



UConn guarantees on-campus housing for sophomores

by Gianni Salisbury | CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT | SHE/HER/HERS | gianni.salisbury@uconn.edu

The email stated that any rising sophomores on the Storrs campus are guaranteed housing if they apply by the deadline and “meet all eligibility criteria.” Incoming freshmen are also guaranteed on-campus housing.

Eligibility for housing information can be found on the current resident’s page on the campus housing website.

However, this change does not apply to rising sophomore commuter students who live at home or off campus. According to the campus housing website, commuter students are placed automatically on the waitlist.

Rising sophomores who live at UConn regional campuses and are applying for Storrs housing are guaranteed housing through the campus change process.

Juniors and seniors are still eligible to apply, but there is no guarantee that they will receive on-campus housing. This is a change from last year.

Rising sophomores “prioritized” in 2025-2026 housing process

In December 2024, Residential Life announced that sophomores, juniors and seniors were no longer guaranteed housing for the 2025-2026 academic year. The change was made to help alleviate the

housing crisis UConn has faced over the past few years in which the university had an overflow of students applying for housing. Those not given housing were put on the waitlist and had the option to go seek off campus housing or wait out the summer to see if they would be given on campus housing.

Previously to this change, stu-

the deadline who received housing and all students who stayed on the waitlist were given housing offers.

She said that last year, even though sophomores were not officially guaranteed housing, they were considered “prioritized” by Residential Life and were most likely to be given housing.

“Last year, we described the first-year student cohort as guaranteed for housing, and the sophomores as ‘prioritized,’ since we couldn’t yet predict the number of applications we would receive.” said Reitz.

“Internally, however, we planned to ensure that sophomores who applied on time would be guaranteed offers, if possible, as well as first-year students.”

There was no mention of sophomores being in a prioritized cohort in emails from Residential Life or the 2025-2026 housing contract.

Reitz stated that the success from the change prompted Residential Life to officially

give rising sophomores an on-campus housing guarantee.

2026-2027 housing selection process

The 2026-2027 housing application opens on Jan. 1, 2026, and ends Feb. 13. As with last year, those who apply for housing earlier in the selection process are more likely to receive a housing offer than those who apply later in the period.

For juniors and seniors, eligibility to live on campus will be based on “multiple factors including



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

phew... students had been guaranteed eight semesters of housing.

The change sparked controversy, and The Daily Campus reported that as of April 2025, 1,270 students were on the waitlist.

However, according to university spokesperson Stephanie Reitz, the change proved successful as last year all rising first year and sophomore students who applied on time were given housing. There were also many upperclassmen who met



UConn's South Campus in Storrs, Conn. on Sept. 1, 2025. UConn recently guaranteed incoming sophomores on-campus housing for the 2026-2027 academic year.

PHOTO BY SYDNEY CHANDLER, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

space availability, primary campus designation, academic standing, and academic status,” as it was last year. Upperclassman named not eligible to get on-campus housing will be placed on the waitlist.

According to the housing website, students who are placed on the waitlist will receive updates on

their eligibility from March until August. Those who apply after the deadline are still likely to be given a housing offer if they wait to receive housing leading up to the beginning of the school year. However, late applicants are less likely to be eligible to request roommates or participate in the April selection process.

“Don’t Mess with Mansfield” litter cleanup this Saturday

by Max Muller | CONTRIBUTOR | HE/HIM/HIS | jyv24001@uconn.edu

The town of Mansfield and the University of Connecticut Office of Sustainability will be co-hosting their third “Don’t Mess with Mansfield” litter cleanup event on Saturday, Nov. 8, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The event is made up of two event blocks, with the first being run by Mansfield from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. and the second being run by UConn from 12 to 4 p.m. Mansfield’s portion of the event will take place at Pleasant Valley Road and throughout the neighborhoods of Mansfield, followed by UConn-led cleanup sites across campus.

The UConn Office of Sustainability will be running cleanup sites on Hunting Lodge Road, Separatist Road, North Eagleville Road, Eastwood/Westwood Road and in the center of campus. The sites being run by the Office of Sustainability will have trash bags and gloves available for volunteers.

“This is our third collaboration for a litter pickup day, called Don’t Mess with Mansfield,” said Patrick McKee, Director of UConn’s Institute of the Environment and Energy. “We count that we have picked up more than 300 bags of litter on these workdays just around our campus. The students and key student organizations have also really stepped up to assist with keeping the roads picked up regularly. Preventing, and removing litter pollution from our local ecosystem



Don’t Mess With Mansfield!

Community Cleanup Day
Saturday November 8

- Drop In Noon - 4pm
- Check In Stations Provide Supplies

A promotional graphic for the town of Mansfield and the UConn Office of Sustainability’s “Don’t Mess with Mansfield” event. The event takes place on Saturday, Nov. 8, 2025.
PHOTO COURTESY OF @UCONNOS ON INSTAGRAM

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aligns with many of the university’s strategic goals related to sustainability and more importantly fulfills a moral obligation to our planet, and our colleagues, friends, and neighbors who call Mansfield home.”

According to Virginia Walton, Mansfield’s recycling coordinator, although Mansfield held organized clean-up sites, a lot more of the work was done in neighborhoods and local parks; as a result, there wasn’t as much tracking of how many residents were at each event.

In a press release the town manager’s office stated, “the Town-University Relations Committee coordinated the ‘Don’t Mess with Mansfield’ cleanup efforts starting last fall in response to residents expressed concern last spring about the litter along roads adjacent to campus and all around town.”

For independent groups or individuals who choose to participate, other town roads that need attention include Browns Rd., Chaffeeville Rd., Maple Rd., Pleasant Valley Rd., Mansfield City Rd., Stearns Rd., White Oak Rd. and Gurleyville Rd.

“It’s really important to foster community building with the town,” Anna Parker, Administrative and Sustainability Outreach Intern Coordinator said. “Nobody wants to look at litter, so make your campus beautiful as well as the town.”

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Costume club offers creativity and connection

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Zohran won, now what?

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UConn seeks redemption against Duke

WE ARE NOT THE DAILY DIGEST

PHOTO OF THE DAY



Students flood the bookstore to try Starbucks' new holiday menu on Nov. 6, 2025. The highly anticipated holiday menu began today. Photo by Emma Meidinger, Associate Photo Editor/The Daily Campus

Hurricane Melissa leaves Caribbean reeling

by Juliana Assis | CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT | SHE/HER/HERS | kmm24006@uconn.edu

Hurricane Melissa tore through the Caribbean last week, leaving a trail of devastation that has stunned communities and scientists alike. The category five storm — the strongest ever recorded to make landfall in Jamaica — caused massive flooding, deadly landslides and widespread power outages across the region.

According to Project HOPE, the hurricane brought “catastrophic flooding and landslides” that damaged hospitals, homes and critical infrastructure. More than 75% of Jamaica lost power and thousands of families have been displaced. UNICEF estimates that over 700,000 children across the Caribbean have been affected; many are now struggling with disrupted access to safe water, education and healthcare.

“Families are trapped in submerged neighbourhoods without power or remained in shelters, and access to clean water and sanitation is critically compromised,” UNICEF said in a press release. “Children urgently need food, safe drinking water and sanitation, access to health and nutrition services and a path back to education.”

University of Connecticut Department of Earth Sciences Associate Professor-in-residence Tammo Reichgelt explained that Melissa’s record-breaking strength came from a combination of environmental factors and a concerning trend of warmer ocean waters.

“The basic ingredients for tropical storm formation and strengthening are relatively high sea surface temperatures, absence of wind-

shear (meaning not a large difference between low and high-altitude winds) and high surface air temperature and humidity to sustain convection (sustaining a self-strengthening feedback system),” he said. “Melissa, however, was certainly very unusual in the extremely slow pace at which it moved. It also apparently had one of the lowest recorded minimum air pressures ever recorded for a hurricane at landfall, probably because it lingered so much right before making landfall.”

Normally, hurricanes weaken when they churn up cooler water from below the ocean’s surface. However, Reichgelt said the Caribbean waters beneath Melissa stayed warm, even at deeper levels, allowing the storm to continue strengthening.

“The churning of the hurricane into deeper cooler waters which didn’t break the feedback loop is quite unusual. I, for one, hadn’t heard of that before,” he said.

“Melissa also took an unexpected path, approaching Jamaica from the south instead of the typical east-to-west direction. Many communities were unprepared for the storm to strike at full strength.

“More than 13,000 people remained crowded into shelters, with 72% of the island without power and only 35% of mobile phone sites in operation,” according to NPR.

“Ocean waters above a certain temperature is what drives hurricane convection, so the longer it lingers over such ocean waters, the stronger it becomes,” Reichgelt explained. “The amount of rainfall that can fall as a re-



Residents walk through Lacovia Tombstone, Jamaica, in the aftermath of Hurricane Melissa, Wednesday, Oct. 29, 2025. The storm was the third-strongest Atlantic hurricane in history. PHOTO COURTESY AP PHOTO

sult of this sometimes rivals the amount of rainfall that a single location receives in a year. This completely overwhelms the natural and infrastructural capacity for draining away that water.”

Scientists say Hurricane Melissa reflects a growing pattern of more intense storms in a warming climate.

“One of the basic ingredients for hurricane formation and strengthening is high sea surface temperatures,” Reichgelt said. “Increase the temperature and you can get stronger hurricanes, a lon-

ger hurricane season, and a larger moisture content of the individual hurricane.”

Relief groups like Project HOPE and UNICEF are now working to provide emergency medical care, food and clean water to affected families. But Reichgelt said long-term investment in disaster preparedness and climate adaptation will be crucial to prevent similar devastation in the future.

“The only thing that can be done is preparation, for example by infrastructural upkeep, making sure the

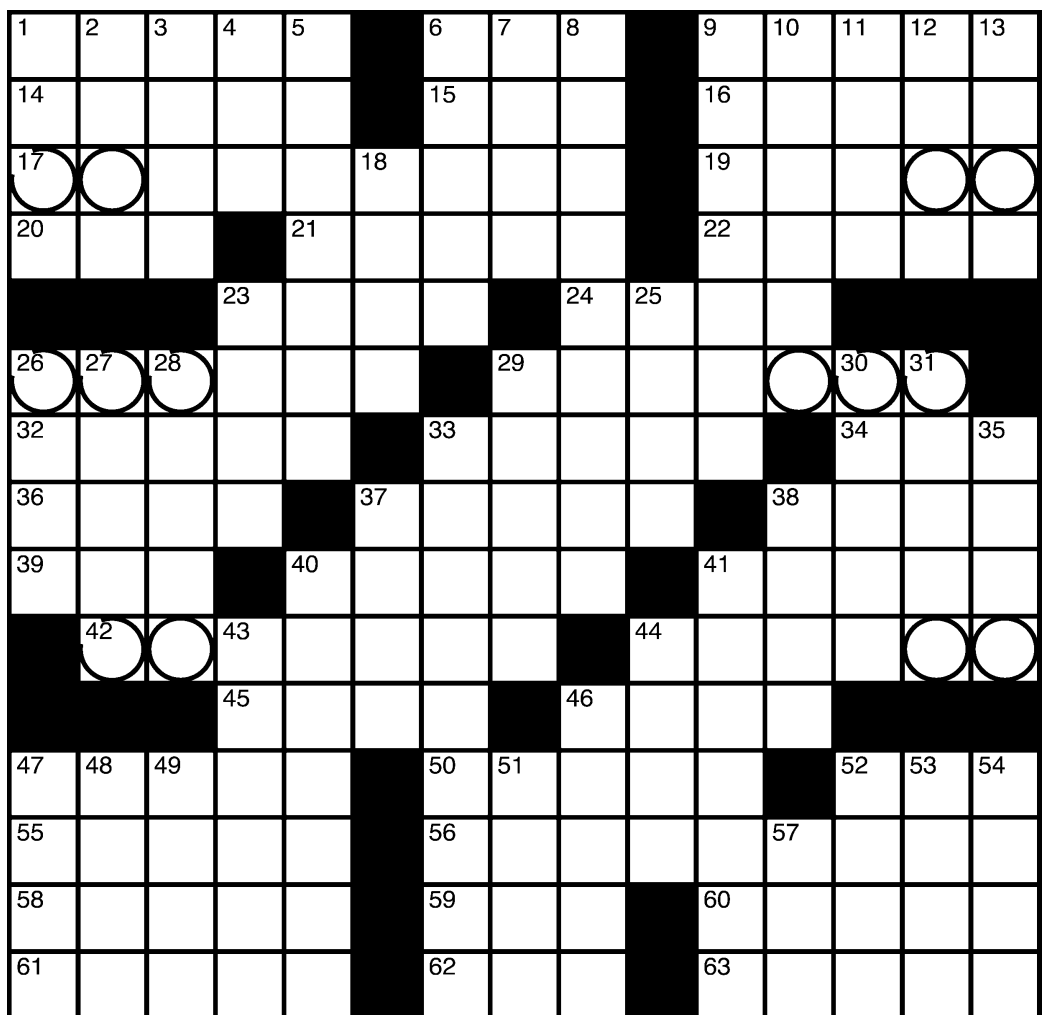
communication is not vulnerable to breaking down, evacuations, emergency centers in every community, and making sure that there is a way to get fresh water, medicine, and food into communities that have been affected by the storm, since the breakdown of the regular infrastructure might mean that the traditional ways that people get these things are not operational anymore,” Reichgelt said. “All of that is expensive and thus affects nations with fewer economic means more severely.”

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DAILY CROSSWORDS

- ACROSS**
- 1 ___ committee
 - 6 Soak (up), as gravy
 - 9 34-Across lines
 - 14 Statement of beliefs
 - 15 Homer's tee
 - 16 Top monk
 - 17 *Comments
 - 19 *Seasonal malady
 - 20 Resort destination
 - 21 Attend without an invitation
 - 22 Sacred object
 - 23 Full of frills
 - 24 "Ain't it the truth!"
 - 26 *Kinda-sorta
 - 29 *Blacken on the grill
 - 32 Happening
 - 33 Plaintiffs
 - 34 GPS display
 - 36 Zero, for Aryna Sabalenka
 - 37 Bug ___
 - 38 Lion locks
 - 39 Fib
 - 40 Archaeologist's find
 - 41 Adjoining hotel rooms
 - 42 *Mimic's talent
 - 44 *American Girl buy
 - 45 Theme park attraction
 - 46 The "S" of NSFW
 - 47 Home of Himeji Castle
 - 50 Mocking tribute
 - 52 "Shame on you!"
 - 55 Only coastal city in Jordan
 - 56 Focused and feeling unstoppable, or an apt description of the answers to the starred clues
 - 58 Staff writing
 - 59 Overalls component
 - 60 "In your dreams!"
 - 61 Pancake quantity
 - 62 Place for pigs
 - 63 "Hello" and "Bye Bye"
- DOWN**
- 1 Does something
 - 2 Faucet annoyance

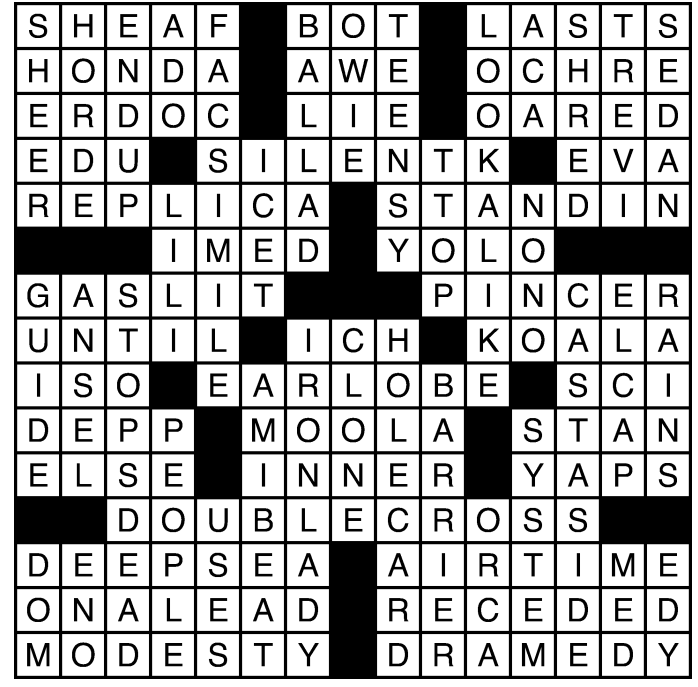


By Joseph A. Gangi

11/7/25

- 3 Goddess whose symbol is a peacock
- 4 Poem of praise
- 5 Company whose symbol is a peacock
- 6 Many a shelter animal
- 7 Hardy trees
- 8 Press on
- 9 Roof supports
- 10 Like plum tomatoes
- 11 Be up against
- 12 Top of many an indoor stadium
- 13 Acronym on some educational toys
- 18 ___ supports
- 23 Security checkpoint formation
- 25 Steenburgen of "Parenthood"
- 26 "Hi-ho, the derry-o" setting
- 27 Bypass
- 28 "In your dreams!"
- 29 B-baller Steph
- 30 Common accumulation during vacation
- 31 Cost

Thursday's Puzzle Solved



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11/7/25

- 33 Pork slab on the grill
- 35 Small sound
- 37 Garden structure
- 38 Moscow ___: ginger beer drink
- 40 À la Florentine green
- 41 Makes less harsh
- 43 Language spoken in 55-Across
- 44 100-meter race, e.g.
- 46 Didn't help
- 47 Door ___
- 48 Sea blue
- 49 Days of yore
- 51 "Right away, boss!"
- 52 34-Across dot
- 53 Minor setback
- 54 A minor and A major
- 57 Where the wild things are

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Thursday, November 6, 2025

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Life

UConn Chamber Ensembles Present a Journey Through Musical History

by **Juliana Assis**
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On Tuesday, Nov. 4, the University of Connecticut Chamber Ensembles held a concert featuring works spanning over centuries of music at von der Mehden Recital Hall. The selected works highlighted both the technical and expressive range of each musician.

The concert opened with a brass quintet that performed Giovanni Gabrieli's "Sacro tempio d'honor," a brass composition written specifically for the acoustics of St. Mark's Basilica in Venice. While von der Mehden does not share these acoustics, this piece showcased the group's strong sense of blend and attention to balance and rhythm.

The quintet continued with Gabrieli's "Canzona Prima a 5," furthering the exploration of Renaissance and brass textures.

The performance then shifted to George Frideric Handel's "Das zitternde Glänzen der spielenden Wellen," a piece that praises the beauty of nature and the divine through sound. Featuring piano, violin, cello and vocals, the ensemble was able to create a full, symphonic tone despite only having

four performers.

In Matthew O'Callaghan's "Peace," piano and voice combined for a lyrical performance that created a tranquil, serene atmosphere. It

"Across the evening, the ensembles demonstrated not only technical skill but also an understanding of the distinct emotional and historical contexts behind each piece, offering a clear reflection of the depth and versatility of UConn's chamber program."

offered a moment of contemporary reflection before returning to the traditional repertoire.

Beethoven's "Cello Sonata No.

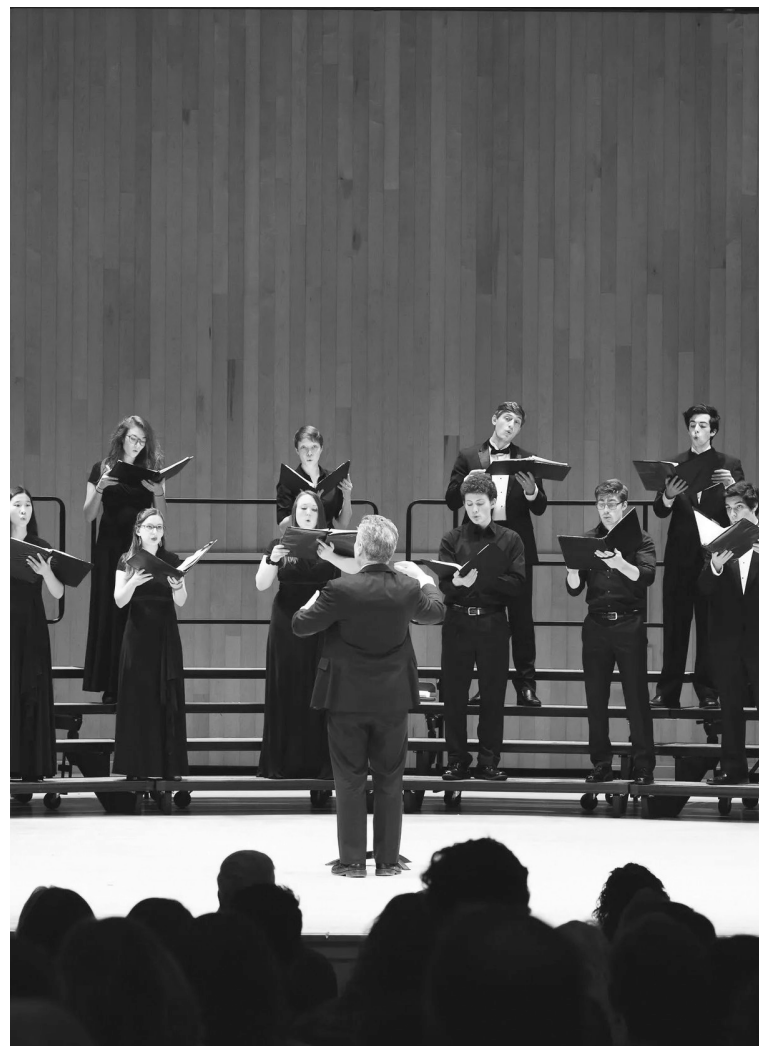
5 in D Major, Op. 102, No. 2" displayed a call-and-response between the cello and piano while blending intensity with a sense of spiritual reflection.

"Élégie, Op. 24" by Gabriel Fauré was a mournful, lyrical piece that successfully communicated feelings of sadness and grief through only the sounds of the cello and piano.

Later selections included Beethoven's "Violin Sonata No. 7 in C minor Op. 30, No. 2" and "Piano Trio No. 3 in C minor, Op. 1," both of which historically highlighted Beethoven's growing individuality and stylistic decisions as a musician.

The program also included Maurice Ravel's "String Quartet in F Major," Sergey Prokofiev's "Cello Sonata in C Major, Op. 119" and Antonín Dvořák's "String Quartet No. 12 in F Major, Op. 96 ("American")" — each performed with precision and expressive confidence.

Across the evening, the ensembles demonstrated not only technical skill but also an understanding of the distinct emotional and historical contexts behind each piece, offering a clear reflection of the depth and versatility of UConn's chamber program.



UConn students performing in von der Mehden Recital Hall in Storrs, Conn.

FILE PHOTO/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Students Strut Their Stuff at Jazz Combos Performance



UConn students performing jazz at von der Mehden Recital Hall in Storrs, Conn. on Sunday, Nov. 2. The show featured the small-member Jazz Combos.

PHOTO BY COLIN MITCHELL, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

by **Ayyan Tamjeed**
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The University of Connecticut Jazz Combos took to von der Mehden Recital Hall on Sunday, Nov. 2, for an afternoon performance featuring jazz groups filled with UConn students.

A unique aspect of these jazz combos is their small scale in contrast to UConn's 20-piece Jazz Ensemble. There were five groups that featured seven players each. All groups had a rhythm section with a drummer, upright bassist and guitarist. Aside from that, each contained a variety of different instrumentalists.

Two groups could count on UConn's inaugural vocal jazz majors, to carry harmonies and improvise solos. Another group was a trio of saxophone players jamming with each other. One group included pianist Sebastian Rodriguez dishing out some chords when needed.

According to director Steve Bulmer, five combos is a far cry from the two he had when the program first started five years ago.

The jazz combos program is supposed to "take people who may or may not have ever performed together before and take basically a very vague framework of music and turn it into a polished performance piece," according to Bulmer.

The first group to perform was Maybe Later, which could rely on the saxophone trio of Carlos Delgado, Jack Tobin and Victor Simancas, who play the alto, tenor and baritone respectively, to drive the melody of the three pieces they played.

The three saxophonists had amazing chemistry playing with each other, as they harmonized for the Bossa Nova intro of their first piece "Blue Bossa," and as Tobin and Delgado did a fun back-and-forth with each other on "Chameleon." Guitarist Patrick Le Febvre

deftly moved up and down the fret board while playing some great solos and funky chords on "Chameleon."

Circle of Fifths were next up, and an interesting crinkle in their group was the presence of UConn's second vocal jazz major, Isabella Kulawik. The inclusion of a vocalist to the combo added a whole new dimension to performances, as she could also sing lyrics.

This new dimension was showcased in Circle of Fifth's first piece, "This Can't Be Love." It felt like the band transported back to the 1930s as they began playing, and the bright trumpet stabs accentuated the buoyant lyrics.

After the group's performance, Bulmer shared some more words about how each combo came up with its arrangements. He said each group had a "skeleton of a sheet with some melody and chords [and] flesh that out into a full arrangement."

When coming up with solos, first-semester jazz studies major and tenor saxophonist player Daniel Planas explained that "as an improviser we look at changes and say, 'Oh, what sounds good in these [chord] changes?'" Having played jazz gigs since he was 11 years old, Planas has had plenty of experience in coming up with solos.

On the topic of playing with a jazz vocalist, Planas said one challenge was changing keys to match with the vocalist. As a saxophone player, he would need to change how the notes sound as he played, compared to a bassist or guitarist who move up or down a fret.

The next band to play was Post-Bop Stress Disorder, who won Bulmer's award for most creative combo name, and it played some bops too. PBSO concluded each of its pieces wonderfully. It would start with a big band intro and afterwards, every individual would perform a solo then drop out, with bassist Mercury Gou-

let and Drummer Ohm Soni the only ones standing. Then everyone came back to harmonize for a bombastic outro.

After a brief intermission, Robin's Nest stepped onto the stage. Robin's Nest had the distinction of relying on fifth-semester communications and inaugural vocal jazz major Hazel Allik to carry melodies. As a vocalist, Allik said "I kind of act as another horn in a lot of charts, so we'll do arrangements of four-part harmonies, which is cool."

Allik also laid out some reasoning for the pieces Robin's Nest played on stage. For example, "A Day in Vienna" was performed by the band because it could do a three-part harmony and for its Latin groove.

"If I Should Lose You" was suggested by the band's tenor saxophonist Noah Lafond. Allik liked the melody on it and added lyrics that paint a picture of all the disasters that would happen if the singer lost somebody.

The last piece "Lament," was added as a change of pace from the other two pieces, a somber ballad that Allik learned to play the piano for.

Allik said that arranging a song is a balance of not overwhelming the listener and serving the song but also making it interesting to listen to and incorporating everyone.

The last group of the afternoon was "Big Jazz," which was the only group that featured a jazz pianist in Rodriguez. A standout part of its performance was a nice R&B opening to its second piece "Daahoud" and the exemplary playing of baritone saxophonist Ciara Garcia, who got a chance to shine on her own. Trumpeter Michael Rentz also added a mute to the end of his trumpet to create a unique horn sound to add a new flavor to the group's compositions.

Note: Isabella Kulawik is an Associate Managing Editor at The Daily Campus.

Birdbrained Science: Beetlejuice, Beetlejuice, Beetlejuice

by Gabrielle Wincherhern
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Welcome back to Birdbrained Science, a biweekly science column! This week, we're going to continue the theme of me ruining everyday items for you by revealing there's a mildly upsetting substance hidden within. We're also going to be talking about things that are somewhat thematically appropriate, considering that this article is coming out on the heels of Halloween: candy corn and beetlejuice.

Candy corn is something of

“This week, we’re going to continue the theme of me ruining everyday items for you by revealing there’s a mildly upsetting substance hidden within.”

a divisive candy. People seem to either love it or hate it (I fall more into the former camp. I don't care if it makes me want to vomit after too many. I'm still going to eat it). I'm going to add another potential point of contention into the argument: candy corn, along with lots of other candy and non-candy items, contains bug fluid, also known as “beetlejuice.”

In particular, I'm talking about confectioner's glaze, which is made from shellac, aka purified bug fluid. What kind of fluid is it exactly, you may ask (especially if you read the last edition of this column)?

Excellent question! I tried really hard to think of a good analog and could not. Humans simply don't produce anything like it (well, to my knowledge, anyway). Shellac is a polymer that comes from refining resin lac. It's secreted by lac insects (Kerria lacca, but you might see the older name Laccifer lacca too; taxonomical classifications are forever a work-in-progress). Lac comes from the

“Candy corn is something of a divisive candy.”

Sanskrit word Laksha, which means “hundred thousand.” It's a nod to how many insects are involved in producing lac — literally thousands are needed for one pound.

To fully understand where lac comes from, we need to cover the lac insect life cycle. Lac insects parasitize trees. During particular seasons, enormous swarms of mostly female lac insects will gather on trees. After gathering, lac insects will poke into the tree bark using a pointy proboscis

“And then we put it on candy corn, Whoppers, jelly beans and other candies to help preserve them and make them shine. Yum.”

and use that to start sucking sap from the tree, all while laying eggs. Lac insects will then convert the sap inside their

bodies and secrete it. When the secretions come into contact with air, they turn into a hard, shell-like resin coating. The resin covers the swarm and serves to protect them and their eggs.

Naturally, we ruin that by taking these resin-coated branches (with the bugs still attached) scraping the resin off, decontaminating, filtering and just generally processing them for shellac. Lac is naturally a reddish color, and in this form can be used as a dye, but we can bleach it with hypochlorite to turn it clear. And then we put it on candy corn, Whoppers, jelly beans and other candies to help preserve

“I suppose the takeaway is to examine even everyday items with a critical eye; you never know what could be hiding!”

them and make them shine. Yum.

Thanks to its complicated chemical structure (which, due to both its complexity and my hatred for chemistry, we are not going to get into), shellac has a number of properties that make it ideal for use as a food glaze. It generally doesn't have a smell (aside from when it's heated up) or taste. It's partly hydrophobic, so it can be used to stop food products from drying out. It's also nontoxic, so aside from the ick factor, you probably won't experience any adverse effects from unknowingly consuming beetlejuice.



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



ILLUSTRATION BY RHIANNON WALLACE, CONTRIBUTING ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

In addition, it's not only used on candies. Shellac is also used to glaze pills and as nail and furniture polish. Shellac has also been used in hair spray and phonographs. It also promotes cell adhesion, which has promising implications for wound dressings and other medical uses. Furthermore, since it's biodegradable, it is a very eco-friendly

alternative for many synthetic polymers, which could have lots of applications in electronics. The beetlejuice is inescapable!

What did we learn today? I suppose the takeaway is to examine even everyday items with a critical eye; you never know what could be hiding! See you all in another two weeks!

“DEATH BY LIGHTNING”

TELLS THE STORY OF PRESIDENT GARFIELD AND THE MAN WHO KILLED HIM

by Thaddeus Sawyer
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“Death by Lightning,” a historical drama miniseries about the presidency and assassination of James A. Garfield, was released on Netflix on Thursday, Nov. 6. Directed by Mike Makowsky and

based on the book “Destiny of the Republic,” it is a look at how Garfield reached office and how one delusional man took that away.

The viewer isn't expected to know who Charles Guiteau is coming in. In fact, the opening scene involves a jar containing Guiteau's brain falling out of a box inside

a government facility. The worker, upon picking up the jar, openly questions who Guiteau is (a bit more explicitly, I might add).

To clarify, Guiteau is the man who shot Garfield and was later hanged- you wouldn't be blamed for not knowing that off the top of your head. The fact of the matter is that Guiteau never entered the pop culture zeitgeist in the same manner as the individuals who murdered Abraham Lincoln or John F. Kennedy. In many ways, the show is an attempt to amplify the legacy that the real Guiteau was seeking through his actions.

“To clarify, Guiteau is the man who shot Garfield and was later hanged- you wouldn't be blamed for not knowing that off the top of your head.”

That's not to say that Makowsky paints Guiteau in a positive light. Actor Matthew Macfadyen's portrayal shows Guiteau to be an utterly pathetic man. He is a pathological liar who would rather brown nose his way into a spot in Garfield's administration than work his way up through honest means. He is also delusional, deciding to assassinate Garfield when his low-impact campaigning for the president results in nothing more than a thank you.

In contrast, Garfield is presented to be an exceptionally humble man who holds an

altruistic view on how America should be ran; he views himself to have no greater importance than any other individual. It is a perfect juxtaposition to Guiteau, who views himself as special and above others who have accomplished far more.

One objective that the opening scene inside of the warehouse — especially the worker's reaction to the jar — accomplishes is that it sets an underlying tone of humor. That tone provides a light in what would otherwise be a rather straight telling of history inside of a dark setting and atmosphere.

Another standout performance is that of Nick Offerman as then-Vice President Chester A. Arthur. Offerman, who put on 20 pounds and wore a fat suit to portray Arthur, is often the comic relief to the discomfort provided by Macfadyen's Guiteau. Their scenes often involve Offerman playing a drunken Arthur who is more interested in finding sausages than in listening to Guiteau's political proposals, and he is known to use vulgar language at inopportune moments. He is also Roscoe Conkling's (Shea Whigham) right-hand man inside of the Stalwart faction of the Republican party, often taking care of Conkling's dirty work in New York and later the White House.

When sober, Arthur is often shown to be angry and loud. However, Offerman shows his range in the second half of the series as signs of sympathy and responsibility begin to seep through. This is especially true after Garfield was shot, as he begins to realize that he will have to step

up and become a person of his own convictions. He rebuffs Conkling's suggestions for further corrupting politics in the White House. While the series is not 100% accurate to history (very few historical retellings are), the real Arthur would likely be pleased with that ending, as his most widely regarded act as president was the Pendleton Civil Service Act of 1883.

“As a whole, the show does a great job in providing a piece of history that has otherwise largely been overlooked.”

As a whole, the show does a great job in providing a piece of history that has otherwise largely been overlooked. The show's cast keeps the largely politically-focused material interesting from an entertainment perspective. It's a fast paced telling that finds a balance between the amount of information given and the smaller details within and, because of that, sheds light on Guiteau as a historical figure that history forgot.

Rating: 4.2/5 Stars

RATING:
4.2/5
STARS



A promotional poster for the miniseries “Death by Lightning.” The historical drama released on Thursday, Nov. 6, 2025

PHOTO COURTESY OF IMDB



Opinion

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

Zohran won: So, now what?

by Tomas Hinckley
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For many of the members of the American left, this past Tuesday night was a celebration the likes of which has been a long time coming. Zohran Mamdani's victory in the New York City mayoral election seemed to ring out across the entire country, signaling the beginning of something new. It's a new hope, perhaps, or a return to previous highs felt during the 2020 era. On a personal note, it was incredible to see how even some of the more apolitical — or at least not politically active — people were caught up in excitement about what had happened. Despite this being a local race to elect a local city official, it took on a significant nationwide emotional significance.

Now that the emotional high is over, or at least starting to come down as the days pass, it's worth genuinely asking the question: what comes next? Many on the left are coming to terms with whether to celebrate Mamdani as a savior or scorn him as any other liberal, and it's already generated a great amount of controversy even though he hasn't even been inaugurated yet. I hope to present a nuanced position within this debate, recognizing what opportunities this change brings alongside the limitations that many seem unready to mention.

To begin, it's worth placing this victory in the context of earlier large-scale underdog progressive electoral victories within recent years. This is to say, it's easy to see that we've been in this situation before. First in 2018, when Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez broke onto the national stage and ushered in the modern progressive era, and second, when Barack Obama became the first African-American president in 2008.

These were both shocking victories featuring a very progressive candidate coming out of thin air to win the Democratic primary be-

fore winning the general election. But they also resulted in very little once in office compared to their campaign promises. Obama completely walked back his promises to protect abortion, created an Affordable Care Act that primarily benefited insurance companies, laid the groundwork for the current expansion of fascist deportation efforts we are currently seeing and probably spent more time bombing people in the Middle East than focusing on any of those other issues combined. Ocasio-Cortez, for her part, has done far less than Obama (given that she's only a single legislator), but has equally become a hollowed-out version of her past self while in office. This is evident in recent years as she has come under fire for not being strong enough in material support of Palestine and her alignment with the failure of the centrist Joe Biden and Kamala Harris camp at the 2024 Democratic National Convention.

There's been enough electoral history at this point to say that progressive and socialist candidates will capitulate on some, if not all, of their key points once they reach office. It is a simple matter of the structural influence of holding office in a political system that is so inherently against change. Especially considering how Mamdani has already faced unprecedented levels of national scrutiny from the media and virtually no support from his party system, it is likely that Mamdani will continue to follow this trend once in office in more ways than he already has. Ultimately, he will again demonstrate the inability of elected officials to significantly change the economic and social fabric of this society.

Now, this is problematic in its own right, but also because many people will not recognize it and lay off after this victory. An inherent flaw of the electoral campaign is that it prioritizes a large rush of energy and resources towards the vote effort, before essentially

releasing all the people who contributed to it once the election. It is ineffective at creating the sort of sustainable mass movement that is necessary to make change. Only if people continue to pressure the government once Mamdani is elected will there be the possibility of something good, and this kind of pressure can only come if people recognize that he is like any other politician and needs to be held accountable, even if he is nominally a socialist.

A common phrase thrown at the left is that they want to "endlessly critique those in power." And actually, yes, that is exactly what we ought to do. We exist in a political and economic structure that is inherently against change and look to subsume and destroy it when given the opportunity. A victory that allows us some presence within this system is not an end; it is a means at best, one that you push until you can't anymore. The moment that we rely on those in power to bring real change, any hope for it is already lost.

Still, aside from the cynicism, there are still several valuable, positive takeaways from this historic moment that are worth looking at.

First, an unabashedly self-described socialist did become the leader of the largest city in America. This will be an incredible opportunity for people to potentially see real progressive policy put into action on a large scale. Although he will face significant opposition from all over, presumably even the federal government, it's not as though he's just one senator attempting to sway all of Congress to do what he wants. Additionally, this administration seems to be aware of the absolute necessity of grassroots support to achieve its agenda, given its creation of the Our Time organization, which appears to be trying to keep up the structure built during the massive

mobilization of people in his campaign efforts.

Second, Mamdani is undoubtedly giving "socialism" a cool reputation and there is value in that. This country has historically been the foremost stronghold against any anti-capitalist views, and that's reflected in how people react to words like "socialism." If he can change the implicit association with this word, then that is a base that further work can build upon. Instead of having to fight the battle of helping people unlearn the stigma associated with it, now even those further left than Mamdani can just work on redefining socialism.

Third and finally, this is a victory for the working class. Although much has been said about his voter base being full of upper middle-class white liberals who gentrified Brooklyn, the labor aristocracy as some would say,

fight tooth and nail to prevent this victory shows something about its importance.

So, what now? Well, it's clear that it's too easy to simply dismiss what the Democratic Socialists of America did here, but it's not without its inherent weaknesses. There is simply more work to be done, because this is just an opportunity. The way that this administration plays out and whether it will serve to harm or help the movement will ultimately fall on what activists and organizers do from here. The answer is in the grassroots, so it's time to get organized!



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The Sacred Elsewhere:

Rethinking America's love affair with wilderness

by Alex Trigo
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American spirituality is built on an impulse to flee the world. It teaches that purity lies in distance; the divine can only exist beyond human reach. Nowhere is this clearer than in our desire for wilderness, imagined as the last realm of untouched sanctity. We have turned these landscapes into the measure of what counts as holy, defining spiritual truth through separation rather than relation. The result is an ideology that disguises abandonment as reverence: to save nature, we must first leave it.

Why does American spirituality only feel close to the divine when it's far from human touch? In "The Trouble with Wilderness," historian William Cronon reframes this question by insist-

ing that "wilderness" is not a description of a landscape, but rather a cultural idea.

Far from untouched, many of the places we call wilderness have been shaped by people for centuries, our national parks for example. Still, the myth of pristine landscape survives because it answers a psychological need — it allows us to imagine a world free of human mess. We travel to the mountains, deserts, and forests searching for an escape. This yearning is often framed as reverence, but it actually reveals our deeper dependency on escape as the foundation of our spirituality.

Cronon argues that the modern idea of wilderness emerged not from nature itself, but from an ideological movement at the height of industrialization. In the 19th century, as the construction of factories demolished the land-

scape and cities filled with smog, the natural world was co-opted as a moral opposite. The wilderness became a fantasy of purity, a space imagined to exist outside the reach of industry. Romantic thinkers claimed God was not in the city but in the mountains, not in community but in solitude. The frontier myth reinforced this belief, promising that moral renewal could be found only by escaping civilization.

Though rooted in religion, this idea has been kept throughout secularization. Modern environmentalism still carries its traces, treating nature as a place for personal transcendence rather than shared responsibility. In this way, capitalism helped transform wilderness into something holy, a sacred counter-image to the world it was actively exploiting.

The ideal wilderness carries

a hidden cost. By defining value through what remains untouched, we learn to see the inhabited world as less worthy of care. If beauty and meaning exist only in distant landscapes, then everything affected by human hands becomes a kind of spiritual waste. This way of thinking seeps into environmentalism as a movement. We rally to protect what appears pure — the national park, the coral reef, the untouched forest — but turn away from what has already been damaged. Ordinary harm, such as a contaminated river or an abandoned parking lot, rarely fits our image of what "nature" is. They are too entangled with human life, too compromised to feel redemptive. Yet, these are the places that reveal who we are as a species, and where restoration must be done. The challenge of our time is not to worship what remains untouched, but to learn to

see value in what has already been altered — to find meaning in the landscapes we've tried hardest to ignore.

What if the sacred isn't somewhere we visit, but something we practice? A spirituality of immanence begins with the belief that meaning doesn't vanish when the landscape is changed. This kind of attention refuses purity as the measure of worth. It asks us to see the wild not as a faraway refuge, but as a quality that still emanates through the places we interact with day to day.

Replacing escape with participation is key — to care not because a place is pristine, but because it persists. As Cronon suggests, if wilderness can stop only being "out there" and start being "in here," we might finally learn how to live rightly with the world we already have.

Opinion

It's a phrase you hear in almost every major election. "Vote blue no matter who" is the default response, it seems, to any criticism of Democratic candidates and policies or suggestion that our votes may be better directed towards a third-party candidate. For the most part, it's good advice. It's a fundamental fact of the way our political system is constructed that third-party candidates are rarely, if ever, politically viable. It's not difficult to see that a Republican victory, often the only realistic alternative to a Democrat, is almost universally the worse option in any given election. If this is the case, then, why do we so often tire of hearing it? Ultimately, it's because "vote blue no matter who" is most often used to handwave away valid criticism of the Democratic Party's failure to serve the needs of working class and oppressed people.

While the plea, on its surface, rings true, buried underneath the literal meaning is the implication that the mere possibility of a Republican victory renders any desire for Democratic policies beyond their typical moderate reforms unreasonable. Furthermore, it is often implied that these valid criticisms only serve to help Republicans and therefore should be treated with the same hostility with which we rightfully treat Republicans themselves. The phrase perfectly embodies the increasingly clear attitude held by many Democratic politicians and insiders that Democrats are not simply a political party tasked with winning over voters with popular pol-

icies and concrete results, but an unimpeachable pillar of democracy to which voters are morally obligated to dedicate themselves.

No more clearly has this attitude been demonstrated than on former vice president Kamala Harris' book tour. The tour is to promote her newly published book "107 Days," which details her experience campaigning for the 2024 presidential election during the

someone seeking to profit off their involvement in the administration, Harris' response has been anything but. On the numerous occasions she's been confronted with criticism for her actions, her responses have ranged from calmly acknowledging the suffering of the Palestinian people but refusing to acknowledge her complicity in it, to vitriolic accusations that President Donald Trump's victo-

exceptions. It seems that whenever the Democratic nominee for an election holds progressive beliefs, establishment Democrats suddenly gain a deep — and perhaps cynical — appreciation for the value of multiparty politics. Take, for example, the recent New York City mayoral race, won by democratic socialist Zohran Mamdani. Despite the fact that Mamdani was the official nominee for the Democratic

ballot in the election, but refused to say for whom.

This reluctance and in some cases outright hostility towards Mamdani was echoed by many other Democrats, all stemming from his progressive economic agenda, his steadfast stance against the Gaza genocide and refusal to capitulate to calls to recognize Israel's right to exist as an apartheid state. It was almost impressive how quickly the narrative changed from the need to uncritically support the Democratic nominee regardless of disagreements, to the need to properly vet and examine a candidate before making any hasty decisions. Amazingly, all it took was a candidate whose policies served working people instead of the corporate interests that fund the party and inform its agenda.

These two cases, one of expectant demand for unquestioning loyalty and one of sudden reluctance to support their own party's candidate, put on full display the hypocrisy of that oft-repeated phrase. A more accurate version would be "vote blue when donors want you to." So what should voters who are understandably disillusioned with the current state of the Democratic Party do? It can often seem like Democrats are the only choice when faced with the outright fascism of the modern Republican Party. Vote blue when you want to. Democrats are still politicians. Their role in our democracy hasn't changed no matter how much they want voters to think otherwise. They still have to earn your vote.

Vote blue no matter who?

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

titular 107 days following former President Joe Biden's withdrawal from the race. At stops along the tour, Harris has frequently faced interruptions from protesters over her complicity in the Gaza genocide as a member of the Biden administration and her campaign's refusal to distance itself from the administration's support for the genocide. While one might expect an apologetic response from

Party, House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries declined to endorse him until the day before early voting began for the general election — even then he qualified his endorsement with the statement that he still had concerns with Mamdani's foreign policy views. Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer went even further, refusing to issue an endorsement at all. Schumer later admitted to having cast his

ry was the result of anti-genocide protesters rather than her own failure to address the concerns of working Americans. These brash and deflective reactions to criticism clearly show the entitlement which has come to infect the Democratic establishment, and the belief that Democrats cannot fail but can only be failed.

This entitlement, though extremely prevalent, has a few telling

Dangerous Denialism: Our concerning response to Hurricane Melissa

by Colin Hamilton
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The response to Hurricane Melissa has been disgusting in its ignorance. Report after report has hailed the hurricane's nature as one of its kind — an apocalyptic devastation, seemingly never to happen again. World Meteorological Organization's tropical cyclone specialist Anne-Claire Fontan even described the system as the "storm of the century." This sentiment has been echoed elsewhere. It cannot be understated just how devastating Hurricane Melissa was — 75 have already been pronounced dead and countless more are still missing — but labeling this storm as an outlier in severity does a disservice to the damage it has caused and those affected by it. With ocean temperatures consistently breaking previous records and storms intensifying faster than ever, this so-called "storm of the century" is merely another example of our planet's perverse new normal. Unless we recognize the future threats that Melissa precedes, we will be helpless in the face of further tragedies.

Packing the death and destruction behind Hurricane Melissa into headline-ready "storm of the century" formatting is both inaccurate and insulting. The facts and numbers behind the storm cannot be shrugged off. Melissa slammed ashore with sustained winds of 185 mph, becoming the third Category 5 storm this year. Whole communities

in Jamaica have been flattened, even as the slow recovery process begins. Jamaica's largest parish, St. Elizabeth, with a population of over 150,000, was left almost entirely underwater. Superintendent Coleridge Minto, head of the region's police, estimated that as much as 90% of St. Elizabeth's infrastructure had been severely damaged. Storm surges as high as 13 feet drowned low-lying towns, even as winds ripped roofs from homes and hospitals alike, devastating communities indiscriminately. Across the Caribbean, hundreds of thousands are without power and nearly a million more were forced to vacate their homes for their own safety. In Cuba, one fifth of the nation's population is in urgent need of food, shelter, water and healthcare. This is devastation on the scale of near collapse for island communities — and a preview of what awaits the rest of the world if trends continue.

Hurricane Melissa was not a freak of nature; rather, it was a result of continued ocean warming trends. In 2024, the world's oceans were the warmest on record, continuing a decades-long pattern. Hurricane Melissa reflected this and was formed in an oceanic region measured to be two to three degrees Celsius warmer than normal. This excess

heat runs deep into the ocean, creating enormous reserves of energy for storms to draw on. When tropical cyclones move over these temperature batteries, they undergo rapid intensification, where storms spontaneously strengthen in mere hours. This process was uncommon in the past, but in the modern day has increased in prevalence as a result of climate change, where as much as 90% of excess heat is channeled back into the Earth's oceans. Hurricane Melissa was the fourth storm this year to undergo the process.

This is no coincidence. "Climate change is fundamentally changing our weather," said Bernardette Wood Placky, chief meteorologist of Climate Central. "In our warmer world, it will continue to increase the likelihood of storms going through rapid and super-rapid intensification." The implications of this are terrifying. Beyond rapid intensification, as storms become stronger, changing weather patterns cause them to move through areas slower and give them the power to reach further inland. Unless we work to cool our oceans as soon as possible, this trend will only escalate, leading to more tragedies.

The science behind Melissa's threat is not up for debate, despite current policy acting like it is. Each year, private-sector emissions

grow. Despite this, public concern is waved off with promises of "green emissions" and vague environmental "action plans." In the wake of Hurricane Melissa, it has become clear that these voluntary efforts and half measures are nowhere near enough to save us from

the apocalyptic dangers of climate change. What is needed is new policy — a reemphasis on emission laws cut under the Trump administration. If the world wants to fight back against the forces behind Hurricane Melissa, binding limits on carbon emissions, oversight on polluters and investment in environmentally threatened communities are required. Groundwork for these solutions, such as the Clean Air Act, already exists — all that is missing is the courage to enact them. Hurricane Melissa makes that failure hard to ignore and further hesitation to label the issue will only result in more death.

We need to stop mourning Hurricane Melissa as solely an act of nature; it isn't. Rather, it is an act of negligence, the result of decades of treating our warming oceans and climate as background noise. If Melissa doesn't wake us up, then nothing will. We can no longer afford to label the extreme as anything outside of the norm. The "storm of the century" is now a concept from a distant, greener past. Recognizing that is our first step to survival. From there, law, policy and action are all that can save us. We may not be able to stop hurricanes from forming, but we can stop helping them grow.

BY ASLAN HOFFMAN
CONTRIBUTING ARTIST



We need to stop mourning Hurricane Melissa as solely an act of nature; it isn't. Rather, it is an act of negligence, the result of decades of treating our warming oceans and climate as background noise.

BY ALEXA PAPPAS
STAFF ARTIST



Women's Ice Hockey: Huskies to face weekend series against Boston College

by **Bridget Bronsdon**
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The UConn women's ice hockey team will face conference rival Boston College on Friday, Nov. 7, and Saturday, Nov. 8.

This season, the Huskies have been wildly successful, posting a 7-2-1 overall record and 2-0 conference record.

Last weekend, the Huskies faced Big East opponent Holy Cross in a two-game series. UConn walked away with a 4-3 win on Saturday and a 3-2 victory on Sunday. Forward senior Kyla Josifovic was a key part of the action, notching an assist and the game-winning goal in Friday's overtime victory. So far, Josifovic's senior season has been largely successful, as she leads the team in



five goals and five assists.

Several underclassmen also had a career weekend, with freshman defender True Thompson netting her first career goal to open Friday's scoring against the Crusad-

ers. Friday also saw freshman goaltender Taylor Belchetz earn her first career start for the Huskies, making 23 saves and her first collegiate win.

Boston College, though No. 1 in the conference, hasn't had the same success as the Huskies. The Eagles own a 4-5-1 overall record and a 3-1-1 conference record. Most notably, Boston College fell to Minnesota 1-7 and 0-11 in a September weekend series. The Minnesota Gophers rank No. 2 overall with 64 goals, whereas the Golden Eagles rank No. 24 with 24 goals on the season.

Against UConn, the Eagles will face a formidable threat in goal as UConn's Tia Chan, the 2024-25 Hockey East Goaltender of the Year,

is a key asset. This season, Chan has posted a .952 save percentage and earned an impressive 280 saves in nine games. Freshman goaltender Belchetz has also had an impressive year, owning a save percentage of .885 and saving 23 goals across three contests.

In the Eagles' net, senior Grace Campbell will pose a challenge as she holds a .901 save percentage, making 290 saves in nine games.

Last season, Campbell led Hockey East in overall saves and conference saves (663) and notched five game shut-outs.

Boston College will also be led by freshman forward Ava Thomas. This season, she leads the team with six goals and eight assists. Prior to BC, Thomas was a two-time member of the U.S. Under-18 Women's National Team. Senior Kate Ham also leads the BC attack, netting four goals and three assists this season.

The weekend meetings will be a valuable conference matchup for the opponents as they aim to climb the Big East ladder.

Puck drop is scheduled for 6 p.m. in Chestnut Hill, Mass., on Friday and 3 p.m. in Storrs on Saturday. Viewers can stream both events on ESPN+.



PHOTOS BY SYDNEY CHANDLER

Men's Hockey: No. 11 UConn faces No. 15 Providence for home and home

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Following a two-game homestand with Harvard and Merrimack, the UConn men's hockey team is back in action with a Hockey East series against Providence.

"I think it's going to be a big league weekend for us - it's always a highly contested, physical battle whenever we play Providence," said head coach Mike Cavanaugh. "Over the years, they've been really entertaining games."

The Ice Bus enters this weekend with a 4-3-1 overall record and 2-1-0 in Hockey East play. Last Friday, Oct. 31, the team tied Harvard 1-1 with a shootout victory and took the 5-1 win over Merrimack on Saturday.

Junior Jake Richard leads the leaderboards for the Huskies with seven points on two goals and five assists. Sophomore Mike Murtuagh is next in line with seven points on three goals and four assists. Over the first eight games of the season, Joey Muldowey has five goals and continues to be an offensive threat for the

Huskies. Generating offense has been a strong suit for the Huskies thus far this season.

"He's got an elite stick," said Cavanaugh on Richard. "He wins a lot of stick battles. He's got great skill and his hockey IQ might be the best on the team. He sees plays before they happen."

In goal for the Huskies is senior Tyler Muszelik. "Moose" has started seven of eight games for UConn, posting a 4-2-1 record with a 2.11 goals against average and a .929 save percentage.

"He works so hard," said Cavanaugh on Muszelik. "I think Alex Weslund [coach] does an incredible job with our goaltenders and Tyler has really taken to him and his coaches. He's playing solid hockey for us."

One of the known strengths of the Ice Bus this season is its tenured players, as the team returned the majority of its roster this season while adding a handful of freshmen. In this week's press conference, Coach Cavanaugh explained that the returning players "know what the expectations are" and they lead by example, allowing the younger

guys to jump right in and follow

low point of emphasis for us that we want to play fast - we want to play at a fast pace and a part of that is our defensemen not holding onto pucks," he said.

Providence enters this matchup with a 3-3-1 overall record and 1-1-0 in conference play. The Friars are coming off splitting a series with UMass Lowell and look to get back in the win column against the Huskies following a loss on Saturday, Nov. 1. In the Hockey East conference, UConn is currently tied at No. 2 and Providence is tied at No. 7.

The last time the Huskies and Friars matched up was in the Hockey East Quarter-

finals at Toscano Family Ice Forum, where UConn prevailed and advanced in the tournament by a score of 3-1. Over the last 10 meetings between the two teams, Providence possesses the 4-3-3 advantage in the series.

UConn will open up the series against Providence on Friday, Nov. 7. Puck drop is set for 7 p.m. at Toscano Family Ice Forum in Storrs. The Huskies will then close the series on the road on Saturday, Nov. 8, in Providence. Puck drop is at 7 p.m. Both games are available to stream on ESPN+.

of play on the ice. "It's certainly a



PHOTOS BY MORGAN BLANCHARD

Field hockey: Huskies head to Virginia for Big East Championship

by **Thaddeus Sawyer**
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For the second time this season, the UConn field hockey team will be heading to Liberty. However, if the Huskies hope to receive a second chance at taking down the No. 6 Flames, they will first have to get through Old Dominion in the semifinals of the 2025 Big East Field Hockey Championship.

No. 11 UConn and Old Dominion will face off at 4 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 7, with a trip to the Big East Championship finals on the line. The game will take place at the Liberty Field Hockey Field in Lynchburg, Va.

UConn (10-7, 6-1) comes into the playoffs as the No. 2 seed,

with their only Big East loss being to Liberty. The Huskies beat No. 3 seed Old Dominion (8-9, 5-2) in



PHOTO BY NORA MARIANO

the second-tournament win in double overtime. Sol Simone had a big performance for the Huskies in that contest. The senior midfielder notched an assist and later put away the game-winning goal for UConn.

Despite the Huskies coming out on top, the Monarchs dominated offensive possession for most of the game. They had more shots on net (10) than UConn had total shots (4) and had five more penalty corner attempts than the Huskies.

Junior goalie Natalie McKenna was instrumental in keeping the contest within striking distance for UConn, as the 2024 Big East Goalkeeper of the Year made nine saves. UConn will need another big game from McKenna to make up for an offense that ranks outside the top 50 nationally in goals scored.

Old Dominion's top offensive threat against McKenna will be redshirt senior Sian Emslie. The midfielder has put up a team-leading 23 points on eight goals and seven assists. Senior Sancu Molkenboer and sophomore Serena Langendoen have each put up fifteen or more points as well.

While the neutral site contest isn't a traditional away game, the Huskies have fared well when on the road this season. They hold a 6-3 record in games outside of Storrs this

season, compared to a 4-4 home record. In comparison, Old Dominion is 3-5 away from home. In terms of common opponents, both lost to Liberty in Big East play. Additionally, each team fell to both No. 7 Duke and No. 3 Princeton.

Prior to UConn's semifinal match, No. 1 seed Liberty (15-2, 7-0) with take on No. 4 seed Villanova (5-12, 3-4). That game will also take place at Liberty and will begin at 1 p.m. The two squads faced off just a week ago to close out the regular season, with Liberty dominating its way to a 5-0 victory. As such, the Flames come into the game as the heavy favorites. It doesn't help Villanova's chances that the contest will essentially be a home game for Liberty, a setting in which the Flames are an undefeated 8-0.

Should the Huskies fend off Old Dominion, they will likely get a second chance at Liberty in the finals, whom they lost to 1-0 in September. The Flames offense started the season off slow by their standards but caught wind in the back half. They currently rank within the top 20 in the nation in goals per game and top 10 in assists per game.

Sophomore Dara Semmartin

leads the team in assists and is tied for the sixth most in the nation. The defender scored Liberty's only goal in the UConn match.

Even before Liberty's offense picked up their play in Big East action, freshman goalie Diane Saint Martin made it so the defense didn't need much help. The French national has posted eight shutouts and hasn't allowed over two goals in a game since August. She is fifth in the nation in average goals against and is in the top 10 of total goals allowed. The favorite for Big East Goalie of the Year, Saint Martin has received two Rookie of the Week awards and was also named Defensive Player of the Week for the period ending Oct. 28.

Should Villanova manage to upset the Flames, it would likely come off a strong showing from graduate student Ava Borkowski (eight goals) and/or junior Colleen Finnan (five goals, three assists). The Huskies beat the Wildcats 2-1 back in September. Regardless of which pair of teams reach the finals, the game will take place on Sunday, Nov. 9 at 1 p.m. at Liberty. All three contests will stream on ESPN+.

Should the Huskies fend off Old Dominion, they will likely get a second chance at Liberty in the finals, whom they lost to 1-0 in September. The Flames offense started the season off slow by their standards but caught wind in the back half. They currently rank within the top 20 in the nation in goals per game and top 10 in assists per game.

Sophomore Dara Semmartin

Sports

Photo of the Day |



The Huskies faced off against the Merrimack Warriors on Nov. 1, 2025. The home team won with a decisive 5-1 victory in the Big East matchup.
PHOTO BY ALEXANDER RENZULLI, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Men's Soccer: Huskies look to end regular season with win against Seton Hall



by Nicole Caruso
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The UConn men's soccer team will be closing out the regular season this Friday, Nov. 7 in a Big East matchup against Seton Hall.

The Huskies (9-3-4) are coming off a shutout victory against Butler, whereas the Seton Hall Pirates (7-2-7) tied 1-1 in their most recent game against Creighton.

Both teams faced off against each other last year in September when neither team was able to put up a goal, resulting in a 0-0 tie.

Goalkeeper redshirt sophomore Kyle Durham has been a strong force for the Huskies all season, and this game will surely be no different.

Durham has been the main goalkeeper for UConn, play-

ing the full 90 minutes each night. The 6-foot-4 goaltender is a big body in net, making it hard for opponents to notch a goal past him.

Durham recently made the Big East Honor Roll for the third time this season because of his significant contributions towards the team.

Seton Hall will also need to look out for senior Austin Brummett, who leads the Huskies in goals (six) and points (15).

However, UConn will need to keep their attention on sophomore Mikkel Lejbowicz, who leads Seton Hall in goals (seven) and points (15).

Seton Hall senior Agustin Resch is a top defender for the team this season coming off the 2024 Big East All-Academic Team award last season.

Seton Hall is also undefeated in Big East matchups with a 3-0-4 record proving to be competition for UConn, who holds a 3-2-1 record.

Currently, Seton Hall sits

in second place in the Big East East Division with UConn right behind it in third.

A win for UConn could help solidify its spot in the Big East semifinals, whereas Seton Hall will look to continue its unbeaten conference record.

With the Big East Semifinals fast approaching, the Huskies will need to keep their attention focused on closing out their regular season with a win.

"I think the guys are just excited. The guys just love to compete and enjoy competing. Seton Hall is certainly one of the top teams in our conference, so we're looking forward to the opportunity to just play against a good team," said head coach Chris Gbandi in a post-game interview after the team's 2-0 win against Butler.

UConn and Seton Hall face off against each other on Friday, Nov. 7, at 7 p.m. Fans can stream the match on ESPN+.

UConn men's soccer wins 2-0 against Butler on Nov. 1, 2025. With two crucial goals in the second half, the Huskies extend their record to 9-3-4.
PHOTO BY HANNAH GRIMES, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Women's Soccer: UConn falls in Big East Semifinal to Xavier

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On Thursday, the UConn women's soccer team's season ended at the hands of No. 22 Xavier in the Big East Championship semifinal by a score of 7-0. Xavier flipped the script from last year's Big East Final, where UConn won 2-1 in extra time. The star of the match was Xavier's Samantha Erbach, who finished the night with a hat trick.

The match started with high energy at both ends of the field.

Ava Yamas picked up multiple saves early on, including a leaping save to keep the game tied.

The freshman keeper and the Huskies' defense went into Thursday with four straight shutouts.

The defense stood strong in the first half, led by Taylor Jenkins. The sophomore was all over the field, with multiple deflections from Xavier's shots. However, with 15 minutes to play in the first half, a lengthy VAR review determined Jenkins committed a handball in the box, giving the Musketeers a penalty.

The Big East goal leader, Erbach, stepped up to the spot and buried her 15th goal of the season. Yamas dove left and was nearly able to save the shot.

This was the point in the match where the tide turned. UConn was getting into Xavier's third of the field early on. But as soon as the penalty occurred, the Huskies looked deflated for the rest of the match.

Erbach did not stop there, as the sophomore received a long ball from freshman Elizabeth Powell that deflected off a few defenders right to her feet. She sent in the shot at Yamas and put Xavier up 2-0. Xavier dominated the first half in shots with 10 to UConn's 1 shot.

Coming out of the halftime break, Xavier did not take their foot off the gas.

Emma Flick sent a perfect pass to attack Elin Hansson. The se-

nior dropped a low shot in to make the score 3-0.

Regan Dancer got in on the fun for Xavier, sending a perfect shot from the right side of the box just over a leaping Yamas, adding a fourth goal for the Musketeers.

Erbach finished off the hat trick, receiving a cross from freshman Flick, blasting off her foot into the right side of the net.

With just 10 minutes to play, the Musketeers had a corner that was punched out by new keeper Elizabeth DiBlasi, which was pinballed around in the box. The ball was picked up by Presley Pennekamp and she sent it past the junior to add a sixth goal.

Penny Brill added the seventh and final goal for Xavier on a beautiful header inside the box as her first collegiate goal.

Xavier will take on the winner of Creighton and Georgetown in the Big East Final on Sunday afternoon.

As for UConn, their season ends here.

This season was stellar for the Huskies. Many young players stood out and could build this program even more. The Huskies will certainly miss All-American and three-time Big East 1st team player Chioma Okafor, who played her final game for UConn. They will also miss other key contributors, Anna Carson and Lina Dantes.



UConn women's soccer defeating Villanova with a 2-0 victory. Both goals were scored by Se-Hanna Mars in Storrs, Conn. on Saturday, Oct. 18, 2025.
PHOTO BY NATHAN GALICINAO, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Men's Basketball: No. 4 Huskies host UMass

Lowell for first time since 2018

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On Friday, Nov. 7, the No. 4 UConn men's basketball team (1-0) will head to the state capital to take on UMass Lowell (1-0) in one of three tune-up games before the non-conference schedule gets more difficult.

According to CT Insider's David Borges, the first three games on the Huskies' schedule are part of a multi-team event. UConn, New Haven, UMass Lowell and Columbia will play each other over the span of 10 days. This multi-team event, MTE for short, has financial benefits along with the ability for each program to play an extra game this season. There is no title for it, like the Connecticut Mutual Classic, but it is an MTE nonetheless.

Borges reported that the Huskies hope to play in more competitive MTEs in the future, unlike what UConn head coach Dan Hurley said after the dismal Maui Invitational trip last season. That can include the Players Era Festival, which is held annually in Las Vegas and benefits the programs through name, image and likeness (NIL) money.

The Huskies did not look like the No. 4 team in the country on Monday night at the Harry A. Gampel Pavilion, despite defeating New Haven 77-59. Connecticut led wire-to-wire but looked poor defensively as it allowed 23-made field goals from a team playing in its first Division I game in program history.

Alex Karaban led all scorers with a 19-point, 10-rebound double-double on 6-10 shooting. The two-time national champion knocked down three 3-pointers as he sought to regain his form after struggling to find his groove since missing a crucial free throw at Villanova last season. His effort moved him to 26th in career points in program his-

tory, moving past UConn legend Toby Kimball.

Solo Ball added 18 points, making all seven of his free-throw attempts. The Leesburg, Va., native was far from perfect in his shooting, going 3-14 from the floor.

Jaylin Stewart had arguably his most efficient game, shooting 5-8 from the field for 11 points and eight rebounds.

The Huskies also looked uncharacteristic on offense, with just 11 assists on 27 made baskets. Malachi Smith came off the bench and led the team in that category with four in his UConn regular-season debut, but it was safe to say the team was not satisfied with its efforts in passing the ball.

On the bright side, the Huskies made those simple mistakes with two key starters out: Tarris Reed Jr. and Braylon Mullins.

Reed, still recovering from a hamstring injury, will be a game-time decision, as UConn head coach Dan Hurley does not want him to re-aggravate the injury, especially with the challenging schedule ahead.

Mullins is dealing with an ankle injury and remains out for the time being, but all signs point toward him returning to the court in early December.

A key reserve remains out for the Huskies as newcomer Jacob Furphy continues to deal with a mild ankle sprain but should return sooner than Mullins.

UMass Lowell began the season with a non-Division I opponent in Rivier, throttling the team 107-55. The River Hawks were led by a 21-point, 13-rebound effort from forward Austin Green, who is in his first season with the team after spending last season at Texas State. He will provide a presence up front.

UMass Lowell shot 60% from the field and recorded 60 points in the paint.

UMass Lowell is expected to have a down year after losing Martin Somerville, last sea-

son's America East Rookie of the Year, to Florida State in the offseason. The River Hawks only return one scholarship player who scored a point last season, the most notable change in the roster in head coach Pat Duquette's tenure.

Despite low expectations, the America East Preseason Poll projects UMass Lowell to finish fourth in the conference, behind Vermont, Maine and UAlbany. Funnily enough, the River Hawks received a first-place vote from one of the league's nine head coaches.

Darrel Yepdo is expected to be one of the key scorers for UMass Lowell this season. Along with Green, he is also a newcomer as he comes in from Saint Michael's at the Division II level.

According to KenPom, the River Hawks boast the 222nd offense and 331st defense in terms of adjusted efficiency. Because UMass Lowell has not played a Division I opponent yet, there are no advanced statistics available.

There is not much history between UConn and UMass Lowell. This is just the third overall meeting between the two schools, with the Huskies taking home the first two wins.

The series began on Dec. 20, 2015, with an 88-79 win over the River Hawks at the XL Center in Hartford. Former Husky guard Rodney Purvis led the way with 28 points.

Nearly three years later, Connecticut defeated UMass Lowell, 97-75, at Gampel Pavilion on Nov. 27, 2018, year one of the Hurley era. Starting backcourt Christian Vital and Jalen Adams each notched 19 points, while Alterique Gilbert and Josh Carlton each had 15.

Hurley is 3-0 against UMass Lowell, with the first two meetings coming from his early years at Rhode Island.

Since the 2022-23 season, UConn is 20-0 against one-bid leagues, which includes the America East. Since the 2018-19 season, it is 43-1,



UConn men's basketball play New Haven at Gampel Pavilion in Storrs, Conn. on Nov. 3, 2025. The Huskies displayed their potential for the season and won against New Haven.

PHOTO BY SYDNEY CHANDLER, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

with the lone loss being New Mexico State during the 2022 NCAA Tournament.

Tip-off at the PeoplesBank

Arena in Hartford, Conn., is set for 7:30 p.m. and can be streamed exclusively on Peacock.

Women's Basketball: No. 1 UConn welcomes Florida State for championship banner night



UConn women's basketball plays Southern Connecticut State University at People's Bank Arena in Hartford, Conn. on Oct. 26, 2025. The Huskies dominated, ending the game with a 105-39 win against the Owls.

PHOTO BY SYDNEY CHANDLER, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

by Avery Becker
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Fresh off its first win of the season against No. 20 Louisville, the No. 1-ranked UConn women's basketball team is set to return to Gampel Pavilion to take on the Florida State Seminoles on Sunday, Nov. 9.

On Monday night, during their season opener against Louisville, the Huskies were a force to be reckoned with.

"For the first game out, I thought it was a tremendous success," head coach Geno Auriemma said to the media after the game, per Dan Connolly of the UConn blog.

Sophomore forward Sarah Strong had a successful outing, racking up 21 points and nine rebounds. Throughout the preseason and now in the regular season, Strong has taken on a new leadership role on the team by using her voice and setting up scoring opportunities for her teammates, come game time.

Alongside Strong in the season opener, the point guard trio of KK Arnold, Ashlynn Shade and Kayleigh Heckel, as well as shooting guard Azzi Fudd, made waves by being disruptive on the offensive side and attacking the rim.

Despite the Huskies not converting from the perimeter, their full court pressure was what gave the program the upper hand in this bout versus

the Cardinals.

For Sunday's game, the Huskies should look for junior Pania Davis on the Seminoles. In her NCAA debut, the 6-foot-6 forward grabbed 14 points and eight rebounds. In addition, the Australia native went 100% on her eight free throw attempts for the entire game.

Husky fans will see a bit of a shuffled Seminole roster this year, with a notable exit of Ta'Niya Latson, the nation's leading scorer who transferred to South Carolina for her senior campaign.

The last time these two squads faced one another was in December 2022, where the Huskies won the game 85-77. Dating back to when they first faced one another in 2002, Connecticut is 10-0.

The key to the Huskies winning t h i s

matchup against the Seminoles is to just keep doing what they've been doing. That being, setting a fast tempo early, maintaining full court pressure and converting at the perimeter.

Connecticut has not played a game in Storrs since March, before they won their 12th National Championship and UConn renovated Gampel Pavilion.

In the Huskies' return to the basketball capital of the world this weekend, fans will witness the unveiling of the Huskies' 12th Championship Banner in Gampel Pavilion, as well as new lower bowl seats and enhanced fan experiences inside the UConn venue.

Tip-off is scheduled for 4:30 p.m. If Husky fans cannot make it to Storrs, they can tune into the game on FS1 or listen in on 97.9 FM from Learfield.





Sports

Football: UConn seeks redemption against Duke

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The UConn football team (6-3) will host the Duke Blue Devils (5-3) on Saturday, Nov. 8, in hopes of keeping their four-game home streak alive.

Even though the Blue Devils own a 2-2 record over the Huskies, times have changed and the tides could turn on Saturday. The 2023 stretch was the first time the two programs faced off since 2007, when Duke blew out Connecticut 41-7 at Rentschler Field.

Fast forward a year later, UConn traveled to North Carolina and nearly secured a second-half comeback. With just under six minutes remaining before halftime, the Huskies saw their first end-zone appearance of the day, courtesy of the defense.

Connecticut's former defensive lineman, Langston Hardy, snagged the ball for a 64-yard house call. After the 2024 campaign, Hardy transferred to the Wake Forest Demon Deacons.

In the third quarter, the squad crossed the goal line two more times to take a 21-17 lead but could not finish the job. With 14 minutes left in the contest, Duke punched in nine more points and denied the Huskies from scoring for the rest of the match.

At the time, quarterback Nick Evers took the snaps and threw 135 yards for a touchdown, an interception and a sack. In the backfield, running back Cam Edwards scrambled all over the field. The junior gained 111 yards and crossed the plane once.

In the wideout room, only

one player registered 30-plus receiving yards, which was the star weapon, Skyler Bell, who totaled seven catches for 58 yards. In the third quarter, tight end Alex Honig notched the team's lone passing touchdown.

With gunslinger Joe Fagnano in the pocket this year, turnovers are a thing of the past, as he has thrown 2,529 yards for 22 touchdowns and zero interceptions. Currently, the veteran ranks No. 39 with a QBR rating slightly under 70.5 and ranks No. 6 in total yards. Against the UAB Blazers, the senior reached 10,000 career passing yards and looks to add more on Saturday.

However, the Blue Devils' shot-caller Darian Mensah has performed just as impeccably. In the squad's 46-45 win over the Clemson Tigers a week ago, the sophomore completed 27 of 36 (75%) passes for 385 yards and two touchdowns. Overall, the California native has thrown for 2,572 yards for 21 end-zone appearances and two picks. In ESPN's rankings, Mensah lands at No. 19 with a QBR rating of 77.7 and places No. 5 in total yards.

On Saturday, the

difference maker could come down to pressure, and UConn knows how to make quarterbacks uncomfortable all too well. Within nine games played, Connecticut ties with the Oklahoma Sooners and the Buffalo Bulls for No. 2 in the country with 33 total sacks.

In the air, the Blue Devils are the No. 4 passing offense with 324.3 yards per clash. One player to watch deep for is Duke receiver Que'sean Brown. Against Clemson, the redshirt freshman posted 80 yards and crossed the goal line twice.

Fans can tune into the matchup on CBS Sports Network, with the kickoff scheduled for 3:30 p.m.



The UConn football team takes on the University of Alabama on Nov. 1, 2025 at Rentschler Field. The Huskies won with a final score of 38-19.

PHOTOS BY NORA MARIANO, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS