



Gun violence in schools increases in recent years

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The screams of children echoed in the school gymnasium at Sandy Hook Elementary during a mass shooting that took place in 2012.

Lenie Urbina, a fourth-grade student at the time, remembers that day clearly. A SWAT officer told her peers and others to get into the gym closet for safety.

But Urbina isn't the only person who's had this type of experience. Gun violence survivors are everywhere.

"I feel like people need to be aware that, we're not just a number, especially with Sandy Hook," she said in a phone interview. "We're not just a statistic of a number of shootings, we're still here."

Since the 1999 Columbine school shooting, there has been a rise in gun violence across the United States. Every day students are facing gun violence more frequently in schools. Over the years, research has been done by experts concerning the effects and influence it has on students.

Urbina is 1 out of 50,000 students per year who have experienced school shootings, according to a Stanford publication.

She reminds us of three things: overall awareness is important; gun violence survivors are everywhere; and gun violence can take place anywhere.

Urbina uses her experience at Sandy Hook to support others who have been through similar events, such as the Parkland High School shooting.

"It's really rewarding to just be able to give back, and I guess kind of be the person that I needed when I was younger," Urbina said.

With the rise of school shootings, Urbina said there is a community of survivors out there.

"Now, unfortunately, there's a whole network of survivors out there, and that's kind of inspiring to see," she said.

Urbina talked about Sandy Hook Promise, an organization that aims to prevent gun violence in schools and other public spaces and how she would like to see more programs that can



Sandy Hook
PROMISE

The logos of two organizations that fight against gun violence. The Sandy Hook Promise and CT Against Gun Violence have been two of the leading voices in the past decade fighting for safety. LOGOS COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

help students identify the signs of shootings early on.

Sandy Hook Promise's mission is to help educate and empower people of all ages to prevent violence in schools, the community and at home. The organization has multiple programs to help people identify individuals who may be a risk to themselves and others or are socially isolated.

Urbina is a first-year law student at the Quinnipiac University School of Law in Hamden.

Urbina reflected on her experience at school since Sandy Hook.

"Ever since it happened, I've been really passionate about preventing gun violence and stricter gun laws, and honestly, advocating for mental health," Urbina said. "Everything that relates to it has just been so important to me, because it does hit really close to home."

Urbina said she used to feel a lot of anger toward what happened, but she has learned to turn her anger into passion.

Mary Bernstein is a professor at the University of Connecticut in the department of sociology. She has published works on numerous topics including gun violence prevention advocacy. Bernstein advocates outside of UConn for gun prevention through being a part of different organizations and through research on the topic.

She said that community gun

violence is the most common form of gun violence.

"On average, more than 120 people are killed by a gun in the US every day, and an additional 200 or so are shot and wounded," Bernstein said.

Seth Warner, an assistant professor in the political science department at UConn, said he attributes the growing number of school shootings to copycat behavior and the access to firearms in America. Warner focuses on data in the U.S. mainly concerning politics but also has knowledge on gun violence in America.

"It's just kind of part of our political and social fabric that people be able to own firearms to defend themselves, especially their homes," Warner said. "And so far as that exists, troubled young people might have access to these weapons."

He said that some young people can get an obsession or morbid curiosity for school shootings, leading to copycat behavior. Bernstein has a different take on copycat behavior and the connection to becoming a school shooter.

"I wouldn't necessarily say that that's a direct causal link, because lots of people who have been bullied and picked on are never going to pick up a gun," Bernstein said.

She said that there could be a chance that the experience could be common to some school shooters.



schools, along with other factors facing society such as political, socioeconomic and financial issues that impact how people feel and act.

"Though UConn may have resources and ways for people to find help, we don't know what people face before they get here or what the public deals with outside of here," Zadrowski said.

He said that the UConn PD works closely with groups on campus such as Student Health and Wellness, the Student CARE Team and other areas that ensure those who may be struggling have a place to get help.

Earl Bloodworth is the Executive Director of Connecticut Against Gun Violence, which aims to end gun violence in the state of Connecticut.

Bloodworth states school officials must be in tune with their students.

"I think what we could use a lot more of in schools is, around social work and clinicians, someplace for kids to feel, or youth to feel, that they have somewhere to go and someone to talk to if they're feeling alone or isolated from the general population," Bloodworth said.

The organization has focused on safely storing firearms. Bloodworth said that having those conversations and communicating with kids the dangers of handling firearms to help ensure safety against gun violence in schools.

"You know giving kids a set of tools to understand what they should do if they come across a firearm," Bloodworth said.

How guns are stored can increase access to these weapons, Bernstein said.

"There have been many mass shootings, school shootings, where the person who had access to the gun may have been a minor, may have gotten the gun from their parents," Bernstein said.

Urbina is surprised by the rate of school shootings since Sandy Hook.

"I mean, we should have been the last one and the fact that this is a daily occurrence now and has been for years is just insane to me," she said.

Everything students need to know about UConn winter weather policies

by Juliana Assis
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The University of Connecticut has sent out winter weather policies and procedures for the 2025-26 Academic Year.

Safety: UConn policies stress that students should prioritize safety and assess their own conditions, especially concerning driving in inclement weather.

Decisions to cancel classes or modify operations are made with the safety of students and faculty in mind.

Keeping up to date:

Often, due to the rapidly changing nature of weather, decisions for adjustments to scheduled classes/business hours are made with short notice. Staying informed about university status is key.

The best way to keep updated with cancellations and closings is

UConn Alert.

Another way to check university status is using the 24-hour emergency closing information number: 860-486-3768.

Decisions to cancel services, like transportation, are made on a case-by-case basis.

The Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts and UConn Athletics decide independently whether to continue or cancel events.

Class Cancellations, Delays, or Early Closures:

If UConn has announced a delayed opening or early closure, classes that are at least one hour long with the modified schedule are still expected to meet.

In the case of online or hybrid classes, instructors choose whether to hold the class or cancel. If instructors choose to hold the class, the following conditions must be met:

The class must be provided in

an online format.

The class must be recorded for students to view later.

Students must be given at least 72 hours to view the missed class before any materials from that class are used again in the course.

Students must not be penalized for not being present synchronously.

For canceled in-person classes, instructors can provide asynchronous class materials. However, if such materials are provided, students must be given 72 hours to view those materials before they are used in the class.

Exams cannot be required on days when classes are canceled, even if they can be administered online.

If UConn has not closed but there is inclement weather, instructors can choose to hold or cancel the class at their discretion.

If students decide not to travel to campus or to leave early if needed



UConn's Storrs campus covered in snow on Jan. 20, 2025. It is important to review the school's winter weather policies ahead of the winter season. PHOTO BY SYDNEY CHANDLER, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/DAILY CAMPUS

to ensure their own safety, instructors must respect the decision and offer make-up work.

UConn Health Policies
Notifications of emergency closing decisions are only communicated by UConn Health; they do

not notify media outlets.

Students can call the UConn Health operational status hotline: 860-679-2001.

If the operation status hotline is disrupted, the backup number is: 860-486-9292.

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WE ARE NOT THE
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News

CT, MA move to ban ‘gas station drug’ kratom

by Patrick Boots
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Statewide bans of kratom, an herbal compound which can cause opioid-like addiction, now loom as legislators in Connecticut and Massachusetts recently introduced laws to classify it as a “schedule one” controlled substance. It’s common on convenience store shelves, but the drug has, so far, been unregulated.

“Schedule one” controlled substances, according to the Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection, are “drugs with a high abuse risk [that] have NO safe, accepted medical use,” such as heroin, LSD and ecstasy.

The new law in Connecticut re-scheduling kratom was introduced in 2023, reviewed earlier this summer and enacted in October. Massachusetts referred a similar regulation to their public health agency in February, which was approved earlier this week.

Often marketed as a “mood-enhancing supplement,” kratom is derived from the leaves of the Southeast Asian tree *Mitragyna speciosa*. The plant’s primary compounds, mitragynine and 7-hydroxymitragynine (7-OH), interact with receptors in the brain. Although 7-OH is naturally a small part of kratom, synthetic formulas can be more potent than morphine in much of the product for sale, according to the FDA.

“One of the risks associated with kratom use is that products can differ dramatically in the doses of 7-OH,” said Dr. C Michael White, the department head of pharmacy practice at the University of Connecticut School of Pharmacy. “In other words, one kratom product could be more dangerous than another... Since kratom products are not FDA-regulated, there is no uniformity to the products.”

The FDA has warned people not to use kratom due to risks of seizures, liver toxicity and addiction disorders. They also say that numerous deaths have been associated with kratom use.

“Recently, there has been a concerning proliferation of concentrated 7-OH products that are sold over the counter and online... The pharmacological profile, abuse liability, and emerging patterns of non-medical use establish 7-OH as a dangerous substance,” an FDA report on 7-OH and kratom states. “Current regulatory gaps have enabled widespread availability of these products despite their opioid-like prop-



A picture of a *Mitragyna Speciosa* tree, which kratom is derived from. Newly proposed legislation in Conn. and Mass. could classify kratom as a schedule one controlled substance. PHOTO COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA



Kratom powder that can be used in pills. Connecticut and Massachusetts have moved to ban the substance. PHOTO COURTESY OF CREATIVE COMMONS

erties and necessitate immediate policy intervention to address this emerging threat to American public health.”

In July, the FDA called for 7-OH to be classified as a “schedule one” controlled substance federally.

“Vape stores are popping up in every neighborhood in America, and many are selling addictive products like concentrated 7-OH. After the last wave of the opioid epidemic, we cannot get caught flat-footed again,” said FDA Commissioner Marty Makary in a statement. “7-OH is an opioid that can be more potent than morphine. We need regulation and public education to prevent another wave of the opioid epidemic.”

The FDA also notes in its report that the use of kratom and related substances is still not lawful when added to conventional foods as dietary supplements, or as ingredients in any FDA-approved drug, “and yet, these substances are still sold in various markets.”

While some people report that kratom can be used as a pain reliever or as a drug to help treat opioid use disorders, White says that there are no clinical trials which have yet conclusively supported those use cases.

“If patients have access to traditional FDA-approved therapies [for pain relief or to help treat opioid use disorders], these are the safest and best place to start,” he said.

As of 2023, kratom has been banned in seven other states, and the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) has listed it as a “drug of concern.” According to the DEA, kratom is also called “thang, kakuam, thom, ketum and biak.”

A 2023 survey from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration estimated that about 1.6 million Americans aged 12 and older used kratom in the year before the study.

White has led research on kratom and related substances for years at UConn, and helped found the Kratom Consumer Advisory Council (KCAC), an organization to promote scientific understanding and engage with policymakers on issues related to kratom.

“By sharing and discussing the evidence, we can ensure that everyone has the same platform of knowledge,” White shared as part of his chairman’s address for KCAC. “Together, we will look for ways to maximize kratom’s potential benefits and minimize the chances of harm for consumers.”

The Daily Campus

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Daily Campus

Crossword & Sudoku

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Patti Varol

ACROSS

- 1 Short-term office workers
- 6 ___ and weave
- 9 Installs turf
- 13 Brownstone porch
- 14 Not false
- 15 Slip-on shoe
- 16 Linked-together homemade decoration
- 18 The Chicago Marathon, for one
- 19 Native of New Zealand
- 20 Add to the mix
- 21 Black's opponent in checkers
- 24 Noisy flash of lightning
- 27 Hypercorrect "Yes, indeedy!"
- 29 From ___ Z
- 30 Hi or low follower, in graphics
- 31 Staircase part
- 32 Geometric figure with no sides or corners
- 35 Quaint warning of impending danger, and a hint to the implements at the ends of 16-, 24-, 49-, and 58-Across
- 41 Sparkling toppers
- 42 Division word
- 43 Weep loudly
- 46 Test for Ph.D. hopefuls
- 47 Sharp-witted
- 49 Tool needed for some needlecraft
- 53 Name on a box by the sink
- 54 Grown-up
- 55 Belly button type
- 57 List of dishes
- 58 Arm-twisting wrestling hold
- 63 Walk off one's anxiety, perhaps
- 64 ___ vera gel
- 65 Consume fully
- 66 Snow glider
- 67 Beaver creation
- 68 Uncool sorts

DOWN

- 1 Recipe amt.
- 2 GPS prediction
- 3 Cleaning tool that may be dry or wet
- 4 Bard's creation
- 5 Nursery rhyme couple with restricted
- 23-Downs
- 6 Cranium organ
- 7 French "yes"
- 8 Filmmaker Affleck
- 9 Clean with effort
- 10 Grand speaker
- 11 Like animals in a petting zoo, ideally
- 12 Aromatherapy choices
- 14 Drive-___ car wash
- 17 Pacific salmon
- 20 Member of the working class
- 21 Investment consideration
- 22 "At Last" singer James
- 23 Food regimen
- 25 Pub game with sharp projectiles
- 26 Inscribe with acid
- 28 Barbecue rod
- 32 Proofreader's insertion mark
- 33 401(k) kin
- 34 Prepare to publish
- 36 Number of legs on some arthropods
- 37 Naked
- 38 Burden
- 39 Miranda of "Homeland"
- 40 Some sushi toppers
- 43 Little rascals
- 44 Trying experience
- 45 Name on a box by the dryer
- 47 Top-notch
- 48 Aspen trail
- 50 Like some word puzzles
- 51 Greeting to a parent
- 52 "Looks like the joke's ___"
- 56 "If all ___ fails ..."
- 58 Consumed
- 59 Pie ___ mode
- 60 Above, in odes
- 61 Cattle chew
- 62 Mil. mess duties

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

M	E	S	H		P	R	O	D		A	C	H	E	S		
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				T	A	D			M	O	R	A	L			
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E	A	R	N		T	I	E		G	A	T	O	R			
A	S	I		W	E	N	T	P	R	O		E	L	I		
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11/18/25

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				41						42		
43	44	45		46				47	48			
49			50				51	52			53	
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57					58	59				60	61	62
63					64				65			
66					67				68			

By C.W. Stewart ©2025 Tribune Content Agency, LLC 11/18/25

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

Level **1** **2** **3** **4**

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

Solution to Monday's puzzle

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

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Life

A guide to safe sex supplies on campus

by Patrick Boots
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Navigating college life comes with its fair share of challenges, but finding safe sex supplies shouldn't be one of them. Students at the University of Connecticut have access to numerous resources, many of which are available throughout the whole school year.

The Student Health and Wellness office (SHaW) offers a range of sexual and reproductive health programs including the "gloveBOX," a service which has been providing free safe sex supplies to UConn students since 2019. SHaW's six variety-pack options contain different types of condoms, lubrication and related supplies in a discreet package — at no charge to students.

Any active student can easily request a "gloveBOX" using SHaW's webpage, at s.uconn.edu/glovebox, up to three times per semester. The boxes can be sent to dormitory mailrooms or picked up in Wilson Hall during operating pick-up times, also available on the program webpage. Because they are sent using University Mail Services, SHaW cannot mail to off-campus locations or to apartment complexes, encouraging affected students to pick up instead.

Free individual condoms are also available at SHaW's main office in the Hilda May Williams Building, located on Glenbrook Road near Swan Lake and the engineering and chemistry complexes. In addition to the wide range of health services based there, students can also get tested for different types of sexu-

ally transmitted infections and discuss contraception options with SHaW's medical providers. Although those tests are not free, most insurance carriers pay for them and related sexual health services according to Planned Parenthood.

Students can also acquire safe-sex supplies at some other convenient locations. The on-campus pharmacy, also located in the Hilda May Williams Building, carries a number of condom and lubrication options. These include specialty styles not regularly included in the "gloveBOX" due to only being sold in retail quantities. Emergency contraception pills, sold under the "Plan B" brand name, are also available over the counter for just \$15. According to SHaW, students do not need a prescription, just their student ID card, and can pay using Husky Bucks, cash, credit, debit or even charge the purchase to their fee bills.

The Rainbow Center, UConn's intersectional cultural program, often stocks free condoms, lubricants and other supplies. The center regularly sponsors events and programs around sexual health and well-being, including periodic HIV testing through local partners. The Rainbow Center is located on the north end of the fourth floor of the Student Union.

SHaW's new "Wellness-to-Go" vending machine in the Student Union can dispense safe sex and other health products. The machine offers condoms, emergency contraception and pregnancy tests alongside a variety of medicines and accessories. Right next door, the Union Central Exchange also has certain varieties of condoms and health

items in addition to their convenience store offerings.

Off-campus, retail drugstores like CVS Pharmacy offer a selection of condoms, lubrication and even sex toys. Planned Parenthood, a group of nonprofit sexual health centers, has locations across the state including one in Willimantic. SHaW says these centers often provide a variety of safe sex supplies for free.

It's understandable that students may have questions about sex, relationships and reproductive health. SHaW also offers a judgement-free, anonymous space to ask those questions to "The UConn Sexperts". Similar to the old "Dear Abby" column, this dedicated group of trained student volunteers and SHaW staff members publish informative answers to those questions in a welcoming and collegial environment. If students would rather talk face-to-face, they're also available for "drop-in" peer support sessions at various times on weekdays.

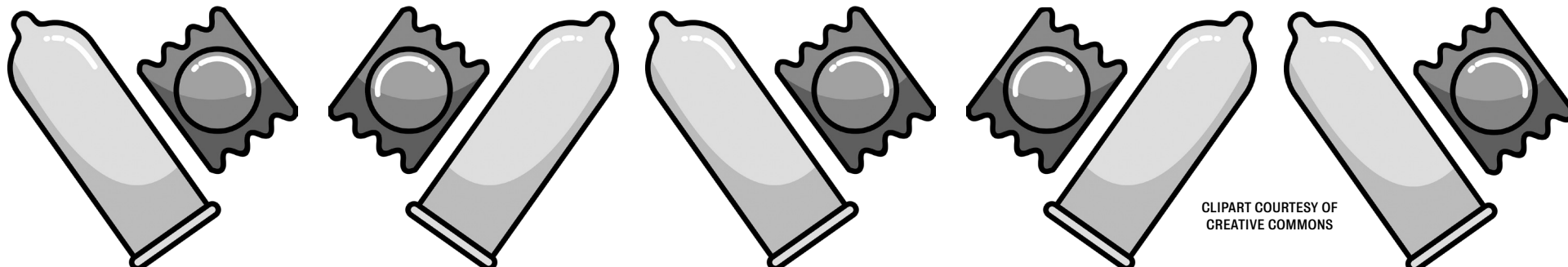
"Drop-in hours are a great option for students who have questions about sex and sexual health, are looking for a non-judgmental, laid-back environment to discuss a sex related concern or issue or are interested in improving their sexual health and personal well-being," according to the program's webpage.

With access to free safe sex supplies and numerous programs, UConn students are in no shortage of ways to reinforce their sexual health and well-being. For more information about the many programs sponsored by Student Health and Wellness, visit studenthealth.uconn.edu.

LOGO BY SAMANTHA HASS, ARTIST EDITOR



A booth at UConn's 4th Annual Sexual Health and Wellness Fair. SHaW has many resources available for students to promote their sexual health. CREDIT: @GLOBALPROTECTIONCO ON INSTAGRAM



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Need Condoms?



We've got you covered!
Order your free box here:

studenthealth.uconn.edu/glovebox

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Movie Review:



The movie poster which announced the release of "A Very Jonas Christmas Movie." The movie was released Nov. 14, 2025.
CREDIT: @DISNEYPLUS ON INSTAGRAM

by Alex Klancko
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The Jonas brothers have a complicated history. They started making music in 2005, acted in "Camp Rock" in 2008, broke up as a band in 2013, came back together in 2019 and have been firing on all cylinders since. They started a new tour in August 2025, but they haven't acted in a movie together since "Camp Rock 2: The Final Jam" in 2010... until now.

In "A Very Jonas Christmas Movie," the Jonas brothers are trying to make it back to their home before Christmas but Santa has other plans, putting a magic spell into the air, making sure the brothers cannot make it back to their homes until they find their "brotherly magic" again. The beginning of the movie is

interesting and a little bit confusing. Going from their final show before Christmas to what Joe Jonas wants to do with his brothers before they go back home is a little confusing. They don't tell you it is Joe's fantasy of what he wants the night to look like until midway through the song and it leaves viewers questioning what is going on.

I do enjoy the Elton John and Harry Potter references throughout the first song because they couldn't get Daniel Radcliffe and Elton John to play themselves in the movie. Nick even makes a joke about it, saying "you couldn't get Elton John?"

Overall, the plot is ok, but it is definitely nowhere near good. You can mostly tell what is going on but I feel like there are too many sudden jumps from Jonas brother to Jonas brother throughout the movie and it is sometimes

hard figuring out what they are talking about in the movie.

The characters are really fun though, other than the Jonas brothers, who play themselves. There are some great characters like Lucy, who was a childhood friend who turned into a love interest of Joe's. There is also Cassidy, who makes an entrance into the movie, crying and yelling at the Jonas brothers because she thought one of them was her ex-boyfriend who recently broke up with her.

My favorite part of the movie involves Deb, who is an Uber driver for the Jonas brothers towards the beginning of the movie, when they try to go to the train station. She had trouble with her phone, her car is completely covered in holiday decorations, she is super chatty and drives like a maniac. Deb almost got into multiple car crashes throughout

the short time they were in the Uber, which was really funny.

The songs and dance sequences in the movie are pretty good as well. The songs that are performed have to do with what is going on in the movie and are pretty catchy. The dancing is also really fun with the choreography looking a lot like "Camp Rock" or "Camp Rock 2: The Final Jam."

I also liked how during one of their songs about "remembering when" they showed photos and videos of the Jonas brothers when they were kids, teenagers and young adults. It really humanized what was an outlandish movie to begin with.

Overall, "A Very Jonas Christmas Movie" is very unique. It has its moments of cringy or cheesy moments like when Joe confesses his feelings to Lucy very awkwardly, or when Ethan and Nick try to out-sing each

other. But it also had very fun moments like the song at the end with the Jonas brothers and family gathering for Christmas or the Uber scenes with Deb.

Although I will probably never watch this movie again, it was a fun watch and I am happy I watched it at least once. "A Very Jonas Christmas Movie" is definitely better than what Disney has put out in recent years and although it will never reach the heights of "Home Alone", "The Nightmare Before Christmas" or "Die Hard", it is not a bad Christmas movie at all.

RATING:
3.5/5



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'EUSEXUA Afterglow:' struggling to find yourself in someone else

by Bonnibel Lilith Rampertab
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FKA twigs, the popular English experimental visionary, released the original version of "EUSEXUA" in January of 2025 to majority lauded reception. Some more critical of the project missed the old twigs' comparatively more left-field production on projects like "LPI" and "MAGDALENE" that was replaced by safer sonic moves. Still, it was an enjoyable album to most.

Come Nov. 14, the suspected deluxe version of "EUSEXUA" was released as a reissue of the original album with four songs replaced. What fans confused to be the deluxe was "EUSEXUA Afterglow," which was actually a standalone companion album to the original "EUSEXUA." Instead of the generally lighter sound of the previous album that felt adjacent to dance music, "Afterglow" embraced the bounciness in its own authentic way, making for a fun listening experience.

"Love Crimes" starts off "Afterglow" strong with a heavy synth and a booming kick drum. The lyrics speak to prioritizing yourself instead of the other person in the relationship with lyrics like "Hard times call for love crimes / You might be the one, but now I'm done." The verse confounds this story with the lyrics about feeling sexual satisfaction with this person. A poetic and clever lyric is "Your body's a death trap, precious like a teardrop," which could be a reference to the "petit mort," or "little death" achieved after climaxing in sex. Regardless, letting go was more important for twigs.

The pseudo-Jersey club "Wild and Alone" features a

guest verse from drum and bass artist PinkPantheress and explores a relationship with a famous person. The most telling lyric about this relationship is the lyric sung by the two vocalists, "If you gave it up, it all / I'd love you if you were nobody."

"HARD" is a song about establishing boundaries with a potential lover about having rough sex that features some really catchy, bouncy and danceable electronic production. Between the synths, percussion and bass, the sound of this song is incredible.

The way "Cheap Hotel" plays with tempo in an almost trip-hop way similar to Massive Attack is super engaging in a different way than the songs prior. Having a breather from all the fast and comparatively heavier tracks that precede this song serves well for the flow of the album.

"Touch A Girl" symbolizes a shift in the lyrical contents of the album. The song, which is set to atmospheric synths and a heavy, booming bass to counteract it, talks about how twigs is left disappointed by how her lover doesn't know how, she claims, to sexually please a girl. The lyrics, "Ask a question, and maybe you'll know / How to really touch a girl / Got so low on dopamine / Told you that you're hurting me," speak to this inability to consider the other party in a relationship.

"Predictable Girl" has an incredibly heavy bassline with house-inspired percussion. The lyrics tackle themes of not knowing personal identity between both twigs and her lover and how it ties into sexuality.

"Sushi," the longest song on "Afterglow," is a proclamation of doing more than just sex with your lover; instead, they also explore the city and spend time together as two adults.

The production here has some of the most boring production comparatively until the second half, but regardless the song doesn't need to be this long.

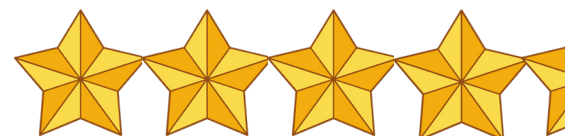
The synth on "Piece of Mine" is absolutely beautiful and pairs well with the ballad-like vocals from twigs. Paired with the heavier percussion, it makes for a great song with a fun sonic texture.

"Lost All My Friends" focuses on declining mental health after partying and possibly taking drugs with lyrics like "Lost all my friends in the club / Then I lost my mind in the car / I don't even remember who you are" over a distorted synth and UK drill-adjacent percussion in a different way than her song "darjeeling."

With the previous song as a harbinger, "Stereo Boy" ends the album off on a somber note. The lyrics speak to wanting more out of a relationship, but the lack of support from the Stereo Boy leads to twigs developing even more mental distress after needing attention from him over a production with glitchy production. If this album were a continuous loop, "Love Crimes" would make sense as the song that comes after this one.

"EUSEXUA Afterglow" speaks to the malaise of decadence in terms of having lust control your romance and losing yourself to the relationships you have along with your own mind: something many can relate to. Production-wise, it feels the most realized in terms of twigs' output after "MAGDALENE," and thus offers a more engaging and fun listening experience than the already good "EUSEXUA." You could experience twigs' neologism of eusexua, meaning something like love obscuring the passage of time, to this production.

RATING: 4.25/5



CLIPART COURTESY OF CREATIVE COMMONS



FKA twigs holds up the album cover for their album, AFTERGLOW. The album was released on Nov. 14 2025.

CREDIT: @FKATWIGS ON INSTAGRAM

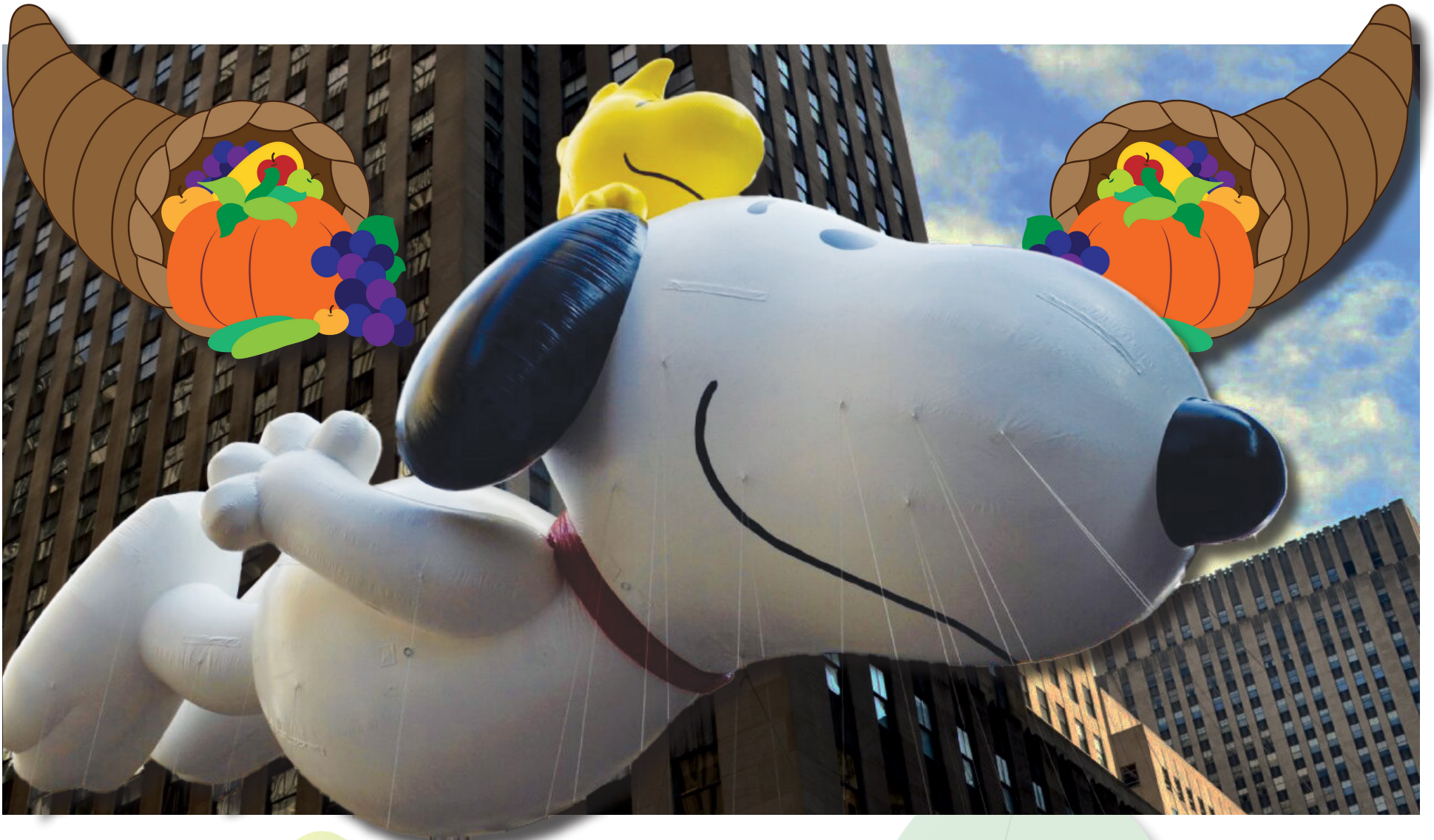


Life



ROUNDTABLE: The best Thanksgiving media

The second half of the year is the best time for holidays, especially when it comes to movies. October's Halloween horror and December's Christmas classics are staples of the colder months, but Thanksgiving is often left unnoticed. For a holiday that's been so prevalent in America for so many years, there aren't a lot of movies and shows associated with Thanksgiving. To solve this issue, the Life section has come together to save Thanksgiving by providing the best media for this time of year.



Dan Stark, Life Editor, he/him/his, daniel.stark@uconn.edu

It's a Thanksgiving Eve tradition in the Stark house to watch the greatest - and one of the only - Thanksgiving movies there is, 1987's "Planes, Trains and Automobiles." Starring Steve Martin and John Candy, the film follows these two during the lead-up to Thanksgiving as they attempt to return home to Chicago after their flight from New York is diverted to Wichita due to a blizzard. It's a beautiful comedy-drama that combines hilarious moments like Candy's character listening to Ray Charles' "Mess-Around" in the car, to heartfelt scenes where Candy and Martin bond. If you haven't watched this classic yet, take 92 minutes out of your Thanksgiving break to check it out.

Zayda Shevlin, Contributor, she/her, fhy24005@uconn.edu

In the season of scarce options for festive movies with a controversial holiday, you might have trouble finding a perfect watch for your Thanksgiving. However, in time of crisis, a classic we can always rely on is 1973's "A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving." This movie is a short and sweet, iconic Thanksgiving film that dives into themes of gratitude and friendship while keeping you entertained with some good old slapstick comedy between Snoopy and Woodstock. The film also serves as a two-for-one deal for Thanksgiving media with some iconic jazz scores by the Vince Guaraldi Trio, which includes some of the most recognizable piano riffs of all time. This soundtrack has gone on to serve as a quintessential symbol for the fall season, with songs like "Thanksgiving Theme" and the classic "Linus and Lucy." This aesthetically satisfying and peachy movie placed footprints as the original "Friendsgiving" and is a must watch to take a 30-minute break from arguing with your family or studying for finals during this holiday season.

Samantha Brody, Associate Life Editor, she/her/hers, sab23059@uconn.edu

I always try and live the current season to the fullest if I can. Spooky movies for Halloween, skiing in the winter and plenty of swimming in the summer. Unfortunately, Thanksgiving has always fallen flat for me as a holiday. There's just not a lot of branding surrounding it, with very little build-up. And I'm not a fan of Thanksgiving food. Despite all this, I recently learned about what may be the second-best Thanksgiving movie of all time (the first being "A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving," obviously). If you somehow haven't given it a watch, try out "Fantastic Mr. Fox" during break. There are plenty of strong messages about the importance of both family and community, while also remaining true to yourself and what you stand for. Plus, the whole movie is basically about getting and then eating food. The movie surrounds the Fox family, a group of anthropomorphic, stop-motion animated foxes with Mr. Fox as their patriarch, who struggles to be the family man his wife wants him to be. Instead, Mr. Fox dreams of being a true wild fox, stealing chickens from chicken coops and living the dream. It's about family, food and being the best version of yourself you can be. And as a bonus, it's very fall themed.

Thaddeus Sawyer, Staff Writer, he/him/his, thaddeus.sawyer@uconn.edu

I love Charlie Brown as much as everyone else in this roundtable (especially the pilgrim origin story). However, I wrote about the Peanuts gang for the Halloween media roundtable so I feel obligated to switch it up. Instead, I will be taking an outside the box approach by suggesting probably the most mainstream Thanksgiving media out there: The Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. Not only is the appearance of Santa at the end of the parade the official start of the Christmas season, but the sheer number of other celebrities really makes watching the three plus hours of parade coverage worth it. Where else can you get "Kpop Demon Hunters" and Kool & the Gang in the same place? Bonus points for the Snoopy and Woodstock balloon; you've got to get your Peanuts fix somehow.



CLIPART AND IMAGES, COURTESY OF CREATIVE COMMONS



Opinion

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Letter to the Editor

Support UConn Faculty's Reasonable Contract Demands

BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE UCONN AAUP CHAPTER

For months now, the UConn-AAUP negotiating team has made minimal progress at the bargaining table across from the UConn administration's negotiators. It is time for President Radenka Maric's negotiators to agree to our important contract proposals on academic freedom, paid family and caregiver leave, and job security for clinical, in-residence and extension (CIRE) faculty.

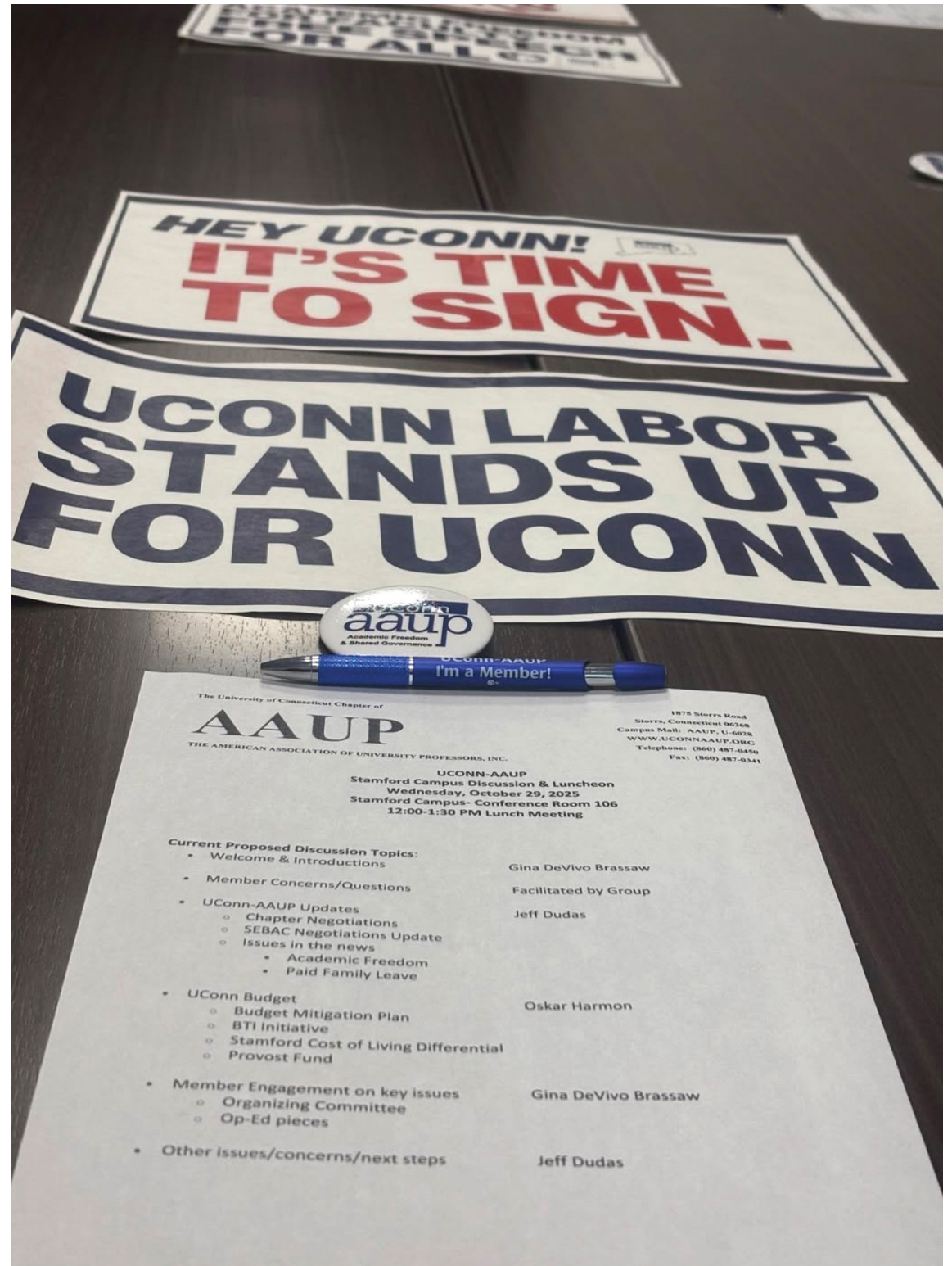
This morning, on the day of an official contract negotiating session between the two sides, many faculty emailed the administration's negotiating team asking for progress on these three key issues. If the administration finally accepts our proposals, it would improve the quality and dignity of work on UConn campuses, bolster research and dialogue, and help us serve as better teachers, advisors and mentors to you, the students.

What exactly is at stake right now?

First, academic freedom is a cornerstone of teaching, learning and exploration. A university is a place for multiple perspectives and a clash of ideas. Not all ideas are popular, however, and we live in an age where political forces may take items out of context or dox faculty for what they teach and say.

That's why we have proposed to include in the agreement, among other things, that "All members of the faculty, whether tenured or not, are entitled to academic freedom set forth in the 1940 Statement of Principles on Academic Freedom and Tenure formulated by the Association of American Colleges and the American Association of University Professors." The current language on academic freedom that is in the University by-laws should also be included in our new contract.

Second, on paid family and caregiver leave: students benefit from healthy, focused faculty in the lab, in the classroom,



AAUP member meeting in Stamford which worked to organize and build a "stronger UConn. The UConn-AAUP has been in negotiations with President Radenka Maric's team though they have found little success. PHOTO COURTESY OF @UCONNAAUP ON INSTAGRAM

and in other academic settings. We want to put our best foot forward. Whether due to pregnancy, adoption and parenting; caregiving for relatives such as aging parents; illness

and injury; or other reasons.

In short, under current agreements and policy, "UConn professors get zero days of guaranteed paid family leave," as our colleague Prof. Sarah Hird recently wrote. That's why we have proposed a new agreement of 16 weeks of guaranteed paid family leave.

Third, as the university increasingly relies on faculty on contracts - known as CIRE faculty - rather than in tenure-track or tenured positions, it is vital to offer job protections. CIRE faculty extensively contribute to our UConn community, and they deserve to be treated as valued employees, not expendable job widgets. Current and future employees can have a probationary period, but if someone is performing their job well, they should not have to worry about losing their job at the end of the year, for no reason and no recourse. Right now, CIRE faculty earn "just cause" protections in their seventh year. We're looking to reduce that time, but the

University has proposed the opposite - pushing such job protections out to the 11th year.

For example, if you commit to developing new, innovative, engaging courses, you should have some security that such course development is time well spent - that you will teach the course at UConn for several years. A multi-year contract and our other proposals would do just that.

We have put forth common-sense proposals for a quality and humane working environment. Our contract ideas contribute to our peer institutions and, more broadly, with decent working conditions and human rights standards. It is well past time for the Maric administration to stop stalling and start recognizing how to make UConn faculty, and this community as a whole, flourish.

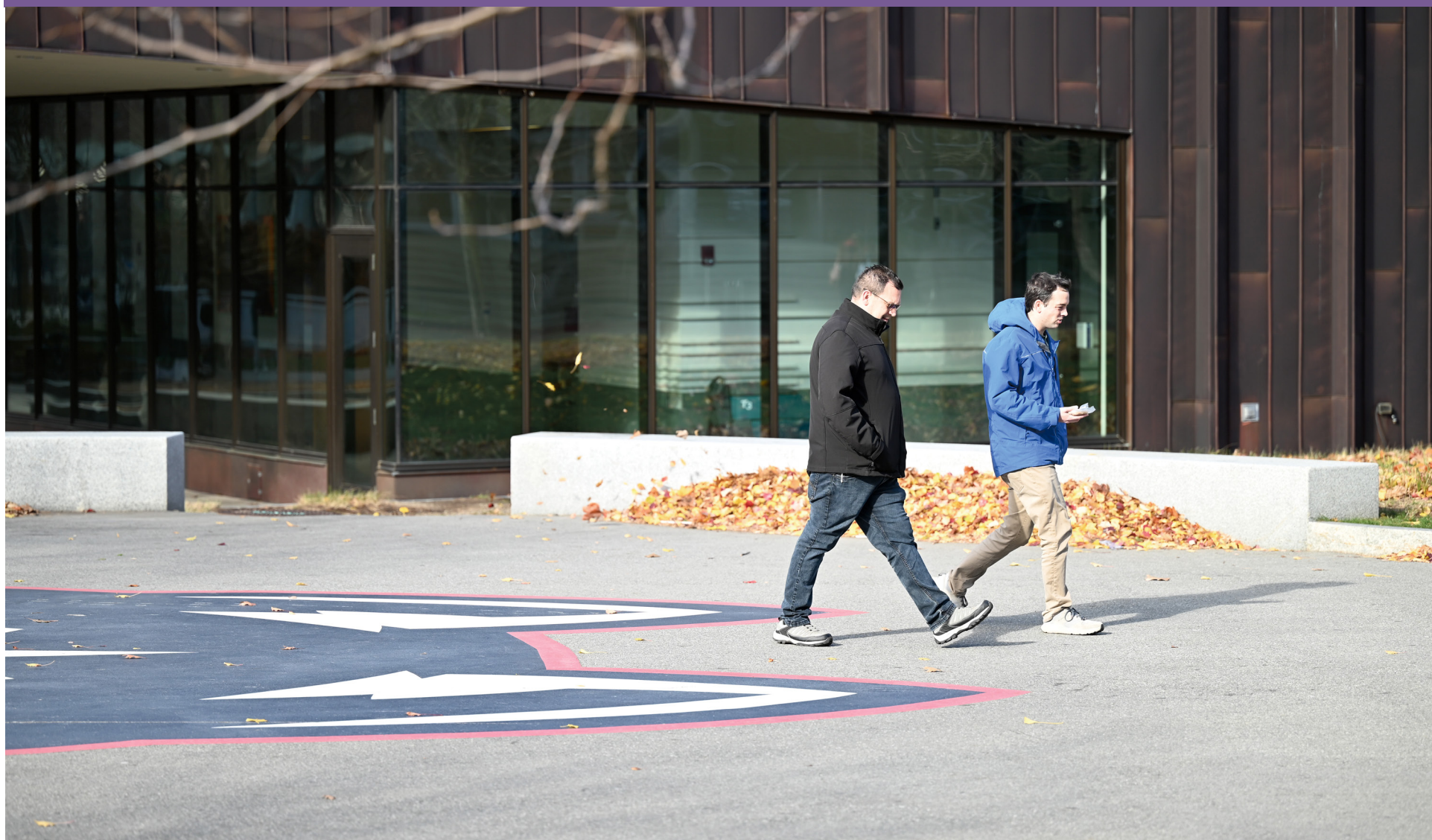
The UConn AAUP is a union organization representing faculty, researchers, academic assistants, coaches and other athletic personnel.



The Wilbur Cross building shines its golden dome over The University of Connecticut. The building offers services for student needs, all housed within one of the 47 buildings at UConn that are on the National Register of Historic Places. PHOTO BY CONNOR SHARP, PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Opinion

Photo of the Day | Walking towards break



Two friends hastily walk and converse on a brisk November day. Storrs' cold and windy climate has students and staff bundling up in winter attire.

PHOTO BY ALEXANDER RENZULLI, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

THE WORLD LOST THE WAR ON RISING HEAT. NOW WHAT?

by Colin Hamilton

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Last week, the United Nations made a seemingly inevitable announcement: we lost. Climate change, they declared, had emerged victorious in the fight for our planet's future. Our inefficient laws and vague promises of action were not enough to win. We now know the world has finally failed to meet the 1.5°C limit needed to stave off the worst effects of climate change. Overshoot is now unavoidable, and warming will continue. In short, we messed up. Badly.

The news doesn't come as a shock— in the past year alone we've been slammed by reports of climate tragedies from fronts across the globe. Already, 2025 is on track to be the highest year on record for greenhouse gas emissions. In October, we reached our first climate tipping point—the widespread mortality of warm-water coral reefs. The destruction of one of Earth's most important ecosystems is now irreversibly underway. Amidst this, warming oceans create stronger, slower storms that rip trails of death and destruction across communities worldwide. These storms are paired with rising sea levels,

the result of rapid glacial melt that threatens to drown entire cities. On Friday, melting glaciers in the Himalayas caused torrential floods that wiped an entire town in Nepal off the map.

Changing weather patterns further weakened the Atlantic Meridional Overturning Current (AMOC), a network of oceanic currents vital to moderating our world's climate. Britain, in particular, continues to experience colder and colder winters as a result of harm to the AMOC. Within the century, models predict the region to become close to that of Scandinavia, with winters being up to 5°C colder. Worse yet, changing climates and human neglect have created a new mass extinction event, with countless species dying at unimaginable rates.

Current worldwide climate policies have us reaching 2.8°C of warming by the end of the century. At this rate, we barely have an 8% chance of staying under 2°C. So catastrophic is this that it will expose over half of the world's population to extreme heat. In our equatorial band, where rising temperatures are paired with increased humidity, the worst estimates promise a grim fate: a future where simply moving around outside could be lethal.

Heat is already killing us— in the sugar cane region of El Salvador, rising temperatures have led to as much as one-fifth of the population contracting chronic kidney disease due to dehydration. Without expensive treatment, life expectancy is mere weeks. As temperatures continue to rise, these problems will spread beyond the equatorial region. In the United States, chronic kidney disease cases are already increasing, although the leading cause remains diabetes.

The heat issue persists beyond direct harm to the human body. Rising global temperatures have led to shifting climates for dangerous pathogens, allowing them to spread further and faster. Already, the formerly tropical West Nile Virus has become a persistent issue in Connecticut's summer months— something unheard of prior to 1999. How long will it take, one must wonder, until other tropical diseases come to haunt the Northern hemisphere? Malaria has already occurred locally in Florida— how long until dengue joins it? How long until they reach the rest of the world?

No matter the issue, rising temperatures now pose serious threats. Increased heat means decreased food production for a growing population— an issue

we still don't have an effective solution to. Planting further north won't work, since the soil there, even if it warms, will not be fertile enough to support the growing needs of the billions of people that inhabit our planet. A study by climatologist David Battisti from the University of Washington found that by the year 2100, there is a 90% chance that over three billion climate refugees will be forced to relocate to avoid starving in soon-to-be infertile environments. The fate is already rapidly approaching— climate delegates from Iraq at COP30 have announced that in the next two decades, half of Baghdad's farmland will have degraded beyond use.

The consequences of our loss are inescapable. That does not, however, mean we should stop fighting. Even if our world is irreversibly changed, we can still battle for the chance to survive, albeit in a crippled state. To limit overshoot and return to 1.5°C by 2100, emissions would need to fall 26% by 2030 and 46% by 2035 compared to 2019 levels. This rapid change will be hard, and in fact may not be possible with the current state of global politics. But every tenth of a degree prevented from being added to our atmosphere means fewer deaths in the next heat wave;

fewer refugees forced to flee from failed harvests; fewer communities swallowed whole by glacial melt. We may have missed our chance to avoid an era of human-made apocalypse, but we have not lost our ability to fight to save as many lives as possible in it.

We can no longer consider the fight for our world to be about the preservation of a clean, untouched earth. That ship has sailed. Instead, we must now work to limit the lives that will be irreversibly changed and lost at the hands of our emissions. Acting now is to choose between regional food shortages or mass famine; millions of climate refugees or billions. It is an unfathomable choice, but one that will need to be made for the sake of our future.

If we act now, we still have a seat at the table to determine the consequences of our failure. Rapidly phasing out fossil fuels, doubling down on stronger global agreements, providing more efficient climate relief: none of these steps will change the past. They can, however, shape the future into one where people can still build a life. We may not be able to return to what we had, but we can still choose to fight for what's left. Our choice will define the lives of billions.



The COP30 meets to negotiate for increased climate action. The world has failed to meet the 1.5°C limit that was needed to hold off the greatest effects of climate change. PHOTO COURTESY OF @UNITEDNATIONS ON INSTAGRAM

THE HONOR ROLL: OKLAHOMA SKYROCKETS AFTER UPSET WIN AT ALABAMA

by Sam Calhoun
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Who would have thought that Oklahoma would come into Bryant-Denny Stadium and beat Alabama, a team that was undefeated in conference play up to that point? That upset, and more, in this week's Honor Roll.

Ohio State (10-0, 7-0 Big Ten) remains No. 1 after a 48-10 win over UCLA. The Buckeyes stay at home to host Rutgers (5-5, 2-5 Big Ten) on Saturday at noon on FOX.

Indiana (11-0, 8-0 Big Ten) stayed at No. 2 following a 31-7 win over Wisconsin. The Hoosiers have the week off before taking on arch-rival Purdue (2-9, 0-8 Big Ten) for the Old Oaken Bucket on Nov. 28 at 7:30 p.m. on NBC and streaming on Peacock.

Texas A&M (10-0, 7-0 SEC) remained at No. 3 after pulling off the largest comeback in school history to beat South Carolina, 31-30. The Aggies will host Samford (1-10, 1-7 SoCon) in a buy game on Saturday at noon on SEC Network+.

Georgia (9-1, 7-1 SEC) moved up to No. 4 after a massive 35-10 win over Texas. The Bulldogs will host Charlotte (1-9, 0-7 American) in a buy game on Saturday at 12:45 p.m. on SEC Network.

Texas Tech (10-1, 7-1 Big 12) stayed at No. 5 following a dominant 48-9 win over UCF. The Red Raiders head into their bye week with West Virginia (4-7, 2-6 Big 12) on Nov. 29.

Oklahoma (8-2, 4-2 SEC) skyrocketed to No. 6 after a 23-21 upset win at Alabama. That could be the best win any team has had this season. The Soon-

ers return home to host rival No. 24 Missouri (7-3, 3-3 SEC) for the Tiger-Sooner Peace Pipe on Saturday at noon on ABC.

Oregon (9-1, 6-1 Big Ten) comes in at No. 7 after a dominant 42-13 win over Minnesota on Friday night. The Ducks host College GameDay as they take on No. 18 USC (8-2, 6-1 Big Ten) on Saturday at 3:30 p.m. on CBS.

Ole Miss (10-1, 6-1 SEC) stayed at No. 8 after a 34-24 win over Florida. The Rebels have the week off in preparation for arch-rival Mississippi State (5-6, 1-6 SEC) in the Egg Bowl on Nov. 28 at noon on ABC.

BYU (9-1, 6-1 Big 12) moved up to No. 9 after a 44-13 win over TCU. The Cougars have a massive road test as they visit Cincinnati (7-3, 5-2 Big 12) on Saturday at 8 p.m. on FOX.

Alabama (8-2, 6-1 SEC) dropped to No. 10 after a stunning 23-21 home loss to Oklahoma. It is the first SEC loss of the season for the Crimson Tide. Alabama will host an FCS opponent in Eastern Illinois (3-8, 2-6 OVBSFA) on Saturday at 2 p.m. on SEC Network+.

Notre Dame (8-2) comes in at No. 11 following a dominant 37-15 win at Pittsburgh in front of a College GameDay crowd. The Fighting Irish return home to host Syracuse (3-7, 1-6 ACC) on Saturday at 3:30 p.m. on NBC and streaming on Peacock.

Michigan (8-2, 6-1 Big Ten) moved up one spot again, this time to No. 12 after Dominic Zvada's field goal sealed a 24-22 win at Northwestern. The Wolverines visit Maryland (4-6, 1-6 Big Ten) on Saturday at 4 p.m. on Big Ten Network.

Miami (Fla.) (8-2, 4-2 ACC) jumped up to No. 13 after a 41-7 win over N.C. State. The Hurricanes visit rival Virginia Tech

(3-7, 2-4 ACC) on Saturday at noon on ESPN.

Vanderbilt (8-2, 4-2 SEC) comes in at No. 14 coming out of its bye week. The Commodores return to action against rival Kentucky (5-5, 2-5 SEC) on Saturday at 3:30 p.m. on ESPN.

Georgia Tech (9-1, 6-1 ACC) improved to No. 15 after a final-second field goal secured a 36-34 win at Boston College. The Yellow Jackets host Pittsburgh (7-3, 5-1 ACC) on Saturday at 7 p.m. on ESPN.

Texas (7-3, 4-2 SEC) dropped to No. 16 after a 35-10 loss at Georgia. The Longhorns host rival Arkansas (2-8, 0-6 SEC) on Saturday at 3:30 p.m. on ABC.

Utah (8-2, 5-2 Big 12) remained at No. 17 following a 55-28 win at Baylor. The Utes host Kansas State (5-5, 4-3 Big 12) on Saturday at 4 p.m. on ESPN2.

USC (8-2, 6-1 Big Ten) moved up to No. 18 after scoring 19 unanswered points to beat Iowa, 26-21. The Trojans have a massive task as they visit No. 7 Oregon (9-1, 6-1 Big Ten) on Saturday at 3:30 p.m. on CBS.

Tennessee (7-3, 3-3 SEC) comes in at No. 19 after a 42-9 blowout win over New Mexico State. The Volunteers will play a slightly more competitive team as they visit rival Florida (3-7, 2-5 SEC) on Saturday at 7:30 p.m. on ABC.

Virginia (9-2, 6-1 ACC) comes in at No. 20 after an important 34-17 win at Duke. The Cavaliers have the week off before taking on arch-rival Virginia Tech (3-7, 2-4 ACC) for the Commonwealth Cup on Nov. 29.

Navy (8-2, 6-1 American) debuts in the Honor Roll at No. 21 after a thrilling 41-38 upset win over South Florida. The Midshipmen will have the week off before visiting Memphis (8-3,

4-3 American) on Nov. 27 at 7:30 p.m. on ESPN.

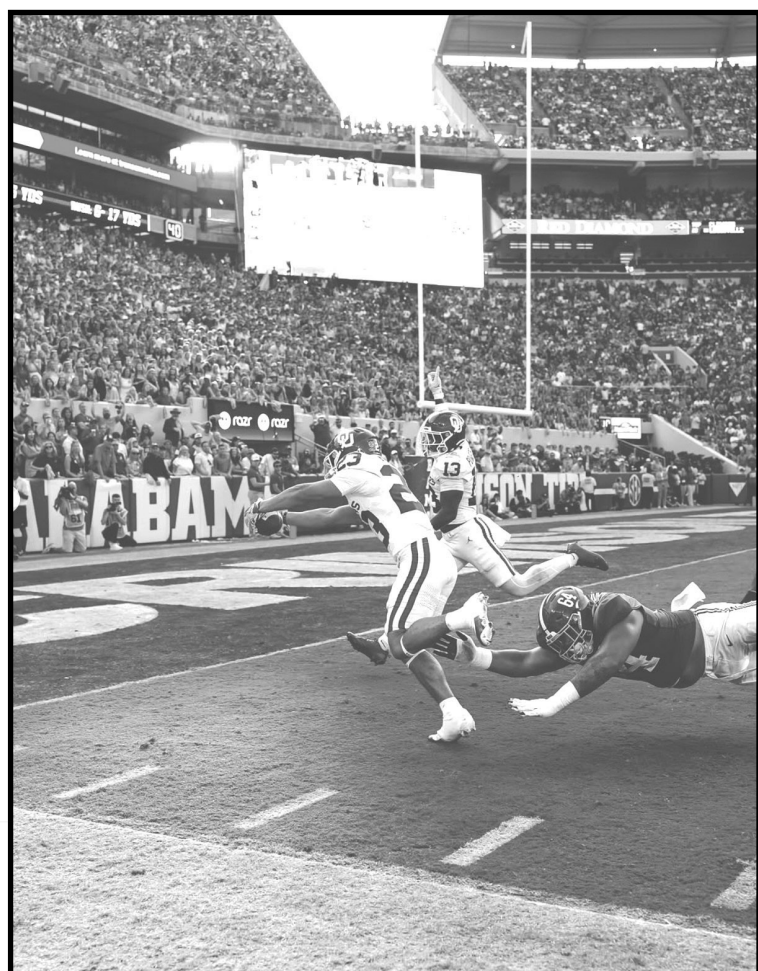
James Madison (9-1, 7-0 Sun Belt) moves up to No. 22 following a 58-10 win over Appalachian State. The Dukes host Washington State (5-5, 0-1 Pac-12) on Saturday at 1 p.m. on ESPN+.

North Texas (9-1, 5-1 American) stayed at No. 23 after a 53-24 win at UAB. The Mean Green visit Rice (5-5, 2-4 American) on Saturday at 7:30 p.m. on ESPN+.

Missouri (7-3, 3-3 SEC) returns to the Honor Roll at No. 24 after a 49-27 win over Mississippi State. The Tigers battle rival No. 6 Oklahoma (8-2, 4-2 SEC) in Norman, Okla., on Saturday at noon on ABC.

Tulane (8-2, 5-1 American) debuts in the Honor Roll at No. 25 after a 35-24 win over Florida Atlantic. The Green Wave visit Temple (5-5, 3-3 American) on Saturday at 3:45 p.m. on ESPN+.

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Photograph of a play being run and touchdown for Oklahoma against Alabama. Oklahoma won 23-21 on Nov. 15, 2025.
PHOTO COURTESY OF @OU_FOOTBALL ON INSTAGRAM



The ball is fumbled during the Oklahoma vs. Alabama game. Oklahoma won 23-21 and broke Alabama's undefeated streak. PHOTO COURTESY OF @OU_FOOTBALL ON INSTAGRAM

Sports

Photo of the Day | Men's basketball



UConn men's basketball beats BYU at TD Garden in Boston, Mass. on Nov. 15, 2025. The huskies battled until the end, when they won with a final score of 86-84.

PHOTOGRAPH BY SYDNEY CHANDLER, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

HYPED ARRIVAL, HARSH REALITY: SANDERS DEBUT FALLS SHORT

by Jake Loomis
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It was the day the Browns fans had been waiting for after drafting Shedeur Sanders in the fifth round of this year's draft, following a college career filled with flashes along with inconsistency at Colorado. Once a projected top-five pick, Sanders entered the game today following fellow rookie Dillon Gabriel, who exited the game with a concussion.

Sanders immediately stepped on the field and raised his hand to the crowd to pump them up. This, however, was the most pumped that they would be for the rest of the day. The quarterback entered the game with a 16-10 lead late in the first half.

Sanders started the game off great as his first NFL pass was a completion to Cedric Tillman; however, from there it would be a challenge. During his debut, Sanders went 3-15, along with an interception that he threw straight to the Ravens defense on his second drive. His first drive consisted of two completions and a sack, which was by far his best drive of the game.

Sanders drove his team downfield just once in the game. The Browns elected to go for it on fourth down; however, the young quarterback would not be able to contribute points towards his team's totals. The one thing that we did see from Sanders, however, was his ability to move. There were several instances where he evaded defenders to gain a few yards on the ground, utilizing his legs.

The downside, however, was that Sanders never really looked comfortable in the pocket. Too often, he drifted backwards instead of stepping up, putting himself in challenging throwing positions. This led to several passes off balance and off his back foot, which led to him missing a wide-open touchdown in the fourth. If Sanders can settle his feet and trust his protection, his natural talent will likely shine.

Sanders will now look to get a full week of practice under his belt as the Browns' starter. Next week, Cleveland travels to Las Vegas to face the Raiders, whose defense will pose a significant threat. Star edge Max Crosby is one of the league's best disruptors, and he should make Sanders' day hard if he is not prepared.



Shedeur Sanders photographed playing football on Oct. 13, 2025. Sanders was drafted 5th round by the Cleveland Browns after playing for Jackson State and Colorado. PHOTO COURTESY OF @SHEDEURSANDERS ON INSTAGRAM

MEN'S HOCKEY EAST ROUNDUP

WEEK SEVEN

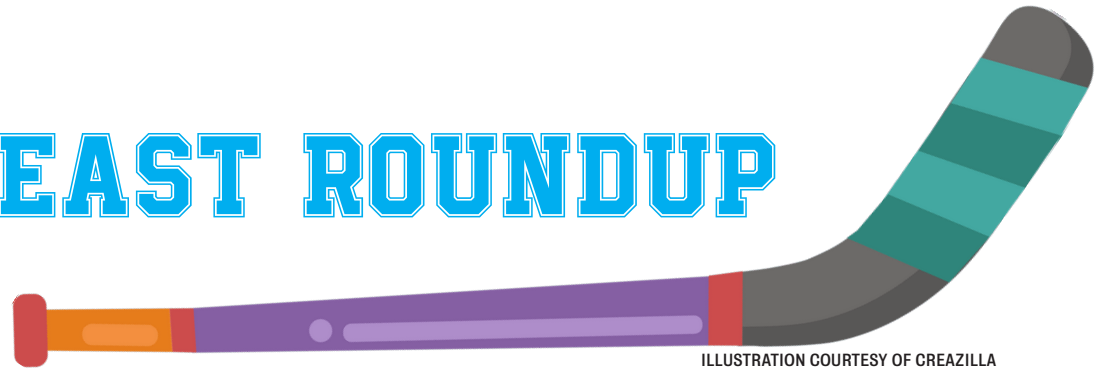


ILLUSTRATION COURTESY OF GREAZILLA

by Jack Yaldon
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The Hockey East conference has become the least consistent in college hockey this year, with major fluctuations on a weekly basis. To no surprise, this past weekend was no different.

UNH's weekend started well with a 6-3 win over RPI driven by junior forward Nick Ring's four-point game. Saturday wouldn't be as kind to the Wildcats, as Union won 6-0.

UMass Lowell's weekend started with a 7-1 defeat against Union and concluded with a 2-0 loss to RPI to finish a disappointing weekend.

Union forward Brandon Buhr had four points on the weekend, highlighted by a hat trick against UNH.

In total, the two Hockey East teams outshot Union and RPI 117-111, with no game having more than a six-shot difference either way, but a combined .836 SV% was the fatal flaw for both teams.

No. 13. Boston University played No. 10 Quinnipiac in a single game on Saturday, with the Bobcats scoring three in the first period to contribute to their eventual 6-2 win. BU was outshot 49-33, highlighting an all-around poor performance in a game crucial to their rankings. Now, the preseason No. 2 sits at 18 and finds themselves dangerously close to dropping off the polls for the first time since the end of the 2021-22 season.

No. 8 Maine hosted Vermont for a two-game set in one of four Hockey East series this weekend. Maine earned a dominant

7-0 victory in game one.

Game two wasn't to Maine's standards, as Vermont pulled off the 2-1 upset via an early-third-period goal by junior Daniel Sambuco. Maine outshot Vermont 44-28, but a stellar performance by both Vermont goaltenders won it for the Catsamounts.

Merrimack and No. 15 Providence played a home-and-home starting in Providence. Game one went to the Friars 4-2, with Anaheim Ducks' draft pick Roger McQueen picking up his first two collegiate goals in a three-point game for the freshman.

Game two was a different tone, as the Warriors took a 3-0 lead in the first half of game time. Though Providence tried to climb back and managed to cut the deficit to one goal with a minute left, Merrimack held strong enough to claim victory.

One of two ranked Hockey East matchups this weekend featured a home-and-home between No. 12 UMass Amherst and No. 18 Boston College.

UMass led 2-1 after the first period of game one but were outscored 9-2 the following five periods as they'd be swept by scores of 7-3 and 4-0. UNH transfer Ryan Conmy headlined BC's statement weekend with four points.

The Eagles moved to No. 15 in the polls while the Minutemen fell to 17.

The other ranked matchup featured both Hockey East Huskies, with No. 14 UConn and No. 11 Northeastern playing a home-and-home.

UConn scored the first two goals of the series 11 seconds apart, and a Jake Percival hat

trick drove their 4-2 game one win in Storrs.

Game two looked like a totally different story with Northeastern going up 3-0 early in the second period, but a good fight by UConn brought it back within. Late in the third, Percival proved to be the bane of Northeastern's weekend, tying it up on a delayed penalty with five minutes left in regulation. This would eventually send the contest into overtime, allowing Joey Muldowney to win the game and complete UConn's 3-0 comeback.

UConn took Northeastern's No. 11 spot while the other Huskies dropped to 12.

The last time no Hockey East team was in the top ten nationwide was March of 2022, but there's real danger that number could be reset soon. Maine sits at No. 10, with UConn and Northeastern occupying the next two spots, while the 15-18 spots are also taken by Hockey East schools.

This week kicks off Thursday with No. 18 UMass at No. 16 Providence in the first game of a home-and-home that'll finish

Saturday.

No. 11 UConn and New Hampshire will play a home-and-home starting Friday.

No. 15 Boston College will host No. 10 Maine for a series, while No. 18 Boston University and No. 12 Northeastern play a home-and-home in two series that will have major implications on the Thanksgiving week poll.

Merrimack heads to Long Island University on Friday while Vermont hosts Harvard Saturday in Hockey East's only non-conference games of the week.

UConn men's hockey battles Northeastern at the Toscano Family Ice Forum on November 14, 2025. The Huskies finished off the night with a 4-2 win. PHOTO BY ELLA GORHAM, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS



Women's Swim and Dive: Huskies prepare for Hawkeye Invitational

by Seth Wallen
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The UConn women's swim team is set to travel to Iowa City from Nov. 18 to 21 to compete in the highly competitive Hawkeye Invitational, a key mid-season championship. This event is vital for the Huskies to gauge their season progress and aims to meet NCAA qualifying standards before the program moves into conference play, making their performance at this meet even more significant.

Momentum favors them as they extend their impressive two-meet winning streak, boosting confidence and reputation. They notably achieved an 180-120 victory over rival Northeastern, winning 12 of 16 events in that decisive meet. This dominant performance not only secured the win but also showcased their growing depth, indicating they are prepared to face tougher opponents and aim for higher achievements this season.

Freshman diver Ruth Spiegel made a notable achievement by winning her first college competition in the 1-meter dive against Northeastern. Her performance highlights the progress of the diving program's development efforts.

Spiegel reflected on her win: "Since arriving, there's been a lot of talk about trusting the process and returning to basics, and I believe today truly demonstrated that on the big stage."

Head coach Chris Maiello expressed confidence in the team's momentum as they head to Iowa, saying, "We're in a good spot." He added, "We're excited about the upcoming mid-season championship in Iowa and believe they'll im-

prove compared to their performance here in two weeks."

The Huskies will depend on several key athletes to perform well throughout the competition, especially senior Molly Rogers. Rogers has demonstrated notable skill and consistency in the 100-yard backstroke, an event for which she has trained diligently, show-

ing her dedication and technical ability.

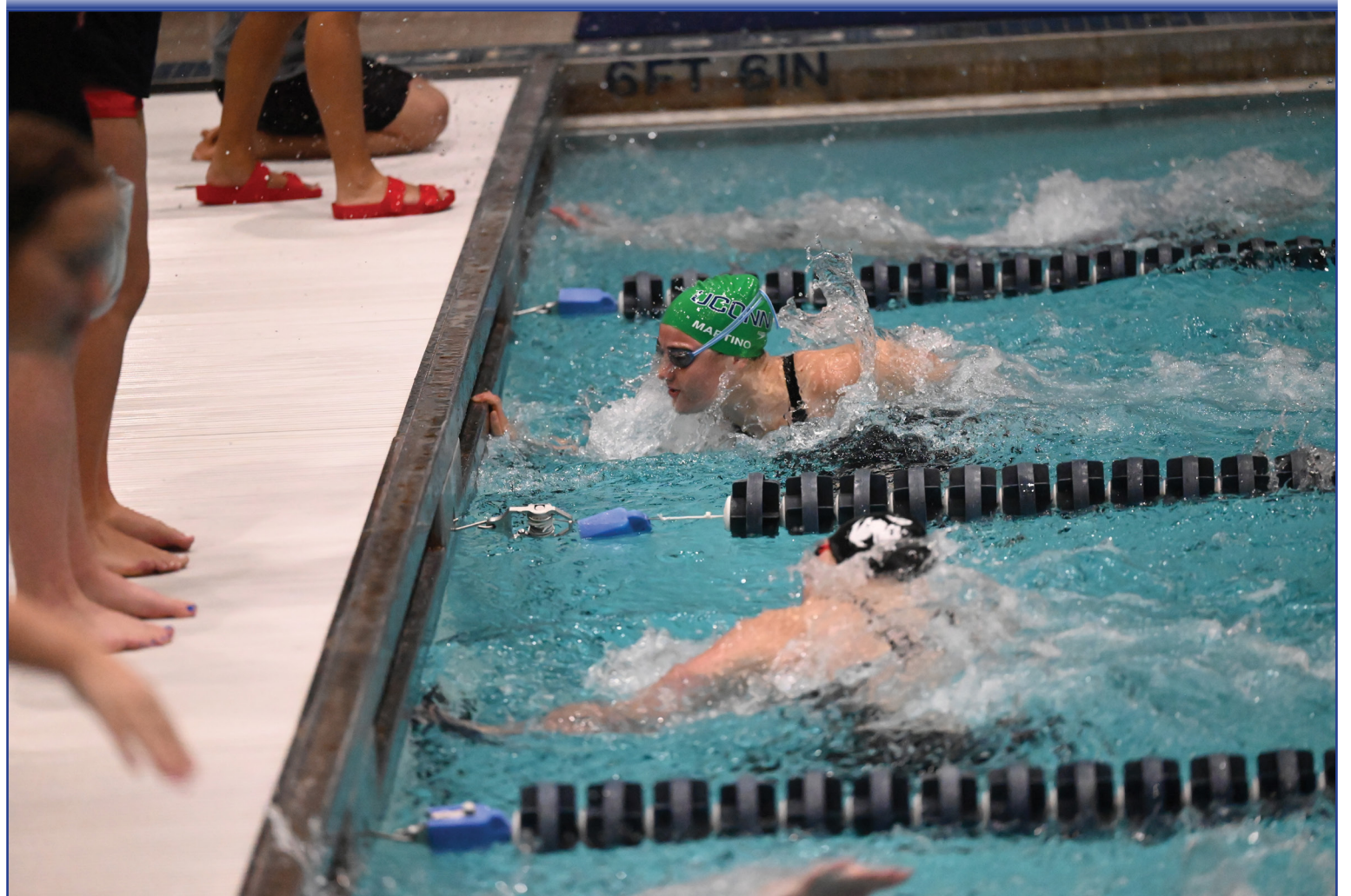
Meanwhile, fellow Senior Alexis Martino highlighted her versatility by leading a sweep in the 200-yard butterfly and also securing a victory in the demanding 200-yard IM, further strengthening the team's overall performance.

The diving team, led by ju-

niors Kate Cooper and Olivia Denery and senior Darah Ostrom, has performed excellently this season. Their steady preparation and high standards have made them key contenders and they are likely to achieve strong scores in both the 1-meter and 3-meter diving events, greatly aiding the team's overall success.

Competition in Iowa is quite intense, with major programs from Iowa, Nebraska, Illinois, Kansas and Miami all vying for top placements. The elevated level of competition will serve as a crucial test for UConn's mid-season readiness, pushing the team to show its resilience and skill in a challenging environment.

UConn swimmers compete against Northeastern during a dual meet at the Wolff-Zakim Natatorium on Saturday, Nov. 9, 2025. The Huskies won the meet 180-120, earning multiple first-place finishes across relay and individual events. PHOTO BY OLIVIA DICKSON, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS





Sports

BIG EAST BALLER UPDATE No. 1: UCONN STARTS STRONG, REST OF LEAGUE NOT SO MUCH



The UConn men's basketball team takes on Columbia University at Gampel Pavillion on Nov. 10, 2025. The UConn huskies won 89-62.
PHOTO BY EMMA MEIDINGER, ASSOCIATE PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS

by Sam Calhoun
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Welcome back to Big East Baller Update! As the first two weeks of the season have passed, there are some take-aways, both good and bad, from all 11 teams in the Big East.

Since it has been so long since the last edition of this column, let us jump right into the top players and games so far this season.

Weekly Awards

Player of the first two weeks: Chase Ross, guard, Marquette (20.8 ppg, 4 rpg, 4 apg, 50.8 FG%, 34.6 3P%, 78.6 FT% in five games)

In the first five games of the season, Ross is clearly carrying Marquette in a down year. According to KenPom, Ross has been named the game MVP in four of those games, including a 31-point effort in an 89-82 home loss to Maryland. As CBS Sports' Jon Rothstein said, Ross must be an All-Big East player for Marquette to return to the NCAA Tournament for a fifth consecutive year.

Freshman of the first two weeks: Acaden Lewis, guard, Villanova (12.3 ppg, 5.3 apg, 2.8 rpg, 48.6 FG%, 16.7 3P%, 61.9 FT% in four games)

Lewis has emerged as one of the top freshmen in the Big

East, despite his shooting splits not impressing many. According to Bart Torvik's analytics, Lewis ranks far ahead of other Big East freshmen in points over replacement per adjusted game at that usage (PORPAGATU) at 3.2. Villanova has only one high-major game under its belt: a 71-66 loss to BYU on opening night.

Best game so far

Virginia Tech downs Providence in overtime, 107-101

At the Mohegan Sun Arena in Uncasville, Conn., Virginia Tech outscored Providence in both the second half and overtime periods to defeat Providence in the Basketball Hall of Fame Tip-Off on Nov. 8. Neoklis Avdalas could not be guarded during the thriller, scoring 33 points on 13-23 overall shooting and 5-8 from long-range. In addition to the high-scoring performance, the 6-foot-9 freshman from Greece dished out six assists and five rebounds. The Hokies forced overtime with a game-tying 3-pointer from Amani Hansberry with five seconds remaining. Providence was led by prolific scorer Jason Edwards, who had 28 points. Four other Friars finished with double-figures in scoring, including Jaylin Sellers (26) and Stefan Vaaks (17). Oswin Erhunmwunse had an 11-point, 11-rebound double-double with four blocks.

Best games this week (excluding No. 5 Arizona at No. 3 UConn)

Dayton at Marquette (Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., truTV)

Wednesday night serves as a revenge game for Marquette after being upset by Dayton last season, 71-63. Both teams are quite different from a year ago. Kam Jones, a consensus second-team All-American last year, is now with the Indiana Pacers. David Joplin, a third-team All-Big East forward last season, is now playing overseas. Stevie Mitchell, one of the top defensive players in the country, is recovering from a hip injury and now works at a firm in Milwaukee. It will be up to Ross, Ben Gold and Sean Jones to avenge last year's loss.

Butler vs. South Carolina (Friday, 2 p.m., CBS Sports Network)

Butler and South Carolina start the Greenbrier Tip-Off in West Virginia on Friday afternoon. The Bulldogs rank No. 7 nationally in offensive rebounding percentage (45%) and are one of the best teams in 3-point percentage offensively and defensively.

Georgia vs. Xavier (Friday, 9 p.m., ESPN2)

Another multi-team event begins on Friday as Xavier takes on Georgia in the Shriners Children's Charleston Classic. Georgia ranks in the top 45 in both

offense and defense in terms of adjusted efficiency. Xavier has had better starts to a season, but expectations were low with head coach Sean Miller's departure and numerous players transferring out. Richard Pitino needs to outcoach Mike White to come out victorious.

Penn State vs. Providence (Saturday, 4 p.m., truTV)

Here we go again, Providence! The Friars are back at Mohegan for the Hall of Fame Showcase against Penn State. Both teams look to try to find some momentum as the calendar creeps towards December. Providence's 3-point defense has been suspect up to this point, and that might not work well against a team shooting 39% from deep.

Virginia vs. Butler (Sunday, 2 p.m., CBS Sports Network)

Butler stays at the Greenbrier Resort for a battle with Virginia. The Cavaliers have looked promising offensively, ranking 30th in adjusted efficiency on that end of the floor. Players like Michael Ajayi and Jalen Jackson need to be excellent against a team ranked fifth nationally in opposing effective field goal percentage (39.7%).

Creighton vs. Baylor (Monday, 2 p.m., truTV)

The Players Era Festival begins in Las Vegas on Monday with a premier matchup between Creighton and Baylor.

The Bluejays have been battle-tested already this regular season, but that game was a 90-63 blowout at Gonzaga a week ago. The trio of Owen Freeman, Josh Dix and Jackson McAndrew needs to contribute more, especially with the schedule not getting any easier.

No. 14 St. John's vs. No. 16 Iowa State (Monday, 4:30 p.m., truTV)

St. John's and Iowa State are also in Las Vegas for the Players Era Festival. Iowa State head coach T.J. Otzelberger has the Cyclones boasting one of the top defenses in the country so far, with an adjusted efficiency rating of 91.9 (third in the country). St. John's will have a tall task handling the ball against a defense that has a 28.5% turnover rate (second in the country).

Seton Hall vs. No. 25 N.C. State (Monday, 7:30 p.m., ESPN2)

Lastly, Seton Hall takes on N.C. State on Monday night at the Southwest Maui Invitational. The Pirates look to improve from last year's dismal season, and they are off to a solid start with a 4-0 record. Those wins also include unimpressive win margins over Wagner (7) and Monmouth (12). Seton Hall's defense has been solid, and it will be interesting to see how the top 2-point shooting team (N.C. State) manages against the top 2-point defense (Seton Hall).

