



This Day in History: Oct. 31

“Samhain, All Hallows Eve and now — Halloween”

by Benjamin Lassy | HE/HIM/HIS | LIFE EDITOR | benjamin.lassy@uconn.edu

“There is much that is mystifying, interesting and beautiful in the beliefs on which the festival of All Hallows was originally based.”

That was the opening line of the Washington D.C. Sunday Star from Oct. 26, 1913. A little over a hundred years later, the Daily Campus is exploring the history of “All Hallows Day,” now known as Halloween. In this special issue of This Week in History (now branded as This Day in History, for today only), we’ll dive into what may just be the scariest day of all.

There’s a classic debate over the origins of Halloween, with many claiming it is a Christian holiday and others arguing it is “pagan.” As with most things in history, the correct answer is a confusing middle ground. It turns out that humans are good at detecting change, whether it be our ability to recognize the darkening colors of leaves or the gradual browning of grass as winter approaches. Throughout history—and essentially without fail—all cultures and peoples have viewed the change of season with either suspicion, joy or relief.

It was in that most foundational human perspective that the “pagans” formed the roots of the holiday. You may be wondering why “pagans” has been in quotes thus far, and that’s because there is far more nuance to the people who estab-

lished so much of Western culture. The Celts of Britain and Ireland, a people sadly without much written history, were likely the first to celebrate something like what we now know as Halloween. These hardy people called it “Samhain,” a festival that greeted the coming of winter and the end of the harvest season. However, Samhain has more history than one may expect.

For starters, who lived before the ancient Celts? To answer that question is to attempt to piece together a history that took place before there was history. Yet, the Mound of Hostages on the Hill of Tara in Ireland suggests that there were indeed people celebrating some form of Samhain far before the Celts arrived in the British Isles.

Although difficult to prove, it is suggested by some historians that the Celts viewed the duration of a day a little differently than we do today. For their communities, the night preceded the day. For example, modern humans likely agree that the end of the day is night-

time, a time of rest and darkness. However, in Celtic tradition, a night was simply a time of waiting for the sun. It was the starting point of a new morning.

Remarkably, the crest of the Mound of Hostages always aligns with the rising sun around Samhain, and the hill likely served among many others as ritual grounds for the festivities to come during Samhain. Being perhaps 5,000 years old, the hill is an enigma and sets the history of Halloween very far back in humanity’s history.

Like many other spiritual festivals, the arrival of Christianity altered the communal perception of the day and the reasons for its celebration. While the Celts likely burned livestock for offerings and shared food with deceased ancestors to honor them, so did the Christians who formed All Saints Day on Nov. 1 and All Souls Day on Nov. 2. These days largely continued some aspects of Celtic tradition, including dressing up to ward off spirits (which is the root of

modern costumes and trick-or-treating) and honoring ancestors.

However, the ancestors that were to be honored shifted from familial lineages to the growing list of Christian saints, thus the name All Saints Day.

You may be wondering: “Why is Halloween celebrated on Oct. 31 if All Saints Day is on Nov. 1?” To that question, we return to the evening before All Saints Day and Samhain, known as All Hallows Eve. As mentioned previously, the night was a time of new beginnings in Celtic tradition, and so too in the Christian tradition, in which All Hallows Eve was likely viewed as a vigil day (one of fasting and reflection) to prepare for All Hallows Day. Even in Christian history, which typically is well documented, it is foggy as to how All Hallows Eve came to be, yet for centuries it remained as a night of celebration, reflection and preparation for people across the British Isles.

Finally, by the 1830s, with new waves of Irish and British immigrants coming to the United States, the modern version of Halloween took shape. As Catholic traditions solidified, the phrase “God has your soul, Beans and all” became a popular saying and reflected the motivation for many Christians to be charitable with their food on the day. And thus, though you’re hopefully finding better candy than beans tonight, This Day in History marks another scary, yet charitable evening in the long lineage of Halloween.



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THIS WEEK IN HISTORY



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Construction on new UConn Nursing Facility breaks ground

by **Gabriel Duffany**
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On Wednesday, Oct. 30, administrators from the University of Connecticut ceremoniously christened the site of the new campus nursing building, welcoming government officials and funding partners to speak on the building's development.

"There were just 13 students in the first class of 1942, and there was just one instructor," said UConn School of Nursing Dean Victoria Vaughan Dickson. "This year we welcomed our largest class ever." According to a report in UConn Today, over 500 new students were admitted into the UConn School of Nursing's class of 2028.

Throughout the opening ceremony, speakers noted that the nursing program historically received little attention or funding for a considerable portion of its existence. Recalling her experience as a nursing student at one of the school's former facilities, nicknamed "the cottage," project benefactor Elizabeth DeLuca expressed excitement at the future accomplishments a new space will foster.

"I always wondered, why couldn't the nursing school be more prominent?" asked DeLuca, proprietor of the Frederick A. DeLuca Foundation.

Addressing the crowd, university president Radenka Maric extended her gratitude to the DeLuca Foundation for their financial contribution.

"Thanks to the transformative generosity of this gift, the largest in the history of this university, we will be able to provide the scholarships and programmatic support for dynamic nursing education," said Maric.

The building site is located on the Storrs South Campus, between the Fine Arts Building and the South Campus Residence Halls. Per UConn's dep-



Students and families taking part in the UConn School of Nursing fall open house. Taking place on Saturday, Oct. 26, 2024, participants were able to explore the facilities and learn about the school's many opportunities.

PHOTO COURTESY OF @UCONNNURSING ON INSTAGRAM

uty spokesperson, Mike Enright, "The new building will be about 90,000 square feet and include the following program elements: instructional spaces, including a lecture hall and classrooms; simulation lab suite; human behavioral research lab; wet lab; student academic center; offices and support spaces."

Set for completion in July 2026, UConn nursing faculty emphasized the expanded capabilities and opportunities a new complex will help to de-

velop. "Our new five-story, state of the art building will provide much needed space and resources that are essential to the student enrollment expansion," said Dickson.

Joining in the praise for the School of Nursing's development were numerous state and local officials, including Connecticut Governor Ned Lamont (D), state Senator Mae Flexer (D) and state Representative Greg Haddad (D).

"There are thousands of peo-

ple applying to be nurses here at UConn, and maybe places for less than ten percent of them, and we desperately need the nurses," noted Lamont.

Speaking from their perspective as UConn graduates, Flexer and Haddad noted the critical role of government support in ensuring the success of future programs.

"This building isn't just a building," said Flexer. "This school of nursing will not be successful if the state of Connecticut is not an equal partner

in this university."

"As the chair of the higher education committee, we are very acutely aware that the training that's required of nurses is changing annually," added Haddad. "This facility will allow us to be sure that we are on the cutting edge of training."

Concluding the celebration, speakers donned hard hats and raised golden shovels, breaking the soil below and formally inaugurating construction on the future home to the UConn School of Nursing.

The Daily Campus

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Provost's review, early decision discussed at Board of Trustees meeting yesterday

by **Lilliana French**

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At the University of Connecticut's Board of Trustees meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 30, the provost's review, the introduction of early decision and a review of Student Evaluation of Teaching (SET) surveys were discussed.

UConn's American Association of University Professors' president Chris Vials spoke about the provost's review, where approximately 245 academic programs are at risk of getting cut, ahead of the Board of Trustees' next meeting on Dec. 11. There is also a reserved meeting date of Nov. 20.

"I want to stress that faculty understand accountability and as a former director of a small program myself, I dutifully completed annual reviews and generated elaborate self-study for external review," said Vials. "We all know that making a case for your program comes with the territory of running a major."

Vials said he had issues with the focus on the number of enrollments and stated that budget neutrality in low enrollment programs is common.

"The sole metric seemingly in this process is centering around the number of students who complete a major even though those of us who have been here for years know that there is much more to a course of study," said Vials. "We have been told that this review process involves more than one metric, but we will have to wait until December 1 to see if that is truly the case."

Vials said he viewed the timeline for the review as "extremely rapid," with less than a semester for forms to be completed.

Vials said it was not clear to him that low enrollment programs demand more resources. He stated that faculty engage in common sense academic "housekeeping" frequently in a process known as faculty governance.

"We found that some of the majors on the provost's list were cut already and some are being phased out by the faculty," Vials said.

Board Chairman Daniel Toscano spoke about the low enrollment program review and stated his concerns about the presentation of information.

"I was pretty distressed to read what was cascading around the media for the past few weeks," said Toscano.

He said he viewed the cuts as



The bronze Jonathan the Husky statue near Gampel Pavillion. The statue has been at the UConn Storrs campus for nearly 30 years.

FILE PHOTO/THE DAILY CAMPUS

normal and that major changes occur over time.

"I think we all, as a board, believe that to be normal and expected part of running a healthy organization," said Toscano. "The goal of this is not to close a program. To me, closing any major is a failure."

Evaluation reports will be made public ahead of the December Board of Trustees meeting, according to Toscano.

University of Connecticut president Radenka Maric gave a report where she spoke about the groundbreaking on the new nursing building. The Institu-

tional Advancement Committee also brought up the possibility of naming opportunities later on in the meeting.

Maric also discussed the Higher Education Sustainability Advisory Board, which is reviewing data on enrollment for public higher education institutions within Connecticut.

Slides from Maric's presentation list data requested by the board ahead of UConn's presentation to the board on Nov. 18. Data requested by the board includes information on low enrollment programs and institutional efforts to address

low enrollment, along with a housing plan and the latest fiscal year 2026 financial forecast.

Maric also spoke about early decision being introduced this year, where prospective undergraduate students who apply early decision will find out if they are accepted sooner, but will not be able to change school decision after acceptance.

"This is going to attract more and better students to UConn," said Toscano.

The Board of Trustees approved the introduction of a bachelor's of music in jazz. According to the Board's

agenda, this program will be cost neutral and will have about 20 students.

"There are no budgetary impacts from the program as all required classes are [currently] offered in the more generalist Music degree program," the agenda states.

The Board also approved the appointment of Ji-Cheng Zhao, Ph.D., to the Raytheon Technologies chair in fuel cell technology in the College of Engineering. Board member Bryan Pollard abstained from this vote.

The Board also approved the reappointment of Professor Yiming Qian to the Toscano family chair in finance in the School of Business. Toscano abstained from this vote.

University Senate President Laura Burton mentioned faculty concern regarding the low enrollment program review.

Burton said that the faculty standards committee was reviewing the SET survey. She said that there was a decline in the number of SET survey evaluations completed, which are done online.

A trustee stated that the survey questions have not been reviewed in 20 years, meaning that they do not reflect online lessons and teaching.

"This form was created before we had an online presence," said the trustee.

Burton said that the university senate will start talking to faculty and students about the form.

"This is probably going to be [a] multi-year process," said Burton.

UConn's chief financial officer Jeffery Geoghegan said that UConn and UConn Health had budgets favorable to the previous budget, with \$6 million more than assumed in the budget due to above predicted enrollment increasing tuition and fee revenue.

During the public comment period of the meeting, Kathy Fischer from the University Professional and Continuing Education Association asked the Board of Trustees for a tuition waiver for the child of a deceased employee who worked at UConn for 27 years. The student gave a written public comment at the previous Board of Trustees meeting.

Fischer said that the student was not contacted by the Board of Trustees after the meeting. Vials also voiced support for the tuition waiver. Another UConn employee also voiced support for the student in the public comment session of the meeting.

UConn Recreation to host second Husky Run and Ruck

by **Molly Moriarty**

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The Husky Run and Ruck, hosted by University of Connecticut Recreation, is expected to take place Sunday, Nov. 10 at 8:30 a.m., the weekend preceding Veterans Day. Students, faculty and community members will gather by the Recreation Center and participate in the run, honoring former Navy SEAL and UConn track and field athlete Kyle Milliken, who passed away in 2017.

The Run and Ruck will feature options for everyone, from seasoned runners to those just starting out, according to the event website. A 5K run, 10K run and a one-mile fitness walk will take place that Sunday morning. Participants can choose to "ruck" the race by wearing weighted vests or backpacks that are a minimum of 10 pounds to mimic how veterans train for active service.

The race took place for the first time last year, where it reached maximum capacity

with over 800 participants. It was such a success, according to the assistant program director of group exercise and training Jennifer Clark, that UConn Recreation has increased the event's races capacity, now accepting 1,000 runners.

Leading up to the race, UConn Recreation hosts a training program for the Run and Ruck called Road Dogs. Clark oversees the Road Dogs training team. Beginning in mid-September and lasting eight weeks, the group run-

ning program aims to help UConn students, staff and local community members work towards their race day goals, according to the UConn Recreation website. Over the course of the eight weeks, the trainees collectively work toward adding mileage and gaining speed, according to Clark.

"We train specifically for the Run and Ruck; its progressive training mileage, and people that come are training either for the 5K or the 10K," said Clark. "We meet weekly on Saturdays, and we have some

weekday meetups that our participants come to, and that mileage can range anywhere between two to four miles."

Each run hosted by the Road Dogs training program is led by run leaders who serve as UConn Recreation student employees. Clark said she was impressed by how many of the Road Dogs' run leaders and participants performed on race day last year.

"Last year, we had a lot of people placed in their age groups and that was really nice to see," said Clark.

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Acts of Humility: How to deliver an apology

by **Ayyan Tamjeed**

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What constitutes an act of humility? El Instituto at the University of Connecticut hosted a talk on Tuesday, Oct. 29 where Dr. Robin Greeley, associate professor of Modern & Contemporary Latin American Art History at UConn, explores what defines an act of humility, the context surrounding it and how it can develop over time. She uses the case study of Campo Algodonero, Mexico — a monument to all the women who have died in Ciudad Juarez during the past three decades because of femicide.

To explore this topic, Greeley first states that an act of humility should be assessed on the ability of the actor, whether it be an individual or state actor, to own their wrongs. Greeley used this criterion when looking at the case of femicide in Mexico. Femicide rose during the 1990s in Mexico, and it made cities like Ciudad Juarez one of the most dangerous in the world. In 2009, the United Nations (UN) asked the Mexican state to carry out reparations for the case of Campo Algodonero, where three women were sexually assaulted, tortured and murdered. Their bodies were left in a field.

The criteria for the reparations were outlined by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, which viewed it through a gender-based lens. They asked Mexico to carry out integral reparations, where all the monetary and non-monetary reparations would serve the purpose of repairing a victim's circumstances. The courts challenged the Mexican state to implement institutional reform and to try reshaping Mexican

culture to prevent gender-based violence. They also ask for these reparations to be reparative and transformative, which Dr. Greeley described as “future looking as well as back looking.”

The Mexican government issued a public apology in 2011, coinciding with the opening of the Campo Algodonero memorial site for all the victims of femicide, in the same field where the three dead women were found. Deputy Government Secretary Felipe Zamora was there as the Mexican state proxy delivered their apology towards femicide victims.

In a televised event, Zamora gave a lengthy apology which seemed sincere, owned up to the wrongdoings of the Mexican government not being able to protect those women and talked about the institutional reform Mexico was doing to prevent gender-based violence. Yet the apology was vehemently rejected by the victims' families and protestors who believed the memorial site was a waste of space and inhospitable and that the whole event was paying lip service to the issue at hand. They thought the apology did

not combat any institutional wrongdoings and didn't own up to any grave wrongs nor recognize them.

So why was the apology rejected? What can it tell us about humility in transitional justice? Greeley argues three points. One must consider what the act of humility entails for each stakeholder; in this case, the Mexican government, the inter-American court and the families of femicide victims. They all have different ideas for a sincere act of humility. One has to consider the context of the situation. One also has to evaluate the effectiveness of an act of humility over time. Should we measure an act of humility's effectiveness immediately, or should we wait a while and come back to the topic later?

Greeley states that an act of humility should notice and own a limitation and also own a grave wrong. An act of virtuous humility should also do the same but be delivered with good judgment and backed by good ulterior motives. These acts shouldn't serve as lip service and the actor should mean their words. This definition does be-

come hard to follow when you are dealing with a group, like the Mexican state. Can a whole group be uniformly humble?

They can be, as people's tendency to follow the group may make it possible for a group not made of uniformly humble people to own up to a wrong. But this mob mentality that humans have can also go the other way. Circling back to the apology Zamora gave, Dr. Greeley told us an anecdote about how she showed her colleagues the text of the apology Zamora gave. Her colleagues thought it was a good, humble and sincere apology.

Afterwards, though, Dr. Greeley showed a short clip of the apology Zamora gave, which devolved into a shouting match between Zamora and protestors. Other protestors and family members of femicide victims boycotted the memorial. So, why aren't the victims happy with this apology?

In the 2009 judgment by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, the courts did condemn the Mexican state for not trying to prosecute anyone for the murder of three women

in Campo Algodonero and the state has made no further efforts since. Zamora himself didn't seem too humble when giving his apology, as he was trying to shout at the protestors. Both the protestors and courts also looked at human rights differently in this case, as the protestors and victims took a moral approach while the courts took a legal one.

There is also the broader context of the apology. The memorial site itself has fallen into disrepair after the media event in 2011 and it is an eyesore that is situated on the outskirts of Juarez, far away from the city. There is a commemorative bronze statue at the memorial site for all the femicide victims, but the artist who had worked on it had three days to work, which wasn't enough time to take the input of femicide victims on what the monument should be. During the apology event, protestors argued that the government was trying to sweep the issue under the rug with this event, rather than dealing with this “ongoing and systemic problem.”

But how did the apology develop over time? While the 2011 public apology was a media fiasco, subsequent events in 2022 and 2024 were much more positive. The highest-ranking human rights government officials were present to give apologies, instead of Zamora who wasn't too important. Victims spoke at these events and attended them as well, being much more willing to listen and participate.

Yet it still doesn't change the fact that, according to Dr. Greeley, no one has been prosecuted for their actions, the Mexican court system hasn't been revamped to prevent gender-based violence (although the recent news that judges are now elected positions may help) and femicide is still rampant.



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Donnie Darko



by **Isaac Grad**

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TW: Themes of suicide/suicidal ideation + mental health issues

Welcome back to another issue of Your Movie Mage where I discuss underrated movies across genres. Last week, we covered the underrated, off-beat rom-com, “Dinner in America,” and this week we'll be talking about the sci-fi and halloweenesque film, “Donnie Darko.”

“Donnie Darko” follows Donnie Darko (Jake Gyllenhaal), a troubled teen with behavioral issues and mental health struggles. Darko sleepwalks, and we're introduced to him waking up far from his home after sleepwalking the night before.

During the second instance of sleepwalking, he walks outside and is told by a giant bunny man that the world is ending at the end of the month. Darko wakes up to discover his room was hit by a plane engine that night. Had Darko been home, he would've certainly died.

He continues conversations with this bunny, Frank (James Duval). We learn that Darko is either mentally ill—most likely schizophrenic due to his hallucinations and delusions—or he's truly experiencing abnormal sci-fi movie occurrences. According to the creators of the film, it is leaning toward the superhero sci-fi side, with the presence of his mental illness to throw off viewers or provide room for multiple interpreta-

tions.

It's clear this film appeals to teenagers. For many, Darko represents teenagers who wish to die, but also yearn to have some purpose. Before dying and essentially erasing the events of the movie, Darko gets to prove he can make a difference and change some things he hates about society, even though he's aware that it is the last month of his life.

With the imminence of his death and the undoing of his impact, we feel what Darko felt: insignificant. This feeling resonates with many viewers, who

may feel their death would have no impact. What stands out about this film is Darko is aware of this fact; he knows what he's doing is temporary, but he still chooses to find freedom. He's able to do things he maybe wouldn't have otherwise, such as getting a girlfriend and standing up for himself. Many people suffering with depression have this sense of powerlessness and sadness that the world will one day end, and everything they do is “pointless.” Darko represents this in a way.

This film puts you into the shoes of a teenager desperately

trying to understand life and find meaning, which is what separates the theatrical cut from the director's cut. The theatrical cut resonates with teens because it captures the experience of trying to make sense of the world but being treated as though you aren't close. The director's cut tries to explain the concepts too much, as I think part of the appeal is it's up for interpretation.

Another interpretation explores the consequences faced when you choose selfishness, even if unintentionally. For example, Darko preventing his



Jake Gyllenhaal stars in the 2001 sci-fi thriller “Donnie Darko” PHOTO COURTESY OF PRINTREAL

own death led to the death of many others, ultimately leading to him making the decision to sacrifice himself. This timeline was never meant to survive, just as Darko wasn't meant to survive. It was unstable and began to fall apart, despite Darko's efforts. Darko understood this and used his newfound knowledge of time travel to go back with the plane engine pulled from the alternate universe to the original universe, leading to his death and restoring the timeline.

The appeal of the film is it can be seen from two different perspectives: time travel and supernatural events or the difficulties of living as someone in psychosis. This film explores the concepts of free will and reality through its unreliable narration, as the viewer does not definitively know what is unfolding and what is reality. The openness of interpretation allows anyone to apply their experiences to learn from the film.

“Donnie Darko” may not necessarily qualify as an underrated movie to some, seeing as it's gained a cult following. However, it originally didn't do well at its release and was underrated. Even now, many people haven't heard of or seen it. I've only met a handful of people who have seen the movie and none of them were from my generation. Therefore, I give “Donnie Darko” an underratedness score of 3/5 (for the theatrical cut).

‘Wizards Beyond Waverly Place’ reunites Russo family in Disney Channel spinoff

by Patrick Boots

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Sometimes, everything is not what it seems. For fans of the classic Disney Channel show “Wizards of Waverly Place,” talks of a revival series in production meant many questions about where the story could be headed. “Wizards Beyond Waverly Place” premiered on Tuesday, Oct. 29, with a new plot but the same magic as the original.

The original storyline followed the Russos — Alex (Selena Gomez), a rebellious spirit, Justin (David Henrie), the analytical older brother and Max (Jake T. Austin), the comic relief. They’re a family of secret Wizards-in-training, balancing schoolwork and spellbooks in New York. Their father, Jerry (David DeLuise) acts as the group’s magic teacher. Over the course of the show, the siblings get themselves into a variety of memorable magical scenarios, having to work together as a family to resolve them. The original was a successful program for the Disney Channel, spanning four seasons and premiering two television movies.

The new series appears to show that Justin, who was promoted to headmaster at the WizTech School in the original series’ conclusion, has given up the life of magic to raise his family as a mortal. His wife Giada (Mimi Gianopulos) works as an investigative reporter and he has two sons, Roman (Alkaio Thiele) and Milo (Max Matenko). The pilot episode follows Justin’s 34th birthday with a surprise visit from Alex. Justin has chosen to keep his past a secret from his family, so Alex

has to play along as a championship dog-walker; in reality, she’s high-ranking in the wizard world with a special request for Justin: to return to teaching.

Janice LeAnn Brown stars as Billie, a young but powerful wizard that, according to Alex, was given up on by all of her past teachers. A recurring segment on the original series saw Justin teaching a class of delinquent wizard students. In a run-in with Roman and Milo, Billie accidentally releases a “flooogie” into the house — a Gremlins-esque creature voiced by the multifaceted Dee Bradley Baker — but she does not know the spell to contain it. The situation spirals until Justin convinces Billie that he believes she can banish the monster, reigniting

his love for teaching magic and showing Billie that she is not a wizard failure.

The rest of the series shows the kids going to mortal school with friend Winter (Taylor Cora) and getting into more magical hijinks. Episode teasers and clips have already been released for the rest of the season, including a scene that shows part of the kids “getting erased” via (obvious) chroma key. A classic trope, but it’s cute.

The new series hits many of the same notes as the original, but some of the moments feel forced. It’s important to look at it through the lens of it still being geared to children, in contrast to similar revivals for “iCarly” and “Zoey 101” which are more adult-leaning. The new Wizards

show reminds me of another Disney reboot, “Raven’s Home” — the sequel to mid-2000s favorite “That’s So Raven.” It’s no surprise that Jed Elinoff and Scott Thomas were the screenwriters who developed both revival series.

Original series cast members David DeLuise and Maria Canals-Barrera, who played the Russo kids’ parents, will appear in the revival as guest stars, as will Jake T. Austin. It’s unconfirmed if original series players Jennifer Stone, who played Alex’s best friend Harper Finkle, and Gregg Sulkin, who played Alex’s werewolf boyfriend Mason, will return; Stone and DeLuise host a “rewatch podcast” show online called Wizards of Waverly Pod where they’ve dis-

cussed previous episodes and interview cast and crew members.

If you grew up watching the original show or want to watch a family-friendly comedy, “Wizards Beyond Waverly Place” reminds us to be careful what we wish for. The reboot is produced by It’s a Laugh Productions and Potato Monkey Productions and you can watch it every Tuesday at 8 p.m. on the Disney Channel and you can catch the new series and the original on-demand with a Disney Plus subscription.

Rating: 4/5

A creamy Tuscan chicken made worthy of a Scarpetta

by Oliver Power

HE/HIM/HIS
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I’m back for another week of college cooking. I am happy to say by week three, this was already the best-tasting thing I have made in a long time. This is not to discredit other recipes, but given the combination of ingredients and flavor profile of the result, I think that this dish did not leave anything to be desired.

This week’s dish is “creamy Tuscan chicken” made by the very talented food TikToker @BiteswithBecs. When I saw this recipe at first, like any other consumer and appreciator of foods, I saw the word “Tuscan” and pictured the beautiful sights of Tuscany, Italy.

Italy has that ubiquitous association with delightful and fresh ingredients exemplified by the dish we are going to make today. It’s great given that in the recipe, all colors of the Italian flag are represented. The red, green and white together just gives an impenetrable aura of terrific and fresh flavor profiles.

This column’s star is not chicken, unfortunately. It isn’t even an ingredient provided by the original recipe. It’s the “Scarpetta.” What is this? Well, the Italians have food so ingrained in their culture that they have a word for when you use bread to “mop” up whatever is left on the plate. Even more amazing is that the word directly translates to “little shoe,” because when you soak up something with bread, it will leave little footprints on the plate.

Anyway, let’s get into how we make a dish worthy of “Scarpetta-ing.”

First, you cut chicken breasts in half lengthwise. It helps to press down with your non-dominant hand while doing this and then slice halfway down the

breast from your hand. Make sure to slice outwards so as to not compromise that hand of yours that will be needed to make the rest of the recipe. Season each side with garlic powder, salt, pepper, onion powder, paprika and oregano.

Cook them in a saute pan at medium-high heat that has been pre-filled with only a drizzle of olive oil, and a more generous drizzle of the oil from a jar of sundried tomatoes. This combo adds to a great flavor profile, and I loved it because it was a creative way to utilize your ingredients entirely. Cook until golden brown on each side and work on cutting your vegetables in the meantime to save time.

Chop up two shallots. This is one of my favorite things to chop since you look like a pro doing it. Not only that, but it is super satisfying because the shallot does a nice job of holding itself together while you chop. Next, cut the cherry tomatoes lengthwise. Opening these tomatoes up will allow them to release all that sugary tomato flavor that makes them so tasty and will make the dish tasty as well. Get three garlic cloves: crush and mince them, which means to

finely chop.

Wash your spinach and prepare to add it next to your pan. Something about prepping while your chicken is cooking will save lots of time and make it feel like you are on a cooking show with all of the ingredients portioned out in front of you. Once the chicken is done, put it on a plate and cover it with foil so it does not lose heat. Make sure to let the pan cool by removing it from the heat and turning the heat down to medium.

Then add in your shallots, garlic and mushrooms. Now, here is the ingredient that splits our recipe followers based on their ability to buy and obtain alcohol. If you can, add a splash of white wine; it will pick up all of the browned bits from the chicken. I won’t leave out our underaged students: you can add a squeeze of lemon and a splash of chicken stock. This will work the same way. Cook these at medium heat for about five minutes or until the vegetables turn soft.

Now, chop up five to six sundried tomatoes super fine and add them in with your cherry tomatoes. Add in the remaining oregano and a touch of chili

flakes. I cannot handle a lot of spice, so I added about a one-quarter teaspoon, but it is up to you how much you add. Cook these while constantly stirring for two to three minutes so it does not burn. Once that’s done, add in heavy cream and then spinach a little bit at a time so it does not overwhelm the space of the pan.

Lastly, add in your chicken, and at the bottom of the plate, there should be plenty of juice that definitely should be added to the pan. Add parmesan cheese and try the sauce while adding salt and pepper to taste. I added a bit more parm and a splash of heavy cream, since that sauce being as creamy as possible is what I was going for. Let it all sit for five minutes at low heat, so the flavors all hang out for a bit before serving. In the meantime, put your Scarpetta bread or crackers in the oven to get them ready for when you serve.

This dish will serve three to four people and it was super quick to make, taking about 40-45 minutes. You can stretch a portion or two if you serve it with rice as well. I am not joking when I say this is one of the best-

tasting things I have ever made with regular grocery store ingredients and not the perfectly preserved, fresh products from Tuscany, Italy. Lastly, this was perfect for a Scarpetta, which I always appreciate as the conclusion of a delightful meal.

Ingredients:

- Five chicken breasts
- Two shallots
- Eight-ounce jar of sun-dried tomatoes
- Parmesan cheese
- Eight-ounce container of baby-bella mushrooms
- Paprika, salt, pepper, garlic powder, onion powder and oregano (enough to lightly dust on each chicken breast)
- Olive oil
- One tablespoon of garlic
- Spinach
- White wine or chicken stock
- Lemon juice (if using chicken stock)
- Cherry tomatoes
- Heavy cream

Price: \$54.79 (including all spices)

Recipe Rank: 5/5

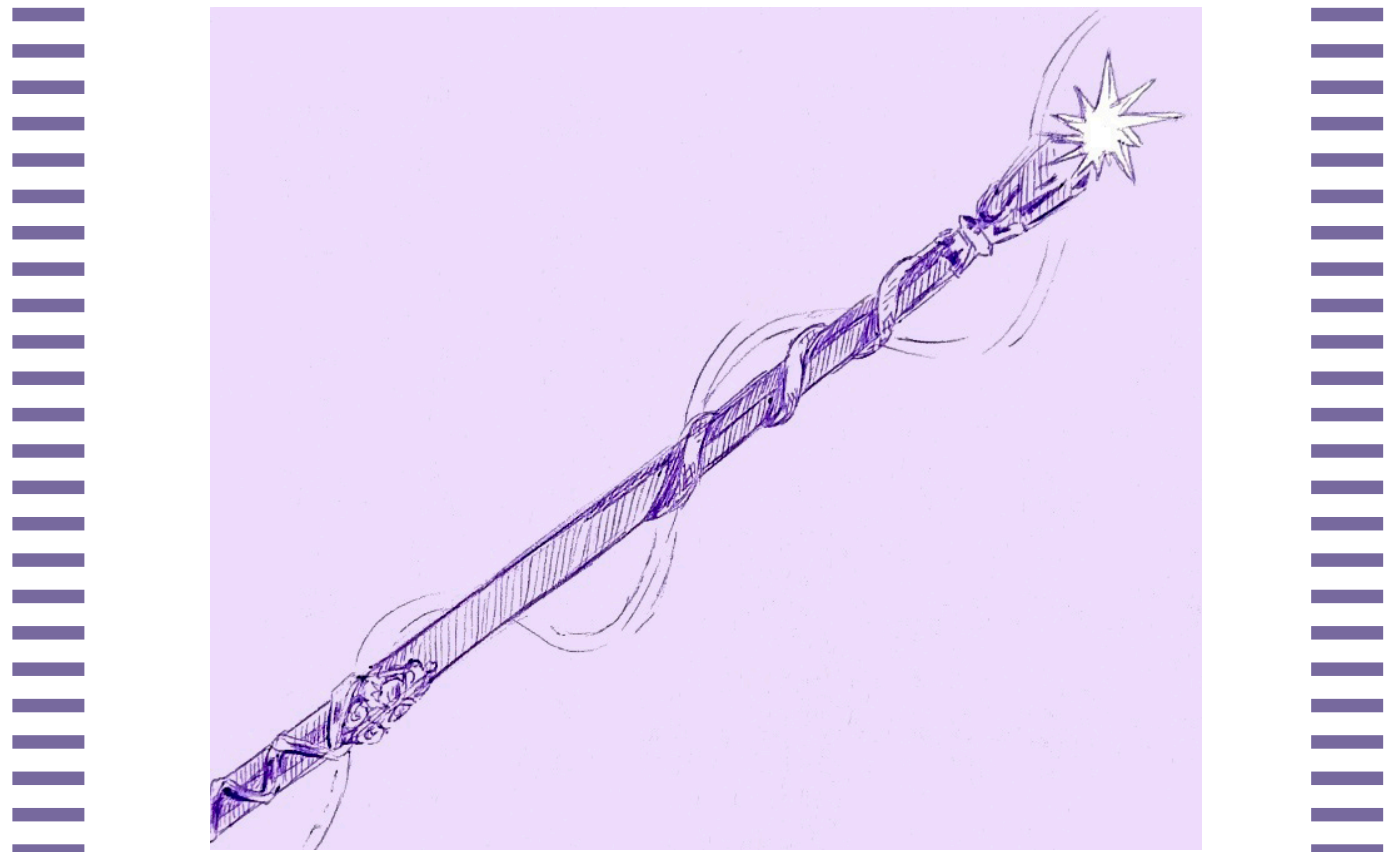


ILLUSTRATION BY OMERI KLEA, CONTRIBUTING ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Daily

Life

 @dailycampuslife

PUMPKINFEST 2024 WAS ENJOYABLE BUT UNPREPARED FOR THE NUMBER OF ATTENDEES

by Samantha Brody

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ILLUSTRATION BY SARAH CHANTRES, CONTRIBUTING ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

PumpkinFest returned to the University of Connecticut this Tuesday, Oct. 29. Taking place at the Student Union Terrace from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., this outdoor Halloween event was the fourth of its kind. It included a stuff-a-pumpkin event, food, laser tag, condom trick-or-treating and a pumpkin light show.

To access the various activities of the event, students used the QR code attached to the profile in the UConncontact website. The event staff scanned the code and then gave students an orange wristband which would allow them access to the various parts of the event.

One of the most striking parts of PumpkinFest was the pumpkin light show. Rows of jack-o'-lanterns had been set up on shelves, inside of which were lights sequenced to music. The lights flashed and changed color to the beat of a song, with the setlist rotating throughout the night.

Upon my arrival at the event at 7:15 p.m., the pumpkins began playing "Somebody's Watching Me" by Rockwell — which is most certainly one of the best Halloween songs out there. So, of course, when it played again later, I was pleasantly surprised. In fact, the same song played at

least six times between 7:15 p.m. and 9 p.m., although I can't complain. It's a great song, after all.

One part of PumpkinFest was sponsored by UConn's Student Health and Wellness, who ran condom trick-or-treating for the event. Students spun a wheel of different topics related to sexual health, including sexually transmitted infections, consent and anatomy. Those running the event then asked students questions related to that topic and could earn a condom as a prize.

Students had the opportunity to create a stuffed animal pumpkin with the "stuff-a-pumpkin" portion of the event. Unfortunately, the PumpkinFest organizers had run out of tickets for it shortly after 7 p.m., which meant eventgoers were unable to experience that aspect of PumpkinFest. The final portion was an inflatable laser tag maze, themed to look like a haunted house.

Multiple food trucks handed out free food to students with event wristbands, with items including soup, apple cider, apple cider donuts and soft pretzels.

"My favorite part of the event was definitely hanging out with friends while getting to enjoy delicious apple cider donuts,"

said third-semester UConn student Tye Kukucka, who is a computer science and engineering double major. "I thought it was pretty fun and definitely should happen again next year, but I do think they should better prepare for more people."

Although PumpkinFest was fun to attend, it could definitely be improved. The event was bogged down by a lack of accommodation for the number of attendees. Lines were long and as previously stated, the "stuff-a-pumpkin" event had concluded before PumpkinFest was even halfway through.

Despite these flaws, it was still an enjoyable experience overall. The condom trick-or-treating and the pumpkin lights were both fun and entertaining. The food was high quality and warm, and the addition of apple-cider-flavored items made it truly feel like a Halloween night in New England.

If the event happens again next year, I recommend going early and bringing friends with you. Sitting under a tree with a hot cup of apple cider and having fun with friends is truly one of the best parts of fall.

BACKGROUND ILLUSTRATIONS COURTESY OF GREAZILLA



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

Halloween Costumes: Should they be silly or scandalous?

Halloween is a time of creative expression for people, and some are willing to go the extra mile. Whether that means designing your own costume or “putting yourself out there” with lewd attire, Halloween manifests the motto of “dress to impress” in various ways. With scandalous costumes, however, comes the risk of taking it too far, but maybe looking like a goofball gets stale after a while. What do our writers from the Life section advise students to remember when going out this Halloween?

by **Maleena Muzio**

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Slut. The term used to degrade women for centuries. Yet recently, many females and individuals have been reclaiming the common insult in a less shameful way.

As Halloween rolls around the corner, I am sure you have heard the buzz around campus regarding costumes—ones of all shapes and forms. This brings into question the morality of Halloween costumes. After all, Halloween is a holiday largely targeted toward children which has morphed into a time when people typically wear as little clothing as possible. Should we be dressing up in silly outfits to give people a good laugh? Or should we be flaunting our bodies? Is either choice necessarily better, or is there simply one option that is wrong?

The answer to these questions is not so clear cut, but if there is a perfect time to wear three pieces of fabric in public, that time is now.

Wearing a funny costume can still be appreciated, especially if done right. However, far too often, people who choose this route are judgmental to others who do not do the same. Please, wear whatever you want on Halloween, but do not use this as an excuse to shame others. Being happy and confident in whatever you put on is the most important thing. This is not a time to be hateful or say you are “not like other girls.” Men, women and gender-nonconforming people who are willing to take advantage of a socially acceptable occasion to be risqué should be applauded, not looked down upon.

Taking control of your own sexuality is empowering. On Halloween, people are less scared to reveal more skin and are backed by the actions of others. Women have turned wearing slutty costumes into something that lessens the pain of being labeled as trash—simply based on attire—into something to be excited about. People should not be ashamed of their bodies and if Halloween is the time you want to show them off, then by all means, do so!

Scandalous Halloween costumes are a way for people to express themselves in terms of their own sexuality and creativity. They encourage people who have been degraded throughout history for their anatomy to be proud of the bodies they live in. So, if you are comfortable, go dress as slutty as you want and have a happy Halloween!

by **Michelle Pawlos**

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Growing up, the fun of Halloween was dressing up and trick or treating, something that college students don't typically do anymore; if you do, I am not judging—free candy is free candy. So, what is left for us? Costumes and going out with our friends. Now the question is, which is better: 'slutty' Halloween costumes or funny Halloween costumes?

I am partaking in the 'sluttier' costumes this Halloween. However, that doesn't necessarily mean I believe they are the better choice for college students. Many college students will go out for Halloween, and most will dress to look good or take cute photos with their friends.

Ultimately, I believe that both 'slutty' and funny Halloween costumes have their advantages and disadvantages. One may feel more inclined to choose a more scandalous costume to fit in at the typical college party, even if they feel uncomfortable doing so. On the contrary, students may choose a funnier Halloween costume because they feel more comfortable in it, though they may feel out of place if they go out. Or you may just not care, which is good, and I strongly encourage you to follow what you think you'd feel best in.

For these reasons, I believe that funny Halloween costumes turned 'slutty' are the best option for college students. It is important to consider that everyone has a different idea of 'slutty' and how far they'd really like to take it.

I am going to be Sharkboy from “The Adventures of Sharkboy and Lavagirl” this Halloween, and my costume includes a cropped shirt and a short skirt because that is what I will feel best in. On TikTok, I saw a group of girls dressed up as “South Park” characters, but with a twist; the costumes weren't scandalous, but they had skirts to make it look cuter. I saw another girl dressed up as Perry the Platypus from “Phineas and Ferb” in a dress. So, when I say that funny Halloween costumes turned 'slutty' are the best option, know that I don't particularly mean it in the usual definition of the word.

Costumes like these show your creativity, have a bit more style and look cool because you came up with a unique idea. You would also be less likely to have the same Halloween costume as someone else. I like to have a more niche costume, but I am not very creative when it comes to planning out costumes. So, if you are like me, taking a costume and making a cute interpretation of it is an easy way to have a unique, simple costume.

The most important aspect of Halloween is staying safe and having fun. As long as you are doing those two things, nothing else matters. But,

I hope to see some creativity this year with people making more scandalous yet funny costumes.

Study Break

Huskytalk | What is your favorite UConn sports team?



“Women’s basketball”

Bridget Eckels
Allied Health Sciences
Third semester



“Women’s basketball”

Olivia Skiba
Allied Health Sciences
Third semester



“Women’s basketball”

Talia Pereira
Allied Health Sciences
Third semester



“Men’s soccer”

Natlie Brayman
Allied Health Sciences
Third semester

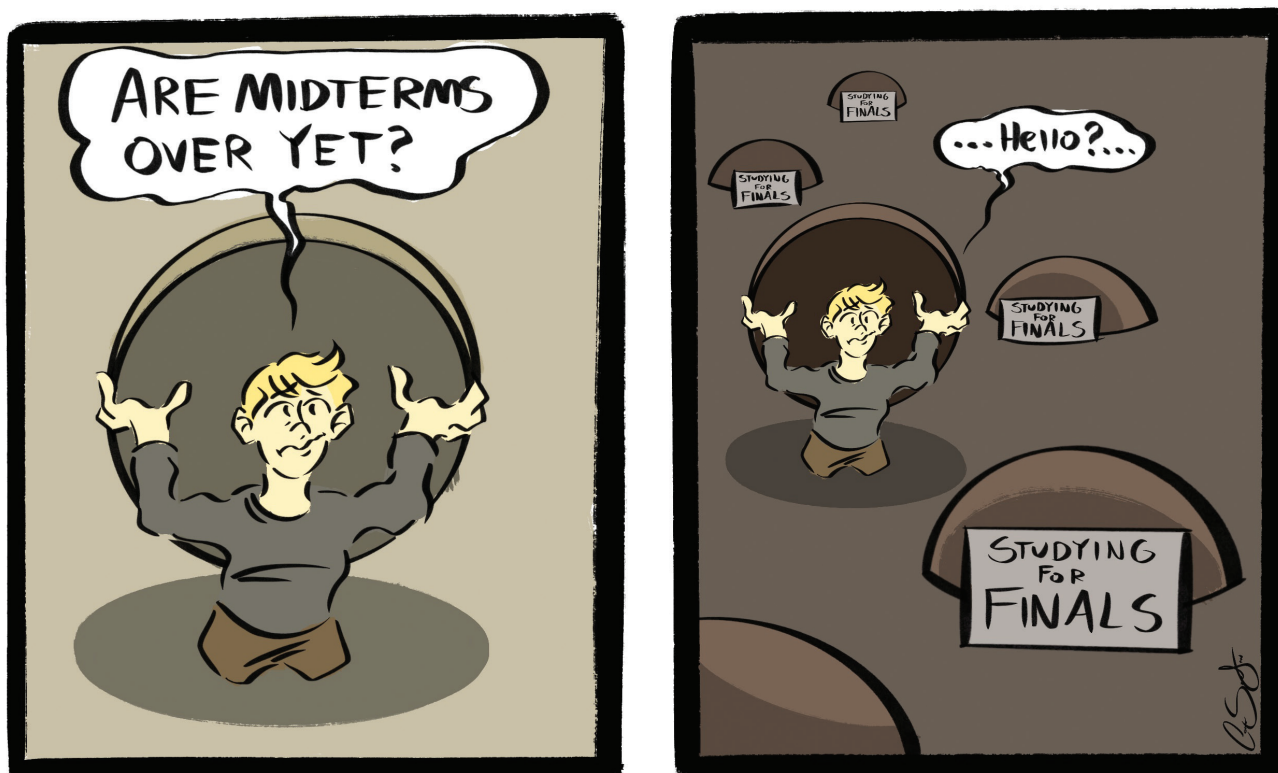
COMICS



KRISTA MITCHELL, STAFF ARTIST



COLBI LORANGER, ASSOCIATE MANAGING EDITOR

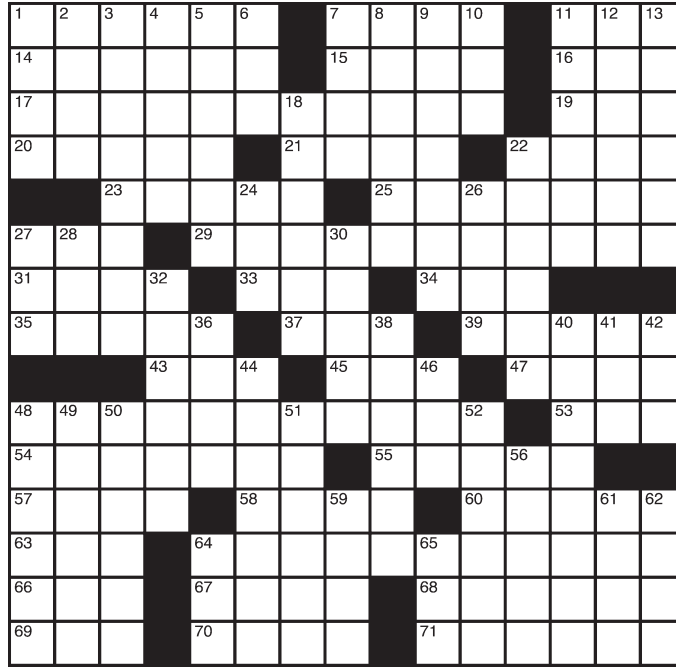


CONNOR SZREJNA, CONTRIBUTING ARTIST

THE DAILY CAMPUS' CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Digital whiz
- 7 Greeting on deck
- 11 "Bright Dead Things" poet Limón
- 14 Goddess challenged by Arachne to a weaving contest
- 15 Easy run
- 16 Not gross
- 17 Window treatment for Tony Stark's house?
- 19 ISP option
- 20 "Bleeding Love" singer Lewis
- 21 Make
- 22 Number of divas
- 23 Ear part
- 25 Nautical equilibrium
- 27 Shade of blonde
- 29 Factory owned by Peter Parker?
- 31 Singer Celine
- 33 Merch item
- 34 Wrap (up)
- 35 Prepared to sing the national anthem
- 37 Broadcast-monitoring org.
- 39 Merch item
- 43 Alley-__
- 45 Cereal grain
- 47 Qdoba bite
- 48 Salary for Diana Prince?
- 53 Gym unit
- 54 Asylum seeker, perhaps
- 55 NPR weekend host __ Simon
- 57 Croupier's tool
- 58 Video game giant
- 60 __ cotta
- 63 Ambient music pioneer Brian
- 64 Vivid mental image for Clark Kent?
- 66 Engine need
- 67 Handwriting on the wall
- 68 Happening place
- 69 Secretive group, initially
- 70 Pointy-headed Muppet
- 71 Tennis great who won four Australian Opens between 1995 and 2003



By Gary Larson & Amy Ens

10/31/24

DOWN

- 1 Part of a cat costume
- 2 Raison d'__
- 3 Tot's name for a train
- 4 Medium for the body art of mehndi
- 5 People who domesticated potatoes
- 6 __ de parfum
- 7 Wasatch Mountains ski resort
- 8 Having said too much, perhaps
- 9 Editorial writers, e.g.
- 10 Urge
- 11 "We Need To Talk" co-host
- 12 Plan
- 13 Classic song with the line "My love has come along"
- 18 __ pitcher
- 22 Full of beans
- 24 Just right
- 26 Pretended to be
- 27 Revenue sources for freemium apps

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

T	Y	R	A	A	D	H	D	L	E	G	I	T	
V	E	E	R	D	E	A	R	I	R	A	Q	I	
P	A	C	E	O	K	R	A	P	A	S	S	E	
G	H	O	S	T	P	E	P	P	E	R	S		
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R	O	D	D	E	E	D	R	A	V	I	N	E	
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B	E	R	T	E	V	E	T	H	E	E			
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I	S	W	E	A	R	S	T	E	M	A	R	T	
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M	E	T	E	R	A	P	E	S	E	N	O	S	

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10/31/24

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level 1 2 3 4

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

Solution to Wednesday's puzzle

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

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

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Opinion

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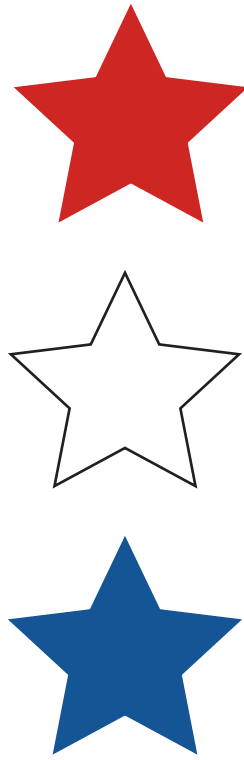


ILLUSTRATION BY VAN NGUYEN, STAFF ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

The Stark Tank: The 2024 election and the free press

by Dan Stark
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A lot has happened since I wrote the last edition of this column in April. Joe Biden got voted—or rather, forcibly removed—off the island after a disastrous debate performance; Donald Trump survived not one, but two assassination attempts; and now we're less than a week away from what looks to be the closest presidential election since George W. Bush fear-mongered his way to a second term in 2004. One of the defining features of the race to the White House that hasn't been talked about enough is Trump and Kamala Harris' relationships with the press, with both candidates having moments that left journalists concerned about the future of free press.

On one hand, Trump has made his disdain of the press clear since his first march to the sea in 2016. One of his trademark attacks has been to deride any network, outlet or newspaper who disagrees with him as "fake news." He's largely used this against liberal-leaning outlets like CNN, but has even gone so far as to attack Fox News despite the network being his own personal propaganda machine during his presidency. He's also been incredibly combative in interviews where reporters put him on the

ropes, often responding with anger and hostility. One of the most damning recent examples came when Trump was interviewed by Rachel Scott of ABC News at a meeting of the National Association of Black Journalists over the summer. Scott started the interview asking Trump why black voters should support him, which he responded to by bashing ABC News and deriding her for asking the question. Trump

reacts to questions by the press like a five-year old reacts to being punished; the only difference is the five-year old will eventually learn their lesson, something that Trump is seemingly incapable of doing.

Trump's relentless and egotistical attacks on the press have created an environment where mistrust of the press has soared to astronomically high levels. This mistrust affects journalists at all levels, from Capitol Hill beat reporters to community reporters in rural towns. A second

Trump term would further stoke this mistrust, putting journalists across the country at risk for doing their jobs. Worse, Trump has vowed to punish networks and papers that he disagrees with and has openly flirted the idea of putting reporters in jail. His rhetoric and proposed actions against journalists conflict with the very idea of the First Amendment and would make the founding fathers roll in their graves.

the press like a middle schooler avoids deodorant, giving very few sit-down interviews. In the few interviews she did, her answers were vague and utilized "the art of pivoting," as Al Franken once said. This was likely done to run a mistake-free campaign, similar to the approach of Thomas Dewey in 1948. As criticism of her avoidance of the press grew, the Harris campaign did an about-face and embarked on what has been described as a "media blitz." But instead of focusing on policy-centered interviews with reporters, she has largely focused on appearing on podcasts like Alex Cooper's "Call Her Daddy" and Shan-

non Sharpe's "Club Shay Shay" to connect with voters better. Though Harris reached a wide audience with these appearances, it's important to remember that Cooper and Sharpe aren't journalists, but glorified entertainers. Her preference for these interviews with lay-up questions is a slap in the face to journalists who

want to ask her real questions about the issues of the campaign.

What's most concerning about Harris is she rarely talks on the campaign trail about the threats that journalists face. While Trump continues to bash the press, Harris hasn't provided any sort of rebuttal to these attacks. Instead, she opts for generically calling him a "fascist" or a "Nazi." Labeling Trump as these may get her views on X, formally known as Twitter, but does nothing to stand up for the free press. If she really wants to distinguish herself from Trump, Harris needs to firmly assert that she supports the work of journalists and will uphold the First Amendment. Calling Trump a fascist doesn't do anything for anybody, especially for journalists who continue to face attacks from an increasingly hostile public.

Let's make something clear: Harris' reluctance to embrace pro-press messaging should not be equated with Trump's brash and violent anti-press messaging. A second Trump Reich poses an existential threat to journalists that hasn't been seen since the Nixon administration. But for Harris to ignore this issue is simply unacceptable. If Harris wants to distinguish herself in the final days of the campaign, she needs to position herself as an ally to the press. Otherwise, this country is staring down the barrel of the Trump News Network: all lies, all the time.



FILE LOGO/THE DAILY CAMPUS

It's clear that Trump is the anti-press candidate in this race. But while Harris hasn't said anything as outwardly threatening against journalists as Trump, she hasn't solidified herself as a pro-press candidate. After becoming the presumptive Democratic nominee while Biden was taken to tend the rabbits, Harris avoided

non Sharpe's "Club Shay Shay" to connect with voters better. Though Harris reached a wide audience with these appearances, it's important to remember that Cooper and Sharpe aren't journalists, but glorified entertainers. Her preference for these interviews with lay-up questions is a slap in the face to journalists who

Why you should care about Congress more than ever

by Patrick Minnerly
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The 2024 presidential election has dominated headlines around the country. The struggle for the most powerful position captures a lot of attention. Yet, a president's success or failure is often determined by whether their party has control of Congress, especially in an age of increasing partisanship. If you vote this election, you'll not only make your pick for president, but also choose who you want for your state's congressional delegation—and this can matter greatly for the future of politics.

Congress, made up of the House of Representatives and the Senate, is currently split. Republicans have a slightly greater number in the House, with 220 members to 212 for the Democrats, and the Democrats have the thinnest of majorities in the Senate. In that majority,

there are 47 senators who actually belong to the Democratic Party and four independents who caucus with them, making for a total of 51. Meanwhile, the Republicans have 49 senators in their caucus. These razor-thin advantages for each party signal a new era for American politics; gone, at least for now, are the huge majorities parties used to rack up at one time or another. The most recent time the majority was at 55 seats or more in the Senate was from 2009-11. Even farther back, a party last had 60 seats in the Senate from 1977-79. The House is more volatile, due to turnover happening more often, but not since 2011, when Democrats controlled 257 seats, has either party had more than 250.

This emerging trend of narrower margins in every election has made both the House and Senate susceptible to partisan gridlock, where few things are agreed upon and even fewer bills are passed. This is largely due to the fact many districts are becoming more uncompetitive;

there are fewer swing states and districts than ever before. According to the Brennan Center for Justice, in the House of Representatives there are only 27 that "are considered toss-ups" for the upcoming election. This may seem to present a paradox for the argument that paying attention to Congress is more important than ever, especially considering UConn students are from Connecticut, where many districts have comfortably gone to Democrats for a long time.

But the vanishing idea of a toss-up district means we should take care to be observant of the danger such polarization creates both for the system of Congress and the U.S. in general. Right now, that danger is coming from the Republican Party, and it is most prevalent within the House of Representatives, where Republicans have the majority. In recent years, the far-right wing of the GOP has grown much stronger, in concordance with Trump's takeover of the party. This strength was evident in the aftermath of

the 2020 election when Trump falsely claimed he had won — without providing any evidence — and tried to overturn the results. Even after the horrific breach of the U.S. Capitol by a rioting mob of Trump supporters, 139 out of 221 House Republicans — a clear majority — voted against certifying the election, along with eight of their Senate counterparts. They held the twisted lies of Trump above their duty to the United States and decided to try overturning a fair election.

One of the lawmakers who spearheaded the efforts to justify such a move, Mike Johnson, is now the speaker of the house, the most important position in the chamber and third in line to the presidency. How an election denier got to one of the most powerful positions in the country demonstrates the power of the new radical Republicans. After previous GOP speaker Kevin McCarthy decided to negotiate with Democrats on passing an emergency spending bill, he was ousted

by those in the Republican party who wanted to shut the government down instead. Now, Johnson is in an even better position to do Trump's bidding—a prospect made more sinister by Trump's talk of a "little secret" between them, which experts have speculated may involve messing with election results if Trump loses.

We should fear a Republican majority led and filled by lawmakers who are Trump supporters first and loyal to the wellbeing of their country second, even more so when the presidential race is in a dead heat. That is why, whatever district and state you'll be voting in this election, you should value your choice for senator or representative in Congress, even if it might seem uncompetitive. If everyone viewed their voice as worthless, no one would cast their vote. It is up to us to help decide what party is in power for the next years, and whether the party of election denialism and dangerous radicalism will get that power.

Tyler's Take:

Breaking down the Deandre Hopkins trade

by **Tyler Pruneau**
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Looking back on the past eight weeks, the Kansas City Chiefs stand as lone soldiers. Putting on an impressive campaign to start the season, the team holds a 7-0 record heading into week nine. Getting to this point was not all sunshine and rainbows; the team has yet to play a stellar game. Injuries are preventing the Chiefs from playing to their full potential. Getting hit hard in the wide receiver room, the Chiefs lack weapons once again.

Proceeding with their plans and trading for Deandre Hopkins is a game-changing move for the franchise. Before getting into the specifics of the contract, let's look at why this happened.

Last season, Patrick Mahomes played his worst season to date, and many questioned how far Kansas City could go. They struggled offensively, and the defense carried the team to the Super Bowl. A rerun of last year's offensive issues is the last thing the back-to-back champs want.

Needing an upgrade in receivers, signing free agent Marquise "Hollywood" Brown over the 2024 offseason was big. Achieving 3,644 yards within five seasons, Brown brings new energy to the locker room. Brown lining up next to the second-year receiver Rashee Rice is a match made in heaven for Mahomes. After giving fans hope of a new veteran receiver, things took a turn for the worse during the first preseason game. Brown fell hard on his shoulder after completing

the first catch of the match, forcing him to the sidelines. Further evaluations determined Brown suffered a sternoclavicular joint dislocation. Former star receiver Tyreek Hill endured the same injury back in 2019, sidelining him for four games, according to KMBC News.

The same luck was not on Brown's side. He announced on social media that surgery is needed to make a full recovery.

"Disappointed, frustrated, and sad was the first wave of emotions once I realized I would need surgery but that only lasted a day or so because Of my Faith in God. Knowing that this shall pass, no matter the great opportunity I had in front of me. It's not over and that's not the path God wanted for me and I'm perfectly fine with that now," stated Brown on X.

On pace to make a comeback by mid-January, Kansas City leaned on Rice and the first-year rookie Xavier Worthy, though week four stopped this plan. After throwing a pick to the Los Angeles Chargers, Mahomes lowered his shoulder, trying to get the defender down. Missing his target, Mahomes ended up nailing Rice's knee, leading to Rice getting carted off. It was later announced that the breakout receiver had his PLC surgically repaired. Unlikely to return this season, the wideout is placed on the IR.

With nothing left to lose, the Chiefs turned to Worthy and Juju Smith-Schuster. Finding success in week five, one week after Rice's injury, Smith-Schuster hauled in seven receptions for eight targets and 130 yards. This success failed

to last long, as he left with a hamstring injury during week seven of the 49ers' matchup. In addition, the team added Skyy Moore to the IR. With no options to go to, hitting the panic button was the only choice left for the front office; this led to Hopkins becoming a Chief. Everyone expected Kansas City to make a move before the deadline; the topic of conversation was who would be signed.

After leaving the Cardinals in the past, the veteran signed a two-year, \$26 million contract with the Tennessee Titans back in 2023. The team also ate Hopkins' \$2.5 million remaining salary. Before signing with the Titans, rumors spread about the Chiefs signing Hopkins. Ending in the Titans favor, the receiver wanted the money rather than a ring.

Fast forward to today, the Chiefs robbed Tennessee, giving them a 2025 fifth-round pick. That could turn into a fourth if Hopkins plays 60 percent of the snaps. Getting hit with \$3.2 million against their cap space, KC will pay Hopkins' \$60,000 per game roster bonus and about \$2.6 million in his base pay. To seal the deal, the Titans will pay his \$2.5 million base salary. The Chiefs "restructured the contract of OT [offensive tackle] Jawaan Taylor by converting salary into a signing bonus, creating \$5.3M in 2024 room," according to Field Yates on X.

If this fixes the wide receiver problem, stopping the Chiefs from making history and becoming three-peat champs will become harder.



Deandre Hopkins catching a pass from the Chief's quarterback Patrick Mahomes. Hopkins recently caught the game winning touchdown for the Chiefs.
PHOTO COURTESY OF @DEANDREHOPKINS ON INSTAGRAM

Sargeant's Orders:

What's next for the New York Giants?

by **Connor Sargeant**
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While we are only eight weeks into this NFL season, it is safe to say that, for the New York Giants, the 2024-2025 campaign is as good as gone. Not only will New York finish with a losing record for the eighth time in the past 10 years, but the NFC East is as strong as ever. The Washington Commanders appear to have found their quarterback of the future in Jayden Daniels, and the Philadelphia Eagles are as good as ever and seem to be clicking. However, at the Meadowlands, it's Bizarro World, with nothing going right. In this week's edition of Sargeant's Orders, we will discuss everything about the Giants, including what the team needs to do to be competitive in the future.

Considering that the season is lost, the team needs to look

ahead to the future, and a crucial piece of that future is second-year cornerback Deonte Banks. The 23-year-old was benched midway through the first quarter against the Pittsburgh Steelers after struggling mightily on his last series. Banks missed a routine sideline tackle, going for the knees of Najee Harris, only for the Steeler running back to hurdle him easily. A few plays later, the young corner made a poor attempt at wrapping up George Pickens on what should have been a routine tackle. He went to the ground too quickly, which allowed Pickens to spin away and pick up nearly 10 yards after the catch. While some may attribute this to a poor series from Banks with no long-term implications, this isn't exactly the case.

Banks has demonstrated a lack of focus all season long, and the Giants have suffered because of it. In a week three loss to the

Dallas Cowboys, the corner allowed a massive 55-yard touchdown to CeeDee Lamb, and even Giants defensive backs coach Jerome Henderson criticized Banks for his "lack of effort." While his loafing around may be difficult for the untrained eye to see, the film of what he did in week seven against Philadelphia will clear that up. On a crucial third and seven play, quarterback Jalen Hurts escaped the pocket and scrambled up the field. Instead of making a play to wrap up the All-Pro quarterback, Banks gave up and walked to the sidelines, allowing Hurts to gain even more yardage.

Since his emergence into the National Football League, all Banks knows is losing, considering the Giants have been in the cellars of the NFC East for the past two years. The second-year corner may not feel these games matter, leading to bad habits. Bad habits lead to a lack of concentration and defensive breakdowns in routine situations, as we have seen from Banks. Despite the Maryland alumni's play as of late, Banks is a talented corner that the Giants need in the future. After all, considering this roster has too many other holes to replace, adding a talented first-round cornerback to that list is unideal. He has the skill set to be a Giant corner for the future, but can he put in the effort? Banks hasn't been the only Giants player lacking, as there have also been problems on the other side of the ball.

After leading the New York Giants to the Divisional Round of the NFL Playoffs in his 2022-2023 campaign, quarterback Daniel Jones inked a four-year, \$160 million deal. While Joe Schoen and the New York front office believed that Jones was the quarterback of the future, this was still a bad contract for

the team, as Jones was a bottom-tier quarterback before that run. Even in his contract year, Jones did not have passing stats that made him a top-flight signal caller, although it was hard to deny his scramble game and ability to win, as the Giants finished 9-7-1 that year. However, this year, he has remained essentially the same player since he was first drafted out of Duke.

In the 2021 season, Jones missed the last six games of that campaign with a neck injury, and Mike Glennon and Jake Fromm finished the last six games. This was the same year Joe Judge was the head coach and had the brilliant idea of calling back-to-back quarterback sneaks on second and 11 and third and nine, deep in their own territory. Somehow, that abomination of an offense was better than the New York offense right now, averaging nearly one point more per game. The Giants offense is so bad right now because of their red zone efficiency, which ranks dead last in the league. A season ago, they were 31st in that department, scoring touchdowns on 44.2% of their trips within the other team's 20-yard line. Even beyond the team's poor offensive line, Jones struggles at reading defensive coverages and throwing the ball deep. When he does throw the rock downfield, Jones often hesitates, being overly cautious and throwing the ball too late to where a safety over the top will force an incompleteness regardless. However, it's not always like this for Jones. Sometimes, he will make a great throw downfield or read the defensive coverages like a book, though these moments do not occur often enough to generate scoring. As a result, the Giants must consider what they want to do at the quarterback position, especially considering that cutting Jones

means eating over \$22 million in dead cap. However, with an NFL draft consisting of quarterbacks like Cam Ward, Shedeur Sanders and even Jalen Milroe, the talent is certainly there, although other holes still need to be filled.

If you have followed Giants football for the past decade, the offensive line continues to be near the worst in the league, with this season being no exception. While drafting Andrew Thomas in 2020 was an excellent move, the former Georgia Bulldog suffered an injury in the team's week six loss to the Cincinnati Bengals and will miss the rest of this year. Not to mention, 2022 first-round pick Evan Neal ranks near the bottom of the league at his position. To make matters worse, Schoen and the rest of the franchise have done virtually nothing in the last three years to address this, whether through the draft or free agency. This affects what Jones can do offensively and explains why they can't run the football or give time to any of their offensive playmakers. It doesn't matter who is behind center; you need blockers. This is a long, overdue issue that the Giants need to address this offseason to compete in the next two to four seasons.

While the New York defense is playing great, it doesn't mean much when you have players not playing to their potential, and it shows with their 2-6 record. After letting Saquon Barkley walk this offseason, the team needs a complete offensive overhaul to even consider being competitive again. While some may favor firing Schoen and Brian Daboll, this doesn't address the core issues with this franchise that have haunted them for nearly a decade, and this offseason will be critical in moving back toward relevancy.



Darius Slayton, a wide receiver for the New York Giants, putting up a stiff arm against a Steelers defender. The Giants are currently 2-6 this season.
PHOTO COURTESY OF @NYGIANTS ON INSTAGRAM



Sports

Men's Basketball:

Jacob Furphy commits to UConn to complete 2025 class

by Sam Calhoun
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Australian wing Jacob Furphy has committed to UConn over Illinois, as Furphy announced on social media Tuesday night.

Furphy's recruitment went under the radar, with many not knowing about UConn recruiting him until he committed.

"I believe I have the style of play and work ethic to fit in seamlessly with the Huskies and their championship culture," Furphy told NJ Advance Media. "I've already built great relationships with the coaching staff, which I think will serve as a great foundation to my continued growth as a player."

Furphy, 18, is considered the top prospect in his class from Australia. The 6-foot-5 lefty is from Tasmania and developed his game at the Basketball Centre of Excellence and the NBA Global Academy in Australia. The Centre of Excellence, abbreviated as "CoE," plays in the NBL—the G-League equivalent of the NBL. That means Furphy has played against strong competition in Australia.

He is an excellent shooter, making 13 of his 28 3-point attempts during the FIBA U18 Asian Cup. His 3-point shot is most effective at the top of the key and on the wings, but he can shoot from the corner too. Furphy, not related to former Kansas guard Johnny Furphy, averaged 16.8 points, 4.2 assists and 2.3 rebounds per game,



Jacob Furphy holding a basketball with a UConn shirt on. This post was him hinting at a commitment to UConn for his collegiate career. PHOTO COURTESY OF @JACOB_FURPHY ON INSTAGRAM

helping Australia win the tournament.

The NBA Academy has produced a handful of talented players, including Indiana Pacers forward Bennedict Mathurin, Bulls guard Josh Giddey and Atlanta Hawks guard Dyson Daniels. College basketball players include Duke center Khaman Maluach and

Indiana center Oumar Ballo.

Furphy has strong court vision, constantly feeding his teammates on cuts, which will fit well with the offense UConn head coach Dan Hurley runs.

"I think that this recruiting class for us in '25 is to bring in high-end talent, players that potentially will be early-entry level players that we can bring

into this class," said Hurley last week at Big East Media Day.

What also stands out in the film, aside from his 3-point shot and court vision, is Furphy's ability to finish at the rim. On film, he is seen playing well without the ball in his hands, making cuts to the rim to help find a window for an easy layup.

Furphy's shooting and basketball IQ make up for not being as physically gifted or athletic as some of his future teammates.

"His work ethic, ability to understand basketball concepts and character as a teammate will allow him to elevate and fit in seamlessly with any high-level program," Greg Collucci, NBA Director of Elite Basketball Recruiting & Alumni Relations, told NJ Advance Media.

Furphy's commitment puts the Huskies over the current scholarship limit of 13. However, the limit is expected to increase to 15 next year, though the decision has not been finalized yet. The limit might not be needed with NBA scouts interested in Alex Karaban, Liam McNeeley, Jaylin Stewart and Samson Johnson.

He visited UConn and Illinois in late September/early October before making his decision roughly a month later.

"I pride myself on basketball IQ, which allows me to make great reads out of the pick and roll and create for myself and teammates, as well as my competitive nature to help impact winning," said Furphy to NJ Advance Media's Adam Zagoria. "I'm also a confident shooter which helps space the floor."

Hurley loves players who pride themselves on their competitive nature, so Furphy, rated as a four-star recruit by 247Sports, should fit right in with the Huskies. He will join Darius Adams, Braylon Mullins and Eric Reibe in Storrs, Connecticut next fall.

Volleyball:

UConn comes out victorious after taking down Providence while on the road

by Julia Sasso
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The Huskies took to the road to face the Providence Friars on Wednesday night. UConn came into this match seeking redemption after dropping two consecutive games last weekend to Xavier and DePaul, and it was redemption that they found winning the game 3-1. This marked the second time that the Huskies beat the Friars this season.

UConn started the first set with good momentum, capitalizing on several errors from the Friars putting them up 5-2. The Huskies continued to capitalize on the Friars' errors and went on a 4-0 run with two consecutive kills from junior Doga Kutlu. Extending their lead to 11-6, Providence responded by going on a 4-0 run of their own and closing the Huskies lead to 11-10. Once the Friars gained momentum there seemed to be no stopping them. They capitalized on UConn's errors to take the lead and went on several 3-0 runs. Building their lead up to 19-15, Connecticut attempted a

comeback with two consecutive kills from graduate student Taylor Pannell and junior Hanna Tylska, closing the gap to 21-19. However, a four point run from the Friars gave them the first set 25-19.

Providence took charge early into the second set, going on consecutive scoring runs putting them up 11-3. The Huskies responded with kills from Tyslka, Pannell and freshman Loren Winn to close the lead to 10-13. The Huskies took advantage of their momentum by capitalizing on errors from the Friars' offense and a kill by sophomore Grace Maria to tie the game at 15-15. Both teams traded points back and forth until the Huskies took the lead, after kills from Pannell and Tyslka put them up 20-18. The Friars tried to regain the lead going on another 3-0 run. However the

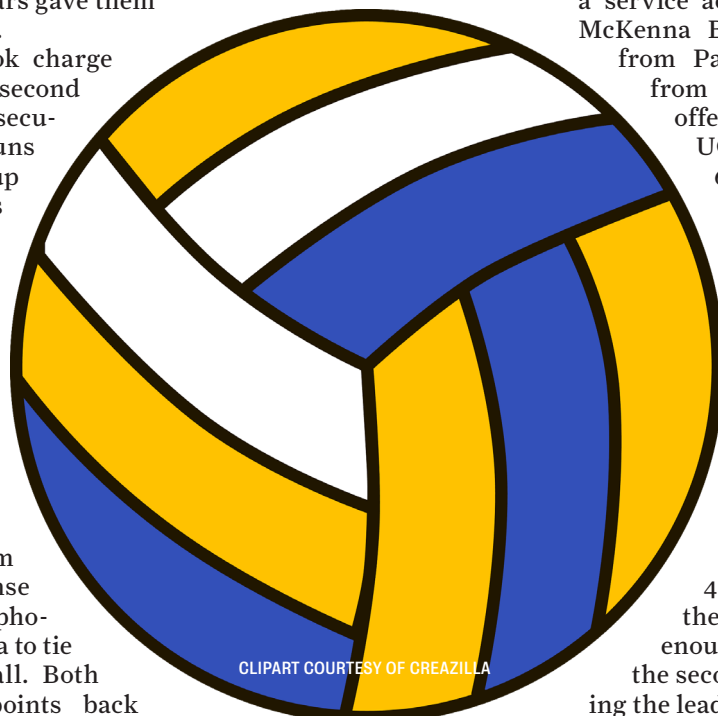
Huskies were not going down easily. They responded with a run of their own, and two consecutive service aces from Pannell, as well as

momentum going in the third set. They took an early 8-3 lead after kills from Pannell, Maria and redshirt sophomore Aubrey Rome. Not to mention a service ace from freshman McKenna Brand. More kills from Pannell and errors from the Providence's offense extended UConn's lead to 12-6. From there on, the Huskies took control of the score board. Pouring in kills from Tyslka, Rome, Maria, Pannell and Winn put the program up 24-17. The Friars attempted to mount a comeback going on a 4-0 scoring run, but their efforts were not enough. UConn won the second set 25-21, gaining the lead of the game 2-1.

The Huskies came into the fourth set determined to get the win, taking an early one-point lead. Providence returned with strong offensive plays, tying the game at sev-

en all. The programs traded points tying once again at 9-9. However, the Friars continued to struggle with attack errors and UConn continued to mount a powerful offensive attack and took the lead 15-1. Providence, though, was not ready to give up and put up a five point scoring run of their own. The game came to another stand still after a kill from Winn, settling the score at 16-16. The Friars then took the lead at 20-18 after UConn struggled with offensive errors. However, the Huskies responded with a 3-0 run regaining the lead by one point. Though the score was close in the final moments of the set, in the end it was the Huskies that took the fourth set, 25-22. This gave them their second victory this season against the Friars.

Connecticut will look to keep their momentum as they make their way back home to Storrs on Saturday, Nov. 2 to take on the Butler Bulldogs. This will be the second time they come face to face with UConn. The Huskies will be hoping to win the match and maintain their undefeated at home status.



CLIPART COURTESY OF CREAZILLA

a Kill from Tyslka to put them over the edge. UConn won the second set 25-23, tying the game at 1-1. Connecticut kept their mo-