I Believe in Magic,” Halsey asks: “Is it love? Or a panic attack.” They sing of being sick of their pain, feeling like damaged goods and having poison in the brain. “When I met you, I said I would never die / But the joke was always mine.” It truly does feel like a voicemail to God, and I find myself wishing that he would answer.

Finally, the first half closes with “Hometown.” They don’t want to go back to their hometown. “I didn’t think that I was special, but I was too afraid to die” Halsey sings — and to me, “Hometown” wraps up the first nine songs beautifully.

Halsey is a talented, wonderful singer. And I truly feel that they will be nominated for Album of the Year at the Grammys. I know this album was the one they thought would be their last, and I feel so lucky to be able to listen to it the way they intended. Halsey, thank you for a truly out-of-this-world album. It was tragically heartbreaking, yet felt as though there was something more in it: An aspiration to share, to exist and to bring forward a story so big and so, so great.

Rating: 5/5

Michelle’s Review:

I had the pleasure of reviewing the following nine tracks of “The Great Impersonator,” where we started with track ten: “I Never Loved You.” In one of Halsey’s more personal songs impersonating Kate Bush, Halsey opens up about their struggles in life. From relationship struggles to more of the challenging health issues they have gone through, and dealing with both at the same time. The chorus for this one hit me as the lyrics are beautifully written, and the combined melody matches perfectly. Next, we had “Darwinism,” which — to my shock — was inspired by David Bowie. There was something so magical about this song. The piano melody that opened up the song was probably one of the best parts of the whole album and gave off the Bowie vibes of the ‘70s.

Moving on, “Lonely is the Muse” — as a huge Evanescence fan — I admit I was most excited about this track impersonating Amy Lee and it did not disappoint. From the beginning, you can see the clear resemblance and inspiration of Lee. It was a bit of a transition after the last two songs, as it was rock-based, making it unique to the album. Halsey did an amazing job with this one and I will be listening to it regularly.

For the next track, “Arsonist,” Halsey impersonates Fiona Apple, and out of all the songs, this is the one that keeps playing in my head. The song itself is so unique, with Halsey combining many different elements into just the first few seconds of it. With unique sounds coming from the piano, background voices and tone, Halsey brought out a new side of their creativity with this one, so it is probably my favorite on the album. “Life of the Spider” takes inspiration from Tori Amos, and this one was heartbreaking. The whole song itself sounds like something recorded in Halsey’s bedroom, giving it more of an emotional effect and displaying the struggles they have dealt with regarding their health.

This next Halsey impersonation is a bit surprising, as Halsey is interpreting themselves. (But in their “Badlands” album era). “Hurt Feelings” dives into complicated parent relationships again, showing Halsey’s more vulnerable side. The song was again — with no shock — still beautifully written. “Lucky” is one of the more controversial songs on the album. Britney Spears’ “Lucky” influenced it, and when it first came out, people criticized Halsey, claiming they were “copying” Spears. I will say this is one of my lesser favorites, only because Spears’ “Lucky” is arguably one of her best songs, making it hard to compete with and you inevitably want to compare the two songs, since they are so similar.

Track 17, “Letter to God (1998)” is a song inspired by Aaliyah. Halsey has said it is influenced by Aaliyah’s “Are You That Somebody,” which might be hard to understand if you listen to both at first because they sound so different. However, it shows the extent of Halsey’s creative ability, where they can take musical inspiration from other artists and make it their own. And then we end with a bang. The finale is titled “The Great Impersonator” and is inspired by Björk. If you told me this was Halsey, I am not sure I would have believed you. It not only sounded like Björk but also had similar quirky aspects.

“The Great Impersonator” is truly an amazing album release by Halsey. It was dynamic, making it perfect for everyone with various music tastes to listen to. It was personal and heartening, allowing you to connect to Halsey as an artist. Contrary to what I said about “Lucky,” it deserves a Grammy for how unusual and exceptional it was.

Rating: 5/5



Life

@dailycampuslife

Roundtable:

Connecticut students' perspectives on this Presidential Election

Note: This roundtable is a collaboration between Daily Campus and The College Voice, Connecticut College's newspaper.

As Election Day quickly approaches, students at the University of Connecticut and Connecticut College are solidifying their voting plans. Some will return to their hometowns to cast their ballot, while others will participate in mail-in voting or early voting. Students are using a variety of platforms, including social media, to learn about the candidates and make informed decisions. In this roundtable, writers from The Daily Campus and The College Voice interviewed their peers to gather insights on how Connecticut students are approaching this election.

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This presidential election will be the second time Mia Jaworski, a ninth-semester journalism major at UConn, will be voting. She will be commuting to cast her ballot in her hometown of West Hartford, Connecticut. She said she sees voting as taking part in something momentous.

However, for this presidential election, Jaworski said she has not been following it very closely because it is “overwhelming to the point of [her] becoming upset.” She said what election content she does come across is on TikTok. However, she said that she does not seek the information out. Rather, it’s the algorithm that brings the content to her attention.

Jaworski said she feels “powerless in presidential

elections” because she feels there is a lot of pressure on the president. She said that because of the intense polarization within the Senate and House of Representatives, presidents rarely accomplish all they may want to. She said she thinks many conversations between political candidates steer toward attacking other peoples’ characters rather than discussing policies.

Jaworski’s first time voting was during the 2021 state elections. She said that she believes that voting for representatives of a specific area gives voters “power in things that directly affect [them].” Despite her sentiments toward the presidential election, she still believes voting is important.

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As social media’s influence grows by the day and becomes a big part of today’s interconnected world, many students turn to various platforms to receive their news. Though there can be valuable information on the platforms, it can also be plagued with dangerous disinformation.

Elliott Greenblatt, a fifth-semester political science student at UConn, said he gets most of his news from X, formerly known as Twitter. Greenblatt said the app is riddled with “conspiracy theories” and “misinformation,” and it is often “very hard” to sort out the truth. “You’ve got to find multiple sources and corroborate it with a couple other sources

just to make sure it’s actually true,” he said.

As for the politicians’ pages on X, Greenblatt said there is a wide variety of content posted. Some solely use their page to “trash their opponent,” while others post “uplifting” information regarding their policies and plans for office, he said. While Greenblatt said the “trash talk” is disheartening, those posting factual policy plans are helpful for the public.

Despite the misinformation, Greenblatt said he is “feeling good” about the election. Though he plans on traveling 40 minutes to his hometown to cast his vote, Greenblatt is motivated to vote against Republican candidate Donald Trump and “his policies.”

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Elijah Hammond, a first-semester analytics and information management major at UConn, is one of many students who has been following the presidential election closely plans to vote in-person in his hometown of Southington, Connecticut, on Election Day. Hammond has been keeping up with the campaign by getting news from a variety of sources, but he is dissatisfied with what he views as the overall negative tone of election coverage.

“I try to diversify and get viewpoints from both Republican and Democratic views,” said Hammond. “It is definitely difficult during this time frame because I feel like instead of reporting on actual news, they’re just attacking the other party, which makes it extremely hard to gather any sort of truth.”

Among the issues that are most important to Hammond are gun control and abortion.

However, what’s most important to him is finding compromise on those issues, which he believes is key to making legislative progress.

“My whole ideology is that nothing’s going to happen unless there’s compromise,” said Hammond. “You can say guns are bad all you want, you can say guns are good all you want, nothing’s going to change if you’re on both sides of the extreme.”

Hammond said that while he’s not feeling stressed about the election, he’s more concerned about the two-party system as a whole and what he views as the flaws of the system.

“The fact that we only have these two options and that there are people who have no idea who they’re going to vote for is evidentiary to the fact that our political system is sort of failing, and that’s how I’ve been thinking for a long time,” said Hammond.

by Tara Kamen
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As a dedicated ambassador for Camels Vote, Connecticut College’s voting initiative program, Sophia Williams, a fifth-semester dance and government major, is passionate about motivating students to take an active role in shaping the future of their country.

“Our Camels Vote team has been working tirelessly to host events that resonate with students,” said Williams. From engaging events like “Goats for Votes” to lively debate watch parties, the initiative aims to make civic engagement both fun and meaningful. “I want to instill in students that engaging in democracy matters, whether at the local, state, or national level,” she said.

In her role, Williams helps facilitate discussions about the importance of voting and shares vital information about registration and voting options. “Our main purpose is to equip students with the tools they need to participate in our democracy,” she said. The initiative has included visiting classrooms to raise awareness about upcoming elections and

ensuring that students feel informed about their voting rights. A highlight of her involvement this semester was serving as a debate panelist for Connecticut’s second district, noting that “it was an incredible opportunity to represent student voices and engage in discussions that matter to our community.”

The response from her fellow students has been overwhelmingly positive. “Political engagement among our peers is incredibly strong,” noted Williams, mentioning that Camels Vote has seen significant interest in voter registration and participation. “We currently have the highest percentage of students in the country who have taken The Pledge to Vote, with over 500 Camels committed to casting their ballots this November,” she said.

“Being part of this election feels monumental,” she said, reflecting on her journey. “I want to inspire others to recognize the power of their vote and encourage them to be engaged citizens.”

by Kevin Lieue
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While most young adult voters rely on mainstream media for information on candidates, Mia Whipple, a third-semester student, gets her information from the candidates directly. “I’m getting most of the information from the candidates directly since I follow them [on social media],” said Whipple. “I feel like seeing it from them is the best source of information because it can’t be fabricated at all.”

Whipple believes that this is shaping her perception of the election, but not necessarily in a bad way. “When you are seeing something live you see what people say and the facts,” said Whipple. “The more news sources and journalists [information] goes through the more possibility there is for misunderstanding or manipulation of what candidates said.”

Although there are news sources that are not all manipulating the words of candidates,

Whipple believes that most are. “There are news sources that are obviously more center but in general it is very left or very right and while I obviously have a party alignment, I don’t like to read things from the lenses of a party, which is generally hard to come by in news,” said Whipple.

As a result of journalistic manipulation, Whipple believes a lot of people don’t have the right information. “I’ll be talking to someone who will

say ‘Oh I’m voting for so and so because the other candidate said this’ but then if you look it up the candidate actually didn’t say that,” said Whipple.

The content Whipple has seen has not had a terrible impact on her mental health, though the current political polarization does bring worry to her. “The current political polarization definitely upsets me a little because people mostly get their news from places they are loyal to and believe that

the news they are getting is true, which is not true,” said Whipple.

Central to Whipple’s motivation to vote is the opportunity to be heard. “It’s important to make your voice heard,” said Whipple. “A lot of people in my life have said that it’s not that important to vote because our state is not a swing state, but if everyone had that mentality then no one would be voting.”

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The risks of UConn’s program evaluations: Mergers and closures are not the answer

EDITORIAL

The University of Connecticut’s Office of the Provost is evaluating approximately 245 programs which are at risk of being cut, according to The Daily Campus. These evaluations are for all “low-completion programs”, defined as those at or below a certain five-year threshold of degree conferrals over the past five years. This includes any program under 100 undergraduate majors, 50 master’s degrees, 25 graduate certificates and 10 doctoral degrees given from August 2018 to May 2023. The full list of all programs under review can be found in publicly accessible documents to anyone with a UConn Net ID. The Daily Campus Editorial Board strongly urges all students to look through the given materials themselves to see if their program is being threatened.

In terms of specifically undergraduate degree programs and concentrations, which the degree completion data defines as “majors”, the programs under review include 26 from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, or about 47% of the 55 total programs offered within the college. It includes 16 of the degree programs within the College of Agriculture, Health and Natural Resources, 15 out of the total 16 programs from the Neag School of Education, and eight of the total nine programs in the School of Fine Arts. There are only two programs each under review from the School of Business and the College of Engineering.

The first problem when looking at the numbers is the incredible skew towards humanities programs. Although President Radenka Maric and Provost Anne D’Alleva deny that these evaluations are skewed against any particular field of study, the numbers show disparities in terms of where the potential cuts could come from.

UConn has a responsibility to be more than a school for business and engineering. Although these departments may bring in more outside funding and military-industrial contracts, they are not all this school has to offer, and by no means are they the sole factor in a good education.

UConn’s mission statement is to help “every student grow intellectually and become a contributing member of the state, national, and world communities” and “[enhance] the social, economic, cultural and natural environments of the state and beyond.” Fundamentally, an education in the humanities is a necessary part of both of these goals. How can a school enhance the social or cultural environments of the world if the parts of its education dedicated to those pursuits are degraded to the point of obsolescence? Where are the students of Connecticut supposed to go if they cannot follow their educational desires to the highest degree at the state’s largest public university? The answer lies elsewhere, which will only hurt this state and its prospective students. If UConn, the flagship university of Connecticut, cannot or chooses not to provide an adequate holistic education in this way for its students, it will fail in its distinct responsibility to everyone in this state.

This leads into another crucial point when it comes to understanding this issue. Although these programs are currently only “under review,” with administration officials claiming that this is just an opportunity to make a “strategic plan” on how to increase enrollment with no guarantee of closures, there seems to be no possible answer that does not spell out negative outcomes for these programs. For example, in the Department of Literatures, Cultures and Languages there were possible plans that included the consolidation of all language majors into one generalized LCL major, which was seemingly supported by the office of the Provost. This would not technically be a closure, but would regardless greatly harm students, making it more difficult to find jobs in those fields. Not only would it hurt the department as it currently stands, but it would worsen its place among other universities in the fight for future students interested in these areas of study, exacerbating the original problem of enrollment which has caused the review.

As for graduate programs, all the above still applies, but it is especially crucial to prevent cuts in this area for the overall health of the university. There are a total of 72 masters programs and 27 doctoral programs currently under evaluation. Although this will affect less students compared to the undergraduate majors, a significant fear of the cuts is losing all the incredible services which these students and workers provide to the larger university. Many graduate students hold teaching assistant positions, maintaining smaller class sizes and a proper teacher to student ratio, which is essential to the success of undergraduate students. Additionally, these factors are heavily important to the already falling ranking of UConn against other colleges. The research which doctoral and graduate students provide is indispensable to UConn’s status as a Research 1 university, one of the biggest sources of pride for this school.

It is clear that closures and consolidations will not be good for this university, and so UConn must reject these answers outright. If the problem is low enrollment numbers, then the answer is increasing accessibility, not making the program more undesirable or eliminating it entirely. The high costs of enrollment would be a great place to start for this school, allowing all students to more reasonably make educational choices that may not lead to six figure salaries directly post-graduation. This should be a priority for any institution which wants to create broad social impact as UConn does, and especially one which is a state institution with a duty to provide for its citizenry. It is clearer now than it has ever been that this university and its community is at a crossroads, as there is no one at this school who will not be affected and no shortage of impact that this will have on the broader state of Connecticut. The choices and their consequences have never been more apparent, and The Editorial Board will do its job in pushing for the right one.

Trump’s flip-flop on voting by mail

by Youssef Macary
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As the election approaches, many Americans are presented with a large amount-number of voting options. In addition to voting the traditional way on Election Day, many Americans are voting early, with a polling location right here on campus in the University of Bookstore. Additionally, many people are taking advantage of mail-in voting options. Despite voting becoming more accessible, which is good for our democracy, former President Donald Trump spent years fighting many of these measures. However, as the election looms closer, he and his campaign have strategically decided to flip their stance on this matter. This shows that the Trump campaign’s stance on mail-in voting is not based on facts, or what is better for democracy, but rather is entirely self-serving.

During and after the 2020 election, former President Trump was very much opposed to measures that made voting more accessible. According to CNN, “In 2020, the Trump campaign filed several lawsuits to stop many of the changes made by states

to make it easier to vote by mail.” Just as recently as this January, Trump said. “We have to get rid of mail-in ballots because once you have mail-in ballots, you have crooked elections.” As demonstrated through both his campaign’s actions and his own rhetoric, former President Trump had taken a very firm stance against mail-in ballots.

Now, as the 2024 presidential election approaches, we see a very sudden shift in Trump’s stance. This past April, Trump took to Truth Social, and posted “ABSENTEE VOTING, EARLY VOTING, AND ELECTION DAY VOTING ARE ALL GOOD OPTIONS.” With such a sudden shift in Trump’s stance, one has to consider the reasoning behind such a switch. Specifically, is this because of a fundamental change in how Trump views these new voting measures, or are they done for strategic and electoral reasonings? Unfortunately, it seems that the real reason is the latter.

According to the University of Florida, 4,399,488 Republican mail-in ballots have been accepted thus far this election. This goes to show that many Trump supporters are using mail-in voting

to vote for him. And there is certainly a benefit to the Republican Party and their candidates to push people to vote by mail, as “GOP strategists [see] mail voting as an advantage in campaigns because it lets them ‘bank’ unreliable votes before Election Day and lowers the risk of turnout plummeting because of bad weather or other unpredictable factors at the polls.”

Trump is in a close race for the presidency against Kamala Harris, and to win, he needs every vote he can get. This is something his advisors likely know and he seems to have finally accepted. Yet, one has to question the ethics of having a political opinion simply for electoral purposes. Does Trump really believe that mail-in voting can be linked to fraud, or does he think it’s a viable option for the country? Based on his switch in position, he either lied to the American people in 2020, or he is pushing something he does not believe in now to get votes who might be the leader of our country for the next four years. We have to consider whether Trump is capable of doing what is in the best interest of the American people, or if his motives are purely based on self-interest.

Photo of the Day | Prepping for game days



UConn Athletics Facility in Storrs, Conn. This is the home of the UConn Huskies and their many undefeated teams. PHOTO BY BLAKE SYKES, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

★ COMICS ★



Ah Reum Kindness, Contributing Artist



Christian Barbara, Contributing Artist



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McCreven’s Mashup: Preseason college basketball conference championship predictions

by **Jake McCreven**
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Allow me to practice some positive affirmations before the start of this column: These predictions are in every way perfect and will 100% come to fruition. I deserve absolutely no criticism for my predictions because they are perfect. I will not listen to any criticism because my predictions are undeniably right.

I’m joking, of course. Predicting a college basketball conference championship game is like projecting the weather; no matter how well it’s modeled, it’s always wrong.

Below are my personal projections for each of the high-major conference championship games (excluding the Big East – see Husky Hoopla), listed alphabetically and using KenPom’s projected records for the regular season.

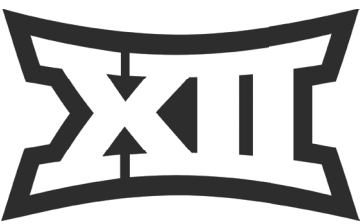
ACC – North Carolina (Proj. 21-9) vs. Duke (Proj. 25-6)

Barring any unforeseen runs by Wake Forest, Miami or Louisville, the ACC will be the easiest conference to project and actually get right – heading into 2024. The old saying “the rich keep getting richer” applies especially to the bluebloods on the Atlantic Coast ahead of 2024, with the two national powerhouses combining for six five-stars and a handful of high-profile transfers to complete the pair of already star-studded rosters.

The Tar Heels return more talent from last season (including potential Wooden Award winner RJ Davis and distributor Elliot Cadeau), but max out at a lower ceiling than the Blue Devils, who welcome the powerful Cooper Flagg to Durham after a historical high school

campaign, along with international Olympians and seven-foot difference makers.

The losses of Armando Bacot, Cormac Ryan and do-it-all Harrison Ingram sting for UNC, but a bevy of high-octane underclassmen will shoulder some of the scoring alongside Davis, who returns after averaging 21.2 PPG last season.



Duke’s roster is arguably more talented, especially in the frontcourt and on the wing, where Flagg, seven-footer Khaman Maluach and transfer Mason Gillis – a palpable scorer – will all have scoring opportunities early. Riding with the less experienced but more talented roster seems to be the move here, especially considering the amount of raw power the Blue Devils possess at every level on the roster.

Big 10 – Purdue (Proj. 21-9) vs. Michigan (Proj. 18-12)
Every prediction article needs at least one smoldering hot take. Now, which Big 10 team is in on that take: a Pur-

due team that lost the nation’s top player in Zach Edey and flopped in the national championship game, or a retooled Michigan roster built from the ground up?

I’ll let you figure that out. The Boilermakers return many key backcourt pieces from last year’s national runner-up team such as fiery Braden Smith and silky-



smooth shooter Fletcher Loyer, but welcome explosive underclassmen Camden Heide and Myles Colvin to the rotation in West Lafayette. The emergence of Trey Kaufman-Renn late last season warrants frontcourt optimism for Matt Painter as well. There are also two seven-footers on the roster.

Michigan imploded its entire roster and coaching staff after a disastrous 2023, poaching Dusty Maye from Florida Atlantic and many high-profile transfers – especially in the frontcourt – to form what could be one of the nation’s most improved teams.

Yale transfer Danny Wolf is a space-clogging center and Vlad Golden is a huge get for Maye as a holdover from FAU. Freshman Durrall Brooks is a surefire starter as a freshman and will have a high impact early.

When in doubt, bet on Matt Painter. The Boilermakers have qualified for two of the last three conference championship games, winning one, all while returning one of the conference’s top rosters.

Big 12 – Baylor (Proj. 20-10) vs. Iowa State (Proj. 21-8)

In by far the hardest conference to predict heading into 2024, I took it upon myself to throw darts at a board to determine who will play in this game.

Just kidding, I put thought into it. But there is a pool of teams seven or eight deep that can find themselves playing for the title come March.

Banking on the cohesion of the highest-upside roster in the conference seems like a safe bet. Baylor threw together a mix of returning stars and notable newcomers, such as high-pedigree VJ Edgecombe and former Duke starter Jeremy Roach, along with fierce rebounder Norchad Omier, to form one of the most explosive rosters in college basketball.

Iowa State returns many key pieces from last season’s team and will be one of the country’s best overall defenses with point guard Tamin Lipsey running the show and fellow backcourt mate Keshon Gilbert splitting time with Curtis Jones off the bench to form one of the best backcourts in the country. The Cyclones presented a very consistent offensive attack in 2023 and leaned on their formidable defense to win 29 games and claim a two seed in the NCAA Tourna-

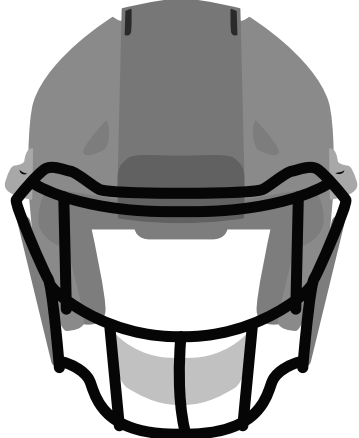
ment. With frontcourt uncertainties forming after the departure of two starters in Ames, Baylor seems like the safer pick. Scott Drew has built tradition in Waco and knows the taste of winning.

SEC – Arkansas (Proj. 20-11) vs. Alabama (Proj. 23-8)

The Tide bounced into 2024 following a Final Four appearance and the return of most of its core, with playmaking guard Mark Sears at the top of Wooden Award conversations and floor-stretching Grant Baker showing tell-tale signs of a breakout in 2024.

The Hogs rebuilt the entire roster after collapsing in 2023 and saying goodbye to coach Eric Musselman by way of USC. The Razorbacks welcome in storied coach John Calipari from conference-rival Kentucky and a litany of bonafide stars via the portal such as DJ Wagner (Kentucky), Johnell Davis (FAU) and Jonas Aidoo (Tennessee) to form one of the more talented nuclei in the SEC.

Still, the Tide’s roster is one of the best in America and is chock-full of NBA talent. Picking against Nate Oats in SEC play-where he has lost just nine times in three full seasons seems like a questionable play. I’m riding the Tide to the SEC Championship.



CLIPART COURTESY OF CREAZILLA

Field Hockey: UConn split weekend matchups against Liberty and Syracuse

by **Tyler Pruneau**
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Breaking even this weekend against No. 18 Liberty University and No. 12 Syracuse University, the UConn field hockey team battled to the end, fighting for victory.

Improving their overall record to 14-2 and increasing their home game streak to 9-0, UConn came out with a win in an overtime thriller. Sending them home with their sixth loss, Connecticut snapped Liberty’s four-game winning streak.

Both offenses struggled to get anything going, as a defensive battle nearly kept the contest shotless by the end of the first quarter. Attempting 223 shots with 151 on goal for the season, the Flames held UConn to just two shots with one on goal. With how aggressively the forwards for Connecticut have attacked the keepers in past clashes, being in this situation is a

rare sight. This was not the start the Huskies wanted.

However, despite the early offensive struggles, UConn’s defense stepped up big. Connecticut’s defense shut down the Flames’ offense through their relentless pressure; they did not allow Liberty to register any shots. This is not a surprise, as the program has proven to outplay several offenses in previous games. Entering the second quarter, both offenses started to look alive. Five minutes into the second, No. 12 Julia Bressler attempted to get the Huskies on the board. Taking a shot on goal, the match remained scoreless, as goalkeeper Michaela Skinner made the save.

Coming down to the final stretch of the first half, Liberty got off two shots, both saved by No. 1 Natalie McKenna. Obtaining a penalty corner right after, the Flames knocked in the first goal

of the clash. Not long after, with a penalty corner of their own, No. 14 Sol Simone deflected the ball into the net after a shot attempt by No. 21 Sophie Perschk. Adding a sixth goal to her resume, Simone tied everything up heading into the third.

Giving UConn no room to breathe and moving up the field, Liberty jumped out of the half strong. Shooting five shots within two minutes, no attempts were made as McKenna saved four and one was blocked. With the remaining time left in the third and fourth quarters, the teams shot back and forth but failed to get anything past the keepers. With the score staying 1-1, overtime decided everything.

Knowing how great both defenses played, the thought of a tie was possible, but UConn had other plans. 44 seconds into overtime, weaving through traffic, Simone eventually connected with No. 4 Juul Sauer. With all

eyes on Simone, Sauer took advantage of the opportunity, putting the contest away and giving them momentum for Syracuse.

Just like Friday’s clash, competitiveness is the only word to describe the way these two teams played. Ending the home game streak, the program fell to Syracuse in the final home game, ending 3-1. This is the first time UConn lost by more than one point this season.

Kicking the match off in a crazy fashion, Orange scored the first goal within 30 seconds but got called back after a review by the officials. Connecticut found no shots concluding the first quarter, keeping the score at zero. Turning the script around in the second, the team put the pressure on, shutting down Syracuse’s offense but seeing no goals going into the half. Attempting two shots the entire first half thanks to penalty corners, the team had once again never been in this situation.

Entering the third quarter, the Orange attempted two shots, keeping McKenna on her feet; however, she saved them, leaving the game scoreless. Coming down to the final five minutes of the third, Perschk found No. 9 Milaw Clause knocking in her first goal, putting UConn in the lead. Possessing the ball for the rest of the match, Syracuse found themselves with three unanswered goals and paused the Huskies’ momentum, concluding the game.

Going 2-2 in their last four games, UConn has hit a road bump, not looking like their usual dominating self. The three ranked teams, Massachusetts, Liberty and Syracuse, gave the Huskies a challenge, but the team has proven to overcome their problems and continue to move forward. Heading into Norfolk, Virginia, on Friday, Connecticut looks to rebound before going into the postseason.



UConn Field Hockey takes on Syracuse University for senior night in Storrs Conn. on Oct. 27, 2024. Despite Syracuse’s 3-1 win over UConn, it was evident that the team played as hard as they could and honored their seniors. PHOTO BY SYDNEY CHANDLER, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Photo of the Day |



UConn men's soccer matches up against Providence College at Morrone Stadium in Storrs, Connecticut. on Oct. 23, 2024. The Huskies walked away with a loss against the Friars with a score of 2-1. PHOTO BY SIHAM NEDLOUSSI, ASSOCIATE PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Men's Ice Hockey: Huskies shock No. 15 UMass with a win and a tie in their two-game slate

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After a tying with No. 15 UMass Amherst in the first game of their weekend series, the UConn men's ice hockey team battled for a game two victory to edge out the week-end advantage.

The weekend was split between both team's home venues, with game one at the Mullins Center in Amherst, Massachusetts and game two at Toscano Family Ice Forum in Storrs, Connecticut. Prior to this series, the Huskies had not defeated the Minutemen since January of 2023. UMass boasted a 10-16-3 record over UConn coming into the week-end.

UMass immediately erased the deficit, scoring a goal just 40 seconds into the period. Second-year Jack Musa snagged a UConn pass out of the air, before sliding a pass to third-year Cole O'Hara who buried the Minutemen's sec-

ond goal. UMass nearly took the lead in the same period, but due to a goalie interference, it was overturned. UConn ended the second on top when third-year forward Tristan Frasier had his shot deflected, before third-year Ryan Tattle shoveled the rebound past the goalie to take a 3-2 lead.

In a grueling third period, the Huskies kept the Minutemen at bay as neither team was able to gain an offensive advantage. UMass pulled their goalie in a last-ditch effort, and as the clock wound down, second-year Ayden Suniev tied the game and forced overtime.

The overtime period was reminiscent of period three, a back-and-forth affair where neither team could establish an upper hand. The overtime was highlighted by a diving save by third-year goalie Tyler Muszelik to keep both teams locked in a stalemate, resulting in a 3-3 final score.

As the clock struck zero, the Hockey East standings advantage would be decided in a

sudden death shootout. In the eighth round, fourth-year Lucas Mercuri converted on his attempt to award the Minutemen the extra point towards the conference standings.

On Saturday, UConn once again took the first lead in the contest. The Huskies sent out



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

their penalty kill unit to repel the UMass power play. Third-year Jake Percival managed to

sneak away with the puck, getting a one-on-one chance with the keeper where he knocked in the shorthanded goal with 12 seconds left on the power play clock. Muszelik kept the Huskies on top, making a staggering 11 saves in the first period.

The Huskies continued their dominance into the second period. As the Huskies controlled the puck in the offensive zone for over a minute, Percival was able to net his second goal of the game, stuffing the shot past the goalie to give UConn a 2-0 advantage. As the period continued, UConn scored their third unanswered goal with less than five minutes to play in the second. Second-year Joey Muldowney flicked a pass backwards to Richard, who ripped the puck to the far side of the goal, where Muldowney was able to tap in his first goal of the weekend. UMass finally managed to get on the board at the end of the period, as fifth-year Linden Alger scored after a

faceoff win, to make the game 3-1 going into the final period.

UConn's penalty kill unit was put to work in the third period as the Huskies committed three penalties. With five minutes to go in the game, the Minutemen capitalized on their man advantage, bringing the game within one as Musa scored on an assist from second-year Dans Locmelis. UConn's defensive line was able to hold off UMass for the remainder of the game to secure the 3-2 upset victory.

The Minutemen narrowly outshot the Huskies 29-28, but a stellar performance by Muszelik in goal helped UConn hold on to their lead. The New Hampshire transfer made 27 saves in the game to propel UConn to the win.

The Huskies will defend their home ice next weekend as they welcome The University of Vermont to both the XL Center and Toscano Family Ice Forum in a two-game set. The puck drop is scheduled for 3:30 p.m. on Saturday.

Men's Soccer: Huskies settle for 1-1 draw at St. John's

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With the team's final game of the regular season coming up on Nov. 2, the UConn men's soccer team (8-3-5, 3-2-2 Big East) went on the road to face St. John's University on Saturday (6-5-5, 4-1-2 Big East) in hopes of bouncing back following a 2-1 loss earlier in the week to Providence College.

Connecticut struck first early in the game, with forward Scott Testori getting on the end of a crossing pass from midfielder Charlie Holmes for the score in the sixth minute. The senior from Madison, Connecticut, now has four goals this season, with three of them coming on the road. Holmes, a junior from Seattle, Washington has two assists this season, both in October.

The Huskies were dominant in the first 45 minutes, even discounting a 1-0 lead at halftime. UConn was strong on the defensive end, with goalkeeper Max Kerkvliet not being tested in the first half.

However, the Red Storm grew to find its footing for the rest of the first half. St. John's defense did an excellent job keeping Connecticut without a shot for the rest of the half after the Testori goal.

In the 27th minute, the Johnnies had an opportunity with a shot attempt from forward Miguel Diaz. 40 seconds later, midfielder Eric Danquah's attempt sailed wide.

St. John's had a pair of opportunities in the final two minutes of



The UConn men's soccer team matches up against Providence College at Morrone Stadium in Storrs Conn. on Oct. 23, 2024. The Huskies walked away with a loss against the Friars with a score of 2-1. PHOTO BY SIHAM NEDLOUSSI, ASSOCIATE PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

the half. Defender Camron Boumsong fired a shot from 12 yards out. Midfielder Tyler Morck got the rebound, but his shot attempt was past the left post.

It was a tale of two halves, with St. John's ultimately being the better team in the final 45 minutes. The Red Storm came out of the break aggressively on the offensive side, with Diaz firing a shot attempt wide in the 53rd minute.

In the 59th minute, forward Niel Griffith fired a shot off-target from 20 yards out.

"The second half, they just kind of pressed it and made it difficult for us," said UConn head coach Chris Gbandi on the team's X



account.

Along with Boumsong, defender Bjorn Nikolajewski also provided a spark for the defensive group on offense, firing a shot just wide of the net in the 66th minute. The redshirt junior from Berlin, Germany played a full 90 minutes in the game.

Off the head of defender Antonio Briggs, the Johnnies tied the game in the 77th minute. Briggs,

a senior from Kingston, Jamaica, scored his first career goal on Saturday.

Forward Brady Geho saw a chance to give the Red Storm its first lead of the game, but Kerkvliet punched his header away. St. John's had another chance with defender Thomas Lamaille, but the senior from Villejuif, France saw his shot in the 81st minute not find the back of the net but kept the Huskies in its defensive third.

The final seven minutes saw a grueling finish for the players despite no recorded shots, resulting in a draw at Belson Stadium in Queens, New York.

St. John's doubled UConn's total shots and shots on goal with 10 and four, respectively. Kerkvliet was forced to make three saves in the second half, while St. John's goalkeeper Alec McLachlan only made one.

The Huskies were the more physical team despite the only yellow card issued being against St. John's, with 20 fouls to the Red Storm's 10.

Saturday's result is the eighth tie in the 39th game in the series history. St. John's remains in front 17-14-8 all-time but has not come out on top in the series since March 2021.

"Hopefully we can get a home game," said Gbandi ahead of the season finale against Akron,

referring to the Big East Tournament.

Their final chance at getting a home game will come against the Big East's best team in terms of points. The University of Akron, ranked No. 24 in the country according to the United Soccer Coaches Poll, has a commanding lead in the Midwest Division of the conference with 21 points, 11 more than second-place Creighton University.

Senior Day against Akron will be Saturday afternoon at Joseph J. Morrone Stadium at Rizza Performance Center on FloFC. St. John's has two games left with Georgetown University on Saturday and The City College of New York on Nov. 4.



CLIPART COURTESY OF CREAZILLA

Football: Huskies battle through comeback campaign to defeat Rice 17-10

by Bridget Bronsdon
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The 5-3 Huskies stunned the 2-6 Rice Owls 17-10 in a comeback campaign Saturday afternoon for UConn's Homecoming Weekend. Though UConn got off to a slow start and trailed 3-0 at the half, the latter portion of the match proved the Huskies' success was better late than never.

Though they made a visible effort, the first half was a massive struggle for the Huskies. Incompletions, lost yardage and a lack of chemistry between quarterback Nick Evers and the UConn receivers was the overarching theme. However, this struggle wasn't one-sided. The Rice offense was far from a well-oiled machine and was unable to build any sort of offensive momentum. Owls quarterback, freshman Drew Devillier, debuted in his first career start but was unable to get his squad into scoring position.

As much of the first quarter was characterized by three-

and-outs, neither team could find their rhythm and was stagnant on key opportunities. While there were sparks of offensive momentum here and there, both kickers routinely took to the field following failed first down attempts.

The first and only sparks from Rice came with just over two minutes left in the first quarter. Though the team was unable to find the endzone, Rice's Tim Horn notched a 23-yard field goal to secure the first points on the board and their only lead of the day.

With Rice leading 3-0 in the second quarter, the most commotion from Connecticut was a 53-yard field goal attempt. Unfortunately for UConn's Chris Freeman, his attempt was missed and flew wide right, snapping his streak of 11 consecutive made field goals.

A picked pass by Rice once again demonstrated a UConn offense lacking chemistry and stuck in a stagnant cycle. As for the Owls, they were unable to turn the pick into a scoring opportunity.

The first half closed out in a

less-than-promising fashion for the Huskies as they trailed 3-0 and demonstrated an overall lack of cohesion and connection.

While the first half was an obvious cycle of stagnation, the Huskies eventually changed the narrative halfway through the third quarter.

With just over seven minutes left, Connecticut notched the first touchdown of the contest. Running back Durrell Robinson sidestepped the only Rice defender in his way and ran for 68 yards to secure his fifth running touchdown of the season and the longest rush in his career.

Robinson has consistently been an explosive playmaker for the Huskies and leads the team with 573 rushing yards. With that, UConn was no longer playing a game of catch up as they stole the lead 7-3.

While Connecticut showed sparks of offensive progress and a sudden shift in momentum, Rice was still unable to connect as an Owls pass was nearly picked off by UConn defensive back Rante Jones.

As Rice continued on a downward spiral, UConn climbed the rankings and began to find their footing. At the start of the fourth quarter, Evers and Skyler Bell finally connected for a 34-yard reception to put the Huskies at the Rice nine-yard line. As the Huskies came face-to-face with the Owls' endzone, running back Cam Edwards wove into the endzone on a four-yard rush, earning his fifth touchdown of the season.

The Huskies, now up 14-3 with just over 10 minutes left in the contest, were at long last demonstrating the high caliber of play they're capable of. Success was found again with a 30-yard field goal from Freeman to elevate UConn 17-3.

The final commotion resulted in a long-awaited Rice touchdown in the final four minutes of gameplay. A 100-yard kickoff return had Rice's Quinton Jackson running coast to coast to secure their final points of the game and cut the Owls' deficit 17-10.

Despite their efforts, the Owls paled in comparison to the Huskies and though it may

have taken some time, UConn found their footing. The Connecticut defense had a phenomenal showing as they held the Owls' offense to 178 yards, two sacks, nine tackles for loss and 11 pass breakups. Offensively, however, there were signs of struggle as Evers threw an interception and finished 9-of-24 passing. In comparison, Rice's Devillier was 14-of-30.

"It's an understatement to say that we didn't play well offensively in the first half. I want to focus on the resilience and grit that our football team showed. You're gonna get in games where things aren't going well and if one side of your team can raise up and keep drawing a line and fighting the way they did then you have a chance to fight through some of the things on offense that are hurting you," said head coach Jim Mora.

Next Saturday, the Huskies will protect The Rent for the final time this season as they host Georgia State for Senior Night. Kickoff is scheduled for 7 p.m. and the contest can be streamed via CBS Sports Network.



The Huskies take on Wake Forrest University at The Rent on Saturday, October 19. Despite coming close in the fourth quarter, the Huskies lost 20-23. PHOTO BY EMMA MEIDINGER, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Women's Soccer: Huskies win crucial first game over DePaul

by Brayden Gorski
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Coming into Thursday night's contest, UConn knew they needed to win both games this week to control their fate in the Big East tournament picture. They responded perfectly after a scoreless draw against Villanova last Sunday.

The scoring started right away and minutes into the game, the ball was centered to Chionna Okafor. The forward then found Maddie Fried who fired a shot from the top of the box into the right corner of the net. That goal was the fourth of the season for the former Villanova transfer, putting Connecticut ahead early.

The offensive pressure continued from UConn as Anaya Johnson found Abbey Jones in the 13th minute. The captain took a touch and then fired the second goal of the game into the left corner of the net. The Huskies held a 2-0 advantage without conceding a shot to the DePaul offense.

The Blue Demons finally got a shot off as Grace Menser stole the ball from a Husky. However, her off-target shot flew out of bounds. That would be one of only a few opportunities DePaul would see in the first half.

After a conservative few minutes, Laci Lewis sent a cross pass in the direction of Okafor inside the box. DePaul goalie Elena Milam jumped up and came down with the ball before any UConn player could get a touch. Fried, looking to score her second goal of the night, dropped her defender with a great move in the corner. The senior sent a shot on net which was blocked and after a bicycle kick attempt by Okafor, possession went to the Blue Demons.

Naia Ocio checked in and was immediately thrust into action. The Spain native took a shot right away which was deflected. A UConn pass intended for Okafor ended up at the feet of Ocio after a collision between Okafor and a defender. The freshman looked poised for her third career goal,

but Milam made a diving stab to keep the deficit at two for the Blue Demons. The final chance for Ocio came when she was wide open on a Connecticut free kick. However, the offside flag came up before Ocio could make a play on the ball.

The first half whistle sounded, and Connecticut's two early goals had them on top after 45 minutes.

Early in the second, Jones sent a roller towards the net which was easily scooped up by Milam. Okafor earned UConn a corner kick, which was taken by Sophie McCarthy. The tandem connected on the ensuing corner as Okafor's header when straight into the hands of Milam.

The Blue Demons showed signs of life midway through the second half as Freya Jupp, DePaul's leading goal scorer, broke through. Despite her first shot being blocked by a diving UConn defender, Jupp created separation for herself and fired a shot above the leaping Mahoney to cut the Connecticut lead down to just one.

Soon after momentum started to swing in the direction of DePaul, Kelly Monaco made two key plays to turn the tide back in the Huskies' favor. The Blue Demons had the numbers advantage on the offensive end and were attacking the back end of Connecticut's defense. Monaco made a great move by shielding her defender from getting a good touch on the ball. She did this long enough for Mahoney to leave her post in the net and dive on top of the loose ball. The Indiana transfer also did the work on the offensive side of the ball by drawing two defenders her way, leaving a wide-open Abby Merchant. Merchant fired a shot from the penalty hash and gave UConn an insurance goal to put them back up by two. For Merchant, this goal was her first in her 19th game as a Husky.

The last gasp from DePaul came when Tessa Fagerson's shot was saved by a diving Mahoney.

The final whistle blew, and UConn grabbed a massive win to get them one step closer to a Big East Tournament bid. Connecti-

cut has still not lost a game when scoring two or more goals, holding a record of 8-0-2. The Huskies are now 3-3-3 in Big East play with just one game remaining. UConn's senior day is this Sunday at 1 p.m. against Seton Hall. The Huskies will be honoring their nine seniors and three graduate students against the Pirates.



CLIPART COURTESY OF CREAZILLA



The UConn Women's Soccer Team claimed a 1-0 victory over Seton Hall at Morrone Stadium on Oct. 27, 2024. This win marks their tenth of the season, the first time since 2016 that the Huskies have reached double-digit regular-season victories. PHOTO BY SAHANA GANESH, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Daily

Sports

Volleyball: Huskies face disappointment as their winning streak comes to an end on the road

by Julia Sasso
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On Friday, Oct. 25 the Huskies faced Xavier University in Cincinnati, Ohio. The Musketeers took control of the first set early on, gaining a 3-0 lead. The Huskies responded with several kills from freshman Anna Herman to tie the game at 3-all. Both teams traded points back and forth, tying the match again at 9-up. However, the Huskies took the lead with kills from graduate student Taylor Pannell, junior Hanna Tylska and sophomore Grace Maria, putting them up 15-12. The Musketeers responded, going on a five-point run and regaining the lead 17-15. However, UConn wasn't willing to give up yet, coming back with a run of their own. Two consecutive aces from Maria and a kill by Pannell put gave the Huskies a 21-18 advantage. Kills from Tylska, Herman and Maria sealed the deal and gave UConn the first set, 25-23.

The Huskies kept the momentum going into the second set, as blocks from Herman and a kill from Tylska put UConn up 3-1. Xavier responded with a 4-0 run, taking the lead 5-3. After several errors from the Musketeers and a kill from senior Doga Kutlu, the Huskies tied the set 7-all. Xavier took the lead in the latter half of the set, gaining a 17-12 lead on the Huskies after several strong offensive plays. The Musketeers

extended their lead, going on a 6-0 run putting them up 23-13. A final kill, and service ace, from Xavier gave them the second set 25-15, tying the game at 1-1.

Going into the third set, both teams struggled with errors that led the set to a tie at six-all. The Huskies continued to struggle with error as Xavier took an 11-6 lead. The Huskies fought back with three kills and a service ace from Pannell, putting them within one point of the Musketeers at 13-14. Xavier responded with several kills extending their lead to 22-18. Though the Huskies attempted a comeback with kills from Tylska and freshman Loren Winn, their efforts weren't enough, as the Musketeers took the third set 25-22.

The Huskies came into the fourth set looking to turn the game around. They got an early lead, going on a 5-0 run early in the set. Kills from Kutlu, Tylska, Winn and Pannell put the Huskies up 7-2. Xavier tried to close the lead, scoring three consecutive points off of UConn service errors, but the Huskies were quick to shut them down. Kills from Tylska and Kutlu and a service ace from junior Brenna Wyman put the Huskies up 11-5. From there on it was all UConn, with the Huskies never losing the lead and going on several 3-0 runs. The Musketeers attempted to close the gap later in the set, going on a 4-0 run. In the end, the Huskies took the fourth set 25-20,

once again tying the match, at two sets a piece.

The Huskies kept the momentum going into the fifth and final set, taking an early 5-2 lead off of kills from Pannell and Tylska. However, the Musketeers were unwilling to go down easily as they put up a four-point run of their own, re-taking the lead by one point 5-6. Both teams continuously traded points, bringing the game to a standstill at 10-all. Xavier took the lead in the latter half of the set, going on two scoring runs and took the set 15-11. This marked the Huskies' third loss in the season.

UConn moved on to face the DePaul Blue Demons on Sunday, Oct. 27, in Chicago, Ill. The Huskies were looking were looking for a comeback going into the matchup, but the Blue Demons proved themselves a worthy opponent and handed UConn their fourth loss of the season.

DePaul started the first set off aggressively, quickly building a 7-1 lead on the Huskies. UConn struggled to find its rhythm, as the Blue Demons continued to build their lead to 15-5. Kills from Tylska, Maria and a service ace from freshman McKenna Brand helped the Huskies close the gap to 17-8. DePaul extended their lead to 22-11 with strong offensive plays. Despite errors from the Blue Demons and a service Ace from Pannell the Huskies couldn't catch up; DePaul took the First set 25-13.

The Blue Demons kept their

momentum going into the second set, taking an early six-point lead. Both teams then went on a string of 3-0 runs. With Maria and Herman putting up several kills for the Huskies, closing DePaul's lead to 16-12. The Huskies then went on 4-0 run with kills from Herman and a service ace from Tylska, leading to a tied set at 16-all. DePaul responded by going on two strong offensive runs, regaining the lead 23-17. The Huskies were close behind, going on two 3-0 runs fueled by kills from Winn, Tylska and Pannell. Bringing the score to 24-23. Despite their efforts, the Blue Demons took the second set 25-23, putting them up 2-0 going into the third set.

The third set started in a tight match up, as both teams constantly traded points leading to 7-all tie. Both programs continued to put up good offensive plays as DePaul began to gain a small margin over the Huskies, 15-12. Connecticut continued to fight, as kills from Tylska and Herman put them back in the spotlight tying the game at 19-all. After a small scoring run, the Blue Demons attempted to gain a lead on the Huskies. UConn responded, capitalizing on DePaul's errors and scoring two kills from Tylska, gaining a one-point lead, 24-23. DePaul tried to keep UConn at bay. However, in the end, it was the Huskies who came out on top, taking the third set 28-26.

Going into the fourth set, DePaul was determined to get off

to a hot start, going on an early 5-0 run and claiming the lead. The Huskies' defense took center stage as blocks from Winn and Herman helped UConn close the lead to 5-3. The Blue Demons extended their lead to 12-7. The Huskies responded, taking advantage of errors in the DePaul offense; kills from Tylska closed the gap to 11-12. DePaul continued to build their advantage, getting to 19-14. Three kills from Pannell brought the Huskies to fighting distance at 19-20. However, their efforts proved not enough, as DePaul took the fourth set 25-22 and consequently won the match 3-1.

These marked the Huskies' third and fourth losses all season. UConn will be seeking redemption as they continue their conference play on the road later in the week when they take on Providence.



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UConn volleyball versus St. John's at the UConn Volleyball Center on Oct. 20, 2024. The Huskies played well and ended up winning 3-2 in a thriller of a match. PHOTO BY BLAKE SYKES, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS