Football:

UCONN TO HOST MARYLAND AT THE RENT ON SATURDAY



Officte praectia coria dolore, nia nonem volorum aut que se evendus enis ent ligenis qui optatius, net laborrum quas volecaerum autem nis dolor rersped que nus. PHOTO BY NAME NAME, POSITION/THE DAILY CAMPUS

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UConn football is off and running after a 56-7 victory over Lafayette last Saturday. UConn rushed for 301 yards and had a program record for total yards in a game with 671. However, the Huskies take a massive step up in competition this weekend as the Maryland Terrapins of the Big 10 travel to East Hartford.

The last time these teams faced off was in 2024, when Maryland routed UConn 50-7 to open the season. The Terrapins are 2-1 all-time against the Huskies. This will be the Terps' first time playing at Rentschler Field since 2013.

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Maryland won its first four games in 2025 before losing its last eight to end a disappointing season.

Both squads are coming off blowout wins to start their 2026 campaigns. The Terrapins defeated Hampton 62-0 in Week 1 behind 365 rushing yards and six rushing touchdowns.

DeJuan Williams scored twice on three carries, including a 94-yard house call. The sophomore rushed for over 500 yards last season. Iverson Howard also scored twice and received the bulk of the carries.

"They have some pretty good backs, their quarterback is able to use his legs so that's a key factor," UConn defensive lineman Anas Luqman said. "They've got some seniors up front."

Malik Washington returns as the quarterback for the Terps after starting last season. He threw for 186 yards and had a touchdown against Hampton.

As a true freshman last year, Washington threw for 2,963 yards and 17 touchdowns. In the final game against Michigan State last season, Washington threw 61 pass attempts for 459 yards and three touchdowns.

Maryland's leading receiver last week was Na'eem Abdul-Rahim Gladding. The Old Dominion transfer hauled in six catches for 57 yards and a touchdown. He had 667 receiving yards last season.

The Terrapins defense had three interceptions and five sacks last week against Hampton. Eyan Thomas and DD Holmes had two sacks a piece while Messiah Delhomme had two interceptions. Maryland held Hampton to only 85 total yards of offense.

Head coach Jason Candle is 1-7 all-time against power conference opponents. He beat Mississippi State in 2024 but lost to Big 10 foes Ohio State and Illinois during his tenure with Toledo.

"We haven't been through any adversity yet," Candle said. "What's going to happen and who are we when we get hit in the mouth?"

Kalieb Osborne is expected to start after a phenomenal Week 1 performance. The junior threw for 265 yards, two touchdowns and one interception last week along with 90 rushing yards and two rushing touchdowns.

"When you think about them on offense, it starts and ends with the quarterback," Maryland head coach Mike Locksley said. "He's a dual threat guy, does a great job of operating their RPO system."

Osborne will look at Javon Brown as one of his top targets once again. Brown caught the first UConn touchdown of the season last week, and his final stat line was six catches for 92 yards.

"It takes what it takes to be a great player and to see the results that he (Brown) put out there on Saturday is probably a reflection of what you've done in the dark," Candle said.

The Maryland rushing attack will test a UConn team which only allowed 64 yards on the ground last week. Look for John Lista, K' Von Sherman and Luke Murphy to be run stuffers. The three defenders combined for four tackles for loss last week.

"The best player on defense is 0 (Sherman) in our opinion," Locksley said. "He made a lot of good plays a week ago."

Another player to look for is Esean Carter. The defensive tackle dealt with eligibility issues before being granted eligibility to play for UConn. He was away from the team until last Friday and is expected to play in some fashion against Maryland.

Kickoff is set for 3:30 p.m. at Rentschler Field on Saturday. Fans can tune into CBSSN or can listen to the Huskies play on FOX Sports 97.9 FM.

Field Hockey:

HUSKIES SET SIGHTS ON MATCHUP AGAINST RUTGERS

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The Huskies fall to the Scarlet Knights, 3-2 in their last meeting Sept. 12, 2025. Photo courtesy of Daily Campus.

UConn field hockey will travel to Piscataway, N.J. to take on Rutgers this Sunday, looking to avenge last year's heartbreaking defeat.

In their most recent meeting, the Huskies saw a 2-1 lead disappear with 5:31 remaining in regulation, before eventually falling to the Scarlett Knights 3-2 in overtime on their home turf. Rutgers scored the game-winning goal off a penalty corner, with then-sophomore forward Sophie Kuiper providing the assist. Kuiper also scored the game's opening goal.

UConn holds a 25-6 record against Rutgers dating back to 1987, but the Huskies have dropped four of the programs' last five meetings after winning 24 out of the first 26. Both squads have met every season except for 2014-2017, following Rutgers' departure from the Big East.

This time around, it will be a ranked-on-ranked showdown between No. 10 UConn (3-1) and No. 17 Rutgers (2-2), who are both looking to add another ranked win to their tournament resumes.

While UConn is battle-tested, with a convincing 4-1 road victory over No. 20 Saint Joseph's on Aug. 30 and a tight 1-0 loss to No. 3 Harvard in its most recent game on Sept. 6, no schedule in NCAA field hockey currently compares to Rutgers' start of the season.

The Scarlett Knights are in the middle of an absolute gauntlet. When it meets UConn on Sunday, Rutgers will be playing its fourth consecutive game against a ranked opponent, and its fifth overall.

Rutgers opened the season with a 5-1 loss at No. 18 Monmouth on Aug. 28, but has since turned things around with far more competitive play. The Scarlett Knights battled No. 5 Virginia before falling 2-1 at home on Sep. 4, then defeated No. 12 Syracuse 2-1 in a penalty shootout at home. In preparation for the Huskies on Sunday, Rutgers will take the bus to No. 4 Princeton today.

Needless to say, Rutgers is well-equipped for this matchup despite its 2-2 record. Sunday will be a significant test for UConn heading into Big East play, where the Huskies are presumably the favorite to win the conference and earn the league's automatic NCAA tournament bid.

The offenses between UConn and Rutgers are relatively even. UConn ranks 21st nationally with three goals per game, while Rutgers ranks 27th at 2.50. The teams are also nearly identical in penalty corners, with UConn averaging 6.75 per game, good for 24th in the nation, and Rutgers averaging 6.50, which ranks 27th. The difference could come in the cage.

Senior goalkeeper Natalie McKenna has posted an .800 save percentage through four games, ranking among the top 10 nationally. She has made eight saves while allowing just two goals this season. Meanwhile, Rutgers has allowed nine goals through four games.

If McKenna continues to perform at a high level and the Huskies can keep the game low-scoring, UConn may not need much offense to put itself in a position to win. A goal or two could be enough if the Huskies maintain their defensive dominance and capitalize on their chances.

The opening pushback is scheduled for noon on Sunday at the Bauer Track and Field Complex on the Rutgers University cam-