CROSS COUNTRY:
HUSKIES LOOK TO MAKE THEIR MARK AT MEADOWS CHALLENGE

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UConn sophomore track and field star, Sascha Letica. Letica finished No. 16 overall as a freshman and recorded a personal-best 6K time of 20:25.8. at the last Princeton Fall Classic in 2025.
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The UConn cross country team is headed to Princeton, N.J., on Saturday, Sept. 26, to compete at the Meadows Challenge.

The competition will take place at Princeton University's Meadows Campus Course, with the women's races slated to begin at 9:30 a.m., followed by the men's races set for 10:15 a.m.

Featuring a newly designed layout, the Meadows Campus Course looks to entail a fast, flat terrain and wide-open starting area that could help runners post strong times.

The last time that the Huskies competed in Princeton was last year at the Princeton Fall Classic. They snagged the No. 5 overall spot, as they totaled 141 points as a team. Several current members of the team delivered standout performances, and they are looking to provide a strong foundation for this weekend's race.

Among them was sophomore Sascha Letica, who finished No. 16 overall as a freshman and recorded a personal-best 6K time of 20:25.8. Senior Malin Rahm joined Letica in recording a personal-best performance last year as she took No. 30 overall, with a time of 20:50.1.

Sophomore Brooke Strauss and junior Claire Paci also contributed to the Huskies' success. Strauss took 43rd with a time of 20:59.8, while Paci followed closely behind in 49th place, clocking a time of 21:02.0.

The next Princeton Fall Classic won't be until October, but the Huskies could show even more sparks of success returning to Princeton during this weekend's Meadows Challenge.

The Huskies are entering the Meadows Challenge after a solid showing at the Dartmouth Invitational, where Paci led the team with a 14th place finish in the women's 6K with a time of 21:42.1.

UConn's depth was on display at Dartmouth, as many runners posted impressive times. Samantha Moore followed up Paci's time with a finishing time of 22:18.2, while Alexandra Morgan finished in 22:39.8. Calista Mayer crossed the line in 22:56.1 and Katie McMorrow followed at 22:57.2. Alyssa Suriano rounded out the group's performances with a time of 23:24.8.

Sophomore Anique Poulin recently earned Big East Female of the Week as well after setting a new course record with a time of 10:39.20 in the 3K at the Hartford Invitational this year.

Every Husky has proven to be a valuable asset to the program's successes during the first two races of the season at Hartford and Dartmouth. UConn looks to carry that same collective effort into the Meadows Challenge this Saturday and seeks another promising performance.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY:
HUSKIES OPEN SEASON AT ST. CLOUD STATE



The Huskies come off a 3-2 exhibition loss against the Quinnipiac Bobcats in Storrs, Connecticut on Sept. 19.
PHOTO BY NORA MARIANO, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

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After over six months without regular season UConn hockey, the UConn women's team will hit the ice tonight against St. Cloud State.

UConn enters the regular season ranked seventh in the USCHO poll. It comes off a 3-2 exhibition loss against the Quinnipiac Bobcats at home where the Huskies played well but fell short in the end.

The St. Cloud State Huskies enter the season unranked, receiving just two votes. The team finished with a dismal 12-23-2 record last year in head coach Mira Jalosuo's first season at the helm. Jalosuo will look to build on the season and return the team to its prior success.

This series marks UConn's first return to St. Cloud State since the two met in the beginning of the 2017-18 season. They've met twice in Connecticut, with last year's two-game set at Toscano Ice Forum ending in a series split in which both teams won a game 2-1. UConn leads the all-time series 5-3.

Livvy Dewar is the only UConn Husky who recorded a point in that series and is still on the team, with the rest graduating after last year.

The new blood on UConn's roster looked good in the exhibition game, but freshman Laurie Aubin especially shined, plotting the team's first goal of the night last Saturday. It's very early in her collegiate career, but Aubin could be a player to watch heading into her first regular season game.

Taylor Belchetz seems to be the favorite in net for Connecticut, but the position is overall a mystery even less than a day away. All three netminders saw action last weekend, but Belchetz opening the game could indicate that head coach Chris Mackenzie may be leaning towards her.

St. Cloud State will hit the ice for their first game this year, as they did not play any exhibition games. Senior duo Alice Sauriol and Sofianna Sundelin headline the forward core as the key setup and score system last year and now. St. Cloud's large freshman class plus their one transfer also creates a cloud of unknowing for opponents, as a third of the roster has never been seen at this level before. UConn could be getting a taste of its own medicine when it comes to the opposing netminder, as junior Emilia Krykkö will be tough to get one by. Krykkö posted a .933 save percentage last year despite the team's overall poor performance and should only improve as time goes on.

The two Huskies will hit the ice tonight at 8 p.m. and tomorrow at 3 p.m. Both games can be watched on B1G+.