



## The Experience

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UConn led the country in total attendance with 58,392 in 2007 and 39,138 in 2008. In 2010, UConn welcomed over 34,000 fans into Morrone Stadium to support its men's soccer program and ranked third in the country in average attendance. In 2012, the Huskies averaged 4,228 fans per contest for a total of 59,192.





## National Champions: 1948, 1981, 2000



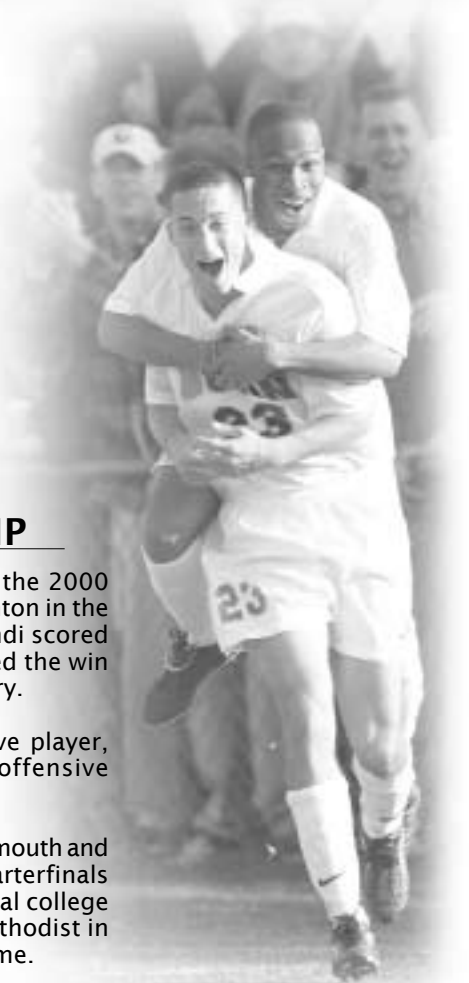
### 2000 NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP

Head coach Ray Reid and the Huskies won the 2000 NCAA College Cup with a 2-0 win over Creighton in the championship game on Dec. 10. Chris Gbandi scored a goal in the first half and Darin Lewis sealed the win in the 86th minute to give UConn the victory.

Gbandi was the most outstanding defensive player, while Lewis was the most outstanding offensive player.

UConn opened NCAA play with wins over Dartmouth and Clemson before defeating Brown in the quarterfinals in a renewal of one of New England's original college soccer rivalries. A 2-0 win over Southern Methodist in the semifinals set up the championship game.

UConn finished the year with a 20-3-2 record while Chris Gbandi, Darin Lewis and Brent Rahim all earned All-America honors.



MAX ZIEKY and SAM FORKO



## **1981 NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP**

Head coach Joe Morrone and the Huskies were on top of the men's college soccer world in 1981 as UConn topped Alabama A&M by a 2-1 score in overtime on December 6 at Stanford Stadium to win the NCAA Championship.

UConn posted victories over Vermont and Long Island at home in opening round NCAA games before topping Eastern Illinois by a 2-1 overtime score in the national semifinals to move on to the championship.

UConn had a 20-3-2 record in 1981 as Elvis Comrie and Pedro DeBrito were both named All-Americans.



## **1948 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP**

The 1948 UConn men's soccer team, under head coach John Squires, posted a perfect 11-0 record and was named the national champion by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America.

The team beat such schools and teams as Yale, Tufts, UMass, MIT and Fort Devens – but had to wait until February of 1949 before it was officially voted the national champion.

Stuart Johnson and Merritt Baldwin were both All-American performers that year.





# BIG EAST Tournament Championships



**I**n November of 2007, UConn recorded its seventh BIG EAST Tournament title and its third tournament crown in four years.

With the title, head coach Ray Reid recorded his fourth BIG EAST Tournament victory in 10 seasons with the Huskies.

The Huskies lead the conference with 27 tournament wins, just one more than 2008 Final Four competitor St. John's.



The loss to Providence in the second round of the 2009 BIG EAST Tournament was just the fourth time in the last 12 years that UConn was eliminated from the conference tournament after just one game. This also occurred in 2008, 2006 and 2003.

2007  
2005  
2004  
1999  
1989  
1984  
1983



The University of Connecticut men's soccer team has won 12 BIG EAST Conference regular season titles as head coach Ray Reid has led the Huskies to seven of these championships.

In 2012, the Huskies earned their first conference crown since 2009 with a 2-0 win over Providence.

The Huskies' top-finish in the Blue Division in 2009 marked the third time in five years that they earned at least a share of the regular season title.

In 2000, the Huskies won the BIG EAST regular season crown before being eliminated early in the postseason conference tournament by a 3-2 overtime loss to Seton Hall.

Despite the loss, the Huskies won their last five games of the season to win the NCAA Championship title. During that postseason run, UConn out-scored its opponents 10-1.



## BIG EAST Regular Season Champions





Julius James

Kwame Watson-Siriboe

Daniel Donigan

Toni Stahl

O'Brian White

## The Best of the BIG EAST / Continuing to The American

Since Ray Reid took over the helm of the University of Connecticut men's soccer team in 1997, no team in the BIG EAST has achieved the levels of success as that of his teams and their individuals. In the last 16 years, a total of 17 student-athletes have earned a combined 28 BIG EAST Player of the Year honors.

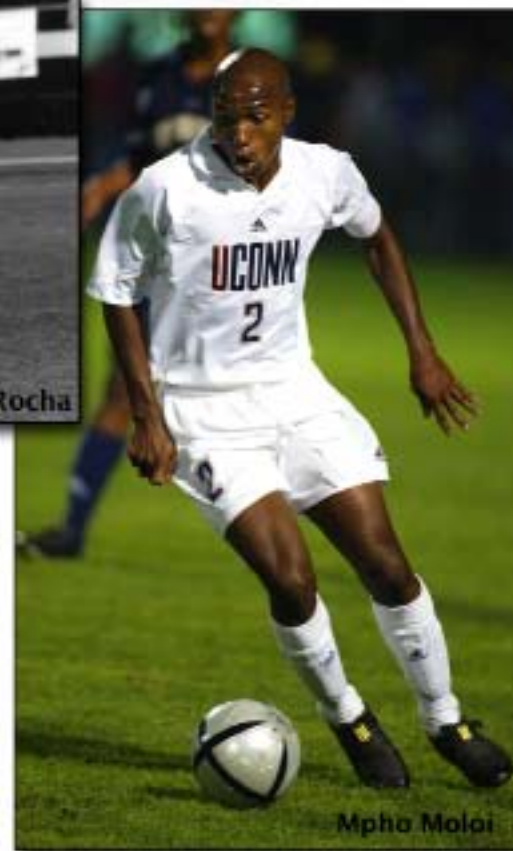
Chris Gbandi is the only Husky player to receive a Player of the Year award all four years as a letterwinner. He earned Rookie of the Year recognition as a freshman in 1998 before going on to garner Defensive Player of the Year accolades each of the next three seasons.

Julius James joined Gbandi as a three-time recipient of Defensive Player of the Year trophy as O'Brian White became a three-time winner on the offensive side as he was named Player of the Year in 2007 and 2008, becoming the first UConn player to achieve the offensive honor since Damani Ralph in 2002. White was named Rookie of the Year in 2005.

Andre Blake has received back-to-back Goalkeeper of the Year Awards for his play in 2011 and 2012.



Maurizio Rocha



Mpho Moloi



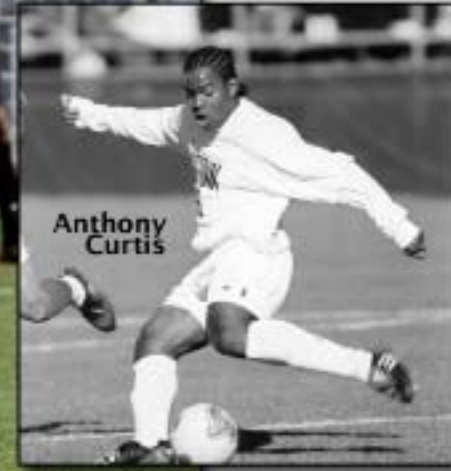
Brent Rahim



Damani Ralph



Chris Gbandi



Anthony Curtis



Cesar Cuellar



Bryheem Hancock

## BIG EAST PLAYERS OF THE YEAR

### OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

2010	Tony Cascio	'12
2008	O'Brian White	'09
2007	O'Brian White	'09
2002	Damani Ralph	'03
1998	Maurizio Rocha	'99

### CO-OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

1997	Maurizio Rocha	'99
1994	Erik Barbieri	'95

### DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

2011	Andrew Jean-Baptiste	'14
2007	Julius James	'08
2006	Julius James	'08
2005	Julius James	'08
2001	Chris Gbandi	'02
2000	Chris Gbandi	'02
1999	Chris Gbandi	'02

### CO-DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

2009	Kwame Watson-Siriboe	'10
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### MIDFIELDER OF THE YEAR

2012	Carlos Alvarez	'13
2009	Toni Stahl	'10
2005	Mpho Moloi	'06
2002	Anthony Curtis	'03
2000	Brent Rahim	'01

### GOALKEEPER OF THE YEAR

2012	<b>Andre Blake</b>	<b>'15</b>
2011	Andre Blake	'15
2010	Josh Ford	'11
2001	Bryheem Hancock	'02

### ROOKIE OF THE YEAR

2009	Carlos Alvarez	'13
2006	Toni Stahl	'10
2005	O'Brian White	'09
2000	Cesar Cuellar	'04
1998	Chris Gbandi	'02
1994	Bobby Rhine	'98

### PLAYER OF THE DECADE

1991	Daniel Donigan	'89
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### NO. DIVISION FRESHMAN OF THE YEAR (1985-1989)

1987	Thomas Foley	'90
1986	Steven C. Rammell	'90
1985	Daniel Donigan	'89

### NORTH DIVISION PLAYER OF THE YEAR (1985-89)

1988	Daniel Donigan	'89
1987	Daniel Donigan	'89



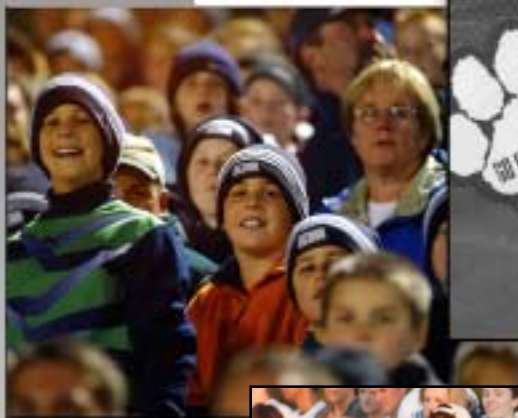
## GAMEDAY AT UCONN

### JONATHAN THE HUSKY MASCOT

The official mascot of the University of Connecticut is a Siberian Husky dog named Jonathan. The first Husky dog came to the Storrs campus in Dec. 1934 and the puppy

was named for Jonathan Trumbull, Governor of Connecticut during the Revolutionary War. Jonathan I's pedigree was traced back to include a great-grandfather, who traveled to the North Pole with Admiral E. Byrd in 1909. Jonathan III was with Admiral Byrd when he undertook "Operation High Jump" to the Antarctic in 1946-47.

A costumed mascot, an all-white Siberian Husky, gained popularity over the past several decades and through national television exposure has become "in demand" throughout the state and region, representing his University.



### SCHOOL COLORS

The official colors of the University of Connecticut are National Flag Blue and White. To be specific, the blue is listed as PMS 289, a deep shade of navy.

### "UCONN HUSKY" FIGHT SONG

"UConn Husky" is the fight song of the school. It was written in the mid-1930's by Herb France, who was UConn's Director of Music until the mid-1950's. The song is widely known for its playing at different sporting events, but got "out of this world" attention in October 1989 when it was played aboard NASA's Space Shuttle to wake up the shuttle astronauts. Among those astronauts on the mission was Franklin Chang-Diaz, a 1973 UConn graduate.

UConn Husky  
Symbol of might to the  
foe.  
Fight, fight Connecticut,  
It's victory, let's go!  
Connecticut UConn  
Husky,  
Do it again for the white  
and blue,  
So go, go, go, go, Con-

necticut,  
Connecticut U.  
C-O-N-N-E-C-T-I-C-  
U-T, Connecticut  
Connecticut Husky,  
Connecticut Husky,  
Connecticut C-O-N-N-U.  
Fight!  
(Repeat first verse)





The Goal Patrol was formed by a small group of spirited undergraduate students during the 2005 season and the Huskies' record-breaking run to back-to-back BIG EAST Championships. Over the last four years, this group has grown to over 1,000 members that dutifully cheer on the men's soccer team at each and every home contest.

## The Goal Patrol

Now one of the largest soccer student support groups in the country, the Goal Patrol operates its own Web site and meets prior to every home game to prepare for the night's match and upcoming opponents on the schedule. The mission statement of the group is to "provide an exciting footballing atmosphere for the players, coaches, and spectators."

For more information regarding how to join The Goal Patrol:

Contact: John Donlon

Email: [john.donlon@uconn.edu](mailto:john.donlon@uconn.edu)





## THE NCAA'S MOST POPULAR PROGRAM

**D**uring the 2007 season, over 58,000 fans traveled to Joseph J. Morrone Stadium to cheer the Huskies to the BIG EAST regular season and tournament championships. In fact, UConn fans made up four crowds in the Top 10 attendance figures in modern Joseph J. Morrone Stadium history, including the new record number. Some 5,495 people crowded into the stadium to watch UConn and Virginia Tech square off in the NCAA Quarterfinals.

In *Soccer America's* release of biggest crowds for the 2007 regular season, UConn appears three times, more than any other program.

### TOP ATTENDANCE FIGURES AT UCONN\*

Att.	Date	Opponent
5,495	12/8/2007	Virginia Tech
5,489	8/26/2006	Loyola Marymount
5,324	8/31/2007	Duke (Exh.)
5,271	9/23/2005	St. John's
5,237	9/25/2004	Pittsburgh
5,116	9/28/2007	St. John's
5,100	12/4/2011	Charlotte
5,100	10/22/2011	Georgetown
5,100	9/24/2011	St. John's
5,100	8/8/2012	Saint Francis
5,100	9/22/2012	St. John's
5,100	9/29/2012	Notre Dame
5,100	12/2/2012	Creighton
5,011	10/5/2002	Georgetown
4,995	10/15/2011	Pittsburgh
4,983	11/27/2011	James Madison
4,902	09/07/2012	Washington
4,802	10/18/2003	Notre Dame
4,785	9/25/2009	St. John's
4,720	11/04/2012	Villanova
4,675	11/18/2012	Northeastern
4,619	9/30/2006	West Virginia
4,477	10/9/2010	Seton Hall

\*The stadium was restructured prior to the 2002 season and the capacity went from over 8,000 to 5,564.

\*During the 2008 season, more restructuring occurred, limiting capacity of the stadium to 4,407. In 2009, stadium capacity was improved to 4,500. The current sell-out of Morrone Stadium is 5,100.

\*These crowds represent the largest numbers since reconstruction in 2002.

### THE PAST SIX SEASONS...

>> UConn led the country in attendance in 2007 with 58,392 fans and again in 2008 with 39,138. In 2009, UConn was second in average attendance (3,037), while in 2010, the Huskies were third in the country as they averaged 3,126 fans per contest. The 2011 season saw UConn rank fourth in average attendance (3,600) and second in total attendance.

>> UConn has averaged over 3,000 fans per game at Morrone Stadium since 2007.

>> In 2011, UConn was ranked second in the nation as the Huskies welcomed 50,402 fans to Morrone Stadium.

>> In 2012, the Huskies averaged over 4100 fans per game at Morrone, with a season total of 59,192.





O'Brian White

Seattle Sounders

## HUSKIES IN MAJOR LEAGUE SOCCER

### UCONN'S ALL-TIME MLS DRAFT PICKS

YEAR	PLAYER	RD	PICK	TEAM
1999	Bobby Rhine	1st	6th	Dallas
	Maurizio Rocha	Project-40		Miami
2001	Brent Rahim	4th	45th	LA
2002	Chris Gbandi	1st	1st	Dallas
	Sam Forko	3rd	30th	NY-NJ
	Mansour Ndiaye	1st	7th	NY-NJ
	Bryheem Hancock	2nd	22nd	LA
2003	<b>Shavar Thomas</b>	<b>1st</b>	<b>10th</b>	<b>Dallas</b>
	Damani Ralph	2nd	18th	Chicago
2004	Lindon Pecorelli	3rd	30th	San Jose
2005	Esteban Arias	4th	38th	Chivas
	Easton Wilson*	3rd	33rd	N. England
2006	Mpho Moloj*	1st	7th	Houston
	Willis Forko*	2nd	14th	Salt Lake
2007	<b>Kevin Burns*</b>	<b>4th</b>	<b>50th</b>	<b>Columbus</b>
2008	<b>Julius James</b>	<b>1st</b>	<b>9th</b>	<b>Toronto</b>
	Ryan Cordeiro	3rd	33rd	DC United
2009	<b>O'Brian White</b>	<b>1st</b>	<b>4th</b>	<b>Toronto</b>
	Akeem Priestley	4th	50th	Kansas City
2010	<b>Toni Stahl</b>	<b>2nd</b>	<b>17th</b>	<b>Philadelphia</b>
	<b>K. Watson-Siriboe</b>	<b>2nd</b>	<b>26th</b>	<b>Chicago</b>
2011	<b>Josh Ford*</b>	<b>1st</b>	<b>11th</b>	<b>Seattle</b>
2012	<b>Andrew Jean-Baptiste</b>	<b>1st</b>	<b>8th</b>	<b>Portland</b>
	<b>Tony Cascio</b>	<b>1st</b>	<b>14th</b>	<b>Colorado</b>
	Nickardo Blake*	1st	14th	Toronto
2013	Carlos Alvarez	1st	2nd	Chivas
	Jossimar Sanchez*	1st	4th	N. England
	Stephane Diop*	3rd	51st	New York
	Max Wasserman*	4th	69th	Salt Lake

\* Supplemental Draft selection  
**Bold indicates current players.**

### UCONN'S ALL-TIME MLS ROSTER

PLAYER	TEAM	YRS IN MLS
Carlos Alvarez	Chivas	2013-present
Esteban Arias	Chivas	2005-2006
<b>Kevin Burns</b>	<b>Columbus</b>	<b>2008-present</b>
<b>Tony Cascio</b>	<b>Colorado</b>	<b>2012-present</b>
David Castellanos	Colorado	2004
Ryan Cordeiro	DC United	2008
<b>Josh Ford</b>	<b>Seattle</b>	<b>2011-present</b>
Sam Forko	NY/NJ	2002
Willis Forko	Salt Lake	2006-2007
Chris Gbandi	Dallas	2003-2007
Bryheem Hancock	Los Angeles	2003
<b>Julius James</b>	<b>Toronto</b>	<b>2008</b>
	<b>Houston</b>	<b>2009</b>
	<b>DC United</b>	<b>2010</b>
	<b>Columbus</b>	<b>2011-present</b>
	<b>Portland</b>	<b>2012-present</b>
<b>A. Jean-Baptiste</b>	<b>Portland</b>	<b>2012-present</b>
Darin Lewis	NY/NJ	2002
Mpho Moloj	Houston	2006-2007
Mansour Ndiaye	NY/NJ	2002
Lindon Pecorelli	San Jose	2004
Brent Rahim	Los Angeles	2001
Damani Ralph	Chicago	2003-2004
Bobby Rhine	Dallas	1999-2008
Maurizio Rocha	Miami	1999-2000
Toni Stahl	Philadelphia	2010
<b>Shavar Thomas</b>	<b>Dallas</b>	<b>2003</b>
	<b>Kansas City</b>	<b>2004-2006</b>
	<b>Chivas</b>	<b>2007-2009</b>
	<b>Philadelphia</b>	<b>2010</b>
	<b>Kansas City</b>	<b>2010-present</b>
<b>K. Watson-Siriboe</b>	<b>Chicago</b>	<b>2010-present</b>
<b>O'Brian White</b>	<b>Toronto</b>	<b>2009-2010</b>
	<b>Seattle</b>	<b>2011-present</b>
Easton Wilson	New England	2005

Kwame Watson-Siriboe



Kevin Burns



Shavar Thomas

#### PHOTO CREDITS:

Burns: Columbus Crew  
 Thomas: Juan Miranda / Chivas USA  
 Rhine: Associated Press  
 White: Paul Giamou



## MEET THE HUSKIES BANQUET

Every fall, the University of Connecticut men's soccer team puts on its annual "Meet the Huskies" banquet.

In addition to being a fundraiser for the team, the banquet serves as a venue for donors, sponsors and fans alike to get to know this year's team.

There is ample time for autographs prior to dinner where children of all ages can meet and greet their favorite players. As the night progresses, the team is introduced and several people are honored for the contributions to, not just UConn Soccer, but the sport as a whole.

In 2010, the 2000 National Championship team came back to campus to be honored at the event as part of its reunion weekend.

Join the men's soccer team, coaches and staff on September 7th for the annual banquet as the Huskies continue their tradition of success during the upcoming year. For more information, call 860-486-4231.

### 2013 MEET THE HUSKIES BANQUET

FRIDAY >> SEPTEMBER 7, 2013  
ROME BALL ROOM, STORRS, Conn.

#### 2013 HONOREES

- Bob Dikranian ..... Former SCSU Head Coach
- Edward Raftery.....Former UConn Player (1982-1985)
- Edwin Rivera .....Former UConn Player (1997-2000)
- Joseph Trager .....Former UConn Player (1982-1985)
- Roberto Vargas .....Former UConn Player (1997-2000)
- Chris West .....UConn Strength and Conditioning Coach





## MEDIA COVERAGE



The University of Connecticut men's soccer program continues to rank in a class by itself when the issue of media coverage arises. The Connecticut soccer program boasts the largest media following (print and electronic) of any collegiate soccer program in the BIG EAST Conference, Northeast region and one of the largest in the entire nation.

Connecticut's home games often attract several daily newspapers, radio and television stations to report on the Huskies.

In addition to appearances on Fox Soccer, UConn soccer has appeared on ESPNU, CSTV, SNY, Cox Sports and BIG EAST TV in the last several seasons.

In fact, the Connecticut soccer program was a pioneer in the development of college soccer on television, both nationally and regionally.

Connecticut soccer has a long history of television exposure as the Huskies have appeared on ESPN 19 times, including ESPN's live coverage of Connecticut's 2-1 overtime victory against Alabama A&M for the 1981 NCAA National Championship and UConn's 2-0 win versus Creighton to capture the 2000 NCAA National Championship.

On ESPN, Connecticut has faced top national opponents such as St. Louis, UCLA, San Francisco, Virginia and North Carolina.



### JOHN TUITE: WHUS RADIO

John Tuite enters his 30th year as the "Voice of Connecticut Soccer" on WHUS-FM Radio (91.7 FM).

Tuite has accompanied the Husky soccer team on every major intersectional trip since 1983. In addition to his duties at WHUS, Tuite is a news and sports reporter for WILI-AM and I-98 FM Radio in nearby Willimantic, Conn.

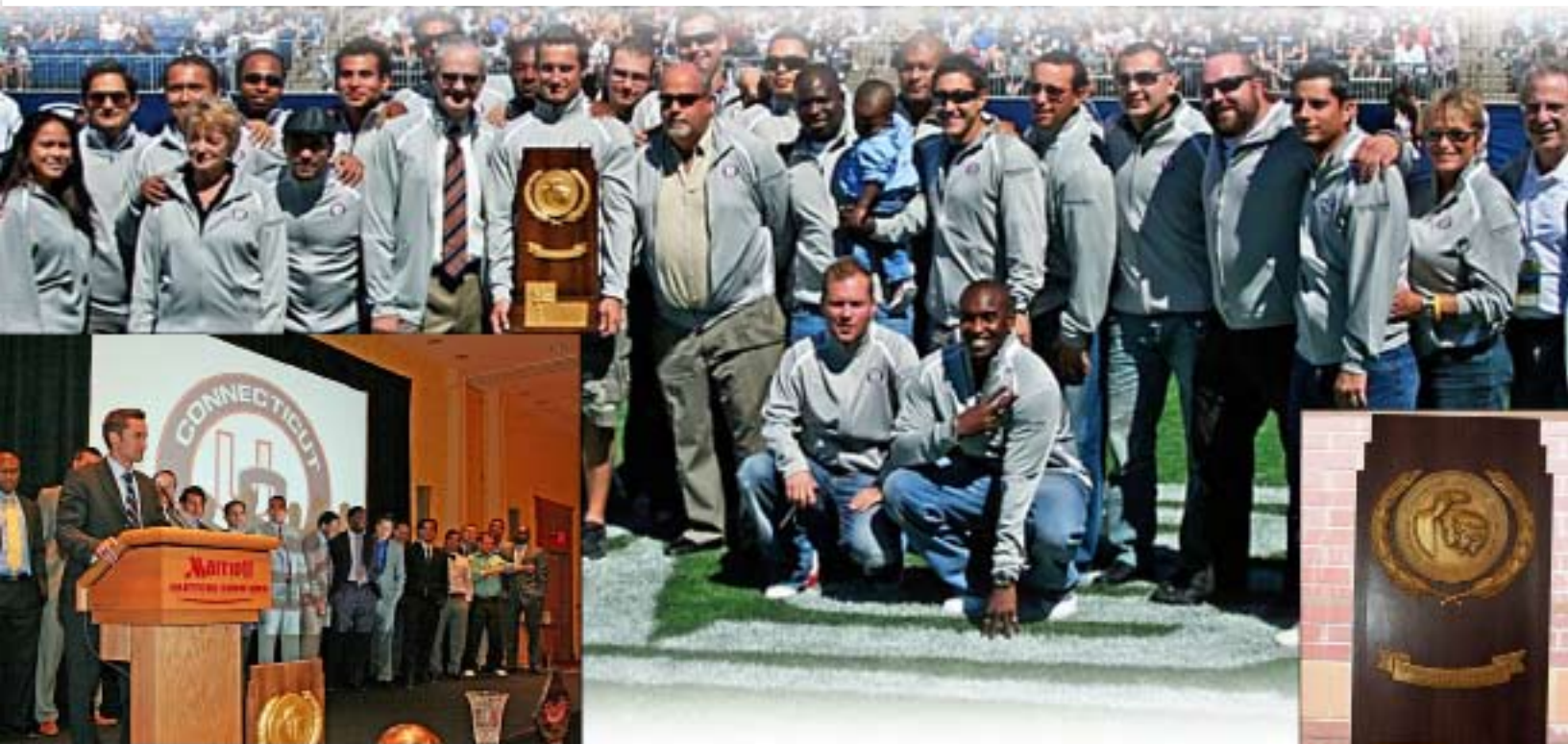
Tuite began working at WHUS in 1982, and became a full-time play-by-play announcer in 1983.

The Storrs, Conn., native has been honored on several occasions by the *Connecticut Associated Press* for outstanding sports play-by-play. In 1993, Tuite received the New England Collegiate Soccer Association "Media Award". He also was honored by the *Associated Press* for his broadcast of the 1984 NCAA National Tournament regional match between UConn and Harvard and is a past recipient of the UConn Friends of Soccer "Recognition Award".

The fall of 2007 marks the 36th consecutive year that WHUS-Radio, 91.7 FM in Storrs, Conn., will broadcast University of Connecticut soccer. Since this unique tradition of live intercollegiate soccer broadcasts was begun, WHUS-Radio has carried Husky soccer games home and away, providing the soccer program the most extensive radio coverage of any NCAA soccer team in the nation.

The WHUS signal carries 60 miles from Storrs, and its broadcasts of Connecticut soccer can be heard in Central Massachusetts, Vermont, Long Island and Rhode Island. It can also be found live via the Internet at [www.whus.org](http://www.whus.org).





**M**embers of the 1981 NCAA Championship team were welcomed back to Storrs the weekend of September 29-31, 2006 to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of its historic overtime win against Alabama A&M.

The full weekend of activities started off Friday, Sept. 29, with the annual Meet the Huskies Dinner. The night was highlighted by a reunion of the 1981 NCAA Championship team.

The 2000 NCAA Championship team came back to Storrs the weekend of September 10-12, 2010 to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of its 2-0 win over Creighton for the National Title.



# The Legacy

