

Right-wing media group submits FOIA requests to UConn, state colleges



The Dodd Center for Human Rights on Sept. 19, 2024. This building houses a collection of artifacts and objects that are important to UConn's history.

PHOTOGRAPH BY CONNOR SHARP, PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

by Patrick Boots
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The University of Connecticut and other colleges in the state recently received records requests from a webring called Metric Media. The requests ask for copies of every current course syllabus, plus relevant metadata, and enrollment information on “Chinese nationals.”

“Please share any documents or lists that show all current students who are Chinese nationals and which department of study they are in... [and] the amount of each scholarship they receive,” their request, attributed to one Jules Goonewardena, said in part.

The requests were made under the Freedom of Information Act laws, which give the public the right to request records from the government at both the federal and state levels. Since the UConn system (and most public colleges) is a state agency, it’s obligated to provide

requested records with some limited exceptions.

“In some cases, [certain] documents can be disclosed following redaction of the information that is confidential,” UConn’s general public records guidelines state. Similar FOIA requests for syllabi and choice demographics have been made by the group at hundreds of institutions nationwide.

Metric Media claims to operate over 1,300 online news sites across the U.S., each with the same mission to “shine a spotlight on the voices of our neighborhoods.” In Connecticut, they’re behind such names as the “Hartford Reporter,” “Naugatuck Times” and “Constitution State News.”

Their sites publish “auto-generated data stories, interviews with local residents, and in-depth reports,” according to the Metric Media webpage. They don’t provide any information about a local news operation, such as a local newsroom or a listing of reporters. Goonewardena’s

name appears on FOIA requests for a variety of topics on behalf of Metric, many of which ask schools for information about “Chinese nationals.” On LinkedIn, he’s listed as a “data manager” for Local Labs LLC, a shell company of Metric Media.

In the past, the company’s sites and subsidiaries have been known to falsify bylines and reporting. Some of their fake content was syndicated as “advertorial” content by larger publishers, according to reporting from Nieman Lab.

“We don’t feel compelled to put their names on the website, because when our reporters put their names on a website, people attack them... Crazy left-wing lunatics try to attack them and call their parents and harass them,” said Metric owner and co-founder Brian Timpone, in an interview with the Murray State News of Murray State University in Kentucky, who received identical requests.

Timpone is reportedly a former television political

reporter from Illinois.

The group announced the requests to UConn and Central Connecticut State University with boilerplate posts specifying that they were made on behalf of the “Coalition Opposing Governmental Secrecy,” one of many companies founded and operated by Timpone. The announcement describes the coalition as a non-profit organization “dedicated to investigating state and federal governmental agencies.”

“We want to know what colleges are teaching these days to our young people,” explained Timpone. “We want to know if [state-funded colleges] are actually teaching, or if they’re trying to propagandize you with nonsense.”

Timpone said that he’s concerned that topics such as “gay” and “trans history” were being taught at public colleges, calling them “absurd.” Metric Media’s output is directly linked to right-wing conservative politics, according to the Columbia Journalism Review, NPR and The New York Times.

When asked, Timpone said that his concern at colleges is Chinese students “spying” for the Chinese government, the Murray State interview revealed.

“Chinese students are all obliged to be loyal to the CCP [Chinese Communist Party], so there’s that,” Timpone said. “We are interested in all foreign students, but Chinese ones here to spy on the U.S. are of particular interest.”

Their report said Murray State University complied with the request, but other school’s state laws have blocked it.

The UConn public records office has not yet processed Metric Media’s requests but has received them. The Connecticut state FOIA laws prohibit the release of “personal information including names and addresses of students enrolled in any school,” so it is unlikely Metric’s specific request as worded will be honored.

For more information about public records and the FOIA at UConn, visit publicrecords.uconn.edu.

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Watch and discuss movies at film appreciation club!



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Uconn women’s team plays Quinnipiac in exhibition.

WE ARE NOT THE DAILY DIGEST

News

CT and RI file to block offshore wind stop order

by Jenna Outcalt
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Connecticut Attorney General William Tong filed for a preliminary injunction to block President Donald Trump's stop order against offshore wind farm Revolution Wind, according to a press release from the attorney general's office.

Tong filed the motion on Wednesday, Sept. 17, in conjunction with Rhode Island Attorney General Peter Neronha. Tong and Neronha had filed the initial lawsuit to overturn the stop work order on Sept. 4.

"In the face of an exhaustive record showing that the Project has been vetted through every layer of the federal and state regulatory process, and despite the States' and others' deep reliance interests, the federal government has arbitrarily reversed course and issued a Stop Work Order without explanation," the motion read.

Construction on Revolution Wind began in 2023. It was slated to provide power to "more than 350,000 homes across Rhode Island and Connecticut," according to Orsted, the company in charge of the project.

According to the motion, Revolution Wind "is now 80% complete and supposed to provide power to Rhode Island and Connecticut consumers next year."

Tong said getting the project back on track would help Connecticut families and workers.

"Every day that Revolution Wind sits mothballed in the ocean is another day of unemployment, another day of unaffordable energy costs, and another day burning fossil fuels when clean, affordable, American-made energy is within our sights," Tong said in the press release. "We're asking the court to step in right now, to recognize the irreparable and immediate harm we are suffering, and to stop the Trump Administration's impulsive and lawless overreach."

The motion also references Connecticut's and Rhode Island's environmental goals that Revolution Wind was meant to help achieve.

"Both Rhode Island and Connecticut have time-sensitive statutory mandates for greenhouse gas reductions and renewable power



Wind turbines in a field. Revolution Wind was anticipated to provide power to "more than 350,000 homes across Rhode Island and Connecticut," according to the company in charge of the project. PHOTO COURTESY OF CREATIVE COMMONS

that must be met," the motion states. "Revolution Wind represents a sizable contribution to these state policy mandates and there is no currently available alternative that would allow each State to meet their policy objectives."

The Trump Administration issued the stop work order on Aug. 22. It said work should halt "to allow time for it to address concerns that have arisen during the review that the Department is undertaking."

"You may not resume activities until BOEM informs you that BOEM has completed its necessary review. If you fail to comply with the terms of this order, BOEM may take additional corrective action as appropriate," the order states.

It cites a Jan. 20 memorandum from the White House withdrawing federal ocean area from consideration for wind power leases. The memorandum says it "does not apply to leasing related to any other purposes such as, but not limited to, oil, gas, minerals, and environmental conservation."

It also claims it does not affect the rights of existing leases in federally owned areas.

"With respect to such existing leases, the Secretary of the Interior, in consultation with the Attorney General as needed, shall conduct a comprehensive review of the ecological, economic, and environmental necessity of terminating or amending any existing wind energy leases, identifying any legal

bases for such removal, and submit a report with recommendations to the President, through the Assistant to the President for Economic Policy," the memorandum states.

The motion to block the stop order claims the stop order does not identify any legal bases to halt construction, but instead only references

"concerns" that have arisen during the review of the lease.

"The Order does not indicate what those concerns are or explain how they justify indefinitely halting a Project that BOEM has already extensively reviewed, with the outcome of that review being final approval in all respects," the motion says.

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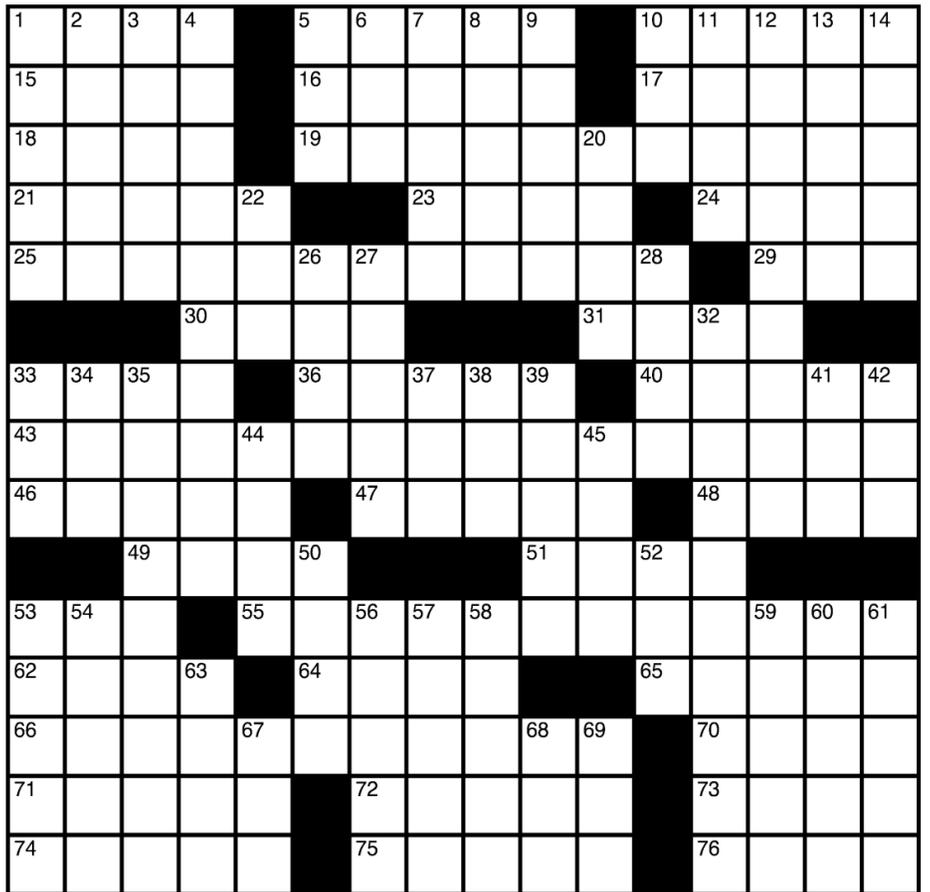
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 - 55 *Ciabatta Chihuahua or pumpernickel Pomeranian?
 - 62 Actor Idris
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 - 65 ID on a map
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By Zhou Zhang

9/19/25

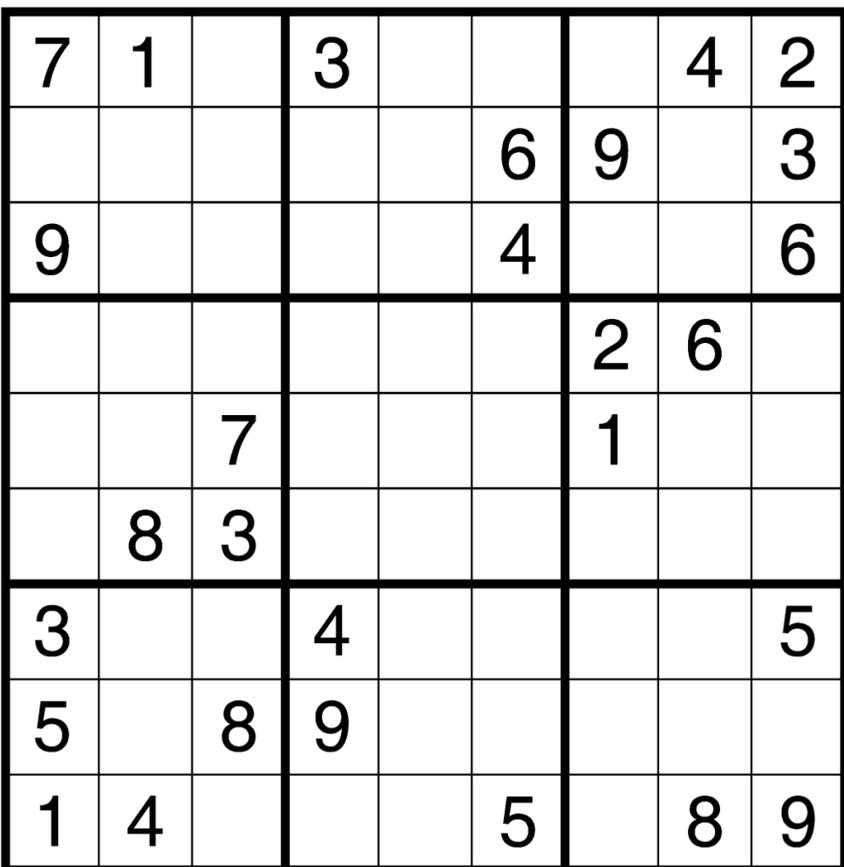
Thursday's Puzzle Solved



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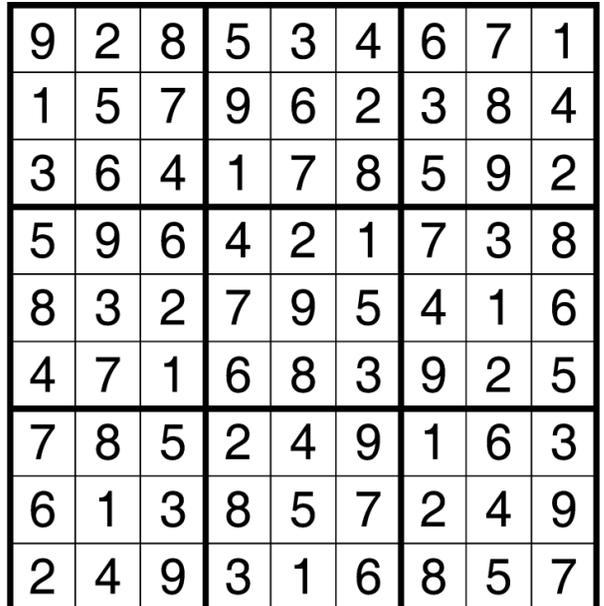
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- 41 PreCheck org.
- 42 GRE org.
- 44 "Stat!"
- 45 Inheritance factor
- 50 Rock's Jethro ___
- 52 ___ chi
- 53 Louisiana's state nut
- 54 Overjoy
- 56 Hilarious folks
- 57 Username, often
- 58 More than anything
- 59 Naturalist Attenborough
- 60 Family, in Hawaiian
- 61 Gym chain that began in Venice Beach
- 63 Be next to
- 67 Special ___
- 68 Fish that swims by generating waves
- 69 Not sweet



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Solution to Thursday's puzzle



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Life

Watch and discuss movies with the FILM APPRECIATION CLUB

by **Pierce Colfer**
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Do you love movies? Would you say that you maybe even appreciate film? Then the Film Appreciation Club might be the place for you.

The Film Appreciation Club is “the number one destination for cinephiles at UConn,” according to the club’s UConn contact page. The club holds two movie screenings a week and has a club meeting every Friday from 5 to 6 p.m. in Rowe 320 to discuss the movies from that week.

The club is helmed by their president, third-semester economics major Anderson Ventura.

Ventura says that “at its core, the Film Appreciation Club is like a book club, but for movies.”

“Each week we get together, watch a movie, and then talk about the movie before picking the film for next week,” Ventura said. “We also screen a bonus movie each Sunday.”

The club’s two screenings occur on Mondays and Sundays. The Monday screening shows a movie that was picked collectively by members of the club in the previous week, while the Sunday screening shows a movie that was picked by the club’s executive board.

The location and times of the weekly screenings vary. Updates on where and when the screenings are held are announced on the club’s Instagram, @uconnfilmappreciation.

On Fridays, the club holds a discussion about the Monday movie, where members have the opportunity to share their thoughts. Whether someone loved it, hated it or felt completely indifferent to it, all opinions on the movie are encouraged to be shared.

The Friday meetings are also where the club picks out the movie

for the following Monday screening. The club’s executive board chooses a weekly theme, and members pitch movies that fall into those categories. Once all movies have been pitched, five movies are chosen at random, and the club votes on which movie to watch the following week.

According to Ventura, some themes that are “beloved staples” are “LGBTQ, women directors and horror around Halloween.”

Ventura encourages anyone to come, regardless of their film knowledge.

“I encourage all to come to film club,” Ventura said. “You do not need to be a film buff at all. All you need to be is a fan of stories, art-work and human creativity to enjoy it. Helps to have an open mind, of course, as discovery is a big thing with us, but I think there is a movie out there for everyone.”

The first Monday screening of the semester was held on Sept. 8, where the club watched “Better Days,” a 2019 romance movie created by Hong Kong director Derek Tsang. The movie follows a high school girl struggling with bullying and preparing for her college entrance exams whose life changes when she meets a homeless boy who vows to protect her.

At the discussion for “Better Days,” many different opinions were aired. There was a mix of feelings about the movie from attendees, ranging from people hating the movie to people loving it. Aspects of the movie were praised, such as the cinematography and the performances, but some people disliked how convoluted the story was.

Third-semester English major Lily Banks was one person who “was not really a fan of the film overall.”

“I thought that the first half of it was promising, but it lost me at the second half,” Banks said. “I also

thought that the movie got mixed up in way too many plots and made messy decisions, which made the film drag. The lighting and camera work was gorgeous, however.”

Banks talked about how an aspect of the Film Appreciation Club that she enjoys is when people disagree during the discussions.

“It’s always so interesting to hear people’s different perspectives on films, and their individual input,” Banks said. “My favorite memories from film club is when a film has been divisive and I get to hear the differing opinions of the members. We’re also not afraid to get a little silly during our discussions, so it’s always a blast.”

Third-semester English and psychology major Juli Pickett had more positive feelings about the movie, describing it as “alright,” but they also had some issues.

“[The movie’s] narrative is quite disjointed and I think... that it was attempting to do far too much,” Pickett said. “Better Days’ largely devolves into a hair-brained cop drama in the last good third of the film, but it looks frustratingly amazing for the confused way it goes about its subjects... I think it’s a net positive, but it’s by no means a masterpiece.”

Pickett first got involved with the club during their freshman year, when they “needed something to do outside of class besides mess around with friends and rot.”

“It’s gotten me friends, curated a lot of my current opinions on film in general and been something that gets me out of the regular rigmarole of my actual classes,” Pickett said. “Even though discussions are often semi-academic in nature, they can also devolve/evolve into happy mayhem, which I really enjoy helping to create and contribute to.”

After the discussion, the meeting turned to choosing the club’s next movie to watch. The theme for

FILM APPRECIATION CLUB

FILM FRIDAY: BETTER DAYS



TODAY AT ROWE 320 (5-6)

WE WILL BE ENGAGING IN DISCUSSION ABOUT BETTER DAYS. LOVE IT, HATE IT, GLAZE IT, BRING WHATEVER YOUR OPINION IS AND MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD!!!

THEME FOR VOTE, 2000s

A flyer for the UConn Film Appreciation Club’s Friday meeting. At the specific meeting, they planned on speaking about the film ‘Better Days.’

PHOTO COURTESY OF @UCONNFILMAPPRECIATION ON INSTAGRAM

the movie was “films released in the 2000s.”

The five movies that were randomly chosen were “Amélie,” “American Psycho,” “Miami Vice,” “Ocean’s 11” and “The Piano Teacher.” After “Amélie” and “Ocean’s 11” tied the vote, a re-vote was had which saw “Amélie” chosen as the club’s next movie.

People’s thoughts on “Amélie” will be shared tonight at the club’s discussion. Club members will also choose the movie that will be screened on Sept. 22; the theme for this week is “Iranian cinema.”

The Sept. 21 Sunday screening

will be “Tori and Lokita,” a French movie that follows a young woman and a boy as they struggle with their move from Africa to Belgium.

“I think there is a lot to gain from spending a few hours with your friends to just engage in receiving and talking about a story that you guys saw,” Ventura said. “I find the hobby to be incredibly fulfilling. Films are so vast and so beautiful and imbued with so much personality, and I think that giving your time to the silver screen to learn, to be amused, to sob and to understand others through art is a good thing.”

UCHI Fellow’s Talk: How to be Funny and Incite Anti Colonial Sentiment at the Same Time

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Could a silly cartoon serve as anti-colonial resistance and community building in 19th and 20th century South Asia? On Wednesday, Sept. 17, doctoral researcher Ashmita Mukherjee argued that a satirical magazine could do just that in another of UConn Humanities Institute’s (UCHI) Fellow’s Talk.

Mukherjee is a doctoral researcher in Comparative Literature at UConn. She also hosts the ‘Anti-Library’ podcast with her partner on YouTube. The podcast is about texts that aren’t well-known — it’s not her avenue to smack talk libraries. Mukherjee presented her dissertation on the day of the Fellow’s Talk, titled “Textual Pleasures: Amusement and Affect in Post/Colonial India (1850-1950).”

Afterwards, Peter Con-

stantine would provide a response to Mukherjee’s talk. Constantine is the Director of the Literary Translation Program at UConn. His translations, including works by Tolstoy, Gogol, and Voltaire, have been published by Random House.

Mukherjee first introduced some key concepts for her talk. She told us she was using Affect and Rasa theory to describe the emotional effect texts and art can have on individuals and the group.

This talk also went into how literary humor can be used as a tool for fostering a community space and for criticizing colonialism. She said the main impact these texts had was creating “light-hearted pleasure” when one read them. These texts were created to make their reader laugh, if for just a fleeting moment.

Next, Mukherjee went into the key theories driving her argument. The first was that

emotion was more than just an individual feeling, as it can be experienced by a group and one’s emotions can be culturally political. The other was Rasa theory, an Indian classical performance theory that sought to record how texts affected South Asians on a physiological level.

Mukherjee introduced different types of texts and how they could have impacted their audiences. Firstly, there were editorial satires in Bengali and Hindi, whose magazine covers would include the jester Vidushaka of Hindu mythology scheming something up. Mukherjee argued that these satires and Vidushaka were vehicles for authors to critique British imperialism, highlighted by the anonymity of the writers who did so.

Science fiction was another avenue for writers to combat Western ideals. These texts would critique Western ideas of science or try to relate it

in a way that’s approachable for a South Asian audience. The concept of play is a recurring trope in this kind of literature, which helped create a sense of wonder for the reader, or “Adbhuta rasa,” according to Mukherjee.

Thirdly, you have the world of pedagogy and children’s literature. Writers used funny stories and rhymes to counter the effects of the British curriculum on South Asian schoolchildren. Along with instilling ideas of pride and imperial resistance in 8-year-olds, these texts created a sense of joy in these children, or “Balya rasa.”

Lastly, Mukherjee delved into the use of satirical sketches and humorous essays. These ranged from pleasant essays to biting social observations — mostly on topical concerns — created to polarize its readers. Mukherjee described these satires as “imperfect but informative.” Despite parallels with Western forms of satire, this genre eventually created its own national identity.

Mukherjee concluded her talk by summarizing how amusement affects a population, arguing that it’s a force for dissent and community building that can be found across many cultures and historical periods. She hopes to study this idea in other mediums such as dance, art and sports to see how people derive amusement from each medium.

Peter Constantine provided a short response to Mukherjee’s talk before beginning a Q&A session. He talked about his and Mukherjee’s prolific translation efforts of Indian languages. Constantine also shared a witty quote by Mukherjee about India’s strenuous relationship with

the English language. Quoting Mukherjee, he said “If all the Indian languages had to sit down with English, they would say ‘we have to talk.’”

During the Q&A session, one person asked Mukherjee who the general audience is for these texts. Mukherjee answered by citing three different groups who’d be amused by these texts. There would be Anglo-Indians, satirically called ‘babu’ by Brits and Indians alike during colonial India. People who were literate in different languages, such as one who is fluent in Bengali but not Hindi, and the working class, as some of these text were cheaply printed, copied and handed out on the road.

Another person asked why the British Colonialists censored so much texts. Was it because they couldn’t get the joke? Even if they did, would the humor of the original text be lost through translation? Mukherjee argued that it’s difficult to translate jokes across language barriers. Jokes may be language specific or only relevant to a group of people. Patrick Le Febvre is a first-semester student double majoring in human rights and political science, with a minor in history. He was drawn to this event because of his experience with Indian culture, saying “I’m immersed in the [Indian] culture, and I really care about learning more about it and becoming more engulfed with it.”

“It was a really interesting approach to resistance and history, it’s very eye opening to approach oppression in the form of community building through the use of humor and how humor can project a group forward to overcome that oppression,” he said.



Ashmita Mukherjee presenting at a UCHI Fellow’s Talk. The event was held on Sept. 17 where Mukherjee discussed how emotion and satire affects different audiences.

PHOTO BY COLIN MITCHELL, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

THE MODERN MONSTER: The Last Mothers and Daughters Left on Earth

Throughout the history of slashers and monster movies, one prominent horror trope has stood above the rest as the most famous and most prominent in all of horror media: the blood-splattered, machete-wielding final girl.

Hello, and welcome back to The Modern Monster, a biweekly column focused on the scariest ideas in both fiction and fact. For today's Freaky Friday, we're looking at one of horror's best-known tropes.

The role of the final girl is simple: she survives the story. Final

“Final girls are prevalent in all sorts of stories, but specifically in horror movies that feature large amounts of violence.

If people aren't dying throughout the film, we can't have a final girl.”

girls are prevalent in all sorts of stories, but specifically in horror movies that feature large amounts of violence. If people aren't dying throughout the film, we can't have a final girl.

As the trope went on and solidified in the public consciousness, the final girl began to take on more traits. She's often presented as the main character of the story, with a moral compass that stands apart from the rest of the characters in the film. The characters that died often do so at the hands of their own character flaws, but the final girl is too pure to fall. Typically, the final girl is a virgin who refuses to drink or smoke or engage in any other vice, which other characters gravitate towards.

As horror modernized, more power was granted to the final girl. The heroines of 1996's "Scream," Sidney Prescott and Gale Weathers, are the ones to ultimately put an end to the movie's bloodthirsty villains, while the male heroes are conveniently put out of commission for the final fight. The final girl is not only the movie's survivor but also its winner.

As the final girl trope matured, it became something like a joke amongst horror movies. The genre is well-known for its meta commentary, and nothing is more meta than a joke about your own film.

2015's "The Final Girls" is a refreshing take on the topic at hand. Max Cartwright, played by Taissa Farmiga, finds herself and her friends trapped inside an '80s horror movie that her deceased mother once acted in. The standard horror movie plot takes a backseat to the drama unfolding between Max and the movie character Nancy, who was played by her mother Amanda in the 1980s. Amanda / Nancy is played by Malin Akerman.

The horror movie Max is trapped inside in, titled "Camp Bloodbath," has a final girl in the overly badass Paula, played by Chloe Bridges. But when Paula dies, Max is forced to take over the role of final girl with the goal of ensuring Nancy makes it out of the story alive, unlike the real-life Amanda Cartwright. Max is later stabbed by Billy, the movie's villain (played by Daniel Norris) and reveals to Nancy that, in some form or another, she is her daughter. Nancy ultimately sacrifices herself to cement Max's place as the movie's final girl.

"The Final Girls" is my all-time favorite meta-horror film. For many years, horror movie buffs have spent their time analyzing a movie's final girl. From "Halloween's" Laurie Strode to "Alien's" Ellen Ripley, there must be a woman who somehow fits the category required to survive.

The beauty of "The Final Girls" is that the final girl chooses her status as the movie's survivor. The characters of the film are aware of the requirements needed for the film to have a final girl and actively follow the guidelines set to make it happen. The painful twist at the end of the film is that, at the end of it all, Max doesn't want to survive. She wants it to be Nancy.

In the original script of "Camp Bloodbath," Nancy dies after losing her virginity, a typical red flag for any girls who hope to survive a horror movie. But when Max promises Nancy a better life outside the screen, Nancy does her best to make it out.

In my mind, Nancy represents every young woman with a dream to escape the girl she was meant to be. Amanda Cartwright is long gone, but Nancy still has hope. Max grants Nancy the agency needed to dream of a better world and frees Nancy from the original "Camp Bloodbath" script.

When the bloodthirsty Billy ultimately strikes her down, it's Nancy's choice. She may never see a world outside of "Camp

Bloodbath," but she still made her mark as a hero in her own right, breaking free of the script she was placed into.

I think it's safe to say that many young girls and women feel a connection to the idea of a female community. We tend to gravitate towards established friend groups with close connections to the girls around us. It's common for young girls to experience deeper friendships in smaller groups, whereas boys often find themselves more comfortable in larger groups with less emotional closeness.

As my mother's daughter, I find it easy to look at her and feel a strange sense of similarity and emotional connection that's difficult to find with other family members. Strangely enough, my mother and I have fewer common interests than I do with my father, but there's something unique about a mother-daughter relationship. I feel the same with my stepmother — there's a special connection that feels stronger and more complex than others.

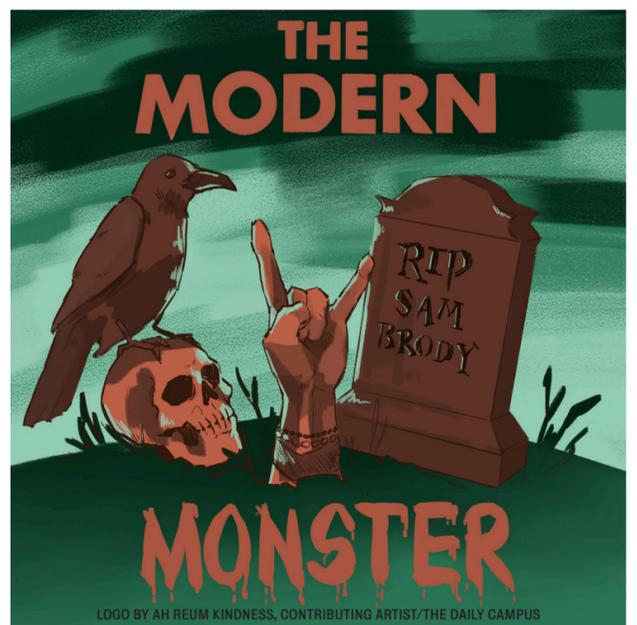
Looking at my mother and my stepmother, I've always felt like a reflection to their worlds. We live in a strange time to be a woman, but it's always been strange throughout history. Different as we may be, no one else can understand a mother the way their daughter can. I walk my path the way my mothers did and I do so with their experiences in mind. I see them in both my anxieties and my dreams.

"The Final Girls" is touching in a way that seems indescribable. Max views Nancy as a version

“Typically, the final girl is a virgin who refuses to drink or smoke or engage in any other vice, which other characters gravitate towards.”

of her mother where the world couldn't hurt her. Nancy views Max as a future she could strive for, but Max's world is so different that Nancy could never step foot inside. Nancy may not be Max's mother, but Amanda Cartwright in the 1980s could never be Max's mother — she's just a girl.

There's an undefinable world in a mother-daughter relationship, but "The Final Girls" finds a way to show off what many girls could only ever dream of: to see their mom as a girl like them.



Movie poster for "The Final Girls," released in 2015. The film stars Taissa Farmiga and Malin Akerman.

PHOTO COURTESY OF @JACKIEHELLVILLE ON INSTAGRAM

by Samantha Brody
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Sigourney Weaver as Ellen Ripley in "Alien." The film, directed by Ridley Scott, has become a cult classic since its 1979 release.

PHOTO COURTESY OF IMDB

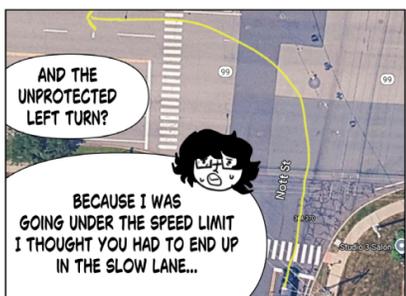


Life

The Daily Comics



NO



FAIL X 35 IN A 25

X DIDN'T TURN INTO LEFT LANE WHILE TURNING LEFT

X "WAITED FOR ARROW" (TOO HESITANT, DIDN'T TURN EVEN WHEN INTERSECTION WAS CLEAR) KEEP PRACTICING, KID! (PLEASE GO TO A DRIVING SCHOOL, NOT THE INSTRUCTOR YOU WENT BACK TO. FIRE HIM IMMEDIATELY.)

... DIDN'T DO TOO TOO BAD... 50% OF PEOPLE FAIL THE FIRST TIME ANYWAYS...

COMIC BY SETH WALLEN, CONTRIBUTING ARTIST



COMIC BY CONNOR SZREJNA, STAFF ARTIST



COMIC BY COSETTE ELLIS, CONTRIBUTING ARTIST





Opinion

The Daily Campus

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FILE LOGO/THE DAILY CAMPUS

If there's one thing that brings University of Connecticut students together, it's our basic, instinctual hatred for this university's parking services. And rightfully so, considering the already exorbitant prices people pay to go here and decreasing quality of our academics and resources available to us. Yet, as always with how this university responds to its students' anger, it has decided to tackle this problem in possibly the worst way available to them. On July 31, UConn Parking Services implemented Pay-Lock's SmartBoot technology to enforce parking tickets, according to The Daily Campus, furthering punitive measures to try and dissuade people from parking illegally. Yet, the decision to start booting cars will only harm more students, fail to solve the problem of parking scarcity and only gets us further away from implementing actual solutions to a better and more navigable campus for all.

This should be fairly obvious to most students reading this, but there are two main reasons why students park illegally on campus. First is because there are no available spots in their assigned lot. The second reason people park illegally is because all the available spots are in lots on the very edge of campus. K lot, W lot, A lot and C lot can all be a 20-minute walk from the dorms, depending on where you live. Especially at night, between classes or in the horrible weath-

er this campus gets, it should be fairly easy to understand why these are unappealing options to students given that there are often many open, albeit illegal spots closer to campus.

Now, the most positive solution to this issue would be one that creates more open, legal spots or makes the places with the open, legal spots more appealing. As far as booting cars goes, it accomplishes neither of

who have over \$200 in unpaid tickets, which I can only imagine does not apply to the vast majority of people parked illegally on a daily basis. This majority, who I expect would, begrudgingly, pay them as they come in, are not being impacted by boots. This raises further questions about who is most harmed by this tactic. This is to say, people who cannot afford the tickets are most harmed, eventually losing access

scholarship fund, it seems difficult to figure out the logic of taking money from students to give to other students (especially if, as stated earlier those students are already poor). At that point, why not cut out the middleman? Take the money straight from their scholarship and just keep passing it around until it eventually reaches the pure of heart student who will under no circumstance park illegally. They are truly the

walks through campus can see so many spots open in the parking garages and staff-only lots. The professor who lives in New York City and comes to campus once a week for five hours does not need a dedicated full-time parking spot in the center of campus; let it be used by the students who live here.

As for making existing parking options more appealing, improving access to far away lots through better public transport would do wonders for this campus. If people believed they could still get to campus quickly and easily, even when they're parked way out in K lot, then they would be more willing to park in that lot. Although this solution seems unlikely to be implemented anytime soon given UConn's recent defunding of buses, it would be incredibly valuable to increasing ease of access to different parts of campus. If this were connected with better service to certain points of interest off-campus, then this would also help decrease the need for students to have their cars here in the first place.

Ultimately, this is all just a matter of money. The solution to parking issues on campus is not going to come easy, cheap or soon, but at the very least we should start working towards measures that will solve the issue and benefit the community. It is exceptionally clear that putting boots on cars is not that solution, and there are far better ways that our money ought to be spent instead.

Car boots are not the solution to UConn's parking nightmare

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

these goals. To begin, a boot quite literally just keeps a car in its current place for longer, not really helping open up spots for others. If the person cannot immediately pay the amount of money owed to get the boot removed, this just becomes a drag on the space and worsens the issue of availability. As far as its effect as a deterrent, it again fails to actually solve the issue. The boots only go into place for those cars

to their transportation entirely if they cannot pay the fees.

So, what do boots achieve for the university? The boots create more fundraising from UConn's poorest sector. UConn Parking Services rakes in around \$1 million dollars a year from doling out tickets. While Parking Services does make the point that leftover money acquired from tickets, after covering the costs of running the department, goes to UConn's

most deserving.

Instead of buying boots, our university must invest more in real solutions that solve the parking availability issue. The people parking illegally are overwhelmingly students, so why not increase the number of student spots? This would not even require building more car parks, but rather just converting some staff spots into resident or commuter spots. Anyone who just



Two people supporting each other and displaying empathy. Empathy is the ability to see and feel things from others' perspectives.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PEXELS

The war on empathy is dystopian and delusional

by Bonnibel Lilith Rampertab

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As long as there has been mutual human socialization, there has been empathy: the ability to see and feel things from others' perspectives. Without empathy, there would be no reason to take care of the youth and ensure their survival by providing, tending and especially now, advocating. Critical thinking ties into empathetic approaches to processing the world, but both have been under attack by people who hate and fear positive change in society. Opponents of empathy as a general practice for other human beings fearmonger about and attack those who don't comply with their standards instead of accepting people how they are and working with them. As the right wing gets more and more polarized, they fall into the errors of bigoted unempathetic mindsets in even more overt ways than they previously did. We can't let them take away our humanity. Empathy is in natural opposi-

tion to concepts such as fascism. It's a given, understanding fascism as an exclusionary ideology, that it offers no place for true universal empathy nor open-mindedness. Fascism narrows your perspective to only your own country as supreme over all the others.

Furthermore, the practices of capitalism and imperialism incentivize an individual approach to life. At their core, these practices punish you for not being efficient and reward you for letting yourself get absorbed into the status quo. Empathy transcends everything, including socioeconomic structure, but the value of money serves to distract people from practicing something as "purposeful" and "inefficient" as empathy.

But what would the world look like if no one practiced universal empathy anymore?

Empathetic actions manifest themselves in so many ways both big and small. Holding the door

open for someone is empathetic. Telling someone "bless you" is empathetic. Making someone dinner to feel more comfortable, welcomed and validated is empathetic.

Empathy can also support marginalized and oppressed communities, offering understanding for people who may not have the same experiences as they do. Without empathy, people would be targeted for simply being themselves. "Tolerance" and "acceptance" would become myths.

A world without empathy would be one of chaos, vitriol and misery for absolutely everyone. It would be devoid of cooperation and progressive development. It would create a society full of apathetic bystanders and selfish gain in a dog-eat-dog world. Crime would run rampant, as it boils down to the dystopian concept of natural selection where only the strong will survive. For an ideology tough on crime, the right

doesn't realize they're enabling more crime to happen by dogmatically attacking empathy as the new monster of the week. No one truly wins in a world without empathy, and if there are those who think they would, they're sadly misguided.

Everything is inherently political in nature, whether you want to swallow that pill or not. Empathy is, at its core, a radical and progressive force that aims to help people and relieve them of stress, burden and pain. It's an important teaching tool for youth and has been shown to promote learning.

Education, especially concerning the humanities, points out injustices in history and culture that the right wing calls "woke" as a way to dismiss the facts. They would rather sugarcoat and lie to their base about reality while fraudulently and malevolently rewriting history.

Education is necessary to

prevent such falsehoods from taking hold. If you have a functioning brain, you know how to think and feel. You cannot reject your existence as a lifeform with thoughts and feelings.

When the right wing rejects the concept of empathy, they reject the actual messaging of Jesus Christ, of whom many within that political identity claim to be devout followers. Jesus believed in altruistic empathy and died on the cross to absolve humanity of their sins. No one opposing empathy would do such a thing for someone else.

True learning should radicalize the learner on the side of justice, critical thinking and empathy. To eliminate empathy would be to eliminate all forms of social progress. The right wing may forget that they're talking about real people with the rhetoric they push, but those with empathy have not forgotten how important it is for everyone.

Opinion

Photo of the Day | SUBOG Involvement Fair



The University of Connecticut Student Union Board of Governors hosts their involvement fair outside on Sept. 18, 2025. Students were able to meet the committees alongside getting free food and merchandise. PHOTO BY SARAH TURNER, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

We need to reassess the fertility industry

by Sophie Shugrue

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The news outlet Wired posted an article on Wednesday, Sept. 3, titled “The Baby Died. Whose Fault Is It?”, detailing the relationship between Cindy Bi, a venture capitalist based in California, and her surrogate, who she is suing. Why? Because Bi’s surrogate gave birth to a stillborn baby, and Bi thinks she did it intentionally. Bi even told Emi Nietfeld, the journalist behind the article, “I hope she goes to jail.”

There are several factors that can result in a stillborn baby, and things like genetic abnormalities and placental problems may result in a stillbirth. However, up to 50% of the time, the cause of a stillbirth is completely unknown, according to Mount Sinai. In the case of Bi’s surrogate, who chose to use the pseudonym Rebecca Smith, the stillbirth resulted from the placenta separating from Smith’s uterine wall, depriving the baby of oxygen.

Nietfeld was as objective as any journalist can possibly be in a situation like this, interviewing both Bi and Smith, who was distraught at the death of the baby. Even so, there are facets of the story Bi told that just do not add up. If the stillbirth was a result of placental disruption, something that is completely dictated by the genetics of the fetus, why did Bi almost immediately place the blame for her baby’s death on Smith? Why did she request Smith’s private medical information? Why did she thereafter hire psychics who convinced her that Smith had somehow turned against her baby? Why is she even pursuing litigation against her?

That is the issue with surrogacy and the fertility industry as a whole. When people like Bi treat surrogacy as a business transaction and babies like commodities, they forget that there is an actual person growing the baby inside her body. The result is a power imbalance so extreme that it proves detrimental to the body and mind of the surrogate. Surrogacy and the fertility industry commodify women’s bodies to the point of dehumanization and there is no point in pretending that the industry is ethical anymore.

Despite the problems with the fertility industry, many still believe in its practices. According to a study conducted by the Williams Institute at UCLA School of Law, 61% of married same-sex couples under the age of 50 surveyed viewed “biological pathways to parenthood, such as in vitro fertilization, surrogacy, and in vitro fertilization, as ideal compared to non-biological options like adoption.” Kim Kardashian has used surrogacy to have her two most recent children

because she experienced placenta accreta in her own pregnancies. If surrogacy is an ideal pathway for same-sex couples to start their own families and for women experiencing unhealthy pregnancies to have biological children, how could it possibly be unethical?

But there is a hidden side to surrogacy. The fertility industry is worth billions of dollars and women who work for surrogacy industries are often increasingly desperate for money, selling off their bodies for nine months, while those who hire them tend to be wealthy. What it culminates in is an unbalanced power dynamic, with those who hire surrogates able to hold anything and everything over the women they hire knowing they are desperate for money.

Surrogacy can result in infertility or even death for surrogates, and those who hire them do not care as long as they receive a perfect baby. In fact, at the same time as Bi hired Smith to carry her son, she hired another surrogate to carry a daughter. This pregnancy was extremely unhealthy and resulted in an emergency hysterectomy. When asked how her second experience with surrogacy turned out, however, Bi described it as “perfect”. But it was only perfect because in the end, her daughter did not die. There is a complete disregard for the health and safety of the women who must go through the emotional and physical labor to bring the child into the world. In that sense, surrogates are essentially walking, talking incubators.

Additionally, the lines between commercial gestation and human trafficking are extremely blurred. Any other sale of children is regarded as human trafficking, but for whatever reason, paying a woman to carry a baby and then hand it over is not perceived as trafficking.

When did the lines blur and change? When did we start regarding women as potential carriers instead of actual human beings? The fertility industry in the United States either needs a serious overhaul or needs to be banned altogether. Countries like France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Portugal and Bulgaria have all banned surrogacy, mostly to prevent exploitation and protect dignity. Because of the legal action that Bi is taking against Smith, Smith is forced to shoulder both the legal fees and her medical bills, all while dealing with the emotional turmoil that comes with going through a stillbirth. The United States needs to take action to ban surrogacy or at least give surrogates further protections to prevent a situation like Smith’s from occurring again.



Charlie Kirk speaking with attendees during the Culture War tour at the Ohio Union at Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio. PHOTO COURTESY OF GAGE SKIDMORE ON FLICKR

Gun Violence: What will it take for this cycle to end?

by Miranda Noguera

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Charlie Kirk was murdered this past Wednesday, Sept. 10. He was a right-wing activist who attended and hosted right-wing rallies around the country and hosted a daily podcast in which he talked about his political views and opinions. While having a discussion about transgender mass shooters, he was shot in the neck at Utah Valley University. It is difficult to speak on the death of another human being, but we can speak, discuss and act upon what keeps driving these events to happen.

What really is the cost of being able to defend ourselves when kids can’t be guaranteed to be safe at school, families can’t sleep tranquilly in their own homes and people aren’t able to speak their mind?

As more news of gun violence arises and society continues to be hyperactive on social media, it is inevitable, natural even, to develop an opinion on the topic. Yet we develop opinions on the event and the people surrounding it. We fixate on the minor details that lead up to more myths, when our focus should really be centered on the norms and policies that factored into the death of Kirk. This enables gun violence to be a recur-

ring event. Let us ask the question: whose death will it take for it to finally be enough?

What really is the cost of being able to defend ourselves when kids can’t be guaranteed to be safe at school, families can’t sleep tranquilly in their own homes and people aren’t able to speak their mind? The same day as the assassination of Kirk, a school shooting occurred at Evergreen High School in Colorado. Two children were injured and the amount of trauma that those kids will have to live with now is something that could’ve been completely avoided.

There is also all the unspoken gun violence from which many suffer every single day but doesn’t make any headlines. In the case of Kirk, it is a devastating fact that his family must now live like all those that have lost a loved one due to homicide, domestic violence, school shootings, or the simple misuse of a firearm within reach. We continue to prioritize owning a gun for one’s own safety rather than thinking of the truly greater objective of a nation: the common good.

The Second Amendment was originally made to ensure the power of a state militia and along with every other amendment, it can be reinterpreted. We have a living constitution which allows us to continue to progress and advance reforms in order to make a better nation. The nature of our constitution gives us the power to adapt the understanding of our rights in a way that fits our current context rather than the context that existed when the constitution was created. Yet we continue to step backwards.

On one of those steps backwards was the election of President Donald Trump. Trump referred to Kirk as “legendary” on a recent post on X, formerly known as Twitter. The leader of our nation praised a man who thought it was worth it have

gun violence deaths if that meant keeping the Second Amendment, and it was our nation that elected a president like this. Not all norms stem from the president, surely, and it is the people who at the end of the day vote for all our representatives. Through elections, we create and execute the norms we have to follow.

The death of a public figure shouldn’t be what it takes for a call for action from all political ideologies.

I do not agree with any of the political views Kirk had and I find it hard to empathize with and mourn somebody who said such repugnant things. I am not celebrating his death, however, nor discussing if he deserved it. I feel sorry for his family just as I would feel for any other human. I hope this past event makes this country wake up and realize that gun violence does not have exceptions or care about anybody’s ideology. We as humans have the freedom to shape entirely new social realities, according to David Graeber and David Wengrow. What is stopping this so-called “land of the free” from doing so? It is simply sad to know that these are recurrent problems. Gun violence is so frequent that it’s rarely much of a scandal anymore. It shouldn’t only be the death of a public figure that causes revolt and concern. The death of a public figure shouldn’t be what it takes for a call for action from all political ideologies.

The Full 90: Premier League summer overview and season predictions

by Will DeLetto
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Hello and welcome back to The Full 90. This week, we will be discussing the summer transfer window and my predictions for the 2025-26 Premier League season.

Three best signings:



João Pedro: Pedro and his former club, Brighton & Hove Albion, agreed on a deal with Chelsea for a seven-year contract worth approximately \$82

João Pedro, a professional soccer player, walking on a soccer pitch. Pedro has over 2 million followers on Instagram.

CREDIT: @JOAOPEDRO.OFFICIAL ON INSTAGRAM

million. The unique attacking presence of Pedro requires defenders to cover his versatility throughout the attacking third. Having the quality to play as a striker, on the wing or as an attacking midfielder are all integral parts of Pedro's game. While Pedro does find success as a number nine, his favored style of play is within the attacking half spaces. In this position, he can cause danger by floating in pockets of space in front of the back line. This ability has translated smoothly as Pedro has bagged five goals and three assists between his arrival during the Club World Cup and his features in the Premier League. His excellent form has been praised by manager Enzo Maresca, who has attributed Pedro's ability to Chelsea's present and future success with breaking down defensive low blocks, something Chelsea has struggled with over the last couple of seasons.

Xavi Simons: The shocking transfer of the summer saw long-time Chelsea target Simons change his mind and make a move to join London rivals Tottenham Hotspur FC. The 22-year-old Dutch at-

tacker made his move to Tottenham on a \$70 million move from German club RB Leipzig. Simons enjoys occupying half spaces within the attack and driving with the ball from deep within his own half to start decisive and ruthless attacks. His striking ability, along with his exceptional eye for a pass in the final third, combine to create a very promising and confident young attacker.

Alexander Isak: Reigning champions Liverpool decided to continue their dominance following their impressive 2024-2025 season with one of the strongest transfer windows in Premier League history. They were able to export dead weight within their squad while also signing world-class replacements for positions they needed to improve. The most impactful is sure to be Isak, the Swedish striker who was acquired from Newcastle by Liverpool for a record British transfer fee of \$170 million. The now- Liverpool forward scored 23 goals and provided six assists in 34 appearances last season. Isak was the second-highest goal scorer in the Premier League last season, with the only player outscor-

ing him being his now-teammate, Mohamed Salah. Isak's dynamic ability to carry the ball from wide positions, combined with his tendency to spin off center backs, creates quite a handful for defenders around the league. Isak's sight for the goal and ball striking ability create a threat from within the box and from distance, which heavily contributes to his stellar goal tallies over recent seasons. This lethal combination of skills bodes well for Liverpool, as it seems likely to be the best signing of the summer.

Champions - Liverpool seems the most likely to raise the Premier League trophy this year. Based on the immense success it achieved last year under new manager Arne Slot, coupled with one of the best transfer windows of all time, it seems the team will see tremendous success in this campaign. A well-rounded squad with efficient depth and maturity is more reason the reigning champions seem the most likely to be at the peak of the mountain come May.

Golden Glove (Alisson Becker) - When predicting the Golden Glove, I like to predict it based on the defense in front of the goalkeeper. Last year, David Raya won the award, and much of this can be attrib-

uted to his defense and how well they protected him. For this reason, I believe Becker will be awarded the Golden Glove. Not only is he an amazing shot stopper and massive presence within the goal, but he is also protected by one of the Premier League's best center back pairings, Virgil Van Dijk and Ibrahima Konaté. The strong spine of this defense, combined with Becker's brilliant goalkeeping skills, all point to him receiving the Golden Glove.

Golden Boot (Erling Haaland) - The Norwegian marksman is now in his fourth season with Manchester City, and he shows no signs of slowing down. Haaland has already won this trophy twice in the last three years and is looking to continue his goal-scoring prowess. In both years he won the award, he scored 25+ goals during the league campaign. Haaland has always been able to score goals; however, in recent campaigns he has struggled to keep full fitness throughout the season. When Haaland misses game time like this, it causes his goal tally to deplete heavily. If he can stay healthy, expect the Norwegian striker to lead Manchester City's line with plenty of goals to boot.

Men's Soccer: Huskies march to Ohio to take on 10 Akron



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The UConn men's soccer team has its biggest match-up of the season on Friday, Sept. 19, as they travel to Akron, Ohio, to battle the No. 10-ranked Akron Zips. The Zips enter the battle with the Huskies with a record of 5-1-1, boasting a big win over #16 Ohio State 2-0 on the road. They also forced a draw versus No. 8 West Virginia.

The Huskies will look to stay perfect on the year, as

they will try and grab a big upset win. Their record sits at 5-0-3, with a notable draw to the UMass Minutemen. The Huskies have been scoring efficiently, as they have averaged just under 2 goals per game. However, they might need to get that number up in order to beat Akron. Nevertheless, UConn has really looked great on defense this year as they hold opponents to half a goal per game and a big part of that is goalkeeper Kyle Durham. The redshirt freshman has 35 saves so far this season with a .897 save

percentage to keep opponents at bay. Coach Chris Gbandi will also lean on Alex Tupay and Johan Hamel, along with Durham to give him a full 90

"...there is a chance that they (the Huskies) could be considered for a top-25 spot as they get into Big East league play."

minutes of playing time in a pivotal primetime game.

Akron will look to lean on its high-powered offense that has gotten hot as of late. The team is led by Jack Roman and Stefan Dobrijevic, who both have tallied seven points during the season so far. Dobrijevic also leads the team in assists at three. The Zips' goalie is also worth mentioning, as Mitch Budler has only let up one goal this season. Budler will surely be a hard challenge for the Huskies' offense, though, Balthazar Saunders and Austin Brummett

will surely give him a test as they lead UConn in shots on goal and points.

Another big factor in this game will be the team that scores first, as both goalies are great. If UConn is able to get off to a great start, they will have a very good chance to win this one on the road.

If the Huskies can pull off the upset against the Zips, there is a chance that they could be considered for a top-25 spot as they get into Big East league play. The game kicks off at 7 p.m. on the road under the lights in Akron, Ohio.



The UConn men's soccer team faces off against the Harvard Crimson on Sept. 13, 2025. The game ended in a 1-1 draw at Morrone Stadium in Storrs, Conn.

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

Sports

Photo of the Day |



The UConn men's soccer team faces off against the Harvard Crimson on Sept. 13, 2025. The game ended in a 1-1 draw at Morrone Stadium in Storrs, Conn.

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

Men's Golf: The Huskies prepare for first their appearance at The Goat

by Matt Dimech

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The UConn men's golf team looks to take the horns in Annapolis, Md., this weekend during The Goat at the Naval Academy Golf Club.

Named for their mascot Billy the Goat, this will be the Naval Academy's second year hosting the tournament. It will also mark the Huskies' first appearance in the event. The field expanded from 15 teams to 16 this year.

In the inaugural tournament, the University of the Pacific took home the win

with a nine-stroke lead over the field. Pacific will not be in the field for the event this year; they will compete this weekend at The Tindal hosted by the University of Washington.

Maryland-Loyola returns to the event after finishing in second place at last year's tournament. Loyola posted a team 283 in the final round of the weekend to leap over Columbia University in the standings.

Loyola fourth-year Gustavo Rangel, who was the tournament's individual winner as a junior last season, will make his return to

Annapolis this weekend. His 68 (-3) in the opening round and 69 (-2) in the third helped secure him a -3 finish for the tournament.

UConn enters the weekend coming off a fourth-place finish at The Metropolis Invitational on Tuesday, Sept. 9, tying with host Columbia. This was the Huskies' best season opener finish since 2021.

Third-year Bradley Sawka led the way for the Huskies with his career-best individual finish, coming in fifth place overall. Sawka stood out with consistency through the weekend, not turning in a card over a 72 (+2).

As a sophomore last year, Sawka was one of three golfers to appear in 11 events for UConn. He made both a top 10 and top 20 finish on the season.

Fourth-year Connor Goode will look to build off his success at the Metropolis as he tallied another top 20 finish to his résumé, placing No. 17 overall in the event.

In last year's event, Navy finished in fifth place at their home course. Fourth-year Jack Tarzy finished in second place individually as a junior, his career-best tournament finish.

Tarzy closed the tourna-

ment with a 67 (-5) to climb 17 rungs up the standings ladder on the final day of competition. His 211 (-2) score through the weekend was the lowest tournament score of his career.

The tournament hosts have gotten off to a slow start this season, finishing in 13th place at the Folds of Honor Collegiate on Wednesday, Sept. 10. Tarzy shot an 81 (+10) on his third and final round to drop to 66th place overall.

The two-day 54-hole tournament will tee off on Saturday, with an 8:30 a.m. shotgun start.

Field Hockey: Huskies on the road to open Big East slate and face Ivy contender

by Amita Akshinthala

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The UConn field hockey team is set to face their first Big East opponent of this season, Villanova, as well as a showdown with Princeton, an Ivy League powerhouse. UConn enters the matchups ranked No. 6 and looks to bounce back after a stretch of losses to No. 14 Rutgers and No. 8 Harvard during their weekend homestand.

The contest against the Villanova Wildcats marks more than just another game on the schedule; it's the Huskies' first chance to measure themselves against another Big East contender, a test that could set the tone for the rest of their conference run. While the Wild-

cats have shown they can keep games close even against the league's champions, UConn will aim to reassert themselves as a conference front-runner, leaning on their 5-0 win in last season's meeting as proof of their potential. After the Big East face-off, the Huskies will finish their weekend with a game against No. 9 Princeton, looking to build off their 3-1 win from last season. A strong performance against this traditionally competitive team could establish a solid foundation and momentum heading into the remainder of the season.

For UConn, senior forward Julia Bressler continues to be a reliable spark on the attack and will be key in

jumpstarting the offense after last weekend's scoring struggles. Midfielder Sol Simone has been a steady bridge, contributing both offensively and defensively. Last weekend, the

nior notched a goal and an assist against Rutgers. In goal, Natalie McKenna anchored the defense, highlighted by an early first-quarter save and three crucial penalty stops in the third quarter against Harvard, a performance that kept the Huskies within striking distance despite the losses.

On the other side, Villanova will turn to graduate student Ava Borkowski, who secured two goals in their home opener against Maryland and added another against Fairfield to apply pressure early. Their defensive line, anchored by freshman goalkeeper Sophie Volkel, has demonstrated the ability to keep margins tight. With Volkel recording seven

saves in their match against Hofstra, the goalkeeper can help control the pace of the game.

To cap the weekend, the Huskies will square off against Princeton, who finished strong in overtime against Rutgers. The Tigers will look to senior midfielder Beth Yeager and junior Ella Charman to drive their offense, building on their game-winning performance in last week's victory. With their standings at 2-2, Princeton has proven they can contend with top opponents, posing a challenge to the 2-3 Huskies.

With the two resilient teams bringing strengths of their own, it will be up to head coach Paul Caddy to position the Huskies to take control of these matches.



UConn field hockey plays Rutgers at home in Storrs, Conn. on Sept. 12, 2025. The Huskies ultimately fall in overtime with a final score of 3-2.

PHOTO BY SYDNEY CHANDLER, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Sports

Women's Soccer: Huskies look to begin Big East play against St. John's



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The UConn women's soccer team will host St. John's for a home showdown on Saturday, Sept. 20. This matchup will be the first in-conference game this season.

This past weekend, the Huskies hosted the Maine Black Bears. UConn came away victorious 3-1, adding a win to their overall 4-2-1 record. The win was truly a team affair, using a season high of 20 players. The nine subs played for 20 minutes or longer, emphasizing the complete dominance of the team. The program was able to extend a scoreless streak to 400 minutes and 51 seconds, which was broken in the 61st minute of the game. The team also reached a season-high of three goals in clinching their third consecutive win.

The Huskies' recent games captured the fierceness of key players and the strength of the program as a whole. Senior forward Chioma Okafor is a stand-out offensive player for the program. Okafor was a crucial component to the Huskies' past three wins. Against Yale, Okafor took a team-best five shots with two

of them on goal, making her a formidable opponent for the Bulldogs. Okafor continued her dominance against Rhode Island, scoring a goal in the first half of the game. This goal was then followed by senior midfielder Abbey Merchant, making this the team's first multi-goal game of the season. Okafor continued to play fiercely against Maine, scoring on goal assisted by junior midfielder Anaya Johnson. Johnson and Okafor often pair up to form a powerful offense; they linked up against the Bulldogs with Johnson aiding in many of Okafor's shots. Johnson ultimately got the win for the Huskies with a perfect shot into the side of goal at the 48th minute. Defensively, freshman goalie Ava Yamas has been a standout the past three games. Yamas delivered two straight shutouts against Yale and Rhode Island, including a penalty stop against the Bulldogs.

The St. John's Red Storm, also known as the Thunderbirds, are coming off a scoreless game against Boston College. Previously, they had a loss against Monmouth and a draw against Fairleigh Dickinson. The Thunderbirds have a strong defense and of-

fense, making them a tough opponent. Sophomore forward Madison Mariani has been a key player on offense, leading the team's attack. Mariani is a targeted shooter, taking 10 of her 11 total shots on frame, making her a dangerous opponent. Defensively, senior goalie Kayla Bower has been a standout. She has averaged nearly five saves per game and has set or matched career-high in saves multiple times this season. Overall, the Thunderbirds have struggled with consistency and turning plays into goals; however, their key plays show they should not be underestimated.

The Huskies last matched up against the Thunderbirds last season on Sept. 22, 2024. The game ended in a 3-3 draw. Overall, the program has an 18-8-3 record against the Thunderbirds with 11 of the wins being recorded at home. In the last matchup, the Huskies outshot the Thunderbirds 24-6 but were unable to deliver to take the win.

The team will hope to continue their dominance against St. John's on Saturday, Sept. 20, at 7 p.m. The contest will be a Mental Health Awareness game. Husky fans can tune in to watch this exciting matchup on FloSports.

UConn women's soccer goes head to head against Maine. UConn won 3-1 at the Joseph J. Morrone Stadium in Storrs, Conn. on Sunday, Sept. 14, 2025.

PHOTO BY NATHAN GALICINAO, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Volleyball: UConn volleyball returns home for final non-conference play

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After a mixed weekend where they lost their first match of the season, the UConn volleyball team returns home to take on Brown, Marist and Sacred Heart for this weekend's UConn Classic.

Despite facing their first loss of the season last weekend to Yale, UConn was able to bounce back and win their next two matches. It is this momentum that the Huskies will hope to capitalize on as they head into their final non-conference games of the season.

After their strong performance in last weekend's invitational, seniors Emma Werkmeister and Audrey Rome were named to the Yale-Fairfield Invite All-Tournament Team.

Werkmeister leads the program with 130 kills, 19 service aces and an average of 4.35 points per set. Rome leads the team with 24 blocks and scored a career high of 14 kills in UConn's match against Fairfield.

The Huskies will start the weekend facing Brown on Friday, Sept. 20, exactly a year since their last match. This will be the fifth time the programs face one another with UConn holding a 3-1 record. The Bears currently hold a 3-3 overall record and are coming off a difficult weekend where they ended 1-3 at the Knights Invitational. Despite their struggles, the Bears will be hoping to turn over a new leaf and improve on the success they found against UCF last weekend.

Some players to look out for on the Bears are seniors Jesse Golden and Mariia Sidorova. Golden was named



to the All-tournament team at the Knights Invitational and Sidorova leads the team with 67 kills and 3.64 points per set.

Next up, UConn will take on the Marist Red Foxes on Sunday, Sept. 21, for the first time since 1988. Marist currently stands with a 1-8 overall record and are on a four-game losing streak.

Some important players for the Red Foxes are juniors Sara Dasic, who leads the program

with 75 kills and is second with nine service aces, and Cecilia Potter-Pessoa, who leads with 12 service aces.

Lastly, the Huskies will go against Sacred Heart on Sept. 21, for the seventh time in program history. The Huskies stand with a 5-1 record against SHU, winning their last four matchups. The program stands with a 3-7 overall record and a two-game winning streak.

They will be hoping to continue this run and will rely on freshman Ryleigh Short who leads the Pioneers with 125 kills. Junior Ava Roodbol also leads the team with 333 assists.

The Huskies will hope to maintain their undefeated at home status and extend their winning streak as they face

their final non-conference opponents.

All matches will take place at the UConn Volleyball Center in Storrs and will be streamed live on UConn+. The Brown match will begin at 6 p.m. on Friday, followed by the Marist match at 4 p.m. on Saturday. Lastly, UConn will face Sacred Heart at 3 p.m. on Sunday.



UConn women's volleyball in a battle against Northeastern on Sept. 14, 2025. The Huskies won 3-0.

PHOTO BY HANNAH GRIMES, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS



Sports

Women's Hockey: Huskies takes on Quinnipiac in exhibition

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College hockey season is already here, and the UConn women's hockey team is set to duel the Quinnipiac Bobcats in a road exhibition on Saturday, Sept. 20 at 3 p.m. in Hamden, Conn. It will be a rivalry matchup, as the two Connecticut schools are separated by just 56 miles. These two have matched up 23 times before, with Quinnipiac winning 12 of those matchups. This is the only exhibition game the Huskies will compete in before opening the season against St. Cloud State next week.

UConn enters the season with high expectations once again. For the second straight year, the Huskies were picked to finish first in the Hockey East Association after winning back-to-back regular-season titles.

The team has 16 returning players, including six seniors and one graduate student. Additionally, the Huskies have

welcomed six freshmen and two transfers.

Last season, their scoring defense propelled them as they finished the season ranked fifth in the country, allowing 1.41 goals per game, in scoring defense.

The Bobcats were picked to finish fourth in the Eastern College Athletic Association. This is a step up from last year, when they were picked to finish fifth. They also have five seniors and two graduate students on their roster.

Quinnipiac brings a strong offense, scoring 97 goals last season to rank 10th nationally.

Head coach Cassandra Turner is entering her eleventh season as Quinnipiac's leader.

Players to watch:

#8 Julia Pellerin, junior, Forward, Connecticut

Pellerin is new to Storrs this season, after transferring from fellow Hockey East opponent Boston College, where she led Hockey East in scoring. She also earned first-team all-star honors and scored seven game-winning goals. At 5-foot-6 inch-

es, the forward is expected to make an impact immediately in her new uniform.

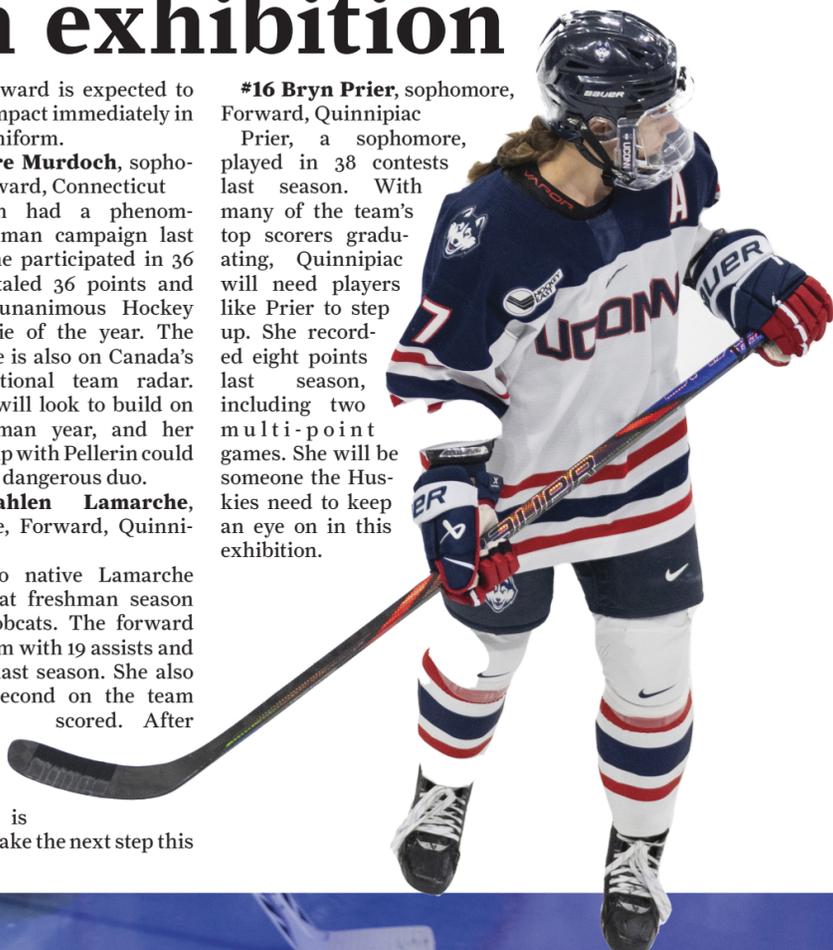
#7 Claire Murdoch, sophomore, Forward, Connecticut
Murdoch had a phenomenal freshman campaign last season. She participated in 36 games, totaled 36 points and was the unanimous Hockey East rookie of the year. The sophomore is also on Canada's senior national team radar. Murdoch will look to build on her freshman year, and her partnership with Pellerin could make for a dangerous duo.

#8 Kahlen Lamarche, sophomore, Forward, Quinnipiac

Ontario native Lamarche had a great freshman season for the Bobcats. The forward led the team with 19 assists and 33 points last season. She also finished second on the team in goals scored. After a solid freshman year, Lamarche is aiming to take the next step this season.

#16 Bryn Prier, sophomore, Forward, Quinnipiac

Prier, a sophomore, played in 38 contests last season. With many of the team's top scorers graduating, Quinnipiac will need players like Prier to step up. She recorded eight points last season, including two multi-point games. She will be someone the Huskies need to keep an eye on in this exhibition.



The UConn Huskies take on the Northeastern Huskies at the Toscano Family Ice Forum in Storrs, Conn. on March 5, 2025. The Huskies faced each other to find out who would move on to the Hockey East championship.
PHOTO BY CONNOR SHARP, PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Football: The Huskies take on the Ball State Cardinals

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UConn (1-2) hosts the (1-2) on Saturday, Sept. 20, at Rentschler Field in hopes of returning to the win column.

The two programs last clashed in 2022, where the Huskies fell to the Cardinals 25-21. Connecticut looked dominant in the first half, leading 21-10, but problems arose coming out of halftime. With the help of Ball State's running back, Carson Steele, the team racked up 15 unanswered points.

In their comeback victory, Steele rushed 179 yards for three touchdowns. Defensively, UConn held quarterback John Paddock to 147 passing yards and one interception. Paddock struggled throwing into the endzone, as he finished the day with zero passing touchdowns.

Since then, neither team looks the same. For Ball State, its most notable departure was Steele. In the 2022



The UConn football team defeats CCSU at Pratt & Whitney Stadium in East Hartford, Conn. on Aug. 30, 2025. The Huskies won their home opener in a 59-13 blowout against their Connecticut neighbor.
PHOTO BY CONNOR SHARP, PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

season, the 22-year-old totaled 1,556 rushing yards and crossed the goal line 14 times. Following his career-high campaign, Steele transferred to UCLA.

As quarterback, Kial Kelly replaced Paddock and faced challenges connecting with wide receivers. For the first time against the New Hampshire Wildcats, Kelly accumulated just over 100 yards, completing nine of 15 (60%) passes and throwing an interception. In the wide receiver room, not much happened, as no wideouts except Donovan Hamilton produced over 20 yards.

One player to watch out for is running back Qua Ashley. Versus the Wildcats, the junior not only ran for 154 yards, but also topped the Cardinals in receiving yards (33). Ashley ended the day contributing to two of the program's three end zone appearances.

In recent weeks, containing the run game has been one of UConn's biggest issues.

In two weeks, Connecticut conceded 292 yards and last week let up a 70-yard rushing touchdown against Delaware.

The Huskies' second conflict is converting in game-winning situations. In the last two overtime finales, the matchups stemmed from unsuccessful third and fourth-down conversions. In the second half versus the Syracuse Orange, Connecticut punted six consecutive times.

In the final minutes against Delaware on fourth-and-two, Fagnano found tight end Louis Hansen but fell a yard short. Between the two clashes, the team converted 10 of 30 (33.3%) third-down attempts.

Currently, quarterback Joe Fagnano has thrown 865 yards, ranking No. 17 in the NCAA's passing yards. In the backfield, running backs Cam Edwards and Mel Brown combine for 465 rushing yards.

UConn fans can tune into the match on Fubo, with kick-off scheduled for 3:30 p.m.