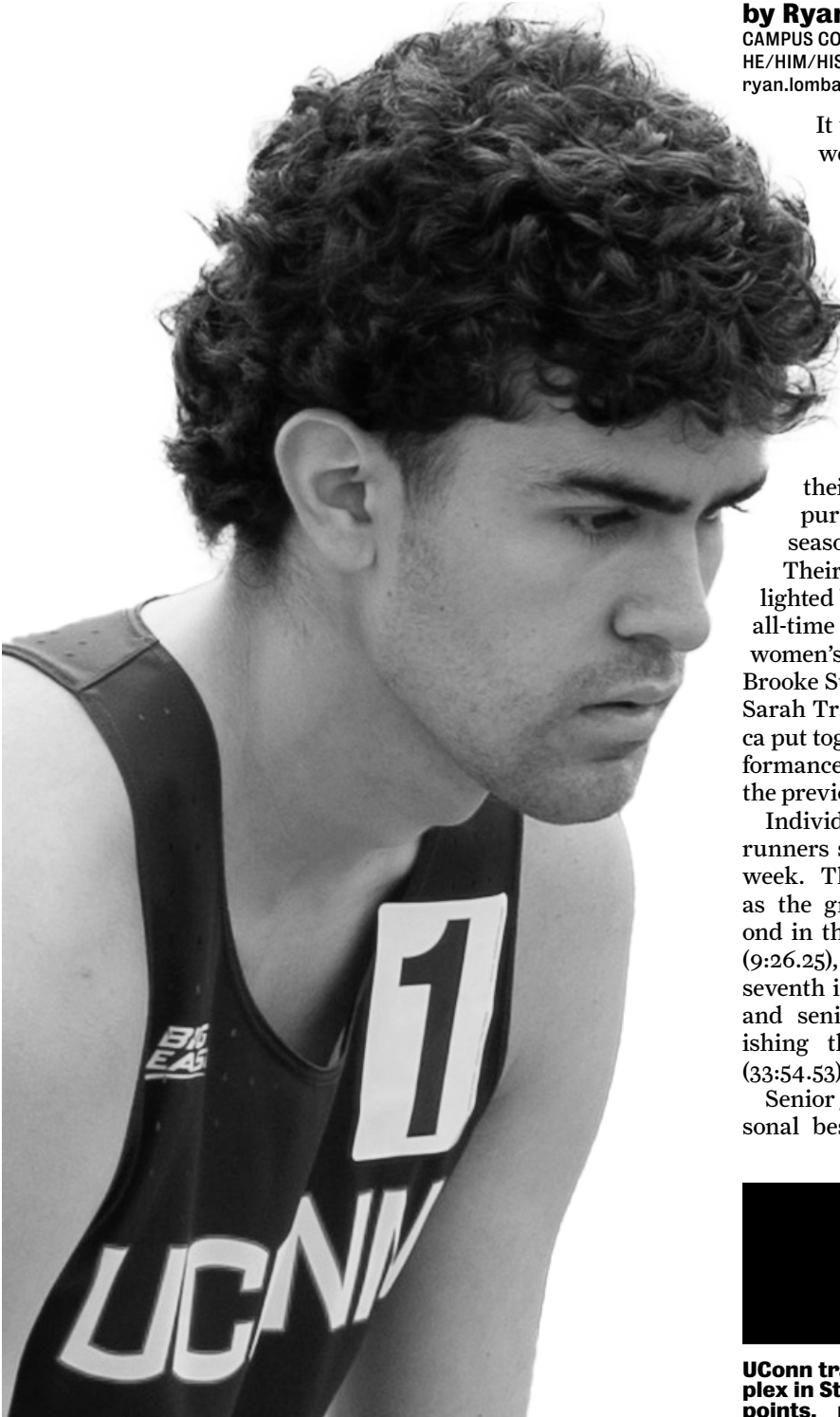


TRACK AND FIELD: HUSKIES SET NEW RECORD AT HISTORIC PENN RELAYS



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It was a record-breaking weekend for the UConn track and field team, as the Huskies delivered excellent performances at the 130th Penn Relays in Philadelphia, Pa. The team secured multiple podium finishes and personal bests, showing off their depth and relentless pursuit of excellence as the season nears its end.

Their success was highlighted by a new program and all-time event record in the women's distance medley relay. Brooke Strauss, Anna Connors, Sarah Trainor and Sascha Letica put together a first-place performance in 11:08.87, shattering the previous record.

Individually, several other runners set personal bests this week. That includes Trainor, as the grad student took second in the 3000m steeplechase (9:26.25), while Letica claimed seventh in the 5000m (15:48.21) and senior Chloe Trudel finishing third in the 10000m (33:54.53).

Senior Jessica Starr set a personal best of her own in the

400m hurdles (58.94), good for a 14th place finish. Freshman Brooklyn Taylor earned seventh in the 100m hurdle finals with a time of 14.05. Additionally, the 4x100 relay team of Taylor, Mia Dansby, Sarah Claflin and Audrey Kozak qualified for the event final after clocking in at 46.97.

The UConn women were just as successful in the field events, led by senior Rachel Mason who won the pole vault after clearing 3.90m. In the high jump, freshman Kaylee Meyer secured fifth, clearing 1.70m.

In the horizontal jumps, freshman Jaidah Garrett led the way with a second-place finish in the long jump (6.06m), followed by sophomore Maresa Hense in seventh (5.80m).

Junior Gabriela DeFelice set two personal bests in the discus (48.98m) and hammer throw (53.53m), earning second and 10th respectively. Senior Sinclair Fryer also participated in the shot put, taking 11th with a 13.62m throw.

On the men's side, junior OJ Singletary took 17th in the 400m hurdles championship with a time of 52.51. The distance medley relay team of Mason Brosious, Noah Colangelo, Gabe Cuffey and Christian Menounos finished fifth in 9:46.20. Meanwhile, the 4x800m team placed 14th with a 7:40.41 time.

Freshman Marshall Potter had a standout weekend in the field, leading the charge for the men's squad. He won the hammer throw with a personal best 62.61m toss, then went on to capture the shot put title with a mark of 17.99m. Also in the hammer throw, senior Alex Krause placed eighth with a 58.76m throw, and freshman Lucas DeCrescenzo took 10th with a personal best 56.74m.

To round out the Huskies' performances, freshman Derek Shimer took second in the high jump at 2.11m, while sophomore Enaji Muhammed tied for sixth in the championship division with a 2.06m jump. Freshman Thomas Bannon reached the javelin podium with a third-place throw of 65.99m.

The outdoor postseason is quickly approaching as the calendar turns to May, and the Huskies have found continued success that put them in a strong position. Nine personal bests coming in a variety of events shows UConn is going into the end of the year with momentum, with both the men's and women's squads seeking their fifth consecutive Big East title.

The Huskies will close out the regular season next week in Boston for the Jay Carisella and Joe Donahue Coaches Invitational hosted by Northeastern University on Saturday.



UConn track and field at the Dog Fight Challenge at George J. Sherman Family Sports Complex in Storrs, Conn. on Saturday, April 4, 2026. The Huskies secured the victory, scoring 260.5 points. PHOTO BY MADISON HENDRICKS, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS.

WOMEN'S LACROSSE: HUSKIES HOLD ON IN REGULAR SEASON FINALE, CLINCH SPOT IN BIG EAST PLAYOFFS

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The Huskies are going to the postseason.

With a trip to the Big East Championship semifinals on the line, the Huskies (7-9, 3-3 Big East) held on against now No. 4 seeded Marquette (9-6, 3-3 Big East) to win 12-10 and clinch the No. 3 seed.

"Obviously, we still have a couple moments in the game where it gets a little iffy, but it was great," UConn head coach Katie Woods said after the game. "I kind of had a feeling that our best lacrosse was going to be at the end of the season."

Megan O'Brien scored her fifth hat trick of the season with a career-high five goals on the day.

The sophomore scored the game's first goal unassisted after coming around from behind the net with 11:59 to play in the first and didn't let up from there. The attacker scored two more in the first half and a pair in the third quarter.

"I think the neat thing about Meg is she just wants to win, and she wants to do anything that can help the team win," Woods said. "So, even for us, putting her on the draw circle, she's been able to be a huge factor in the draws this year for us. She just has a knack for it. [She] sees the opening [and] takes it. You know, sometimes it doesn't work out, but I think today she saw some different things. She didn't force things, which I thought was really good."

O'Brien had two draw controls, while Barlow Clark-Schoeb led the team with seven. The Huskies outworked the Golden Eagles on the circle, securing 15 draws to Villanova's nine.

That deficit may not have mattered for Marquette, had the Golden Eagles found a way to convert more free position shots. Despite being handed 11 opportunities, seven more than UConn, they only found the

back of the net on two. The Huskies went three for four.

One of those two scores came with just 3:21 left to play, as freshman Dani Serrano scored from the left side on a free position shot to make it a two-goal game and put the pressure back on the UConn defense.

The Huskies had previously led by as many as five goals after Lucia Smigiel sent one home on a free position shot of her own with 14:16 on the clock at the start of the fourth quarter. That goal marked Smigiel's third of the game and the Huskies' second hat trick in the contest.

With UConn's lead cut down to two and just over three minutes left on the clock, the Huskies' defense buckled down. Marquette wouldn't take another shot, as a Rayea Davis caused turnover and an Abby Beran ground ball cost the Golden Eagles their final chance at a comeback.

Beran finished with two caused turnovers. The second gave her the all-time program record for most caused turnovers with 105.

"There's a reason why she has all the caused turnovers and has all the ground balls," Woods said. "She works on that all the time. She just has like a next level commitment to being the best defender that she can be so that we can win."

Beran stands as the favorite to be named Big East Defensive Player of the Year for a second straight season and almost certainly be a member of the conference first team.

For Marquette, Riley Jenkins led the way with four goals for a hat trick of her own. Hanna Bodner and Eileen Dooley each scored a pair, while Ella Mautz chipped in one of her own.

In addition to the hat tricks from O'Brien and Smigiel, the Huskies also saw goals from Davis and Ava Plata along with two from Hadley Bethke.

After ending their season on a high note, the Huskies will travel to Denver on Thursday to take on No. 2 seed Georgetown in the

Big East Championship Semifinals. That contest will take place at 9 p.m. at Peter Barton Lacrosse Stadium. Husky fans can tune in live on ESPN+.

Though Georgetown previously defeated UConn handily back in March by a final of 18-

7, the Huskies finished out the season with three straight wins in Big East play.

"We have a lot of young guys on the field that didn't have playing experience, even some seniors that just didn't have as much playing experience as we want-

ed," Woods said when talking about the start of the season. "I knew we would be playing our best lacrosse towards the end. I knew it was going to be this type of situation. I'm just excited that we were able to put it together and finish it."



The UConn women's lacrosse team took on Harvard on April 21, 2026 at Morrone Stadium in Storrs, Conn. The Huskies lost 19-12. PHOTOS BY BENJAMIN LIAO, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS.