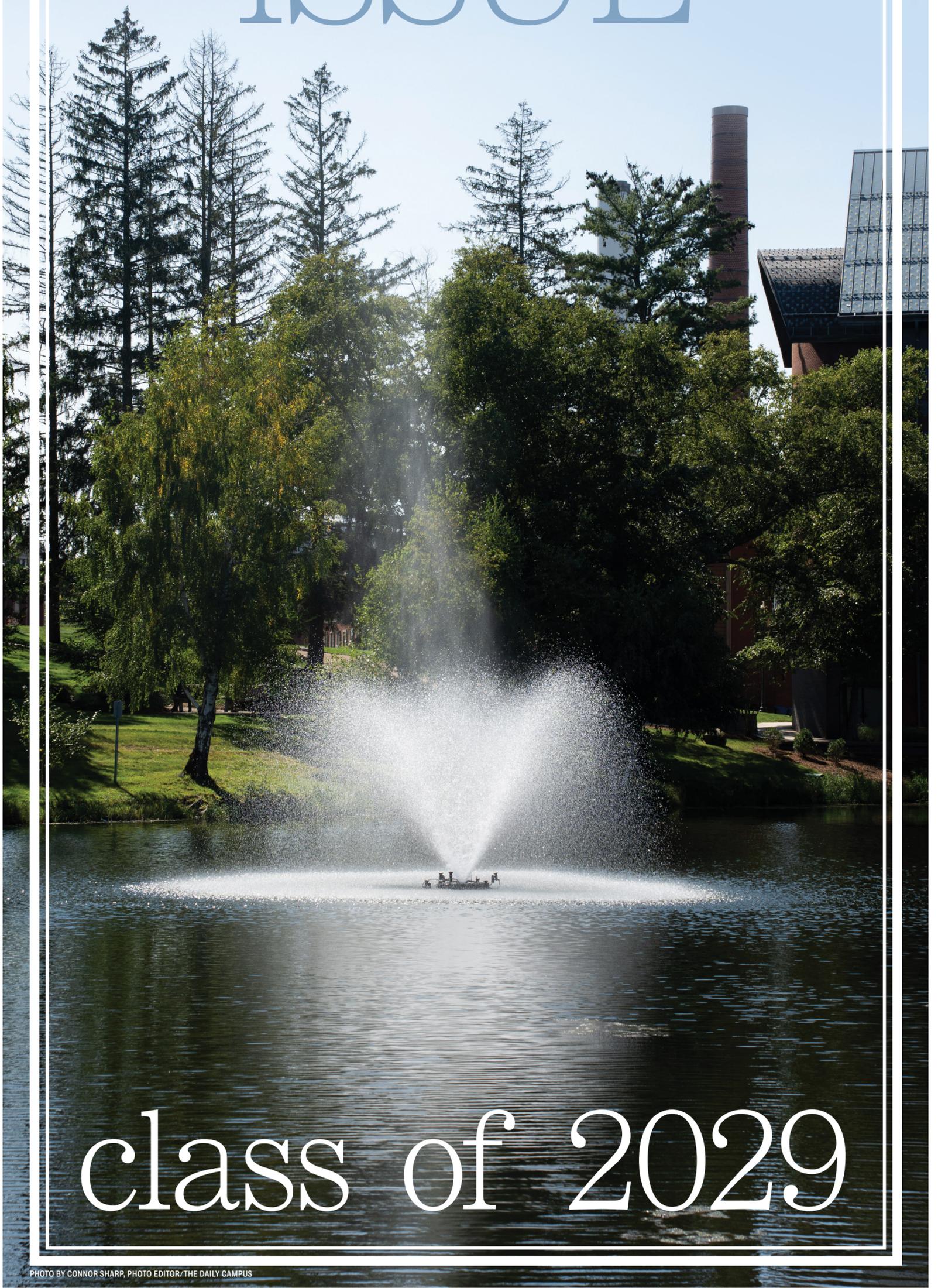


The Daily Campus

THE INDEPENDENT VOICE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT SINCE 1896 • VOLUME CXXIX, NO. 1

Friday, August 22, 2025

FRESHMAN — ISSUE —



class of 2029

PHOTO BY CONNOR SHARP, PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

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WE ARE NOT THE
DAILY DIGEST

News

UConn welcomes record-breaking class of 2029

by Jenna Outcalt
NEWS EDITOR
SHE/HER/HERS
jenna.outcalt@uconn.edu

The University of Connecticut welcomes around 7,500 new students in the 2025-2026 academic year.

According to a UConn Today article, first-year students make up 6,550 of the new students at UConn. There will be 4,715 first-year students at the Storrs campus — setting a record — and 1,850 at UConn's regional campuses.

UConn Stamford also set a record this year with over 980 students enrolled. Hartford will have about 490 students, Waterbury will have about 220 and Avery Point will have about 160.

The class of 2029 comes from over 63,000 applicants, making it the second record-breaking year in a row for the number of UConn applications.

Nathan Fuerst, UConn's vice president for student life and enrollment, said in a UConn Today

article the high enrollment was due to UConn's positive reputation for "high academic quality, strong value, and a positive student experience."

Along with first-year students, about 960 students are transferring to UConn, with roughly 760 coming to Storrs and 200 to regional campuses.

According to UConn Today, all statistics are still preliminary, with the official figures to be calculated on the tenth day of the semester.

About 36% of students in the class of 2029 are first-generation college students, a slight increase from last year's class percentage. The class also includes 167 students who were valedictorians or salutatorians at their high schools. There are 602 new students joining UConn's honors program.

First-year students come from 162 of Connecticut's 169 towns and cities, 41 different states and 81 different countries.

Vern Granger, UConn's director of undergraduate admissions, said the school is thrilled to welcome such a diverse and talented class.

"This class represents our university's commitment to academic excellence and inclusive representation, and we're confident their contributions will strengthen our UConn community for years to come," Granger said.

UConn has undertaken various construction projects in preparation for new and returning students. In addition to repairs and cleaning in the dormitories, there is new flooring in Buckley Hall, multiple units at the Hilltop and Charter Oak apartments, and the Beecher and Vinton buildings in the Towers Quadrangle.

Construction continues on the new School of Nursing building and the Gant Science Complex. Hugh S. Greer Fieldhouse and Wolff-Zackin Natatorium are being transformed into the Bailey Student-Athlete Success Center.

Mirror Lake continues to undergo construction as the dam and spillway are replaced for flood management. UConn also renovated the outdoor activity space by North Campus and the Northwest Quad to create two basketball courts, a walking track, green space and a multi-purpose asphalt space.

The new class will be part of about 25,500 undergraduates at UConn all over the state. In addition to undergraduates, thousands of students are enrolled in UConn's graduate, postgraduate and professional program studies, along with its schools for law, medicine and dental medicine.

"Our colleagues across all of our campuses -- from our faculty and staff to career and academic advisors, housing staff, recreation, student health, the chefs in our dining facilities, and so many other people -- are all prepared to deliver the very best education and experience for our new and returning students," Fuerst said.

UConn Foundation raises over \$144 million in fiscal year 2025

by Pierce Colfer
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR
HE/THEY
pierce.colfer@uconn.edu

The University of Connecticut Foundation announced on Aug. 4 that they successfully raised over \$144 million in fiscal year 2025. This is a \$22 million dollar increase from fiscal year 2024, "marking one of the top fundraising years in its history," according to a UConn Today article.

Of the \$144 million, \$68 million was raised in the last quarter of the fiscal year after the UConn Foundation announced their Because of UConn campaign, a multiyear fundraising campaign that aims to raise \$1.5 billion. With the conclusion of FY25, the campaign has surpassed its halfway point, accumulating over \$757 million.

According to the Because of UConn campaign's website, the campaign is based around four pillars: students first, academic and innovation excellence, health and wellness of people and planet and Husky Pride.

The UConn Foundation received thousands of donations in FY25 and had an alumni engagement rate of 32%. The foundation received multiple large donations in FY25. It received a \$15 million donation from alumni Denis and Britta Nayden to establish the Nayden Center for Academic Excellence, a \$1.5 million bequest to the UConn School of Medicine from Donald and Jean Reeve and a \$1.5 million gift to establish the Morris and Judy Sarna Breaking Bias and Creating Community Program Fund from Judy Sarna.

The UConn Hartford campus received almost \$8 million in donations from both private and corporate donors in FY25, "a significant increase from prior years," according to the UConn Today article. The article also said this will ensure "an accessible and affordable education for UConn students with an emphasis on residential student housing."

The president and CEO of the UConn Foundation, Amy Yancey, talked about the launch of the Because of UConn campaign in the UConn Today article.

"I'm extremely grateful to our Campaign volunteers for leading us to a successful launch and to our donors for their unflinching vision and generosity to UConn and UConn Health through the Because of UConn Campaign this year," Yancey said. "We broke many previous records and have set the stage for an unprecedented year ahead in support of our students, patients, faculty, innovation, and Husky Pride," Yancy said.

Along with the \$144 million raised in FY25, UConn's endowment has grown to \$670 million.

Entering the fiscal year 2026, the Because of UConn campaign has new initiatives prepared with the goal to "set new records and drive lasting progress for UConn students, faculty, and communities across the state and beyond," according to the UConn Today article.

The University of Connecticut campus on a spring day from a birds eye view. UConn was founded in 1881.

FILE PHOTO/THE DAILY CAMPUS



UConn provost to leave position for Binghamton University presidency

by Jenna Outcalt
NEWS EDITOR
SHE/HER/HERS
jenna.outcalt@uconn.edu

University of Connecticut Provost Anne D'Alleva will leave UConn in October to serve as the president of Binghamton University.

In a message from UConn President Radenka Maric, Maric congratulated D'Alleva on the position and commended her service at UConn.

"While we celebrate her accomplishments, it's undeniably hard to see such a remarkable colleague and outstanding leader leave our institution," Maric said. "Throughout her tenure at UConn, Anne's competence, thoughtfulness, and effectiveness have distinguished her leadership, characterized by vision, practical-

ity, tenacity, and the highest degree of collegiality."

D'Alleva started at UConn in 1999 with appointments in art history and women, gender, and sexuality studies. She became the dean of the School of Fine Arts in 2015 and stepped into the roles of provost and executive vice president for academic affairs in 2022. D'Alleva is the first woman to hold the title of provost at UConn.

The State University of New York system's board of trustees met to confirm D'Alleva's appointment on Aug. 19. Her last day at UConn will be Oct. 3 and she will begin her duties at Binghamton on Nov. 1.

In an article from Binghamton's BingUNews, D'Alleva said she was honored to join the school and be a part of the State University of New York system.

"Binghamton has a remarkable

tradition of academic excellence, research innovation and community engagement, and I am inspired by the dedication of its faculty, staff and students," D'Alleva said. "I look forward to working collaboratively with campus and community partners to build research strength, expand opportunities for students, enhance alumni involvement and advance the University's impact in New York, the nation and the world."

Maric's message included praise for D'Alleva's work involving UConn's strategic plans, collaboration with community partners and student success initiatives.

"In her work on student success, Anne advocated for a holistic approach, recognizing the connection between social and emotional wellness and academic achieve-

ment," Maric said.

Pamir Alpay, the current vice president for research, will serve as interim provost until UConn chooses someone to permanently fill the position. Maric expressed appreciation for Alpay stepping into the temporary role.

"With an impressive record of research, scholarship, and grant funding, Pamir's leadership has been crucial in enhancing UConn's reputation as a distinguished research institution," Maric said. "He is well-equipped to work closely with our deans during this transition, which is vital for our continued success."

The nationwide search for a new provost will begin in early 2026, according to Maric's announcement. UConn will be considering both internal and external candidates.

The Daily Campus

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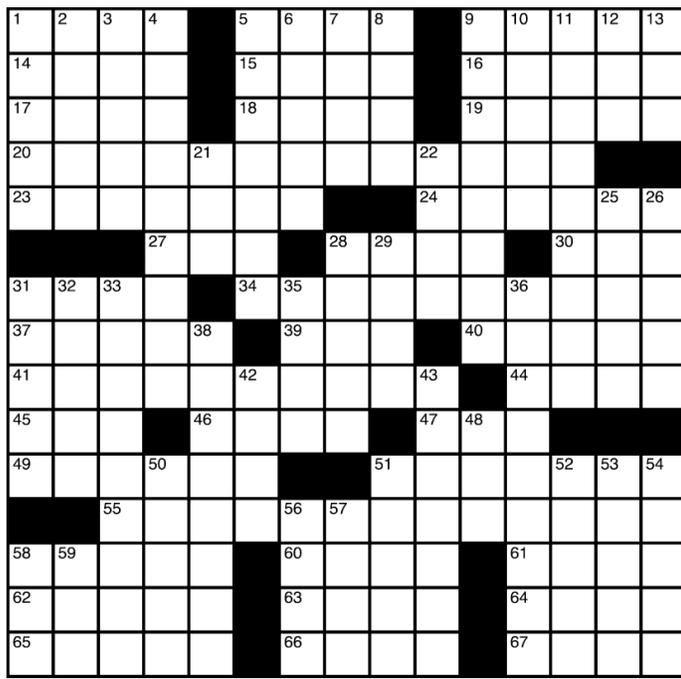
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- ACROSS**
- 1 Signal and Line
 - 5 Is into
 - 9 Espresso or cappuccino, to Italians
 - 14 King's address
 - 15 Lot of land
 - 16 Group calling strikes
 - 17 Heartfelt request
 - 18 Plane section
 - 19 Clichéd
 - 20 Diamonds can cut glass, corundum can scratch most other minerals, et al.?
 - 23 Contented
 - 24 Blanketed
 - 27 Crime lab evidence
 - 28 Some Kellogg grads
 - 30 "Breaking Bad" org.
 - 31 Quadri- doubled
 - 34 Director's guidance to be more affable?
 - 37 Staff leaders
 - 39 Colonial insect
 - 40 Take root
 - 41 Stuffed animals that go viral?
 - 44 Bottom of the barrel stuff
 - 45 Brink
 - 46 Votes of no confidence
 - 47 "The ___ and the Pussycat"
 - 49 Listing agent's field
 - 51 Baja breaks
 - 55 Increase pressure, or an apt title for this puzzle?
 - 58 Fast Amtrak train
 - 60 Euphoric feeling
 - 61 Org. concerned with ergonomics
 - 62 Suddenly took interest
 - 63 Moon goddess
 - 64 Designer Cassini
 - 65 Book maker



By Brian Keller & Katie Hale

8/22/25

- 66 Dr. Frankenstein's assistant
- 67 Tiny bits

- DOWN**
- 1 Pet welfare org.
 - 2 Series opener?
 - 3 Scrub-up stop
 - 4 Leakproof
 - 5 Fixed point in a mobile contract
 - 6 "My thoughts are with you"
 - 7 Calendar page, maybe
 - 8 ___-control
 - 9 Save on spending
 - 10 Singer Baker
 - 11 What one might Bumble into?
 - 12 Cheetah, to Wonder Woman
 - 13 Wrap up
 - 21 Kylo's father
 - 22 Berry in a yogurt bowl
 - 25 Uncanny
 - 26 Consigns to hell
 - 28 Buffing and painting services
 - 29 Tera- finisher

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

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8/22/25

- 31 Shade in the desert
- 32 Orange studder, at Christmas
- 33 Private meeting
- 35 Averse to work
- 36 "Gosh darn it"
- 38 South-facing gardens, maybe
- 42 "Pillowtalk" singer
- 43 "Rumor has it"
- 48 Teeny-tiny
- 50 Humdingers
- 51 Dictation taker
- 52 Physicist Nikola
- 53 Reacted to a laser show, perhaps
- 54 Bambi and others
- 56 Knobbly citrus
- 57 Socket filler
- 58 Egyptian viper
- 59 Token in The Game of Life

— The Daily Campus —

Crossword & Sudoku

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Roundtable:

The essential fall events to attend

Welcome to the University of Connecticut, new Huskies! Fall semester of freshman year is one of the most exciting times in college students' lives, with tons of new experiences abound. There's no shortage of events both on and near campus, so here's some recommendations from the Life section of some essential events to attend this semester.



PHOTO OF FAIRFIELD WAY COURTESY OF @UCONN ON X (FORMERLY TWITTER)

SAM BRODY

ASSOCIATE LIFE EDITOR

It's not UConn without the basketball teams, and you haven't lived the student experience to the fullest if you haven't attended one. I personally prefer the women's game, but both are incredible. The crowd always gets into it, and you get to participate in all the chants and name-calling that people start.

I also recommend checking out the Greek Expo – personally, I've never been, but that's how many students get their first introduction to the world

of Greek Life at UConn. If you're interested in getting a spot in a sorority or fraternity, then that's where I would start.

For something a lot more lowkey, I highly recommend checking out Late Night at the Student Union. Every Friday night, the Union serves wings and beckons students to try their hand at karaoke. I've been plenty of times, and while I've never given karaoke a try, there's always something exciting going on.

DAN STARK

LIFE EDITOR

No freshman's fall semester would be complete without attending one of the many games played by UConn's sports teams. There's truly nothing like feeling the energy of Gampel Pavilion during a men's or women's basketball game while cheering in the student section.

Beyond basketball, the men's and women's soccer teams play their home games right around the corner from Gampel at Morrone Stadium. This intimate venue allows students to watch

the Huskies duke it out on the pitch with a great view no matter where you're sitting.

Beyond athletics, be sure to check out the fall semester involvement fair on Sept. 3 out on Fairfield Way, where many of UConn's clubs and student organizations set up to recruit new members. This is a great opportunity to join clubs that fit your interests or find a new passion to unlock. Be sure to stop by The Daily Campus table to say hi!

BONNIBEL LILITH RAMPERTAB

STAFF WRITER

Besides the obvious club fair on Fairfield Way this semester, I would recommend going to the concerts that WHUS radio, UConn's student-run radio station, hosts that feature local bands and touring indie artists. This also extends to The Dog Pound, which is a local grassroots venue a walk away from campus that supports indie music.

The cultural centers also have a ton of programming.

You don't have to identify with the identities of the cultural centers hosting the event to go to them.

The Benton Museum of Art has events like "First Thursdays" of each month with therapy dogs and a DJ.

Beyond these, UConn has a helpful calendar with events you can go to if you have time to kill at events.uconn.edu. Be sure to check The Daily Digest to find upcoming events as well.

AYYAN TAMJEED

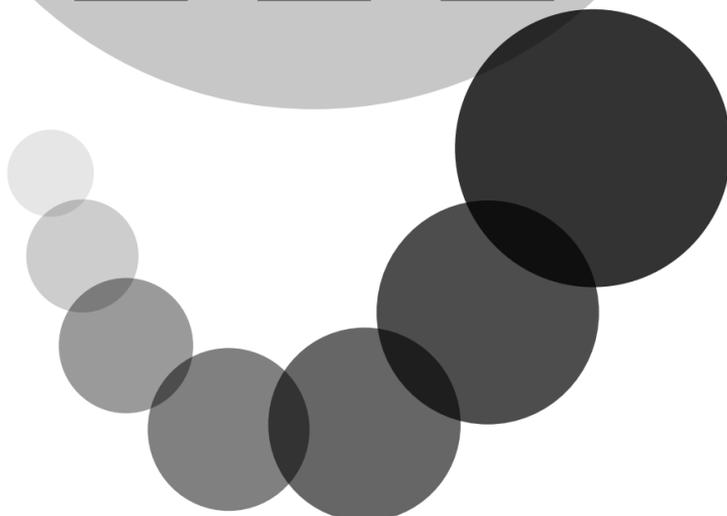
STAFF WRITER

Do you like watching movies? Do you like watching movies in a theater? Do you like watching movies in a theater for free? Then I suggest visiting the weekend film showings at the Student Union Theater.

All movies are completely free for UConn students and their guests. The SUBOG films committee puts on a variety of different movies each weekend from Thursday to Saturday at 8 p.m. Each weekend also has its own themes to accompany

the films screened. It could be about certain franchises, like Deadpool or Sonic, genres like science fiction or comedy or specific directors like Jordan Peele or John Hughes – and these are just the film weekends from last year.

Additionally, there's complimentary candy, popcorn and beverages before every screening if you're feeling peckish (or if you want to bag some free food). So, if you're down to watch some absolute cinema, come on down to the Student Union Theater!



A GUIDE TO THE

STORRS

SCENE



by Dan Stark
LIFE EDITOR
HE/HIM/HIS
daniel.stark@uconn.edu

Welcome to Storrs, Huskies! Though the University of Connecticut may be isolated due to being surrounded by miles of endless forests and cow fields, there's still plenty to do in this little college town. And there's no better experience to check out than the ever-growing Storrs music scene.

Storrs is currently experiencing a renaissance in live music, with an influx of young talent and a higher frequency of shows than ever before. This has led to more and more people going to shows to check out the sounds of Storrs.

But what's so great about these shows? Well, going to see live music is one of the best ways to meet people at UConn. These shows feature a welcoming and positive atmosphere where anybody - regardless of background - can go. I find that music is one of the best conversation starters at shows to meet new people. This can result in friends and acquaintances that can last throughout college. I still run into people all the time on campus who I first met at shows dur-

ing my freshman year.

Live music can be found both on and off campus in Storrs. If you're looking to rock out on campus, look no further than the various shows hosted by WHUS Radio, UConn's student-run radio station. Kicking off WHUS' yearly slate of shows is Sounds of Summer, which features local bands and is held on the Student Union Terrace on a weekday night in September. The other shows the station hosts are the Halloween-themed Mischief After Dark in October, Spring Fling in March or April and the annual Battle of The Bands competition. The best part about these shows? All of them are free for students and only a short walk away from your dorm.

But beyond the confines of UConn's campus, the main medium of live music is house shows. These off-campus venues are exactly as the name sounds: attending a show at somebody's house, typically a basement. For a small cover charge - typically \$5 to \$10 - attendees are treated to bands featuring UConn students, other bands from across Connecticut and even bands from out of state. Going to one of these shows for the first time can be intimidating, especially if

you find yourself in the middle of a growing mosh pit, but house shows provide students an opportunity to get up-close with bands and experience something radically different than anything else on campus.

Any discussion of the Storrs music scene would be incomplete without talking about The Dog Pound. Since opening its doors last August, it has become the primary house show venue in Storrs and one of the most in-demand venues to perform at in Connecticut's underground music scene. Not only does the venue host shows every weekend, but shows also feature themes based on genres or attire, so every night is truly so different than the rest.

There's also a ton of variety in Storrs' music scene right now, with bands covering a variety of rock subgenres. From the bright, melodic indie rock sound of Ruby Leftstep, the aggressive punk of Remedies to the energetic and lively grooves of Tweed Sugar, there's no shortage of styles that can be found here.

If you're a freshman looking for something new this fall, be sure to check out a show and hear the bands that call Storrs home. Catch you in the pit!



People performing their music at The Dog Pound, a local music spot at UConn. There is a wide variety of music that plays here.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF @THEDOGPOUND ON INSTAGRAM

Some **mental health** tips for the class of 2029

by Bonnibel Lilith Rampertab
STAFF WRITER
SHE/HER/HERS
lilith.rampertab@uconn.edu

Congratulations on making it to college, class of 2029! You probably heard this already, but it's important to keep reminding yourself that getting into college is no easy feat, and you should be proud of yourself for getting to this stage of your life.

Your journey of self-discovery will continue here, whether or not you're aware that your journey has even started. These years may fly by at times with all the new experiences you may encounter by putting yourself out there and searching for things that interest you. Other times, the passage of time may slow down, like in a boring class you'd rather skip to rot in bed.

Regardless, it's important to focus on mental health, which everyone, regardless of aspects of identity like ethnicity and gender, has to nurture in order to heal.

I wanted to write a short list of mental health tips as someone who has experienced a lot in the realm of mental health by example as well as academically. This may not apply to all of you, as this is far from a monolith and obviously doesn't replace a mental health professional's expertise. But it could be beneficial to hear a fellow college student's perspective on managing mental health in this simultaneously scary and exciting time so your college experience can be as successful as it can be.

This is a reset from high school

If you're anything like me, high school was like what I imagine hell to be. I was extremely lonely and insecure, trying too hard to fit in like a chameleon.

But college is a different experience.

No longer are you stuck in a singular stuffy building, but now multiple buildings with varying levels of stuffiness, recreational and social spaces to meet new people and nature surrounding you. You can make fresh first impressions and work with different faculty than the ones in high school.

You may have some people at UConn who you knew previously, but this is a pretty big campus, so you'd usually have to go out of your way to see them.

Budget your valuable time: Fit in time for academics, but also self-care and social time

Classes can be incredibly overwhelming, especially with the amount of homework and readings you may need to do. Because of this, it's important to budget your time. Many people use a calendar or assignment tracking app to help manage their time and get their assignments done on time.

But college is much more than just academics: You need to take care of yourself. Take breaks for self-care and to prevent burnout. You need to make time to eat and sleep in between classes and coursework. You might also want to put yourself in social situations occasionally. This could mean going to study in a public space, going to clubs you saw on

UConn or going outside to take a walk.

Prioritize yourself

We can only love others healthily when we can love ourselves. Be patient with yourself; treat yourself with grace and kindness and never forfeit your ability to change for the better. Having a growth mindset is crucial for succeeding in college, because nobody's perfect.

Your grades shouldn't define your self-worth

Maybe high school conditioned you to think this way, but students are much more than just letters and numbers on a screen. Yes, you're in college to succeed academically and establish a career, but there's so much more to life. You're a human being. You also have non-academic aspirations, talents, hobbies, knowledge and/or personalities among other things that deserve to have their own space in your mind.

You will make mistakes, and that's okay

You have to forgive yourself before you can move on from the past. Don't let the past control you; college is about forging a future. Nobody's perfect, but we can only strive to be the best we can for the sake of those around us.

If you never put yourself out there, how can you live your best life?

There have been moments where I tried to put myself out there, but it went horribly wrong due to people getting the wrong ideas. Still, with experience comes education, and I give myself grace to make mistakes and

try to minimize damage.

We can't live in fear of ridicule although it may be optimal to do so. Is that a life worth living?

We should live to experience new things and improve ourselves instead of losing confidence because some people made fun of aspects of your identity or your behaviors.

It may be difficult, but it could be beneficial to go to that event, talk to that person or go to that place (with personal safety in mind). You never know where these experiences will lead you.

For example, I met someone in orientation and kept in contact with her. Now, two years later, we're incredibly close friends and we've helped each other out on numerous occasions.

You are not alone. Help is available.

There are resources on and off-campus that can help you if you're struggling mentally. For a start, consult the back of your

OneCard, which has a QR code for crisis support.

An underrated one beyond Student Health and Wellness that I would like to promote is the cultural centers' pro-staff, who are not mandated reporters. They can direct you to other resources on-campus in a kind and welcoming way or even just have a conversation with you (when they're not in meetings). It's literally their job to talk to, support and advocate for you.

We have all gone through a lot in our education. For the grand majority of us, it was not effortless. It may be hard to "find your place," but it's possible. There's so much going on within ourselves, our community and the world. But regardless, we are strong, and we need to stay confident and resilient in order to blossom and succeed.

I hope you enjoy your time at UConn, class of 2029. Prioritize your mental health.



MENTAL HEALTH AND BAND CLIPART COURTESY OF CREAZILLA



Life

WOW 2025 PROMISES AN EXCITING MOVE-IN WEEKEND

by **Samantha Brody**

ASSOCIATE LIFE EDITOR
SHE/HER/HERS
sab23059@uconn.edu

The University of Connecticut's brand-new class of freshmen will finally be arriving at the Storrs campus on Thursday, Aug. 21 and Friday, Aug. 22, to be greeted with a jam-packed Weekend of Welcome.

Both days have very similar schedules, with minor differences between the two. If you're arriving on Thursday, feel free to check out more events on Friday — and for those who will be moving in on the 22nd, don't worry about missing too much; you'll have experienced most of it anyway.

Breakfast begins on both days at 7 a.m., lasting until 10:45 a.m. All dining halls will be open on Friday, and, if possible, I highly recommend eating at Whitney. Located in East Campus, Whitney Dining Hall is known for its incredible breakfasts. But be warned: the dining hall is cramped and will likely fill up fast. For those arriving on Thursday, you'll be a bit more limited, but you can never go wrong with South Dining Hall.

Students will have the opportunity to move in starting at 9 a.m. and going until 3 p.m. on both days. Welcome Tents will be operating from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Fairfield Way, along with a poster sale until 4 p.m. in the same location. Concierge Tents — which will provide additional information about campus — will be operating from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. outside of the Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts and between the Student Recreation Center and West Campus.

Various activities will be held after dinner on the Founders Green. These include firepits, music, food trucks and a movie, hosted from 7 to 10:30 p.m. The movie for Thursday night will be "Inside Out," followed by "Inside Out 2" the next night.

Students who move in on Thursday will be able to play board games in the Student Union from 8 to 10 p.m. and can watch "Sinners" in the Student Union Theatre, starting at 7:30 p.m.

Friday's move-in will follow the same schedule as Thursday, with extra events available for students who have already moved in. This includes open houses at both the Homer Babidge Library and the Benton Museum, both beginning at noon.

Friday will also feature a scavenger hunt hosted by the Residence Hall Association, known

as the Husky Hunt. By downloading the app Goosechase and using the password Husky2029, students will complete activities scattered around campus to collect points that can be used to earn prizes.

The Husky Hunt will begin at 10 a.m. on Friday, Aug. 22, and will continue until Aug. 25, the first day of classes. Participants can also enjoy a free breakfast from Lizzie's food truck, a long-standing UConn institution and a favorite of the students.

At 7:45 p.m. on Friday, the traditional Torch Lighting Convocation Ceremony will begin on the Student Union Mall. Students are asked to leave their bags in their dorms. This will be the only time the entering class will be gathered as one, according to the Convocation page on the UConn website.

Following the ceremony, outdoor festivities will begin and the Student Union Game Room will open, both at 8:30 p.m. At the same time, doors will open at the Jorgensen Center for a comedy show starting at 9 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday, when returning students begin to move in, promise another exciting lineup of events. This includes various meet and greets, poster sales and a kick-off at the Rec Center at 1 p.m. on Saturday.

The Student Union and Student Union Mall will be hosting a variety of events throughout the weekend, from game rooms to craft nights as well as multiple involvement fairs. The Student Union is also the hub for UConn's cultural centers, each of which will be hosting a welcome event for students.

For those interested in checking out UConn sports, field hockey will be facing off against Northeastern University at the George J. Sherman Family Sports Complex, beginning at 2 p.m. on Saturday. Men's soccer will be facing off against the University of Massachusetts at the Joseph J. Morrone Stadium at Rizza Performance Center the following day, starting at 7:30 p.m.

The Student Union Board of Governors will also be hosting their annual block party on Fairfield Way at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday. SUBOG promises a DJ, food trucks, games and other exciting activities for the night, lasting until 11 p.m.

This year's WOW Weekend is chock-full of events, with the complete list available at huskywow.uconn.edu. As always, UConn will continue to roll out brand new events for the rest of the year, so be sure to check the calendars!



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Daily

Opinion

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

In support of a political life for the new freshman class



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

Aside from all the typical things that people like to say about your freshman year (make sure to get involved on campus, get out of your comfort zone, etc.) — most of which are true, for the record — I want to give one piece of advice that might be considered slightly unorthodox. To do this requires going back to the first ever day of the first ever class I took at the University of Connecticut, which helped shape how I looked at my relationship with the rest of the world.

9:05 a.m. on Monday, Sept. 27, 2023, was the start of my first day in POLS 1407 - Intro to International Relations with Professor Jeremy Pressman, to this day a class I look back on fondly. Although there may be mostly non-political science majors reading this article, I would still recommend everyone to take this class. Now, on that first day of class, after the usual talk of the syllabus, grading scales, exams and all the works, he assigned us a reading called "The Traffic Light" by Katherine Reese.

Simply by the nature of the fact that all of our lives exist in the context of our communities, our institutions and our societies, we invariably impact and our impacted by each other in ways that are political.

This essay's premise was that the average red-yellow-green stoplight actually has a very significant meaning within global politics. As an almost universally understood symbol — this is to say that most people on Earth understand that red means "stop" and green means "go" — the stoplight has transcended language barriers in a way that allows it to control travel anywhere. The same person, whether seeing a stoplight in rural Connecticut or downtown Seoul, will respond (usually) in the same way, the appropriate way to the direction given to them by the color of the light. This has greatly improved the accessibility of international travel,

allowing more people to navigate unfamiliar places without having to relearn some of the rules of the road. And, as a result, it has been wildly important to the growth in international trade, tourism and cultural exchange that occurred during the 20th century, in such a way that the political importance of it can hardly be overstated.

So, to sum up, the stoplight has greatly improved the connectivity of societies in a way rarely seen throughout history, so much so that it has quite literally reshaped international politics in the modern era. All things considered, that makes the stoplight an extremely political subject, which may seem strange to us given that most people don't usually think about them for more than a few seconds per day. This was the point we focused on in class over the next few days, and it's what I think freshman ought to consider coming into their next four years here.

If the stoplight, such a miniscule, unimportant part of our daily lives, actually has such a great importance on a macro-level to the functioning of the global world order, then what else might fall into that category? This article raises the possibility that many aspects of our individual existence are really immensely political and important in ways that we only have to think critically about to understand.

And to be clear, the ways listed above are not the only political aspects of the stoplight. For example, they are powered by electricity, which means that whoever has access to stoplights must also have access to electricity, and vice versa. This raises questions about who has access to electricity, who controls that access and how this creates differences in their ability to move around the world, which are all extremely political questions. They are also subject to governmental implementation, and since governments are the typical battleground of politics, then that means stoplights are political in that sense as well. The list of reasons goes on, and, again, could be applied to so many different parts of our daily lives.

To bring the point home now, it should be clear that this logic extends to the entirety of our lives. Every single part, no mat-

ter how miniscule or seemingly unimportant, is very political. Simply by the nature of the fact that all of our lives exist in the context of our communities, our institutions and our societies, we invariably impact and our impacted by each other in ways that are political.

As freshman enter a new stage here at the University of Connecticut, they will one day be forced to answer for how their life will interact with these questions and more.

Especially college students, who exist within the context of the university — a place in American life that has always been political from its inception as an institution made to uphold societal racism and classism — live extremely political lives. Since most of the students reading are probably UConn students, that grants them an extra political dimension because our education is quite literally a part of our state and federal governments. As such, the way that our governments and their chosen university leaders run this school, what they choose to fund, how they get their money from bombs, guns and genocide, who they let in to this school, what the professors are allowed to teach and research, how much we pay for this school and what we're allowed to say on these school grounds are all political questions that we are subject to in our daily lives as students here.

As freshman enter a new stage here at the University of Connecticut, they will one day be forced to answer for how their life will interact with these questions and more. There will be those who choose to ignore it, and go on imagining themselves independent of it all, while others will not forget. As they go forth, it is my hope that this incoming class will be like the latter and carry well the immense responsibility that comes with understanding how our lives exist within the broader world.

A Letter to the Freshmen

by Karla Perez

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF | SHE/HER/HERS | karla.perez@uconn.edu

Hello and welcome the newest members of our Husky community, the class of 2029! My name is Karla, and I am the editor in chief of the University of Connecticut's student-run newspaper, The Daily Campus.

To say that college is a whirlwind of challenges, emotions and surprises is an understatement. I won't sugarcoat it, my college career started rough, and at the time I had very low expectations of it ever improving. That's when the Life section editors at the time (shoutout Esther and Joanne) pushed me to apply for their roles. Though it wasn't in my initial plans, I said yes, and UConn slowly began morphing into a home away from home.

Getting involved in The Daily Campus was the best thing I could have done for myself. That's the beauty of independence and free will: experimentation. While the idea of endless possibilities is exciting yet also daunting, say yes to everything. Even if you end up hating that club or job or class, you come out of the experience having learned one more thing about yourself.

Even if you're not a writer, The Daily Campus has a space for all sorts of niches. Between the designer, copy editor, digital, writer, editor, artist, photographer, social media and delivery driver roles, you're bound to find a way to contribute to our editorially independent paper aimed at serving you, the students.

My biggest piece of advice? Don't be afraid to do things alone. Had I waited around for a buddy to accompany me to my first Life meeting, I would have missed out on the invaluable opportunities and relationships The Daily Campus has given me. Take the wheel on your personal college experience. It won't always be pretty, but it's better to go through the bad than to leave this campus wondering "what if."

Go to the club meetings; knock on your floor-mate's door; go on the side-quests. While you're at it, take a peek behind Moe's where you'll find our old but beloved Daily Campus building. If you're feeling adventurous, swing by my office on the second floor and say hi.

Believe me when I say these four years will be over before you know it. Live in the moment, don't give up and good luck!

Opinion

Photo of the Day | UConn's student-run newspaper



The Daily Campus, located on the UConn Storrs campus. Founded in 1896, The Daily Campus is the university's student-run newspaper. PHOTO BY GONNOR SHARP, PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Incoming students surely know the relief that comes with the end of the school year, when the stress from homework, waking up early and all the other nuisances of going to school are dissolved. The end of high school is no exception, and I hope that this particularly special summer has been restful and full of wonderful moments for you to enjoy after all your hard work. You've earned it.

After my first year here at UConn, that end-of-year relief came over me more strongly than ever, which made for a swift realization: Plainly stated, I was too stressed out last year. Plagued by irrational fears and chasing visions of who I thought I should be, I spent too much time worrying when I could have been simply exploring instead. I don't want you all to make that same mistake.

The main thing holding me back was being afraid to fail — and not just in my classes. I was somehow always mentally debating the right thing to do, as if there

were only one true path. And so, I felt like I had to build up walls to protect myself from everything that could go wrong.

Deep down, a lot of that stemmed from worrying about the influence other people had

come, and maybe forever, there will be moments when the answer to the question “who am I?” is “I'm not sure.” And that doesn't have to paralyze you.

Don't get me wrong, it's an important question to be asking, and

about the options in front of you — there will be a lot of them, and plenty of people around you will go in opposing directions.

At the same time, you don't have to let those feelings bring you down, and you definitely do not

want to be. The challenge is to stay true to yourself while also letting yourself grow, and while that doesn't always feel easy, here is my best advice: If something seems wrong, listen to that gut feeling, but if something just feels scary, go ahead and take that chance. There is so much to discover in college, but no time to wait around for all the answers to appear. Go forth and find them yourself.

At the end of the day, just make sure to give yourself the grace and time to figure out what you really want. If you already know, don't listen to those who tell you that you should want something else instead. If you don't have everything figured out yet, you don't need to fight the fear; you should embrace it. It's okay, and inevitable, to be in a state of transition, and it's okay to change your mind a hundred times. The freedom to do just that is the beauty of your time here. So, make the most of it and remember to listen to your heart; it knows more than you might think.

Dear Freshmen, don't hold back

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

on me, seeing that I was doing things I had never done before and wondering who I was becoming. I mean, honestly, since when do I listen to Noah Kahan? I've realized, though, that it's unavoidable: In the years to

you should be thoughtful about your actions and the kind of person you are choosing to be. After all, even if there's not one right choice, there are definitely a few wrong ones. I won't lie and say that you'll never feel conflicted

need to feel like you're the only one confused. Everyone is living life for the first time, and no one has all the answers. In truth, being unsure of your way is a gift. If you run with it and let down your guard, you might just figure out who you

Patrick's Politics:

In the era of Trump, education is resistance

by Patrick Minnerly
ASSOCIATE OPINION EDITOR
HE/HIM/HIS
patrick.minnerly@uconn.edu

Going to college may not seem very political. If you're a freshman, you're probably just looking to get a degree and get out. Maybe you already have plans for getting your master's degree afterwards. Unless you plan on being politically active in college, it is entirely conceivable that you will make your way through the next four years without coming into contact with that dirty word: politics. But politics and education are very much intertwined, and brushing past this reality is no longer affordable. In the face of repeated attacks on education from the Donald Trump administration, your learning in itself is resistance to the regime.

The conservative war on higher education is far from new, although it has reached a boiling fever pitch in recent years. For decades, the right has accused colleges of being too liberal. Student activism against the Vietnam War in the 1960s caused many conservatives to rail against universities for letting protests continue, and this through line has continued into the age of Trump.

Trump and the Republican Party have not made any secret of their opposition to universities and education in general. Their philosophy was neatly set out back in

2021, when Vice President JD Vance argued that “universities are the enemy,” calling higher education “a hostile institution.” In 2023, the protests on campuses across the country against the ongoing genocide by Israel in Gaza intensified anger on the right towards universities. During Trump's 2024 campaign, he ranted that colleges had become “dominated by Marxist maniacs and lunatics.” This claim is demonstrably false — although colleges do tend to be more liberal-leaning than the rest of the country, the young people who attend are also naturally more liberal, and higher education often makes people shift to the left. In other words, liberalism in college is more of a natural byproduct than a nefarious domination by left-wing influences. But despite the outlandishness and exaggeration of the verbal attacks, Trump has been willing to go much farther than any previous president in the collegiate culture war, acting extremely aggressively towards higher education and making it an especially dangerous time for universities.

The Trump administration's assault on universities has been carried out in several ways; the first is using financial pressure. At Harvard, for instance, Trump froze more than \$2.2 billion in federal grants and attempted to bar

the school from admitting international students after it refused to fold under government pressure and change its policies around diversity, equity and inclusion.

Although the controversy around Trump's attacks on Harvard and other Ivy League schools made the most headlines, colleges were targeted across the country, including right here at the University of Connecticut. According to statistics from the Center for American Progress, UConn has been marked for a loss of nearly \$18 million in federal grants. These grants, mainly coming from the National Science Foundation and the National Institute of Health, were intended to fund important and ongoing research. If Trump's plan to cut this funding succeeds, vital research efforts will stall and potentially collapse, leaving future progress in the lurch and jeopardizing jobs.

In addition to the monetary warfare, the federal government also revoked the visas of 13 international students at UConn, before eventually restoring them. This followed a countrywide pattern of student visas being revoked, mostly without rhyme or reason, which put many colleges and their students on the back foot.

Trump's insistence on dismantling the Department of Education, a policy which

Ronald Reagan first advocated for and which the conservative Supreme Court recently sanctioned, also stands to negatively affect college students. Since the DOE helps give college-goers federal student loans and aid, obliterating its operations would force these loans to move under the purview of other federal agencies. And with virtually all other federal entities having their own budgets and workforces slashed, the government may not be ready to handle the loans that many college students need to attend their institutions.

Against this hostile backdrop, getting a degree has become much more political. Since Trump has put himself in direct opposition to universities themselves, the new freshmen of colleges everywhere are now in his crosshairs, like it or not. If, as Vance puts it, universities are the enemy, those who attend them are also opponents of the right. If you are a freshman just entering college, I urge you to embrace this identity. As you navigate your classes, remember that one need not do anything political to be a part of politics. As you do your homework, remember that your education is a powerful tool. As you study for your exams, remember that your learning is an act of resistance against Trump.



HOW TO CONQUER WOW WEEKEND: THE SPORTS WAY

by **Avery Becker**
ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR
SHE/HER/HERS
avery.becker@uconn.edu

It's a no-brainer for most that the first weekend of college can be a little daunting. Speaking from experience, I remember when my parents left freshman year after helping me move into my dorm: I felt a pit in my stomach.

However, the best way to acclimatize yourself to your new surroundings is by doing things that you love to do. For me, my version of acclimatization was attending various UConn sporting events throughout the move-in weekend.

Sports are an integral part of being a UConn Husky and what better way to start off your time here than by going to games to support your fellow Husky student athletes!

Lucky for you, during WOW weekend there are games you can attend. Plus, tickets for students are free!

Saturday, Aug. 23 Field Hockey vs. Northeastern (Exhibition)

The UConn field hockey team is set to host an exhibition game

on Saturday, Aug. 23 versus Northeastern. The program is coming off of a first-round exit in the NCAA tournament last year, after falling to the University of Massachusetts, 2-1. The Huskies return to the field locked and loaded for another dominant season, with returners like goalkeeper Natalie McKenna and senior forward Julia Bressler at the helm.

The squad received numerous accolades last season with the coaching staff receiving the National Field Hockey Coaches Association Midwest Region Coaching Staff of the Year award, as well as multiple players competing in the Junior Pan American Games and senior Sol Simone earning a Big East Sport Excellence Award.

This match will be a must-see game during the weekend and will commence at 2 p.m.

Sunday, Aug. 24 Men's Soccer vs. No. 8 UMass

What better way to spend the night before the First Day of Class than by going to a ranked match!

The Huskies are set to have another record-breaking season after being predicted to conclude

the 2025-26 season at fourth in the East Division in the Big East standings.

Last season the Huskies finished up their season with an 8-4-6 record, making their second consecutive Big East tournament appearance under Connecticut's head coach Chris Gbandi.

Returners like Sabri Hanni, Charlie Holmes and Marco Valentic were each major contributors to the squad's offense last season. Each of them etched their names in the list of top five scorers for the program.

To see how the Huskies fare against UMass, pull up to Morone Stadium for a kickoff scheduled for 7 p.m.

With that being said, grab a friend, roommate or your WOW group and head down over to Nancy Stevens Field and Morone Stadium and see all that UConn athletics has to offer!

In addition, it is my pleasure to welcome you all to campus! This is a subtle plug, but if you're interested in sports journalism feel free to pop by our sports section meetings at 7 p.m. on Sundays in the Daily Campus building behind Moe's in Storrs Center.

CLIPART COURTESY OF CREAZILLA

HOMEGROWN HUSKIES:

UCONN ATHLETES FROM THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT

by **Thaddeus Sawyer**
CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT
HE/HIM/HIS
thaddeus.sawyer@uconn.edu

With many Connecticut residents choosing to stay close to home and continue their academic careers at the University of Connecticut, it only makes sense that many of the state's best athletes would choose a similar path. Here are a few players on UConn's fall sports teams that Connecticut natives may already be familiar with.

Cam Edwards (Football), Norwalk

Despite serving as the starting running back on varsity for three years at Norwalk High School, Cam Edwards first came to UConn in 2022 as a defensive back. That did not last long, as he switched back to his natural position midway through his true freshman season. He received only one carry in 2022 but burst onto the scene in 2023 as a red shirt freshman. He led the Huskies in rushing with 618 yards, averaging a strong 5 yards per carry on 123 attempts. 2024 saw him become part of a three headed monster formed by himself and fellow running backs Mel Brown and Durrell Robinson. The trio rushed for a combined 2,234 yards, with Edwards again leading the team in rushing with 873 of those yards. With Robinson departing through the transfer portal for Auburn

University, Edwards is in line to receive an even larger share of the carries in 2025. After being named to the 2024 Doak Walker Award preseason watchlist, an award given out each season to the most outstanding running back in college football, Edwards was once again named to the list for 2025. The redshirt junior will look to capitalize on that potential to help UConn become bowl eligible for the second straight season.

Anna Carson (Soccer), Enfield

After attending Longmeadow High School in Massachusetts, where she earned all-league honors, Anna Carson left New England altogether to begin her collegiate career. The defender attended Penn State for her freshman year, where she saw sparse playing time, but was a member of two All-Big Ten academic teams. Transferring to Bryant for her sophomore season, Carson started 14 of her 15 games played and recorded both her first goal and assist. After one season with Bryant, Carson transferred for a third and final time to UConn and sat out the 2023 season. Carson returned to the field for her senior season in 2024 and has seemingly found a home at UConn. The Enfield native started all of UConn's 29 games at center back in her return to Connecticut. Durability was a key part of Carson's

game, as she led the team with 2,059 minutes played and played every minute of UConn's last 15 games of the season. That ability to remain on the field seems to have been a key part of the team's on-field leadership, as the graduate student has been named a captain for the 2025 season after just one season with the Huskies.

Maggie Carley (Volleyball), Trumbull

Maggie Carley, who attended Trumbull High School, is the sole member of the UConn volleyball team to hail from Connecticut. A four-year member of varsity, Carley served as a varsity captain twice. The setter and defensive specialist finished her high school career with 1,307 career assists. 802 of those assists came in her senior year, a season in which she was an all-state first-team honoree. Since arriving at UConn, Carley has served as a role player for a program that has completely turned around its fortunes during her time on the team. After going 8-22 in 2023, the team posted a dominant 26-8 record in 2024 and secured victories in four out of the five games that Carley played in last season. The rising junior ended her sophomore season with a quality .857 reception percentage and will look to carry that performance into her third season at UConn.

Sports

Photo of the Day |



UConn Swim and Dive takes on Sacred Heart University and Central Connecticut State University on Oct 3, 2024, in Storrs, CT. UConn fans showed up and cheered on the team and watched as they had an impressive performance. PHOTO BY SYDNEY CHANDLER, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

WHY ATTENDING A UCONN MEN'S HOCKEY GAME SHOULD BE ON YOUR BUCKET LIST

by **Gavin Friedman**
CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT
HE/HIM/HIS
gavin.friedman@uconn.edu

Even if you're not a huge sports fan, you're probably well aware of the success of many of UConn's athletic programs. Storrs is fittingly known as the Basketball Capital of the World, with the men's and women's teams holding a combined 18 national championships in the last 30 years. UConn's football team is coming off a successful season with their first bowl game win since 2009. These are arguably the most popular teams to watch among students, but there's one more team that every UConn student should be looking to see.

The UConn men's hockey team, nicknamed the Ice Bus, is coming off their most successful season in program history. In a competitive Hockey East conference featuring college hockey juggernauts such as Boston Col-

lege, Boston University and Maine, the Huskies finished in fourth place in the regular season and second in the conference tournament. Many players put together very impressive seasons, most notably Joey Muldowney who finished with the second most goals scored among all Division I players. The team also took home its first trophy in the Connecticut Ice tournament, a two-day regular season tournament featuring Yale, Quinnipiac, Sacred Heart and UConn.

UConn's successful regular season earned them their first NCAA tournament bid in program history. They had a c o n -

vincing 4-1 win in the first round against Quinnipiac, the 2023 national champions. Their season came to an end one round short of the Frozen Four with a heartbreaking overtime loss to Penn State in the second round. Despite the loss, this historic season will leave a lasting culture in the locker room that will lead to more success in the future.

As we head into a new season of UConn hockey, there is so much to be excited about. The team's three leading goal scorers, Muldowney, Ryan Tattle and Jake Richard, will be re-

turning this season. Goaltender Tyler Muszelik will also be returning for his second season with the Huskies after an impressive 2024-25 season.

Additionally, there's plenty to like about attending a game as a student. UConn plays most of their home games in Storrs at the Toscano Family Ice Forum, which hosted its first games in January 2023. Its modern design makes it the perfect place to watch a game. The seats are pretty full for most games which helps create a great atmosphere, especially during intense parts of a game. One of the best parts about attending a game is hearing "Brass B o -

nanza" when UConn scores, which used to be the goal song for the Hartford Whalers. It's a song that remains closely connected to the Whalers and is still well-known among hockey fans around the country, especially in New England.

The Huskies will also play four home games at the PeoplesBank Arena (formerly the XL Center) in Hartford. These games usually attract larger crowds which makes the game even more exciting. If you don't have a way of getting to Hartford, you can get free round trip bus passes from the Student Union two days before the game.

UConn kicks off their home slate of games on Oct. 17 against Ohio State in Storrs, followed by a second game against the Buckeyes the next day in Hartford. So, grab a friend or two and get to a game at some point this year to see everything UConn hockey has to offer.



The UConn huskies take on Sacred Heart University at the Connecticut Ice Tournament in Fairfield on January 25, 2025. The huskies scored 5 minutes into the game, and secured a 1-0 win, taking home the championship.

PHOTOGRAPH BY EMMA MEIDINGER, ASSOCIATE PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

REDEMPTION TOUR

DAN HURLEY AND THE HUSKIES SEEK CHAMPIONSHIP WIN WITH RELOADED ROSTER

by Tyler Pruneau CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT HE/HIM/HIS tyler.pruneau@uconn.edu

The UConn men's basketball team's opening night will have a different look this year, as the prospect of a third banner drop in a row will not occur.

This raises the question: What's there to look forward to this season?

After falling to the University of Florida Gators, 77-75, in the Round of 32 of the NCAA tournament, head coach Dan Hurley faced roster changes. The program lost eight players from the 2024-2025 team via transferring, exhausting collegiate eligibility and declaring for the 2025 NBA draft. However, during an interview with 60 Minutes in March 2025, the two-time champ revealed that he foresaw this problem.

"50 percent of my roster or more is considering going in the [transfer] portal, if not already know what school they're going to," Hurley said.

NEW ADDITIONS

Braylon Mullins, Freshman, Guard:

The five-star recruit committed to Connecticut on Oct. 23. The 19-year-old McDonald's All-American averaged 22 points, just over five and a half rebounds, nearly three assists and a little under three steals per game within four years at Greenfield Central High School.

Eric Reibe, Freshman, Center:

The German native signed with the Huskies on Oct. 16. The freshman helped secure a silver medal for Germany in the 2025 Fédération Internationale de Basketball (FIBA) U-19 World Cup. The McDonald's All-American accumulated about 15 and a half points, five boards and a little over one and a half assists per clash in nearly 24 minutes.

Jacob Furphy, Freshman, Guard:

Jacob Furphy inked with Connecticut on Nov. 17. The 19-year-old also performed in the U-19 FIBA World Cup, representing Australia. Furphy logged almost 17 points, a little more than four rebounds and nearly two and a half assists per contest.

Jacob Ross, Freshman, Forward:

Jacob Ross, the younger brother of Jayden Ross, committed to UConn on May 8. Before joining the program, the three-star recruit will spend a season at SoCal Academy in Castaic, California.

Silas Demary Jr., Junior, Guard:

Silas Demary Jr. transferred from the University of Georgia Bulldogs to the Huskies on April 3. In the Bulldogs' 2024-2025 campaign, the North Carolina native contributed 13 and a half points, just under four boards and a little more than

three assists per matchup.

Malachi Smith, Redshirt Senior, Guard:

Malachi Smith joined the team on April 14, after spending four years with the University of Dayton Flyers. In the 2024-2025 stretch, the 25-year-old recorded nearly 10 and a half points, slightly under three rebounds and a little more than five assists per outing.

Dwayne Koroma, Redshirt Senior, Forward:

Dwayne Koroma played at Iona University (2020-2021), Salt Lake Community College (2021-2023), the University of Texas at Arlington (2023-2024), Le Moyne College (2024-2025) and now lands with Connecticut. With Le Moyne, Koroma registered 11 and a half points, just over seven boards and two assists per game.

Alec Millender, Redshirt Senior, Guard:

Alec Millender played with the Indiana University Indianapolis Jaguars in the 2024-2025 season, averaging a little over eight points, nearly two rebounds and slightly under four assists per meeting.

Uroš Paunović, Redshirt, Guard:

Uroš Paunović joined the program on Aug. 18, 2025, after balling in Serbia. The 20-year-old saw about 22 minutes, scoring nearly nine points, just under three boards and a little more than two assists per match in the Adriatic League 2.

Rrezon Elezaj, Freshman, Center:

Rrezon Elezaj inked with UConn on Aug. 18, after performing with the Turkey national team program. With Besiktas in the Turkey U-19 League, the 7-foot-1 big man dropped a little more than seven and a half points, just under six rebounds and slightly over one and a half blocks per clash.

KEY DEPARTURES

LIAM MCNEELEY

– NBA draft

HASSAN DIARRA

– Collegiate eligibility

SAMSON JOHNSON

– Collegiate eligibility

AHMAD NOWELL

– Transferred to Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU)

ISAIAH ABRAHAM

– Transferred to Georgetown University

AIDAN MAHANEY

– Transferred to UC Santa Barbara (UCSB)

YOUSOUF SINGARE

– Transferred to High Point University

SOULEYMANE DIABY

– Did not rejoin the team

UPCOMING GAMES

UConn vs. Florida:

UConn fans should circle Dec. 9 on the calendar as a 2025 Round of 32 rematch, featuring the Huskies and Gators, will happen at the Jimmy V Classic at Madison Square Garden. Fans can tune into the battle at 9 p.m. on ESPN.

UConn vs. St John's University:

The rivalry between the two respected head coaches (Hurley and Rick Pitino) is just beginning. Since Pitino joined the Johnnies as the head coach on March 20, 2023, Connecticut traded in-conference play sweeps with the team, owning a 3-2 record between 2023-2025. As St John's continues building talent, seeing these two programs face off will be like watching a movie.

The Huskies travel to the Mohegan Sun Arena for an exhibition match against Boston College on Monday, Oct. 13, at 7 p.m.

The regular season tip-off is scheduled for Nov. 3 versus the New Haven Chargers.



Sports

UCONN WOMEN'S BASKETBALL FOR NEWBIES: COACHES, PLAYERS AND TICKETS

by Jake McCreven
STAFF WRITER
HE/HIM/HIS
jpm23012@uconn.edu

Welcome to campus. It's time that you start enculturating yourself in one of college basketball's most prestigious and tradition-rich programs.

There's a lot to unpack, and I've decided to let you in on a little secret at the end; how to get your hands on Gampel Pavilion student tickets.

I must mention this first and foremost: If you're interested in writing for The Daily Campus' sports section, our first meeting will be this Sunday, Aug. 31 at 7 p.m. in the building behind the Moe's downtown.

First off, the coaches. Head coach Geno Auriemma has been doing this for a little while now — 41 years to be exact. Under his guidance, the program has won 12 national championships, 30 conference titles and over 88% of its games.

He holds the record for the most national titles won by a coach (12), most wins among NCAA basketball coaches, any level (1,250), most NCAA Tournament wins by a coach (137), highest winning percentage among coaches with 10+ years of experience (.883) and is the fastest coach to reach 800, 900, 1,000, 1,100 and 1,200 wins, respectively.

Associate head coach Chris Dailey has coached by his side since 1988. She was inducted into the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame in 2018.

Three assistant coaches, Janelle Elliot, Morgan Valley and Tonya Carдоза

Bueckers is not one of them. Sarah Strong and Azzi Fudd head the list. Strong enters her sophomore season on track to become the program's next all-time great. Fudd, a graduate student, is a sharpshooting wing drawing praise as one of the top players in next year's WNBA draft class.

Junior guard KK Arnold, junior guard Ashlynn Shade and senior center Serah Williams are some of the other names to keep an eye on. A full team breakdown will be published in October detailing every player on the roster.

Now, what you've been waiting for: The ticket claim process.

It's arduous, anxiety-inducing and can control every aspect of your day.

Head over to uconnhuskies.evenue.net/students to see the dates for when home game tickets go on sale. For example, UConn football's ticket claim portal has the dates listed for all six home games and when those tickets go on sale.

Once you pick a game, set a reminder on your phone for 9 p.m. the night the tickets go on sale. Go to the ticket claim website, then you will be

thrown into a queue. Waiting in the

round out the staff.

Secondly, the team.

Listing every UConn women's basketball leg-

end would require a separate article. There are too many names that hold too much weight to explain in a "for newbies" article.

This year's team has a few names to watch — and no, Paige

queue with more devices helps (phone, laptop, tablet, etc.) but you are not guaranteed a ticket even with more than one device in the queue.

The queue will test your patience, but don't exit out or you'll forfeit your spot. Once you get through, you'll have to put the ticket in your cart, go to your cart and check out. Do not leave the ticket in your cart — it will not show up on gameday unless you check out.

PHOTO BY SYDNEY CHANDLER, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

MEN'S BASKETBALL: FLORIDA, ST. JOHN'S HEADLINE MOST EXCITING GAMES ON SCHEDULE THIS YEAR

by Sam Calhoun
STAFF WRITER
HE/HIM/HIS
samuel.calhoun@uconn.edu

Being a student in the Basketball Capital of the World means it is a de facto requirement for you to tune into the basketball teams as they hunt for more championships.

While those games seem far away, with the first exhibition game scheduled for October, excitement has been building since the conclusion of the 2024-25 season.

The UConn men's basketball team will play arguably the most difficult non-conference schedule in the country. Not to mention, the Huskies play in the challenging Big East Conference every year.

Wondering which home games will be the most sought after? Look no further than the list provided below.

Nov. 19 - Arizona

One of the two premier non-conference games on this list includes Arizona happening just before Thanksgiving break. The Wildcats are coming off a trip to the Sweet Sixteen last season, led by All-American guard Caleb Love. In addition to a superstar guard, Arizona had a lottery pick at small forward in Carter Bryant, who is now in the NBA with the San Antonio Spurs. Head coach Tommy Lloyd has a competitive squad this year, headlined by Jaden Bradley and Koa Peat. Even though his playing time is expected to be low, the Wildcats also have Bryce James, LeBron James's son. The Huskies have faced Arizona seven times in the past and hold a 5-2 lead in the series, with the two losses coming in the two most recent meetings. These two perennial powers have battled for spots in the

valuable study time during finals week, but if you have the time to see these two battle it out, I highly recommend you do so. Texas will be quite different from last season. They have a new but familiar head coach in Sean Miller, who has faced the Huskies at Arizona and Xavier. Tre Johnson, their star guard, left after one season to join the Washington Wizards in the NBA. Enter Tramon Mark, who is expected to be the leader of the Longhorns according to Bart Torvik's T-Rank. The Huskies have an 8-3 advantage over Texas.

TBD - St. John's

The UConn-Rick Pitino rivalry has been a lengthy one, dating back to the Hall of Famer's days as the head coach at Providence in the mid-1980s. In his third season at St. John's, Pitino has reloaded a team that swept the Big East championships last season. The Red Storm are loaded, with Zuby Ejiiofor, Dillon Mitchell, Ian Jackson and Bryce Hopkins making up four players that have All-Big East potential. T-Rank has the Red Storm as the No. 8 team in the country as of right now.

TBD - Creighton

UConn and Creighton have been two of the regulars at the top of the Big East standings this decade. Despite losing Ryan Kalkbrenner and Jamiya Neal, the Bluejays look sharp with sophomore forward Jackson McAndrew looking to take over for the four-time Big East Defensive Player of the Year. Ranked 23rd on T-Rank, the Bluejays are only behind St. John's and UConn out of the 11 Big East teams.

TBD - Villanova

Villanova is arguably UConn's biggest rival, with Syracuse no longer a regular opponent on the schedule. Like Tex-

Final Four and even during early-season

tournament. Dec. 12 - Texas

UConn traveled to face Texas last season, and the Longhorns will return the favor this season in mid-December. I am not encouraging anyone to skip

as, the Wildcats will have a different but familiar look this season. Former Seton Hall head coach Kevin Willard returns to the Big East after coaching at Maryland from 2022 to 2025. Villanova will miss Eric Dixon, the reigning NCAA scoring champion, but Tyler Perkins, Devin Askew and Acaden Lewis show some promise.

TBD - Marquette The UConn-Marquette rivalry has never been as strong as it has been in the past few years. With Tyler Kolek and Kam Jones leading the Golden Eagles, Marquette was right up there with Connecticut as one of the best teams in the conference. But both of those guards are gone now, with Chase Ross expected to step into a massive role.

PHOTO BY CONNOR SHARP, PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

