



GEU delivers letter to UConn Administration calling for transparent negotiations

by **Joey Gottlieb**
 CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT
 THEY/THEM/THEIRS
 Jvg18001@uconn.edu

Members of the Graduate Employee and Postdoc Union (GEU) at the University of Connecticut delivered a petition to the UConn Administration Friday morning calling for open and transparent negotiation amid the union's ongoing contract bargaining.

"We think that people outside the negotiating room should be able to know what's going on in negotiations," said Alex Kueny, vice president of UConn GEU. "UConn is a public university. The work that graduate students do here, research and teaching, it affects everyone in the state of Connecticut, so we think that people have a right to know."

The university recently brought forward the proposition of a confidentiality rule during negotiations, which would bar any communication about the content of negotiations with the broader community, according to a petition released by the GEU. The petition also states that UConn is the only public university in the region to include such a measure in negotiation ground rules.

"Transparency and democracy are really important to us," Kueny said. "It's not just a talking point. We're just asking them to do what their other peer institutions have done."

Olivia Bradberry, a graduate assistant for the Natural Resources Department and member of GEU, said that because of recent federal attacks on democracy and higher education, it is paramount that UConn stands up for the values it promotes.

"UConn, it's time to come together for democracy and transparency for public institutions. We say there is nothing to hide, transparent bargaining now," Bradberry said.

Bradberry continued and said that as a member of the bargaining committee, negotiations can proceed effectively



Graduate Employee and Postdoc Union members at UConn gather outside to deliver a petition advocating for transparency regarding the administration's contract bargaining. PHOTO BY JOEY GOTTLIEB, CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT/THE DAILY CAMPUS

with full representation, only if the broader community knows what is going on behind closed doors.

"We all need to know how bargaining is going. We all need to know what kind of offers are on the table," Bradberry said.

In an email to The Daily Campus, University spokesperson Stephanie Reitz said that the university does not comment on specific bargaining proposals while the process is ongoing.

UConn GEU President Grace Easterly said that graduate and post-doctorate workers are struggling to make ends meet with the cost of living constantly rising.

"Too many grad students are

living paycheck to paycheck on a grad student's stipend," Easterly said. "At the same time our university fees went up by 13% last year, taking back nearly 7% of our paycheck. We need the university to wave these fees and give us release."

University fees are expected to increase in the coming years as UConn braces for reduced state funding, according to the interim president for finance at UConn.

State Rep. Gregory Haddad of Mansfield attended the petition drop and said how deeply concerned he and his colleagues were at the lack of state support for its public universities and community colleges.

Haddad added that the first step in productive, transparent

bargaining is coming to the negotiating table in good faith.

"Transparent negotiations are the least we can do in this environment," Haddad said, referring to attacks on higher education and workers by the federal government.

"To make sure that we are doing the best for the University of Connecticut, the best for the people who work for it, the best for the students that we're serving," Haddad said. "Because that's the ultimate goal, is to make sure that we're all taken care of, with a negotiated contract that is fair and balanced."

According to Easterly, nearly 1,300 of the more than 2,300 graduate workers the union represents are teachers, whose

working conditions have a direct impact on the quality of education across campus.

Josephine Burke, a fifth-semester political science major at UConn, said that learning from graduate workers in her classes has been some of the most rewarding experiences in her college career.

"This university would not be able to function without the labor of graduate employees, which directly connects to the experience of tuition paying undergraduates," Burke said.

Burke added that because undergraduate experiences would be impacted by terms in the graduate workers' contract, that those students have a right to know what goes on during negotiations.

One dead, others injured in Mansfield house fire

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

A 79-year-old woman was killed and others were injured after a Mansfield alpaca farm caught fire the evening of Oct. 21, according to a press release from the town of Mansfield.

According to the release, the Mansfield Fire Department was dispatched to 441 Warrenville Road, also known as Khuyay Farm, at approximately 6:22 p.m. Mansfield Deputy Fire Chief Kevin Danielson — who lived nearby — arrived first, where they found resident Carol Dauphin unresponsive on the second floor. Dauphin was transported to Windham Hospital, where she later died from her injuries.

Dauphin's identity was confirmed by a report from Connecticut State Police. An autopsy is yet to be performed according to the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner.

Two other members of the household were rescued from

the building, according to the release. One was treated and released on-scene and another was transported to Windham Hospital for further evaluation.

Danielson was transported to Windham Hospital for burns and smoke inhalation, and two other firefighters received minor injuries and were treated on-scene.

According to the release, one dog died in the fire, with three others being rescued uninjured. No other animals on the farm were hurt.

"Any structure fire that involves household members on the scene is traumatic, and this is a difficult and tragic event for our community," Town Manager Ryan Aylesworth said in the release. "I want to commend the heroic actions of Deputy Chief Danielson and the professionalism of all responding personnel who worked under extremely challenging conditions. We are very proud that our personnel responded so swiftly with fire suppression and emergency medical ap-



Columbia Fire Dept. fire truck stationed on a street. PHOTO COURTESY OF CREATIVE COMMONS

paratus given the relatively remote location."

The State Police Fire and Explosive Investigation Unit and the Mansfield Office of the Fire Marshal are currently investigating the origin and cause of the fire, according to the release.

For more... dailycampus.com [@The_DailyCampus](#) [The_DailyCampus](#) [The Daily Campus](#)

Daily WICKED | PAGE 6
 A wicked twist in "Dancing with the Stars"

Daily POLITICS | PAGE 7
 The Republicans' Nazi problem

Daily HUSKIES WIN | PAGE 12
 Women's soccer earns third straight win in Chicago

WE ARE NOT THE DAILY DIGEST

News

Transportation Advisory Committee convenes, discusses bus app, subsidizing Ubers

by Angel De Jesus
CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT
HE/HIM/HIS
aad23005@uconn.edu

The Transportation Advisory Committee at the University of Connecticut convened for their semiannual meeting on Oct. 20. The event mostly consisted of functionaries from Parking Services but also included faculty from other departments.

This committee is tasked by the executive vice president of administration and chief financial officer to work with the director of logistics of administration in order to discuss plans, happenings and other operations as they relate to transportation on campus. Topics of discussion frequently include shuttle service, parking, and traffic, among other things.

Andy Kelly, the associate director of logistics at UConn, took the lead, first speaking about the new SmartBoots being utilized by Parking Services.

“When we have all of them available, we’ve got 14 in circulation,” Kelly said. “The most we’ve ever had deployed at one time actually happened last week. That was nine that were out at one time.”

The boots have been deployed “about 80 times,” according to Kelly.

Moving on, Kelly spoke about a shortage of bus drivers affecting shuttle service on campus.

“We had a good number of drivers, close to what we need to comfortably run the service that we advertise,” Kelly said. “This year, we are down five from that. We’re at 19... If we had 28 drivers, we would very comfortably be operating all [bus routes]. 28 is the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow.”

UConn outsources bus services to the Windham Region Transit District, which has faced driver shortages in the past. Reasons for driver shortages usually include retirement among the aging workforce, as well as because of compensation or work schedules.

Kelly also described issues related to the bus tracking app in use for these transportation services, “Passio GO!”

“To make matters worse, our primary bus tracking app, Passio, has been challenging, not at all performing as advertised,” Kelly said. “Getting inaccurate information out to people is probably worse than nothing at all. And so we are firmly engaged with Passio... There are other products out there that require a more significant level of administration on our part, but we’re looking at those... to give it a run and see if we could kind of use that and do better ourselves.”

Kelly raised another transportation challenge on campus relating to rental scooters on campus. The university is look-



A HuskyGo Red Line bus operates on campus as UConn's Transportation Advisory Committee addresses driver shortages, app issues, and future transit plans. PHOTO BY BLAKE SYKES, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

ing to partner with another e-scooter vendor to “come up with a more managed solution than the free for all that currently exists on campus.”

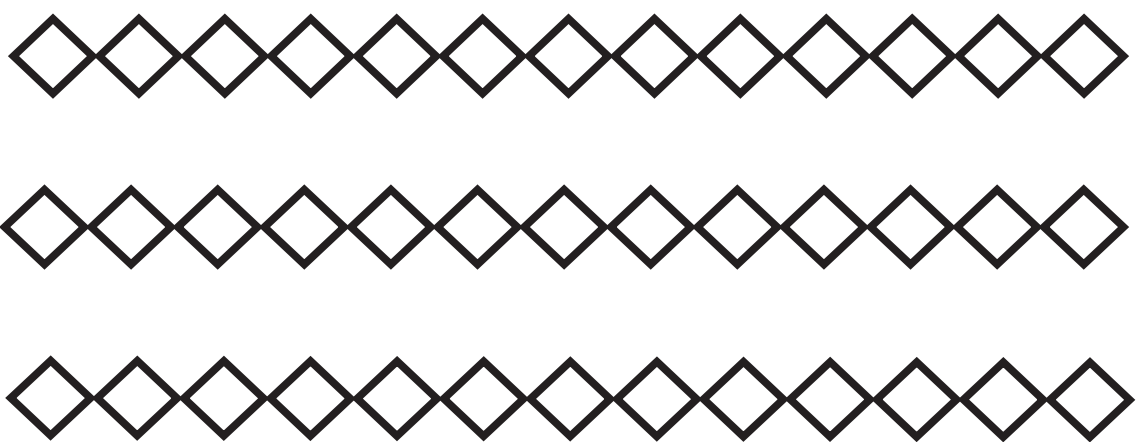
Kelly also mentioned working with the Undergraduate Student Government to make an agreement with Uber in an effort to supplement the shuttle services’ off hours.

“In doing that, the intent would be to subsidize those rides,” Kelly said. “There’s a lot of different ways you can divvy that up, and several different universities have tried different ways. The university is working on a more comprehensive agreement with Uber... [USG] is putting up a very large sum of money to contribute to the subsidizing of rides, and we would also contribute to that pot of money.”

Kelly also mentioned the possibility that the university will organize the construction of a new parking garage on campus.

“It does seem like there’s some really good traction towards putting in a new parking garage,” Kelly said. “[On] Parking services’ side we’re advocating strongly that that garage be somewhere in the South.”

The next meeting for the Transportation Advisory Committee at UConn is slated for March 18, 2026.



Voted Best Hot Dog In CT - CT Magazine 2024 & 2025



5 Canal St Putnam, CT 06260
(860) 928-0252
1244 Storrs Rd Storrs, CT 06268
(860) 477-0128
nikkisdoghouse.com

The Daily Campus

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

Want to advertise in print or online?
businessmanager@dailycampus.com

Corrections and Clarifications:
Send Corrections to EIC@DailyCampus.com

Wednesday, October 22, 2025

Copy Editors: Ayyan Tamjeed & Jada Hernandez
News Designer: Raphaela Pierre-Noel
Life Designer: Sofiyah Shinnarine
Sports Designer: Sophia Ayoub
Opinion Designer: Colbi Loranger
Photo Producer: Nicolas Rodriguez

Karla Perez, Editor-in-Chief
Connor Lafferty, Managing Editor
Hayden Cromer, Business Manager
Ky’Lynn Monts, Digital Editor
Colbi Loranger, Associate Managing Editor
Isabella Kulawik, Associate Managing Editor
Sarah Vial, Associate Digital Editor

Jenna Outcalt News Editor
Pierce Colfer Associate News Editor
Bridget Bronsdon Sports Editor
Avery Becker Associate Sports Editor
Connor Sharp Photo Editor
Emma Meidinger Associate Photo Editor
Dan Stark Life Editor
Sam Brody Associate Life Editor
Tomas Hinckley Opinion Editor
Patrick Minnerly Associate Opinion Editor
Samantha Hass Artist Editor
Lillian LaFemina Associate Artist Editor
Noa Climor Outreach/Social Media Coordinator
Kayden Lynch Karla Guerrero
Circulation Manager
Valley Publishing Company Derby, Conn.

For more information about getting involved as an editorial, business or digital employee:
Editorial · managingeditor@dailycampus.com
Business · businessmanager@dailycampus.com
Digital · digital@dailycampus.com

Prefer to read our content online?

Check out our newly redesigned website at dailycampus.com and follow us on social media.
Instagram · The_DailyCampus
Facebook · The Daily Campus
Twitter · The_DailyCampus

Want to write, photograph or draw for The Daily Campus ?

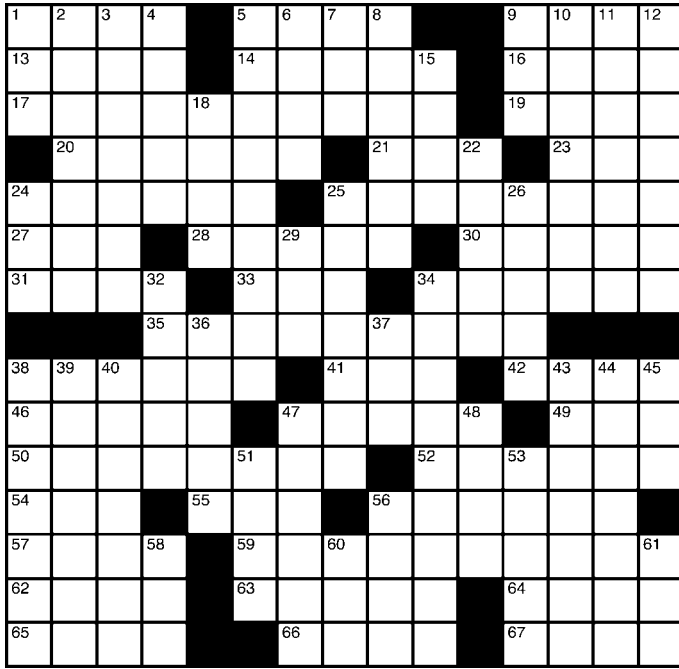
The Daily Campus welcomes writers, photographers and artists of all backgrounds, interests, majors and levels of experience. To get involved, it’s as easy as attending section meetings on Sunday nights, all at the Daily Campus building, (1266 Storrs Road) or reaching out to an email below:

Opinion (Meetings at 5 p.m.)
opinion@dailycampus.com
News (Meetings at 5 p.m.)
news@dailycampus.com
Life (Meetings at 6 p.m.)
life@dailycampus.com
Sports (Meetings at 7 p.m.)
sports@dailycampus.com
Photo (Meetings at 9 p.m.)
photo@dailycampus.com
Artists (Meetings at 9 p.m.)
artists@dailycampus.com

THE DAILY CAMPUS

CROSSWORD & SUDOKU

- ACROSS**
- 1 Jazz venue
 - 5 Persian word for "king"
 - 9 Bejeweled Blitz icons
 - 13 Sweat spot
 - 14 Get greasy
 - 16 Dark cloud, maybe
 - 17 Cancel culture adherent?
 - 19 Purple pet in classic cartoons
 - 20 Ordeals
 - 21 Solemn pledge
 - 23 "That's neither here ___ there"
 - 24 Echo effect
 - 25 Pop culture adherent?
 - 27 Inverness veto
 - 28 Pinkie promises, e.g.
 - 30 Samba or mambo
 - 31 Trader Joe's rival
 - 33 "Geaux Tigers!" sch.
 - 34 Something borrowed
 - 35 Counter culture adherent?
 - 38 Rosemary cuttings
 - 41 Joke around
 - 42 The ___ manifestation of performance anxiety
 - 46 Event space
 - 47 Computer clicker
 - 49 Cleverness
 - 50 Hookup culture adherent?
 - 52 Alternative milk source with a high water footprint
 - 54 Spicy
 - 55 Froot Loops mascot Toucan ___
 - 56 Crown act
 - 57 Screen time device
 - 59 Club culture adherent?
 - 62 ___ mortals
 - 63 Crochet Away nail polish brand
 - 64 Inheritance portion
 - 65 Abbr. in some airport names
 - 66 Tacks on
 - 67 Thus



By Rebecca Goldstein 10/23/25

- DOWN**
- 1 Product lines?
 - 2 Brutally honest
 - 3 Made it
 - 4 Target of some clippers
 - 5 Candies that can cause salivation
 - 6 Chart toppers
 - 7 Indie prefix
 - 8 ___ rancheros
 - 9 Deity
 - 10 Noteworthy
 - 11 Isla in the Balearic Sea
 - 12 Explore the Balearic Sea, e.g.
 - 15 Nudge
 - 18 Small business?
 - 22 One may be knee-deep
 - 24 Biological translation template
 - 25 Struggling to get over, say
 - 26 Low-quality, in slang
 - 29 Forensic drama franchise
 - 32 Menzel who made her Broadway debut in "Rent"

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

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

©2025 Tribune Content Agency, LLC 10/23/25

- 34 Coats paired with bow ties?
- 36 "Crikey!"
- 37 Actor Simu
- 38 Raw fish delicacy
- 39 Pull apart
- 40 Go back to square one
- 43 "Now, let's see"
- 44 Trying to reach, in a way
- 45 Norm: Abbr.
- 47 Boozy brunch beverage
- 48 Jazz icon Fitzgerald
- 51 Spelling expert?
- 53 Frog snack
- 56 Touch-to-pay tech
- 58 Fenwick Island St. Park loc.
- 60 Psychedelics study subj.
- 61 Fair-hiring initials

CROSSWORD
SUDOKU

CROSSWORD

SUDOKU

CROSSWORD

SUDOKU

CROSSWORD

SUDOKU

CROSSWORD

SUDOKU

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

Solution to Wednesday's puzzle

10/23/25

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

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.

CLASSIFIEDS

Policy: Classifieds are non-refundable. Credit will be given if an error materially affects the meaning of the ad and only for the first incorrect insertion. Ads will only be printed if they are accompanied by both first and last name as well as telephone number. Names and numbers may be subject to verification. All advertising is subject to acceptance by The Daily Campus, which reserves the right to reject any ad copy at its sole discretion. The Daily Campus does not knowingly accept ads of a fraudulent nature.

Life

First HALLOWEEN Live Music Preview: Shows in Storrs and Beyond

by Dan Stark

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

Halloween may not be until next Friday, but University of Connecticut students are starting the party early this weekend. As students figure out their plans to celebrate the spookiest holiday of the year, there's many options to choose from. And what better way to celebrate than heading to one of the many Halloween-themed shows to dance and mosh in your favorite costume? Here's a look at what Halloween-themed shows are happening in Storrs and across the Nutmeg state this weekend.

"Halloween may not be until next Friday, but University of Connecticut students are starting the party early this weekend."

Saturday 10/25: The Dog Pound "Harvest Fest" - Storrs

For those without a car or looking to stay in Storrs, look no further than The Dog Pound's "Harvest Fest" show happening on Saturday, Oct. 25. Though a 4 p.m. start time may seem early, the stacked lineup makes up for the late afternoon timing. The six-band lineup features some of the biggest names in the Storrs music scene, including jazz fusion-inspired jam band AshBABY opening the show and indie punk group Overlöded. Headlining the show is reggae group Sol Gyres, one of the most successful bands to come out of Storrs in recent years. Joining them is Foundations of Wednesday, Boston-

based trio Cheaters' Rights and Philadelphia-based pop punk group Warpark.

"For those without a car or looking to stay in Storrs, look no further than The Dog Pound's 'Harvest Fest' show happening on Saturday, Oct. 25."

Music starts at 4 p.m. and admission is \$12. The show will be benefiting the UConn Solidarity Fund, a mutual aid fund run by UConn students. For the address, message @thedogpound on Instagram.

Sunday 10/26: The Workshop Halloween show - Manchester

One of the many long-running gags done by legendary jam band Phish is when they perform in "musical costume" on Halloween by playing an album in its entirety. The spirit of this concept is on display at The Workshop

"The six-band lineup features some of the biggest names in the Storrs music scene, including jazz fusion-inspired jam band AshBABY opening the show and indie punk group Overlöded."

in Manchester for a Halloween show on Sunday, Oct. 26, where five bands will be performing the music of other bands. The five-band bill is highlight by alternative rock band Blandest as Nirvana,

Mildly Allergic as Weezer and scene staple Jaded in Paradise as Canadian heavy metal band Kittie. Rounding out the bill is Scrt Agnt as The Cure and Iggy B as Alex G.

Doors open at 6 p.m., admission is \$10 and all ages are welcome to attend.

Sunday 10/26: "Emo Halloween" house show - Bristol

There's an oft-repeated phrase among Deadheads - fans of the Grateful Dead - that goes "Never miss a Sunday show," in reference to many of the band's great shows that happened on the day of rest. This weekend's

"The five-band bill is highlight by alternative rock band Blandest as Nirvana, Mildly Allergic as Weezer and scene staple Jaded in Paradise as Canadian heavy metal band Kittie."

"Emo Halloween" house show hosted by punk band Don't Go Outside on Sunday, Oct. 26, is one of these shows. The four-band bill is one of the best lineups assembled in the Nutmeg state this year. Joining Don't Go Outside is Overlöded, who is taking the stage after rocking out in Storrs the night before, as well as New York City-based pop punk trio 2/14 and Radiodonta, an alternative rock band based in New Haven.

Music starts at 5 p.m. and admission is \$5. For the address, message @dontgooutside.band on Instagram.



A blood-red bass guitar adorned with Victorian carvings rests against dark velvet, wrapped in mysterious cobwebs.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CREATIVE COMMONS



Harvest Fest setlist for Saturday, Oct. 25 at 4 p.m.

PHOTO COURTESY OF @THEDOGPOUND ON INSTAGRAM

"A Vibey Recital:" A Dynamic Trumpet Performance Between Friends

by Maleena Muzio

STAFF WRITER
SHE/HER/HERS
maleena.muzio@uconn.edu

Blaring horns and good vibes — UConn students Garrett Millette and Anna Rapoza performed their trumpet recital at Von der Mehden Recital Hall on Oct. 21.

The performance, titled "A Vibey Recital," showcased six different pieces, including a duet between Millette and Rapoza to conclude the show. The show was explained by the duo to be a "half-recital."

"A lot of [recitals] are very serious,

and there's nothing wrong with that," Rapoza said. "But we just wanted to play our music — let's just make it vibey."

Millette and Rapoza are both seventh-semester music education stu-

dents at UConn. Their recital was both their first and their last, as they will be teaching students next semester.

While not a requirement for their majors, the duo put on their recital out of a place of pure passion for playing the trumpet.

Millette began playing the trumpet in fourth grade, while Rapoza began in the fifth. While Rapoza loved playing all along, Millette's passion blossomed when he was in high school.

"My high school band director, Mr. Tallotta, who was at the recital; he's just like the best teacher ever," Millette said. "He's my inspiration for going into music education."

The audience was filled with friends and family, as well as a band-

mates of Millette and Rapoza, who are both second-year section leaders for the trumpet section of the marching band at UConn.

"When you are planning something like this, the thought of 'what if no one comes?' is very real, so seeing all of our friends and family and teachers; seeing everyone there was so fulfilling and rewarding," Rapoza said. "I felt very supported in that moment."

Throughout the show, Millette and Rapoza alternated between solos, with Millette opening the show with "Rondo for Life" by Leonard Bernstein. He explained that he had known this song

months ago, playing it for a different solo and knew he wanted to include it in the recital.

Millette's set varied, with the first song being fast and his second slow, ending again on a fast note. He shared that this was done purposefully for contrast.

Millette's favorite and most difficult song out of his three solos was the last, "Sonata for Trumpet and Piano, op. 51" by Flor Peeters.

"I first learned about the piece in high school," Millette said. "It was the most difficult because its long, so you need to have endurance to play the whole thing."

Similarly, Rapoza's favorite song that she performed was also her most difficult,

being "Légende" by George Enescu.

Rapoza had first found a recording of the song when she was in ninth grade and thought "it was so cool," but was too hard for her to play at the time.

"When we were talking about the recital, I was like wait, maybe I could play this, maybe I am finally good enough to play it," she said. "It's kind of been a dream of mine to one day play ["Légende"] for people, and I'm very happy that I did."

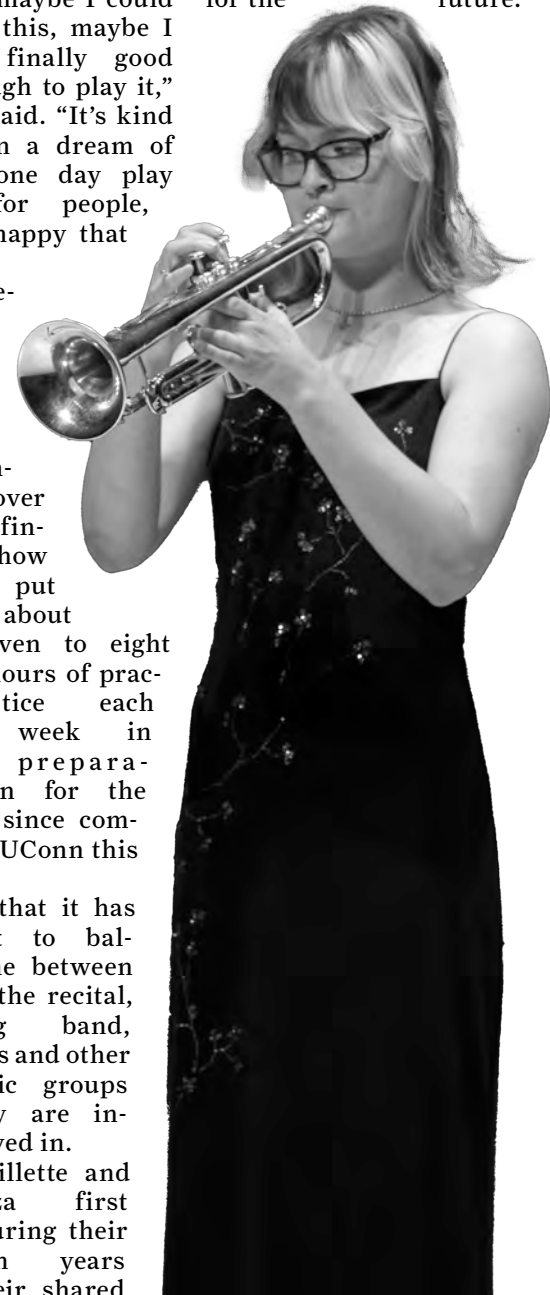
"A Vibey Recital" was in the works since Spring 2025. Millette and Rapoza spent extensive efforts over the summer refining the show and put in about seven to eight hours of practice each week in preparation for the recital since coming back to UConn this semester.

They noted that it has been difficult to balance their time between practicing for the recital, marching band, classes and other music groups they are involved in.

Millette and Rapoza first met during their freshman years because of their shared major and band involvement. Their friendship blossomed further as they

both became section leaders in the marching band.

"[The recital] was a beneficial experience to get up in front of a crowd and perform," Millette said. "Going into a professional music career, we should be able to perform and execute. This was a good mock trial for the future."



PHOTOS BY MORGAN BLANCHARD, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS CLIPART COURTESY OF CREAZILLA

Trendsetter: THE RENAISSANCE AND VICTORIAN ERA TAKE OVER HALLOWEEN

by **Maleena Muzio**
STAFF WRITER
SHE/HER/HERS
maleena.muzio@uconn.edu

What better holiday is there than Halloween to express your artistic fashion? Personally, I see Halloween as the perfect time of the year to express yourself however you want, with no judgement, and, as I mentioned in the previous issue, people seem to be taking more risks this year with their costumes. Less conventional costumes are showing up everywhere, ones that are both slightly unsettling and alluring.

Renaissance themes and circus-core with Victorian

influences seem to be prevalent in some of the best looks I have seen so far. Clowns, but not in the 2016 killer clown way or horror film stereotype, but in a vintage fair type of way, sort of mime-esque. The best clowns I have seen this year remind me of the types of trinkets you would find in a grandparent's attic — almost a combination of the porcelain doll and the clown in one. Less dramatic and scary than we have seen before, but more lifeless and eerie in execution.

On a similar note, while animal costumes such as the classic black cat or even deer do not seem to be going anywhere, there has been a rise in

yet a few other Renaissance influenced costumes, these being animals. The white rabbit is emerging everywhere, and no, not in the Playboy Bunny way. This year, the white rabbit is being done with uncanny masks and makeup looks that focus on red eyes that feel creepier. The white rabbit has gone from the sultry look we all know and love to a Brother's Grimm take on Alice in Wonderland.

Lambs have reemerged as a popular costume too, for both white and black sheep. Again, not the traditional sexy Bo-Peep and little lamb costumes that were popular in the 2000s. The lambs I am

seeing have a more medieval, sacrificial lamb component to them. Similar to the white rabbit, red eyes and uncanny masks or frightening painted-on mouths are being used to portray this lamb.

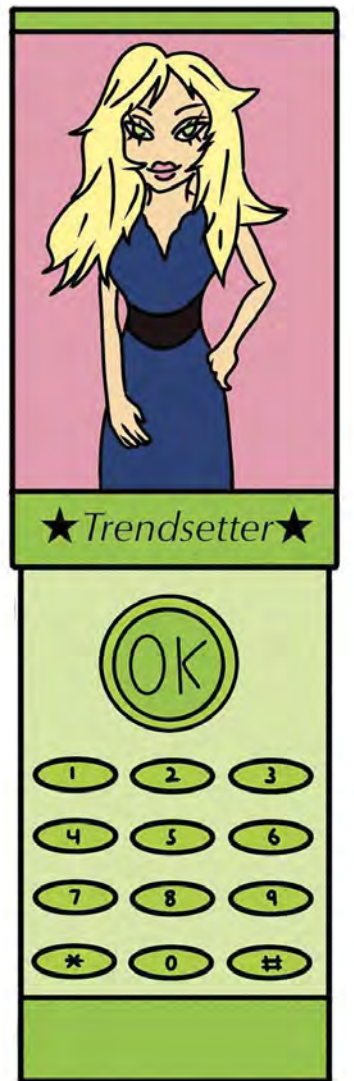
Jumping into everyday fashion, circus-core and the Renaissance are also relevant. I have seen "ringleader" inspired jackets, typically in the peacoat format all over social media. These jackets typically have tassels on them, some with shoulder pads and always with buttons up to the collar. Two of my favorite fashion influencers, Susie Lola and Amanda Symonds, brought up the rise of these jackets on their YouTube channels.

Bloomers, both in the style of shorts and capris, are popular as well. Bloomer shorts have been a common accessory in Halloween costumes for the past few years and there has been a recent rise in balloon capri style bloomers. Autumn period dramas, such as "Little Women," or Halloween classics like "Hocus Pocus," both showcase this type of fashion and could serve as potential influences on their rise.

Overall, I am seeing an emphasis on vintage looks this Halloween, with the earlier the period, the better. Decades like the '80s and '90s do not seem to have as much influence as they have in years before, but rather earlier periods, like the 15th to 19th centuries, have a hold on the holiday this year. I am also seeing some references to the earlier decades of the 20th century, such as the '20s through the '60s. Classic characters — such as Betty Boop and Popeye, or really any female character with skinny high arched eyebrows that defined early 20th century makeup looks — are very popular as well.

The emphasis on transformation and makeup this Halloween is clear.

If you are looking to show off your costumes on social media, there are a few rele-



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

vant trends that I predict will stick around just long enough to do so. Participating in the "Maui Wowie" trend, where people swing from crosswalk lights while lip-syncing the words to Kid Cudi's 2008 song, could be a fun way to get your entire look from head to toe into the frame. Another possible idea is participating in the "What's Up" by 4 Non Blondes x "Beez In The Trap" by Nicki Minaj remix trend, where a camera man spins around two people lip syncing to either 4 Non Blondes or Minaj. I think this could be an incredibly fun way to show off a duo or couples costume this Halloween.

Be bold and show off your creativity this Halloween. Stay safe and have a spooktacular holiday!



Costume wearers at an Ohioan Renaissance festival, held on Halloween Weekend. Characters from the 1920's to 1960's are popular costume influences this year.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CREATIVE COMMONS



Trick-or-treaters spinning a wheel for a spooky prize. Costumes with Renaissance or Victorian influences are starting to pop up more this Halloween.

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

Daily

Life

DANCING WITH THE STARS GOES WICKED

Tuesday night, “Dancing with the Stars” traded the mirrorball for a broomstick as the ballroom transformed into a scene straight out of Oz for “Wicked Night.” From the emerald lighting to the swirling fog and sparkling costumes, the energy was very Broadway — big, bold, and breathtaking. You could feel the excitement buzzing before the first couple even hit the floor.

“Even beyond the top moments, there was something special in the air for everyone.”

The theme couldn’t have come at a better time. With the second “Wicked” movie just around the corner, the idea of dedicating an entire week to the iconic musical felt both timely and inspired. Guest judge Jon M. Chu, who directed the upcoming film adaptation, brought an extra layer of magic to the night, praising dancers not just for their steps, but for how they captured the emotion and story of the songs. The entire production leaned fully into the world of Oz — hosts dressed for the part, lighting cast a glowing green hue, and the opening number set the tone with a full-on Emerald City spectacle.

But what made “Wicked Night” truly special wasn’t just the theme — it was the dancing. This week, everyone seemed to step up their game. Some of the season’s lowest scorers delivered their best work yet, while a few front-runners reached new heights. It felt like one of those rare nights where the competition collectively leveled up.

A huge highlight was the first 10s of the season: Whitney Leavitt and her partner Mark Ballas’ Quickstep to “Popular” was effervescent, full of personality, snap and precision — the kind of routine that jumps off the screen. The judges were practically in the audience with them. They’ve been doing good work all along, but last night that

work paid off in style.

Jordan Chiles was an undeniable standout. Her Rumba to “For Good” was breathtaking — elegant, emotional and technically flawless. She has always been a strong performer, but this was the night where everything clicked. You could see the connection with her partner Ezra Sosa, feel the emotion in every movement and sense that she was dancing straight from the heart. It wasn’t just good — it was unforgettable. Jon M. Chu himself admitted that he has been rooting for Jordan and Ezra.

Then there was Andy, who had his best dance of the season. After a few weeks of uncertainty, he finally found his stride. His confidence soared, his movement was sharper and he looked like he was truly enjoying himself. Watching him dance last night was like watching a story unfold — one of growth, hard work and finally finding the joy in performance. It was the kind of moment that makes “DWTS” so rewarding to watch.

Let’s talk about Elaine Hendrix, because her time has finally come. She has been criminally underscored all season — delivering elegant, thoughtful performances that never quite got the numbers they deserved. That changed with her Contemporary to “Defying Gravity.” It was emotional, raw and completely captivating. Elaine didn’t just dance; she told a story that brought Judge Carrie Ann Inaba to tears. It was the performance she’s been building toward since Week 1, and it was beautiful to see her finally get her due.

Robert Irwin also had a standout performance, as he does every week, bringing his signature charm and grounded sincerity to the ballroom. His dance to “Dancing Through Life” was fun and upbeat. Robert has been steadily improving week by week, but Whitney Carson’s choreography for jazz really brought out a playful side of his dancing.

Even beyond the top moments, there was something special in the air for everyone.

The so-called “lower scorers” all delivered strong routines, proving that they belong on that ballroom floor just as much as the frontrunners. It’s rare to see such across-the-board improvement in one episode, but “Wicked Night” seemed to bring out the best in nearly every dancer.

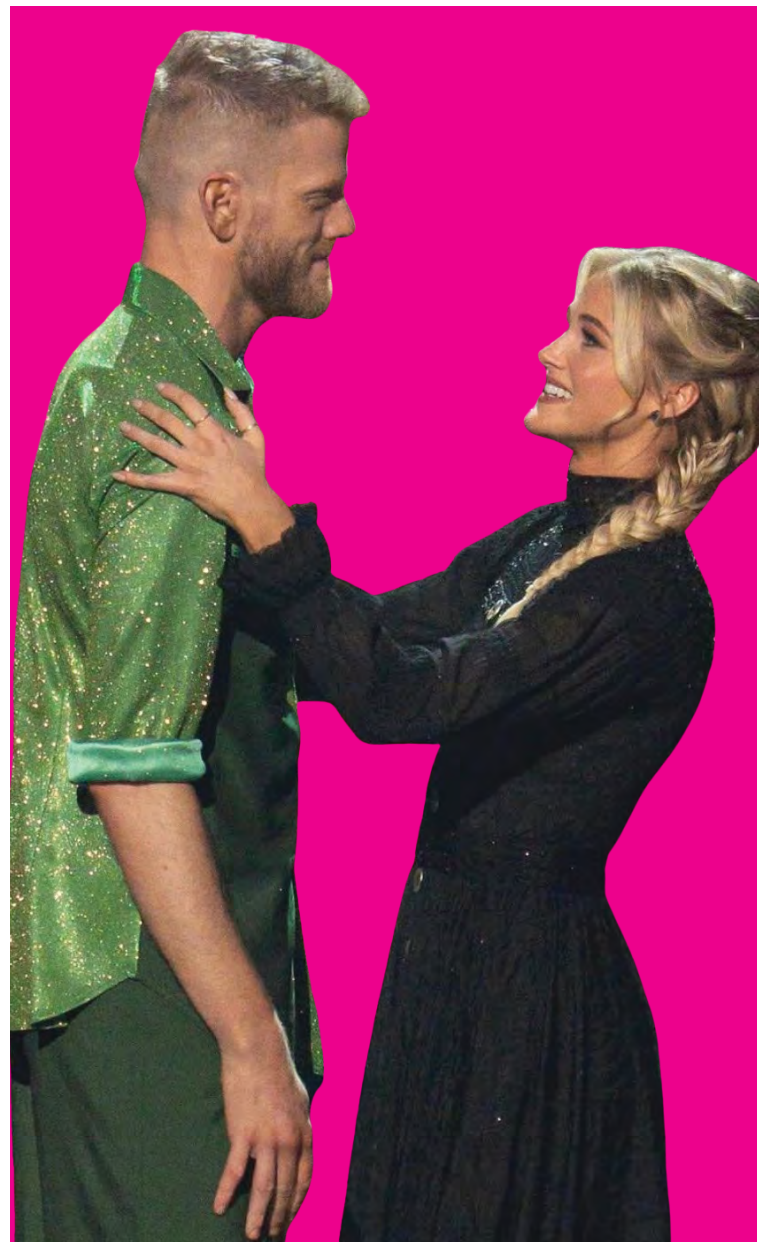
Of course, it wouldn’t be “DWTS” without a touch of bittersweetness — this week’s elimination saw Scott Hoying and Rylee Arnold say goodbye. They left with grace, smiles and plenty of love from their fellow contestants, capping off a night that felt more like a celebration than a competition.

“Themed nights can be tricky, often teetering between spectacle and distraction, but ‘DWTS’ nailed the balance this time.”

Themed nights can be tricky, often teetering between spectacle and distraction, but “DWTS” nailed the balance this time. The theatricality enhanced the storytelling rather than overshadowing it, and the music gave everyone something emotional to tap into. The result was an episode that reminded viewers why this show has lasted so long — it’s about connection, growth and the pure joy of performance.

If last night proved anything, it’s that the magic of “Wicked” doesn’t just live on Broadway — it can thrive in a ballroom too. Between Jordan’s show-stopping Rumba, Elaine’s powerful redemption and Andy’s well-earned breakthrough, this episode was a reminder that sometimes the best moments come when you least expect them.

My personal score for the night: a 9! I do think the judges have been scoring this season very differently to previous seasons, because 9s and 10s on Week 6 is a big change from consistent 5 to 7s, but it is a testament to the raw talent possessed by this season’s cast.



Dancing With the Stars contestants Scott Hoying and Rylee Arnold performing for Wicked Night, Oct. 21. After their performance, both contestants were eliminated from the show.

PHOTO COURTESY OF @DANCINGWITHTHESTARS ON INSTAGRAM

by Maanya Pande

CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT

SHE/HER/HERS

maanya.pande@uconn.edu



Dancing With the Stars promotional image featuring special guest judge Jon M. Chu.

PHOTO COURTESY OF @DANCINGWITHTHESTARS ON INSTAGRAM



Opinion

The Daily Campus

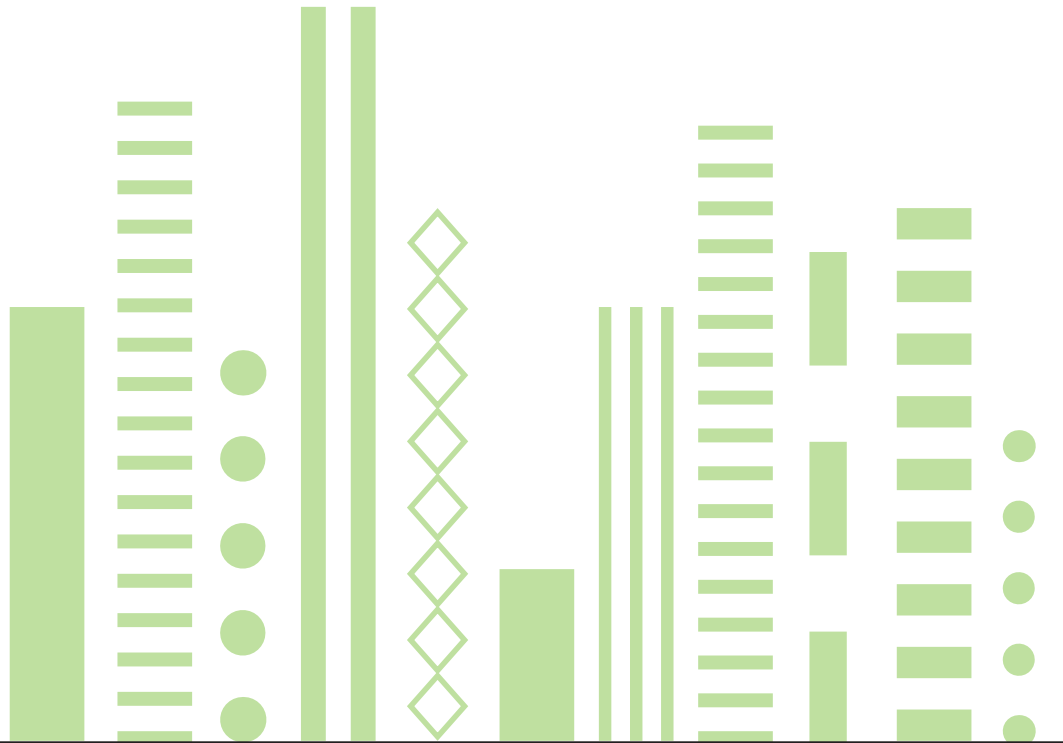
EDITORIAL BOARD:

Karla Perez.....EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Tomas Hinckley.....OPINION EDITOR

Patrick Minnerly..ASSOCIATE OPINION EDITOR

Disclaimer: The views and opinions expressed by individual writers in the opinion section do not reflect the views and opinions of The Daily Campus or other staff members. Only articles labeled "Editorial" are the official opinions of The Daily Campus.



Patrick's Politics

The Republicans' Nazi problem

by Patrick Minnerly

ASSOCIATE OPINION EDITOR | HE/HIM/HIS
patrick.minnerly@uconn.edu

Have you ever written a text message you regret? Don't worry, you're not alone; Republican officials can definitely relate. Last week, a report from Politico revealed a trove of offensive messages between leaders of Young Republican organizations. The group chat featured all manners of racism, sexism and homophobia. Chillingly, those messages also included statements that seemed to support Nazism, with one person explicitly saying, "I love Hitler." In the aftermath of the scandal, the majority of Republican politicians condemned the remarks, and several members of the group apologized, resigned or were fired — but this is far from enough. The Republican Party, as it has grown increasingly far-right, now faces the prospect that mainstream members are Nazi sympathizers, and we must call out the proliferation of this viewpoint.

The texts from the Young Republicans group chat are obviously abhorrent, but they haven't entirely faced condemnation from the larger party. Current Vice President J.D. Vance, who is just one step away from assuming the presidency should Trump be incapacitated, criticized attention given to the story: "I refuse to join the pearl clutching," he said. He also termed the messages as being from a "college group chat." To be clear, the Young Republican leaders were 25 to 34 years old. This scandal is something Vance would clearly like to brush off, but it's a far cry from messing around with your friends in college. Presumably, Vance was expecting the backlash to subside, and the group chat fiasco to sit on the Republican Party's ever-growing and unreachable shelf of controversies that fizzle

into nothing. You may have forgotten, but there was already a large-scale messaging disaster this year when war plans were accidentally leaked to a journalist on Signal.

This incident stands out, however, because it speaks to the new moral fiber of Trump's GOP. Republican leaders making approving messages about Nazism and Hitler show there is no check on that sort of behavior without getting caught. No one had any serious concerns the messages might get disseminated, and even when they were, the sitting vice president downplayed the scandal. In any other government before Trump's, refusing to condemn pro-Nazi expression would be a major firestorm. But the Trump administration's standard for taking blame is clear: If a wave of criticism erupts, you must deflect and deny the reasoning behind it. Plenty of Republicans condemned the messages, but the fact there were even different responses highlights the gulf of sanity we are currently experiencing. If Republicans cannot all agree that glorifying Nazism is bad, where do we draw the line?

The Young Republicans group chat wasn't even the only story from last week in which someone on the right espoused an affinity for Nazism. Trump's nominee for the Office of Special Counsel, Paul Ingrassia, was removed from contention after his pro-Nazi leanings were revealed. In a text chain, Ingrassia wrote "I do have a Nazi streak in me from time to time, I will admit it." Outside of texts, Ingrassia also has ties to avowed white nationalist Nick Fuentes, and has expressed white supremacist beliefs himself. Thankfully, several Republican senators got their act

together and pressured Trump to drop the nomination. But Ingrassia still works in the administration as the White House liaison for the Department of Homeland Security. How can a man who supports Nazis and white supremacism have any position in government? The answer is that in the Trump administration, controversies are almost moot, and that extends to the issue at hand.

Trump himself has had several instances of pro-Nazi language. During Trump's first term, he said "Hitler did some good things" and that he needed people like "Hitler's generals," according to former chief of staff John Kelly. He also echoed Nazi language while describing immigration, saying that undocumented immigrants were "poisoning the blood of the country." This idea of foreigners poisoning a once-pure nation was expressed in Hitler's infamous "Mein Kampf", and Trump's embrace of it shows his affinity for the foundations of Nazi thought. To top it all off, Trump also had dinner with the white supremacist Fuentes at his Mar-a-Lago estate.

Republicans have spent a long time criticizing Democrats for comparing them to Nazis, complaining about how such remarks are outrageous. But if Republicans want to stop getting Nazi comparisons, they should stop making glowing statements about Nazi ideology. Favorable comments about Nazism have no place in our politics, and just because some people may have been fired for making those comments, that does not change that they were said, and it does not change the top-down Nazi problem plaguing the Republican Party.

The annoying girl is loud, boisterous and uncouth. She says the wrong things at the wrong times, laughs too loudly, makes jokes that aren't funny and acts too dumb. And no one likes her.

How should the annoying girl be treated? Should every remark made, every joke missed, every social norm diverted be dismissed? Should she be welcomed into social circles or alienated? Should we like her or hate her?

The truth is, it seems that when it comes to annoying girls, there is a disproportionate amount of hatred. When a woman is in conflict or turmoil, outwardly struggles, voices an opinion, or makes a mistake, she is deemed annoying and that's when other people begin to treat her as sub-human. The reality is most women are not annoying but are labeled as such because a predominantly patriarchal society aims to suppress the voices and personalities of women. The patriarchy doesn't want women to be 'annoying' because being so means going against the grain of what the traditional woman should be: submissive and quiet.

Consider the actress and singer Rachel Zegler and the backlash she has faced. In 2024, Zegler made some remarks regarding her titular role in Disney's live action remake of

'Snow White', saying "There's a big focus on her love story with a guy who literally stalks her... weird, so we didn't do that this time." Zegler makes valid points about the nature of love stories in Disney productions (why is some prince kissing a girl while she's asleep?)

and ultimately is just trying to be cheeky while pointing out the new direction her version of the story will take. Her remarks may have come across as ungrateful but were largely innocuous. Still, Zegler received a disproportionate amount of hatred online for what she said and was even blamed for the un-

derper- for- mance of 'Snow White' in the box office. For women, a single misstep can bring career-ending consequences. However, men do not seem to face the same consequences from the public or from social groups, even when their actions are far worse.

When Zegler made those remarks regarding 'Snow White', there were calls from the public for her to never work again. Zegler is objectively talented and hardworking, but expressing one opinion could have effectively ended her career. When Burke's potential involvement in a

wrong thing brands her as someone to avoid. What makes persecution for women so severe while men seem to get away with everything? Why is it that a woman cannot be annoying, but a man can get away with potentially murdering someone?

It doesn't even stop there. The harsh truth of the patriarchal society is that any facet of a woman's being has the potential to be judged. No matter what you are, if you are a woman and you do not fit the mold of society, you will be persecuted. Any type of woman can be villainized and alienated from society under the singular guise of being "annoying." Yes, the quintessential annoying woman is loud, brash and eager to please, but the fact is, quiet and intelligent girls, girls who do not typically say things unabashedly, get considered annoying as well. If you are not the perfect amalgamation of the characteristics considered desirable in a woman, you are considered annoying.

So be annoying. Be loud, be quiet. Make jokes at the wrong time, be perfectly hilarious. Be dumb, be smarter than anyone in the room: Be yourself, because there are some who need to adapt to having more unashamed women around.

What we do to Annoying Girls

by Sophie Shugrue

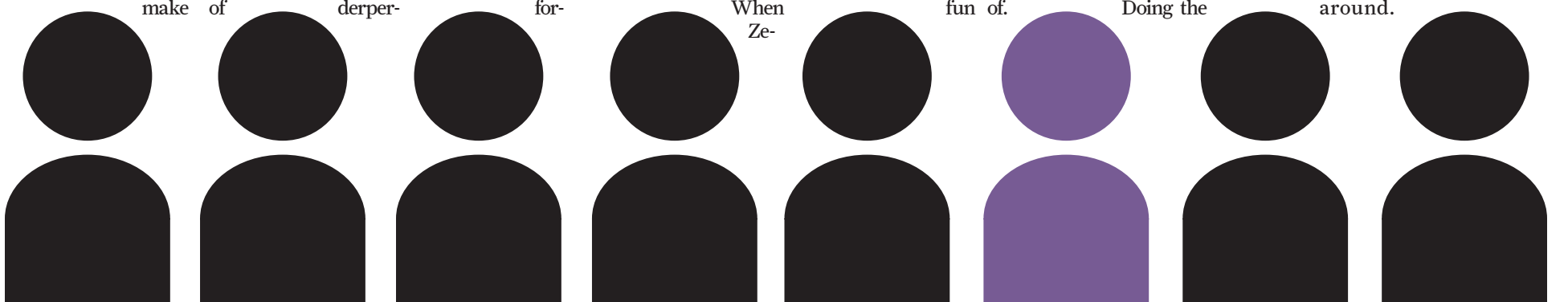
CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT | SHE/HER/HERS | hdc24004@uconn.edu

and ultimately is just trying to be cheeky while pointing out the new direction her version of the story will take. Her remarks may have come across as ungrateful but were largely innocuous. Still, Zegler received a disproportionate amount of hatred online for what she said and was even blamed for the un-

derper- for- Recently, the public has been fixated on the singer-songwriter 'd4vd', whose real name is David Anthony Burke, because he is under investigation for the murder of 14-year-old Celeste Rivas. While Burke's involvement has generally been seen as deplorable, he has not faced the same scrutiny that Zegler has.

murder case came to light, streams on his music increased by 30.3 million in just five days.

What ensues when an annoying woman does even the slightest thing is inhumane. One wrong joke or remark incites sidelong glances and alienation from social groups. She is actively disliked and made fun of. Doing the



Opinion

Photo of the Day | Rainy mornings and sunny afternoons



The sun shines on campus after a rainy morning in Storrs, Conn. on Oct 22, 2025. The sunny weather allowed for students to enjoy their day outside on campus. PHOTO BY SYDNEY CHANDLER, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

the daily campus comics

THE GRIZZLY BEAR AND I HAVE MUCH IN COMMON:



COMIC BY SAMANTHA HASS, ARTIST EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS



COMIC BY SOFIA LOTOTSKY, CONTRIBUTING ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS



COMIC BY ALEXA PAPPAS, STAFF ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

LATO'S LENS:

WEEK 8'S BIGGEST UPSETS, TOP PERFORMANCES, AND A MUST-SEE MATCHUP IN COLLEGE FOOTBALL

by **Tyler Lato**
STAFF WRITER
HE/HIM/HIS
tyler.lato@uconn.edu

Another chaotic week of college football is in the books and, once again, the top 25 is in shambles. We saw losses from the nation's second, fifth and seventh-ranked teams—and that doesn't even include those outside the top 10.

That being said, I think you know where this is going: here are Week 8's biggest upsets, top performers and my pick for The Lato's Lens Game of the Week.

Biggest Upsets

Louisville 24, No. 2 Miami 21

Under the Friday night lights of Hard Rock Stadium (Miami Gardens, Fla.), the unranked Louisville Cardinals pulled off a stunning 24-21 upset against No. 2 Miami.

Losing 24-21 late in the fourth quarter, signal caller Carson Beck led the Hurricanes' offense right down the field, bringing them within field goal range. But with 32 seconds remaining, linebacker TJ Capers picked off a short pass to ice the game for Louisville, completing the upset.

Despite a 248-yard, three-touchdown performance (two passing, one rushing) from USC transfer Miller Moss, the real difference maker in this upset was the Louisville secondary. The unit intercepted four passes, each from a different player, to make the stops needed to win the game.

With the win, the Cardinals improved to 5-1 on the season, garnering a No. 19 ranking. Meanwhile, the Hurricanes fell to No. 9.

Arizona State 26, No. 7 Texas Tech 22

After being injured in Week 7, quarterback Sam Leavitt returned to action on Saturday night, leading the unranked Arizona State Sun Devils to a 26-23 victory over Big 12 rival and seventh-ranked Texas Tech.

Running back Raleek Brown plunged into the end zone with 34 seconds left to play to score the game-winning touchdown.

Meanwhile, Leavitt completed 28 of 47 passes for 319 yards and one touchdown in the win, providing timely offense.

More than half of Arizona State's points came from the foot of place kicker Jesus Gomez, who, on top of two extra points, drilled all four of his field goal attempts — with his longest kick being 47 yards. Gomez is living proof of just how important special teams can be in deciding a big game.

UAB 31, No. 22 Memphis 24

It's becoming a trend in 2025 for teams to pull off an upset victory immediately after firing their head coach.

In their first game without head coach Trent Dilfer, the 2-4 UAB Blazers did just that, stunning No. 22 Memphis 31-24 to spoil the Tigers' undefeated season.

Blazers sophomore wide receiver Iverson Hooks had the game of his career, hauling in 11 passes for 172 yards and three touchdowns. Averaging 15.6 yards per catch, Hooks provided the spark UAB desperately needed — a program that, in 2014, had its football team shut down entirely.

Hooks' batterymate, Ryder Burton, completed 20 of 27 passes for 251 yards and three touchdowns, finishing with a QBR of 94.2.

Is interim head coach Jeff Mortenson the answer to UAB's problems? Time will tell.

Top Performers

Mason Shipley, K (Texas) drilled a game-winning 45-yard field goal in No. 21 Texas' 16-13 overtime victory against Kentucky.

Dante Moore, QB (Oregon) completed 15 of 20 passes for 290 yards and four touchdowns in No. 8 Oregon's 56-10 rout of Rutgers.

Darius Taylor, RB (Minnesota) carried the ball 24 times for 148 yards and a touchdown in the Golden Gophers' convincing 24-6 upset of No. 25 Nebraska.

Joe Fagnano, QB (UConn) continued his interception-less season with a 362-yard, four-touchdown performance in a

38-23 victory over head coach Bill O'Brien and the Boston College Eagles.

Rolijah Hardy, LB (Indiana) tallied eight tackles, including five solo, along with two sacks and 2.5 tackles for loss in No. 3 Indiana's 38-13 home win over Michigan State.

Lato's Lens Game of the Week

No. 8 Ole Miss at No. 13 Oklahoma - 12:00 p.m. Saturday at Memorial Stadium (Norman, Okla.)

The SEC is a bloodbath of a league this year, with Texas A&M being the only undefeated team remaining. But that just means the in-conference clashes are a heck of a lot more entertaining.

Week 9's matchup between No. 8 Ole Miss and No. 13 Oklahoma looks to be a fun one.

Oklahoma was undefeated until its Week 7 loss to then-unbeaten Texas in the 2025 Allstate Red River Rivalry Game. Fresh off hand surgery, Heisman Trophy hopeful John Mateer struggled to get any sort of offense going against the Longhorns. But after last week's 26-7 road victory over South Carolina, the signal caller looked as confident as ever, tossing for 150 yards and a touchdown.

Ole Miss has a gunslinger under center as well. Since transferring from Division II Ferris State, Trinidad Chambliss has dazzled Rebels fans, leading Ole Miss to a 6-1 record despite a loss to Georgia last weekend. Like Mateer, Chambliss poses a threat through both the air and the ground, and is thriving in the SEC.

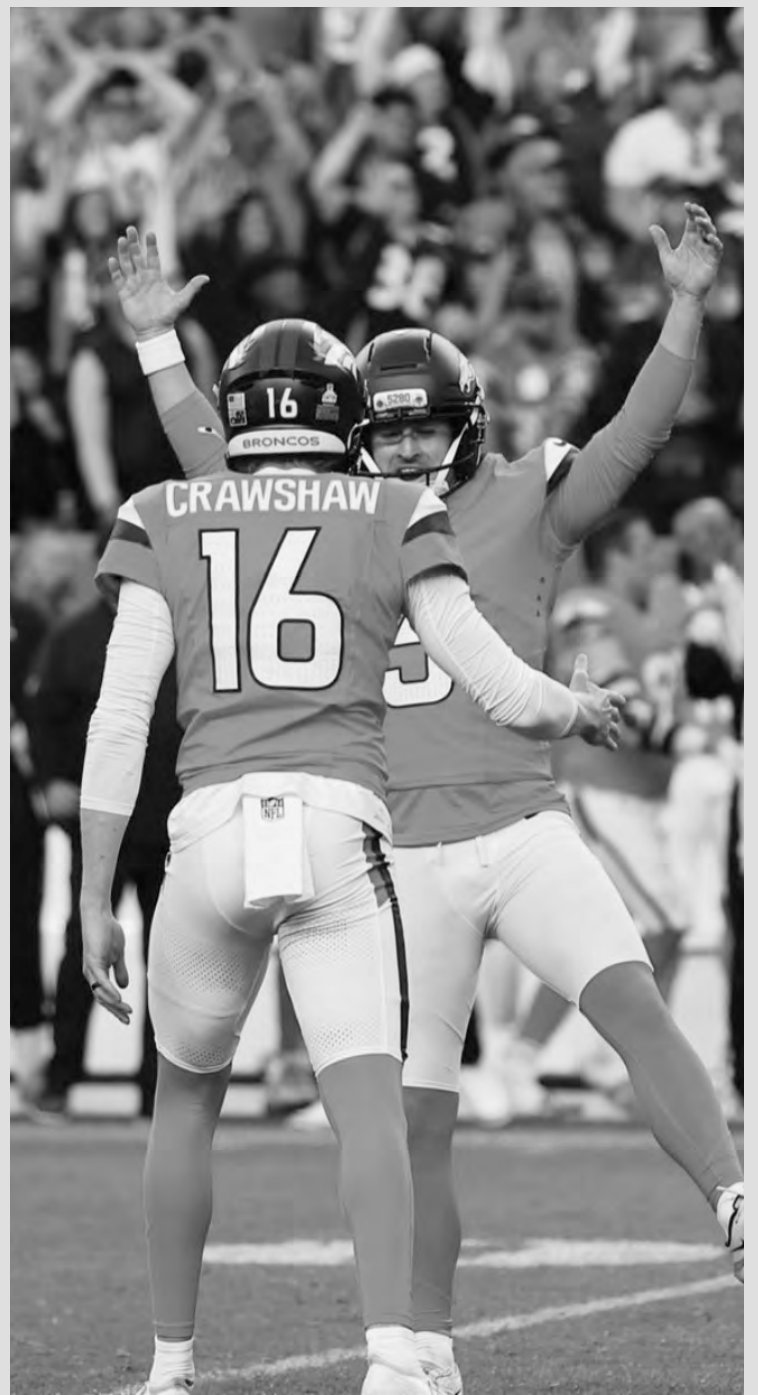
But here's the catch for Ole Miss: winning an away game in the SEC is hard. We just saw No. 21 Texas get taken to overtime on the road by Kentucky, who has only two wins on the year. In other words, records virtually do not exist whatsoever.

Seeing how Ole Miss handles the rowdy Sooners crowd should be interesting, solidifying the matchup as The Lato's Lens Game of the Week.

Prediction: Oklahoma

The Big Apple

GIANTS SUFFER HISTORIC COLLAPSE IN DENVER, KNICKS TIP OFF SEASON AGAINST CAVALIERS



Denver Broncos celebrating after winning 33-32 against the Giants on Sunday, Oct. 19.
PHOTO COURTESY OF @BRONCOS ON INSTAGRAM

by **James Badeau**
CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT
HE/HIM/HIS
james.badeau@uconn.edu

The New York Giants traveled to the Mile High City after coming off a massive divisional win over the Super Bowl champion Philadelphia Eagles. Due to that, New York did not take their foot off the gas for the Broncos.

That is, until the 4th quarter.

The Giants led Denver by a score of 19-0 at the beginning of the fourth quarter. The Bronco's offense was abysmal for the entire game. You would have thought they were the 2-4 team going into the game, as the home crowd was booing them off the field after a three-and-out.

However, when the fourth quarter began, the script was flipped. Bo Nix capped off their first touchdown drive with a two-yard pass to Troy Franklin, making the score 19-8. Rookie Jaxson Dart went back on offense and threw a miracle touchdown that was deflected by a Giants receiver into the hands of tight end Theo Johnson. Johnson had nothing but green grass ahead of him for the 41-yard score.

Now, I know what you're thinking; it's now 26-8 with almost five minutes to play. Surely, the Giants will win this game comfortably!

Well, that was not necessarily the case. Denver came back on offense and looked like a completely different team, scoring on another long drive to cut the game to 10.

The ensuing possession for New York saw the first major mistake by Dart, who threw a silly interception that allowed Denver to score another touchdown.

Denver eventually took the lead — not a surprise — as the Giants' offense was stagnant in the fourth quarter.

With under two minutes, the Giants needed a touchdown, as kicker Jude McAtamney missed an extra point earlier in the game. Dart did just that, coming

up clutch on a fourth down and long, leading to a quarterback sneak touchdown.

The Giants just need the extra point to go up by three, but unfortunately McAtamney misses the extra point. Giants' fans all knew what was going to happen next. Denver trotted right down the field to kick the game-winning field goal, putting the Giants to 2-5.

Denver became the first team ever to score 30 or more points in the final quarter after being shut out in the first three quarters.

It's simply frustrating that the Giants can't close out games. It feels as if head coach Brian Daboll coaches not to lose rather than to win.

The New York Knicks tipped off their season Wednesday night against the Cleveland Cavaliers.

At the time of writing, Josh Hart and Mitchell Robinson are out for the opener.

I am very confused about why, as well as what caused these injuries. This is going to be something to look deeper into if these key pieces cannot stay healthy.

The Knicks have high expectations this season, something I haven't been able to say for my entire life. New York has the second-best odds at winning the East, just behind Cleveland. With teams like Boston and Indiana missing their best players, the Knicks must capitalize on it. They must stay healthy under head coach Mike Brown's first season with the team.

My prediction for the Knicks is they will finish with a record of 60-22, putting them as the 2nd seed behind Cleveland by a game or two. I believe New York can make an NBA Finals appearance in year two of the current core. Jalen Brunson will be in MVP conversations as he will improve significantly under Mike Brown.

The NBA season is here, and Knicks fans have been eagerly waiting for it.



Alabama Blazers won against Memphis Tigers on Oct. 19, beating them 31-24.

PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF @UAB_FB ON INSTAGRAM

Sports

Photo of the Day | Men's Basketball



The UConn Huskies take on Boston College at Mohegan Sun in Uncasville, Conn. on Oct. 13, 2025. The Huskies won the exhibition game with a score of 71-52.

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

AFTER THE CHAOS:

THIS WEEK'S MUST WATCH COLLEGE FOOTBALL MATCHUPS

by **Elliot Koplas**
CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT
HE/HIM/HIS
elliott.koplas@uconn.edu

Last week demonstrated perfectly why no one is ever safe in college football. With four top 10 teams suffering a loss, the top 25 poll saw every team but one shift. The one stationary team was, of course, No. 1 overall and National Championship favorite Ohio State who shutout a struggling Wisconsin side. The question this season may come down to who has what it takes to take down the Buckeyes?

We will start with the neighboring state of Indiana as the Hoosiers secured their seventh win of the season against Michigan State last week. Indiana moved into the No. 2 spot after No. 2 Miami fell to Louisville. Indiana is set to take on UCLA at home and keep their undefeated streak alive. Indiana has shown their strength this season as they look to close out their schedule against the weaker half of the Big Ten. With a perfect season within reach, Indiana will most likely find themselves paired up against Ohio State in the Big Ten Championship game for what could be a highly anticipated matchup.

Speaking of teams moving up with perfect records, newly ranked No. 3 Texas A&M will find themselves in their toughest matchup of the season as they travel to Tiger Stadium in Louisiana to take on the Tigers of LSU. Texas A&M also secured their seventh straight victory of the season, improving to a perfect 7-0, after defeating Arkansas on the road last week. That game will not compare to the much-awaited visit to one of the loudest stadiums in college football. Although LSU fans suffered a cruel defeat on the road against No. 17 Vanderbilt last week, the Tigers are sure to bring the energy back home as they host the No. 3 team in the country looking for an upset.

With upsets in mind, nothing beats Miami dropping their first game of the season against unranked Louisville. Miami quarterback and former Georgia Bulldog, Carson Beck, struggled to find the endzone as he was picked off by the Louisville defense four times in last Friday's matchup. No. 9 Miami hopes to get back to their winning ways against a 3-4 Stan-

ford side who will look to win their second straight game for the first time this season.

Ole Miss saw their first loss of the season after falling short to No. 9 Georgia on the road. The Rebels will stay on the road as they play No. 13 Oklahoma. Both sides are 6-1 on the season and searching for another SEC win to boost their resume. Oklahoma is coming off an easy victory after taking down South Carolina on the road. Both sides have shown excellence this season, but new losses have shown points of struggle which could take them out of the SEC championship game. A win for either side would prove otherwise.

Of course, this is not the only ranked SEC matchup of the week as we always have a handful due to the competitiveness of the conference. Two more ranked SEC opponents will take the field this weekend as No. 15 Missouri will travel to No. 10 Vanderbilt in an offensive heavy matchup. With both teams sitting at 6-1, they look to set themselves apart from others and claim another SEC win. Both sides are coming off wins after both had fallen to Alabama previously this season. With a few weeks still left in the schedule, both sides will look to get another ranked win under their belt.

Lastly, it cannot be a week of college football without a good rivalry as we travel to Michigan where No. 25 Michigan will take on Michigan State in the Battle for the Paul Bunyan Trophy. The trophy was first introduced in 1953 when Michigan State joined the Big Ten. The winner of the game gets possession of the trophy until it is played again the following year. Although Michigan State is riding a four-game losing streak, rivalries seem to pull out some shockers and upsets as teams have a lot more to play for.

After last week's chaos and rankings shuffled around, we are shown yet again the beauty of sports. Unpredictability adds to the excitement as the weeks tick down to the post season. Every team looks to improve their record and prove why they are the best. As the weeks continue though, the margin for error increases. Every game becomes increasingly more important as one wrong move could end the postseason before it even starts.



Texas A&M quarterback Marcel Reed during game against Arkansas Razorbacks. Reed was named the Earl Campbell Tyler Rose Award Player of the Week for performance and win against the Razorbacks 45-42.

PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF @AGGIEFOOTBALL ON INSTAGRAM

MONEYBALL WEEKLY:

HOW THE DODGERS MAY HAVE KILLED BASEBALL IN 2027

by Jack Yadlon
CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT
HE/HIM/HIS
Ptf24003@uconn.edu

Baseball is staring down the barrel of one of the biggest crises not only in MLB history, but in the history of North American professional sports.

And, like almost any major problem in the world, it all comes down to big-time money.

The major four North American leagues, the NHL, MLB, NFL and NBA, function differently in terms of salary and contract rules with the most notable constant of three of those leagues being a salary cap, creating rules on how much a team can spend on player contracts.

The NHL has a hard cap, while the NBA and NFL allow for more flexibility.

The MLB is the only one with no cap at all.

This has caused a monetary imbalance for a long time now. The New York Yankees, Los Angeles Dodgers, Toronto Blue Jays and other teams have consistently been the highest spenders.

It's impossible to fully guarantee a championship in any sport, no matter how much you spend. Although with good management, it's certainly possible to buy a better chance.

The Dodgers have done just that. Their ownership has allocated so much money into winning right now, trading for and extending any and everybody that makes even a semblance of sense and overall building a roster that should make them unstoppable for years to come.

The 2024 World Series champions are looking just as unstoppable now, because despite some major injury and bullpen concerns, the Dodgers will be

playing in the Fall Classic Friday for the second straight year.

The Dodgers entered the year with the highest total payroll, while their opponents, the Blue Jays, came in at fifth. And LA's opponent last year was the Yankees, who have their own history of spending rampantly and seeing success, even causing the luxury tax to exist to try and deter teams from overspending.

On the other side are the cheap teams who won't spend more money.

The bottom spenders will frequently grow talent from their farm system, until their contracts become too expensive, then they trade them to a richer team for a haul of prospects, creating an ongoing cycle.

For most teams, this results in very little success, whereas any playoff run will be followed up by the roster being blown up almost immediately after.

Even for the teams that do this and have found ways to consistently compete, like the Brewers, it rarely leads to a title. Despite five NL Central titles and seven playoff berths over the last eight years, Milwaukee has only seen two series wins in that time.

The thing is these owners who refuse to spend more still want to succeed. Ticket sales come from success, so the cheaper owners find it unfair that other owners can spend so much more.

The NLCS this year featured the Dodgers and Brewers; two teams built off opposite spending habits.

ESPN's Jeff Passan reported that the winner of this series would provide a crucial argument for the owners or the MLBPA in Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) nego-

tiations, as the CBA expires on Dec. 1, 2026.

The CBA is an agreement between the MLB Players' Association (MLBPA) and the MLB that allows either side to propose changes to rules on and off the field. If there is a disagreement, one side could hold out on agreeing to a new CBA.

No CBA means no baseball.

The specific topic of the upcoming CBA discussions will center around the salary cap.

The owners want a salary cap so they don't need to spend as much money, while they can become more competitive and earn more revenue. MLB Commissioner Rob Manfred has taken the owners' side on this.

However, The MLBPA does not want a cap, as the current state of the league is seeing an exponential uptick in salary. A cap would hamper this, meaning less money for the players.

The reason this series mattered is that if the Brewers were to win, it could serve as proof that the lesser-spending teams can still win, helping the players' case. But if the Dodgers were to win, it would be yet another example of the big spending team beating the small spenders, giving owners a strong argument for a salary cap.

Not only did the Dodgers win the NLCS, but they swept the Brewers, and it wasn't particularly close.

The Blue Jays being the Dodgers' opponent fuels the fire even more, as the Jays also have a top five payroll.

With so much money on the line, both sides will be looking to do almost anything to get their way.

If the NHL's 04-05 season, which was canceled entirely

due to a lockout over this exact issue, says anything, it's that the MLBPA will likely care more about the money than they will about playing baseball.

It's tough to see a hard cap as tight as the one the NHL has been implementing in a league like the MLB where contracts are rising so quickly, but the indi-

cation of a partial or full season lockout is not misguided.

Whether or not this is all irrelevant remains to be seen. It is entirely possible that both sides find a middle ground at any point in time. But all the signs right now point towards a problem, one that may take a lot of time to fix.



National League Champion trophy held up by Los Angeles Dodgers. The trophy was awarded to the Dodgers after defeating the Milwaukee Brewers 5-1. PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF @DODGERS ON INSTAGRAM

LOMBARDI LINEUP:

EARLY IMPRESSIONS OF THE METROPOLITAN DIVISION

by Ryan Lombardi
CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT
HE/HIM/HIS
ryan.lombardi@uconn.edu

With the NHL season in full swing, one division stands out for its early balance and competitiveness. In the Metropolitan Division, seven of the eight teams boast a .500 record or better, and four have already reached double digit points.

With two weeks of the 82-game slate already done, here's how all eight teams have fared so far.

Carolina Hurricanes (5-1-0)

The Hurricanes opened the year red-hot with five straight wins to seize the top spot in the division. A 4-1 loss to the Vegas Golden Knights snapped their winning streak, but Carolina has made it clear that they're chasing hardware. Center Seth Jarvis has been electric, with six goals in as many games, including two overtime winners, while Sebastian Aho has tallied two goals and six assists. Averaging 4.0 goals per game, Rod Brind'Amour's squad looks every bit like a Stanley Cup contender.

New Jersey Devils (5-1-0)

After a 6-3 season opener loss to Carolina, the Devils have thrived ever since. Now that the team is mostly healthy after injuries derailed the squad's past few seasons, New Jersey has shown what they can do at full strength, with star center Jack Hughes leading the charge. After a slow start, Hughes has scored six goals in three games, including a hat trick in Toronto on Tuesday. Alongside him is captain Nico Hischier, coming off a 35-goal season, and dangerous wingers Jesper Brett and Timo Meier. The team's biggest question mark comes in goal, with starter Jacob Markstrom struggling before going on the IR and veteran Jake Allen filling in. With potentially one of

the most lethal offenses in the game, the Devils could emerge as a true contender if they can stay healthy.

Pittsburgh Penguins (5-2-0)

38-year-old Sidney Crosby continues to defy time, powering a surprisingly strong start for a Pittsburgh team that's supposed to be rebuilding. The captain's four goals and four assists have anchored a rejuvenated offense. Right wing Justin Brazeau has emerged as a breakout scorer with five goals; nearly half his total last year. If the Penguins can sustain this early chemistry, perhaps a return to the playoffs is closer than expected.

Washington Capitals (5-2-0)

Last year's division champions are back in the mix in 2025 with a strong 5-2-0 start. They've allowed just 1.9 goals per game, the best in the NHL, and have been one of the most disciplined teams with just 2.9 penalties per game. The offense has looked impressive as well, led by right wing Tom Wilson's four goals and six assists, and center Dylan Strome's two goals and seven assists. Now the all-time leading goal scorer, Alex Ovechkin has indicated he has no plans to retire and will look to pick it up with just one goal so far. Their experience and well-rounded roster should lead Washington to another strong season after just barely missing the president's trophy last year.

New York Rangers (3-4-1)

The Rangers' start to the year has been puzzling. Hoping to rebound from a dismal 2024-25 campaign, their struggles seem to continue with a four-game home losing streak, scoring just one goal at Madison Square Garden. Star center Vincent Trocheck's stint on the injured reserve hurts, but an experienced core with Artemi Panarin, J.T. Miller and Mika Zibanejad

should be dangerous on its own, Igor Shesterkin remains elite in goal. Now the Rangers need to rediscover their scoring ability, and they could quickly climb back into contention.

Philadelphia Flyers (3-2-1)

After a division-worst 76 points last season, new head coach Rick Tocchet hopes to see improvement in a squad with few preseason expectations. A winning record through six games is a welcome sight, especially after dropping the first two games of the season. They may just be punching above their weight, but it's been a promising start for Philadelphia. Their first win of the year came in a surprising 5-2 victory over the defending champion Florida Panthers, with two goals from defenseman Sean Couturier fueling the offensive explosion. Still, with a shaky goalie situation and no clear top-end contributors, it's hard to see this success continue long term, but early signs point to the team finally trending upwards.

Columbus Blue Jackets (3-3-0)

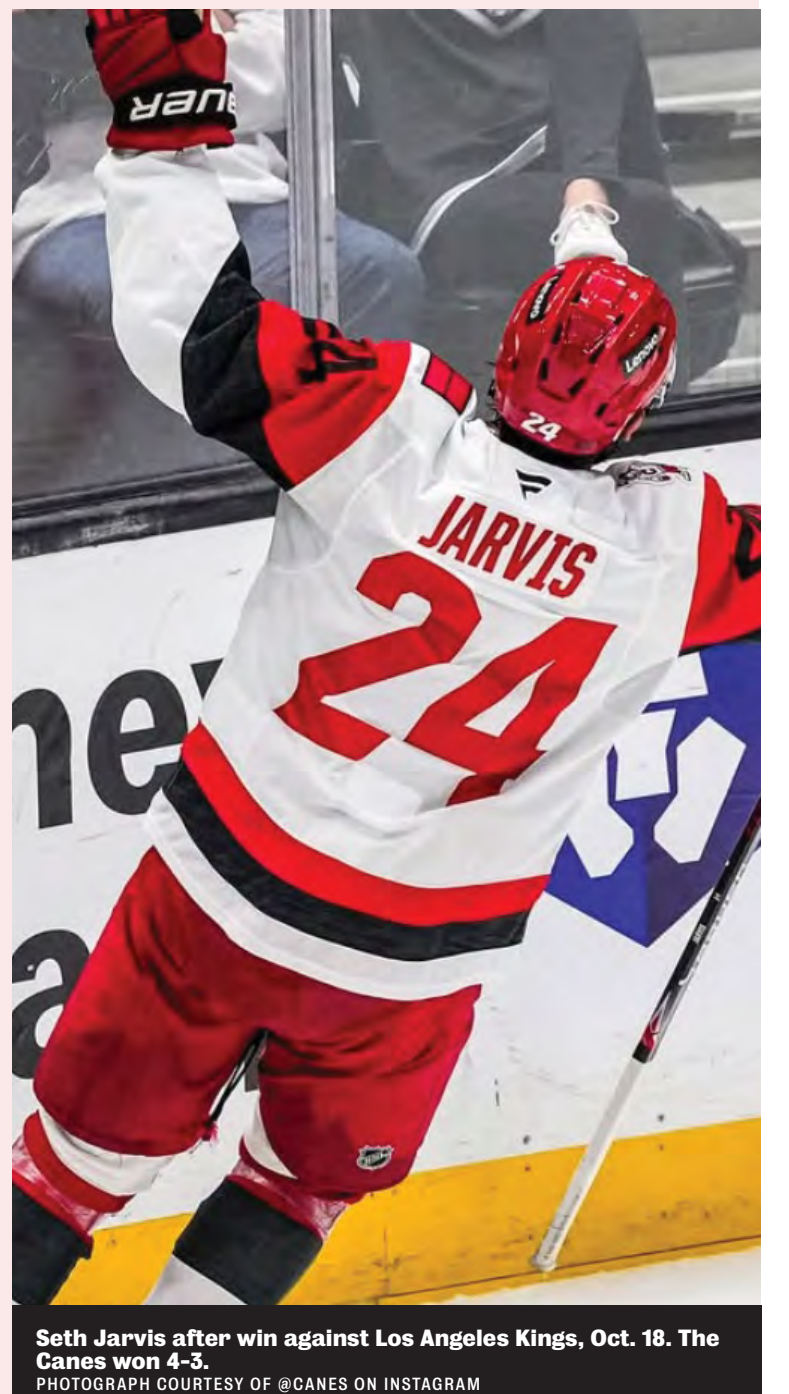
The Blue Jackets narrowly missed out on the playoffs last season and will look to change that in 2026. Young contributors Kirill Marchenko, Dmitri Voronkov and Adam Fantilli have stepped up to lead the team's scoring, while rookie Denton Mateychuk has brought stability on the blue line with defenseman Zach Werenski. Rough defense was their achilles heel last season, so if they can move past that, they have a shot at making it back to the playoffs for the first time since 2020.

New York Islanders (3-3-0)

No. 1 overall pick Matthew Schaefer's transition to the NHL has looked seamless, already contributing with two goals and five assists. The Islanders' start to the year looked grim

after dropping their first three games, but they have since bounced back to a 3-3 record. Despite losing veteran Brock Nelson, the Islanders' offense has been effective early on, with center Bo Horvat boasting five goals and two assists. Concern

remains on the defensive end, where struggles have persisted from last year, allowing 3.7 goals per game, among the worst in the Eastern Conference. Cleaning that up will be key if the Islanders hope to compete in a stacked Metro Division.



Seth Jarvis after win against Los Angeles Kings, Oct. 18. The Canes won 4-3. PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF @CANES ON INSTAGRAM



Sports

WOMEN'S SOCCER:

HUSKIES STAY HOT WITH THIRD STRAIGHT WIN IN CHICAGO

by Colette Doyle
 CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT
 SHE/HER/HERS
 Crd23003@uconn.edu

The UConn women's soccer team took a trip to Chicago, Ill. to take on DePaul University on Wednesday, Oct. 22. This was a

Big East matchup between the Huskies and the Blue Demons.

The program is coming off a dominant performance against

Villanova University that ended in a 2-0 win for the Huskies. Redshirt freshman Se-Hanna Mars dominated on offense with a pair of goals in the second half. Senior Chioma Okafor and freshman Maree-Anne Van Doesburg aided on offense with assists that allowed Mars to score. On defense, freshman goalkeeper Ava Yamas proved to be a formidable force against DePaul, with multiple saves and a leaping save at the start of the second half.

In the first half of the game, the Huskies took control offensively, keeping the ball in the DePaul territory, but were unable to score against the Blue Demons' sophomore goalkeeper Maddie Iro. Early in the fifth minute, UConn got in a rhythm, earning their first corner kick. However, their rhythm was soon interrupted by fouls on both sides. Freshman defender Ines Nourani was given a foul on the Huskies side due to drawing an early whistle. Minutes later, DePaul's sophomore Mia Veldman picked up a foul for the Blue Demons.

Senior forward Lina Dantes and sophomore Taylor Jenkins led the midfield and controlled possessions early on. Dantes made a shot on goal to the bottom right corner in the 18th minute; however, Iro cleanly stopped this attempt. Okafor and Mars then came in to aid in the Huskies' attack, which added further aggression and forced the Blue Demons to stay on the defense. Okafor nearly broke the deadlock with a shot on goal in the 25th minute; however, DePaul stayed sharp on defense with an outfield player blocking the goal.

UConn continued the pressure with five corner kicks in the first half. In the 35th minute, the Huskies brought in sophomore forward Farrah Stephens-Martin, who immediately made an impact with an attempt on goal which was narrowly stopped by Iro.

DePaul had limited offensive chances in the first half but still

had a few impressive shots on goal. In the 28th minute, graduate student Sienna Gonzales had an impressive shot on goal, which was stopped by Yamas.

Despite UConn's control offensively in the first half, DePaul's defense held up, which led to the first half ending in a nil-nil deadlock.

The Huskies continued their aggression in the second half, which paid off in the 50th minute. Okafor scored with a clean shot to the top center, assisted by Van Doesburg. This gave the Huskies the lead early in the second half.

The Huskies continued to control the possessions after the goal, putting pressure on the Blue Demons. Junior forward Alayna Taylor and sophomore forward Naia Ocio led the offensive pressure. Ocio attempted a goal in the 56th minute, but was stopped by Iro.

DePaul fought to respond, led by Gonzales and graduate student Jen Devona. Both produced chances for a goal but were unable to follow through. The Blue Demons attempted to find momentum with a round of substitutions in the middle of the half, but fouls and offside calls blocked the momentum.

As the second half continued, the Huskies continued to remain in control. On goal, Yamas remained dominant, stopping DePaul's few shots on goal with ease.

In the closing minutes, Mars and Johnson continued to play with aggression and take chances to double the lead. The pair was stopped by DePaul's defense, but their aggression allowed the Huskies to take the 1-0 victory.

With this third straight win, UConn looks to finish off the season strong. The Huskies will look to bring the same strength into their next matchup against in-conference opponent, Seton Hall. The team will travel to South Orange, N.J. on Saturday, Oct. 25. The game will start at 6 p.m., and Husky fans can tune into this matchup on FloSports.



UConn women's soccer plays Marquette during a Big East battle in Storrs, Conn. on Oct. 11, 2025. The Huskies battled till the bitter end in a tie against the Golden Eagles.

PHOTOGRAPH BY SYDNEY CHANDLER, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/DAILY CAMPUS



UConn women's soccer defeating Villanova, winning 2-0. Both goals were scored by Se-Hanna Mars, in Storrs, Conn. on Saturday, Oct. 18, 2025.

PHOTOGRAPH BY NATHAN GALICINAO, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS