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UCONN MARCHING BAND

Prepares for Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade

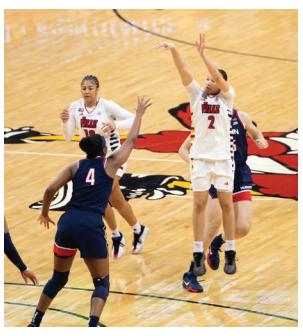
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HAVE WE LOST THE PLOT

The Hunger Games and the commodification of anti-capitalist media

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WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

USA women's hockey is a No. 7 UConn to open Big East slate Friday again

SPORTS EVENTS OF THE WEEK

WOMEN'S SWIM
Nov. 17-20 | Iowa City, Iowa

MEN'S BASKETBALL
Nov. 18 | 9 p.m. | Tuscon, Ariz.

MEN'S HOCKEY
Nov. 19 | 7 p.m. | Storrs, Conn.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY
Nov. 20 | 6 p.m. | Burlington, Vt.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
Nov. 20 | 8 p.m. | Hartford, Conn.

MEN'S HOCKEY
Nov. 21 | Durham, N.H.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY
Nov. 21 | 3 p.m. | Burlington, Vt.

FOOTBALL
Nov. 21 | 3:30 p.m. | East Hartford, Conn.

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MEME OF THE DAY



Willimantic 'Park Springs' to be shut off permanently



Park Springs at Alex Caisse Park on Route 195 has provided free drinking water to the public for decades. Water from the spring was being tested weekly by an independent laboratory for coliform bacteria, which resulted in temporary closures in the past.

PHOTO COURTESY OF @THEWILLIMANTICCHRONICLE ON FACEBOOK

by Patrick Boots
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A popular natural spring in Willimantic is now closed for good over bacterial concerns, town officials announced.

The "Park Springs" at Alex Caisse Park on Route 195 had provided free drinking water to the public for decades — now a concrete stone permanently covers the spout.

> **"It is in the best interest of public health to prohibit use of the untreated water from the Park Springs "**
> **JONH CALLAHAN**

"After a careful assessment and out of the abundance of caution, the Windham Water Commission... has concluded it is in the best interest of public health to prohibit use of the untreated water from the Park Springs," John Callahan, the commission's chairman, said in a press statement.

The decision was voted on by the commission last Thursday, sparking questions about the spring's future.

The town provided multiple reasons supporting the springs' closure. Chief among them was the unknown potential health risks for those who used it. According to Callahan, the Park Springs showed a "higher than expected frequency of positive test results" for bacterial contamination over the last three years.

"While total coliform [bacteria] detections do not necessarily indicate the presence of pathogens, they are recognized indicators of potential vulnerability to contamination and require investigation and response when detected," he said.

There were no reports of anyone getting sick from drinking or using the water, Callahan said.

Water from the spring was being tested weekly by an independent laboratory for coliform bacteria, which resulted in temporary closures and cleaning of the trademark stone wellhouse in the past — including one such closure which was ongoing at the time of the vote.

According to the New York State Department of Health, coliforms are bacteria found in the soil, in human or animal waste and in water influenced by heavy rains. They say the presence of coliform bacteria in drinking water can serve as "a reasonable indication of whether other pathogenic bacteria are present" and that testing is the only reliable way to know if a water supply is safe to use.

Health laws require remediation for concentrations as low as a single coliform bacterium in a milliliter of water.

Since the Willimantic spring was likely used as a regular source of drinking water for the local population, the town said, it would have to be regulated as a "public water supply" under the auspices of the Windham Water Works, the town-sponsored utility.

The town claims such a change would come at too great a cost of taxpayers and Water Works staff, since the additional testing, record-keeping and "potential source improvements, infrastructure modifications, and treatment requirement(s)" are more stringent for public water supplies under the Connecticut Department of Health's regulations, and since the spring is not currently connected to the rest of the municipal water supply.

"All of the... requirements would result in a significant increase of operational, administrative and financial obligations," Callahan said.

The town also explained that keeping the spring open may "create an unreasonable expectation by users of the spring that the risk associated with using the water... would be very low and possibly similar to using water from the [Windham Water Works] treatment plant."

"The [town of Windham] believes it is very likely that most of the time the water from Park Springs is safe and suitable for consumption," the statement further said, but that "the actual risks of use are unknown."

> **"The actual risks of use are unknown."**
> **THE TOWN OF WINDHAM**
> **STATEMENT**

The Park Springs were a regionally-enjoyed resource for years; located south of the junction of Jackson Street and Route 6 near the East Brook Mall, it was also the closest free natural freshwater source to the University of Connecticut's main campus in Storrs-Mansfield at about a 15-minute drive. Until it was named after a former Windham town official in 1994, Alex Caisse Park was informally called Park Springs, after the water source.

For those looking to fill their cup, a number of drinking water springs are still open in Connecticut, including free options in Colchester and Windsor Locks — and pay-as-you-fill springs in Willington and Meriden, amongst others.

Former UConn pres. gave Gampel naming rights 'in perpetuity,' public records show

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A 1989 letter obtained from a former University of Connecticut President says that Harry A. Gampel retains naming rights "in perpetuity" to the university's basketball facility, according to documents obtained by The Daily Campus.

Gampel's family has filed a lawsuit against UConn following the recent naming rights agreement UConn entered with M&T Bank "without prior consent and without prior approval of the Gampel family."

The complaint cites that Gampel donated $1 million in 1989 to support the construction of the arena under the condition that "The pavilion will be known in [perpetuity] as the 'Harry A. Gampel Pavilion.'"

John T. Casteen III served as the president of the UConn from 1985 through 1990. This term overlapped with the induction of the iconic Gampel Pavilion arena on the flagship Storrs campus.

"First, the Pavilion will be known in perpetuity as the Harry A. Gampel Pavilion," Casteen wrote in a letter addressed to Harry A. Gampel from Casteen on Oct. 16, 1989.

The letter, obtained by The Daily Campus through an FOI request, detailed a handful of clarifying responses from Gampel's letter dated Aug. 21, on behalf of former athletic director William "Todd" Turner.

Turner served in this role from 1987 to 1990.

"[Casteen and Turner] think your requests are fair and reasonable, and we want to comply fully," the letter states.

The letter also states that a dedication plaque would be located inside each entrance of the arena, and that all signage and university publicans, releases and public statements concerning the pavilion would identify it as Harry A. Gampel Pavilion. Signage would remain in "good repair" so long as the building is in service.

A media tour was the first event held in the arena, slated in early December of 1989, as stated in the Board of Trustee meeting minutes from Nov. 17, 1989.

"January 24 is the date of the last scheduled [sports] game in the Field House. An Open House at Gampel Pavilion is scheduled for January 26, and on January 27 that first game will be played in Gampel Pavilion," the minutes read.

The Daily Campus will continue to report on the pending lawsuit as more information becomes available.



The M&T Bank Center sign installed on the fencing of Gampel Pavilion on Oct. 26. 2026 in Storrs. Gampel was recently named "M&T Bank Center at Gampel Pavilion" following a new naming rights deal.

PHOTO BY MADISON HENDRICKS, PHOTO EDITOR/THE DAILY CAMPUS