



Updates on basketball season ticket holder reselection process

by Gianni Salisbury
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The University of Connecticut's basketball season ticket holders re-selected seats this past summer in the wake of renovations to Gampel Pavilion and the PeoplesBank Arena.

Last fall, UConn Athletics announced renovations to the PeoplesBank Arena, the lower-level seating structure and the lower bowl of Gampel Pavilion resulting in modifications to the structure of the seats.

The renovations, which are expected to be finished before the 2025-2026 basketball season, resulted in season ticket holders having to go through a re-selection process which occurred from May 19 through June 17. Fans were given a selection time based on their priority point ranking.

Around 5,000 season ticket holder accounts who previously had season tickets went through the process, according to William Peterson, UConn's assistant athletic director of communications.

Peterson stated that the process went "pretty smoothly," and that the Athletics Ticket Office was able to work out any problems fans had.

Fans reported the process was relatively easy online but also said that they were unable to get the same or similar seats they had in previous years.

Andrew Taylor, a UConn alum who went through the re-selection process, said in an email that he did not get his old seats as they were already chosen. His new seats are three sections over from the seat he had previously.



The UConn Huskies secure a 73-56 win against Villanova during the Big East Tournament at Madison Square Garden on March 13, 2025. The Huskies will take on the Creighton Bluejays next. PHOTOGRAPH BY EMMA MEIDINGER, ASSOCIATE PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS



The Huskies take down Arkansas St. in the first round of the NCAA tournament winning by 69. PHOTOGRAPH BY CONNOR SHARP, PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

"I am in a worse section angle-wise (instead of being on the sideline, I am more in the corner/on the baseline). I believe I still am on the aisle but higher up. The price is still the same as well," Taylor wrote.

Fans online also expressed

disappointment in not getting their old seats after donating more money to UConn Athletics to better their chances of

getting an earlier seat selection time and, in turn, their old seats back.

According to former reporting by The Daily Campus, selection times were based on how many priority points a ticket holder had. Priority points are based off how much money a ticket holder has donated.

Fans like Taylor said they were disappointed in this process.

"I still view it strictly as a fundraising effort under the guise of arena construction — I would have had a different opinion if they were honest about it, which I do not believe they were," Taylor wrote. "I understand they needed to restructure seating around, but I believe they could have done it in a more fair way or by impacting the minimum amount of fans."

Peterson said he understands fans' frustrations, but that UConn Athletics did the best they could to make sure it was a good experience for fans.

"I think we did our best to try to work with everybody as best we could," Peterson said. "We understand in some cases it's frustrating for folks that they couldn't get the seat that they wanted, but I think we have to look at it from the overall fan experience. This was just something that was necessary for us to do at this time in order for us to keep making the facility better and to keep our program operating at the highest level."

According to Peterson, season tickets are now sold out for men's basketball home games.

More information on the basketball season ticket process can be found on the UConn Athletics website.

Gov. Lamont to protect COVID-19 vaccines in Connecticut

by Katie Servas
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Connecticut residents can continue to receive COVID-19 vaccinations under recent executive actions by Gov. Ned Lamont as of Sept. 10.

"As uncertainty in Washington continues, our administration is doing everything we can to ensure the residents of Connecticut have access to the health care they need to stay safe," Lamont said in a press release.

This comes in response to the updated restrictions on COVID-19 vaccine eligibility as released by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, according to an article by CT Mirror.

The agency limited the vaccine to those who are 65 years or older, allowing those with health issues to also access the vaccine, as reported by NPR.

The vaccine was previously available to anyone six months of age or older, regardless of their health status.

Mansfield officials have emphasized that vaccines are available for residents.

"As the local health department, [we] continue to urge individuals to seek out their seasonal vaccines, not just COVID-19, but also influenza and the other vaccines that they may be eligible for," said Robert Miller, the director of health for the Eastern Highlands Health District.

Miller's district covers the Connecticut towns of Andover, Ashford, Bolton, Chaplin, Columbia, Coventry, Mansfield, Scotland, Tolland and Willington.

"Vaccines continue to be one of the most effective ways to prevent morbidity and mortality in the population, reduce

hospitalizations, reduce days of sickness and improve the overall health of the population," Miller said.

With these protections, insurance coverage for the COVID-19 vaccine and other immunizations remain mandatory under the Connecticut insurance law, according to a bulletin linked in the press release.

Insurance coverage for vaccines has no cost if they are recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices. However, regardless of the ACIP's approval of the COVID-19 vaccine, statewide insurance policies will not change, as stated in the bulletin.

Miller was "very heartened and happy" to see Lamont take this action to protect vaccine access in the state.

"We learned through a pan-

demic a number of years ago, individuals receiving the vaccine protect themselves, but also the people around them, especially those who are most at risk, like elderly parents or relatives who may be immunocompromised," Miller said.

State healthcare providers and pharmacies will be administering this vaccine following the governor's actions to protect its availability for residents.

"We do encourage residents who can, please seek out their vaccines for the season," Miller said.

Residents interested in receiving vaccines this fall can view the schedule of seasonal vaccine clinics at www.ehhd.org. The website provides information about which vaccines are available at each clinic as they may differ from one clinic to the next, according to Miller.



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News

Wings Over Storrs reopened after temporarily closing due to a car accident

by **Kitan Arole**
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Wings Over Storrs reopened after temporarily closing due to a car accident

Wings Over Storrs was temporarily closed for repairs because a car accident damaged utilities outside of the building on Sept. 18, according to Wings Over's Facebook page.

Wings Over Storrs is a popular chicken wings restaurant for students at the University of Connecticut. Their closure left disappointed reactions across the student body.

Hannah Song, a third-semester nursing student said she was surprised about the news.

"That was like the go-to after a party," Song said. "It's pretty upsetting, honestly."

Julia DaCosta, a third-semester psychology student said she felt that part of Storrs would be missing without Wings Over.

"I feel like it's just a nostal-

gic thing," DaCosta said. "Like, it's something of Storrs campus. And I feel like everything around us has been closing."

Wings Over posted an update on Facebook and Instagram to customers on when they plan to reopen again.

"We're working quickly to get everything back in place and will reopen as soon as it's safe to do so," the update read. "We know the timing is tough with the semester just starting, and we're so sorry we can't serve you right now."

After six days of closure, Wings Over posted on Facebook and Instagram that they are back to their regular hours on Sept. 23. They are ready to welcome students back to their restaurant.

"Thank you so much for your patience while we handled unexpected repairs," Wings Over's Facebook post read.

We're excited to fire up the fryers and welcome everyone back with the wings you've been craving. See you soon Storrs!"

UK charities cut ties to Sarah Ferguson after reported email describing Jeffrey Epstein as 'friend'

LONDON (AP) — A number of charities on Monday severed ties with Sarah Ferguson, the ex-wife of Prince Andrew, after British newspapers published an email that she reportedly wrote to the late convicted sex offender and financier Jeffrey Epstein, describing him as a "supreme friend."

Julia's House, a children's hospice, said that the reported correspondence made it inappropriate for Ferguson, also known as the Duchess of York, to remain a patron. A spokesman for Ferguson said that she sent an email on the advice of her lawyers after Epstein threatened to sue her for associating him with sexual abuse in a media interview, Britain's Press Association reported.

"Following the information shared this weekend on the Duchess of York's correspondence with Jeffrey Epstein, Julia's House has taken the decision that it would be inappropriate for her to continue as a patron of the charity," the charity said. "We have advised the Duchess of York of this decision and thank her for her past support."

A food allergy charity, The

Natasha Allergy Research Foundation, and Prevent Breast Cancer, were also among the charities that cut ties in light of recent revelations. The Teenage Cancer Trust, which had an association with Ferguson for 35 years, also dropped her as a patron.

The email referred to a 2011 interview with the Evening Standard newspaper in which she apologized for accepting 15,000 pounds from Epstein.

"I abhor paedophilia and any sexual abuse of children and know that this was a gigantic error of judgment on my behalf. I am just so contrite I cannot say," Ferguson said in the interview. "Whenever I can, I will repay the money and have nothing ever to do with Jeffrey Epstein ever again."

But the following month, Ferguson sent an email to Epstein in which she "humbly apologized" for linking him to sex abuse, saying "you have always been a steadfast, generous and supreme friend to me and my family," The Sun newspaper reported over the weekend.

The Associated Press couldn't independently confirm that the email is authentic.

The story comes less than a month after Andrew himself was criticized for staying in touch with Epstein for five years longer than previously claimed.

Leaked email correspondence between Epstein and former Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak indicated that the prince had been in touch with Epstein as late as 2015, the Times of London reported. Andrew told the BBC in 2019 that he ceased all contact with Epstein in December 2010, after the late financier pled guilty to sex crimes in Florida.

Andrew and his ex-wife have faced a series of scandals amid concerns that the prince has tried to profit from his royal status.

He was forced to give up all royal duties and charity roles after the 2019 interview with the BBC in which he was criticized for trying to minimize his connections with Epstein and failing to show sympathy for his victims. Last year, it emerged that a suspected Chinese spy had developed close links with Andrew, raising concerns about efforts to put undue influence on other members of the royal family.



Wings over post from Sept 16th

PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF @WINGSOVER_ON INSTAGRAM

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DAILY CAMPUS CROSSWORD & SUDOKU

- ACROSS**
- 1 Win or lose
 - 5 Signs of healing
 - 10 Win or lose alternative
 - 14 Single's bars?
 - 15 "Se ___ inglés"
 - 16 Character
 - 17 Online chortles
 - 18 Positive
 - 19 Season celebrated by gifted kids?
 - 20 Mer(c)y
 - 23 Supplier of oil pans?
 - 24 Incantation syllables
 - 26 Selling points?
 - 27 Garter snake prey
 - 30 Great beast
 - 31 Soft toss
 - 33 Ins. option
 - 35 "Open the pod bay doors, ___"
 - 37 Mop alternative
 - 39 Argument-ending words, perhaps
 - 41 Romeo's opening word?
 - 42 Mausoleums
 - 46 Go to the polls
 - 47 Pear variety
 - 48 Dressing on a caterer's table?
 - 49 Hardly any
 - 50 Actress Jewell
 - 52 Gasteyer of "Mean Girls"
 - 53 Some mechanical pencils
 - 54 Ada Lovelace's father
 - 55 NFL stats
 - 56 Heavy dancing shoes
 - 58 Backroads ride, for short
 - 59 (T)yke
 - 62 Need for a site visit?
 - 63 Two-time Newbery Medalist Lowry
 - 65 Caterpillar rival
 - 66 Grove grower
 - 67 Drink through a straw
 - 68 Travel website with the same name as a boat
 - 69 Quickly, quickly

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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17				18					19			
20			21					22				
23				24	25		26		27	28	29	
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47				48					49			
50			51		52			53				
54					55			56				57
58			59	60				61		62		
63			64		65				66			
67					68				69			
70					71				72			

By Rebecca Goldstein 9/25/25

- 70 Surroundings
 - 71 Someone working around the House
 - 72 Rocker Joan
- DOWN**
- 1 Actor Kilmer
 - 2 God with a quiver
 - 3 Really get to
 - 4 Middle Eastern market
 - 5 Hot rod rod
 - 6 Game show whose contestants are really driven?
 - 7 Wackadoo
 - 8 Mark
 - 9 Occupied, as a hot desk
 - 10 Solid carbon dioxide
 - 11 Drubbing
 - 12 Supporter
 - 13 Microscopic
 - 21 Floss brand
 - 22 Spanish sons
 - 24 Accounting record?
 - 25 (B)enefit
 - 28 Trajector(y)
 - 29 "My compliments to the chef"
 - 30 Part of UAE

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

R	O	M	E	B	R	A	N	E	P	P	S		
S	E	V	E	R	L	O	C	O	L	E	I	A	
C	H	E	S	S	M	A	T	C	H	S	A	N	G
A	I	R	S	U	B	E	R	T	E	C	H		
D	R	A	I	N	S	L	A	N	A	W	O	O	D
S	E	T	I	T	S	E	X	H	A	L	E		
D	E	A	N	I	O	T	A	E	T	E	S		
T	E	R	M	P	A	P	E	R					
T	E	E	M	O	U	S	T	S	E	A	M		
A	C	T	I	O	N	A	P	T	B	E	G		
J	O	H	N	W	I	C	K	L	A	S	S	I	E
C	A	S	E	R	I	S	E	C	E	N	A		
M	A	N	I	B	A	C	K	B	U	R	N	E	R
A	R	O	D	A	N	K	A	S	A	C	K	S	
I	S	L	E	N	E	S	T	E	P	E	E		

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- 32 Grains that may be steel-cut
- 34 Produce aisle spray
- 36 German entomologist Hermann
- 38 Large-scale
- 40 Make use (of)
- 43 "Yes, honey"
- 44 Bra(i)n
- 45 Fashion tape target
- 51 What a pocket protector protects from
- 53 Dating initials
- 54 Wood whose name comes from the Spanish for "raft"
- 57 Rested
- 60 "u tell me"
- 61 "Yikes!"
- 64 Horn-heavy genre
- 66 ___ Mahal

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

Solution to Wednesday's puzzle 9/25/25

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

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

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THE UNSPOKEN LIVES OF THE INDIGENOUS IN EARLY COLONIAL CHICAGO

by **Bonnibel Lilith Rampertab**

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Historian, digital archivist and researcher at Newberry Library Rose Miron gave a short talk on the role and contributions of Indigenous women to their communities in early colonial Chicago on Sept. 24 in the Wood Hall basement.

The talk was preceded by a longer lecture the day before on Mohican heritage tourism at the Dodd Center for Human Rights and both were for the Gender and History Seminar series. In Miron's introduction, a presenter said that there would be future Wednesday history lecture workshops.

Miron began her talk by showing the culmination of her team's research: the Indigenous Chicago archival website. The website has a wide variety of resources for preserving and teaching the Indigenous culture of Chicago.

Miron called her talk "a work-in-progress," as she knows she has much more to research and piece together pertaining to the history of women in early colonial Chicago.

"Chicago as a location is a very complicated place," she said. Even the name "Chicago" is complicated, meaning something close to "stinky onion" in English. Miron also cited the avenues of canoe transportation by rivers.

Miron said that Jean Bap-

tiste Point du Sable, possibly a Haitian man, was the first settler in Chicago in around 1779. Fur trader Antoine Ouilmette was the first white settler in Chicago. Both men married Indigenous women. Du Sable married the Potawatomi Kitiyawa and Ouilmette married the French Potawatomi Archange. Miron focused her talk on these two women's lives and actions within their intentional marriages to settlers to support their communities.

Women, especially Indigenous women, often served as interpreters and translators between the Indigenous and settlers. However, the lack of focus on Indigenous people and women "carries into today" in the memorialization of du Sable and Ouilmette in Chicago's public history. Miron said such memorialization comes with the act of "erasing Native people in the process." The little representation that the Indigenous had was stereotypical and racist in nature.

There were many maps, both historical and practical for the modern day, displayed during the talk. In one of the historical maps, Miron drew attention to how the cartographer wrote in Chicago, meaning that "the people who drew the map had engaged with Natives."

Miron then shifted the conversation to two words used to define settlers: "ndenwé-magen," meaning "relatives" and "myeg-yegwan," meaning "foreigner." Many settlers' goals were to become considered a "relative" by the Indigenous.

In the Battle of Fort Dearborn, Kitiyawa let someone take refuge in her house. This is yet another example of these women using their power from marriage to help others and their communities.

There was a treaty established in 1829 that seemed like an unfair compromise and bribe in favor of the settlers, but Miron said that, contextualizing the conditions of the era, "The leaders of the negotiation of this treaty did the best they could do" for the sake of their people.

In 2024, the first Indig-

enous reservation in Illinois was founded, reclaiming upwards of 100 acres of stolen land from the treaty. In the past there have been petitions sent to the United States president of the time about timber that was stolen from Indigenous land too.

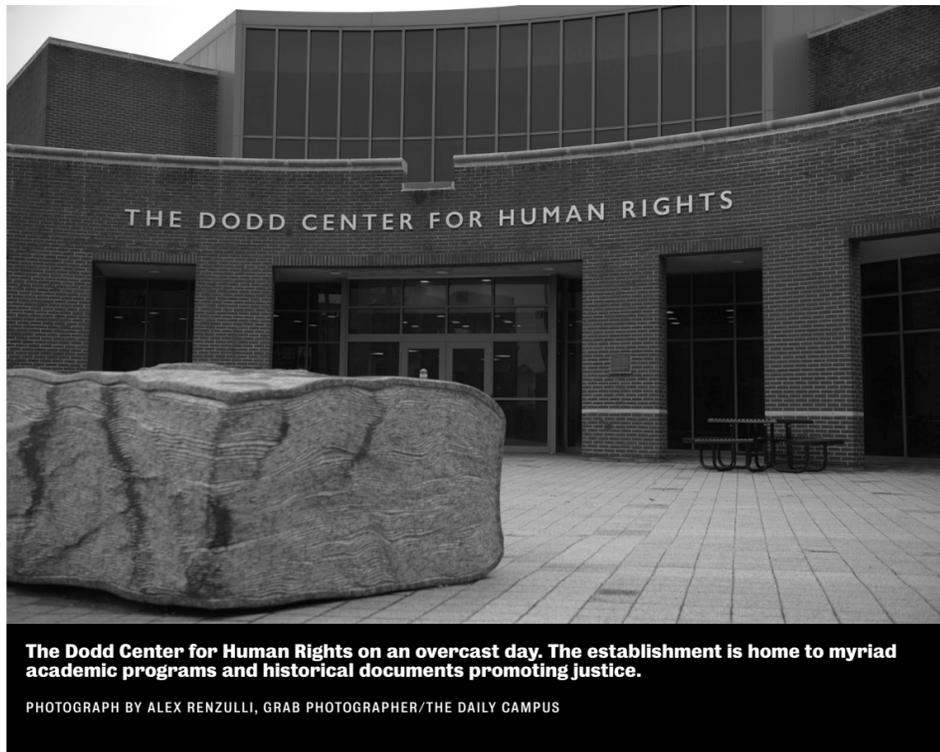
After the talk, there was a brief Q&A session. One attendee asked about the movements of Indigenous people.

Miron explained that the Indigenous people of Chicago would move seasonally. For example, in the summer Chicago was a primary fishing spot, and in the fall the land

was best for hunting. She also said that the plains of the Chicago area used to have buffalo.

Another audience member recalled that Miron hadn't spent much time discussing the burial sites of the Indigenous people in Chicago and asked if there is any material evidence related to the subject.

Miron said that the map was drawn from archaeological evidence. However, she said, "We did not make them public because of issues such as desecration of Native land."



The Dodd Center for Human Rights on an overcast day. The establishment is home to myriad academic programs and historical documents promoting justice.

PHOTOGRAPH BY ALEX RENZULLI, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS



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

by **Maleena Muzio**

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Fall is finally here and just as the seasons have changed, trends have begun to emerge and shift. Chillier weather has brought forward some clear fashion changes, but some aspects of popular culture have remained the same.

New York Fashion Week, Spring/Summer 2026 took place Sept. 11 through Sept. 16 and introduced concepts that I've noticed are already dominating this fall. One of the largest commonalities of the week was blue denim, specifically loose and distressed denim.

This brings me to one of my main points: The late '80s, early '90s grunge re-

emergence. These loose-fitting "mom" and "boyfriend" jeans were commonly seen in this era. I also noticed many ripped pairs of jeans showcased from brands, such as Brandon Maxwell and Area. Coach also featured baggy, distressed denim, and the majority of their new collection had a grunge appeal.

Not only are these trends being seen at fashion week, but on social media and on campus, I have noticed flannels — another staple of the grunge era — everywhere. Almost anywhere you look on campus, you can spot someone wearing a flannel jacket or button up.

Layering also seemed to be a common theme at NY Fashion Week, which is also proving relevant off the runway. Brands such as Zankov, Lii and Maria McManus maximized layering for their run-

way looks. However, off the stage, people seem to be taking a more subtle approach to layers. Long sleeves under t-shirts are popular in men's and women's fashion and more recently, camis — typically with lace trim — have been placed under different shirts, usually with v-necklines.

Outside of the fashion world, other trends have been cycling. Book adaptations, remakes and biopics have taken over the film industry. These unoriginal films have been shoved down consumers' throats for the last few years.

Most recently, the new "Wuthering Heights" film was announced, with its official teaser coming out earlier this month. "Wuthering Heights," originally a Victorian novel, has already been translated on the screen several times, with the earliest

being in 1920 and the latest in 2022.

Similarly, "Springsteen: Deliver Me from Nowhere," the Bruce Springsteen biopic, is set to release in late October of this year. After the Elvis Presley, Priscilla Presley, Marilyn Monroe, Amy Winehouse and Bob Dylan biopics (to name a few) all coming out within the last three years, I think it is safe to say that Hollywood should take a break with these overdone films. The casting for the Beatles' biopics, titled "A Hard Day's Night" also came out earlier this year, receiving online backlash.

Finally, on social media, this week we have seen talk and memes of "the rapture." The rapture is a Christian belief that Jesus will have a second coming and during summer, South African pastor Joshua Mhlakela shared his belief of the rapture hap-

pening on Sept. 23 or 24 of this year.

Memes and believers have taken over the internet either sharing jokes towards this belief or so-called information on the event. Some of the most out-of-pocket posts I have seen included AI edits of the Rizzler being sent to heaven and a user expressing the fear of only being able to listen to Gracie Abrams after the rapture takes other artists.

Is the mockery too funny or too far? The answer depends on who you ask, but for me, it just seems to be another day on the internet with people of varying beliefs sharing their opinions — which is nothing we have not seen before.

Luckily, the autumnal trends have just begun. Tune in next time to see what everyone is talking about as October rolls around the corner!

TRENDSETTER:

'90s revival,
Hollywood recycled
and Jesus?

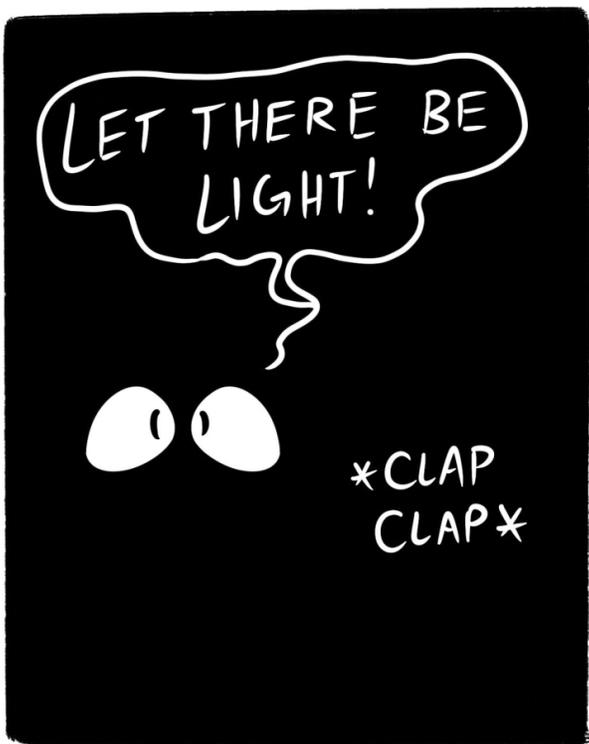


A model struts down the runway for Tory Burch during New York Fashion Week on Sept. 18, 2025. Current fashion trends indicate the appeal of '90s grunge. PHOTO COURTESY OF @NYFW ON INSTAGRAM

COMICS



COMIC BY CHRISTIAN BARBARA, CONTRIBUTING ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS



COMIC BY CONNOR SZREJNA, STAFF ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS



COMIC BY CONNOR SZREJNA, STAFF ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS



Life

Homecoming and Family Weekend events to look out for



Gampel Pavilion in the heart of basketball season. Located on the Storrs campus, Gampel is where many UConn men's and women's basketball home games are played. PHOTO BY CONNOR SHARP, PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

by Samantha Brody
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With Family Weekend and Homecoming right around the corner, this upcoming weekend is shaping up to be a busy one for Huskies around campus. For those wondering what's up next at Storrs, consider this to be your guide for the upcoming festivities.

Family Weekend officially begins on Friday, although the opportunities for exciting events are slim. Most of the events planned for this day are open houses for various programs, including the journalism department and the Homer Babbidge Library. However, the Planetarium will be hosting shows from 3 to 6 p.m. Seating is free, but spots can be reserved on the UConn Marketplace website.

If stars and planets don't interest you and your family, a different kind of out-of-this-world experience is happening at the Student Union Theatre. Beginning at 5 p.m.,

hypnotist and magician Jim Spinnato is running a free performance, although you might want to arrive early as there are no seat reservations.

Friday is also when the homecoming excitement starts, with a scavenger hunt beginning on Fairfield Way. The scavenger hunt coincides with this year's "Picture This" theme for homecoming, requiring students to take various photos around campus to earn free merchandise or a stuffed husky.

The scavenger hunt starts at noon, but keep in mind that the prizes are first come, first served.

Saturday features much of the same in terms of open houses, but the yearly Celebrate Mansfield festival begins at 2 p.m. in Downtown Storrs. This annual event features live music, games, puppetry, food, drinks and so much more. Hot off the heels of their new EP, "TED," New Haven-based rock band Ruby Leftstep will be playing at 5 p.m. as the opener for the blues-soul-rock act All Night Boogie Band, who take the

stage at 6:30 p.m.

Outside of the Celebrate Mansfield Festival, UConn will also be hosting open ice skating at Toscano from 7 to 10 p.m., with hourly skating blocks, although it is recommended skaters show up half an hour early to the hour they wish to skate.

Starting at 8 p.m., the Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts will be hosting "Invincible: A Tribute to Michael Jackson." This show features performances of various Michael Jackson songs, fit to choreography, lights and smoke machines. As of Wednesday, tickets are running low, and any remaining tickets can be purchased on the Jorgensen website, starting at \$25.

Sunday marks the true beginning of homecoming merriment with the Homecoming parade and carnival. The parade will begin at 1:30 p.m. on Hillside Road near Jorgensen and will travel through Fairfield Way, featuring various student organizations, a float of Jonathan the Husky and the UConn Marching Band.

After the parade ends, the marching band will move to Mirror Lake for a separate performance beginning around 2 p.m. At the same time, the Homecoming Carnival will begin on the Founders Green, lasting until 8 p.m. This event will feature rides, food, games, a petting zoo and more.

The activity on Storrs campus will begin to calm down with the conclusion of Family Weekend, but homecoming festivities come back in full force with the annual Lip Sync event at Jorgensen, beginning at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 2. Participating groups will show off a prepared set of routine set to music, to be scored by a panel of judges.

The lip sync is also when the winners of the banner painting competition will be announced. Student organizations that signed up to participate in homecoming activities were previously tasked with making a banner to display in the Student Union, which will be visible throughout the weekend and

next week.

Friday marks the final homecoming event of the week with Fan Fest Friday. Much like Sunday's carnival, this event will include inflatables, food trucks, games, caricatures and much more. Fan Fest Friday will be running from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Finally, UConn Football kicks off the homecoming game on Saturday, Oct. 4. The Huskies will be facing off against the Florida International University Panthers, with kick off at 3:30 p.m. The Panthers and the Huskies are both currently standing at 2-2 overall, but if UConn falls to Buffalo this Saturday, a homecoming win will put the Huskies halfway to bowl eligible status.

Student ticket claim for the Huskies vs. Panthers game starts on Monday, Sept. 29 at 10 a.m. Students can also pick up a free bus ticket from Storrs to Rentschler Field at the Student Union Information Center, also beginning on Monday. More information on ticket claim can be found at uconnhuskies.com.



Students gather on the Student Union Lawn in Storrs, Conn., to watch the WHUS Radio Sounds of Summer Concert on Sept. 13, 2025. Students and families will be able to enjoy exciting events like this around campus next week.

PHOTOGRAPH BY NATHAN GALICINAO, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS



Opinion

The Daily Campus

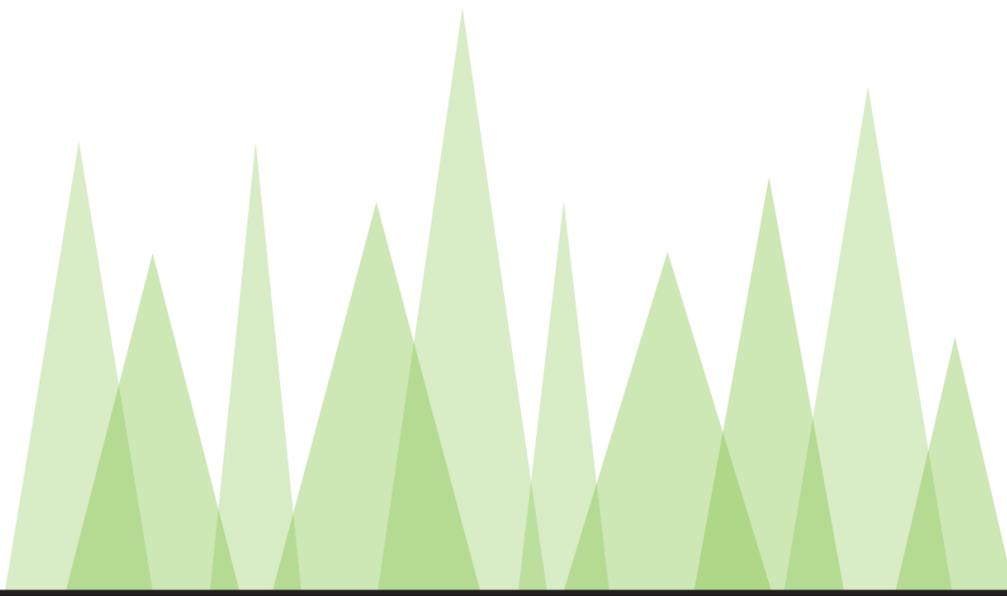
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This land is your land... but it's theirs too.

CLIPART COURTESY OF PIXABAY

by Tamara Segal
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Last week, a bear walked into a Dollar General in New Jersey. Who could blame her? She was probably hungry. While the bear roamed the aisles, visibly disoriented, she bit a 90-year-old woman, and on the way out she jumped on a dog. By the end of the day, the bear was dead. The police officers made the difficult decision to shoot her following procedure outlined to protect the public. But is that really the way things had to play out.

That bear didn't want to hurt anyone; the smell of food lured her out of the woods and into an altercation that proved dangerous for everyone involved. It might seem like one bear is insignificant in the long run, but she represents the growing rift between humans and what we deem our surroundings. This story is not unique; it's only the limelight in a recurring narrative in which animals face the systems humans build and come out worse for wear, or not at all.

From bears to birds to sea

turtles, human activity is dooming wildlife. In fact, evolutionary ecologist John Weins suggests that "in the next 100 years, we could lose 30 or 40 percent of all species on Earth." Meanwhile, another study suggests that human activity is beginning to induce a sixth mass extinction like that of the dinosaurs. While we should prioritize our own safety, we should also understand that, in the bigger picture, the wellbeing of the other creatures with whom we share the Earth are integral to it.

Our biosphere revolves around the contributions and replenishments that all living things come together to provide. It is an ever complex and interconnected system that can't be engineered. Losing different species is like losing parts in a machine, and it leaves a fractured ecosystem with dangers like threatened food security and greater vulnerability to natural disasters and climate change, to name a few. To look out for ourselves, we need everyone else, because alone, we would not have the same Earth to call home.

Yet, humans have come to rou-

tinely take much more than our fair share of resources and cause outsized environmental harm. We take for granted that the land we call our own is rightfully ours, when really the Earth has never belonged to anyone; it is common ground, and we all collectively rely on it. In short, we act like an invasive species. However, unlike other anomalies of that nature, we have a choice.

Although there's not one common definition of what it is, we all know that humans have something special that sets us apart from other animals. Some say it's intelligence, or language, or even true consciousness. Whatever it is, though, gives us the power to live conscientiously and with awareness of our impact. Sure, Asian shore crabs are taking over ecosystems on the coast of the eastern United States, but they don't know any better and don't have the agency to change their behavior. We do. That thing that makes us unique? I'd say it's responsibility for how our actions ripple out.

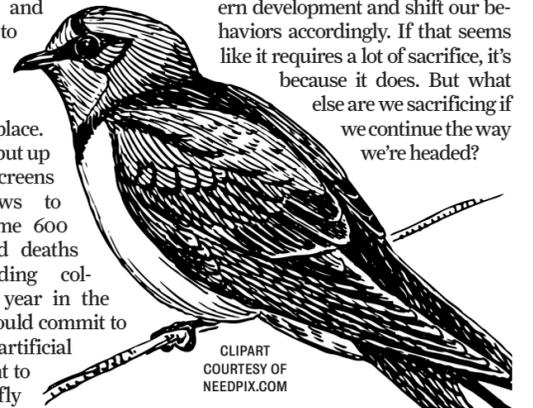
To truly progress, not just industrialize, we need to focus on

working with the environment, not simply alongside it. We need to recognize that the environment is not simply our surroundings, but rather a whole that we make up a part of. That means prioritizing coexistence. It means we need to stop building up in ways that cut wildlife down.

What does that look like? It's a complex picture, but here are some concrete examples. If we want to save the bears, we should store smelly food and products safely so that they aren't attracted and never learn to associate humans with food in the first place. We should put up decals or screens on windows to prevent some 600 million bird deaths from building collisions per year in the U.S. We should commit to reducing artificial light at night to respect firefly

mating and hatching of sea turtles. We should seriously minimize the area of land that we develop and transform, because it's not ours to claim. In other words, we shouldn't allow our modern inventions to challenge the natural order and rhythm that the Earth has honed to harmony over the span of more than three billion years, since the first traces of life.

In truth, this is not a do-what-you-can situation, but rather one where we need to rethink many of the bedrock assumptions that govern development and shift our behaviors accordingly. If that seems like it requires a lot of sacrifice, it's because it does. But what else are we sacrificing if we continue the way we're headed?



CLIPART COURTESY OF NEEDPIX.COM

Patrick's Politics: Trump's government censorship must be stopped

by Patrick Minnerly
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If you think about the most enduring concept of the United States, the idea that has stuck with

our country for centuries, it is likely free speech. Outlined in the First Amendment to the Constitution, free speech is perhaps our most important ideal, and it is crucial to democracy. In recent years, Republicans have made extensive appeals

to free speech in their fight against "cancel culture," but many have changed their tune under the second Trump administration. Now, the weight of the government is pressing down on free speech — and this must be recognized before we are crushed.

ABC's suspension of Jimmy Kimmel, a popular late night talk show host, on Sept. 17 is the latest case to pit Trump's government against free speech. Kimmel was pulled from the airwaves after making comments about the fatal shooting of rightwing political commentator Charlie Kirk — more specifically, he criticized "the MAGA gang desperately trying to characterize this kid who murdered Charlie Kirk as anything other than one of them." In normal times, these remarks would have gone under the radar — just another opinion fully protected by free speech — and he would be free to continue his show.

Kirk's death, however, has provided an excuse for Trump to change the calculus. As I wrote in last week's edition of the column, the Trump administration and other Republicans quickly promised to go after the left. After Kimmel's comments, Federal Communications Commission chair and Trump appointee Brendan Carr called for his suspension, ominously saying that "we can do this the easy way or the hard way." ABC suspended Kimmel hours later.

The implications of this timeline are clear. Instead of Kimmel's firing merely being a company decision, the federal government put deliberate pressure on ABC. Whether

you agree with Kimmel's stance or not, this is a direct muzzling of free speech, an assault on the spirit of the First Amendment, and a clear episode of government censorship. Even some Republicans were critical of Carr's threats, including Sen. Ted Cruz, who compared them to the words of a "mafioso" in the movie Goodfellas.

Yet the Republicans who pushed back against this attack on free speech were the minority, and they are behind Trump's curve. On Sept. 19, Trump claimed that criticism of his administration was "no longer free speech," calling it "really illegal." He then suggested the FCC could revoke the licenses of networks that run afoul of his government.

Whether Trump acts immediately on this stance is immaterial. No president before Trump has come close to his level of disregard for the Constitution — when he calls criticism illegal, he means it.

The conversation around free speech may die down a little, especially after Kimmel was reinstated last Tuesday. But the crucial concern is that open season has just been declared on the First Amendment. How can a democratic country, one built upon the foundation of freedom to express opinions, operate when the government is hostile to taking away that freedom?

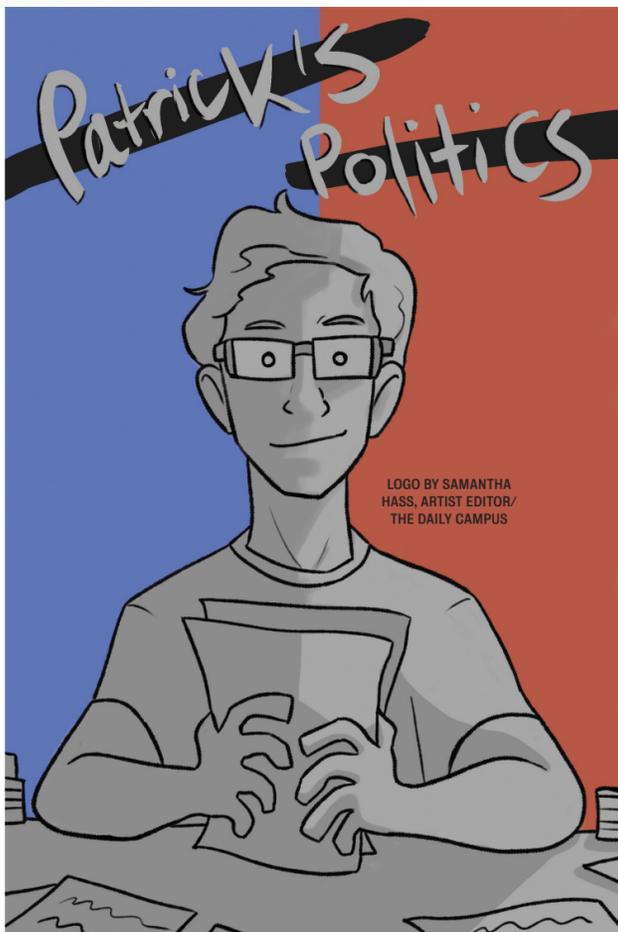
The erosion of free speech goes far beyond Kimmel, and it is a phenomenon that cannot be swept under the rug. Since the start of the second Trump administration, the definition of free speech on the right has changed, and Kirk's murder has only accelerated the

process. Republican Sen. Cynthia Lummis of Washington, said in an interview that "Under normal times, in normal circumstances, I tend to think that the First Amendment should always be sort of the ultimate right," before saying she doesn't think that way "anymore." Lummis' statement nicely sums up that, for all intents and purposes, many Republicans flat out don't care about protecting the First Amendment.

Where is America going to draw the line on free speech? How much will our foremost democratic norm be cut down and whittled away before we recognize the threat? The stage has been set for a test of our values, and whether we will emerge with our freedoms intact is an open question.

The good news is that we have the power to slow and stop the onslaught on free speech. America has a long and rich history of standing up to tyranny and injustice. Kimmel's reinstatement came after a concerted effort to boycott Disney, ABC's parent corporation, showing that the ability of consumers to exercise their opinions is alive and well.

We must always be vigilant and protective of our rights. The safeguards against authoritarianism have been weakened. There will no doubt be further attempts by the Trump administration to crack down on free speech, and the slow death of freedom is no better than a rapid one. America must remember that the First Amendment is first for a reason; if its words lose meaning, the founding principles of our democracy will be ruined.



LOGO BY SAMANTHA HASS, ARTIST EDITOR/ THE DAILY CAMPUS

Opinion

Photo of the Day | Lunchtime



Students recharging with a quick stop at Lizzie's Curbside food truck. Lizzie's Curbside has been at UConn for 35 years. PHOTO BY DEVON CHRISTINI, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Cancel culture is only bad when **we** do it

by Sam Garifalos | CONTRIBUTOR | HE/HIM/HIS | bnw25003@uconn.edu

The recent assassination of conservative commentator Charlie Kirk during an event held at Utah Valley University has prompted a wave of reactions from both sides of the political spectrum. On the right, the discourse has been predictably dominated by outrage. On the left, however, the conversation has been much more varied. While most on the left agreed that political violence of any kind is unacceptable, the degree to which Kirk's death was treated as a tragedy was not as well agreed upon. While more moderate elements of the left expressed sadness at Kirk's death, some further to the left were less eager to frame this event as some great loss. Understandably, many saw the assassination not just as some spontaneous act of senseless violence, but as the logical continuation of the very rhetoric Kirk had made a career out of expressing. After all, this was the same person who spent over a decade spreading harmful lies regarding just about every marginalized group in existence. In fact, just moments before he was shot, he was perpetuating the dangerous lie that transgender people are more prone to being mass shooters than cisgender people. This wasn't an outlier, either: Take any speech he's given, any video or podcast he's been in, any piece of content he's had a hand in creating, and you'll find the same type of hateful and violent rhetoric.

As one would imagine, these two wildly different reactions, one of fury and outrage, one of sober reflection and acknowledgement of Kirk's violent rhetoric, were bound to clash. The first few hours

following the assassination were mostly absent of fighting, with the confusion and shock created by the event serving to temporarily distract from the disagreement. That peace only lasted a short while, though, and soon the two perspectives came into conflict. The right, upon seeing any reaction other than abject horror and grief at the death of their newly martyred hero, flew into a rage. Seemingly anyone who dared to speak honestly about Kirk's history of stochastic terrorism was met with swift retribution. Attacks ranged from the typical childish insults characteristic of right-wing online behavior to doxxing and personal threats. Soon, websites were created to report anyone seen to criticize Kirk so that their criticism could be reported to their employer in an effort to get them fired. Demands from conservative broadcasters even resulted in the temporary suspension of the "Jimmy Kimmel Live!" for what can only be reasonably described as mild criticism directed towards

the right. In short, conservatives did everything they could to ensure people were scared to speak out against them.

Aside from being generally unreasonable and unnecessarily cruel, these efforts at silencing criticism were eerily reminiscent of

something they had long accused the left of using to "cancel" right-wing figures. Scarcely did a conservative figure lose their job or even simply experience some negative consequences for their hateful rhetoric without hordes of right-wing voices screaming "cancel culture," yet here they were, making every effort to ensure anyone who stepped a toe out of line was swiftly punished for their transgressions. This contradictory behavior begs the question: Do they even see the hypocrisy? Is this right-wing cancel culture the result of cynicism and intentional ignorance of its ideological contradictions, or is it simply a complete lack of perspective that drives it? I think the answer to that depends on who you're talking about.

For popular figures, TV personalities, politicians, podcasters, etc., the answer is fairly obvious. These people have made careers out of creating outrage and fear and they're more than smart enough to see that their actions are in direct conflict with the values of "free

speech absolutism" they proclaim to hold. They stand to benefit immensely from a culture of fear and silence surrounding criticism of the right-wing groups currently plunging the US into fascism. They'll do whatever is necessary to make sure that fear thrives, regardless of such insignificant matters as "hypocrisy." For the everyday conservative, however, I believe the motivations and thought processes are different. Conservatism is fundamentally an ideology that discourages criticism and introspection. A belief system based on the desire for everything to stay the same is, by nature, opposed to self-examination and criticism of one's own beliefs. It stands to reason, then, that conservatives without the cynical motivations of power-hungry politicians and celebrities would see no issue with what they're doing. It would require some measure of self-examination to conclude that what they're doing is wrong, but self-criticism is antithetical to conservatism.

So, what can we do about this? How can it possibly be communicated that conservatives' actions contradict every value they claim to hold? Honestly, I don't know. It seems every channel available has been used to attempt to point out this hypocrisy, usually to little or no success. I don't have an immediate solution to that. What's clear is that this dilemma is an integral part of repairing the American consciousness and returning to — or perhaps finally arriving at — an environment of mutual effort towards the common goal of making life better for all Americans.



Jimmy Kimmel standing in front of 'On Air' sign after 'Jimmy Kimmel Live!' returns to ABC after suspension. PHOTO COURTESY OF @JIMMYKIMMELIVE ON INSTAGRAM

something we'd seen before. Conservatives' behavior in the days following the assassination was an example of the same kind of "cancel culture" they had expressed such immense outrage about for years before. Every tactic used by the right to quell dissent was some-

Our allegiance to companies is worth **more than we think**

by Amber Greene | CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT | SHE/HER/HERS | amg230532uconn.edu

In a capitalist country, money is everything. As such, a very powerful tool that we have in expressing our beliefs is what we choose to do with our money. When you support a brand, it's not just about using their products because you like them, it is funding their ideas and what they stand for. It seems like anywhere that you look, a new company is using their millions to finance atrocities. The power that we give these very companies, and the results of this power, should fuel us to be more selective with what we fund.

Last Wednesday, one half of the famous founding duo behind Ben & Jerry's, Ben Cohen, announced his resignation as owner of the famous ice cream company. Cohen stated that, while he still appreciates his brand, he cannot in good conscience support his company being owned by Unilever who has repeatedly silenced their mission. Unilever went back on an agreement that the co-founders

had, which refused to sell their ice cream in the occupied Palestinian territories. Most people know the ice cream company for their iconic flavors, however their activism is also widely known. The company has released flavors like "Change the Whirled", "Empowermint" and "Resist" with different groups in mind and proceeds going towards supporting them and giving them a voice. Although some comments under Cohen's post complained about letting "ice cream just be ice cream" and that his resignation is "too woke," this shows how much higher of a standard we as consumers should hold our companies to. If he can back down from his own company, why can't we do the far easier act of just not buying what they put out? Ben & Jerry's has not

been the only corporation to show its true colors. Several brands have come out to blindly follow the current administration, for fear of what would happen if they did not. Revelations about a brand's beliefs will isolate people who follow a company just because and those who pay attention. The fallout of ABC's decision to cancel "Jimmy Kimmel Live!" due to his comments about

Charlie Kirk reveal what happens when your followers pay attention. Following the suspension of Kimmel, several people announced they would be canceling their Disney+ subscriptions and Disney trips as well as boycotting ABC. ABC's parent company, Disney, reportedly lost billions of dollars along with their stock decreasing by 0.67% following backlash. The people who chose to use their money as a means of speaking up made a real impact, and now the Jimmy Kimmel show has returned. Disney was taken back by the power of American people who could hit where it hurts them most, their pockets. Companies with a sole focus of money will alter what they

believe and who they support as long as they keep their customers. If more people were picky about what and who they are willing to financially support, corporations might not be so quick to bow down to the government. This means that with boycotting, we as consumers can hold businesses accountable for their ignorant choices. The power of taking a stand comes in numbers. One person stopping their support does not do much but with a flood of people removing their support, a company can be severely impacted. We need to realize that the simple decision to stop paying that subscription or choosing to not buy from a restaurant is one of the biggest challenges to big businesses.

The best form of protest comes in refusing to support these companies that stand for nothing and fall for everything. We should all take a scoop out of Ben & Jerry's pint and not follow a company who no longer aligns with our morals.



The Weekly Power Play: Anze Kopitar set to hang up his skates after this season



LOGO BY ALEXA PAPPAS, CONTRIBUTING ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

by Nicole Caruso
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The Los Angeles Kings will need to elect a new captain soon as Anze Kopitar is retiring after this season.

Kopitar announced his decision last Thursday in El Segundo, Calif. stating that it was not an easy decision, but rather a necessary one.

“After last season, I had a bit of time over the last few months to think and to talk to the family to see where the path is for me and where it’s going, and after lots and lots of thinking, I’ve decided that this year is going to be my last year playing in the NHL. With a heavy heart obviously, I’ve accepted that decision,” said Kopitar.

The 38-year-old has spent his entire career with the Kings since he was drafted in 2005. Kopitar became the first Slovene to play in the NHL when he made his debut in 2006. Over the years he has made a lasting impact on the Kings, leading the franchise in games played (1,454). In the past four years, Kopitar has only missed three games.

Kopitar announced his retirement during the second day of training camp for the Kings, “I just want to get this out of the way now to where I’m not a distraction for the team. For example, if we’re in a fight coming down the stretch, the last thing I want to do is to take any attention from the team and put it on myself. I just felt this is the best time.”

Kopitar helped the Kings win the Stanley cup in both 2012 and 2014 and was later named captain in the summer of 2016. He was a key player in both playoff appearances and tied teammate Dustin Brown for goals scored

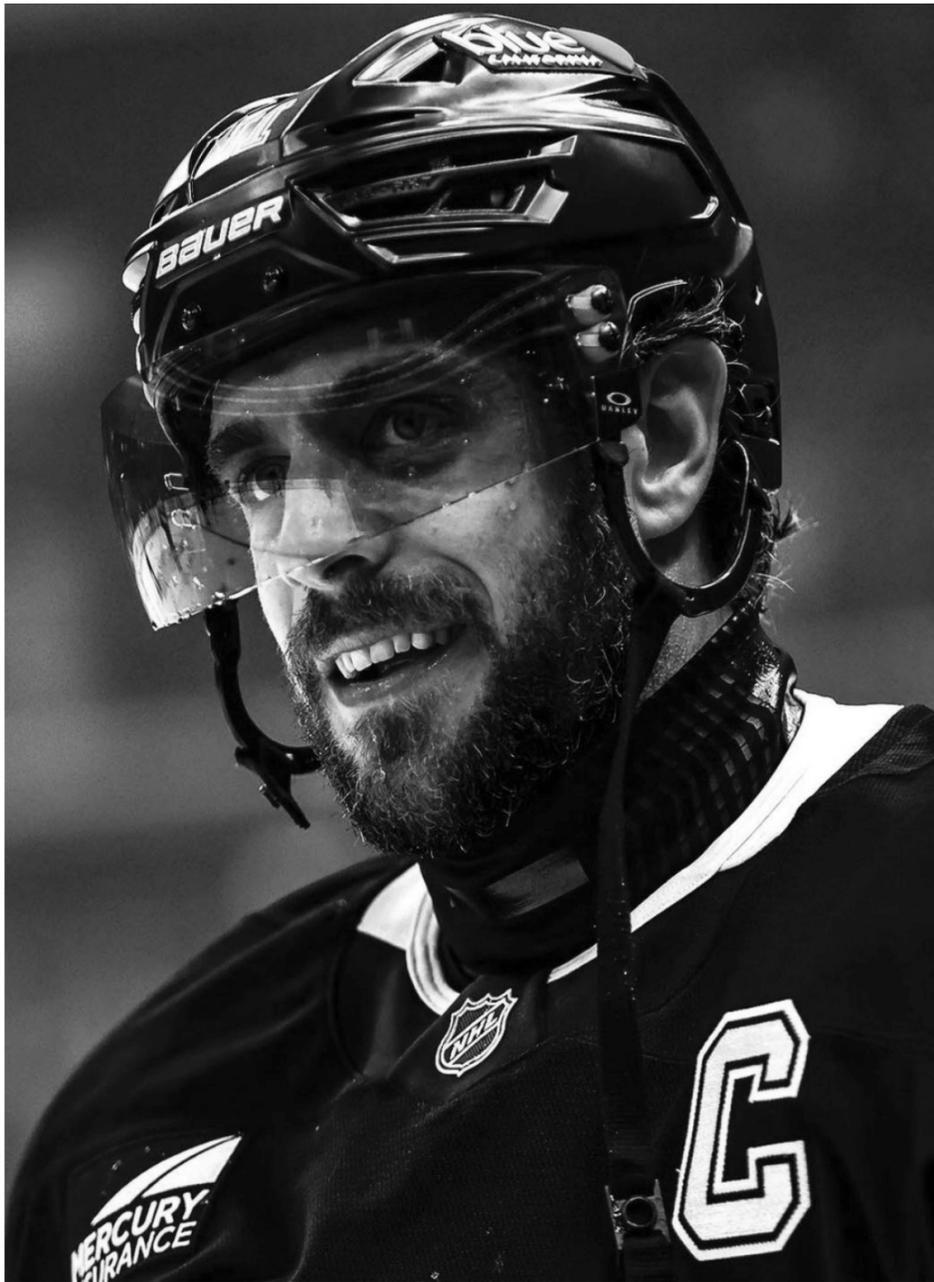


Photo of Los Angeles Kings defender and captain, Anze Kopitar. Kopitar was the first Slovene player to play in the NHL in 2006. PHOTO COURTESY OF @NHL ON INSTAGRAM

(eight) in 2012. Just two years later, he led all players with 26 points and 21 assists.

Last regular season, Kopitar had 67 points, coming from his 21 goals and 46 assists in the King’s 81 games. In his last year, Kopitar is expected to score above 20 goals and around 70 points, according to ESPN statisticians.

This season, Kopitar will play alongside returning teammates right winger Adrian Kempe and left winger Trevor Moore. The past few years, the Kings have struggled to make it past the Edmonton Oilers in the playoffs and this offseason they added some depth to their roster to hopefully get past the hump.

New to the team are right wingers Corey Perry and Joel Armia and defensemen Cody Ceci, among others. Perry, Armia and Ceci will join returning forwards Samuel Heleinius, Jeff Malott and Alex Turcotte creating a good depth for the Kings’ upcoming season.

The Los Angeles Kings’ first game of the regular season will take place on Oct. 7 when they face off against the Colorado Avalanche. The Kings won their first preseason game on Sunday when they defeated the Anaheim Ducks 3-1.

As is every player’s goal entering a new season, winning the Stanley Cup is the main focus, and so is Kopitar’s.

“I’m looking extremely forward to this next season, I have a lot of motivation, I have a lot of energy, a lot of desire to compete at the very highest level,” Kopitar said. “And the moves that [general manager] Ken [Holland] made, I think we’re a better team than we were last year and I just cannot wait to get going.”

COLETTES COMMENTARY: WNBA SEASON FINALE PACKED WITH DRAMA

by Colette Doyle
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The WNBA season is coming to an end; however, this season finale is already packed with lots of excitement, upsets and changes. The first round of the playoffs began on Sunday, Sept. 14, consisting of a best of three series. The semifinals, which began Sunday, Sept. 21, are being played in a best of five series. For the first time in league history, the finals will be played in a best of seven series, previously played in a best of five format.

In the first round, the No. 1 Minnesota Lynx matched up against the No. 8 Golden State Valkyries, the No. 2 Las Vegas Aces faced off against the No. 7 Seattle Storm, the No. 3 Atlanta Dream matched up against the No. 6 Indiana Fever and the No. 4 Phoenix Mercury took on the No. 5 New York Liberty. The round started off calmly, with the top seeds performing well; however, the round ended with many surprising twists.

In the first-round, events quickly contrasted with last years’ playoffs tournament when the Phoenix Mercury knocked out the New York Liberty, the defending champions. Both teams battled all the way to the third game to secure a semifinal spot. Liberty secured the win in the first game of the series in overtime; however, the team faltered in the second game of the series and were defeated by 26 points. This marked their worst home playoff loss in franchise history and brought the series to a decisive third game.

In the third game of the series, both teams gave it their all, but Mercury was able to hold on to get a 79-73 win. Despite the loss, Liberty’s Breanna Stewart put up an elite performance scoring 30 points. However, two Mercury players also delivered elite performances

giving the team the momentum to secure the win. Alyssa Thomas notched 20 points and Satou Sabally secured 23 points for Phoenix. Defensively, DeWanna Bonner locked in the win with eight rebounds off the bench. With her performance, Bonner passed Candace Parker for the most playoff rebounds, totaling 614 rebounds.

In another surprising twist, the New York Liberty decided to not renew the contract of its head coach, Sandy Brondello. Brondello had been with the franchise for four seasons and led them to winning the championship last season. Brondello also led the team to back-to-back finals appearances. This move was a surprise as the players seemed to give their support to the coach in the press conference following their first-round loss. Some speculate the decision could have been made due to the program being plagued by multiple injuries and a disappointing playoff run. The program is expected to go through more changes in the off-season as many key players’ contracts are expiring, including Stewart, Jonquel Jones, Sabrina Ionescu and Natasha Cloud.

The Indiana Fever have delivered multiple surprising performances in the playoffs so far, despite dealing with multiple injuries, including star guard Caitlin Clark. In the first round, the Fever upset the Atlanta Dream. The Dream received the win in the first game of the series, 80-68. The Fever then snagged a 17-point win in game two to tie the series. The Fever were able to secure a close win and a spot in the semifinals in the third series 87-85. Guard Kelsey Mitchell led the team to the win with 24 points.

In game one of the semifinals, the Fever continued to astonish fans with a win over the No. 2 Aces, featuring the WNBA’s MVP A’ja Wilson. Mitchell once again led the team to the win with 34 points, the

most in a WNBA semifinals debut. As a whole, the team played with aggression and largely controlled the pace of the game leading to its 89-73 win. The second game of the semifinal series took place on

Wednesday, Sept. 23. The Aces were able to bounce back to win 90-68 and tie the series. Four-time MVP Wilson largely contributed to the win, bouncing back with 25 points. The next game of the series

will take place on Friday, Sept. 26.

The WNBA finals is scheduled to start in October and is sure to include more excitement as the fight to the championship continues.



NY Liberty player blocking Phoenix Mercury player on the court. NY Liberty lost the game 63-80 and were eliminated from the tournament. PHOTO COURTESY OF @NYLIBERTY ON INSTAGRAM

Sports

Photo of the Day | You got this



The UConn softball team battles Franklin Pierce on Sept. 20, 2025. The game was the second of seven exhibition games, with the last scheduled for Oct. 12, 2025. PHOTO BY NORA MARIANO, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

WOMEN'S SWIM: HUSKIES SEASON OPENER AND AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXTEND A SHUTOUT STREAK

by Meredith Lloyd
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The UConn swim and dive team kickstarts their season today in West Point, N.Y. to face Army, Marist College and Central Connecticut State University (CCSU). This meet is a sprint competition – distance races will begin for the Huskies at their home opener against Villanova, on Oct. 18.

The Huskies are impressively undefeated against Army and CCSU, boasting a 13-0 record amongst the two programs. UConn has historically attained high success in these battles, putting up dominant point averages of 185 (versus Army) and 199 (versus CCSU). This afternoon will be their first faceoff against the Marist Red Foxes.

This meet also marks the first time that the UConn swim and dive team will take the pool together since their outstanding performance at the Big East Championship in February.

The Huskies placed second overall in the conference and earned several silver and bronze medals on the weekend. They also had one first place finish for the now sophomore, Sydney Perkins, who championed the 200 breaststroke (2:12.52).

Five seniors have since graduated, but UConn still puts up a contending roster.

The Huskies' sophomore class will be tonight's toughest competition. Jessica Sheng sets a high

bar in all freestyle events. At the Big East Finals, she took home second place in the 50-yard freestyle (22.67), 100-yard freestyle (49.39) and 100-yard backstroke (54.09). Additionally, Perkins followed up her 200-yard victory with a second-place finish in the 100-yard breaststroke (1:00.97). She is also an instrumental piece to many of UConn's relay teams.

UConn is heading into the meet with a well-rounded group: they have high-performing sprinters at each stroke. Juniors Ella Epes and Maggie Rhodes have sharp times in short-distance butterfly. Nadine Amin, the sophomore out of Cairo, Egypt, has established herself in sprint breaststroke, as well as many freestyle events. Molly Rogers is a backstroke specialist and finished fifth in the 100-yard backstroke (1:54.55) at the conference finals.

There will be some worthy opponents to look out for tonight. Army's standout sprinters, Molly Webber and Angie McKane, were both named to last season's first team All-Patriot League. Webber has recorded stellar split times in the 50-yard freestyle (22.43) and 100-yard freestyle (49.63), while McKane specializes in butterfly and has achieved success in the 50-yard butterfly (24.56) and 100-yard fly (52.51). For CCSU, it's Katrine O'Leary and Lauryn Cowing who led in the short distance events. Marists' frontrunner for the sprint team is junior Rian Dickman.

The meet will begin today at 4 p.m.

LATO'S LENS: WEEK 4'S BIGGEST UPSETS, TOP PERFORMANCES, AND MUST-SEE MATCHUPS IN COLLEGE FOOTBALL

by Tyler Lato
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Last weekend, for the first time in a while, college football was invariably disappointing. Although there were several matchups between heated in-conference rivals, the top 25 produced only one real upset – and even that came in disappointing fashion. But things look to turn around this week, and I mean in a big way, with huge playoff implications on the line. Without further ado, here are college football's biggest upsets and top performances from week 4, along with my pick for the Lato's Lens 'Game of the Week.'

stadium. This was Tulsa's first victory over the Cowboys since 1998. Running back Dominic Richardson carried the offensive load for the Golden Hurricanes, rushing for 146 yards on 31 carries. Additionally, kicker Seth Morgan accounted for 13 total points with his four field goals and one extra point.

Following the loss, longtime Oklahoma State head coach Mike Gundy, who spent 21 years with the program, was fired. Things aren't looking too good in Stillwater.

Syracuse 34, Clemson 21

While Syracuse entered the game with a record of 2-1 and Clemson 1-2, the Orange's 34-21 victory over the Tigers in Death Valley is still an upset by all means.

Under the reign of head coach

Edwards' 19 carries, 194 yards and two second-half touchdowns sealed the Huskies' second victory of the season against Ball State.

Lato's Lens Game of the Week

No. 6 Oregon at No. 3 Penn

Trinidad Chambliss, QB (Mississippi)

Chambliss, who transferred from Division 2 power Ferris State, accounted for three passing touchdowns and 419 all-purpose yards (307 passing, 112 rushing) in No. 13 Ole Miss' 45-10 victory over Tulane.

Cam Edwards, RB (UConn)

Edwards' 19 carries, 194 yards and two second-half touchdowns sealed the Huskies' second victory of the season against Ball State.

Lato's Lens Game of the Week

No. 6 Oregon at No. 3 Penn



UConn running back Cam Edwards scoring a touchdown. Edwards rushed for 194 yards and two touchdowns in UConn's 31-25 win over Ball State. PHOTO BY CONNOR SHARP, PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Biggest Upsets

No. 19 Indiana 63, No. 9 Illinois 10

Head coach Curt Cignetti is the real deal.

Within two years at the helm of a once struggling program, Cignetti has turned the Indiana Hoosiers into a perennial playoff contender, making the 2024-25 College Football Playoffs and an 11-2 record.

The No. 19 Hoosiers failed to disappoint once again on Saturday night, walloping Big Ten rival No. 9 Illinois in 63-10 blowout fashion. Leading the charge for the Hoosiers was University of California transfer quarterback Fernando Mendoza. Though I spoke poorly of Mendoza in an earlier edition of my column, the signal caller completed 21 of his 23 passes for 267 yards and five touchdowns. His top receiver, Elijah Sarratt, hauled in two touchdown passes in the Hoosiers' upset victory.

Tulsa 19, Oklahoma State 12

This isn't much of an upset, but I'm still stunned by the results of this game, nonetheless.

The historically struggling Tulsa Golden Hurricanes held on to a 16-3 halftime lead to stun Oklahoma State at their own

Dabo Swinney, the Tigers have been one of the crown jewels of the ACC and college football as a whole. Meanwhile, Syracuse historically is more of a basketball school – and even that can be disputed nowadays.

But headed by Notre Dame transfer quarterback Steve Angeli, the Orange are a monster. Angeli completed 18 of 31 passes for 244 yards and two touchdowns through the air. Despite leaving the game early due to a season-ending injury, his performance gave the Orange enough momentum to seal a much-needed road victory.

Now former three-star and LSU transfer quarterback Rickie Collins will step into the role of starter for the Orange. I'm excited to see how he leads the Orange in the ever-so competitive ACC as the season progresses.

Top Performances

Arch Manning, QB (Texas)

Manning, after weeks of nationwide scrutiny, finally got his swagger back after completing 18 of 21 passes for 309 yards and three touchdowns through the air, including two on the ground in No. 10 Texas' 55-0 victory over Sam Houston State.

Bryun Parham, LB (UConn)

In UConn's 31-25 home victory over Ball State, the senior lineback-

er recorded a team-high 11 total tackles, helping the Huskies snap a two-game losing streak.

State – Saturday 7:30 p.m. at Beaver Stadium (University Park, Pa.)

When I saw who No. 3 Penn State had slated for their annual 'White-Out' game, a tear rolled down my face when I found out it was the No. 6 Oregon Ducks.

Since leaving the Pac-12 for the Big 10, Oregon has nonetheless dominated, posting an undefeated regular season record in their inaugural 2024 season and defeating Penn State in the conference championship game. Despite losing quarterback Dillon Gabriel to the NFL, head coach Dan Lanning still has the train rolling with a 4-0 record.

On the other hand, Penn State has the same cast of characters as last year. Quarterback Drew Allar returns for his senior year, backed by possibly the best running back tandem in college football with star backs Nick Singleton and Kaytron Allen. The question is: could head coach James Franklin win a big game?

Nonetheless, this rematch of the 2024 Big 10 Championship looks to be one for the ages, rightfully earning its spot as 'Game of the Week!'

Prediction: Penn State



UConn women's swim and dive team besides UConn swimming pool. The team had their first game last year Dec. 7, 2024 against UVM. PHOTO BY FRANCESCA BAZIL, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

TYLER'S TAKE: BREAKING DOWN TOP UNFORESEEN RESULTS OF WEEK 3 IN THE NFL



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Week 3 of the NFL season kept fans on the edge of their seats with several blocked field goals, seven one-score games and seven blowouts. In this week's edition of Tyler's Take, I discuss the top shockers of Week 3.

Los Angeles Rams (2-1), Underperformed:

With three seconds remaining in the matchup, defensive tackle Jordan Davis sealed a 33-26 victory for the Philadelphia Eagles after blocking a 44-yard game-winning field goal from the Rams. The Los Angeles controlled the first half, dropping 19 points and holding the Super Bowl LIX champs to just seven points.

The Rams kept their backfield quiet, as running back Saquon Barkley and quarterback Jalen Hurts combined for 86 rushing yards. In the receiving room, A.J. Brown, DeVonta Smith and Dallas Goedert hauled in a combined total of 202 yards for three touchdowns.

The contest looked over in the third quarter, as linebacker Jared Verse sacked Hurts, forcing a fumble. Quarterback Matthew Stafford exploited the fumble and extended their lead 26-7. Following that drive, the Eagles locked in and scored 26 unanswered points.

The Rams return to SoFi Stadium to host the Indianapolis Colts on Sunday at 4:05 p.m. on Fox.

Washington Commanders (2-1), Surprise:

The Washington Commanders overcame injury odds and destroyed the Las Vegas Raiders 41-24 on Sunday. The Commanders' starting quarterback,

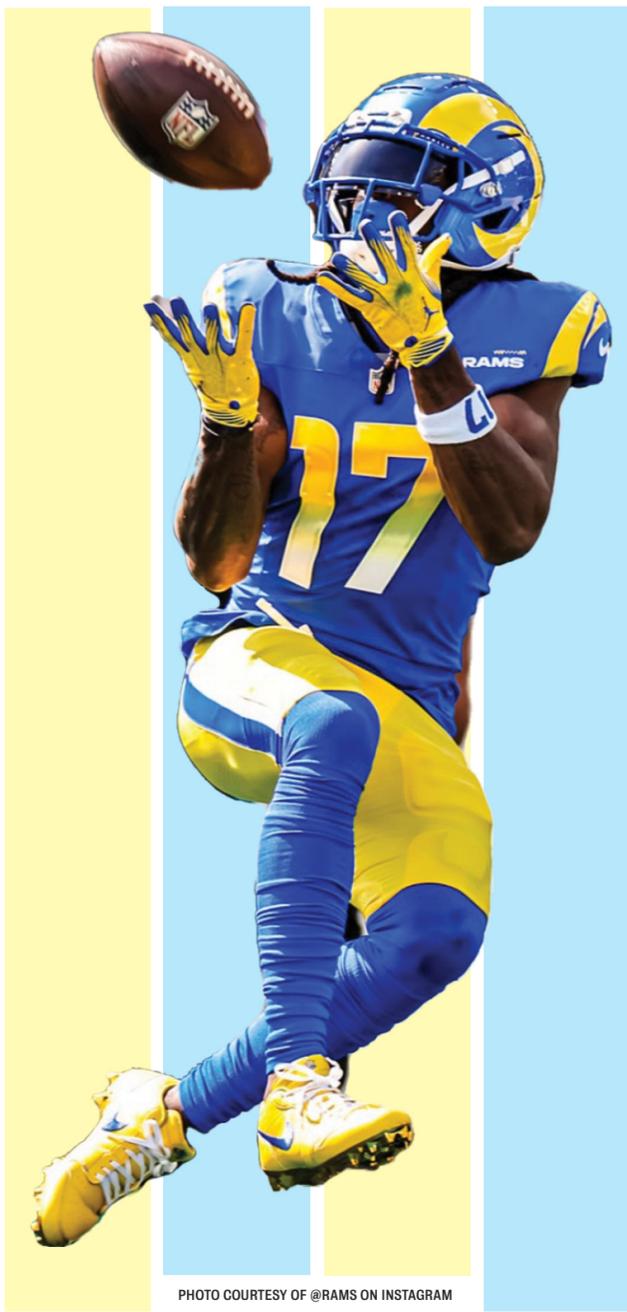


PHOTO COURTESY OF @RAMS ON INSTAGRAM

Jayden Daniels, suffered a knee sprain in Week 2 against the Green Bay Packers. This sidelined the 24-year-old for Week 3, giving the starting role to backup quarterback Marcus Mariota. The 11-year veteran completed 15 of 21 (71.4%) passes for 207 yards and a rushing touchdown.

When it comes to the run game, the franchise walks on thin ice. In the offseason, the Commanders traded Brian Robinson Jr. to the San Francisco 49ers, promoting Austin Ekeler to the primary carrier. However, the 30-year-old tore his Achilles in Week 2 versus the Packers.

Against the Raiders, their backup running backs exceeded expectations, collectively totaling 143 rushing yards. Jeremy McNichols paved the way, rushing 78 yards for a touchdown.

The Commanders travel to face the Atlanta Falcons on Sunday at 1 p.m. on CBS.

Baltimore Ravens (1-2), Underperformed:

Every year, the Baltimore Ravens emerge as a dominating team, and the 2025-2026 campaign was no exception. Within three games, quarterback Lamar Jackson has already thrown for 722 yards, the tenth most amongst the NFL, connecting 54 of 75 (72%) passes.

This seems good, but not everything went according to plan. In the past three weeks, the Ravens' offensive line has struggled to protect Jackson. The 28-year-old ties for second with 12 sacks for a loss of 98 yards. On Monday, the Detroit Lions collapsed the pocket quickly, forcing seven take-downs.

Another problem the franchise faces is with Derrick Henry. So far, the powerful

runner has rushed 242 yards, the fourth most in the NFL, for three endzone appearances. The 31-year-old's biggest challenge right now is securing the ball, as he's fumbled once every clash.

While battling the Buffalo Bills in Week 1 and the Lions in Week 3, the veteran mishandled the ball, leading to both teams scoring points. The last time Henry fumbled in three consecutive matches was in 2022 with the Tennessee Titans.

The Ravens travel to Arrowhead on Sunday to take on the Kansas City Chiefs at 4:25 p.m. on CBS.

Minnesota Vikings (2-1), Surprise:

After a disastrous 22-6 loss to the Falcons in Week 2, the Minnesota Vikings redeemed themselves, crushing the Cincinnati Bengals 48-10. This was a backup quarterback battle, as Joe Burrow got injured with turf toe, sidelining him for about three months, while J.J. McCarthy endured a high right ankle sprain.

The difference maker came defensively, as the Vikings secured three of five forced fumbles. Additionally, the squad sacked gunslinger Jake Browning three times for a loss of 20 yards and snagged a pair of pick-sixes.

Offensively, shot-caller Carson Wentz completed 14 of 20 (70%) passes for 173 yards and two touchdowns. In the last two campaigns, the 32-year-old has only played two full games. In the backfield, running back Jordan Mason plowed through for 116 yards and crossed the goal line twice.

The Vikings fly across the pond on Sunday to clash with the Pittsburgh Steelers in Dublin, Ireland, at 9:30 a.m. on the NFL Network.

Alex's Motorsports Recap: Verstappen and Blaney dominate in F1/NASCAR double header

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Max Verstappen won the Azerbaijan Grand Prix and Ryan Blaney won the Mobil 1 301 on Sunday, to cap off a F1 and NASCAR double header.

Verstappen took pole position in Saturday's qualifying, after a record six red flags came out during the three sessions. Championship leader Oscar Piastri crashed on one of his first laps of the final qualifying session, relegating him to ninth on the grid for the start of the race. Piastri's teammate and title contender Lando Norris, did not capitalize on Piastri's mistake, only managing to qualify seventh for the race.

Before the red lights went out Piastri jumped the race start, causing him to lose out on a bunch of positions at the start of the race. Fernando Alonso also jumped the race start after following Piastri's lead and he received a five second penalty for the offense.

Piastri's race ended on lap one when he crashed into the barrier at turn five due to locking up his front left tire.

On lap 17, Alex Albon made contact with Franco Colapinto into turn five, spinning Colapinto. Albon received a 10 second penalty and two penalty points on his license.

On lap 38, Norris would come into the pits for fresh tires and his pitstop took 4.1 seconds. The average McLaren pitstop in 2025 is 2.95 seconds.

On lap 51, Verstappen would cross the checkered flag and win the Azerbaijan Grand Prix. He would also complete the "grand chelem" which is when you get pole,

win the race, set the fastest lap and lead every lap of the race.

Joining Verstappen on the podium was George Russell for his seventh podium of the season and Carlos Sainz for his first of the season.

The next Formula One race will be on Oct. 5 in Singapore.

Joey Logano took pole on Saturday followed by Ryan Blaney in second.

The race started out with Logano keeping his lead and by lap six Blaney fell to seventh.

By lap 44, Blaney made his way back to second and on lap 54 Blaney took the lead from Logano and would hold it until lap 65 when he would pit from the lead.

Stage one would end on lap 70 with Blaney first followed by Josh Berry and Logano.

On lap 82, the second caution would come out after Shane Van Gisbergen and Berry made contact, with Berry sliding across the track. The race leaders stayed out.

The next caution would come out on lap 110, when Denny Hamlin got into the rear of Ty Gibbs, sending him into the wall. Chase Briscoe, Logano and Blaney all pitted from the lead.

On lap 139, Logano took the lead from Kyle Larson with Briscoe and Blaney not far behind.

Stage two would be won by Logano followed by Larson, William Byron and Blaney.

On lap 229, Blaney took the lead from Logano with everyone needing to pit at least once more for fuel.

On lap 254, Cody Ware would spin for a second time this race as another caution came out. Most of the leaders would come in for pit stops

with Berry and Chase Elliott staying out on old tires.

With 38 laps to go, Blaney would resume the lead from

Berry. Blaney held the lead until lap 301 when the checkered flag came out.

Logano led the most laps

with 147 but Blaney would take the win to guarantee himself a spot in the round of eight.

Above the cutline is Byron, Larson, Christopher Bell, Hamlin, Logano, Elliott and Briscoe. Below the cutline is Ross Chastain, Austin Cindric, Tyler Reddick and Bubba Wallace.

The next NASCAR Cup Series race is Sept. 28 at Kansas Speedway.



Ryan Blaney posing with trophy after winning NASCAR Cup Series Race at New Hampshire Motor Speedway. PHOTO COURTESY OF @RYANBLANEY10 ON INSTAGRAM



Sports

MEN'S HOCKEY: ICE BUS LOOKS AHEAD TO NEW SEASON

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The official start of the season for the UConn men's hockey team is just two weeks away. After the program reached new heights last year, making the NCAA Frozen Four Tournament and recording their first ever tournament win, the Huskies are turning the page to a new season.

"We're excited to be back," said head coach Mike Cavanaugh. "After finishing the way we did last year I think there's a lot of excitement in the room. There's probably some unfinished business we have. The one thing that we've been able to do is turn the page. If anyone understands, I do, that last year has no bearing on what this team's going to do. We have great leadership coming back, we have goaltending coming back, we've got some experience on defense. It's a new season and we're going to have to play very well to be successful in this league."

"Obviously a program best in what we did last year, in achieving the NCAA tournament and getting our first win there," said senior captain Tabor Heaslip. "At the end of the day, that's in the rear view now and we have a different group this year. Fortunately, a lot of the guys are returning but there's still going to be different pieces that we want to imply and rope in these newer guys into our culture and what we believe in and what's going to end up giving us success down the road. Kind of just focusing on creating that brotherhood again in that room and building pieces off of last year.

Just focused on what's ahead of us and what's to come."

Last season's captains Hudson Schandor and John Spetz made their mark on what it means to be a UConn Husky and the leadership that comes along with it. This year's group of captains with seniors Heaslip, Ryan Tattle and junior Joey Muldowney plan to pick right up where they left off.

"It's kind of an ongoing process of growing and developing and becoming a better leader," said Tattle. "I think about things from the captains I've had my freshman and sophomore years. You've got to learn and grow from that to try to be the best leader for your teammates."

"I think last year I did a lot of observing Hudson and John," said Muldowney. "Kind of just nitpicking what parts of their leadership I want to portray and what I had the ability to portray out to everybody - I think I bring a lot of what Hudson had, and just kind of hearing people out, always being a guy that someone could talk to, looking at things from everyone's perspective."

Last season, Muldowney inked his name in the UConn record books last season across multiple stat lines. The Buffalo native holds the program record for most goals in a single season with 29, most points in a single season with 47 and most hat tricks with three. After setting all-time UConn records, Muldowney is ready for a new season and looks to grow his game in broader areas.

"I mean I think there's always room for improvement," said Muldowney. "You know, 28 to 29 goals, that's a lot of goals in college hockey. I can't put too



The UConn men's hockey team playing against No. 4 Maine on Friday, Feb. 21, at Toscano Ice Forum. UConn won a hard-fought game 3-2 in overtime. PHOTO BY MADISON HENDRICKS, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

much pressure on myself, I try not to. I think I kind of look like 'this year let's try to be a good leader, try to be a good captain, let's try to maybe get more assists, try and make more plays, stuff like that. Just try to round out my game in all areas and kind of carry that into the pro level for the following years to come."

The Ice Bus welcomed seven newcomers to this year's roster; Kambryn Hendrickson, Alexandre Blais, Carlin Dezainde, Anthony Allain-Samake, Brendan Dunphy, Joseph Odyniec and Ryan Sanborn. All the freshmen join the Huskies with a plethora of hockey experience and different personalities that will bring a lot of talent to the table for the Ice Bus this season.

"They're all great guys," explained Heaslip. "It's just been awesome. It brings me back a little bit whenever I come in

my freshman year. You know, I think they've done a good job using their resources and everything that we have here and especially leaning on us just kind of asking and just absorbing everything. They're just being sponges in this training camp process and during the summer as well. They've all been great."

Last week, the league announced The Hockey East Preseason Coaches' Poll ranked the Huskies at No. 3 in the Hockey East conference. On the national scale, USCHO ranked Connecticut at No. 10 in the D1 Men's Ice Hockey Preseason poll. While preseason rankings are worth noting, keeping the mentality and edge of having something to prove in the world of college hockey is more valuable to the Huskies. UConn is staying level-headed and will continue to keep the standard that they've had set all along through a bal-

ance of leadership and brotherhood.

"You know, we're trying to go into every game with just the same mindset," described Muldowney. "We have our saying 'respect all but fear none.' You treat every team in our conference, especially the Hockey East, with respect and just know that on any given night any team can beat you. That's just how it works in college hockey. I think we've just been trying to keep a level head of knowing that we are going to get the best now that we kind of set that standard last year."

The Ice Bus is locked and loaded for the new season of college hockey that is right around the corner. The Huskies will open the 2025-26 season on the road out west to Colorado Springs for a two-game set against non-conference opponent Colorado College.

IS THIS THE BEST WEEKEND TO WATCH COLLEGE FOOTBALL?

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This weekend may very well be the greatest weekend to watch college football this season. With high-end matchups scheduled all day, fans should find themselves glued to the television. Not only do many of these games feature the top football programs in the country, but they also add heavy implications for the future playoff seeding.

The most anticipated game of the weekend has to be No. 6 Oregon visiting Beaver Stadium to play No. 3 Penn State in their whiteout game. This is one of the most highly anticipated games of the season with a top 10 matchup and heavy seeding implications in the college football playoffs. Both programs are expected to make the postseason this year, especially after their hot starts. Oregon's offense has been one of the best in the country, averaging just over 50 points per game. Penn State, on the other hand, holds one of the best defenses in the country, allowing just 17 points through the first 3 games. Penn State's ability to slow the run game could set up for some challenges in Oregon's offense and make the Ducks' quarterback, Dante Moore prove himself in high pressure situations. Home field advantage will play a role in this one with Beaver Stadium being one of the hardest stadiums to play in as an opponent.

Another clash between two powerhouse programs will kick off at the same time where No. 17 Alabama will look to redeem themselves after a rough first week loss to Florida State. The Crimson Tide have since gone 2-0 outscoring opponents 111-14 in their last two games. They will take on undefeated No. 5 Georgia who is coming off a huge over-

time win against No. 15 Tennessee. This game will also hold huge postseason implications if the Crimson Tide record their second loss of the season, as the postseason path would become slimmer.

Louisiana State University will look to boost their postseason resume as they travel to No. 13 Ole Miss. LSU is 4-0 going into this game with impressive wins over Clemson and Florida already this season. With the SEC being so competitive every year, this game will have huge significance as both sides look to build up their resume. The Ole Miss Rebels are 2-0 in the conference and 4-0 overall, looking to continue their perfect season. LSU has the stronger defense of the two and will look to continue that against a highly successful Ole Miss offense. LSU has struggled on the offensive side this season with

some inconsistencies in the run game which could lead to their downfall. On the road against a highly offensive Ole Miss squad could provide some challenges for LSU coach Brian Kelly's crew.

University of Southern California will travel to Illinois this weekend as they head into a tough upcoming three weeks having to face No. 23 Illinois, No. 19 Michigan and then traveling to South Bend to take on No. 22 Notre Dame. USC is sitting at No. 21 in the country with an undefeated record of 4-0. Despite this, USC's pass protection has been shaky at times and could be a critical factor in the game if Illinois' defense can get to USC quarterback Jayden Maiava. Maiava has been solid so far this season throwing for 1,223 yards and nine touchdowns along with an impressive zero interceptions. If the Illini

defense can cause some pressure on him and force turnovers, they might be able to pull off the upset.

Texas A&M is coming off a bye week after upsetting No. 8 Notre Dame on the road and will have the tough challenge against Auburn. Texas A&M is ranked No. 9 in the nation, but anything can happen in the SEC. Last season Auburn defeated Texas A&M in a four-overtime thriller, so the Aggies are looking for a little revenge as they prepare for their tough SEC schedule.

The top program in college football also looks to jump back into their season after a bye week as No. 1 Ohio State will travel to face off against Washington. Although Washington is not ranked and the Buckeyes are 8.5-point favorites, Washington has shown promises this season which has gotten them off to a 3-0

start. Washington's most notable season came in 2023 when they finished with a 14-1 record, winning the Big Ten championship and the Sugar Bowl, only to fall short to Michigan in the National Championship. The best team in the country will be a challenge for the Huskies; however, a win this weekend could certainly show promises in another deep postseason run.

All these games and much more in Week 5 of college football will place certain teams over others and show who can make a run this post season. For many of these teams this will be their first challenge of the season and could separate valuable players from good ones. A jam-packed Saturday this weekend with all these high-end matchups favors this weekend as the best one to watch College Football.



Crowd at Alabama getting ready for the wave in a game against Lipscomb Bisons. PHOTO COURTESY OF @ALABAMAFL ON INSTAGRAM