

# THE CHARGER BULLETIN

*The student news source of the University of New Haven.*



## WELCOME BACK FROM FALL BREAK

A blue vertical banner hanging from a pole. It features the University of New Haven seal at the top, followed by the text "University of New Haven" in white. Below that is a large yellow "100" and "Years of Success" in white. At the bottom, a yellow band contains the text "1920-2020" in blue. The background of the entire page is a photograph of a campus with trees showing vibrant autumn foliage in shades of red, orange, and yellow, with a brick building visible in the lower left.

University of  
New Haven

100  
Years of Success

1920-2020

**70 DAYS UNTIL THE UNIVERSITY CELEBRATES THEIR CENTENNIAL**

*Photo By Anna Downs/The Charger Bulletin*



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## THE CHARGER BULLETIN

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# NEWS

## Film II Students Begin Pre-Production on Film “Divine”

*Official logo for the student production “Divine”* Photo Courtesy of Film II Students



**BY KAYLA MUTCHLER**  
**ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR**

Film production II, taught by professor Paul Falcone, are producing the student film “Divine,” with auditions in New Haven and New York City

beginning this month. Filming will take place Nov. 15-17. “Divine” is expected to be released sometime in the spring, Falcone and Tom Garrett are involved with the production as executive producers.

Senior communications major Michael J. Stevens, who is the student director and producer

of the film, said students in the class decide on a film to produce every year. As the student director, he has been rewriting the script with story-writers and casting.

This year, the film is about a priest who struggles with his past decisions.

Each year, the student films

are entered into the Cannes Film Festival, so this film is expected to do the same. Stevens said that they are in the middle of pre-production.

“We’re extremely close to being done with the final draft of the script,” said Stevens. Stevens said that a lot goes into making a student film. First, they had to come up with the outline of what they want the film to look like, which is the step they’re currently in. They have to cast the actors, film and edit the movie.

Stevens said there is “a lot of communication with everyone who’s doing it to make sure everyone’s on the same page so you can get the best possible result.”

Each film production II student has a role in the film.

Some will work with props, set, promotions, production design, and the story, among others.

The film will be shot at multiple locations. Part of it will be in the studio in Maxcy Hall, where they will build a set to replicate a church confessional. Exterior shots will be filmed either at St. Joseph’s or St. Mary’s Church, houses around campus, and other locations in the New Haven area.

Stevens wants viewers to know that the movie is “about trusting your intuition.”

“It’s about trusting yourself and listening to what you want and not focusing on too many external factors,” said Stevens.

More information will be released as production for “Divine” continues.

## University Takes Steps to Improve Dining Experience

**BY BETH BEAUDRY**  
**CONTRIBUTING WRITER**

Since September, University of New Haven students have had the opportunity to sign a petition to replace Sodexo, which provides food on campus. Students have complained about Sodexo in the past, saying that their food hasn’t been fully cooked or that there aren’t enough options. And how is the university responding to the negative feedback?

Greg Overend, director of the Center for Student Engagement, Leadership, and Orientation

(CSELO) and chair of the university dining committee, said he knows about student concerns and is working with Sodexo to improve dining on campus.

However, to make the changes that students want, the students need to speak out -- and not many do, Overend said.

“I know about the petition going around, but that doesn’t help,” said Overend. “We need to know what the students want to see. It’s very important for students to come and share their feedback with us.”

He said one petition was started by family members of students, which isn’t as helpful as hearing from the students

who actually eat the food.

“I want to hear from the students who eat at our facilities three times a day, seven days a week,” he said. “If students don’t tell us what they want, we can’t make the change. It’s important for us to get that feedback.”

Overend said that steps for improvement were made even before the petition was started. The university dining committee was created a year ago, and includes Overend, Sodexo staff, and undergraduate and graduate students. The committee has held two food forums that invited students to share concerns. Overend said, about 22 students showed up, and much of the

conversation centered around a desire for more choices, such as vegan, vegetarian, and international cuisine.

“One change that we are making is adding a grill to the vegan station,” Overend said. “This way, when we cook black bean burgers or vegan burgers, the students don’t have to worry about their food touching a grill that hamburgers or bacon has been cooked on. With international cuisine, we are planning on bringing in cooks who can cook international food. It won’t be every day, but there will be

specialty meals.”

Overend said that he and Sodexo want to do more. They just need to know what the students want.

“Come forward to a manager or myself,” he said. He said the dining committee is also considering offering a text feedback option. “But the best way,” he said, “is to come forward and share it, come to my office, and share it.”

If you have suggestions to help improve campus dining, you can email the staff at [diningservices@newhaven.edu](mailto:diningservices@newhaven.edu).



Photo Courtesy of University of New Haven Website



# Sony's Fifth Console set to Release this Holiday Season

BY CAMERON HAILEY  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Earlier this month, Sony announced in WIRED magazine that their newest console, the Playstation 5, will be released during the 2020 holiday season.

Playstation representatives gave an in-depth look into features that will be on the new console.

The Playstation 5 was rumored to have Ray-Tracing abilities. Ray-Tracing is ultra-realistic light graphics for 3D game environments. Mark Cerny, Sony system architect, confirmed that was true.

Hardware, rather than a software workaround as speculated in April, will allow for a much smoother graphic experience.

A solid-state drive—or SSD—will also be included in the

Playstation 5. This will reduce loading times and the overall size of the console. An SSD would reduce data dumping from a hard drive, increasing the storage available for players and developers.

Additionally, players will be able to selectively download portions of a game, such as just the single-player portion and save the multiplayer for later.

The new controller, which is currently unnamed, will better immerse players in the game. The controller will have new features such as “adaptable triggers,” meaning games will respond according to real-life resistance or feeling one would have from actions. The controller will also include a haptic feedback engine, abandoning the prior rumble motors that shook the controller for feedback. Haptic feedback is similar to what smartphones have on their touch screens.

Peter Rubin, writer for WIRED who tried the controller, said, “I ran a character through a platform level featuring a number of different surfaces, all of which gave distinct—and surprisingly immersive—tactile experiences.”

This use of haptic feedback and real-time response has not been available in controllers for consoles before. It is still unclear how many game developers will use this function.

The controller will also come with a USB-C universal connector instead of the USB micro B that was previously used on the DualShock 4 controllers for Playstation 4.

The user interface on the new Playstation will also streamline joining friends on multiplayer games, though Cerny gave limited details on any other portions of the interface.

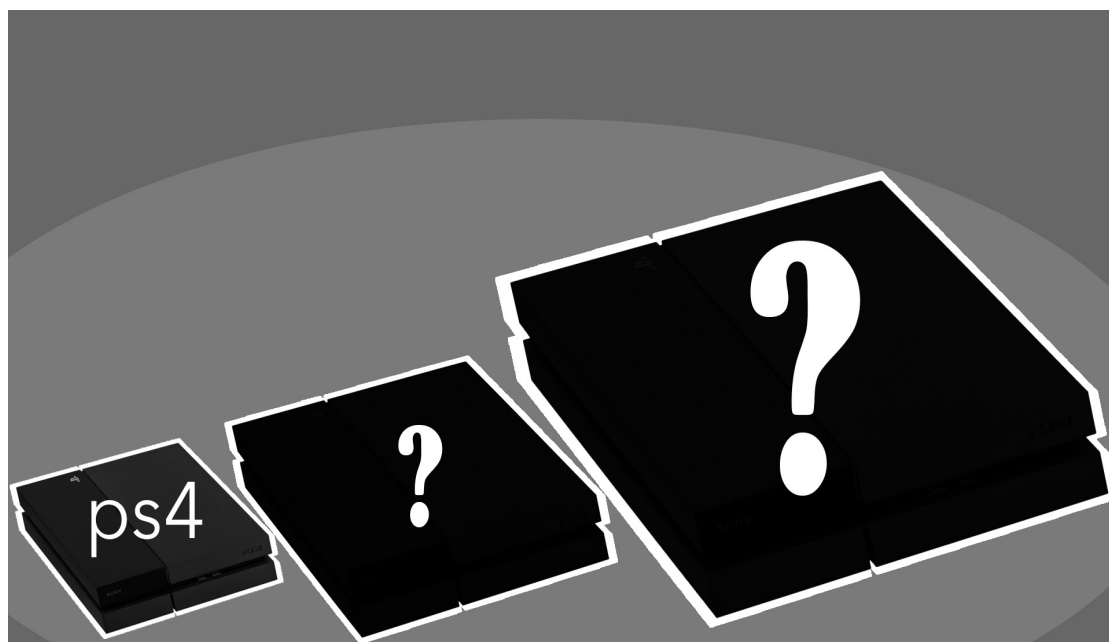


Photo Illustration by Seth Harrington/The Charger Bulletin



Photo courtesy of Creative Commons

## “The Politician”

BY REBECCA TATERA  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

“The Politician” a Netflix original, throws the viewer into a whimsical, theatrical, and progressive universe through its outstanding casting, compelling dialogue, and its visually stunning scenes.

Let’s begin with actor, Ben Platt. Platt starred as Benji in Pitch Perfect I and II, and was the original Evan Hansen, in “Dear Evan Hansen” on Broadway.

Platt nails his character, Payton Hobart, who is determined to win the class presidency. Payton Hobart is a driven and rich adopted high schooler. He endures the death of a close friend, has an unreliable running mate, and stages personal life struggles all to end up winning the presidency.

Notable cast members include Gwenth Paltrow, Zoey Deutch, and Lucy Boynton. Paltrow and Boynton both play bisexual and bisexual accepting (LGBTQ+)

characters.

We also see a new transgender actor, Theo Germaine. According to Oprahmag, Germaine said “I am constantly trying to fight stereotyping and labels and have to represent my community well. There’s a lot of pressure and this was the first time that I was really able to just be an actor and have that effect me in a really positive way.”

With this diverse set of characters, multiple different conversations arise, continuing to draw the viewer in. Suicide, munchausen by proxy, and an upcoming election in the state of New York keep the viewer engaged.

Deutch’s character, Infinity, has a mother with Munchausen syndrome.

Deutch does an excellent job expressing the emotions involved with this role.

The last episode shows the characters living in New York City, years after the election. The final episode leaves viewers with an enticing ending, hinting that an exciting season two is well on the way.

# ENTERTAINMENT

## Selena Gomez Produces “Living Undocumented” Series

**BY IDELIS PIZARRO**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

**O**n Oct. 11, Netflix released a new docuseries, produced by Selena Gomez, called “Living Undocumented,” which follows eight families as they face potential deportation. Production took place from April 2018 to January 2019. Producers reached out to hundreds of candidates, but many declined out of fear of jeopardizing their legal situations. Producers chose on two families from Texas, one from California, and one each from South Carolina, Maryland, Florida and Wisconsin. Initially, the producers wanted to include ICE’s point of view, but the agency’s conditions for participation made them worry about the safety of the families, so they chose to move forward the project without it.

Gomez sat down with Bar, an 18-year-old, and Columbian brothers Pablo, 20, and Camilo, 18, in an interview. They reflected on their experiences since the documentary was filmed.

Camilo’s and Pablo’s father was detained and deported to Colombia, but the brothers were unable to say goodbye to him beforehand. Pablo also said that they had an appointment with ICE, but it was postponed.

“I really hope that the fight doesn’t end with us leaving. I hope the fight continues to the point where this country welcomes us with open arms,” said Camilo in the interview. Bar reflected on how different



Photos Courtesy of Creative Commons

her life would be if none of this happened to her and her family. She said that she was unsure if she will ever be able to see her Israeli family members because, like the brothers, she is unable to travel outside of this country; because ICE collected their passports. The three also recall moments of comfort such as finding friends they could trust and share their experience with.

Other documentaries have tackled this complex issue from a personal standpoint. “America Divided” features actor America Ferrera exploring the challenges facing Central American refugees on the Texas border. “The Infiltrators,” a blend of documentary filmmaking with scripted narrative, tells a story of two undocumented Florida activists who recorded live inside detention centers. However, in “Living Undocumented,” the audience spends time inside the



homes, businesses, and workplaces of families being separated by the laws and policies. The audience sees a father playing with his toddler on a swing after his girlfriend was deported. We later experience the suspense of a check-in appointment with Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials, where we see another father not knowing if he’ll be detained and deported or can stay with his wife and child who are both citizens.

In another episode, a wife of a former Marine, self-deported

to Mexico with her 9-year-old, leaving her husband and other daughter behind in Florida. Another Mexican immigrant opts to self-deport to Toronto with his husband after losing his chance at legal status because he flew to the U.S. at the age of 14 to see his mother who was getting a cancer treatment.

“Living Undocumented” is executive produced by Selena Gomez along with co-director and co-executive producer Aaron Saidman. Saidman and his partner became interested

in the topic when the executive producer, Sean O’Grady, showed them a footage of an up-and-coming Nigerian chef who had lived in the U.S. for 15 years and was later detained by ICE while on his way to a culinary event.

Saidman said, “It was important to us to craft a series where we could tell those stories while illuminating what we think is a complex immigration system.” “Living Undocumented” is available for streaming through Netflix.



# SPORTS

## Men's Soccer Defeat Cross Town Rival, SCSU

**BY ZACK PINCINCE**  
SPORTS EDITOR

**O**n Wednesday Oct. 9, the New Haven Chargers men's soccer team took the field against the Southern Connecticut State University Owls. The Chargers had not defeated the Owls since 1984, but broke the

streak on Wednesday.

New Haven came out strong, when graduate student Tiago Vintem scored in the fifth minute of the game. The ball came in off a corner kick from New Haven and Vintem got the touch on it for his first career goal. New Haven continued to keep pressure on the Owls' defense and in minute 44, just before the half, junior Sean Skeens scored

his third goal of the season. The goal was assisted by sophomore Alvaro Ezpeleta. The Chargers went into the half with a 2-0 lead on the Owls.

Southern Connecticut State University came out strong in the second half and tallied seven shots. Senior Stefano Lorusso was in goal for the Chargers and had one of his best days all season. He had two crucial diving

saves in the second half to keep the Owls off the board. This was Lorusso's second shutout of the season.

The Chargers won the match, 2-0, their first win against Southern Connecticut State University in 35 years. This the Chargers' first conference win of the season. New Haven moved to 3-5-1 overall and 1-4-1 in conference.

The win was historic for the Chargers. Junior midfielder Estanislao Desseno was thrilled after the game.

"It was a fantastic feeling being able to make history and demonstrate that this team has worked very hard and improved a lot," said Desseno. "We have very high goals for the future and we feel this is only the beginning."



**NO. 1, Stefano Lorusso, senior, goalkeeper** Photo Courtesy of Charger Athletics



# Books V. Movies, Which Leaves a Greater Impact?

**BY HANNAH PROVIDENCE**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

I will never forget the first book that made me cry. I was 12, and wide awake at two in the morning. The main character had just died a sacrificial death. Tears streamed down my cheeks, and I howled into my pillow. The words were so real. Each sentence in that book had a purpose. Every letter curated in a particular order to create a story in a reader's head. That is the beauty of a book. No pictures, no effects, and no sound, just words. Yet, your thoughts are full of images, movements, and feelings. It takes a long time to pro-



Photo Illustration by Seth Harrington/The Charger Bulletin

cess all of that. For example, “Fifty Shades of Grey” is a 514-page book that you can listen to on Audible in 19 hours and 48 minutes. However, a two-hour and five-minute movie was created based on this book. Imagine the amount of information lost in the transition to the screen. Articles were

written about which scenes in the book would not make the movie. The budget, production plans, and time line of this kind of movie makes it nearly impossible to fit each detail of a novel into one movie. A movie cannot replace a book. In fact, releases of book-based movies usually

increase sales of the book itself. Just a week after “The Hunger Games” movie was released in March 2012, publisher Scholastic announced that there were 36.5 million copies of “The Hunger Games” trilogy in print, a 55% jump from the 23.5 million copies in print at the start of 2012. In April 2012, Hypable, an entertainment news website, reported over 24 million of those copies were sold. As more people watched the movie, they fell in love with the concept and craved further intimacy with the characters. Intimacy you can only get if you read the book. I still remember sitting on the edge of my seat in the

theater as I was introduced to the world of Katniss Everdeen. The next day, I checked the book out of the library and my eyes stayed glued to each page, hung on every word. I was like that for weeks as I read the entire trilogy. It was as if I had known Katniss for years. I could predict what she would do next in the story before I read it, but it took more than sitting down for a two-hour movie to feel that way. I had read each book cover to cover, each detail, each thought. Books have no restriction of time. There are an endless number of pages waiting to be filled with stories and fairytales.

## Do Crime Shows Accurately Portray the Criminal Justice World?

**BY LAUREN FLIGG**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

“Law & Order: Special Victims Unit” is the longest running television series in the United States with 21 seasons and over 450 episodes.

A crime television series gives viewers the chance to come alongside characters as they investigate murders, apprehend criminals and diffuse tense situations. After wild car chases and shootouts come swift court proceedings and sentencings, all in one episode. The sce-

narios might be thrilling and fun to watch, but how real are they?

If you ask professors around the University of New Haven campus, they will tell you that crime shows are simply not an accurate representation of how the real criminal justice system works.

Criminal justice professor and nationally-recognized expert Michael Lawlor said, “In the real world, all but the most serious, complex cases are resolved by plea

‘bargains,’ usually agreed to in private meetings with lawyers and the judge.”

This may be a surprise to our crime-drama loving readers. The real world doesn’t romanticize crime like shows on television. The majority of cases are concluded behind closed doors with little fanfare.

I experienced this first-hand when I interned at the Worcester County District Attorney’s Office in Worcester, Mass., this past summer. I spent many mornings

sitting in the back of a courtroom watching defendants file in, sit among each other, and speak before the judge in rapid succession. In the span of an hour, a courtroom could have over 30 people pass through and present their cases or deals to the judge.

Professor Lawlor said, “Almost without exception, everyone involved in a criminal justice prosecution (except for the lawyers, judges, and courthouse staff) is disappointed, if not horrified,

at the casual way decisions seem to be made.”

Crime television shows often make it seem like all crimes, regardless of their severity, are attacked with vigor in the courtroom, with aggressive lawyers and graphic evidence carried in biohazard containers.

Another example of an inaccuracy is the film, *Silence of the Lambs*. The film follows Clarice Starling, an FBI trainee as she takes on a case far beyond her experience.

*Read more on pg. 9...*





Photo By Hunter Lang/The Charger Bulletin

## Hazell Nut is Back, and Better Than Ever

BY ERIN CUOMO  
OPINION EDITOR

Since 2007, Hazell Nut Café in Maxcy Hall has provided students with dollar coffee, personal pizzas and freshly-baked pastries.

I have had my fair share of Maxcy Paninis, Blazing Saddles pizzas, and sinfully rich hot chocolate, but coming back this semester, I was skeptical about the new menu. This quickly turned around. The new changes in the café work. This semester, Hazell Nut is partnering with local businesses and providing new menu items that I think will live up to the standard the café has set in the past.

As a completely student-run cafe, Hazell Nut gives hospitality students a true experiential education experience. Brianna Braza, a sophomore hospitality and tourism major, is one of the managers overseeing the café

this semester.

“My favorite part about working in the cafe is being able to work with and meet other students that are not in my major,” said Braza.

She says that this semester, the café will be making baked goods every day, introducing a salad bar, and using locally brewed coffee from Willoughby’s Coffee and Tea in New Haven to incorporate local companies.

In addition to locally-brewed coffee, other local businesses, including Bishop’s Orchard in Guilford and Capetta’s in West Haven will get involved. Initially, the café experimented with getting rid of the originally made-to-order pizzas completely to provide a healthier alternative like the salad bar. But customers insisted on the pizzas, said Braza.

The pizzas will cost \$6 for cheese pizzas, and \$7 for other flavors.

After spending a week eating

lunch from the café, I tried a variety of new menu items. The pizzas from Capetta’s was different than the original Hazell Nut pizzas and though not terrible, they left me missing the original Hazell Nut recipe. And I am not alone.

“Old Hazell Nut pizza had a certain taste,” said forensic science major Alyson Shaw. “I really miss it, this pizza is just standard pizzeria style.”

Though there have been changes, the student workers were ready to take orders with smiling faces and prepared the food with enthusiasm. Walking into Hazell Nut will give customers a glimpse into the passion behind the hospitality program and the dedication the café works have to pleasing the campus community.

I applaud Hazell Nut for utilizing local businesses and catering to customer demands. I am excited to see how they progress throughout the rest of the semester.

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## Crime Show Portrayals

*Continued from pg. 8*

The criminal justice system does not work at a fast pace, and it is extremely selective when it comes to cases that are strongly pursued. Stereotypes and profiles are used in crime shows to make them more relatable and interesting, but they just don’t get that right. While crime dramas may make the criminal justice world seem more exciting, the reality can be much more grim. So, enjoy your shows, but remember that Hollywood isn’t reality.

Former FBI agent and current criminal justice professor Russell Dalrymple said: “Armed with a badge and a gun, FBI agent trainee Starling begins tracking the serial killer, often on her own and with little, if any, supervision. Trainee Starling’s investigation eventually leads her to the serial killer’s door for a final showdown between good and evil. As with most crime dramas, reality took a back seat to ratings and the box office.”



# National Coming Out Day Celebrated on Campus

*University of New Haven students celebrating the PRIDE flag raising on Oct. 11, National Coming Out Day.* Photo by Idelis Pizarro



**BY AMANDA CASTRO**  
**CONTRIBUTING WRITER**

National Coming Out Day (NCOD) is every year on Oct. 11, and the University of New Haven's Office of Residential Life, with the help of the student organizations PRIDE (People Rejoicing In Diversity Everywhere) and SPECTRA, (Sexuality, Pride, Education, Change, Truth, Respect, and Advocacy) celebrated along with their LGBTQIA+ peers on campus.

Founded by psychologist Robert Eichberg and activist Jean O'Leary, NCOD is meant to give members of the community visibility and support. In a 1993

article, Eichberg said, "Most people think they don't know anyone gay or lesbian, and in fact everybody does."

According to the Human Rights Campaign, the date was chosen to coincide with the anniversary of the National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights in 1987.

In the Marvin K. Paterson Library, LGBTQIA+ students and their allies, or people who support this community, gathered to watch the rising of the Progress PRIDE flag.

Logan Melo, president of PRIDE, said the progress flag includes an arrow shape showing the colors of the transgender flag, as well as black and brown to represent the people of color in the community.

LGBTQIA+ students were there to celebrate.

"I hope to spread awareness about National Coming Out Day and LGBT identities," said Melo, "and I hope that today's day of celebration inspires people to respect the rights of others every day."

Pride Week committee head Dylan Kohere said, "I also hope that this day makes people feel more comfortable on this campus to be able to come out, to be able to live their lives the way they feel like without feeling like they're ever going to be scrutinized."

At the university, on National Coming Out Day, students are able to be comfortable coming out and where allies can learn how to be a better sup-

port system to members of the LGBTQIA+ community.

"I think it's really important for people in the LGBTQ+ community to feel comfortable to come out and be themselves," said ally Allison Tortorici, a senior majoring in criminal justice and psychology. "This is like their one day that's for them and I think that it's important that we all show up and support them and respect them and their identities."

Tortorici said that she thinks the campus community and university are making steps in the right direction, but she said there is still work to be done.

Melo agreed. "I think [visibility on campus] is slowly improving, but we still have a long way to go," said

Melo. "It still can be difficult for, especially, transgender students to navigate on campus, so while there are things in place, we could still do a lot better." Melo also said that he believes faculty and staff should be better educated when it comes to legal names and assumed pronouns to prevent offending an LGBTQIA+ student.

"The fight never ends," said Melo in his closing speech, "We have to fight for the rights of others until we are all treated equally. We have to show support for our community at all times, not just when it suits us. The LGBT community is a family and we need to fight for each other. I am never going to stop fighting and I hope that none of you will either."



# STUDENT LIFE

## Is it a Marching Band, a Family, or Both?

**BY BETH BEAUDRY**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

With a spike from 20 to over 200 members in just 10 years, the University of New Haven's marching band is one of the fastest growing college marching bands in the country. This rapid growth happened under the direction of band director, Jason DeGroff. The marching band continues to grow as its members aim to entertain and pass New Haven pride onto fellow students.

"With the atmosphere the band creates when playing, it's hard not to have school spirit," DeGroff said. The band attends every home football game, and cheers on the university's team by playing popular songs in the stands. The band also performs at halftime.

The band's 2019 show is called "California Dreamin'." As the band sets up to march, the front ensemble starts the show, playing "Christmas in LA" by Vulfpeck. After the introduction, the visual show starts, which includes hit song "California Dreamin'," composed as a mashup between the Mamas & the Papas, the Beach Boys, and Sia, followed by "Surfer Girl/California Gurls" by The Beach Boys/Katy Perry, "Wipeout/Misirlou" by Safaris/Hotel California" by the Eagles, "I Love LA" by Randy Newman, and "LA Devotee" by Panic! At the Disco.

When describing the choice of songs, DeGroff said, "This show is going to make people want to get up and dance, cheer, smile and laugh." With seven songs to perform and an audience to hype up, the band members need dedication and most importantly, practice.

Band practice starts before the academic semester. In mid-August there's a week of band camp. Each day starts at 9 a.m. and does not end until 10 p.m. The mornings are typically dedicated to learning music and the afternoon and night blocks focus on drills.

Flute section leader Marlee Bobowiec says that the long days prepare the band for the season before the students have to deal with school.

"Band camp is crucial for the entire band, freshman especially because it helps them to adjust to how our band works and it allows them to build friendships at college a week before the semester even starts," said Bobowiec.

As the section leader, Bobowiec helps freshmen and upper-classmen flute and piccolo players learn their music, march, and get into the band routine. As for building teamwork

within her section, Bobowiec said, "Friendship and teamwork does not have to be forced in the band or our section. After spending all day together for an entire week, it naturally happens between us all."

Like the flute section, all instruments in the band have their own section leader. By the end of the 2019 band camp, the band learned the first two songs and half of the third. With the motivation of DeGroff, associate band director, Dr. Alexander Casimiro, color guard instructor Laura Choquette, and score composer, Keith Murray, the band has all the resources they need to grow as performers. At the end of every rehearsal, DeGroff calls from the stands, "What do the best bands in the world do in the last minutes of practice?"

The band sticks their fists in the air (a sign he has their attention) and calls back, "Get

better!" And that they do. Each week their show improves and their expectations for each competition and performance increase. While the band does not compete, they often attend competitions at local high schools and provide an end-of-show performance.

Along with the football games and high school competitions, the band traveled to Allentown, Penn., for the Collegiate Marching Band Festival on Sept. 29. This large show celebrated well-known college bands. In addition to New Haven, there are bands from UMass Amherst, University of Delaware and other universities.

With the teamwork that marching band requires, marching band can feel like a family. The band will perform their show at home football games on Nov. 2 and Nov. 16.



**A scene from marching band practice at DellaCamera Stadium.** Photo by Idelis Pizarro



# STUDENT LIFE

## Speaking Italian

BY NICOLE RIVERA  
PHOTO EDITOR



(Left) Florence Cathedral/Duomo (Right) Monterosso al Mare, Italy (One of the five villages in Cinque Terre)

Photos by Nicole Rivera/The Charger Bulletin

Since the Prato campus in Italy opened in 2012, University of New Haven students have been given the opportunity to talk with local Italian students. That gives students a chance to practice their Italian, but also learn more about the culture.

"It is important because all UNH students at the Study Abroad program are studying Italian language," said Pierro Ianniello, one of three professors who teach Italian on campus. "But not only that. Language is the first step into culture, and actually meeting Italian people is such an important further step into the culture of the host society."

Students at the Prato campus sign up for Italian Conversation Exchange, which allows them to practice speaking Italian and also receive extra credit. Learning Italian in class is different compared than speaking and learning from Italian students who are roughly the same age as university students. "As an American student who's learning Italian in school, I can say that having these conversational exchanges has benefited me when it comes to learning the culture and Italian language," said Amanda Wilson, a junior in Prato. "Because, yeah, I'm learning through class the formal way of speaking but it's a lot different when using it on a day-to-day basis, and learning first hand is a whole different experience."

During the conversation exchange, Italian and American students realize that despite the different languages and cultures they have things in common. Italian Student Sofia Paccosi, 18, said, "I can imagine how difficult the language is and so far for them it is easier to learn about our different culture rather than Italian." She said the exchange helps people learn from people their own age -- and perhaps they can make friends.

Through the years, Ianniello, along with other staff members and professors, have tried to keep improving the exchange. He says he keeps improving the program. Enough students participate in the conversation exchange that the Wednesday sessions were split in two. The first session is from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m., and the second from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.



## STUDENT TWEETS OF THE WEEK



Jules 🍷  
@j\_dextraze

Still low key mad that while I was at work, one of my professors said "boom boom everybody say way-o" and only me and one other person said way-o



Angelo 🍷  
@APrevosto16

I think I've officially become a dad... I just ordered a decaf coffee cause I didn't want the caffeine this late. It's 5pm 🤔



meghan thee stallion  
@meehwam

I'm at Starbucks working on a ~40 page project and the people who just came in are definitely from my high school and also REALLY loud. One favorite and I'll scream

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