DAILY CAMPUS LOOKS FOR SECOND CONSECUTIVE WIN AT 14TH ANNUAL PEARLMAN CUP

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The Daily Campus celebrates its first Pearlman Cup win after a 12-year losing streak at Morrone Stadium on Sunday, Oct. 26, 2025. Captain Thaddeus Sawyer said that the Daily Campus team has many multifaceted players.

FILE PHOTO/THE DAILY CAMPUS

The Daily Campus and UCTV mutually coexist for 364 days a year. They're almost forced to, in some regard, as two of the campus's premier student media outlets.

Saturday is the exception.

A brief but bitter rivalry — one not short of bad blood on either side — will be reborn when the 14th annual Pearlman Cup kicks off at 10 a.m. on Saturday at Morrone Stadium.

"I've never stepped foot in a UCTV meeting," senior leader Brayden Gorski said. "I've never stepped foot in a WHUS meeting. I'm loyal to The Daily Campus until the day I walk off this campus. This club means everything to me. The win we got last year brought so much joy to my heart."

For the first time in its 14-year history, the long-lauded Pearlman Cup won't be played on a Sunday. And, more importantly, for the first time ever, The Daily Campus will defend "The Cup" from UCTV after winning in overtime last fall.

"Got a really important win last year," captain Thaddeus Sawyer said. "That doesn't matter anymore. We have to focus on what's in front of us and going out, getting another one."

The hostilities between these two programs are well documented. The bad feelings. The spite. It's what's fueled the powder keg nature of this perpetual back-and-forth for years.

"There's a lot of emotion in this, no doubt," Sawyer said. "But, at the end of the day, we can't be worried about what the other side is doing, because the only way we're going to win is if we execute on offense, defense and special teams."

The over decade-long drought that subjected The Daily Campus to ceaseless teasing and name-calling suddenly snapped when Sawyer rumbled into the endzone in overtime last October, which didn't help relations, either.

Yes, The Daily Campus is 1-12 overall. Yes, it took extra time for The Daily Campus to notch its first win in the series last year. Yes, The Daily Campus has a much smaller roster — both figuratively and literally. But The Daily Campus, personified in Sawyer's rollicking nature, has proven its resiliency since it came oh-so-close to winning in 2024. It's looking to capitalize on that consistency this year.

"We've been practicing," Sawyer said. "We know we're good. We know we have some good players; they're going to have some good players, too. We have to trust what we've been doing."

Sawyer and star wide receiver Elliot Koplas will again lead The Daily Campus, which is looking for its second consecutive Pearlman Cup win and third Pearlman Series win (counting the Pearlman Jam, a basketball game played in April each year) in four tries.

"We have a lot of multifaceted players," Sawyer said. "Elliot, you can split him out wide, you can put him under center, he's going to be strong defensively."

Spunky wide out James Badeau, often referred to as the heartbeat of the team, is also good-to-go, as are venerable pieces Gorski, Connor Lafferty and Patrick Minnerly, giving The Daily Campus a deep and experienced roster heading into Saturday.

"He's a gamer," Sawyer said of Badeau. "I trust him to go out there and execute when it really matters under the bright lights."

How The Daily Campus' depth steps up against the uber-talented back end of the UCTV defense could key in determining the outcome of UConn's richest on-campus rivalry.

"Brayden has some speed and he has previous experience in this game," Sawyer said of Gorski. "Anytime you can bring that kind of experience back — retention is really important, and I think retention is going to be one of our greatest strengths."

This band of misfits, for so long the victims of losing, play with a great deal of passion for one another and are prepared to go to extremes to win.

"The scrappy bunch we have with that chemistry," Gorski said, "it's just huge. It's going to play a big factor on Saturday because UCTV, a lot of egos there, not sure if they can play together."

THE WEEKLY POWER PLAY: BRUINS FALL TO STARS IN TUESDAY NIGHT MATCHUP

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The Boston Bruins snapped their five-game losing streak Tuesday night, falling to the Dallas Stars in overtime to close out their four-game road trip with a record of 3-0-1, while the Stars extended their winning streak to three games.

Newcomers James Hagens and Matthew Poitras scored for Boston, while Mikko Rantanen earned a hat trick to help Dallas secure the overtime victory. The overtime defeat dropped the Bruins to 7-2-1, but Boston still finished its four-game road trip taking home seven out of the eight possible points.

Defenseman Nikita Zadorov returned to the lineup for the Bruins after head coach Marco Sturm made him a healthy scratch in Boston's 4-1 win Saturday over the Los Angeles Kings. In his return to the ice, Zadorov recorded an assist on Hagens' goal.

Hagens' goal was another encouraging sight to see for Boston as the rookie continues to make his mark on the team. After just missing a scoring chance in the first period, Hagens dominated in the second after redirecting a pass from teammate Casey Mittelstadt past Dallas goaltender Jake Oettinger.

The goal marked Hagens' third in three games, continuing his offensive push for Boston with over 13 minutes of time on ice. The 19-year-old center has played in every game for Boston so far this season, while also recording seven points and four assists.

Looking towards Dallas, right-winger Mikko Rantanen scored in the second period to tie the game after Poitras netted his fourth goal of the season to give the Bruins a 1-0 lead in the first. Rantanen cut Boston's 2-1 lead they acquired in the third with less than seven minutes remaining to send the game into overtime.

He scored his third goal of the game to complete the hat trick in overtime to secure the victory for Dallas and record the team's first hat trick of the season.

"Guys were really stepping up and playing hard," Rantanen said in a post-game interview with NHL.com. "It was a hard hockey game. They're a really good team. Physical, big D, big guys there. Just happy with the win."

With the hat trick in overtime, Rantanen becomes the 15th player in NHL history to complete a hat trick in overtime multiple times. He scored his first one back in 2022 in the Stars 3-2 victory over the Colorado Avalanche.

Boston had opportunities to extend its lead but was unable to add another goal on the power play, ending the night 0-4 when on the man advantage. Dallas entered the matchup playing strong defensively, but the Bruins limited the Stars to just two shots on goal during the third period.



Forward for the Dallas Stars Mikko Rantanen earned a hat trick to help Dallas secure the overtime victory over the Boston Bruins on Oct. 20. The overtime defeat dropped the Bruins to 7-2-1, but Boston still finished its four-game road trip taking home seven out of the eight possible points. PHOTO COURTESY OF @DALLASSTARS ON INSTAGRAM

The Stars also outshot Boston 25-20, generating more offensive opportunities even though the Bruins kept the game close entering overtime. The Bruins, however, blocked 22 shots compared to Dallas' 13, adding to their defensive play shown throughout the game.

Looking at the players in the net, Dallas goaltender Jake Oettinger stopped 18 of Boston's 20 shots, ending the night with a .900 save percentage. For the Bruins, Jeremy Swayman recorded 22 saves on 25 shots for an .880 save percentage.

"It's hard to win in this league," Swayman said in a post-game interview. "It's been the best trip ever, just because of the camaraderie and the way we've competed and been able to just stick together every single day."

Swayman is tied for second place in the NHL among goaltenders with games played (eight) and wins (six) whereas Oettinger leads the league in shutouts (three), goals against average (1.13) and save percentages (.945).

Despite the loss, Sturm remains optimistic with his team's success early into the season.

"I thought the guys played great, I really do," Sturm said. "Deserved definitely a point. A little unfortunate to give up the second point, but looking back, what a great road trip. I really liked our effort tonight."

The Bruins and Stars face off against each other one more time during the regular season, with Dallas traveling to Boston in January.

The Bruins will return to TD Garden on Thursday to face the Nashville Predators before hosting the San Jose Sharks on Saturday. Meanwhile, the Stars will continue their homestand Thursday against the Winnipeg Jets, continuing their stretch of six consecutive home games before heading on the road Nov. 3 to Washington, D.C.