CROSS COUNTRY:

HUSKIES TO HIT THE GROUND RUNNING IN HARTFORD.



UConn sophomore Sascha Letica racing in last year's Big East Track and Field Championships. Letica finished 13th at the 2025 Big East Championship. PHOTO COURTESY OF UCONN ATHLETICS

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The UConn cross country team will commence its 2026 fall campaign this Saturday at the University of Hartford Invitational in West Hartford, Conn.

The race is scheduled to begin at 10:30 a.m. at Keney Park and will feature a strong field of competitors.

The Huskies are entering this season looking to make a statement with a blend of promising newcomers and experienced veterans. UConn is welcoming seven freshmen to the roster this season. The team is also welcoming back sophomores Sascha Letica, Brooke Strauss and Samantha Moore.

In 2025, Letica finished fifth place at the Ted Owen Invite with a time of 17:18.3 for the women's 5K and set a personal best time of 20:25.8 for the women's 6K. She also led the way for UConn at the 2025 Big East Championship, with a 13th place finish.

Strauss posted another standout performance in the Big East Championship, taking a 19th-place finish with a time of 20:58.2. At the Ted Owen Invite, she finished second place in the 5K with a time of 17:12.4.

In last year's Hartford Invitational, Moore made her mark as she snagged a seventh-place finish in the women's 3K with a time of 11:06.7. Additionally, at the Ted Owen Invite, she claimed 15th place with a time of 17:58.4.

Strauss, Letica and Moore will be among the Huskies to watch during Saturday's season opener and throughout the season.

UConn's freshman class also brings excitement and potential. Sisters Hayley and Kaitlynn Martin will look to contribute immediately after posting impressive results prior to committing to UConn.

While the potential this season is certainly promising, the Huskies said goodbye this past year to a veteran athlete and team leader in Chloe Trudel. In 2025, Trudel set a personal-best time of 20:22.8 at the Princeton Fall Classic, which allowed her to finish 11th overall. Her departure leaves an opportunity for new leaders to emerge and help lead the Huskies.

Senior Malin Rahm has proven to be a catalyst for her squad, as she set a personal-best time in the women's 5K last season at the Ted Owen Invite with a time of 17:14.0. This gave her a third-place finish. In the Princeton Fall Classic, she finished 30th with a time of 20:50.1. Entering her final collegiate season, Rahm will surely look to provide both leadership and strong performances.

Junior Claire Paci is also an athlete to keep an eye on this weekend as she finished in second place at last year's Hartford Invitational in the women's 3K with a time of 10:47.4.

The Huskies will have some tough competition this weekend, including athletes from the University of Hartford. Among these competitors is Hartford senior athlete Annie Gilman. Gilman placed 108th at the NCAA Mideast Regional with a time of 25:36.2 and will be one of several competitors looking to challenge the Huskies this weekend.

Keep an eye on these athletes at Saturday's Hartford Invitational, as they are poised to deliver standout performances and impressive finishing times.

Men's Soccer:

HUSKIES GEAR UP SHIP UP TO BOSTON



UConn mens soccer midfielder Yotaro Furutani in action Wednesday night in a draw against Sacred Heart. The Huskies drew 1-1 after Elijah Langford scored a late penalty. PHOTO BY PANAGIOTIS TROUGAKOS, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

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After a tough battle against Sacred Heart on Wednesday resulting in a 1-1 draw, the UConn men's soccer team is shipping to Boston to take on Harvard on Saturday.

For Huskies and Heroes night, the Huskies entered their game on Wednesday, looking to extend their three-game winning streak.

While Sacred Heart struck first in the 28th minute, it wasn't until the 73rd minute when the Huskies' leading goal scorer Elijah Langford found the back of a net with a penalty kick.

Langford got another opportunity in the 87th minute to give UConn the lead, but his attempt was unsuccessful. While the Huskies couldn't convert and put themselves up on the board again, their defense was the catalyst to keep the game knotted at 1-1.

The Huskies kept up the pressure on the Pioneers in the second half, dishing out 15 shots out of the 17 they made during the game. Senior goalkeeper Kyle Durham also had two saves in the draw.

"I just thought we let ourselves down in the first half," head coach Chris Gbandi said in an interview on the program's Twitter. "Then, [the] second half that's kinda who we are. Pressing, being aggressive, and I thought we did a good job of that in the second half."

As far as things go with their matchup against the Crimson this weekend, the Huskies should look out for seniors Ben Kelly and Dylan Tellado, who are both leading the Crimson with three points on the season so far.

While Harvard has only played three games so far this fall, the team is coming off back-to-back losses against Notre Dame and Providence, where it lost both 1-3.

The last time these two foes faced one another was last September, where the match resulted in a 1-1 draw. In this match, the Huskies struck first with a goal from former Husky Charlie Holmes in the first half. The Huskies kept their lead until the 74th minute when Harvard managed to find the back of the net to bring the score to 1-1.

With the Huskies looking to extend their unbeaten streak and Harvard entering this matchup looking to get itself back in the win column, this is a matchup you won't want to miss.

Kickoff is scheduled for 1 p.m. from Jordan Field in Cambridge, Mass. Husky fans can tune into the match on ESPN+.