

# Lizzie’s Curbside changes locations after 34 years

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Lizzie’s Curbside, the food truck run by Lizzie Searing that features breakfast sandwiches and more, is changing locations from Whitney Road after being stationed there for over 30 years.

On Monday, March 3, Lizzie’s Curbside relocated to Hillside Road, across the Student Union and in front of the Field House, after Searing was informed there would be construction on Whitney Road.

“I’m a little reluctant,” Searing said, commenting on the recent location change. “I just don’t know how it’s going to go. You know, this is our livelihood.”

Lizzie’s Curbside, which recently celebrated its 34th anniversary, started off as a hot dog cart on campus in 1991, according to Searing.

“It was about 10 degrees out, and I stood outside because it was just a hot dog wagon and had a coffee,” said

Searing. “It had a little coffee spout and a steam table so I could make soup, and I prewrapped sandwiches, and I just stood out there like a shivering bird. It was crazy.”

Moving onto campus was successful for Lizzie’s Catering as she made over 100 dollars on the first day at UConn, Searing recounts in a documentary.

Lizzie’s Curbside features items such as the Husky Burger, which has bacon, smoked mozzarella, pesto and mayo on it, as well as various breakfast bagels.

Breakfast sandwiches and burgers are the most popular items on the menu, according to Searing, but there are also different daily soups and vegetarian items as well.

Searing runs the food truck with her husband, Joei, and volunteers that help out with the business. Lizzie’s dog, Melo, also occasionally accompanies Searing during the day.

“There’s kids that’ll skip class and just sit with the dog,” Searing said. “During

exams and stuff, they’ll come in swarms.”

Some items are named after people, such as the Alaina burger, a veggie burger with bacon, Swiss cheese and relish sauce.

“Alaina was a teacher,” Searing said. “She worked here for years.”

Because the truck has been around for decades, Searing said she’s got to see many different stories play out at her food wagon.

“We’ve actually had people that met at the wagon and have gotten married, and we cater the wedding,” Searing said.

Additionally, she encounters some semi-familiar faces, saying.

“Back then, which [was] 30 something years ago, we had customers, and now we’re feeding their kids,” she stated. “Some students come up and say, our parents told us to eat here.”

For more information on Lizzie’s Curbside, check out their Instagram @lizzies\_curbside or email lizziescatering@gmail.com



A photo of Lizzie Searing at her original hot dog cart in the 90s. Now a food truck, Lizzie’s Curbside relocated to Hillside Road in Storrs, Conn. to avoid construction on Whitney Road.

PHOTOGRAPH PROVIDED BY LIZZIE SEARING

## 26th annual HuskyTHON being held this weekend



The end of the 25th annual HuskyTHON fundraiser at the University of Connecticut. The money raised by the organization goes to the Connecticut Children’s Foundation. PHOTO COURTESY OF @HUSKYTHON ON INSTAGRAM

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HuskyTHON’s annual Night-Of Dance-a-thon will be hosted on March 8, from 6 a.m. to midnight. The event will be held in the Hugh S. Greer Fieldhouse.

HuskyTHON is the largest student-run organization at the University of Connecticut, raising money and awareness for Connecticut Children’s Hospital, according to a HuskyTHON press

release. The hospital is a part of The Children’s Miracle Network, which partners with colleges all across the country. For the past 26 years, UConn has hosted the organizations largest dance marathon in the Northeast, according to the HuskyTHON website.

Last year, participants raised a record-breaking \$1,736,591.22, culminating in over \$13 million raised in the 26 years of HuskyTHON, according to HuskyTHON’s website. This year’s fundraising efforts began on June 1,

2024, and the fundraising total for the academic year will be announced at midnight at Night-Of, according to a HuskyTHON press release.

Miracle Children are current patients at Connecticut Children’s who receive support from HuskyTHON. These patients and their families are invited to join Night-Of and share their stories with the community, according to the HuskyTHON website. Alongside dancing, participants will have access to a number of events, accord-

ing to the press release. These events include sunrise yoga, Zumba, the Miracle Family Welcome Tunnel, UConn’s Got Talent and Wavy McGrady.

As HuskyTHON has grown over the years, they have challenged students to “be the change they want to see in the world.” This year’s campaign slogan is “Change the Tide,” to signify hope and their dedication to the cause, according to the HuskyTHON website.

“Change the Tide means to turn the challenges faced by

the Connecticut Children’s patients into opportunities for a fuller life. The HuskyTHON community harnesses the boundless energy and passion of each other to create waves of change that will be felt for generations,” the Night-Of press release said.

Online donations can be made at huskython.org by clicking the ‘Donate’ button, or by texting UConn to 51-55. The dance marathon will be live streamed at 6 a.m. on March 8, at <https://huskython.org/>.



# UConn Storrs campus experiences power outage, delays classes Thursday

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A power outage took place at the University of Connecticut Storrs campus early Thursday morning, beginning around 12:45 a.m. The university sent a UConn Alert notification at 6:12 a.m., announcing a delayed opening due to the outage.

The notification stated that all in-person classes starting before 10 a.m. on Thursday would be canceled. Classes after 10 a.m. were instructed to resume as normal.

The first UConn Alert was sent to the university community an hour earlier, at 5:11 a.m. The notification informed recipients that an outage had occurred on the Storrs campus and that restoration efforts were in progress.

According to a university statement, the power was interrupted after a tree col-

lapsed onto the main utility line that connects UConn to the energy company Eversource around 12:45 a.m. The demand on the campus' electric grid exceeded the capacity of the university's cogeneration plant, leading to the outage.

"Weather events resulted in a large tree collapsed onto the main utility line connecting UConn to Eversource power around 12:45 a.m. This resulted in protective devices opening the electric circuit which supplies campus. The demand on the electric grid on campus exceeded the generation capacity of our COGEN [Cogeneration Plant] facility resulting i[n] a series of cascading power interruptions," the statement read.

According to the UConn Facilities Operations website, the plant's electric capacity is 24.9 megawatts per hour.

Eversource worked with Asplundh, a company that

conducts emergency storm work, to remove the tree and restore the utility power supply around 7 a.m., according to the statement. Around 1 p.m., the campus was fully restored to its normal operation.

"By 7:05 a.m. while Eversource and Asplundh worked to remove the tree from the utility line, conduct repairs, and reenergize the utility power supply. The campus was fully restored to normal operation around 1 p.m.," the statement read.

According to the university, the UConn Cogeneration facility and Eversource brought back power as quickly and safely as they could.

"Our electrical and COGEN facility worked diligently in cooperation with Eversource to reestablish power in the quickest possible safe manner. Our COGEN facility was restarted and supplied campus demand," read the statement.



A view of a bus stop outside of UConn's Great Lawn in Storrs, Conn. on March 6, 2025. UConn's Storrs campus had a campus-wide power outage earlier in the day, leaving the majority of buildings and streets without any lights for hours.

PHOTOGRAPH BY ZACH MOLLER, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

## MEDICAL CLINIC CLUB TO HOST FREE POP-UP CLINIC IN WILLIMANTIC

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A pop-up clinic will be hosted by the University of Connecticut Medical Clinic Club and the nonprofit Remote Area Medical in Willimantic, Conn., on March 8 and March 9. The clinic, which will be hosted at Windham Middle School, will provide medical, dental and vision care completely free of charge.

The clinic will open at 6 a.m. on both days, and "services [will be] provided on a first-come, first-served basis - at no cost - with doors closing once the day's capacity is reached," according to a UConn press release.

The president and community host group lead of the Medical Clinic Club, 6th-semester physiology and neurobiology major Cameron Costa, talked about the clinic in an interview with the Daily Campus.

Costa said that the clinic doesn't require patients to show any identification.

"You can just show up, we don't take any identification at all," Costa said. "Patients have that privacy when it comes to the clinic; they can be seen and then they can leave. We're not collecting any sort of data on our patients at all, we really just want you to get free care."

Costa said that the medical, dental and vision care will be "general check-ups." Patients will be provided with physical exams, dental cleaning and the opportunity to receive prescription glasses if needed. Costa also said that the clinic will "connect [patients] with that follow-up care so they can continue getting that care after."

According to Costa, once patients are done with their check-up "they are able to go through our resource hallway and take whatever they need." Items in the resource hallway will include "free diapers, baby food, general hygiene items, women's menstrual products, educational resources, non-perishable foods, fresh fruit and so much more," according to Costa.

Costa estimated that the cost to host the clinic is upwards of \$30,000. To raise this money the medical clinic club had to apply for grants and create fundraising efforts, including reaching out to local companies to sponsor the clinic. According to Costa, "[we're] constantly looking at ways that we can get money to help with the clinic."

This is the second year that the Medical Clinic Club is helping run the Willimantic pop-up clinic. The clinic previously provided over \$150,000 worth of free healthcare to over 200 patients, according to Costa.

"A lot of patients expressed that it was one of their first times getting medical care in the area... we had a couple of immigrants who said that they hadn't received medical care at all since they came to the U.S. and this was one of their first times," Costa said. "It definitely instilled that sort of importance in us that this is really something that the community needs and it's something that they wanted and we're glad that we're able to help with that."

More information about the clinic can be found at [www.RAMusa.org](http://www.RAMusa.org).

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Printing since 1896, The Daily Campus is the oldest and largest independent student publication at the University of Connecticut. The Daily Campus circulates 1,500 newspapers daily and strives to serve the student body by delivering accurate, relevant and timely news and content, both in print and online at Daily Campus.com. Our staff is comprised entirely of students, with roughly 200 undergraduates gaining professional development while contributing to the daily production of the paper, with positions including writers, photographers, copy editors, page layout designers, graphic designers, advertisement representatives, receptionists, delivery drivers and digital producers. Thanks for reading.

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# Sambazon Açaí Bowls celebrates opening at UConn

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Sambazon Açaí Bowls had its grand opening in the University of Connecticut Student Union at 9 a.m. on Thursday, March 6.

The opening included a ribbon cutting ceremony, short speeches from people who contributed to the new location and free açaí samples. There was also a table giving away shirts, stickers and açaí seed bracelets.

Scott Hauver, the assistant director for retail operations for UConn Dining Services, said that a location with açaí bowls and healthy options is an asset to the Student Union.

“I think it’s a great fit for the Student Union, and the partnership with Sambazon has been going really well,” Hauver said. “The açaí bowl, if you go to lots of places like airports and other universities, it’s an item that’s being offered these days, so we thought it was it was great to have that açaí sorbet

available with all the fresh ingredients and nutritional value that it has.”

Sambazon’s location in the union opened on Feb. 6. Hauver stated that the reception from students has been very positive so far.

“Students seem to love it. The most popular in the morning is the Sunrise Bowl. It’s really good. It’s got strawberries, mango and honey, it gets people going,” Hauver said. “My favorite is the Protein Bowl. It has all kinds of nuts and chocolate, so it’s really good.”

Hauver said he expects business to go up as spring and summer approach.

“We think we’re going to get busier as the warmer weather arrives and we’re excited for that,” Hauver said.

Vito Buscemi, the president of Sambazon’s hospitality group, explained how their business

model was “farm to table on steroids.”

“The harvesters shimmy up 70-foot trees, they cut down the branches, they put the berries in baskets and then they bring them in boats down the rivers in the Amazon to one of two of our eco-friendly plants that are in the rainforest,” Buscemi said.

Buscemi said Sambazon was the first to bring açaí into the United States, where the company started out with guerilla marketing.

“We’ve been able to build a business from 24 years ago to today to be in 30,000 grocery stores and food service across college campuses and food service operations across the U.S.,” Buscemi said.

Buscemi said that beyond the U.S., Sambazon is in 50 countries across the globe.

“We’re building purple smiles around the world,” Buscemi said.

Sambazon is open on the lower level of the Student Union from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. on weekdays, according to UConn Dining. Its hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sundays.

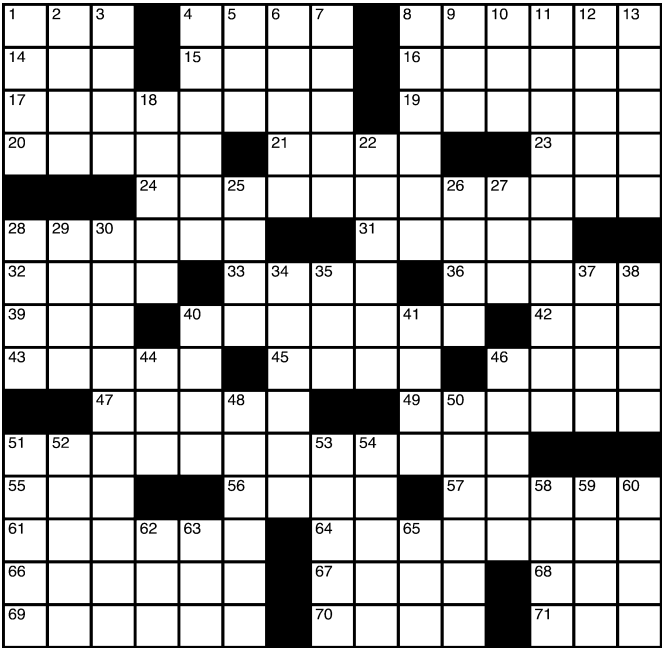


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# Crossword &

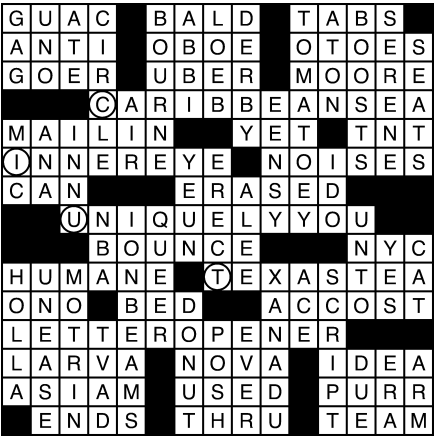
- ACROSS**
- 1 “Thriller” debut channel
  - 4 Dull pain
  - 8 Manatee
  - 14 milk
  - 15 Dramatic outburst during court testimony
  - 16 Like Enigma machine messages
  - 17 Hideout that’s not very hidden?
  - 19 Small beard
  - 20 Recipient of a wish list
  - 21 Zen paradox
  - 23 Shirt
  - 24 Times of year for competitive baking?
  - 28 Historic fort near Charleston
  - 31 Quark-antiquark particle
  - 32 “That is not \_\_\_!”: parents’ words of warning
  - 33 Cola
  - 36 Rite place
  - 39 Greek god of pastures
  - 40 Hip-hop subgenre dedicated to the woes of hair loss?
  - 42 Pro
  - 43 Stood out
  - 45 MRI output
  - 46 novel
  - 47 Composer Frederick
  - 49 Got down pat
  - 51 Assorted barrettes and clips?
  - 55 Insect whose colony has a queen
  - 56 “Ah, got it”
  - 57 Garden party?
  - 61 Split
  - 64 Accepted defeat, and what 17-, 24-, 40-, and 51-Across did?
  - 66 101: skyscraper in an Asian capital
  - 67 Latin year
  - 68 Sick
  - 69 Turn on the charm?
  - 70 Scorch
  - 71 Loving poem
- DOWN**
- 1 First commercial synthesizer maker



By Julius Tausig

3/7/25

## Thursday’s Puzzle Solved

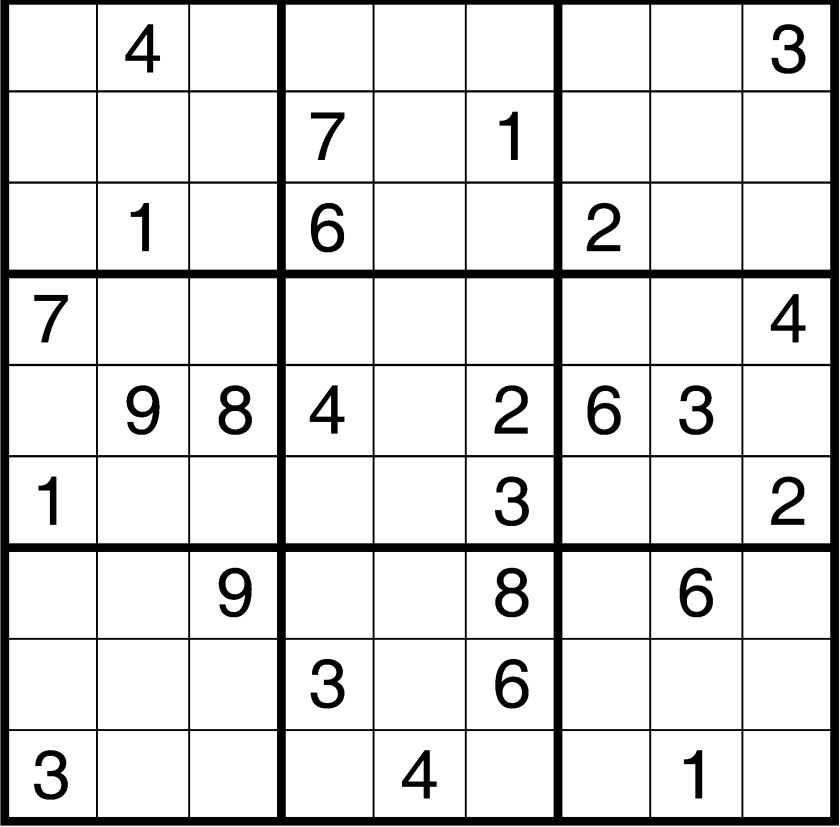


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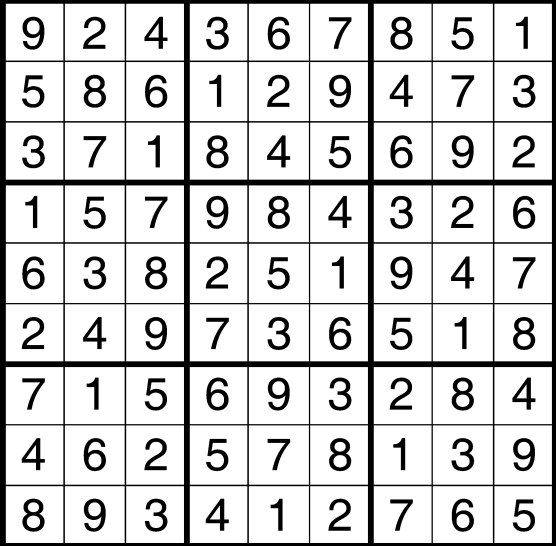
- 38 Woodwind insert
- 40 Appliance alert
- 41 Great-aunt of Prince George
- 44 Scand. land
- 46 “That \_\_\_ hurt”
- 48 Video game that uses a balance board
- 50 Cambodia’s \_\_\_ Wat
- 51 Part of Hispaniola
- 52 Diplomat Kofi
- 53 Releases with bugs, probably
- 54 Sierra \_\_\_
- 58 Weird or cringe, in Gen Alpha slang
- 59 Combine
- 60 Vogue rival
- 62 Shrinks’ org.
- 63 Actor Cariou
- 65 “Based \_\_\_ true story”

Level 1 2 3 4



Solution to Thursday’s puzzle

3/7/25



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

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# LONG RIVER READING ON GROWING UP, THE HUMAN BODY AND TOMATOES

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Long River Review, the University of Connecticut's literary and arts magazine, hosted a poetry reading and open mic session on March 5 in the Stern Lounge of the Austin building.

The event was run by Kyle Barron, a Ph.D. student and the assistant director of the UConn Writing Center. This version of the Long River Reading Series is the third of this academic year, with the fourth and final event of the year occurring on April 2.

Barron's guests for the evening were Grace Xiong, an eighth-semester student double majoring in molecular and cell biology and an individualized major in global health, human rights and food justice. Sophia Wallis Buckner was also in attendance, who recently defended her doctoral dissertation "Writing, Identity, and Genre."

Xiong went first with a poem titled "Seconds," which was about her experience with visiting a local farm and appreciating the imperfection in the food around her. Xiong described the jagged red line on a bruised tomato. Her next poem, "A Visit to the Nursing Home," spoke of a nurse who has grown too old to live on their own and now must remain in a nursing home while their body slowly betrays them.

Xiong's third poem, titled "Grandpa's Hands," came from a poetry class she had taken. She spoke of growing up in a multigenerational household with parents who didn't speak English, and the changes in her relationship with her grandfather as she grew older and desired more

independence. "A man who mailed himself to America for us," Xiong said, describing her grandfather in her poem. "A love too late to repay." Xiong's final poem came from a poetry set. As a result, "Stretch Marks" has a much angrier tone as Xiong takes on the pain of a youth lost during a time of uncertainty. "It was written shortly after the main peak of the pandemic," she explained. "This is kind of like an ode, if you can call it an ode, to growing up." In her poem, Xiong touched on Donald Trump's 2020 election

loss, the Sandy Hook shooting, her experience being Chinese during the pandemic and much more. "Hope in the face of this, is an art that we carry with us no matter our age," she said, ending her poem. Barron expressed his appreciation for Xiong's poems when she finished. "Absolutely wonderful work," he said, describing the journey Xiong's poems had taken him on. He announced that there would be a short pause before Buckner's poetry recital began. Buckner noted that her own work was very similar to

Xiong's. Instead of poetry, she had brought excerpts from her essay, "The Untitled Body Project." The essay features poetry, prose and Buckner's thoughts on experiences she's lived and books she's read. "It's about identity, and the body and connection with the land," Buckner said. "And what happens when those connections shatter in our modern society." Buckner's first excerpt spoke of losing the land around her childhood home to a fire before losing her father-in-law to a heart attack. In it, she described

wishing she knew the land and appreciated it before it left, a sentiment paralleled by her father-in-law's death. Her next excerpt spoke of the work of scholar Gregory Bateson, who saw nature as one big interconnected system. "There is no separation between self and that which surrounds the self," Buckner said. "There is no self. My consciousness, my mind, my self is 'not bound by the skin.'" Buckner's final excerpt touched on the book "Braiding Sweetgrass" by Robin Wall Kimmerer. She had listened to the audiobook while putting her child to bed and wrote her thoughts on it. She touched on her relationship with colonialism as a descendant of it, and her desire to find a connection with land that was not hers. "Perhaps if I built my relationship with the land, I could understand myself," Buckner said. "I don't know where to begin. I am a thousand miles away from the land with which I had the closest relationship." Barron then offered the attendees of the event to participate in the open mic portion. After he received no volunteers, he opted to instead read a poem he had written while he was still an undergraduate student. Barron read a poem called "Sawdust," which he described as "hot garbage," but spoke of the small town he grew up in. In Barron's eyes, the town was filled with poverty and people who felt too invested to leave. As the attendees of the event filtered out, Buckner noted that, much like Xiong, she had also written a poem about tomatoes. Barron added that he had a tomato poem of his own as well.



Students walking by the Phillip E. Austin building on the UConn Storrs campus. Formerly known as the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences building, it was renovated in 2001. PHOTO COURTESY OF UCONN TODAY

# SHOW DOWN: 'HOUSE OF DAVID'

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Hello and welcome back to Show Down, the column where I break down a show and walk you through whether I think it will get canceled or if we have hope for another season. This week, we will be discussing a new show that came out last week: "House of David."

Per usual, we will be going through the premise, cast, promotion, fan reaction and — if available — streaming

date to determine if the show will be renewed for a second season or canceled after season one. Let's get into the premise! "House of David" is a show on Amazon Prime Video that follows the biblical story of a young shepherd named David (played by Michael Iskander) is chosen by the prophet Samuel (Stephen Lang) to replace King Saul (Ali Suliman) who is becoming more and more unstable. I looked into the story to see how accurate the plot is to the biblical story and found

that so far, it is quite similar. Of course, directors took creative liberty with the story, but according to a New York Times article by Annie Aguiar covering shows based off scriptures, "For 'House of David,' pastors, historians and biblical and rabbinical scholars were consulted for accuracy. But centuries-old sources translated from Hebrew, Greek and Aramaic do not necessarily make for snappy dialogue." The article adds that script writers often "connect the dots" and take creative liberties to make a story flow or a plotline unfold. In terms of casting, David is played by newcomer Iskander, who was previously on Broadway for his role in the musical "Kimberly Akimbo." He credited the role with giving him a new perspective on scripture and the people

within it. In an interview with the Christian Broadcasting Network, Iskander explained his perspective. "Now, I view it from a point of view as just human beings," Iskander said. "And so, I put the context of that time and of these people into the story ... it just puts a whole different perspective on the Bible, and I think it makes it that much more interesting to read and to discover," he added. The rest of the main cast is composed of Suliman as King Saul and Ayelet Zurer as Queen Ahinoam. The directors of the show, Jon Erwin and Jon Gunn, seemed to have put in the work to ensure this was a respectful and accurate adaptation of a biblical story. When it comes to promotion, the cast have promoted it on their Instagram accounts, trailers have been posted and

I have seen promotional banners while scrolling through Amazon prime. I was able to find positive reviews for the show and comments on the social media accounts of cast members, who are posting consistently about the episodes coming out each week. I would however argue that there is an audience for faith-based shows. "The Chosen," which follows the story of Jesus Christ, is set through the eyes of people that knew him, and according to the official website, "the seven-season show shares an authentic and intimate look at Jesus' revolutionary life and teachings." The show has received positive reactions regarding the acting, directing and storytelling, but it got its fair share of criticism from people upset at the creative liberties taken by the creators. It did have many views, however, and averaged 520,000 viewers on The CW. When it comes to viewership on "House of David," there is not much data available yet but from what I could find, it did quite well. With over 100 reviews, it has an 89% approval rating on Rotten Tomatoes' Popcornmeter, and a Variety interviewer said that it seems to "take its appeal for granted: the show is based on one of the most famous stories ever told, and therefore has no need to explain what's going on or why we should care. In reality, the opposite is true." Overall, I think that based on reactions I have seen online, the show has a fair shot of continuation if the story does not wrap up in season one. I think it has generated a buzz around faith-based television and people are curious to see if it's worth watching a show that is a direct biblical adaptation. I, for one, found the first episode I have seen interesting, but I can see why not everyone is a fan. I think this might not be a show down just yet.



PHOTO COURTESY OF @HOUSEOFDAVIDPRIME ON INSTAGRAM



# Split Record Review: ‘brat’ - part 2

by James Fitzpatrick  
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Welcome to the second half of Split Record Review this week, where James is following up on Henry’s coverage of “brat” by Charli xcx.

A tour de force of 2024, Charli’s most successful album created a movement behind its iconic cover and her sassy sentiments. Needless to say, alongside Charli, the producers and featured artists were the biggest driving force behind “brat” entering the zeitgeist as aggressively as it did. As a Charli fan for roughly five years, what does James have to say? Will he go against Henry’s thoughts from yesterday?

A wide range of people have heard Charli in her previous evolution during the early-to-mid 2010s with “Boom Clap” or her feature on Iggy Azalea’s “Fancy.” For a new generation of listeners — some of whom are college students who grew up on her early output — to hear Charli at her most bold and brash gives me hope in the general public’s taste.

Frequent collaborator and producer A.G. Cook really outdid himself production-wise, being instrumental in giving “brat” its signature club sound. His spread of production credits is almost universal across Charli’s most forward-thinking projects, including 2017’s appropriately named “Pop 2,” 2019’s “Charli” and 2020’s “How I’m Feeling Now,” yet something about “brat” stands out among the rest.

The unbridled confidence displayed on “360” is accentuated by the bouncy beat courtesy of Cook and pop mastermind Cirkut. The “Bumpin’ that” refrain keeps the energy going into the second verse with a crazy cold open: “That city sewer slut’s the vibe.”

Following a shoutout to Cook, the typical song structure repeats and concludes just over the two-minute mark. One of the album’s biggest strengths is its length-to-song ratio, packing 15 songs at 41 minutes on the standard version, so many of these songs are perfectly paced.

“Club classics” balances Charli’s ego with her appreciation of

others. The unfortunate contrast between “I wanna dance with George,” referring to her fiancé, and “I want to dance to SOPHIE,” a friend and equally boundary-pushing artist who passed away in 2021, is sad. But with a wonky beat rivaling anything off Danny Brown’s “Old,” I hope millions of people rave to this song while it remains in circulation.

“Sympathy is a knife” is a killer song that was strong enough to pull Ariana Grande for a remix on “brat and It’s Completely Different but Also Still brat,” an album of remix tracks paired with the originals. Given Charli’s multiple references to her partner in the song, Ariana’s transparency about her partners through the years has been comparatively questionable.

“Von dutch” is pretty incredible with its infectious refrain “I’m your number one,” serving as a perfect single for the record. Despite its six different producers, “Everything is romantic” has SOPHIE written all over it from the constant tempo changes to its overall complexity, though it could’ve been trimmed

30 seconds or so.

“Rewind” brings the energy back at the album’s midpoint, being one of three tracks to be produced by Cirkut and Cook; the other two are the intro and outro. I enjoy Charli’s reserved delivery as she brings enough to the track, but she mainly lets the beat do the talking.

For the final mention of SOPHIE, “So I” is evidently about her considering the reference to “It’s Okay to Cry.” She became pretty prolific during her lifetime, yet to see her legacy prominently on “brat” is heartwarming, especially on such a wonderfully paced highlight on the album.

Since Henry touched on the next few tracks, and the lackluster “B2b” stretches out one phrase more than the greedy producers behind XXXTentacion’s posthumous records, let’s talk about “Mean girls.” With some of the most lyrically dense verses on “brat,” Charli seemingly criticizes the “mean girl” archetype by dropping crazy lines like “You said she’s anorexic and you heard she likes when people say it.” The lively

piano is also an excellent addition in a solo midway through the song.

“I think about it all the time” is another cut that listeners who like to know their favorite artists in a parasocial manner can clamor over. The amateur tone of “It was ice-cold, playing demos on my iPhone” strips the celebrity side of Charli away, and “Should I stop my birth control? ‘Cause my career feels so small / In the existential scheme of it all,” demonstrates her balance between work, artistry and family life at large.

With “365” ending the album as it started, it’s safe to say the journey that “brat” takes the listener on results in more than a simple party album. To have Charli at the forefront of music at this point is very refreshing because other popular girl bosses — some of whom are featured on the remix album like Billie Eilish — have traded the innovation that made them famous for a safe radio sound that appeases a wider audience yet alienates core fans. Charli hasn’t done this, and I don’t see that changing for the rest of her career.



Rating 3.75/5

## SHOW SCANNER: WHERE TO CATCH LIVE MUSIC 3/7-3/8

by Dan Stark  
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HE/HIM/HIS  
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We’re only one week away from spring break, Huskies! It’s been a long, tough stretch here at the University of Connecticut as students are swamped with midterms, papers and deadlines galore. But just because you’re swamped with work doesn’t mean that you have to spend your weekend nights holed up in the library.

If you’re looking for a break, then you’re in luck thanks to this weekend’s lineup of live music in the Nutmeg State, which looks like an early contender for the best weekend of shows of the year. Here’s a look at where to catch live music this weekend in Storrs and across Connecticut.

### Friday 3/7: The Dog Pound — Storrs

We’re starting the weekend off with this jam-packed show at The Dog Pound on Friday, March 7, the first of a whopping four events the venue is hosting this weekend. The four-band lineup is made for jam band fans, featuring an evening of long, improvisatory music. Highlighting the bill is AshBABY, the Storrs-based jazz fusion-influenced jam band.

Joining them is Free Rock, a psychedelic rock band from Boston. Rounding out the lineup is Dani and The Rotting Twentys. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., music starts at 7:30 p.m. and admission is \$7. No parking is available on site. For the address, message @thedogpound on Instagram.

### Friday 3/7: Scooped Up “Comeback Show” @ Cafe Nine — New Haven

Scooped Up, the Milford-based pop-punk group, is playing their first show with their full, electric lineup at Cafe Nine in New Haven on Friday, March 7. Joining them in the lineup is Sunday Morning, Waiver, Cinema Stare and Indoor Kids, a



Pull The Curtain performing at The Dog Pound in Storrs, Conn. Their next show will be at The Webster in Hartford, Conn. on April 4, 2025. PHOTO COURTESY OF @ANTHONYMCGILL.CO ON INSTAGRAM

lineup that’s perfectly fit for their return. Doors open at 7 p.m., music starts at 7:30 p.m. and admission is \$10. Showgoers must be 21 or older to attend.

### Saturday 3/8: Overloded Acoustic Show @ The Dog Pound — Storrs

Here’s a show unlike any other I’ve written about here. Aiden Bonilla, the frontman and founder of Storrs-based indie punk group Overloded, is doing a solo acoustic show at The Dog Pound on Saturday, March 8. The show will be the last Overloded performance for the immediate future, as the

band recently announced that they are going on hiatus. The music starts at 2 p.m., making it a rare matinee show. No parking is available on site. For the address, message @thedogpound on Instagram.

### Saturday 3/8: Crunch House x The Dog Pound — West Haven

I’ve written a lot about both of these venues, but never thought I’d see the day they teamed up. Just like how basketball stars Steph Curry and Kevin Durant joined forces in 2016, The Dog Pound and Crunch House are collaborating on a show on

Saturday, March 8 at Crunch House in West Haven.

The lineup includes Death Valley Sun Troopers, Lootbug and Pondview, three bands who have made frequent appearances in Storrs, as well as 40 Lashes. Doors open at 6 p.m., music starts at 7 p.m. and admission is \$10. Showgoers must be 18 or older to attend. For the address, message @thedogpound or @crunchhouseofficial on Instagram.

### Saturday 3/8: The Dog Pound “Battle of the Bands” — Storrs

Man, oh man, what a dyna-

mite show we have here! The Dog Pound is hosting a Battle of the Bands on Saturday, March 8, where four Storrs-based bands will be duking it out in a musical battle for the ages. The lineup features Neanderthal Petting Zoo and The Rotting Twentys, two energetic alternative rock bands. Joining them in the lineup is dynamic rock band Tweed Sugar and metal group Remedies. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., music starts at 7:30 p.m. and admission is \$7. No parking is available on site. For the address, message @thedogpound on Instagram.





# Life

 @dailycampuslife

# THE MODERN MONSTER: ‘SCREAM,’ AND THE HORROR-MOVIE FEMINISM THAT WE NEED TODAY

*Content warning for discussion regarding rape, sex, murder and sexism.*

**by Samantha Brody**  
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“What’s your favorite scary movie?”

It’s a famous line uttered in one of horror’s most famous movies, during one of the genre’s most famous scenes. I’ve got a few favorites myself, but in the first ever issue of The Modern Monster, I want to talk about the movie that got me hooked on horror. We’re going back to a not-quite-modern 1996 to talk about an industry classic: “Scream,” directed by Wes Craven.

Hello and welcome to The Modern Monster! This is a brand-new weekly column focused on all things spooky and/or scary, which you will see in The Daily Campus every Freaky Friday. I’ll be discussing movies, books, shows, conspiracy theories, cold cases and more, as well as my thoughts on how these stories affect us all.

“Scream” follows Sidney Prescott (Neve Campbell), a teenager in high school grappling with the upcoming one-year anniversary of her mother’s rape and subsequent murder. She has a boyfriend, Billy Loomis (Skeet Ulrich) and a best friend, Tatum Riley (Rose McGowan). Rounding out the friend group is Randy Meeks (Jamie Kennedy) and Tatum’s boyfriend Stu Macher (Matthew Lillard).

If you search up the “Scream” poster, you might notice that Campbell’s name and face are noticeably lacking. If you watched this in 1996, you wouldn’t have guessed that she’d be our hero. The average viewer would’ve guessed the more famous Drew Barrymore, who is featured more prominently on the poster, but her character dies in the first scene.

Rounding out the main cast, we have Gale Weathers (Courtney Cox), the self-described “cheesy tabloid journalist,” and Tatum’s boyish older brother, Deputy Dwight “Dewey” Riley (David Arquette). Both are on the trail of the man who killed Casey and her boyfriend Steve.

Before the news of Casey and Steve’s murder reaches the town, Sidney’s father Neil (Lawrence Hecht) tells her he’s leaving town for work. That night, Billy sneaks into Sidney’s room and asks her to have sex

with him. After two years of dating, he feels like they need to progress. Sidney agrees to be intimate as long as it’s over-the-clothes — a rule he quickly breaks. Sidney slaps his hand away.

The next day at school, Sidney and her friends are discussing the double murder. Stu talks casually about the murder and makes a remark that “There’s no way a girl could’ve killed them.” It’s also mentioned that Stu used to date Casey in the past before, as Randy says, “she dumped him for Steve.”

The killer, in a black cloak and a white “Ghostface” mask, eventually attacks Sidney, but she escapes. Billy, who showed up at her house suddenly, is named a suspect and arrested. Billy is released when the killer calls Sidney again while he’s in a holding cell.

Later on, Stu announces he’s hosting a party at his conveniently secluded house. Here is where the killer strikes again, taking multiple victims before the killer is finished off.

If it’s not obvious by this point, Billy and Stu are the killers. They also murdered Sidney’s mother Maureen, and call Maureen a “slut-bag whore” during their confession.

Billy and Stu are profoundly sexist. Sidney tells Billy that she isn’t interested in having sex with him considering the anniversary of her mom’s death is coming up, and Billy tells her she should get over it. Stu sexualizes actress Jamie Lee Curtis while watching a movie with Randy.

The men who survive Billy and Stu’s attacks are Randy and Dewey. Despite having a crush on Sidney, Randy is always respectful of her and never forces himself upon her in any way. Dewey has an interest in Gale, but he also never forces himself upon her. Gale is the one to kiss him, and although Dewey is into it, he turns her down because he’s currently on the clock investigating the killer.

It’s no coincidence that our surviving male characters are also shown to be the kindest to women.

On top of that, Sidney is the one to kill Stu before getting attacked by Billy and then saved by Gale. Sidney shoots Billy and finishes him off shortly after.

Gale and Sidney are at odds the entire movie, having had

different opinions on who had killed Maureen. Gale is also incredibly career focused, with a dream of reporting on major crime stories. This leads to her hounding after Sidney, which Sidney never appreciates.

Despite this, Gale saves Sidney, not Randy, even though Randy was in the same room as them during this scene. It’s Gale who picks up the gun and shoots Billy to stop him from murdering Sidney.

Additionally, a common horror movie rule (and one referenced in the film) is the required characteristics of a “final girl”. Many horror movies feature a female main character, who lasts until the end of the movie. Modern final girls are usually the ones to finally defeat the villain of the story. A common rule for a final girl, which Randy mentions during the film, is that she must be a virgin. If she isn’t, she’s lost her ability to survive to the end.

By the end of the movie, Sidney doesn’t fit the bill as this kind of final girl, but she’s the one to kill the two villains. Conversely, Randy fits the final girl trope a bit easier as a damsel-in-distress, a self-proclaimed virgin. It’s a reverse of roles that emphasizes Sidney’s agency and names her the hero of the story. She’s the one to end the torment, even though Randy is present for the climax of the film.

“Scream” is a movie that treats its characters with endless amounts of respect and highlights women during a much more misogynistic time. It’s also filled with references to other horror movies, and it presents itself as reliant on tropes, using that audience expectation against you.

This reverse of expectations adds to the feminist narrative of “Scream.” When looking back at old movies, we sort of expect to see a level of sexism within them. A product of the time, we might say in defense of an ancient gem. But “Scream” doesn’t need that defense. It still holds up today in that regard.

Sexism is still an issue we see today. With a gender-based pay gap and a possible abortion ban in the Life at Conception Act, it can be easy to lose yourself in the stress of a world that seems like it’s moving backward. However it’s nice to know we have movies like “Scream.”

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What would make USG an actually effective organization?

by Tomas Hinckley | HE/HIM/HIS | OPINION EDITOR | tomas.hinckley@uconn.edu

For those who missed the many flyers, social media posts, articles from The Daily Campus and frantic texts in big club group chats all surrounding the subject, this week was election season here at the University of Connecticut. The Undergraduate Student Government had its annual three-day period of public voting for its four elected officials: the president, vice president, comptroller and chief diversity officer. Alongside this there were special elections for the undergraduate representative on the board of trustees, as well as referendums on student fee usage for many Tier-III organizations. Overall, it's been a time of great political excitement, with much of the public urging people to get out to vote and an overall will to get people to care about what happens in USG.

This is because, as some of the current candidates for office recognize, there exists a certain barrier between the organization and the student body, with many students not even knowing what it does or how it impacts them. These are valid confusions, considering many of the assumptions about what an undergraduate student government does don't turn out to be true. The common conception of a "government" includes the ability to make policy decisions that require certain conduct from its constituents, or, simply, to make laws telling people what to do or not do. Yet, within UConn, USG doesn't have this ability. Largely, their legisla-

tion focuses on deciding the usage of the student fees they get and creating rules for the operations of the USG community itself. The only real legislative power they have is to appoint student representatives to the University Senate, the real legislative body of UConn. They hold just five seats within the senate overall out of 104 total, and they are able to select only two members to each specific committee working under the senate. These range from being about 11-20 members each, diluting the share of student representation to at most being just below 20% in this slow and grueling policy process. Ironically enough, the percentage of representatives on the student welfare committee is the lowest of them all, with undergraduates making up less than 10% of the group, but I digress. The point is to say that as far as USG goes, its power to actually make decisions that truly affect the university community is severely limited.

As far as the rest of its power? The majority of it is simply using the student fees they're given to provide direct resources to students and Tier-II organizations and, on its own, there's not really much to say there. It's good that USG provides free New York Times subscriptions, period boxes and pop-up food pantries for students. Yet, frankly, when you get over \$1.7 million in revenue each year, efforts like that ought to be expected.

The thing is, it's like putting a

Band-Aid on a bullet hole. These are stopgap measures that can realistically only do so much for a limited amount of students without actually addressing the underlying issue. For example, it's nice that USG does pop-up food pantries every so often, but why do students really need that? Maybe there's a question there about the high and continually rising price of dining plans at this school that ought to provide students with basic food security. In order to address these issues which truly plague the student body, if not through legislation or student fees, it requires a reimagining of what this organization does.

The biggest strength that USG has, way above its money and senate seats, is its legitimacy. This is to say, it is a universally recognized body as having some form of delegated authority from the students. It's an institution with at least some respect. This is very important in terms of its ability to get students to take action, because they implicitly recognize a connection between themselves and the organization, even if they might not interact with it much in their daily lives. Plus, most people at the very least know someone or can connect with someone in USG in their daily lives, a byproduct of the fact that there are so many senators and staffers that are a part of it, giving them a large mouthpiece to communicate with students across Storrs. If this connection can be utilized correct-

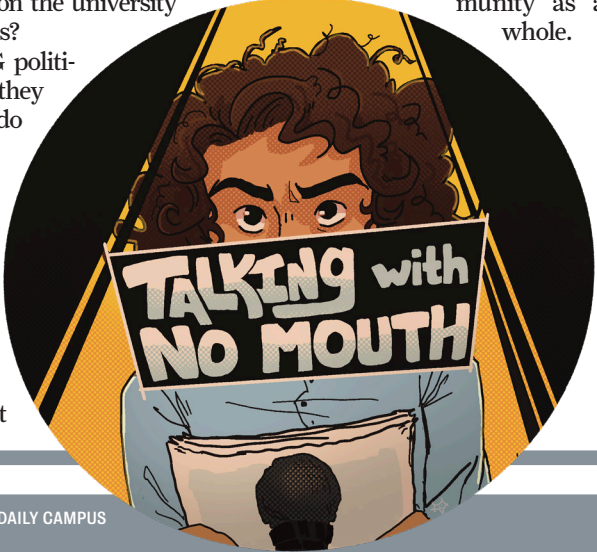
ly, then USG will have, more than any other student organization that arises to address a problem, an extremely strong ability to organize students into action.

In short, USG needs to stop thinking like a government and start thinking like a union. They don't have real legislative power, but they can have the students on their side. The student body, which holds great power within this school community (when effectively organized towards a purpose), can accomplish much greater things than USG can alone. Just look at #SaveUConn and what USG was able to do the one time it actually mobilized students towards a goal. Now, was it a complete farce and also a huge waste of effort on their part? Yes, but at the very least it was a show of force, that they could get students behind a cause and take action on it. Simply put, what if that kind of effort was put into sustainably developing pressure on the university on other issues?

Every USG politician claims they want to do something about tuition hikes, campus sustainability, budget cuts and all the other substantive issues that get

to the core of what it means to be a student here. If we take some notes from other bodies within UConn, such as the American Association of University Professors and the Graduate Employee & Postdoc Union, maybe the answer to these issues doesn't lie in just showing up at senate meetings and "advocating" on behalf of students. Maybe the answer lies in creating community for them, organizing and then mobilizing them en masse directly to make an impact.

We've seen what students can do on their own in this regard, as the most impactful steps taken to make change on sustainability, sexual violence and demilitarization in the past several years have all come from outside of spaces like USG. Instead of standing idly by and watching, there is an opportunity to re-envision what this organization is so that it can better support such movements and the UConn community as a whole.



FILE LOGO/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Misinformation is to blame for a measles outbreak in 2025

by Andie Napolitano  
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This year marks 25 years since measles was eradicated in the United States due to the success of the MMR (measles, mumps and rubella) vaccine. It also marks the first measles-related death in over a decade.

Last week, an unvaccinated school-aged child died from measles in West Texas. The case was part of a greater measles outbreak in the region, which has infected over 100 people across multiple states and is continuing to grow. The death of this child, as well as inevitable future deaths if this outbreak continues at its current rate, can be completely preventable.

The MMR vaccine is about 97% effective at preventing measles, and there is clear scientific consensus that the vaccine is safe and effective. While the scientific community has not wavered, public consensus has. MMR vaccination rates have declined in nearly every state since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, and this trend does not seem to be going away.

While MMR vaccination rates have declined across the board, the greatest declines have been seen in states that Donald Trump

won in the 2024 election. The share of kindergarten students with vaccine exemptions in these states is double that of states won by Kamala Harris. This trend, as well as the unwavering support of the vaccine from the scientific community, suggests that the root of the problem has nothing to do with the safety and effectiveness of the vaccine. Instead, the declining vaccination rates and explosive measles outbreak are a product of political misinformation.

Vaccine misinformation is not a new concept. The reason for most hesitancy around the MMR vaccine specifically is that people believe the vaccine is linked to the development of autism. This belief began because of a now retracted scientific journal article published in 1998 by a British physician named Andrew Wakefield. Every article since has disproved these claims, and it was found that Wakefield deliberately falsified this data to make money off of a competing vaccine.

Unfortunately, the falsehoods promoted by Wakefield did not die with the withdrawal of his paper or the termination of his license. These fabricated ideas have proliferated, amplified by public fear during the COVID-19 pandemic, and now are being reiterated by the recently

appointed head of the Department of Health and Human Services, Robert F. Kennedy Jr., a former heroin addict who is not a doctor, and has most likely never read Wakefield's article or any published scientific journal article for that matter.

Kennedy's views on vaccines have already had catastrophic consequences in the United States and around the world. In 2019 when Kennedy was the chairman of an anti-vaccine nonprofit called Children's Health and Defense, he visited the small island nation of Samoa during a crisis in which infants were prevented from receiving the MMR vaccine because a human error in the creation of the vaccine caused two deaths. During his visit, Kennedy spread his misinformed views on vaccines to the Samoan government, encouraging them to try unproven alternative cures. Just a couple of months later, a measles outbreak spread through the country, killing 83 people, most of whom were young children. To this day, Kennedy refuses to acknowledge that the outbreak was caused by a lack of vaccination and denies having any role in it.

In 2020, Kennedy shifted his focus to spreading misinformation about the COVID-19 pandemic. Researchers identi-

fied that Kennedy was one of 12 people responsible for spreading the majority of misleading or completely untrue claims about COVID-19 vaccines. Kennedy falsely claimed that the vaccine was "the deadliest vaccine ever made" and that baseball player Hank Aaron's death in 2021 was "part of a wave of suspicious deaths" due to the vaccine. These baseless claims, along with similar claims from Kennedy's antivaxx peers, proliferated across social media platforms into people's algorithms, contributing to the rise in vaccine hesitancy and a drop in vaccination rates.

The 2025 measles outbreak and the first U.S. measles death in a decade are the manifestation of these false claims. The American people will continue to suffer the consequences of vaccine misinformation, especially now that a man making these claims is at the forefront of our public health system. We need to put medical professionals at the head of messaging on the issue of vaccines, portraying that the medical community is a united front on this issue. We need to spread the message that the current measles outbreak and the death of the young child was entirely preventable, and that vaccination is essential to preventing future outbreaks.



Photo of the Day | The wind is stronger than my will to go to class



A view of the bus stop outside of UConn's Great Lawn in Storrs, Conn. on March 6, 2025. UConn's Storrs campus had a campus-wide power outage early Thursday morning, leaving the majority of buildings and streets without lights for hours. PHOTO BY ZACH MOLLER, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Most schools have a set of general education requirements, or gen-eds, which enrich students' education by exposing them to a broad range of subjects. Yet, they are often met with loathing. People complain that gen-eds aren't in the subject of their major and they take up their time, which is true. It may even be the case, as some claim, that colleges just want your money. Yet none of that makes gen-eds useless. Rather, they are an extremely influential part of the college experience that we shouldn't take for granted.

Let's start by acknowledging that every experience you have in college shapes you. College is about more than just major requirements; It's also about the friends you meet, the mistakes you make (in and out of the classroom), the life lessons you learn and the sense of self that you forge. Everything you do strengthens your mind and increases your awareness of the world around you, and all this together prepares you for the life you are going to lead. Gen-eds and the new perspectives they provide are part of that.

They encourage cultural and social awareness through both the diversified content and the diversified students taking the courses. Throughout my gen-eds, I have learned about the horrors of trench warfare firsthand through poetry from World War I, discussed how the convolu-

tion of the English language can be used by the upper class to retain power and acquainted myself with various theories of why countries go to war and how to prevent it. I have also met students majoring in psychology, political science, nursing, data science, English, fine arts and more.

As an environmental engineering student, I value interacting with the students outside my small program of around 30 students and getting to hear from diverse voices. As a future engineer, I recognize the importance of understanding various perspectives, whether they be from war poets or my peers,

which will empower me in my career to solve multifaceted problems and serve diverse communities.

And I don't think this is isolated to engineering majors. Anyone in any career has the potential to interact positively and productively with the world, and

we unlock and foster this ability by looking at the world through various lenses, like philosophical, analytical, political or otherwise. So yes, gen-eds are actually relevant to your career.

And they don't have to be boring! There are hundreds (I counted) of different courses you can take at UConn to fulfill your

requirements, so there are bound to be some that pique your interest. Maybe that's "HIST 2210E: History of the Ocean," "NUSC 1645: The Science of Food" or even "EPSY 2810: Creativity: Debunking Myths and Enhancing Innovation." Don't feel like you're

stuck taking basic anthropology or introduction to puppetry (unless that's your cup of tea).

Now, if at this point you still doubt that you're ever going to use this knowledge in your life, I'll say this: that's a valid concern. After all, why should you waste your time on a pointless subject? But even if that really was the

case, it's also true that college is not just training you for a productive career; that would be trade school. Rather, college is conditioning you for a meaningful life.

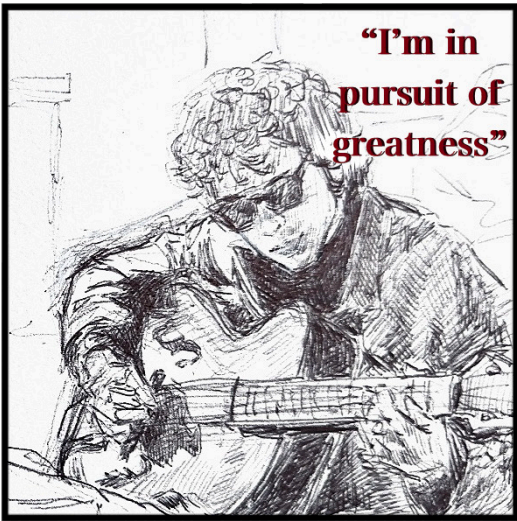
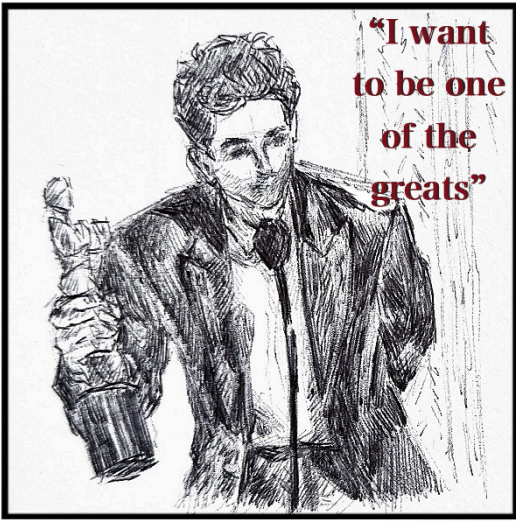
Let's not ignore the fact that educational exploration and the liberal arts are the founding principle of American colleges. Up until the 19th century, colleges didn't even have majors. Back then, going to college simply meant studying a broad range of subjects like rhetoric, arithmetic and music to expand your mind and practice critical thinking, unlocking the potential to think fully and freely throughout your life. Though education is constantly evolving (which is a good thing), this is one goal that we should hold onto by exploring a multitude of subjects in our college years.

And lastly, even if my above arguments haven't convinced you, you're enrolled here, so what can you do? You can't get around the requirements, so the best use of your time is to try and learn something. I'll tell you right now, there's something to be gained from any experience, and education is a privilege; one we are very fortunate to have.

I'm not trying to say that UConn's general education curriculum is not flawed, limited or imperfect. It is all these things, but it's still worth a whole lot. So, I say we all should take what we've got instead of sleeping on this precious opportunity.

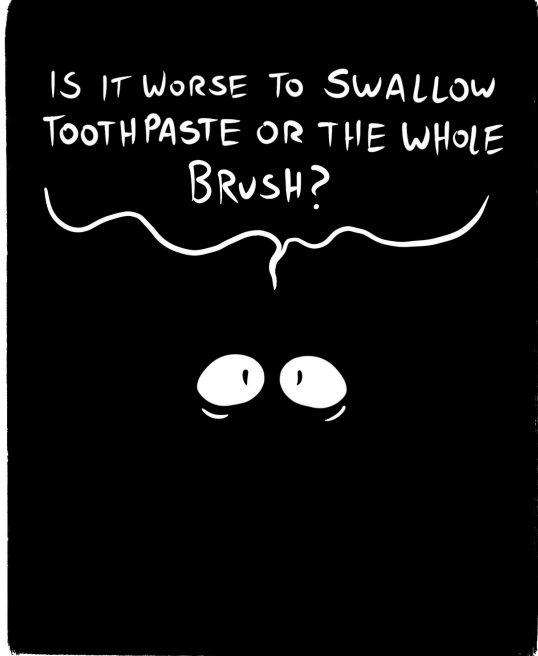
Gen-eds are  
a blessing,  
not a curse

by Tamara Segal | SHE/HER/HERS | CONTRIBUTOR | tamara.segal@uconn.edu



by Klea Omeri  
Contributing Artist

by Connor Szrejna  
Staff Artist





# TYLER'S TAKE: WINNERS AND LOSERS OF THE 2025 NFL COMBINE

**by Tyler Pruneau**  
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For future NFL players, taking every opportunity to showcase their talent is a must, as only 1.6% of NCAA players go pro, per the NFL. In this week's edition of Tyler's Take, I will discuss players who increased and decreased their draft stock following the 2025 NFL Combine.

**Winners:**

**S Nick Emmanwori, South Carolina:**

After recording outstanding numbers at the NFL combine, Nick Emmanwori could get picked up by the end of the first round. The safety ran a 4.38 in the 40-yard dash, achieved a 43-inch vertical and jumped 11 feet and six inches in the broad jump. After showcasing a once in a lifetime performance, the former Gamecock landed at No. 27 in Mel Kiper's mock draft, while Matt Miller has him going at No. 28, per ESPN. Moreover, Emmanwori received a 6.35 grade by the NFL. The 21-year-old came out of high school as a three-star recruit and now could become the first safety off the board.

**WR Matthew Golden, Texas:**

Matthew Golden became one of two players to run a sub 4.30

in the 40-yard dash. In addition, the former Longhorn tied with four other participants with a 1.49-second 10-yard split. Despite deciding not to perform in the rest of the combine activities, the NFL gave Golden a 6.40 prospect grade. With incredible route running skills, Golden could get selected in the second round. However, seeing him split into the first round could happen due to the weakness of this year's wide receiver class, per the Pro Football Network.

**CB Maxwell Hairston, Kentucky:**

Maxwell Hairston raised eyebrows across the league, becoming the fastest player amongst the 2025 draft class. With a time of 4.28 seconds and a 10-yard split of 1.50 seconds, the cornerback used speed to his advantage. In every drill, Hairston exploded with energy, showing confidence throughout the reps. Seeing teams target the former Kentucky player on day two of the NFL draft should come as no surprise, per Bleacher Report.

**Losers:**

**QB Shedeur Sanders, Colorado:**

Shedeur Sanders opted out of performing at the 2025 NFL combine, which could come back and haunt him come draft night. Despite the weakness of this year's quarterback draft class, the debate between who's getting picked up first, Cam

Ward or Sanders, still sits in the air. In addition to Sanders, Ward decided not to throw at the combine either. However, the NFL gave the former Hurricane a 6.39 grade, while Sanders got a 6.30 rating. Furthermore, the former Colorado signal caller shows confidence and composure within the pocket. Nonetheless, the quarterback has film showing throws that would get intercepted in the big league, according to the NFL. Needless to say, Sanders could have sealed the deal by proving his worth at the combine.

**RB Cam Skattebo, Arizona State:**

After suffering a hamstring injury, Cam Skattebo was forced to miss the NFL Combine. However, the former Sun Devil gets the opportunity at Arizona State's pro-day to showcase his skills. Despite rushing 143 yards for two touchdowns against Texas in the Peach Bowl, players like Bhayshul Tuten could pass Skattebo in the running back draft class. With a 4.32 second 40-yard dash, Tuten ran the fastest amongst the running back group, allowing him to jump up in mock drafts and push Skattebo down.

**WR Tez Johnson, Oregon:**

Weighing in at 154 pounds, Tez Johnson became the lightest wide receiver to participate at the NFL Combine, per CBS Sports. Despite showing signs of life regarding route run-

ning, teams could pass on the wide receiver because of his small frame. To add on, the former Oregon Duck struggled to make a case with a time of 4.51 seconds in the 40-yard dash. With a NFL grade of 6.23, Johnson is projected to get selected in round three, per Bleacher Report.

Despite the NFL giving players a chance to showcase their talent, only time will tell who can deliver at the professional level. The difference between getting picked at No. 1 or becoming Mr. Irrelevant, like 49ers' quarterback Brock Purdy, doesn't matter as much as people make it out to be. Everyone has a shot at making a name for themselves.



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

# WOMEN'S LACROSSE: HUSKIES HEAD NORTH TO TAKE ON ALBANY

**by Ryan Cotjanle**  
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The No. 25 UConn women's lacrosse team will be back in action on Saturday when they face off against Albany.

The Huskies are fresh off an exhilarating comeback victory over UMass. They tallied nineteen goals, five of them coming in the fourth quarter. Eliza Bowman led the way for the Huskies, tying the program record for goals in a game with eight. That standout performance was enough to earn her Big East Attacker of the Week.

Albany has gotten off to a slow start this season, coming into Saturday's matchup with a 1-4 record. Like UConn, Albany also lost at Harvard earlier this season. The Huskies lost a heartbreaker in Cambridge, while Albany struggled to get any offense going and lost 18-6. However, the Great Danes are

coming off their first win of the season last Saturday against Colgate. Senior Courtney Rowe and Pitt transfer Dylana Williams each scored five times for Albany.

Despite finishing with an 8-10 record last season, Albany was just one win away from reaching the NCAA Tournament. Sophomore Mikaela Mooney was a key contributor on last year's team and currently leads Albany with sixteen points through five games. Williams leads the team with eleven goals scored in her first season with the program.

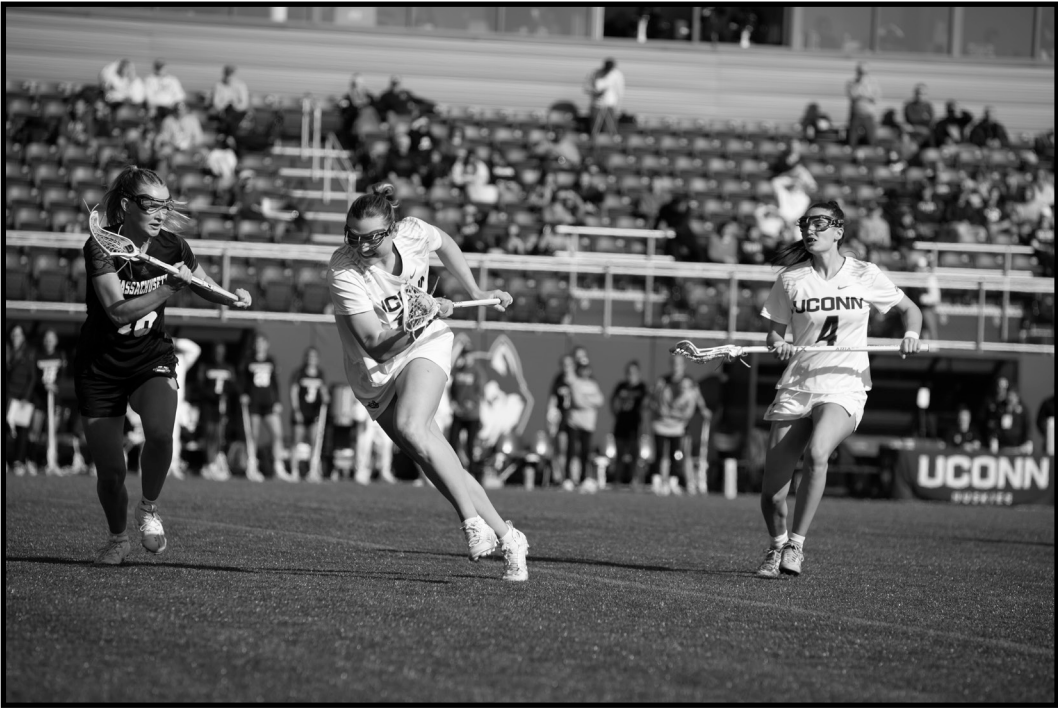
The two squads clashed in New York last season, with UConn securing a 15-10 win. Rayea Davis, who is second on the team with nineteen goals scored this season, notched five goals in the matchup. Bowman, who now paces the Huskies with 20 goals scored this season, added four goals of her own.

Albany now has another crack at the Huskies on their

home turf. Both teams will look to extend their win streaks before conference play begins in

the coming weeks. Face off is scheduled for 1 p.m. on Saturday, March 8 at John

Fallon Field in Albany, N.Y. The game will be broadcast on ESPN+.



UConn women's lacrosse takes on the University of Massachusetts for a back and forth battle in Storrs, Conn. on March, 1, 2025. The Huskies showed fans the kind of energy the team will bring this season. PHOTO BY SYDNEY CHANDLER, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

## Photo of the Day | Men's basketball



UConn forward Alex Karaban and fans celebrate after Karaban's final plays against Marquette to seal the win for UConn. The two teams faced off on on Wed. Mar 5, 2025 in Gampel Pavilion, Storrs, Conn.

PHOTOGRAPH BY ZACH MOLLER, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS



# SAM'S SECTION: WRAPPING UP CONFERENCE AWARD PICKS WITH BIG 12 AND SEC

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Continuing my conference award picks from earlier this week, the second Sam's Section of the week will focus on who stands out to me in the Big 12 and the SEC.

Big 12

**Player of the Year: Javon Small**, G, West Virginia (18.2 ppg, 5.5 apg, 4.1 rpg, 1.6 spg, 52.3 FG%, 35.4 3P%, 87.7 FT%)

I wrote out a blind resumé of five players I thought were in contention for Big 12 including Small, Kansas center Hunter Dickinson, Texas Tech center JT Toppin, BYU's Richie Saunders and Houston guard LJ Cryer. I landed on Small because of his impact in his first season in Morgantown, W. Va. He ranks second in the conference in scoring, 11th in field goal percentage, second in free throw percentage, fourth in assists per game and is tied for 11th in steals per game (along with teammate Sencire Harris). He averages 20.2 points per 40 minutes, which ranks in the 92nd percentile in the country. His assist percentage (34.4%) ranks in the 98th percentile. Fun fact: Small played with UConn legend Tristen Newton during the 2021-22 season at East Carolina.

**Defensive Player of the Year: Joseph Tugler**, F, Houston

Three players from the Big 12 were named to the Naismith Defensive Player of the Year Watch List. Along with Tugler, Iowa State guard Tamin Lipsey and

Arizona State forward Jayden Quaintance were listed. What stands out about Tugler is that he leads the Big 12 in Hakeem percentage at 15.9%. Hakeem percentage is the sum of a player's block and steal percentage. 15.9% ranks in the 99th percentile nationally. H Hranks third in the conference in blocks per game (2).

**Newcomer of the Year: JT Toppin**, F, Texas Tech (17.8 ppg, 9.2 rpg, 1 apg, 1.2 bpg, 56 FG%, 34.1 3P%, 71.3 FT%)

Toppin was among the list of my contenders for Big 12 Player of the Year. After spending his freshman year at New Mexico, Toppin came to Lubbock, Texas, and put on a show for the Red Raiders. He ranks third in the Big 12 in scoring, second in offensive rebounds per game (3.1, 98th percentile), third in defensive rebounds per game (6.1, 97th percentile) and tied for 11th in blocks per game. He averages 27.4 points per 40 minutes, ranking in the 99th percentile nationally. He is a beast in the paint, averaging 11.6 paint points per game (99th percentile).

**Sixth Man of the Year: Curtis Jones**, G, Iowa State (16.7 ppg, 4.4 rpg, 2.2 apg, 1.1 spg, 42.5 FG%, 36.8 3P%, 82.9 FT%)

Forget Big 12 Sixth Man of the Year, Jon Rothstein should name Jones the national Sixth Man of the Year on College Hoops Today. Jones would start for nearly every team in the country but comes off the bench for Iowa State. He leads the Cyclones in scoring and averages 22 points per 40 minutes (96th percentile). In his two seasons with the program, he has only started in nine games.

**Coach of the Year: Kelvin Sampson**, Houston

After losing star guard Jamal Shead last season, Sampson has brought the Cougars to back-to-back Big 12 regular season titles. Despite previously playing in a weaker American Athletic Conference (AAC), Houston did not need any time to transition. They are one of three teams on KenPom ranked in the top 10 in both offensive and defensive efficiency. They are on pace to finish the season 19-1 and have already broken Big 12 records. Their only loss in Big 12 play this season came at home to Texas Tech.

SEC

**Player and Defensive Player of the Year: Johni Broome**, F, Auburn (18 ppg, 10.7 rpg, 3.3 apg, 2.4 bpg, 50.4 FG%, 28.6 3P%, 62.3 FT%)

Broome is a no-brainer pick for SEC Player of the Year. He is in a head-to-head battle for national player of the year along with Duke's Cooper Flagg. In his third season at Auburn, Broome has led the Tigers to their best regular season under head coach Bruce Pearl. He is an absolute force in the paint, averaging 11.8 paint points per game. There is not much to say about Broome because he has been raved about all season long. Out of the players that are in contention for national Defensive Player of the Year, Broome holds the highest Hakeem percentage at 10% (94th percentile).

**Freshman of the Year: Tre Johnson**, G, Texas (20.6 ppg, 3.1 rpg, 2.7 apg, 44.8 FG%, 40.3 3P%, 87.6 FT%)

Johnson leads the SEC in scor-

ing and ranks 10th in the country. The future NBA Draft lottery pick has been carrying the Longhorns all season long. His usage percentage (29.6%) ranks in the 97th percentile nationally. While he is not an elite defender, his offense is what makes him stand out as one of the top players in a loaded Southeastern Conference.

**Sixth Man of the Year: Caleb Grill**, G, Missouri (14.4 ppg, 3.8 rpg, 1.1 apg, 1.7 spg, 50 FG%, 42.6 3P%, 85.7 FT%)

Grill was also a no-brainer pick when he brought Missouri back to contention in their conference. He comes off the bench and is a microwave. After only playing nine games during the 2023-24 season, Grill has bounced back with the best season in his six-year collegiate career. He averages 22.7 points per 40 minutes and is effective from everywhere on the floor, with an effective field goal percentage of 65.8% (99th percentile).

**Coach of the Year: Bruce Pearl**, Auburn

The SEC has been amazing with how many coaches could contend for this award. However, Pearl has brought Auburn to maybe the program's best regular season ever. The other two coaches in contention for this award were Florida's Todd Golden and Missouri's Dennis Gates. However, with how much the Tigers lost in the offseason and how high they exceeded expectations, Pearl deserves this award.



LOGO BY SAMANTHA HASS, ARTIST EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

# SOFTBALL: HUSKIES GEAR UP FOR FIRST CONFERENCE MATCHUP VERSUS VILLANOVA

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On Friday, March 7, the UConn softball team will travel to Philadelphia to embark on their first Big East matchup of the season against Villanova. The team will play three games against the Wildcats over the course of three days.

Last weekend, the Huskies traveled to Conway, S.C. for the Chanticleer Showdown, where they went head-to-head with Wisconsin, Bowling Green State and Coastal Carolina. The team played five games and finished with a 3-2 record.

The recent matchups displayed the fierceness of the Huskies, especially senior Rosie Garcia has continued to be a key player for the Huskies. In the first game of the weekend, she extended her hitting streak to six straight games, which unfortunately came to an end in the subsequent game. However, this did not stop her as in the following game she recorded her fourth multi-RBI game this season. Garcia continued into the weekend with another multi-hit game on the second game of Saturday. Her dominance prevailed into Sunday, where she doubled the Huskies lead in the fifth inning by hitting her second home run of the season. Garcia's dominant performance led to her earning the Big East Honor Roll for the second week in a row.

The Wildcats have also just wrapped up non-conference tournaments last weekend at the Hokie Invite at Virginia Tech. Redshirt senior Brooklyn Ostrowski has been an integral player for the Wildcats, earning a spot on the Big East Weekly Honor Roll this past week. The infielder put up a pair of hits to help the team pick up a top 20

win against Virginia Tech. Ostrowski also contributed big to the team's 9-0 win against Robert Morris University, where she totaled a three-hit, two-run game with a double and homer. The New York native also led the team offensively against Penn State in their last game of the weekend, where they fell short 6-1.

The Huskies last matched up against the Wildcats last season in both the regular season and Big East Championship. They played three games over the course of a weekend against the Wildcats late last season. They lost the first game 3-1, they won the second game 5-4 and fell short in the third game 2-4. The team matchup against the Wildcats again in the postseason falling 4-1 leading to their elimination from the Big East Tournament.

The team will hope to redeem themselves in the cat versus dog matchup this weekend. Friday's game will have a first pitch of 3 p.m. with Saturday and Sunday's game having a first pitch of 1 p.m. Husky fans can tune into these Big East foes going head-to-head FloSports.



The UConn softball team versus Sacred Heart University. The Huskies fought hard and were rewarded with a win on Oct. 5, 2024.

PHOTO BY BLAKE SYKES, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS



# DROPPIN' DIMES: BREAKING DOWN POTENTIAL TRADE DESTINATIONS FOR DK METCALF

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DK Metcalf requested a trade from the Seattle Seahawks on Wednesday night, with the two-time Pro Bowler asking for the move in favor of playing for a contender. At 6'4 and 210 pounds, Metcalf's athleticism could be just what some organizations need to push themselves over the hump. I'll be breaking down some potential fits for the 27-year-old wideout.

**Green Bay Packers**  
The Green Bay Packers have a solid assortment of pass catchers in their wide receiver room, but nobody who poses a downfield threat like Metcalf. Jayden Reed led the Packers in receiving yards with 857. Meanwhile, Metcalf has yet to dip below 900 yards in his career, eclipsing 1,000 in three seasons. The Packers are one of the most well rounded and put together teams in football. They are a top ten team in rushing yards, defensive yards allowed and points scored. Their passing attack is one of the few areas where they are not amongst the very best in the league, averaging 223.9 passing yards per game. Jordan Love has emerged as the future of the Packers franchise following Aaron Rodgers. Metcalf would give Love the lead option that he has been waiting for since becoming the starter.

**Los Angeles Chargers**  
It was a disappointing finish for the Los Angeles Chargers this year, as they were bounced in the Wild Card round for the second year in a row. Since drafting Justin Herbert in 2020, Los Angeles has yet to win a

playoff game. Many hoped that the NFL return of Jim Harbaugh would help to rectify the losing culture in Los Angeles. Herbert is widely considered to be one of the most talented quarterbacks in the NFL, but has yet to get the job done when the lights are brightest. Wide receiver Ladd McCunkey made his rookie debut for the Chargers this season, posting 1,149 receiving yards with seven touchdowns. Metcalf being able to dominate on deep balls and McCunkey being so dangerous in the middle of the field, pairing the two would give Los Angeles a whole new dimension to their offense.

**Kansas City Chiefs**  
Whenever a top free agent wide receiver hits the market, the question must be asked, "What would it look like if Patrick Mahomes was throwing to him?" Throughout the year, the Kansas City found themselves in need of better weapons for Mahomes. Mahomes' usual top target, Travis Kelce, finished with his lowest career receiving yards at 823. The midseason acquisition of DeAndre Hopkins provided some spark, but at his older age, it was not enough to revitalize the once feared Chiefs offense. Mahomes hasn't thrown to a receiver with the physical gifts of DK Metcalf since Tyreek Hill was traded in 2022. While Metcalf doesn't have quite the same speed as Hill, he makes up for it with his immense size. Metcalf could bring back the level of dynamism we used to see in Kansas City.

**Dallas Cowboys**  
The Dallas Cowboys need to do something to keep up in the NFC East. The Philadelphia Eagles have separated themselves as the top team in the division



# AVA'S ANGLE: SPRING TRAINING TAKEWAYS FOR THE NEW YORK METS

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With the second-largest payroll in the league and big-time players, the New York Mets have high expectations for this MLB season. Of course, the main goal is to bring a World Series to Queens for the first time since 1986. With the addition of Juan Soto, bringing back Pete Alonso, the team's fortified lineup and their deep pitching staff, New York has a real shot to get it done this season.

Soto is obviously the main topic of discussion after he signed a record-breaking 15-year, \$765 million contract with the team in December, the largest contract in American sports history. In his seven-year career, Soto has had four All-Star appearances, five Silver Sluggers, a batting title in 2020 and a World Series ring in 2019. But Soto is hungry for more; he wants to continue to improve his game and grow to be the best player he could be.

"[I'm] really happy for the career I've been having so far, but really hungry for more," Soto said. "I want more. I want to keep winning. I want to keep feeling the same way I've been feeling since day one."

What makes this Mets team stand out is their team players. Teams that win the World Series have really good players, guys with experience, youth, teamwork mentality and everything else in one. It takes more than one player to win a championship and when you take a look at New York's roster and their farm system, they gave a great chance to go all the way.

Last season, Carlos Mendoza switched up the lineup order multiple times, switching the leadoff spot from Brandon Nimmo to Francisco Lindor, moving around Alonso and rearranging the rest of the position players/

DH. They eventually found a flow that carried them all the way to the NLCS. This squad is willing to do whatever it takes to find their magic, and they have the exact kind of players to do just that.

In his first spring training at-bat with New York, Soto launched a 426-foot homerun off Houston Astros starter Colton Gordon to the left-center wall. Soto brought a sold-out Clover Park crowd to their feet, providing fans with an unforgettable first impression of the newest addition to the Mets.

Another positive take away from the start of the Mets spring training slate has been Clay Holmes. For the first time since he was a rookie in 2018, Holmes is back in a major-league starting pitcher role. With his new team and starting in the circle, Holmes had a lot of excitement going into spring training with the Mets. Holmes has shown effectiveness on the mound with his sweeper, changeup, cutter and four-seam fastball which is an expanded version of his repertoire since the last time he was in a starting position in the majors. Mendoza resonated well with Holmes' changeup and his sinker topped out at 97.8 mph in his first outing with New York. With some of New York's starting pitchers being uncertain with injuries, this is a really optimistic sign.

"I think taking a few miles per hour off and a little bit better movement, [the changeup] might open the door for more outs with the cutter or the four-seam or something coming in to lefties," said Holmes.

Pitchers Brandon Sproat and Blade Tidwell, center fielder Jose Siri and infielder Brett Baty have been delivering for New York so far in spring training games and have been notable on the roster. However, the team have seen some injuries with Luisangel Acuña, Frankie Montas and Sean Ma-

nea. It is easy to assume that the Mets pitching is in crisis mode, but they still seem to be in good shape after seeing some spring standouts in David Peterson, Tylor Megill, Tidwell and Sproat. Many of New York's pitchers have flashed either an increase in velocity, a new weapon in their types of arsenals or a refined command. Their depth is not perfect but as long as their current group keeps putting up numbers, the Mets will be able to make it through the time where their big arms are missing.

On another note, New York drew 7,394 fans to Clover Park for their spring training opener in Port St. Lucie, Fla. Between Soto's debut and Alonso's return to New York, fans have a lot to be excited about and it showed in the crowd. It was the second-largest spring training opening crowd in Mets history, only trailing 2015's opener where starting pitcher Matt Harvey returned to the mound in front of 7,444 fans.

"Winning games. That's all you gotta do," said Soto. "You don't have to talk too much. You just gotta go out there and get the job done."

With spring training in full swing, there are some very positive takeaways coming from this Mets team, from Soto to Alonso, to Lindor and the rest of the squad in Queens. It is officially March and the MLB season will commence this month. All the major league teams are either down with the Grapefruit League in Florida or with the Cactus League in Arizona preparing for the big Opening Day on March 27, and time is ticking until the first pitch.

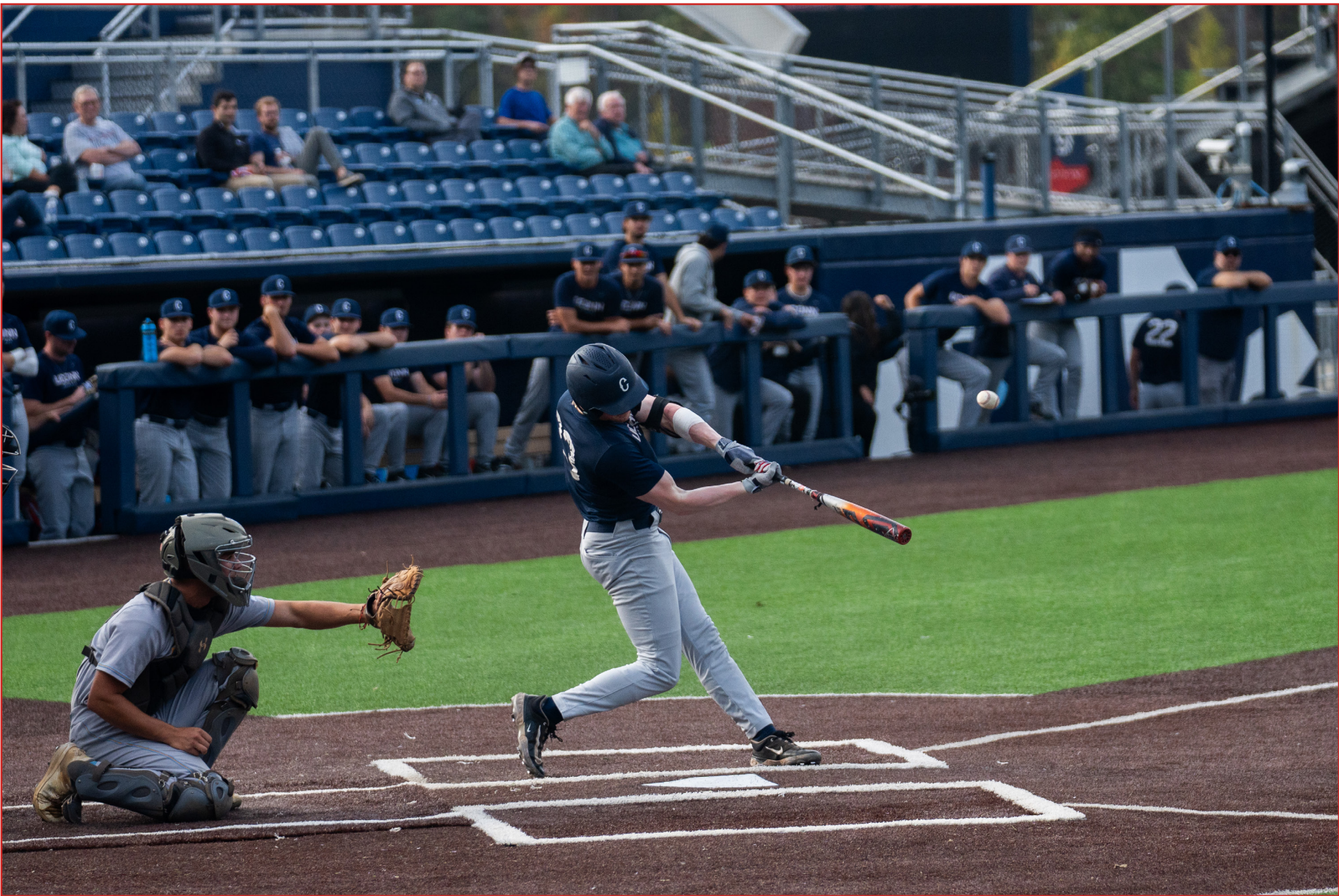






# Sports

## BASEBALL: HOOK C TO TRAVEL TO MIAMI TO TAKE ON THE HURRICANES



The UConn baseball team defeats LIU at home on Oct. 6, 2023. The final score was 9-6 over a 12 inning game. PHOTO BY CONNOR SHARP, PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

by **Avery Becker**  
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After notching a win against the No. 14 Vanderbilt Commodores last Sunday, the UConn baseball team (2-7) will travel to the 305 to take on the Miami Hurricanes (11-3) at Alex Rodriguez Park this weekend. In their 6-2 victory over Vanderbilt, starting pitcher Tommy Ellisen notched a career-high of six innings and five

strikeouts to bring his squad to a victory, in addition to homers from Bryan Padilla, Ryan Daniels and Sam Biller. With the Huskies already despite their 2-7 record, their offense has been on a roll as of late, as they have racked up 62 homeruns so far. These runs have come from their core four hitters: Daniels, Tyler Minnick, Rob Rispoli and Grant MacArthur. All of their batting averages are over the .300 mark. Redshirt freshman Rispoli,

after missing last season due to injury, has six runs and two stolen bases this season. Currently, the New York native is hitting a batting average of .333, notching his first homer of his career against UCLA last weekend. MacArthur, a transfer from San Joaquin Delta, has also been impacting the program immensely. The California native currently leads the squad with a batting average of .424 and eight runs off five walks. Padilla, a Husky veteran, has a career total of 186 hits and

brought and aided his program in their win against Vanderbilt in their fourth inning. In addition, as a graduate student, he has 95 total walks as a Husky and 121 runs. The last time the Huskies faced the Hurricanes was in 1970, and they have two wins over the Huskies in their two-game history. Miami is a historic program in collegiate baseball with their last College World Series win coming in 2016 and they have made the World Series 25 times in total. The Hurri-

canes have a date against Villanova before facing the Huskies this weekend and currently hold 10-3 to kick off their 2025 campaign. It is set to be an exciting matchup in the sunshine state. The first pitch for Friday's game is scheduled for 7 p.m., for Saturday's game it will be scheduled for 6 p.m. and Sunday's first pitch will be scheduled for 1 p.m. Husky fans can tune into these games by streaming them on ACCN+ or listening in on MIXLR.

## MEN'S ICE HOCKEY: HUSKIES DEFEAT VERMONT TO CLOSE OUT REGULAR SEASON

by **Matt Dimech**  
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The No. 8 University of Connecticut men's ice hockey team closed out their regular season with a road win over the University of Vermont on Thursday. This was UConn's (20-10-4, 12-8-4) first time playing in Burlington, Vt. since 2023. The last time the Ice Bus traveled to Gutterson Field House the Huskies came away with a 5-2 victory. These Hockey East rivals faced off back in November this season, when both games from their weekend slate went into overtime. The Catamounts (11-

19-3, 6-15-2) took a 1-0 victory in game one before the Huskies won game two 6-5. Vermont controlled the puck through the opening minutes of the game, putting four shots on the goal while first-year Calum Tung made some key saves to keep the game scoreless. Tung's efforts allowed the Huskies to strike first after second-year Joey Muldowney, UConn's new single season goal leader, scored his 21st goal of the season to take a 1-0 lead, adding on to his historic season. Just a few minutes later, a holding penalty on Duncan Ramsay gave UConn the opportunity to build their lead. Second-year Jake Richard found the back of the net on an assist from first-year Trey Scott

for the power play goal. Richard received the puck at the left circle and fired the one-time shot into the goal to make the game 2-0. The Catamounts slowed UConn's momentum to start the second period, keeping the Huskies out of the offensive zone for the majority of the first 10 minutes. Fifth-year Hudson Schandor got the Huskies rolling again, fielding the loose puck at the point and setting up Richard on a feed in front of the crease. Richard wrapped around in front of the goalie and flicked the puck past the netminder, scoring his second of the game while extending the Huskies lead to three. The Huskies strung together

nearly four minutes of penalties, giving Vermont an extended powerplay advantage. UConn's penalty kill unit thwarted the Catamounts, allowing them to maintain their lead. Tung continued his heroics in front of the net, preventing a Vermont goal by pouncing on a rebound following a near tip in by the Catamounts. The Catamounts finally got on the board with just over four minutes to go in the game. Fourth-year Luca Münzenberger found the loose puck out of the faceoff and managed to sneak a shot past Tung to bring the game within two. Vermont pulled their keeper in the hopes of salvaging the game, but Muldowney managed to get into space with the

puck and heaved a long shot into the empty net to secure the 4-1 victory for UConn. Tung's efforts in goal were a large component in leading the Huskies to victory. He finished the game with 31 saves. The victory clinched the Huskies position of fourth place in the Hockey East standings ahead of the remainder of this weekend's conference play. This was also the third time in the last four seasons that the Huskies finished the year with 20 wins. The Hockey East tournament will kick off next week, with the top five seeds receiving a first-round bye. UConn will host their quarterfinal game on March 11, 2025, at the Toscano Family Ice Forum.