



# THE NUTMEG MAGAZINE

Issue No. 6  
Fall 2016

- + History of Homecoming
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# Jon Bellion

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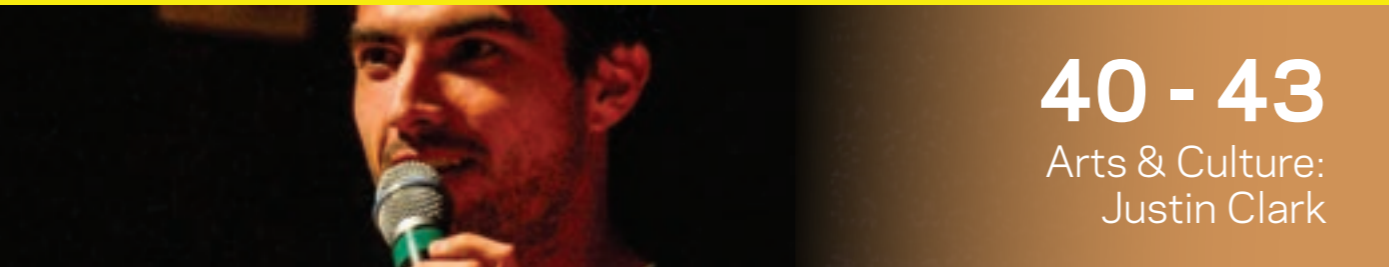
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Fall is great—the foliage is beautiful, the weather is comfortable, and I can walk around campus without losing feeling in my face. I often find myself stopping to admire the changing trees or watching groundhogs chase each other into the bushes. In these moments I truly appreciate how beautiful our campus is and the people that make UConn the great university it is.

I foresee another strong year for Nutmeg and I am looking forward to the excellent work from this crew of rookies and veterans. I have the opportunity to witness the staff's hard work and commitment and I couldn't be prouder.

Need a study break? Take a look back at the fall concert, check out the UConn-inspired Halloween costumes, and catch up on UConn's football season!

If you have an event or story that you would like featured in Nutmeg Magazine, please reach out to us! We can be contacted via our social media or email us at [nutmegpublishinguconn@gmail.com](mailto:nutmegpublishinguconn@gmail.com).

Good luck on midterms!

- Amy Bortey



# FALL CONCERT

Article by **Kavita Sinha**  
Photographs by **Kim Sun**  
Design by **Rachael Berry**

**I**n past years, UConn students lined up outside of Jorgensen as they waited for the doors to the fall concert to open. Their excitement and energy for the performance could be felt and almost made people forget the fact that they were standing outside in weather that was rapidly getting chillier. Though this was part of the concert experience, SUBOG felt that the colder weather that came with fall, along with the cost of the tickets, may have deterred many people from attending. This year, in an effort to save money for the much more popular spring concert and to make the event more convenient to attend for the general student body, SUBOG decided to make a change.



For the first time, SUBOG opted to host the fall concert outdoors on the front terrace of the Student Union for free. They also hosted the event at an earlier time, allowing for people to enjoy the nice weather while it lasted and

eliminating the need for long lines and time spent waiting around. Not only did this make the event easier to attend, but it also allowed people who would have otherwise missed the concert to stop for a moment and enjoy the

music as they walked to and from class. Junior Jessica Metzger said “I think it was a really good idea for them to move the concert. It creates a great vibe and gives people a chance to hang out and talk with their friends while also enjoying some music.”

People were able to run in and out of the Student Union to grab food whenever they got hungry, and the lack of traditional seating found in Jorgenson allowed attendees the freedom to venture around and talk with one another. As students slowly started to fill in the quad, local artists JuS and Kalimur performed original and cover songs to help get people excited for the upcoming main performance. The groups covered a wide range of musical genres,

***“It was definitely different than going to a ‘real’ concert.”***


offering everyone in the audience the chance to listen to something they enjoyed.

The members of Kalimur all met while students at UConn and made the decision to start a rock band. They have since made appearances at various venues around Connecticut

and have begun to make their presence known in New York City. JuS, a solo performer, took an alternative route and chose to perform freestyle rap to get the crowd riled up. Though UConn had never before opted to use student-led bands as openers for their fall concert, the decision was in line with the overall relaxed and community feeling that this year’s fall concert evoked. According to junior Haris Qureshi, “It was definitely different than going to a ‘real’ concert. You didn’t have people screaming in your ear, making it impossible for you to actually hear the songs. And no one was trying to push past you to get to the front of the stage. It was a better set up than Jorgenson was and a much more enjoyable experience.”

Two hours into their performance, JuS and Kalimur got ready to hand over stage to Long Island singer and songwriter, Jon Bellion. Many of the students in attendance admitted to not knowing much about the performer they were about to see, saying that they had simply come for a good time and to hang out with their friends. They were surprised to learn that not only had Bellion sang on the EDM song “Beautiful Now” by Zedd, but he also assisted in writing “The Monster,” which went on to be performed by Rihanna and Eminem. Despite the lack of previous knowledge about Bellion, the anticipation and eagerness for the concert to begin could still be felt. The conversation settled down as Bellion began performing a handful of songs from his





debut album "The Human Condition". Midway through his song "Luxury," which began with slow and calming vocals before jumping into a rap verse, even those who had not heard of Bellion prior to the concert were starting to become fans.

At the end of his performance, Bellion offered people the chance to come up and have their pictures taken with him. Later in the night he posted a tweet about his experience saying, "UCONN that was epic." As they dispersed from the Student Union quad, some students had already begun downloading Bellion's songs onto their phones. Though SUBOG took a risk with all the changes that were made to the fall concert this year, it definitely paid off as everyone appeared to have a good time.

UCONN that  
was EPIC.

@jonbellion

# A Very UConn Themed Halloween

Costumes done UConn style



foam finger: \$3.00

crazy hair wig: \$10.00

UConn t-shirt: \$15.00

With each new year comes a new Halloween, and with each Halloween comes a new costume. Trying to find inspiration for a crowd-pleasing costume can be hard - nobody wants to be the fifth Donald Trump at the party. But Nutmeg has a solution. Take advantage of your surroundings and go with a UConn themed costume that everyone on campus can appreciate.

Those 21 and over can find their muse in the long-standing tradition of Nickel at Huskies Bar. To truly become King or Queen of Nickel, take whatever you would normally wear to Nickel, tape a picture of a nickel to the front of your costume and top it all off with a crown or tiara. Not only is it cheap, but you can keep it as dressed-up or as dressed-down as you like.

For the sardonic commuter student a good option is the notorious parking ticket. This costume is incredibly versatile, as you can wear whatever you like as a base. Then, simply print out a parking ticket and tape it where everyone can see. For a finishing touch, bring along an orange cone as an accessory, as long as you know where to get one.

Anyone with a flair for UConn's agricultural side (or just anyone who loves the Dairy

tiara / crown: \$8.00



paper nickel: \$0.05

Bar) can show off their animal side this Halloween by dressing as one of the many cows around H orsebarn Hill. This costume requires a little more craft-work than the others, but it is still perfectly doable for the artistically challenged student. Use black paper to cut out different shapes for your spots and use pink paper to draw and cut out an udder. To finish the costume, tape these onto a base outfit of black pants or leggings and a white shirt.

hard hat: \$8.00



safety vest: \$5.00

hammer: \$7.00

Students who want a Halloween costume that can be useful after Halloween should consider dressing as a UConn Superfan. Most students already have the most important part of the costume - the UConn t-shirt. After that, add on whatever Husky merchandise you happen to have around, or go to the co-op and buy a few accessories like a mini foam finger, black eye stickers, beads in UConn's colors, and even a large blue and white striped fuzzy hat. Even long after Halloween has ended, you can use these items to cheer on your favorite UConn teams.

paper cutouts: \$0.10



fake parking ticket: \$0.10  
(optional real parking ticket: \$30.00)

cone: optional



Any student who has been in Storrs for more than a semester has become quite used to our campus under construction. Get everybody laughing with your costume by dressing up as one of the ubiquitous UConn construction workers. Start with khakis or jeans and your winter boots or your Timberlands and add a work vest, a hard hat, and a hammer. While the vest and hat you may have to buy, you can borrow the hammer from a friend if you don't have your own. No matter where you're going on Halloween, a UConn themed costume is sure to be a hit and, in many cases, easy on the wallet.



# Campus Changes

"New year, new me."

Heading into the 2017 academic year with numerous campus changes, UConn seems to have embraced this motto head-on. Even upperclassmen who are back at Storrs for their junior or senior year find the campus to be less familiar than the one they left after spring semester. Construction barricades block familiar and faster ways of getting from one class to the next, and for students living in dorms such as South, the sound of drilling and construction workers yelling outside their windows has replaced the need for an alarm clock. Former residents of CTC walk past an empty plot of land rather than seeing the familiar complex where they lived just a few months ago. Yet, these changes are just the beginning of the revolution to improve student life at UConn.

Barely a month into the semester, students have quickly focused their attention on Putnam. In previous years, the newly renovated dining hall had the notorious reputation for being the worst dining hall on UConn's campus. Until this semester, no one made the effort to go out of their way to eat there, with most people being grateful they lived in an area of campus where other options were readily available to them. Even the residents of Garrigus and Hilltop, for whom it was more convenient to dine at Putnam than anywhere else, trekked down to the center of campus for food that they hoped would be edible.

The return to Storrs this fall was an adjustment period for UConn. It is now common to ask one another to meet for dinner at Putnam or to see more than a few groups of friends eating there at any given time.

During the first week, the line to get swiped into Putnam stretched past the door, likely a first in the history of this particular dining hall. And the hype is not for nothing. This isn't to say that the food at Putnam has reached the same status as that of a 5 - or even 4 - star restaurant, but it is now on par with the rest of UConn's dining halls. Sophomore Renoj Vargheses says, "As a freshman, I avoided Putnam because of all the terrible things I'd heard. I finally tried it this year and while I can't compare it to how it used to be, I would definitely eat there again." As an added bonus, the second level introduces a juice bar, where students can get their daily fix of veggies and fruits. The renovations have also added a modern aesthetic. There is lounge style seating so that students can easily study while they eat. Murals decorate the walls, and one even acts as a Living Grow wall to provide herbs that will be used in the food produced.

Though everyone at UConn is excited to have another dining hall that they can actually stand to eat at, the biggest benefactors of Putnam are the residents of Next Gen. Next Gen is UConn's newest dorm, though it's not entirely fair to group it into the same category as other traditional dorms such as East or North. Upon walking into Next Gen, one would immediately assume they were in a hotel rather than a dorm building. The multi-story building includes community lounges and seminar rooms, complete with some of the latest technology such as plasma TVs.

Next Gen, being a dorm geared toward students in STEM fields, also has an Idea Lab. The room contains white boards, a laser cutter, 3D printer, and more.

The manager of learning communities, Melissa Foreman, says, "We're developing a culture where students are taking the lead on all of the things that come out of having a marker space." The first floor also houses a gallery room where student work can be displayed as well as a game room.

Similar to the style now present in Putnam, Next Gen prides itself on being "green". The dorm meets all of the standards set forth U.S. Green Building Council in order to attain the LEED Silver designation.

Article by **Betty Noe**  
Photographs by **Omar Taweh**  
Design by **Victoria Kokoszka**

Drawing inspiration from Laurel Hall, a rooftop garden has been installed with the addition of channels that help direct rain water to the gardens. Though the dorm comes equipped with AC, in an effort to be environmentally friendly, there are also sun shades that span the sides of the building and help to regulate the temperature. Going along with this effort, the use of a white roof allows for reflection of sunlight, which will keep residents cool without the use of the AC. While previous years may have seen students fighting over the chance to get a room in South or even the sparse singles in other halls, it is safe to say that Next Gen is quickly becoming the top choice for places to live.

As if these changes weren't enough, UConn also made the controversial decision of getting rid of the 40-year-old Co-op and replacing it with a Barnes & Noble owned bookstore.

The administration made this decision because they felt it would be beneficial in the long run. Last semester, students, for the most part, had a negative reaction. A "Save the Co-op" petition spread across social media, raking in close to 7,000 signatures. Even state legislatures openly expressed their lack of support for the decision. The tension seems to have died down this year, with many of the initial concerns being addressed.

Barnes & Noble re-hired all previous Co-op employees and made sure that they kept their previous salary. Junior Ashley Robles says, "I'm glad they let us keep their jobs. The transition was difficult because we had to learn the new rules and computer systems, but they had people from headquarters come in and train us. This decision was made despite what many students wanted, so it's nice to see the company trying to work with the community."

Another major concern regarding this decision was that the prices of textbooks would skyrocket. The bookstore has since addressed this concern by matching their price to any prices found on Amazon, whether the book is

being bought or rented. This allows students to get their books without waiting for shipping and at the same low prices. Though it will still take time for all students to fully embrace the replacement of the Co-op, the change has not been as difficult as many thought it would be.

The next few years at UConn are guaranteed to bring changes as significant as these, with the addition of a new recreation center and the potential construction of additional dorm buildings. While change is not always easy to deal with, the past few weeks have shown how quickly the UConn community can adapt and adjust.



# History of Homecoming

Article by Betty Noe Design by Morgan McKenna

While most students look forward to Homecoming week each year, few know the roots of UConn's favorite Homecoming traditions. In order to understand how Homecoming came to be what it is today, we have to start with the game itself. The first official Homecoming football game took place in the fall of 1925. Originally the game was a chance to bring alumni back to campus to support their team (then called the "Aggies" instead of the Huskies), however there was a small student parade before the game.

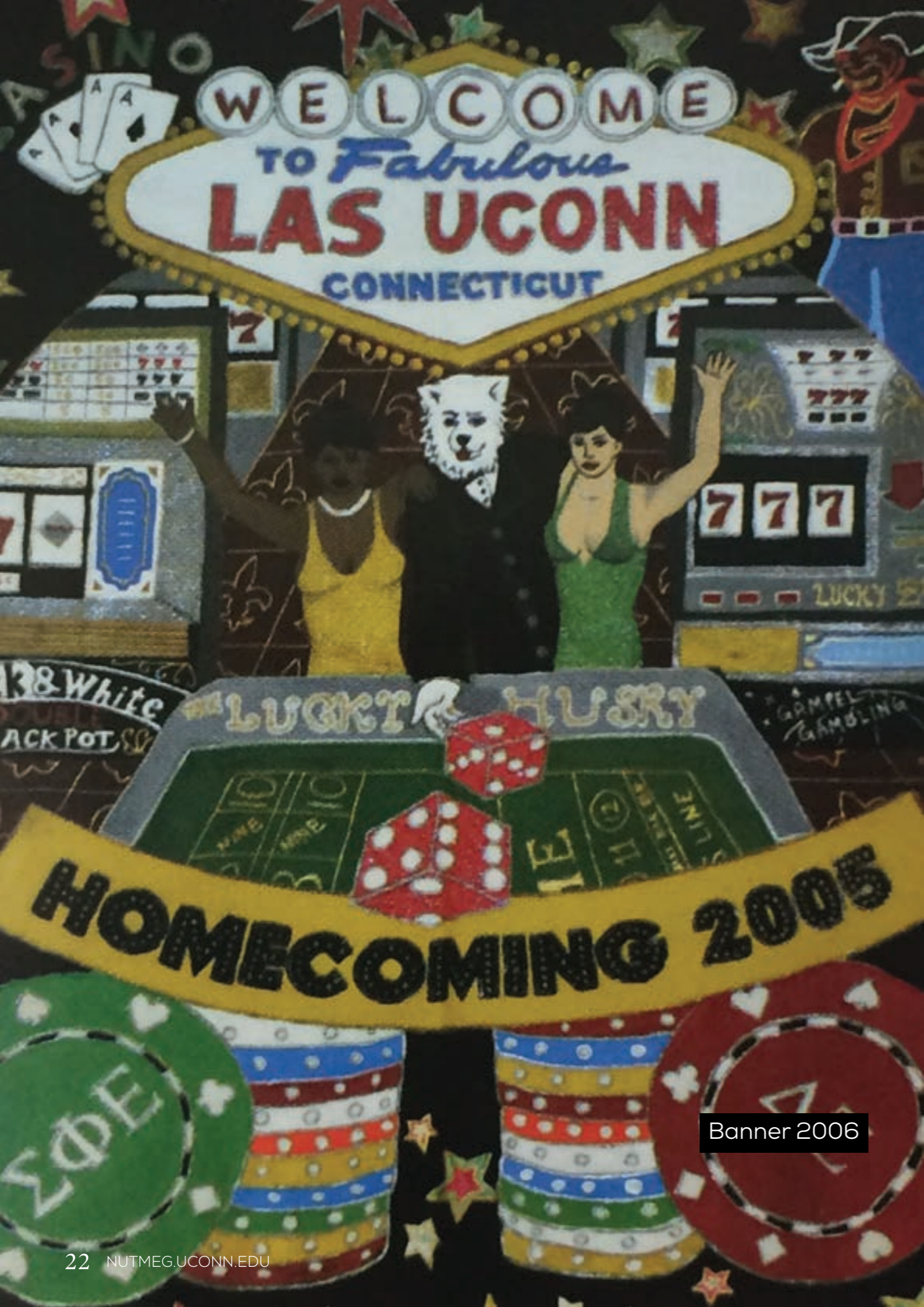
Today's Homecoming parade looks much different. For thirty-three years the parade has been one of the most important events of Homecoming, making it the longest running Homecoming event -- besides the game of course. The different floats and marching units are judged by a panel as they move their way to the Homecoming carnival run in conjunction with the parade. This is the first of the competitions that are held throughout the week and give cultural centers, fraternities, sororities, and other qualifying student organizations on campus an opportunity to



get creative and show off their Husky pride. No matter what the designated theme is each year, pride has always been the overarching motif of Homecoming week. This served the University well in the fall of 2013, when UConn was implementing a transition from an older logo to the current Husky Dog logo. Because of the rules and guidelines for many of the competitions throughout the week, which call on participating students to

utilize the UConn logo in their work, Homecoming acted as a tool to help students become familiar with the new Husky design. However, the individual themes of each Homecoming week are just as important as UConn pride. While this year's theme of "Music Tours in Storrs" is focusing on the audiovisual, last year's theme of "Movie Sagas" tasked participants with recreating famous televisual

experiences, such as Star Wars and Indiana Jones. Going even further back to the fall of 2005, the theme of Homecoming was "Viva Las UConn," which inspired competing groups to go so far as to stage quickie weddings and dress up as Elvis while performing at Lip Sync. Even before annual themes were introduced to Homecoming week, students took this time to dress up and put on a show. In 1987, Homecoming was held the weekend leading up



Banner 2006



Parade 2001

to Halloween, with the parade held on Halloween day, and many students used the holiday as inspiration for Homecoming costumes, dressing as zombies and celebrities of the era. In the years since, the Homecoming theme has given participating students the opportunity to bring the world home to Storrs.

One of the best places for groups to showcase their own personal takes on the theme is the well-known Homecoming Lip Sync, which ends the festivities this year. Although in recent years lip sync competitions such as Spike's Lip Sync Battle have given these types of competition more attention, Lip Sync here at UConn is

one of Homecoming's oldest events, with this year marking its twenty-ninth incarnation. However, changes have been made to Homecoming since then. In October of 1987, when Lip Sync first began, Homecoming week was still Homecoming weekend, and Lip Sync was the kickoff event. During the eighties and nineties, when Lip Sync still began the Homecoming festivities, music groups such as Tears for Fears who came to UConn in 1993 would perform after the game to finish the weekend. Now the final event of Homecoming week, Lip Sync is always highly anticipated. It is during this event that the winners of the Banner competition and the Parade are announced, and the performers are always

sure to deliver some great entertainment. New to Homecoming this year is the Non-Competition category for groups who would like to participate without competing for awards. In the past, in order to be a part of the Homecoming festivities, organizations had to participate in at least two events during the week. In this new category, groups have the choice to join in as many of the events as they would like, mitigating many of the fees and much of the stress that can accompany Homecoming week. No matter whether you are participating in Homecoming events or you simply like to watch the spectacle, being a part of Homecoming means being a part of UConn history.



# *First Night*

A visual story of an iconic tradition

















# Arts & culture

## *Justin Clark*

**J**ustin Clark doesn't sugarcoat his comedy. The intimate audience at the Student Union Theater September 21 learned this as the comedian jumped right into his blunt, sometimes dark material. Clark, named one of Comedy Central's Comics to Watch this year, made the crowd feel like friends, entrusting us with his humorous complaints about every aspect of life.

Clark soon proved his status as one to watch. He began, as most visiting artists and comedians, with the requisite comments about UConn's secluded surroundings. Unlike other performers, he kept the joke running throughout the show. Later in the set, when met with silence following a question about other schools that have come to play at UConn, he wondered aloud whether he was in a "middle-reality," where he would walk away and learn he had imagined the whole experience. Clark, originally from Seattle and currently living in Los Angeles, was clearly unused to our campus in the woods.





This was not the only instance of audience polling throughout the night. At one point, while discussing the proper way to order at a Chipotle, Clark asked if there is a Chipotle near campus. One audience member called out that instead there is a Moe's, baffling Clark who was unacquainted with the chain based in the Eastern United States. As many students could expect, the usual debate over which company was better broke out in the audience, leading the comedian to anticipate "a war."

Many of Clark's jokes compared L.A. to East Coast cities, particularly New York. His biggest complaint about Los Angeles was how many strangers will ask the question, "How are you?"

His response? "How dark do you wanna get?" Based on the highlights of his show, Clark isn't afraid of getting dark, at one point describing weddings as "funerals for friendships," and suggesting that the groom's best friend give him away at the altar. Clark also joked about his experiences at the Taco Bell drive-thru, where he is always served the wrong order. He even suggested a new slogan for the fast food chain: "You don't care, so neither do we."

Clark's humor managed to keep students laughing until his closing jokes. With a decidedly young point of view and a relatable take on life after college, the comedian's material was well-suited to a college audience. Perhaps the show's most student-friendly aspect: the free admission.

**NM**