



# SUPERBOWL



# CHAMPIONS

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## UConn senate allows reserve caps in TOI courses, adds Juneteenth as a non-instructional day

**by Liliana French**  
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The University of Connecticut's senate allowed departments to reserve seats for certain majors in Topics of Inquiry (TOI) courses and added Juneteenth as a non-instructional day in a Feb. 3 meeting.

Common Curriculum Committee Chair Pamela Bedore explained old senate bylaws regarding reserving seats in courses for students with specific majors.

"For at least 30 years, there's been a rule that [...] you can reserve any number of seats using reserve caps in upper-level W courses that are specific to the major. You can only reserve 50% capacity for 2000 or above courses that have topics of inquiry, or currently [content areas]," Bedore said. "In the past, there was a rule that you could not reserve any seats in 1000 level general education courses that counted for content areas."

Bedore discussed issues with senate bylaws on reserve caps being ignored and reserve caps being implemented in violation of senate bylaws.

"However, we were deeply out of compliance with that senate bylaw, so the CCC+ was asked to review this issue about a year and a half ago and we've spent quite a lot of time doing that," Bedore said.

Bedore discussed plans for new reserve caps for courses and stated that they would be enforced.

"So what we propose here is to keep the 50% cap of 2000 and above, but to add a 25% cap for 1000 level courses, meaning that you can save a quarter of your seats for students in your major for 1000 level courses, but since it's general education, 75% of those seats must be available to the general student population," Bedore said.

Bylaws were added to exempt certain transfer students from common curriculum requirements. The senate agenda explained that some community college programs in Connecticut are designed for students planning on transferring to UConn. These programs have similar general education requirements to UConn, so language was added to ease the transfer process.

"Undergraduate students with associate degrees from CT State Community College that are designated as 'transfer-oriented' within the Transfer Poli-

cy are exempt from the Common Curriculum Requirements," the new bylaw language added.

Additionally, during this meeting, Juneteenth was added as a non-instructional holiday. Senate Scholastic Standards Committee Co-Chairs Karen Bresciano and Jamie Kleinman discussed its implementation.

"In Fall '23, the [Senate Executive Committee] asked the [Scholastic Standards Committee] to consider adding Juneteenth as a non-instructional day," a senator said.

Juneteenth was established as a teaching holiday in the Spring 2023 semester, with the provost issuing guidance to encourage faculty to be flexible with students who wanted to observe the holiday, according to the agenda. The recommendation for Juneteenth to become a non-instructional day had the support of UConn President Radenka Maric and Provost Anne D'Alleva.

The senator said that they were able to maintain the amount of instructional time when adding Juneteenth as a holiday.

Laura Burton, chair of the Senate Executive Committee, said that constituency ballots for faculty and staff to vote for senators would be released soon. Burton reminded people to check their emails.



The UConn Bookstore is where students can get their books for classes and university apparel. The university held a senate meeting on Monday, Feb. 3, 2025. FILE PHOTO/THE DAILY CAMPUS

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**THE DAILY CAMPUS NEWSLETTER**  
8 AM BLAST

## News

# Another snowstorm blankets Connecticut ahead of Super Bowl Sunday

by Patrick Boots

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Winter Storm Brant brought several inches of snowfall and sleet across the region late Saturday evening, prompting cleanup efforts alongside one of the most popular sporting events of the year. Trained spotters reported four inches in Tolland, with some Connecticut towns receiving over six inches according to the latest National Weather Service data.

Students at the University of Connecticut were made aware of service adjustments in the days leading up to the storm, including an early Saturday night closing time for the Student Union and changes in dining service hours. Numerous municipalities statewide, including the Town of Mansfield, announced parking bans in preparation for the snowfall.

Earlier model predictions indicated our area would likely receive up to 10 inches of snow, but less accumulation was received. Sleet formation also prevented more snow from piling up.

"A warm layer of air aloft along with some drier air resulted in snow transitioning to sleet and freezing drizzle shortly after midnight," ex-

plained Jill Gilardi, a meteorologist for WFSB Channel 3 in Hartford. "This drastically cut down the snowfall ratios."

Although some people may have been disappointed by lessened snowfall totals, this circumstance usually allows for quicker melting and recovery on the roads. The Connecticut Department of Transportation and local public works crews worked through the night to treat and maintain streets, in part to allow for additional expected traffic on Sunday afternoon thanks to "The Big Game."

The City of Hartford uses a fleet of 30 trucks to help clean up the roads following storms like Brant, and instituted a parking ban at 9 p.m. on Saturday, according to WTNH Channel 8.

"I know it's really difficult, inconvenient to get those cars off," said Mayor Arunan Arulampalam during a press briefing. "We have about 500 people every time there's a major storm that gets ticketed and towed, and we don't want to do that in the city."

The system that brought Winter Storm Brant moved out of Connecticut mid-morning on Sunday, but the below-freezing temperatures overnight may have contributed to a sprinkler line break at the Student Union. An announce-

ment made on their Instagram account Sunday morning said the building would remain closed for the rest of the day and that all reservations were cancelled. Originally, a delayed opening of 5 p.m. on Sunday was planned.

Extreme cold temperatures have resulted in on-campus plumbing issues in the past, but the Student Union's maintenance announcement states they hope to re-open for normal operations on Monday, Feb. 10. The building closure did leave students without a publicly accessible venue to watch the Super Bowl on campus, however.

This weekend's storm follows wintry precipitation on Thursday, Feb. 6, which caused closures and class cancellations at all UConn campuses. Students are encouraged to be familiar with the university's winter weather closing policies, some of which have recently been changed, and to be informed through the UConn Alert system and by checking their town's emergency management notifications.

To stay updated with Connecticut weather, visit the National Weather Service's webpages for their New York and Boston stations, in addition to local radio and television stations.

## Cornell student creates app that allows users to save and make money when parking at airports

by Gianni Salisbury

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Akhil Damani was walking into the airport with his family during his freshman year of college when he noticed the amount of space airport parking lots take up. In one lot, there were hundreds of cars paying \$30 a day to leave their cars there while on vacation. In the other lot, there were hundreds of rental cars waiting for visitors to rent.

That's when an idea hit him: What if there was a way to condense this process by allowing people to park their car for free, make money off parking their car and rent a car while saving money?

Damani, now a senior computer and information science major at Cornell University, just launched his parking service online website and app Hermit in August 2024. By using the coding skills he learned at school, he and a few friends created an app that allows people to park their cars at a Hermit location

for free. Others can then rent that car out to drive around while on vacation. Meanwhile, the owners of the cars being rented are making money in the process.

Damani just launched his first Hermit location at Bradley International Airport in Hartford, Conn. He said his goal is to keep expanding and help as many people as possible save money while traveling. He said he especially hopes that this app will help college students that are struggling financially.

"The way I want it to be in the future is if you go on a trip, your trip is paid for by using the platform. If you are making \$40 a day, and you're saving \$30 a day for parking, that's like, basically a net \$70. So, if you're gone for a week, you make \$490, and that's great, right? So, I think that it's super valuable if you're going on a trip or spring break," said Damani.

Damani explained that there are a few different ways you can use the app. He stated that when someone is looking to park their

car for free, they can sign up on the app and scan their driver's license. Scanning drivers license allows the app to run background checks to ensure that people feel safe leaving their cars. You must be at least 18 years old to do this.

"We make sure that anyone on the platform is a safe driver. We make sure that they don't have a criminal background or anything, so that people feel safe leaving their cars. So, it's like a safe community," Damani said.

To register a car to host, Damani explained that users must enter their vehicle identification number on the app and take and upload pictures of their car.

Once the car is registered, users can then select the day they want to drop off and pick up their car, according to Damani. Users of the app do not have to be traveling to drop their cars off at Hermit locations.

According to Damani, Hermit locations are located at off-site locations of the airports, and once

there, users get instructions on how to drop off their cars. Once their car is dropped off, users will be provided a shuttle to the airport.

"When you show up, you get instructions on how to drop off the car, but everything's done to the app. It's very straightforward. Once you're there, you drop off your keys into our dropbox. You will be given a code, and inside the building that we have, there's a little dropbox. You enter the code into it, and then it'll open up a slot where you put your keys in. It will then close, and then you're good to go. Then a shuttle will take you to the airport," said Damani.

As for those renting out a car, it is the same process, just backwards, according to Damani. However, those looking to rent a car must be at least 21 years old.

"They take a shuttle, they pick up the keys from the dropbox with the app, they take the car and then they're good to go," Damani said.

As for those worried about the

safety of their cars, Damani emphasized that the whole process is insured, so if anything happens to a person's car while being driven, everything is protected.

"We wanted to get something that was really good for consumers and great for people who are leaving their cars, because otherwise, I wouldn't want to leave my car if it wasn't protected," Damani said.

When starting this app, Damani stated his goal was to create something that was sustainable and something that genuinely helps people save and make money. Now over two years into the process, Damani said he is excited about continuing to help others and reach as many people as possible.

"We have a few 100 users that are on the platform and have signed up. We have a lot of renters coming in and people interested. I think the next thing is getting the word out. We've sort of tested it out. We know it works. Now everything is going great. So now it's just pushing it out," Damani said.

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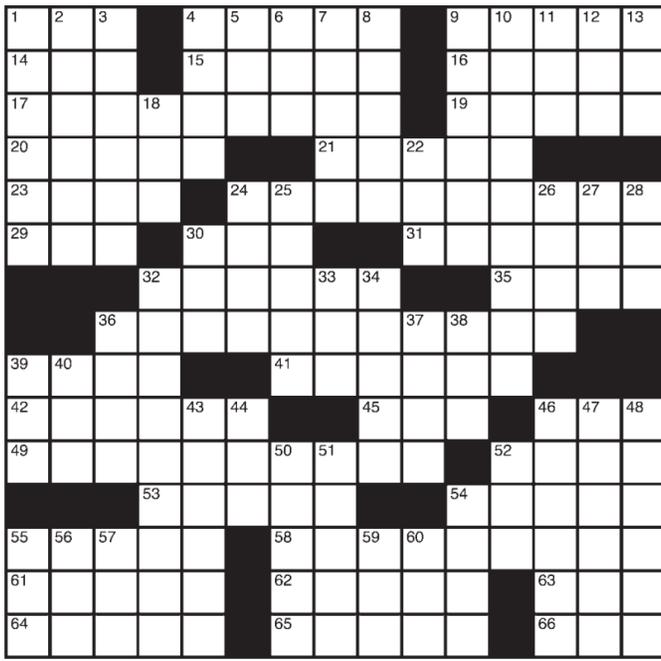
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**Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle**

Edited by Patti Varol

- ACROSS**
- 1 Fixed-term bank accts.
  - 4 Employ, as power
  - 9 Soap Box Derby town in Ohio
  - 14 Cool
  - 15 Mexican marinade
  - 16 Grassy plain
  - 17 "Softens as it cleans" classic detergent brand
  - 19 North Carolina's Banks
  - 20 Skull cavity
  - 21 Should have said
  - 23 Advantage
  - 24 McFlurry competitor
  - 29 Filmmaker Ang
  - 30 Singer Rawls
  - 31 Hang around
  - 32 Country with a vital canal
  - 35 German article
  - 36 "The Road Not Taken" poet
  - 39 Dazzling success
  - 41 Natural ability
  - 42 Gets up
  - 45 Picnic pest
  - 46 "\_\_\_! Humbug!"
  - 49 Rapper whose debut studio album was 1990's "To the Extreme"
  - 52 Art \_\_\_: geometric architectural style
  - 53 Tangle under a desk
  - 54 Environmental activist Thunberg
  - 55 Puppy
  - 58 Combination weather that makes travel difficult, and what the ends of 17-, 24-, 36-, and 49-Across comprise
  - 61 Blender setting
  - 62 Video game pioneer
  - 63 12/31, e.g.
  - 64 Stockpile
  - 65 Unlikely to bend
  - 66 Hi-\_\_\_ photo
- DOWN**
- 1 Sculptor's tool
  - 2 Split into portions
  - 3 Dish cleaner
  - 4 In more \_\_\_ than one
  - 5 Wallet cards
  - 6 Seemingly forever
  - 7 Awkward word to drop on a first date, informally
  - 8 Wooden peg
  - 9 Basketball Hall of Famer Mourning
  - 10 Most clumsy
  - 11 Stool pigeon
  - 12 Lowest sudoku number
  - 13 "That's neither here \_\_\_ there"
  - 18 Feel sorry about
  - 22 Feel poorly
  - 24 "That's all, folks!"
  - 25 Motor oil measure
  - 26 Bickering
  - 27 Kylo of "Star Wars"
  - 28 Rap's Dr. \_\_\_
  - 30 Chocolate dog
  - 32 Summer treats on sticks
  - 33 NYC transit org.
  - 34 Cigna rival
  - 36 Really mess up
  - 37 Actress Russo
  - 38 Canadian prov.
  - 39 Cleveland NBAer
  - 40 "You for Me" singer Rita
  - 43 Marries secretly
  - 44 Camera type, briefly
  - 46 Pricey German wheels, informally
  - 47 On the go
  - 48 Elaborate pranks
  - 50 Marketing battle
  - 51 Last Supper question
  - 52 Like a county that prohibits the sale of alcohol
  - 54 Crossword diagram
  - 55 New Deal org.
  - 56 Engine noise
  - 57 Pitcher's stat
  - 59 Badger
  - 60 Uni- + bi-



By Annemarie Brethauer

2/10/25

**Saturday's Puzzle Solved**



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RENTALS**

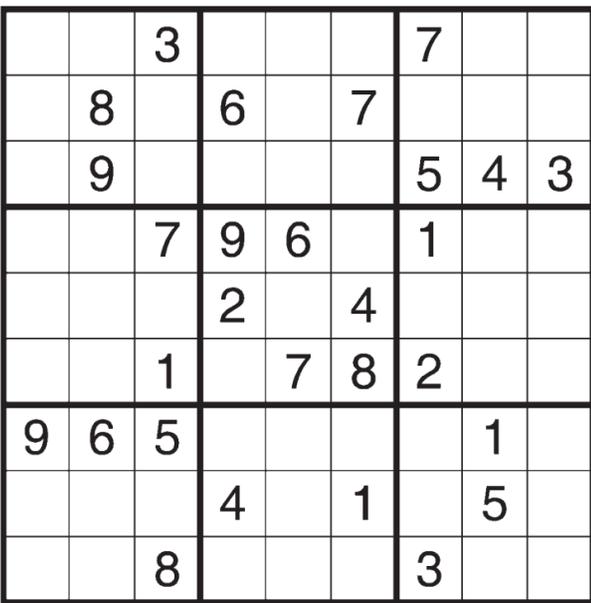
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Level **1** 2 3 4



Solution to Saturday's puzzle

2/10/25

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

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](http://sudoku.org.uk)

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The Daily Campus' Sudoku

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OF RAWPIXEL

# No Skips: Cruising through the night

by James Fitzpatrick | HE/HIM/HIS | ASSOCIATE LIFE EDITOR | james.fitzpatrick@uconn.edu

Hello, people! This edition of No Skips is hopefully not as scuffed as my vinyl copy of Julee Cruise's debut album "Floating Into the Night," but that's okay. In No Skips, I go over albums that are consistent front to back, and the inspiration this week came from deciding what album to review at 3 a.m. This masterpiece from 1989 is perfect for nocturnal college students like me, featuring the perfect balance of the surreal and the serene, especially since the late David Lynch played a major role in the album's synthesis by writing all the songs.

In fact, unfortunately, all three key artists who worked on this record—Lynch, composer Angelo Badalamenti and Cruise herself—have passed away since 2022. The former faced health complications from the Los Angeles wildfires, while Badalamenti, who is behind the music of "Twin Peaks" and even "National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation" reached 85 years of age before his death. However, the 65-year-old Cruise died by suicide, casting an extra layer of gloom on this already haunting record.

On the first track, "Floating," Cruise stays fairly distant from the microphone, letting her harmonies wash over the listener's ears, apart from one moment where she whispers, enticing someone to come over to her house. Functioning as both an airy pop ballad and a brooding jazz standard from hell, the romantic interest in this song makes the speaker feel otherworldly, with one of the less abstract lyrics being, "Ever since

I held your face / I soar through space." It's weird to not attribute these statements to Cruise since she's singing, but as we'll see, this album's lyrical idiosyncrasies are very much Lynch-coded.

Although I have yet to experience "Twin Peaks," I'm aware the album's first single and its second track, "Falling," helped characterize the show's mysticism, as the instrumental was the theme song. I cannot imagine this song feeling complete without Cruise's low-key delivery in the verses, matching the eclectic electric guitar and her powerful vocals during the chorus.

"I Remember," though less notable, is quite peaceful until a transition near the two-minute mark where the wind starts to blow, emphasized by the line "I never felt a wind / So happy, so warm / That sent seven little red birds up my spine." With the drums and cymbals also increasing in tempo, I enjoy Badalamenti's willingness to throw a wrench in an otherwise normal composition because the middle portion turned out to be the most enjoyable part of the track.

"Rockin' Back Inside My Heart" is a tad more upbeat than the introductory three-track run, with a banging backing band and a rhythmic chorus. Guitars, saxophones and Cruise's immaculate drums keep the nearly six-minute track engaging enough for future listeners. The outro elaborates on some motifs brought up in the previous song, including birds, fire and wind, though much of the lyrical material is the song's title.

"Mysteries of Love" is a pleasant tune that — I hate to say this — could've made it onto "Donda" by Ye (formerly known as Kanye West) if he recruited less rap-oriented artists onto the production crew. If anything, this song best represents the idea of "floating into the night" with its lack of percussion and many instrumental sections.

"Into the Night" is primarily defined by another genius choice by Badalamenti to crescendo the composition with brass and drums, giving no prior warning to the listener. The simplicity is intoxicating, yet Cruise, who mainly sings "so dark" gives just enough substance to justify an almost five-minute runtime.

Lynch continues to latch onto darkness in "I Float Alone," which coincidentally or not, bolsters Cruise's most downtrodden vocals. Claiming "Sad dreams blow through dark trees / Love's gone wrong / Clouds of sadness raining all night long / Love's gone / The end of our song," an equally depressing saxophone that sounds like it's on its last breath concludes the seventh song.

The record could've ended there but the album rounds out at 10 songs, and at this point, they get a bit repetitive. There's merit in each track being as good as the last, but when the quality is consistent because the songs sound the same, I can only commend them so much. Regardless, I can still justify "Floating Into the Night" fitting into this column with no exceptions.

"The Nightingale" is the album's loudest song in terms of energy, not necessarily in volume. Cruise confidently performs in the background while more metaphorical lyrics are recited by her in another take such as "Our hearts will fly / With the nightingale." Death pervades "The Swan," a song evidently made in the late-1980s, where the speaker draws parallels between their lover and a dying swan, believing them to have a "swan smile," whatever that means.

"The World Spins," the six-and-a-half-minute outro, is sonically similar to everything before it, though it's an incredible stand-alone track. The longer verses feature progression like a scale in Cruise's voice, reaching the highest note in the chorus. A bell-like instrument gives a nursery rhyme quality, and this formula essentially repeats until the song floats into the night. This is probably a better finale than "I Float Alone" would've been, but if it was anywhere else in the track list, I would've questioned its inclusion.

The creation of the album is also fascinating, as it's inexplicably linked with "Twin Peaks" and other David Lynch productions, but I think "Floating Into the Night" was a historic moment for music and experimental art at large. All three people mentioned in this review were prolific in their own right, but the blending of their talents that culminated in this album makes this quite a unique listen and deep dive. Rest in peace to Cruise, Badalamenti and Lynch.



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SAMANTHA  
HASS, ART-  
IST EDITOR/  
THE DAILY  
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IMAGE COURTESY  
OF RAWPIXEL

An oil painting on canvas of Elizabeth Stuart, 'The Winter Queen.' It was painted by Gerard van Honthorst in 1650.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ANN LONGMORE-ETHERIDGE ON FLICKR



## Celebrating love with a mock naval battle on the River Thames

by Benjamin Lassy

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Hello, and welcome back to This Week in History, a column where I go over the history that stands out from the textbook every week. This week, Feb. 9 to Feb. 15, is chock full of wars and tragedies as usual, although it has the distinction of marking a unique holiday: Valentine's Day.

As the history of Valentine's Day has been covered in this column not once or twice, but at least on three different occasions, it's slim pickings. The story of Saint Valentine getting his head chopped off is exhilarating, yet it's a tale almost as old as time, clocking in at 1,755 years before the present.

So, what if we take the love stories in a little bit of a different direction and instead focus on royalty, gift-giving and the intrigue of excess?

It all starts with the story of the "Winter Queen." Born amongst a wave of religious turmoil in August 1596, the young queen-to-be, Elizabeth Stuart, possessed a royal lineage at a time when having royal blood was naught but a death sentence.

First, the division between Catholics and Protestants ran deep. Many of those living throughout the Holy Roman Empire and England only swore allegiance to those of their faith and didn't just hate the other sect; they wouldn't hesitate to kill any religious dissident—unless, of course, they converted.

Lady Elizabeth grew up during this period of bloodshed now known as the Thirty Years' War, though that name arose later. In reality, the Thirty Years' War really should be known as the period of "30 years of wars." Wars in France and Spain over succession erupted alongside struggles between the Dutch and Portuguese. Meanwhile, Sweden and Denmark even had to get in on the action during the Torstenson War. Likewise, the Holy Roman Empire, an already loose association, practically imploded.

As hectic of a time as this period was, Lady Elizabeth did receive a solid education during her childhood, though not in Latin, as her father believed it "had the unfortunate effect of making women more cunning."

Born to lead as a queen at perhaps the worst time ever and forced into her role as a bride due to the systems of the day, Lady Elizabeth still proved to be capable and adaptable. But while her parents, James VI and I (James I as king of Scotland, later retitled James I after the union of the Scottish and English crowns), and Queen Anne of Denmark had successful reigns, there is a reason why

Lady Elizabeth is known as the "Winter Queen." But first, this week in history, the young princess is to be married.

The wedding plans arose as Lady Elizabeth was set to marry Frederick V of the Palatinate. Frederick was a leader of the Protestant Union, a faction of protestant states in the Holy Roman Empire and was also the Elector Palatine of the Rhine region. This position put him firmly against the recently ousted Catholic rulers of several regions in Germany. This marriage was a lifeline for Frederick as King James, Elizabeth's father, was a crucial Protestant ally. Should the tides turn against Frederick's domain, he could trust James for support.

Yet, the wedding plans were foiled by the death of the young Prince Henry in 1612, the heir to the throne. His passing was punctuated by a period of grief and mourning, subduing the cautious optimism felt in the build up to Elizabeth's wedding.

Henry's death also led many in England to become wary of sending Lady Elizabeth off to Germany, as this marriage would now remove another one of the king's descendants from England. Nevertheless, plans continued to unfold in early February 1613.

Couriers and attendants rushed to get linens and silks for the queen, while an embroidered dress was assembled for the queen by David Murray and Edward Hillyard. Meanwhile, Whitehall Palace and a banquet hall were prepared for the festivities. Likewise, a remarkable example of preserved history comes in the form of detailed account books covering the wedding expenses from some of those in attendance.

James Nisbet was tasked with giving the city of Edinburgh's gift of 10,000 merks — a Scottish silver coin — to the princess, and his story provides a glimpse into London at this time. After buying new clothes due to many people politely suggesting that he change his linen outfit, on Feb. 12, 1613, Nisbet went to get a haircut. What a nice little detail for the historical record.

While Nisbet had his hair trimmed, the royal family was preparing for an extravagant affair. While modern weddings vary from quick and quiet to several day festivals, this wedding certainly takes the cake as a true masterpiece.

What better way to celebrate love than some fireworks? Several royal gunners were employed to construct fireworks shows with elaborate displays of fire on barges built in the Thames. As is the case

with most parties though, sometimes things can be a bit awkward. According to the writer John Chamberlain, the most hyped final display underperformed and left the crowd a little disappointed.

Afterwards, on Feb. 13, why not celebrate a lifelong commitment to love by watching men fight each other in a giant mock naval battle? It's true: A large-scale battle took place between representations of Turkish and Christian boats. To nobody's surprise — but certainly their delight — the English won the mock engagement, and the costumed "Turkish soldiers" were brought to King James as a display of English success.

Despite the firing of 22 cannons and the destruction of a wooden mock-castle tower, apparently King James wasn't very pleased. A debt lingered on for the performance for several years.

With fireworks and mock battles concluded, it was finally time for the wedding on Feb. 14, 1613. Lavish tapestries and decorations warmed the Whitehall Palace chapel. A long wedding train of ladies, all in white satin, followed the princess as she entered the chapel.

Among those in attendance were the Catholic Lord Montagu, whose ornate clothing showed that perhaps the religious divides could be suppressed in an act of loyalty to the king despite his daughter's marriage to a Protestant.

Nevertheless, despite a comfortable and happy relationship — a lucky trait for a planned marriage — Frederick and Elizabeth's return to the Palatinate and eventually Bohemia, would prove that perhaps mock battles shouldn't be celebratory when real battles prove so fateful.

The "Winter Queen" would only rule as a queen alongside her husband for one year — one winter. Her father, King James, despite a lavish celebration, refused to send support to Frederick as he attempted to hold onto Bohemia. His motivations were political. Yet, Frederick's motivations even in defeat were perhaps quite clear: He loved Elizabeth. They lived together in exile until Frederick's passing.

Elizabeth's story continues on long after Frederick's death in 1632, but that's for another week in history. For more information on the fascinating couple and their failure to maintain a Protestant rule in Bohemia (which returned to Catholic rulers for nearly 300 years following Frederick's defeat), check out the Royal Museums Greenwich online, and a great video on the "Winter Queen" by "Rebecca Pattison the History Buff" on YouTube. Have a lovely week of love!





# Life

@dailycampuslife

## ‘WE HAVE LOST TRUST IN EACH OTHER’

### Irshad Manji on how to gain trust back

by Anna Heqimi  
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On Feb. 5 at the Student Union, Dr. Irshad Manji held a keynote presentation titled “We the People: Regaining Trust Through Moral Courage,” as part of this year’s Metanoia topic, the “The Pathways to Productive Civil Discourse.”

The significance of Metanoia as shared by the University By-Laws is that “from time to time during the academic year, a day may be devoted to intensive discussion of topics of great concern to the University community. The term ‘metanoia’ is used to refer to those occasions.” According to the UConn Events Calendar page, “Metanoia is an institutional tradition in which programming is developed to promote University-wide reflection and engagement with a critical issue.”

This year’s Metanoia kicked off with a keynote presentation in which Manji took the stage, sitting on a blue chair, wearing the faux fur coat of one of her audience members.

The presentation was conversational and interactive. Manji said to her audience members regarding any questions they had, “Ask me, I’m

an open book.”

The theme was moral courage. Manji defined it as “speaking truth to power ‘in here’ even as you speak your truth to power ‘out there.’” What does that mean? During a Zoom interview, Manji explained.

Manji, founder and chief executive of the Moral Courage Network, was in a make-up chair for the “Today Show,” when a voice inside of her told her, “So Irshad, is this what an educator does? They want you for your soundbite, not for what you can teach.”

Manji described how TV is for selling commercials, not to teach, adding that she told herself, “All you are is filler, does that make you proud?”

“I need to be educating, not just commenting,” she said. She added that commenting was what her ego wanted. She had been commenting for 10 years on vari-

ous networks such as CNN and HBO. Yet, after experiencing a seizure, Manji adjusted her perspective.

Prior to her seizure, she shared how she became defensive every

time. She added that there was a toxic energy she was ingesting and feeding to others. Such energy later caused her to fall into clinical depression.

She recovered when she asked herself, “Why do you get so defensive when all that’s happening is your ideals are being disagreed with?”

With a new style of educating others while being an open and empathetic listener, she said, “Today I am so much healthier and happier.”

Biologically, people have an amygdala, the piece of the brain that is responsible for the “fight or flight” response. Manji describes this as the “ego brain,” stating, “In a situation of mortal danger, it is your best friend.” However, in any other situation, she calls it our “frenemy,” because “it stops you from taking reasonable risks.” Expanding on this concept, Manji shared that we

must educate our emotions.

She added that we must lower our defensiveness and be open to what the other side says. The other side is anyone who has different perspectives, values or ideas than us.

“We have to stand up to our own ego,” she emphasized.

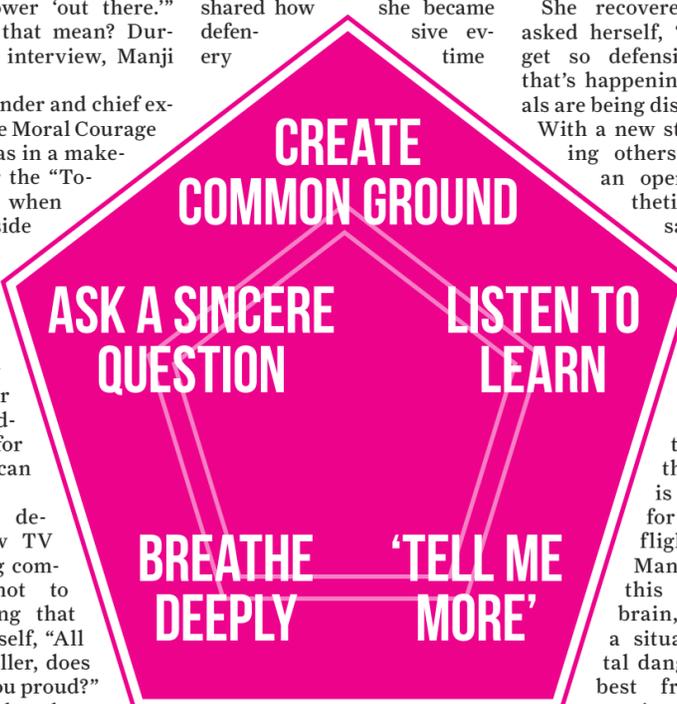
As a concluding note to the presentation, Manji shared five core stand-alone skills: “Breathe Deeply, Create Common Ground, Ask a Sincere Question, Listen to Learn and ‘Tell Me More.’”

“Each skill helps lower emotional defenses — yours and others — so that everyone can think more clearly,” she clarified, adding that even just practicing one of these skills until it becomes a habit, is powerful.

She added that it takes energy to listen carefully and learn, but in doing so, there is an incentive for the other side to be open as well.

On Feb. 6, a workshop featuring a film screening of Manji’s Oscar-shortlisted documentary, “Mississippi Turning,” a roundtable lunch discussion, while the “Change the Game” Interactive Session was postponed due to adverse weather.

Manji will return to campus to host the workshops at a later date.



GRAPHIC BY GOLBI LORANGER, ASSOCIATE MANAGING EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

someone disagreed with her ideals and that because of it, she “made critics more dogmatic and supporters skeptical.”



## ‘House In The Woods’ Ryan Karazija’s last breaths

by Elijah Polance

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Icelandic musician Ryan Karazija founded Low Roar as a solo project in 2011 after the indie rock band he fronted, Audrye Sessions, disbanded. As Low Roar, Karazija embarked on a sharp musical pivot, enlisting a meditative blend of indie folk, dream pop and folktronica sounds.

Since then, Low Roar became more of a collaborative effort, inviting a few musicians and producers to the project. The band saw a surge in popularity after heavily featuring on the soundtrack for 2019 video game “Death Stranding.” They released an album consistently every two to three years.

But on Oct. 29, 2022, Low Roar announced that Karazija passed away at age 40 from pneumonia. The heartbreaking report bore the message that Low Roar’s sixth album was already in development and would eventually be completed, as Karazija’s vocal contributions were finished before he passed.

After two years, Low Roar’s sixth and final album, “House In The Woods,” was released on Feb. 7, 2025. Longtime producers Mike Lindsay and Andrew Scheps helped bring the unfinished album together. With pianos, synths and harmonium guiding the album’s sound, it is more ambient pop-driven and less folk-inspired than some of the band’s prior work.

The album opens with “Some Day Come Back To Me,” where Karazija sings from the perspective of a hopeful parent watching their child go off into the world. The drawing harmonium and string-like synths, along with Karazija’s reverb-soaked vocals, establish the record’s dreamy atmosphere. But at the two-minute mark, everything doubles in volume and drums kick in, denoting a swelling structure Low Roar

uses throughout the album. Even with the added layers of sound, the delicate mixing makes it sound just as airy as it is dense.

An ambient outro leads right into “Field Of Dreams,” the first single released for the record. The track begins with a droning harmonium note before the magic starts. Karazija narrates a story of a dubious man taking advantage of someone who longs for their dream of love to be fulfilled. The final lyrics, “Today I’ll be remembered / Tomorrow just a dream / It’s not what it seems” contribute to the track’s metaphysical focus but are also an ironic reminder of the album’s context. The following two-minute outro of building synths and pianos twinkling radiate peace, like the sound of wind chimes rustling in the spring breeze.

The third track and second single “Just How It Goes” demonstrates a sonic shift from what Low Roar showed thus far. The song shifts between segments where Karazija sings over either electronic drums and glitchy effects or the dense synths featured on the prior two tracks. The distinct sounds and conspicuous panning — something Low Roar uses frequently on the rest of the project — keeps the track engaging and makes for a transcendental moment when the two styles come together in an escalating blend before the song ends.

On “Mom,” the fifth track, Low Roar shies away from their swelling structure and leans further into their ambient side. The harmonium and synths lay out a delicate framework for Karazija’s vocals to glide upon majestically as piano arpeggios cascade around, adding to the magnificence. The song seems to be a response to the opener, with Karazija’s lyrics coming from the perspective of a child reflecting on familial cycles and

addressing a concerned mother after leaving home.

“Double Trouble” and “Two Worlds Apart,” the seventh and eighth tracks on the album, are the longest by far, both around seven minutes in length. They each feature a more unique approach to the vocals by electronically modulating them down to sound eerier, reversing them, adding a guest vocalist or choir to the mix. While much of Low Roar’s work bears a stark resemblance to Radiohead’s “A Moon Shaped Pool,” the vocal decisions and space-y nature of these tracks display that similarity of most of all.

The ninth track, “Gone Fishing,” continues the trend of adding a subtle layer of modulation to Karazija’s vocals to create a sense of dissonance. But instead of keeping steady, the discordance grows as Karazija sings about insignificance and apathy, with his vocals and the instrumentation reaching a breaking point as he sings: “I’m off and on and off and on / No I’m not enough / Am I strong enough.” It is one of the loudest and most emotional points on the record; the only time where the production slides from delicate to messy, and it pays off.

Low Roar ends their journey with the title track. While Karazija may not have written the album knowing he would pass, the lyrics deal with aging, death and finding something in life to cling onto. The passion in the final verses is adamant, growing alongside the stringlike synths. “Now I’m a passing thought / And I’ll try to survive / And I will write what I’ve seen / Will you read what I write? / My endless love,” Karazija sings before the album, and Low Roar, come to a close.

It’s a joy to hear Karazija’s voice again, even if it’s for the last time.

Rating: 4.5/5



# Opinion

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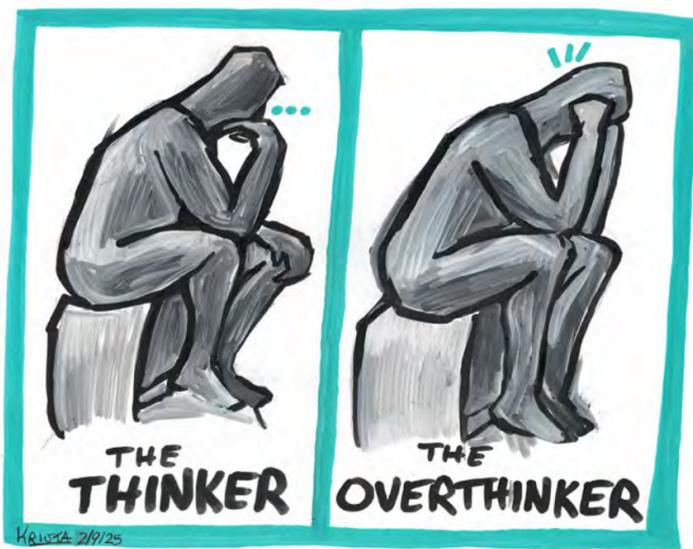
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COMIC BY KRISTA MITCHELL, STAFF ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

# Fake Account, Real Hate: Social media is destroying empathy

by Holly Thompson

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TikTok was banned in the United States on Jan. 18, 2025. The ban lasted for approximately 12 hours before the app was restored for a span of 75 days by Donald Trump. Of course, being impatient, needing storage and having little faith in Trump (who originally proposed the TikTok ban in 2020), decided to delete the app.

Approximately 30 minutes after I deleted TikTok, people who still had the app were greeted with a notification that TikTok was back for a period of time, but it was not possible for me to download it on the app store. So, sadly, I turned to Instagram. Let me tell you, I don't think I've seen such vile comment sections in my life.

What stands out to me most is the lack of empathy users have for others. Social media has normalized this in various ways. First, seeing cruel people succeed sends out a dangerous message; you don't have to be kind to others to achieve your goals, whether they are to become the president or receive a few likes for posting a nasty

comment on Instagram.

A benefit social media provides to people seeking clout and validation through hate comments is that they post them while maintaining anonymity. People tend to be bolder when they don't outwardly see the consequences their words have on others, which is also evident in emotionally charged conversations had over text. Without seeing someone's face it's easy to dehumanize them, and henceforth more difficult to empathize with them.

It is especially easy to dehumanize celebrities and public figures, and it often stems from low self-esteem and jealousy. It is a relentless cycle where no one gets to win. When a conventionally attractive and popular woman posts a bikini picture of herself on Instagram, it often leads viewers to criticize her and compare themselves to her. As a result, she will likely receive several comments dragging her down, leading to the development of new insecurities she may have never had before.

It has become so normalized to tell people thoughts that belong in the darkest corners of the mind. When we see comments that affirm these

thoughts, it creates the illusion that there is no problem with our ways of thinking.

Many hate comments also become trends. The number of times I've seen "womp womp" and "cry about it" commented on a devastating post is incredibly concerning. People resort to these types of messages when they can't think of anything better to say and make no effort to understand where the other person is coming from.

This transitions into my next point; we live in a divided world, and social media amplifies this. One key example of this is found in politics. Fake or misleading news that evokes strong emotions leads individuals to take their frustration out on people with opposing beliefs. It's all too common for individuals to believe the first thing they see on social media without thinking critically and conducting research to fact check that information.

I think the most important thing to note here is that many people criticize the things they don't understand and make no effort to. This applies to the many minority groups who are scapegoated to blame for societal flaws. For example, people love to comment that teachers



ILLUSTRATION BY KRISTA MITCHELL, STAFF ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

are "grooming kids" and "turning them gay" the moment they see a post with a pride flag in a classroom, as opposed to considering that this is the teachers' way of creating a safe space for students to feel comfortable being who they are. Commentators ignore the fact that grooming is a real problem with a completely different definition and fall into a problematic way of thinking by jumping to easy conclusions which divides us to a dangerous extent.

Overall, many people are so focused on making others understand them that they fail to

see the perspective of the person on the other side. If empathy can't go both ways, it is not empathy.

Overconsumption of negativity on social media can seep into our lives and darken our moods, desensitizing us to upsetting comments and criticism and eroding our emotional intelligence, making it more difficult to connect with others. Empathy is an essential quality to understanding our complex world and the people who inhabit it, so make sure to take breaks from social media. But maybe don't delete TikTok...

# Squashing the Beef: The beef industry in the United States

by James Watson

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Beef is one of America's favourite obsessions. It is everywhere and part of almost everything. It is the first choice on the plate and a friend to almost all multi-national companies. It has become synonymous with the staple American diet. The biggest question in all of this is why? There must be something about this protein that is fueling the country's love affair with it.

The US is the world's leading producer of beef, producing 12.5 million metric tons of beef and veal in 2023, equivalent to 20% of the world's total production. The beef industry also contributes to 17% of the total US meat production. This puts them in a unique position and makes them susceptible to a very different agricultural structure to many other western nations.

The problem is that the reliance on beef in the US has tipped into a dependence on it. America's major fast food conglomerates control the country's tastebuds. Companies like McDonald's, Wendy's and Burger King have millions of cows under their domain just to

sell hamburgers to the American consumer. McDonalds alone rears 5.5 million cows annually to produce 1 billion pounds of beef for their hamburgers. This an astonishing length gone to by just one company to feed America's appetite for beef.

These have become American institutions, speaking to how endemic the beef industry is to the country at the moment. This is in spite of the fact that the meat industry contributes to 14.5% of global emissions in an age where the climate crisis poses more immediate danger than ever. Global temperatures have risen by 2 degrees since 1850, with the methane release due to inefficient agricultural practices having a definitive effect on this.

Consumption of beef and other red meats also contain definitive health concerns attached. The National Institute of Health have linked this to cardiovascular disease and diabetes. Hearing this, a stark question comes to mind: What will it take for people to let go of meat? The problem is of course not one that occurs on the palette but instead in the endemic pushing of a meat-focused diet.

If you go to any dining hall on

the UConn Storrs campus you will be sure to find at least one beef option, every day, without fail. Both beef and meat more broadly have become an expectation for the American consumer at meal times. This is coupled with a false assumption that beef must be an integral part of the US diet, in order to maintain or increase protein intake. In the majority of cases, you may be able to get more protein and essential nutrients from fish, eggs, poultry and nuts.

Only approximately 2% of all children aged 6-17 in the United States are vegetarian. That is a worryingly small number. It also means that these children are made to feel that they are outside of mainstream, heterodox view of what constitutes a healthy diet. It feeds into an idea in the US that eating meat is somehow an integral feature of healthy growth and development, one that does not support current science or health guidance from professionals around the world.

Seeing as the reliance on beef is so ingrained in the United States, the immediate narrative is that it is difficult to enable a switch. However, whether conscientious or provoked, the re-



ality is that a change should be made. There have been many attempts to ease people off of meat in a way that does not create a complete overhaul in their food preferences. One of the most popular is the meat alternative industry, which has seen an exponential increase in recent years. In 2022, the global sale of plant-based alternatives hit a high of \$6.1 billion, up 8% from the year before. This corresponded with a 1% decline in sales in the United States.

This example indicates a need for the country to move with the rest of the world and annex its relationship with beef. The reasons to continue the consumption of beef and other red meats do not have the same strength as they did before. They are

continuing to grow weaker. The future of the American diet does not have room for a meat which is currently doing more harm than good.

A 2023 study showed that just 12% of the American population, mainly older men, contributed to 50% of the nation's beef consumption. As the next generation of American consumers, this generation is at a crossroads. Either continue the dominance of the beef industry in the United States or chart a new course that gives less importance to one meat. Changing old habits is never easy. However, for the health of both yourself and the planet, it may be time to do away with what is easy in light of what is needed.

## Opinion

Photo of the Day | Boarding the bus to better grade town



Students getting on the 'CL 1' Weekend Bus in front of the Towers Dining Hall. This bus has a specific route on the weekends.

PHOTO BY NATHAN GALICINAO, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

## Women, stop calling each other sluts.

by **Tamara Segal**

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Over winter break, I was catching up with some friends from home and showing them photos from my first semester. I was excited when I got to Halloween — until I heard their first comment: “Oh, so your friends decided to dress slutty.”

I was shocked that the first thing they thought about when considering my memories from college was my friends’ sluttiness. Not mentioned was the fun we had that night or our cleverly themed costumes.

This revived my long-held disdain for the word slut, which I wish we would all stop using.

My argument is not that we should all be sex-positive or that you should change your own standards about sex;

that’s frankly none of my business. I simply urge women to recognize the uselessness of that word for anything but placing undue judgment on each other and continuing a legacy of misogyny.

While the definition of the word slut is simply “a promiscuous person,” its significance runs deeper. Despite terms like man-whore, player and stud, there is no directly equivalent label for a man. This is because there is no direct equivalent for the stigmatization and shame that is placed on women who are accused of eliciting sexual attention (voluntarily or not) in what is deemed an unacceptable manner. The selective usage in reference to women reflects the primary blame placed on them for what takes two. It reflects the double standard by which men are allowed, and often even encouraged, to exercise their

sexuality, while women are expected to remain pure and unadulterated. Even if you hold a woman to the same standards as a man, please don’t call her a slut. In doing so, you carry the history of the selective villainization of women, from Hester Prynne to Monica Lewinsky to Taylor Swift.

Besides, objections to someone else’s sexual behavior often stem from religious, societal, cultural or other personal notions. While all of these are entirely valid stances, they are not objective. There is no universal standard of modesty or sexual decorum that everyone agrees upon, which is evident from the range of behavior that might prompt someone to be labeled a slut. This could be anything from attending a party, to the dress a girl wears, to dancing with a guy and even to going home with him. Therefore, while we all have our own

standards, morals and opinions, they will never match someone else’s entirely, and that’s okay. It is not up to one person to decide for everyone else what victimless behavior is acceptable.

Admittedly, we sometimes act in ways that hurt us. If you notice your friend binge-watching TV shows and getting three hours of sleep every night, you might worry about them and tell them that their behavior is unhealthy. Similarly, if you feel a friend is displaying a lack of self-respect, and you truly care and want to keep her from getting hurt, you might reach out. However, your response shouldn’t be to brand her with a shameful label. That won’t help her. Far from convincing her to recognize potentially harmful behavior, it will only convince her that her very being is condemned,

leaving her feeling more hurt and defenseless than before.

It should be said that there is a small but noteworthy movement to reclaim the word slut, ostensibly in a similar vein to the word queer. Some self-identify with the term as a means of sexual empowerment and dismantling of stigma and shame. Yet the history of misogyny is much messier than that of homophobia, as being a “slut” is much more ambiguous and subjective than being gay. As such, I doubt that such a reclamation is possible. In my eyes, the modern usage of the word “slut” will always carry its derogatory connotation, due to the word’s upbringing.

Therefore, I ask my fellow women to stop coming after each other, backbiting and perpetuating double standards. Slut-shaming only tears us down. Let’s look after each other instead.

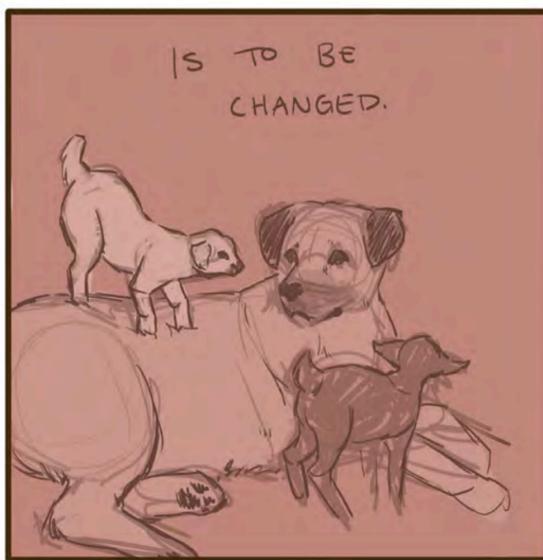
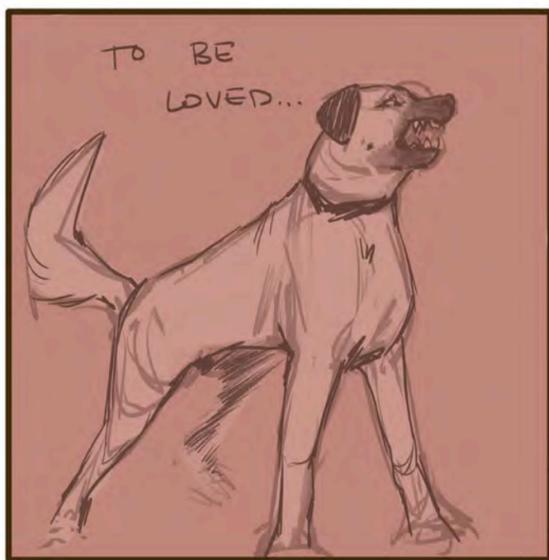


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PHOTO BY ALEXA PAPPAS, CONTRIBUTING ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

# McCreven's Mashup: Your guide to handpicking mid-major March Madness upsets

by Jake McCreven

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Each March, millions of hopeful bracket pool champions scour the internet for trendy mid-major upset picks and possible second-weekend darlings that will vault their entry to immortality (first place, of course).

What goes into finding these mid-major Cinderellas? Where should you look? What should you be looking at? Just keep reading, I promise...

I'll tell you, okay — just follow along.

I will first lay out a handful of criteria that can help you verify a mid-major team's "upset watch factor" before listing four mid-majors I believe are bound to make runs next month.

## Where to look (or begin):

First, comb through all 50-something college basketball analytics sites and find which ones you like the most.

Just kidding, that's way too much work.

I lean on a handful of sites to help me pick games each day. I'll embed them down below (I apologize for people reading in print):

**ESPN Standings:** ESPN's centralized standings website provides the most widely available and surface-level analytics to help you find which teams win the most (to check that, look at a team's record). From this website, pick some of the schools that you've never heard of but have good records. Write them down.

**KenPom:** March Madness's crown jewel. Most of KenPom's deep-seeded analytics are available for free, including everything on the homepage of the website. Remember that list of teams you wrote down? Find them on this website and see where they rank. I'll explain more below.

**Torvik:** Bart Torvik's database is — in some ways — similar to KenPom's, but Torvik's T-Rank and tempo-free stats are, well, free. You won't have to pay for anything on this site, and there are more search filters available.

**NET and QUAD Rankings:** Unless you really want to get technical, I'll spare you the trouble of defining these multisyllabic, computer-driven statistics. This site's central purpose is to list the strengths of the resumés and records of all 364 Division I teams.

## What to look for:

Your main goal is to find a mid-major team that is really, really good at something very, very unique. Remember last season's Oakland team who brought down Kentucky in round one? The Golden Grizzlies ranked inside the top 100 in 3P% (86), TO% (96) and FT% (61) nationally.

Greg Kampe's squad also played at one of the nation's slowest tempos — a notorious high-seed killer come March. You can check a team's tempo rating on KenPom.

What about last season's Yale squad, which conquered Auburn? The Bulldogs played at the nation's 49th slowest tempo, barely ever turned the ball over (14.3%) and stormed the boards defensively (13th nationally in DR%).

See a pattern? The same can be said about teams playing at a fast tempo (2024 James Madison, 2024 Utah State). Find the extremes (whatever they are) and use them to your advantage.

But be careful. Match your mid-major team's profile to their opponents, and you may find that their "extreme" plays right into a high-major's strength.

For instance, look at McNeese State last season. The Cowboys rolled through the Southland

and won 30 games, earning a No. 12 seed and a first-round match-up with No. 5 Gonzaga.

McNeese's historically good offense (predicated on slowing the tempo and using sets to find open shots) was thwarted by the Zags' size advantage down low, which stunned the Cowboys when they attempted to work the ball around the floor.

I would also consider two key (and free to use) statistics: non-conference strength of schedule rating (NCSOS) and luck rating (LUCK) on KenPom. Sorting last season's tournament pool by NCSOS, teams such as Oakland (+9.87), Dayton (+6.97) and Yale (+5.01) all float towards the top — all of which won a game in March.

## My Cinderellas:

Enough talk; I'm sure you all are here for my picks, right? I'll take that as a yes.

Here are four mid-major teams that match the profile I described above (warning: you will see repeat offenders).

## UC Irvine Anteaters — Big West (20-4, 10-2)

The Anteaters have been crowned the kings of mid-major basketball this season, erupting for 20 wins in 23 games (best start since 2001) while leaning on one of the country's best defenses.

Irvine's defense ranks eighth nationally in adjusted efficiency, 10th in EFG% allowed, 3rd in FTA/FGA rate and fifth in 2P% allowed.

Being a tough out defensively is cool — but what about the offense? The Anteaters are solid from three (35.7%) and get to the line enough — and hit their shots (81.2%) — that their offensive miscues can be covered up.

## Yale Bulldogs — Ivy (14-6, 7-0)

Yale just dismantled the nation's most efficient shooting team (Cornell) by 15 points while putting up 103 points on

a 62.5% mark from the field. Guard John Poulakidas scored 32 points on 12/18 shooting and recorded six triples.

The Bulldogs are one of the nation's best three-point shooting teams (39.4%, 6th) and play at a high-flying tempo (67.7) — oh boy. Buy your Yale stock now.

## Samford Bulldogs — Southern (19-6, 9-3)

Despite high roster turnover this past off season, Samford has remained the class of the SoCon by reaching 19 wins for the fourth consecutive season. The Bulldogs rely on the three-ball (making them a risky play in March — but one that could pay off big), attempting nearly 30 three-pointers a game and

sinking nearly 40% of them (98th percentile nationally).

Samford has yet to claim a major victory but stuck around with No. 9 Michigan State in East Lansing in November.

## McNeese State Cowboys — Southland (18-6, 12-1)

Will Wade's Cowboys have continued to reign over the Southland in 2025, starting 12-1 in conference play and notching a signature win over AAC-hopeful North Texas.

McNeese thrives in KenPom's four-factors (EFG%, TO%, OR% and FTA/FGA), ranking 36th in offensive rebound percentage nationally (35.1). The Cowboys also create turnovers at a high rate, ranking seventh in steal percentage (13.8).



UConn's competes against Iowa in the Final Four in Cleveland. A hard fought performance brought the Huskies within a two point game, closing out the game and the season with a final score of 69-71. PHOTO BY CONNOR SHARP, PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

# Women's Lacrosse: Huskies upset No. 24 Drexel to kick off their 2025 campaign

by Tyler Pruneau

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The UConn women's lacrosse team defeated No. 24 Drexel in an overtime thriller to begin their 2025 season on Saturday. The unranked Huskies established a name for themselves early with this home-opening victory.

Taking a look at Connecticut, Rayea Davis took every opportunity she could get to score. The junior led the team in shots with nine attempts for seven. There is no better way to kick off the 2025 season than with a hat trick, and that's what Davis did. The attacker came alive in the second quarter after only taking two missed shots in the first. With a little less than five minutes left on the clock, Anna Magennis found Davis, who ran through the middle of two defenders and sniped the ball in

for a 4-3 lead. Less than a minute later, the junior kept the ball for herself, found an opening and buried it in to put the Huskies up by two to end the half. Karsyn Burnash came up big in the fourth quarter and narrowed UConn's deficit to one point, which set Davis up for success. The attacker earned two free position shots in the third and fourth quarters. Jenika Cuocco saved the first, but the second attempt secured an overtime battle for the team.

In addition, Eve McGrogan punched in three netters of her own. The sophomore started the matchup strong and knocked in the first goal for the Huskies. After tying things up, the attacker nailed another one in and took the lead with five minutes left in the first quarter. The fun did not stop there, as Jenna Giardina got in on the action and bumped the score up 3-1. While McGrogan stayed

quiet for the remainder of the regular time, Giardina assisted Eliza Bowman with a goal and grabbed her second point in the third. Entering overtime, turnovers were happening left and right, but with 2:23 left, McGrogan captured the game-winning shot coming out of a timeout.

Defensively, Riley Daly led the team with a career-high of 11 draw controls while Abby Beran topped the Huskies with four ground balls. In the net for UConn, Tori Cini saved six shots and allowed nine goals. The graduate goalkeeper kept the contest alive after saving one final free position shot before heading into overtime. Despite controlling 17 draws, the Huskies struggled and turned over the rock 18 times that turned into five points for the Dragons. To add on, the program only forced six changes in possessions.

Turning over to the opponents, Allison Drake kicked things off for Drexel and scored the first goal of the contest. The Dragons looked to have gained momentum early but struggled to keep the ball and missed the net wide. The team nearly ended the quarter with a two-point deficit, but Ellie Wall scored off a free position shot with 48 seconds remaining. Regardless of opening the second quarter with only one shot, Bridget Finley found the equalizer. The program once again hit a bump in the road and could not get to the net for the rest of the match.

Coming out at the half, the switch flipped as Finley and Drake notched two goals in less than two minutes. With the Huskies adding to the score, making it 6-5, Drexel fired back with another from Drake. This earned the graduate attacker a hat trick of her own. With two minutes left in the third,

both teams traded scores and ended the quarter at even. Despite trailing the entire match, Drexel found their first lead of the game in the fourth frame. Finley earned a hat trick and Bea Buckley knocked one in for a two-point advantage, but the team failed to hold UConn off. Heading into overtime, the team struggled to challenge Cini with zero attempts.

Drexel outperformed Connecticut defensively by taking 21 groundballs and causing 11 turnovers. The team struggled to gain control of draws but had fewer botched plays than the Huskies. Looking at the stats, it would look like the Dragons won, but the team failed to take advantage of their opportunities, allowing UConn to take the dub.

Next up, the Huskies will stay in Storrs, Connecticut to face off against Fairfield at 3 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 12.



The UConn lacrosse team plays against Drexel in an intense game. UConn ended up on top beating them 10-9. PHOTO BY NATHAN GALICINAO, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

## Sports

Photo of the Day | Sliding into week 4



Men's hockey takes on UMass Lowell at the Toscano Family Ice Forum on Feb. 7, 2025.; The Huskies suffered a 4-5 loss. PHOTO BY EMMA MEIDINGER, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

## Men's Basketball: Ben Gordon induction night spoiled by No. 12 St. John's, 68-62

by Sam Calhoun

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On Friday night, the No. 19 UConn men's basketball team (16-7, 8-4 Big East) lost to No. 12 St. John's (21-3, 12-1 Big East) for the first time at Harry A. Gampel Pavilion since the 2020-21 season.

UConn was off to an excellent start against the Red Storm. The three-pointers were raining, with the Huskies going 5-11 to begin the game from beyond the arc.

UConn assistant coach Tom Moore said that Ben Gordon, who was inducted into the Huskies of Honor that night, became a "killer" for opponents midway through his sophomore season.

That might also be true for Solo Ball, whom Moore compared to Gordon. Ball scored 13 points in the first 12 minutes, including three three-pointers.

Liam McNeeley returned for the first time since the Huskies' road win at DePaul on New Year's Day, leaving with a high ankle sprain in the second half.

"It's a blessing to be back," McNeeley said in a postgame press conference. "I didn't realize how much I was going to miss it until

I did."

Connecticut led by as many as 14 points in the first half, but a 12-2 run ignited by a rare four-point play by Deivon Smith closed the lead to one point with 5:55 remaining in the first half. The Huskies turned the ball over six times in the final 9:36 of the half and went into halftime with 10.

Despite committing a flagrant 1 foul in the first half, Simeon Wilcher scored five unanswered points to give the Red Storm a 34-33 lead with 2:29 to play in the first half. Tarris Reed Jr. took the lead back, but an old-fashioned three-point play by Zuby Ejiofor helped St. John's go into the locker room with a 37-35 lead.

Alex Karaban went 0-5 from deep and did not take a shot in the final 7:11 of the game. He finished with a season-low three points. The last time Karaban was ineffective on offense was on Feb. 24's blowout win over Villanova last season, also scoring three points.

"He doesn't owe any of us or UConn anything with what he's been able to deliver here," UConn head coach Dan Hurley said after the game. "But I want to see him fire."

McNeeley found his stride

midway through the second half, making back-to-back three-pointers. He finished with 18 points off the bench, including 13 points in the second half.

"I'm very happy to be back out there," McNeeley said. "But I'm not happy anymore."

For a team that averaged 10.7 turnovers per game entering the game, the Huskies suddenly have a turnover problem. They have now turned the ball over 47 times in the last two games and reached 20 turnovers at the 6:04 mark in the second half.

"We were fortunate to win at Marquette with 25 turnovers," Hurley said. "We've been playing with fire. The 22 turnovers, the 47 in the last two games is just really low level."

Since Reed's dunk with 11:38 left in the first half, which put Connecticut ahead 26-12, St. John's outscored the Huskies 53-36.

RJ Luis Jr., who finished the game with 21 points and seven rebounds, made his last four shots, including a massive jumper with 11 seconds remaining that put the Johnnies ahead by four.

"Luis and [Kadary] Richmond got a couple of deeper paint eight to 10-footers which aren't okay," Hurley said, who also believes

Luis has a professional career in his future.

St. John's improved to a 38-34 advantage over UConn in the all-time series and now is tied for the nation's second-longest active winning streak at 10 games. The Huskies had won the last four meetings, with the Red Storm's most recent win coming at the XL Center on Jan. 15, 2023. The last time the Johnnies won at Gampel Pavilion with fans in attendance was Jan. 8, 2008.

"I think we've got a chance in

February to kind of get this thing rolling and be looking a lot different in March," Hurley said. "But again, 47 turnovers in the last two games, we're lucky we went 1-1."

The most important three-game stretch of the season becomes massive with a road trip to Omaha, Nebraska to take on Creighton on Tuesday night, where the Huskies have never won. The Bluejays have won nine straight Big East games and just beat No. 11 Marquette on Saturday afternoon.



University of Connecticut's men's basketball takes on the Butler Bulldogs at Hartford's XL Center on Jan. 21, 2025. UConn defeated Butler in overtime with a score of 80-78. PHOTO BY EMMA MEIDINGER, ASSOCIATE PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

## Women's Tennis: Huskies put up strong showing to open conference play

by Ryan Lombardi

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The UConn women's tennis team took down the Seton Hall Pirates on the road in their Big East opener on Friday, Feb. 7 by a decisive score of 4-0.

UConn came into Big East play 2-1 in the spring, with wins over Fairfield and St. Bonaventure. The Pirates shared the same record but were coming off a tough loss to Princeton.

Doubles have been a strong point for UConn this season, and Friday was no different. The Huskies started out strong, securing the doubles point with wins at the No. 1 and No. 2 positions. Seniors Olivia Wright and Maria Con-

stantinou continue to be an effective pair with a 6-2 victory in their doubles match. Senior Isabel Petri Bere and sophomore Victoria Matos were equally impressive in their match, with a dominant 6-1 win. Freshman Chloe Lomans and sophomore Isabella Asenov were battling hard, but were still down 4-3 before the match went unfinished.

Seton Hall appeared to be more competitive going into singles, with Wright dropping her first set 7-5. However, the senior showed resilience and bounced back to win her next set 6-2 and sealed the match with a 6-3 win in the third. The other Husky seniors took care of business, as Constantinou and Petri Bere won all of their sets 6-3, giving UConn

the necessary points to clinch a 4-0 overall UConn victory.

The remaining unfinished matches looked to be a bit closer before ultimately going undecided due to the clinch rule. Sophomore Caroline Hinshaw won her first set and was tied 6-6 in the second set before the Huskies clinched. Matos, after splitting the first two sets, led 4-2 in the third and final set. Lomans was up 4-3 in her second set after securing the first.

The singles performances in this match were a relieving sight for the Huskies, marking their strongest showing so far this spring. With their doubles squads already performing at such a high level, UConn appears poised for success if they can maintain this consistency in singles



play.

Next up, UConn is set to take on in-state rival Quinnipiac in Manchester, Connecticut on Wednesday, Feb. 12 at 1 p.m. The Huskies hope

to take their momentum from this victory with them as they look to extend their winning streak and secure another crucial win in their spring campaign.



The UConn women's tennis team plays against Fordham on the second day of the 2024 UConn Invitational held at Storrs, Conn. on Sept. 14, 2024. The Huskies won the match 4-3. PHOTO BY SAHANA GANESH, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS.

# Men's Hockey: Huskies bounce back after tough loss in dramatic fashion

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This past weekend, the No. 11 UConn men's hockey team split a weekend two-game series with two ranked Hockey East foes. The Huskies were ousted by No. 18 UMass at the Toscano Ice Forum on Friday but bounced back to defeat the No. 10 UMass-Lowell Riverhawks in 5-4 overtime fashion the following day at the XL Center. With the win over the Riverhawks, the Huskies look poised to make a run in the Hockey East tournament.

Things were looking great for the Huskies early in the first period. Sophomore star forward Joey Muldowney, assisted by Hudson Schandor and Jake Richard, continued his scoring hot streak by burying the puck past UMass goaltender Michael

Hrabal, making the score 1-0 early in the first period. A couple of minutes later, Muldowney found the back of the net again, tacking on another goal to the Huskies' 2-0 first period lead against UMass.

UMass' Jack Musa got the Minutemen into the scoring column on a power play after just 34 seconds into the second period, cutting the Huskies' lead to 2-1. However, Connecticut fought back. Eight minutes later, Ontario native Ethan Whitcomb took advantage of a UMass power play by scoring his first goal of the game, garnering a 3-1 lead.

The Huskies' lead was short-lived, as UMass' Cole O'Hara and Lucas Mercuri found Musa open once again to cut the Husky lead back down to one.

The third period would be the game's defining moment for the

Minutemen. After a Dans Locmelis goal, Musa completed the hat trick to give UMass their first lead of the game, making the score 4-3. Shortly after, UMass forward Kenny Connors took matters into his own hands, lighting the lamp to tack onto UMass' 5-3 lead.

UConn's Kaden Shahan scored another goal for the Huskies with just a minute left in the game. Unfortunately, this would not be enough as the Huskies would drop this one to the Minutemen by a final score of 5-4.

Looking to bounce back, the Huskies hopped on I-84 West to the XL Center for a date with No. 10 UMass Lowell.

The Riverhawks started things off strong with a bang, as Dillan Bentley took advantage of a power play to score the first goal of the game. UMass Lowell

held onto their one-point lead for the majority of the first period. However, Ryan Tattle made matters interesting by scoring a goal to tie the game up at 1-1. Right after Tattle's first goal of the weekend, Ethan Gardula showcased his scoring prowess by burying a puck past the UMass Lowell goaltender to give the Huskies a 2-1 lead as the period eclipsed.

Midway through the second period, Muldowney scored his third goal of the weekend, assisted by Schandor and Viking Gustafsson Nyberg, extending the UConn lead to 3-1. Suddenly, the Riverhawks' offense ignited, with Bentley and Connor Eddy finding the back of the net to even the score at 3-3.

Finally, UMass Lowell managed to obtain their second lead of the game after Scout Truman found Dillan Bentley open

to score his third goal of the game, completing the hat trick and giving the Riverhawks a 4-3 lead.

With five minutes left in the game and the Huskies down by one, Schandor came up massively by scoring his first goal of the weekend to tie the game at 4-4, sending the game into overtime.

In a hard-fought overtime period between two of the best teams in the Hockey East, it was Schandor that came up big-time yet again to win the game for Connecticut by a score of 5-4. Despite a hat trick by UMass Lowell's Bentley, the Huskies were able to persevere and win a massive, ranked matchup.

UConn (15-10-3) will look to continue their momentum this week in a game against Alaska Anchorage on Wednesday. The game will be played at the Toscano Ice Forum at 6 p.m.



Men's hockey takes on UMass Lowell at the Toscano Family Ice Forum on Feb. 7, 2025. The Huskies suffered a 4-5 loss.  
PHOTO BY EMMA MEIDINGER, ASSOCIATE PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

# Women's Swim & Dive: Huskies wrap up regular season with home meet against Providence

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The Huskies wrapped up the regular season with a home meet against Providence College. There were no team scores recorded for the meet as it served as a last-chance qualifying opportunity for the Big East Swimming and Diving Championships. Nevertheless, the Huskies had many impressive swims against the Friars.

The Huskies started off strong with a sweep in the 500-yard freestyle event. Sophomore Olivia Herbert finished first with an impressive time of 5:10.11. Freshman Jordyn Ricciotti finished just 1.65 seconds behind Herbert

in second place. Sophomore Bridget Davis finished third with a time of 5:18.55, 31.05 seconds ahead of the Friars' fourth place finisher.

The Huskies continued to dominate with first place finishes throughout the next few events. One standout event was the 50-yard freestyle, where the Huskies obtained another sweep. Freshman Sydney Perkins finished first with a time of 23.84, sophomore Maggie Rhodes finished second with a time of 24.30 and junior Ella Epes finished third with a time of 24.50. Epes finished strong, beating out the fourth place Friar finisher by 0.60 seconds.

The Huskies also swept the 200-yard freestyle event. Freshman Nadine Amin had

a dominant first place finish with a time of 1:51.25. Amin's time was 7.24 seconds ahead of the Friars' first finisher, showing her strength in this event.

The Friars had a dominant lineup for the 100-yard breaststroke. Sophomore Bella Lombard finished first with a time of 1:10.84, sophomore Julia Renzelmann finished second with a time of 1:12.30 and senior Julia McCarthy finished third with a time of 1:13.30. Lombard has been a key swimmer in this event and the 100-yard backstroke for the Friars this season.

The Huskies continued with another sweep in the 100-yard backstroke. Senior Maggie Donlevy finished first with a time of 54.25,

sophomore Rhian Russell finished second with a time of 54.83 and freshman Jessica Sheng finished third with a time of 56.72. Donlevy's first place finish gave her a pool record in the event. Donlevy has been a dominant swimmer for the Huskies as she has broken multiple pool records in both backstroke and freestyle events this season.

The Friars continued to dominate in breaststroke with second and third place finishes in the 200-yard breaststroke. Ava Larkin finished second with a time of 2:33.01 and Mackenzie Riga finished third with a time of 2:42.56. However, Emma May, a sophomore, outswam the Friars, winning first place in the event with a time

of 2:29.74.

The Huskies dominated the one-meter dive event. They obtained first, second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth place. Senior Julia Pioso got first place with a final score of 306.00. Her score was 53.02 points ahead of the Friars' seventh place finisher.

The meet celebrated the Huskies' five seniors as it was their last regular meet. These seniors include Donlevy, Amelia Schaefer, Pioso, Niamh Hofland and Kayla Mendonca.

The Huskies finished the regular season off strong with multiple impressive swims. They now look forward to the Big East Championship, which will take place from Monday, Feb. 24 to Thursday, Feb. 27.



UConn swim and dive celebrates their seniors in Storrs, Conn. on Feb. 8, 2025. The Huskies hosted Providence College for the last home meet of the season.  
PHOTO BY SYDNEY CHANDLER, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS



# Sports

## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL:

# Fudd powers Huskies to a 77-40 win over Providence

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The game immediately following a loss to a bitter rival draws direct comparisons to walking into class the day after failing a test you spent hours studying for — you just want to redeem yourself.

The Huskies certainly did so. The fifth-ranked UConn women's basketball team (22-3, 13-0) defeated conference foe Providence (10-16, 3-10) 77-40 on Sunday afternoon at Amica Mutual Pavilion.

The Friars didn't help themselves in a rematch with the Big East frontrunner, sinking just 13 field goals on 49 attempts and turning the ball over 25 times in the 37-point defeat.

Midway through the third period, Providence had 11 times as many turnovers (22) than made three pointers (2), and finished with nearly six times as many at the end of the fourth.

The Husky starters combined for 15 steals, with Sarah

Strong adding three blocks in the defensive effort as UConn buckled down defensively after surrendering 80 points in a loss to Tennessee on Thursday.

The impetus for Connecticut's hard-nosed defense stemmed from its full court press, which was instituted by Geno Auriemma as soon as the second possession of the game.

The Friars were able to get the ball in but turned it over shortly after getting ahead of mid-court, spelling the day's most common theme.

The Huskies took advantage of early Providence miscues, jumping out to a 7-0 lead less than three minutes into the game. Kaitlyn Chen scored all seven, hitting each of her first three field goal attempts, including a decisive drive to the rim on the second Husky possession.

Redshirt freshman center Jana El Alfy was involved on the boards early, snaring the Huskies' only offensive rebound of the half before dishing it out to Chen, who connect-

ed on a three. El Alfy finished with six points, four rebounds and three steals in 20 minutes of gametime.

Marta Morales was one of the few Friars to score in the early minutes, finding the team's first basket off a mismatch in the paint on Chen. At the first quarter media break, Providence was 0/5 from the field as a team not counting Morales two makes.

Morales finished with 15 points — the only Friar to reach double digits.

Paige Bueckers got on the board with two free throws midway through the period. The redshirt senior's first six points all came from the charity stripe, as Bueckers hit the locker room at the half with 12 points off just three made field goals.

Sophomore guard Ashlynn Shade was also involved early. Shade sank three of her first five field goal attempts, being the first Husky to reach double figures after coming off the bench as the sixth man.

Connecticut ended the first quarter on a 10-0 run over the final 2:36, while Providence went scoreless for the final 2:45. At the end of one period, the Friars had shot 28.6% from the field and had turned the ball over four times, in comparison to UConn's marks of 46.2% and one turnover.

Bueckers hit her first field goal of the game on a turn-around jumper from the left elbow, which aided in the Huskies' 9-2 run to begin the second quarter.

Sophomore KK Arnold facilitated two transition buckets by finding Chen and Bueckers on fast break opportunities, and the Huskies led 38-16 with a little under four minutes remaining in the quarter.

The Huskies took a 40-16 lead into the break, shooting 41.9% from the field while holding Providence to just seven makes on 27 attempts.

In what must've been a locker room mission from the Husky backcourt, Chen, Bueckers and Arnold started to find Azzi

Fudd on the wing, who continually hit on her shots from the perimeter.

She hit so often, that Fudd compiled a 17-point quarter behind a 100% mark from deep and 5/6 outing from the field. UConn began the third quarter on another double-digit run, scoring the period's first 10 points en route to growing the lead to 34 points.

By the time Bueckers, Strong and Fudd had subbed out, the Husky lead was north of 40.

The fourth quarter saw surly efforts from the likes of Qadance Samuels, Allie Ziebell and Morgan Cheli — all of whom saw more than six minutes of action.

Top Dawg: Fudd's third quarter performance.

Fudd's 17-point, 5/5 three-point mark in the third period closed the game for the Huskies, who ended the quarter with a monstrous 37-point lead.

The Huskies will next be in action on Wednesday evening, hosting St. John's in Gampel Pavilion at 7:30 p.m.



UConn women's basketball plays Butler at the XL Center in Hartford, Conn. on Feb. 2, 2025. The Huskies played hard and won the game with a final score of 101-59. PHOTOS BY SYDNEY CHANDLER, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS