



Student coalition threatens hunger strike

In a letter to Yale President Peter Salovey, a group of 12 students threatened to go on a hunger strike if the University does not announce divestment from weapons manufacturers by Friday morning.

BY YOLANDA WANG
STAFF REPORTER

In a letter sent to University President Peter Salovey on Wednesday afternoon, a group named Hunger Strikers for Palestine threatened to begin a hunger strike if Yale University does not publish a statement

by the morning of Friday, April 12 committing to divestment from weapons manufacturers “contributing to Israel’s assault on Palestine,” the group wrote.

The letter, which was posted on Instagram in collaboration with Graduate Students for Palestine on Instagram, Yalies4Palestine and Law Students for Justice in Palestine, was signed by Hunger Strikers for Palestine, which consists of around 12 graduate and undergraduate members.

“We will risk our bodily health and wellbeing, in ways that mirror only a fraction of the absolute devastation that Palestinians are suffering right now, until [the University meets our demands],” the hunger strikers wrote in the letter. “Yale’s complicity in genocide must end.”

In its Oct. 7 attack on Israel, Hamas killed 1,200 people and took more than 250 people as hostages. In response, Israel launched a military offensive in Gaza and has, as of April 9, killed at least 33,360 Palestinians in Gaza, according to the Gaza Health Ministry, though experts believe this death toll to be an underestimate by thousands. Israel reports that Hamas currently holds 133 hostages, of whom 36 are confirmed dead.

In their letter, the group referenced a policy that the Yale Corporation adopted in 2018, which banned investment in retail outlets that market and sell assault weapons to the general public. In a statement announcing the policy, the Yale Corporation Committee on Investor Responsibility supported a conclusion from the Advisory Committee on Investor Responsibility that “mass shootings cause incontrovertible societal harm and retailers supplying assault weapons to the general public cause grave social injury.”

The hunger strikers called for Yale to extend its commitment to the safety of students and teachers to the general public. In a statement announcing the policy, the Yale Corporation Committee on Investor Responsibility supported a conclusion from the Advisory Committee on Investor Responsibility that “mass shootings cause incontrovertible societal harm and retailers supplying assault weapons to the general public cause grave social injury.”

SEE **HUNGER STRIKE** PAGE 4

Surgeon General Vivek Murthy to give Class Day address

BY KAITLYN POHLY, BENJAMIN HERNANDEZ, AND ASUKA KODA
STAFF REPORTERS

On May 25, 2003, Vivek Murthy MED ’03 MBA ’03 sat on Old Campus and listened to prize-winning journalist Thomas Friedman deliver the Class Day address a day before receiving his medical and business degrees at Yale’s 2003 commencement ceremonies.

Now, over 20 years later, the United States Surgeon General will return to the University to address this year’s graduating class.

Typically held the day before University commencement exercises, Class Day will take place on Sunday, May 19. In the morning, seniors will attend a baccalaureate ceremony, which includes remarks from the

SEE **CLASS DAY** PAGE 4



Yale’s Class Day tradition, during which the full graduating class gathers on Old Campus, will feature speeches from students and from United States Surgeon General Vivek Murthy ’03./ Courtesy of Howard Forman

Yale experiences eclipse



Ellie Park, Photography Editor

BY ASUKA KODA
STAFF REPORTER

Under clear skies in the middle of the afternoon, students, faculty and members of the New Haven community gathered at the Leitner Family Observatory and Cross Campus to watch the moon obscure the sun.

The News estimates that over 1,000 people attended the Leit-

ner Family Observatory and Planetarium, which hosted a public viewing party of the eclipse, while over 300 congregated on Cross Campus. Monday’s eclipse was the first solar eclipse visible from the United States since 2017; the next is not predicted to be until 2044. New Haven observed 92 per-

SEE **ECLIPSE** PAGE 5

Students largely united against legacy boost

BY JOSIE REICH
STAFF REPORTERS

Yale students — like many across the country — are increasingly demanding that universities end their legacy admissions preferences. With Connecticut poised to pass the country’s first bill banning legacy preference at both public and private institutions, Yale has spoken out in favor of legacy admissions. Meanwhile, students against the practice disagree on whether policy changes should come from the University or the state.

The News interviewed a dozen students about Yale’s use of legacy preference in admissions, eleven of whom said that they would like to see the practice eliminated or scaled back. Nine of the students said that they would prefer Yale to

SEE **LEGACY OPINION** PAGE 6

Yale College Council launches into election season

BY KAITLYN POHLY
STAFF REPORTER

A year ago, current Yale College Council President Julian Suh-Toma ’25 and Vice President Maya Fonkeu ’25 launched their campaign for leadership.

Now, as the conclusion of their tenure draws near, the candidates for next year’s YCC leadership are preparing for elections.

“We have very strong tickets this year and I’m excited to hear their ideas on how they would make Yale a better place,” Fonkeu wrote to the News. “All of them bring a unique set of perspectives and I’m looking forward to seeing how they use them to shape their platforms.”

This year, three candidates are running for President, two candidates running for Vice President and two candidates running for Events Director. Two of the President and Vice President candidates are joining on a joint ticket.

Mimi Papathanasopoulos ’26 is running for President on a joint ticket with Vice President candidate Esha Garg ’26. Meanwhile, Celene Bennett ’26 is running for President on a joint ticket with Juan Borrego ’26. Brian Zhang ’25, a current Arts Editor at the News, is running on a solo ticket for both President and Events Director.

“I had an idea for someone that I wanted to run with, and unfortunately, she didn’t have the bandwidth to do it,” Zhang told the News. “I really believed in [her], our friendship and our potential to work together. I



The election season for the YCC has commenced with three candidates for President, two candidates for Vice President and two candidates for Events Director./ Tim Tai, Photography Editor

want to respect that they have a lot of work next year, [so] I’m going to remain loyal to that person ... I think it’s important to believe in myself.”

The President leads the Executive Committee body of the YCC. The rest of the Executive Board is determined via application and appointments from the President and Vice President.

Besides candidates running for President and Vice President, students also will have the opportunity to vote on who fills other positions. In addition to Zhang, Kasvi Singh ’26 is also campaigning for the Events Director position, which is responsible for supervising class councils and for allocating resources to the Spring Fling committee.

Lauren Kim ’26 and Kingson Wills ’26 have both begun their campaigns for Junior Class President, with Andrew Boanoh ’27 and Carrie Lange ’27 campaigning for Sophomore Class President.

Forty-four other candidates are running for their respective residential college senator seats. The entire

SEE **YCC ELECTION** PAGE 5

Legacies split on admissions preference

BY JOSIE REICH
STAFF REPORTER

Growing up, Michael Garman ’25 talked extensively with his parents — who were both undergraduates at Yale — about the University’s use of legacy preference and the fact that he would benefit from it. He said that the concept struck both him and his parents as unfair, but it was “taken for granted long ago” that since he had the admissions advantage, he would apply.

Garman said that he opposes legacy preference because it gives a further boost to applicants who already have an edge. He explained that growing up with college-educated parents means that legacy students like him have the upper hand even without explicit legacy preference policies.

“I think it’s a terrible system, and that it gives a leg up to people who already have huge advantages,” he said. “Giving [those] people a further boost is just antithetical to Yale’s stated mission ... of building as well-rounded a class as possible.”

A study of top United States schools last year showed that legacy applicants are often “slightly

SEE **LEGACY DEBATE** PAGE 6

CROSS CAMPUS

THIS DAY IN YALE HISTORY, 1948. Yale Professor Millar Burrows discovers four ancient Old Testament scrolls in Jerusalem. One of the scrolls is the earliest known manuscript of the Book of Isaiah.

INSIDE THE NEWS

EJC invites Yale Corporation to town hall, no trustees attend

PAGE 7 **NEWS**



PAGE 3 **OPINION**

PAGE 6 **NEWS**

PAGE 7 **TTL**

PAGE 10 **SPORTS**

PAGE 13 **WKND**

RALLY Hundreds rally at the University of New Haven to support Local 217, the hospitality worker’s union for Connecticut.

PAGE 7 **NEWS**

REGISTER The New Haven Register moved its newsroom to Meriden.

PAGE 11 **NEWS**

BULLETIN BOARD

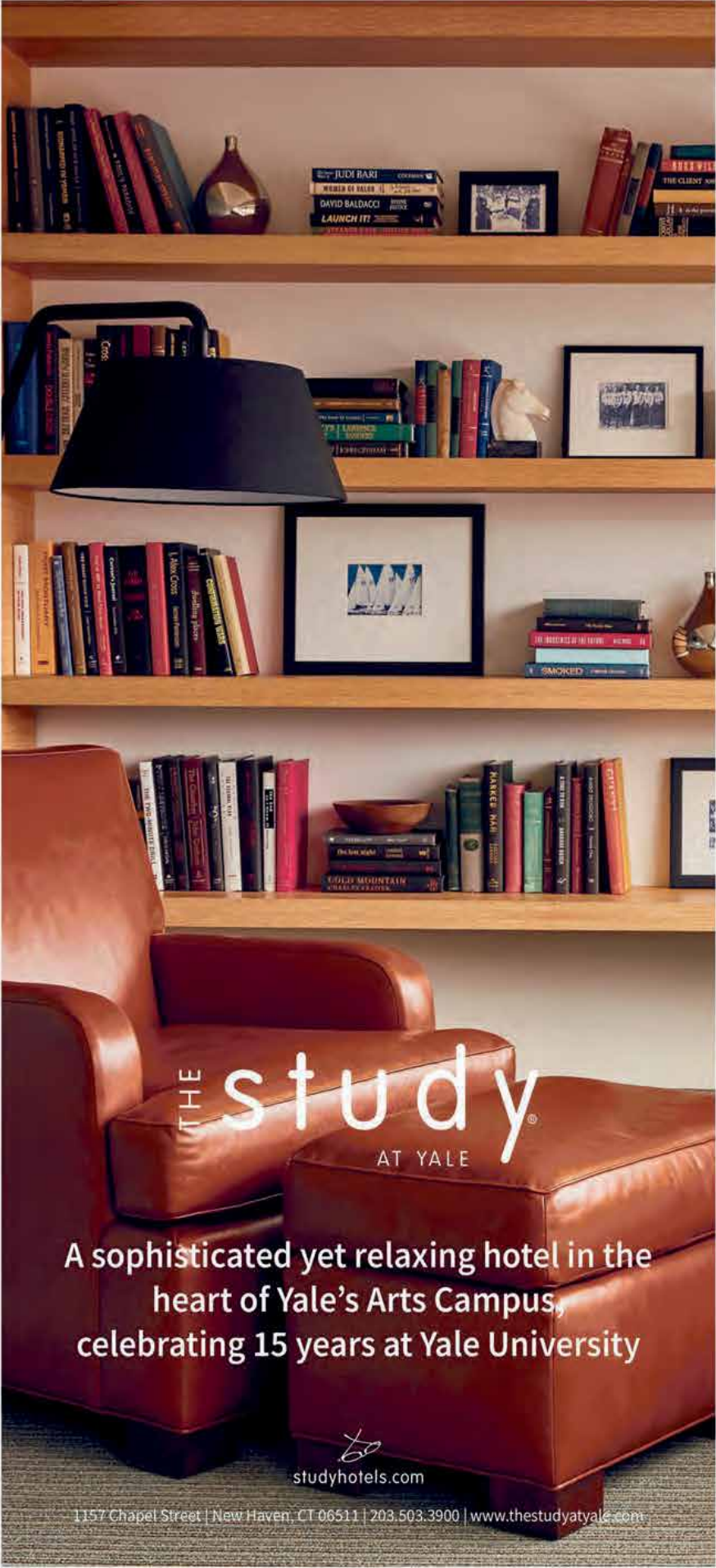
THIRTIETH ANNUAL
MAYNARD MACK LECTURE



SONGWRITERS & LYRICISTS
Robert Lopez '97 &
Kristen Anderson-Lopez
in conversation with
Daniel Egan

Friday, April 12, 5:30 pm
Sudler Hall, William Harkness Hall
100 Wall Street, New Haven


ELIZABETHAN CLUB
Maynard Mack Fund



THE study[®]
AT YALE

A sophisticated yet relaxing hotel in the heart of Yale's Arts Campus, celebrating 15 years at Yale University

studyhotels.com

1157 Chapel Street | New Haven, CT 06511 | 203.503.3900 | www.thestudyat Yale.com

Crosswords

Puzzle by Ariana Borut '27

ACROSS
1 Canadian gas brand
5 "Shake ____" (Taylor Swift song)
7 Triangular Greek letter
8 Nights before
9 Monthly expense

DOWN
1 ____ al-Fitr
2 Take the wheel
3 Do a crossword, say
4 Frequently
6 What's broken during 1-Down

1	2	3	4	
5				6
7				
		8		
		9		

Solutions from last week

	1	2	3	4
	C	A	L	F
5	M	A	C	O
6	E	R	A	O
7	A	P	R	L
8	T	E	E	N

Puzzle by Ariana Borut '27

ACROSS
1 Street that Old Campus is on
5 "... sitting in ___, K-I-S-S-I-N-G"
7 Spin, like a baton
8 Witch trials town
9 Mercedes models

DOWN
1 What baseball, bucket, and cowboy are types of
2 "... all a dream!"
3 Interrogate or barbecue
4 Toast opener
6 Intersecting street with

1	2	3	4	
5				6
7				
		8		
		9		

	1	2	3	
	A	R	E	
4	E	R	A	S
5	D	E	B	I
6	E	R	O	D
7	M	O	R	S

OPINION

JOINT COLUMNISTS
PUBLIUS

The YCC and why Yale can't care

One would think a school overrun with former student body presidents would care about Yale's student government. Last year, in a disappointing record-high, the Yale College Council presidential election saw only about a third of student voters turn out. Furthermore, some senators are notorious for their spotty attendance and multiple past YCC candidates have even run uncontested. Given Yale's reputation for a passionate and opinionated campus culture, one might expect students to either hold the YCC in high regard as a champion of student voice, or in contempt as an ineffective, prestige-driven institution. But many Yale students find themselves somewhere in an ambivalent, disinterested middle. And we think it's worth asking why.

AT THE END OF EACH PRESIDENCY, WE EXPECT A NEAT BUNDLE OF ONE YEAR'S WORTH OF CHANGE. INSTEAD, WE RECEIVE A MESSY WEB OF ONGOING EFFORTS. STUDENTS ARE LEFT ASKING, "WHAT DOES THE YCC EVEN DO?"

Publius spoke with current YCC President Julian Suh-Toma and Vice President Maya Fonkeu to better understand the situation. While they discussed their accomplishments in office — among them the formation of the student advisory council to the Presidential Search Committee, a commitment to the establishment of the Middle Eastern and North African cultural space and the explicit consideration of mental health as a reason for a Dean's Extension — Suh-Toma and Fonkeu emphasized and reemphasized the role of "institutional memory" in the work that YCC leaders can actually get done. They explained that YCC leadership doesn't exist in a vacuum but rather continues existing initiatives while simultaneously "laying the groundwork" of their own change. Come May, Suh-Toma and Fonkeu can only pass the torch to new leadership and hope that newcomers will keep it lit.

Herein lies the breeding ground for apathy. Students watch presidential hopefuls campaign on gran-

diose agendas, only to see those elected function as cogs in a much larger wheel of slow, institutional change. At the end of each presidency, we expect a neat bundle of one year's worth of change. Instead, we receive a messy web of ongoing efforts. Students are left asking, "What does the YCC even do?"; and not unreasonably. After all, how are we to care about the YCC when its gears churn at glacial pace compared to what we expect and for which we vote?

Maybe it's time to look at YCC leadership differently. With lofty titles like "Student Body President," students are led to believe that one ticket alone can enact transformative change — but after reflecting on their roles, Publius finds the title "Principal Liaison" more apt. The roles of YCC President and Vice President are not built to be those of revolutionaries, but rather of listeners and advocates with unique access to administrators and the highest University officials. While they do oversee tens of thousands of dollars in discretionary funding, the money is largely used to channel and promote the policy initiatives proposed by the Senate. Their role is fundamentally administrative.

As we enter the next YCC election, it is important to look for the qualities that make good, tenacious liaisons — experience, organizational skills, and work ethic — and look skeptically at pipe dreams and idealistic promises. We welcome visionary leadership on campus, but we do not think it is realistic to expect immediate results from the YCC's highest offices.

This does not change the fact that these students do serious, valuable work. But as we cast our ballots, let's consider seeing these leaders as President and Vice Presidents in name but liaisons in practice.

This piece was written by a two-thirds majority of Publius. Members of the body include:

- Leadership*

Violet Barnett, Grace Hopper '25
Miami, FL

Edos Herwegh Vonk, Davenport '26
London, United Kingdom
- Members*

Justin Crosby, Silliman '25
Midd leton, MA

Hannah Figueroa Velazquez, Berkeley '26
Portland, OR

Ami Gillon, Saybrook '27
New York, NY

Miles Kirkpatrick, Saybrook '27
Whitsett, NC

Adam Tufts, Berkeley '26
Livermore, CA

Arrow Zhang, Benjamin Franklin '26
Anchorage, AK



YALE DAILY NEWS PUBLISHING CO., INC. 202 York Street, New Haven, CT 06511 (203) 432-2400
Editorial: (203) 432-2418 editor@yaledailynews.com Business: (203) 432-2424 business@yaledailynews.com

EDITOR IN CHIEF & PRESIDENT Anika Seth	UNIVERSITY EDITORS Sarah Cook Miranda Wollen	OPINION EDITORS Michael Ndubisi Isa Dominguez	PRODUCTION & DESIGN EDITORS Richard Chen Evelyn Jiang Laura Ospina Jane Park Yash Wadwekar	ILLUSTRATIONS EDITOR Michelle Foley
MANAGING EDITORS Evan Gorelick Collyn Robinson Sophie Sonnenfeld	CITY EDITORS Khuan-Yu Hall Nathaniel Rosenberg	WKND EDITORS Abby Asmuth Lizzie Conklin Zoe Halaban	YTV EDITORS Olivia Cevalco Nydia del Carmen Max Sternlicht	PODCASTS EDITORS Mia Osuna Suraj Singareddy Nick Vilay
PUBLISHER Sophie Wang	ARTS EDITORS Paloma Vigil Brian Zhang	MAGAZINE EDITORS IN CHIEF Gavin Guerette Audrey Kolker	COPY EDITORS Laila Delpuppo Messari Maria Giacomani Lozano	DIRECTORS OF TECHNOLOGY Joshua Chang Tiger Wang
PUBLIC EDITOR Dante Motley	INVESTIGATIONS EDITORS Sadie Bograd Ines Chornalez	EDITORIAL COLUMN EDITOR Pradz Sapre	PHOTOGRAPHY EDITORS Chloe Edwards Samad Hakani Christina Lee Ellie Park Michael Paz	DATA DIRECTOR Owen Tucker-Smith
DIRECTOR OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS Abigail Sylvor Greenberg	SPORTS EDITORS Betsy Good Spencer King			AUDIENCE EDITORS Janalie Cobb Ellie Park Molly Reinmann
CHIEF OF OPERATIONS Charlotte Hughes	SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY EDITORS Adam McPhail Giri Viswanathan			
CHIEF OF FINANCE Po Eic Quah				

EDITORIALS & ADS
The Editorial Board represents the opinion of 12-15 members of the Yale community. Other content on this page with bylines represents the opinions of those authors and not necessarily those of the Managing Board. Opinions set forth in ads do not necessarily reflect the views of the Managing Board. We reserve the right to refuse any ad for any reason and to delete or change any copy we consider objectionable, false or in poor taste. We do not verify the contents of any ad. The Yale Daily News Publishing Co., Inc. and its officers, employees and agents disclaim any responsibility for all liabilities, injuries or damages arising from any ad. The Yale Daily News Publishing Co. ISSN 0890-2240

SUBMISSIONS
All letters submitted for publication must include the author's name, phone number and description of Yale University affiliation. Please limit letters to 250 words and guest columns to 750. The Yale Daily News reserves the right to edit letters and columns before publication. E-mail is the preferred method of submission.

ISSUES PRINTED BY
All Valley Publishing Co. Derby, CT

ONLINE ARCHIVES
Our School Newspaper.com/Yale

ADVERTISEMENT
(203) 432-2424 (before 5 p.m.)
business@yaledailynews.com

Direct all letters, columns, artwork and inquiries to:
Contact the Opinion Editors at
opinion@yaledailynews.com

Direct all comments regarding the fairness or accuracy of stories to:
Anika Seth
Editor in Chief & President
editor@yaledailynews.com

NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT COPYRIGHT 2024 — VOL. CXLVI, NO. 24

GUEST COLUMNIST
JOSEPHINE HOLUBKOV

A community of care

Content warning: This column contains references to sexual violence. SHARE is available to all members of the Yale community who are dealing with sexual misconduct of any kind, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, intimate partner violence and more. Counselors are available any time, day or night, at the 24/7 hotline: (203) 432-2000.

Yale has been my home — metaphorically and literally — for the last five years. In that time, I've had the privilege of making lifelong friends, falling in love and out of it, changing career paths, making music and viewing the world through new lenses. I've also struggled, and some of my most difficult memories here have been seeing the impact that sexual harm has on communities and individuals.

In every challenging moment, I've witnessed how Yale students show up for others. Every struggle I've faced here has been ameliorated by others' love and their willingness to support me. Over the last five years, I've learned more than anything that the way our communities respond to harm matters. Community is made up of minuscule interactions. Having strong and accessible resources is important — and so are the daily conversations we have, the follow-up texts we send, the ways we learn and hold each others' stories.

When I look back at my time at Yale, these experiences have informed some of my proudest moments: taking the time to support others, working to prioritize love and kindness in friend groups and organizations and helping the Communication & Consent Educator program develop a more community-based approach when it comes to survivor support. How are Yale students supporting their friends and loved ones when they experience harm? How are those conversations — and, tangentially, our friendships — shaping how our culture responds to sexual harm? These small puzzle pieces create our culture, which works alongside Yale's more formal support resources to create our support systems.

This month, we have a chance to show up again for each other and to reflect honestly about the community we are building at Yale. The Yale Sexual Climate Survey provides us and Yale with information about the types of sexual experiences — including harmful ones — that are happening on campus. The survey also asks us about our community of care, including bystander intervention and awareness of support resources.

The data from this survey are shared publicly, an important step towards transparency in a field that is still under-studied and bur-

dened by myth. These data can help to increase the resources Yale puts towards preventing and responding to sexual harm. Since the previous survey, Yale has expanded prevention programming and developed new, more holistic support resources such as SHARE's trauma-informed yoga practice. Most importantly, these data allow us to understand how far we've come and what work still needs to be done.

But these data don't appear spontaneously. We have to be willing to put time into responding to the survey, and as a result, devote time to our community. In 2019, 54 percent of Yale College students responded to this survey, a testament to the care we show each other. In 2024, we can reach or even surpass this impressive statistic.

The survey is completely confidential and takes around 20 minutes to complete. I encourage you to take it if you are comfortable doing so. You can access the survey on the Yale Title IX website.

By gathering accurate and representative information, we can continue creating a community of care, together.

JOSEPHINE HOLUBKOV is a senior in Timothy Dwight College and is a Community and Consent Educator. Contact her at josephine.holubkov@yale.edu.

GUEST COLUMNIST
MILES KIRKPATRICK

For the most traditional Political Union editorial

Before I got to Yale, I spent a little too much time sifting through old Yale Daily News articles. I noticed a recurring column published in the Yale Daily News Opinion section was by the concerned Yale Political Union member-turned cautioning contributor. The piece usually protested the Union's decline, raised questions about whether it was actually happening and what to do about it. I recently decided to write one of those op-eds, but have now begun to wonder: are these pieces a part of the solution or a symptom of larger, latent problems within the Union?

In 2017, Adam Krok wrote "The Yale Political Dis-Union," skewering the YPU for failing to live up to the idea of the agora. Instead of well-thought-out arguments, we get low-substance speeches. Instead of an attentive audience, everyone is doing homework and drinking (or at least the Party of the Right is). For Krok, the Union was a valuable public speaking forum but one poisoned by dogmatism and vanity. This year, Michael Garman wrote "State of the Union," which pointed out that guest quality had declined, along with student speech quality. Disappointing events featuring comedian Tim Young, American conservative editor Helen Andrews, podcaster Dasha Nekrasova and fringe presidential candidate Marianne Williamson lend credence to his argument. Nora Moreau wrote "Leaving the Union" when the Yale Socialists disaffiliated on why continued membership was antithetical to their efforts to "provide greater support to leftist causes both on campus and off." The parties' desire for action couldn't square with the Union's focus on debate and discourse over actual, tangible political activity. To the point where the party, one with a near 90-year history, had to leave the body.

While the YPU regularly catches flack on the editorial pages, there have been its occasional defenders. In 2021, Jeff Cieslikowski wrote "The YPU's persisting niche," arguing that the YPU's decline was "a product of an ever-changing Yale," one with more avenues for students to be politically involved but would survive. The Unions project is unique and has its place, although it may never reach the primacy it once had. Moreau's "Leaving the Union" was paired with "In Defense of the Union" by Milan Vivanco, lauding the YPU as, while flawed, being "one of the few places on campus

where people from both the left and the right meet each week to debate thoughtfully about the most pressing issues of the moment." Again, the core purpose of the Union — to be a forum for debate across ideological divides, even if it has its struggles.

After joining the YPU, I felt the pull to write an editorial on the Union. I was concerned by the emphasis on rhetoric instead of substance, like Krok and Garman, and the need for more substantive political action, like Moreau, albeit less so. But on the other hand, I'm still impressed by the Union's continued prominence even in light of the multitude of political organizations pointed out by Cieslikowski, and its mission, as pointed out by Vivanco, seems nominally still alive. Now, I have the bona fides to join in this grand conversation. I've given some speeches, won the First-Year Prize debate, placed in the Gardner-White debate, joined a party's standing committee, participated in an inquisition and voted in a YPU election. However, my initial enthusiasm for writing an editorial has been replaced by skepticism of its purpose. To be frank, these articles don't seem to change anything. It is alarming that I can see the same issues pointed out by Krok and Moreau. Cieslikowski's perspective is persuasive, and Vivanco's article makes good points, but neither has ended the conversation, as evidenced by Garman and my decision to write this piece today.

The YPU member editorial is becoming an extension of the tradition of complaining about the Union. They are less part of real effort to induce change in the Union in response to changing circumstances, and more the result of the YPU's love for prestige and persistent anxiety over its own. It is a combination of the constant internal hand wringing over YPU's decline in status and the desire to have these conversations validated and seen in the closest thing to legacy media we have on campus. There's a reason these end up in the Yale Daily News, after all.

I picked up on the constant anxiety over Union's survival when I first arrived at Yale. The whole enterprise has the general air of an organization on edge, secured for the moment by the faithful in each party but concerned about the future. The days of a packed Woolsey Hall may be more myth than legend, as Cieslikowski pointed out, and it may be a little bit irrational to try to bring

them back. Nevertheless, I would count myself among those union members who think it possible, or at the bare minimum, worth trying. I think modifications to the debate structure allowing for more actual debate, the schedule to allow the Union to be more selective with its guests, and an increased focus on the social, non-debate elements of membership would dramatically improve the Union.

THE YPU MEMORAL EDITORIAL IS A COMBINATION OF THE CONSTANT INTERNAL HAND WRINGING OVER YPU'S DECLINE IN STATUS AND THE DESIRE TO HAVE THESE CONVERSATIONS VALIDATED AND SEEN IN THE CLOSEST THING TO LEGACY MEDIA WE HAVE ON CAMPUS.

But if we are serious about making changes to the YPU, whether it's clamoring for the glory of the Fareed Zakaria days or modifying it to fit better a more modern Yale environment, we need to familiarize ourselves with the ideas of the past and put them in conversation with each other consistently. Otherwise, as classes file in and out of Yale College, serious reform will only exist in the heads of starry-eyed first years and on Yale Daily News broadsheets. These editorials can be a crucial part of this ongoing conversation, a way to interface with the ideas of the past. But they cannot become just another formality, another way to complain, another extension of the Union's persistent anxieties over its own stature.

MILES KIRKPATRICK is a first year in Saybrook College. Contact him at miles.kirkpatrick@yale.edu.

FROM THE FRONT

“When the moon covers the sun, we have a solar eclipse. What do you call it when birds do that?”

KIM YOUNG-HA SOUTH KOREAN SONGWRITER

In letter to Salovey, group of 12 students threatens hunger strike

HUNGER STRIKE FROM PAGE 1

ers from gun violence to the war in Gaza.

“Just like domestic shootings, the Israeli military causes ‘incontrovertible societal harm’ and ‘grave social injury’ as they decimate the educational infrastructure in Palestine,” the strikers wrote, quoting language from the CCIR’s statement.

The Yale Corporation has not divested from weapons manu-

facturers, but the ACIR is currently reviewing the University’s investment policies, per a University spokesperson. The review was first alluded to in November 2023, when University President Peter Salovey wrote to the News that the ACIR was “considering whether there are grounds to revisit” its 2018 policy in line with Yale’s ethical investment policy. In February 2024, the University con-

firmed that a review considering calls to “extend [the 2018] policy to cover manufacturers who effectively retail to the general public is nearing its conclusion,” according to Yale’s spokesperson. Most recently, Heather Tookes, chair of the ACIR, stated in an April email to the News that the ACIR would prepare to update the Yale community regarding the review “in the coming weeks.”

Beyond the University’s investment policies, the hunger strikers also criticized the University’s lack of response to student protest on the subject.

“Over the last six months, we have exhausted every mode possible of making our voices heard to you with no answer and no change,” the letter reads. “People have gone through the proper channels and received no response.”

The letter referred to actions from student activists in the past year, including but not limited to attending the ACIR’s annual open meeting in November 2023, staging a protest in February 2024 and inviting Yale trustees to a town hall in April 2024.

The Yale Corporation will next meet on April 20.

Contact
YOLANDA WANG at
yolanda.wang@yale.edu.



Ellie Park, Photography Editor

Class Day will feature U.S. Surgeon General Vivek Murthy ’03

CLASS DAY FROM PAGE 1

University president and deans. Following an interlude brunch, graduating students will gather on Old Campus for Class Day exercises. Previous Class Day speakers have included television journalist Fareed Zakaria ’86, actor Tom Hanks and then-U.S. Vice President Joseph Biden.

“As a proud Yale alumnus, and as the spouse of an equally proud Yale College alum, it is truly an honor to join Yale’s graduates on Class Day this year,” wrote Murthy in an email to the News. “Class Day is our time to celebrate the relationships you’ve built, the knowledge you’ve gained, and the dreams you have shaped and forged. It’s also a moment to express our gratitude to all those who made this journey possible. I hope this day will be full of joy, appreciation, and friendship for all our graduates.”

Yale College Dean Pericles Lewis told the News that although Class Day speakers were previously selected with student input, they are now chosen a year or two in advance

by the College Dean’s Office and the University president, who ultimately extends the invitation to the speaker. The announcement, he added, is saved until a month before the event.

Lewis thought Murthy would be an optimal choice for this year’s senior class since he is an expert in public health and helped tackle these issues during the pandemic.

“He’s a very distinguished alum,” Lewis said. “He played an important role in public health and public health is an area of great importance, especially since, it’s always been an important one, but we’ve been pretty conscious of it since the pandemic, and he’s also an excellent speaker and he’s written well on these issues.”

At Yale, Murthy helped start “The Healer’s Art” — a four-week-long elective in which medical students discuss critical topics that surround the daily life of a physician. He was confirmed by the U.S. Senate in 2021 for his second term as the U.S. Surgeon General, returning to the role that he held in the Obama Administration.

During his tenure, Murthy has long

been an advocate for mental health and preventing physician burnout. In 2021, he released a widely-cited advisory report warning about challenges in youth mental health. His office has issued warnings about the impacts of social media on adolescent mental health, as well.

Howard Forman, a professor of radiology, public health, management and economics, was a mentor and professor to Murthy during his time at the School of Medicine and the School of Management. He said he believes that Murthy’s announcement as Class Speaker will be impactful — particularly given Murthy’s advocacy for adolescent mental health during his time as Surgeon General.

“I think he particularly, at this point in his career, connects very well with young adults and adolescents [with his expertise] in the areas around mental health, well-being and new challenges of our time,” Forman said.

In recent years, Murthy has often returned to New Haven for Yale graduations and visits with

students, faculty, public officials and the New Haven community.

His most recent campus visit occurred in September 2022, during which he spoke to crowds at the Law School, School of Public Health and School of Management about youth mental health. During the trip, he also led a panel discussion at Southern Connecticut State University and met with Mayor Justin Elicker and Connecticut Governor Ned Lamont.

Murphy’s upcoming address is especially poignant for the students in the Class of 2024 who began their Yale experience in the fall of 2020 — the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic — senior class co-president Shandra Ahsan ’24 noted.

“I was honestly really excited to see that he was our Class Day speaker this year,” Ahsan wrote to the News. “I’ve really appreciated his platform on mental health and social isolation as public health crises, and I think he’ll have a thoughtful perspective to bring to a group of young adults about to enter a new phase of life.”

University President Peter Salovey wrote to the News that he also looks forward to Murthy’s speech.

Salovey added that he believes Murthy will inspire students to lead a life in pursuit of their own careers “with similar steadfastness, vision and compassion.”

“Dr. Murthy is an example of the power of Yale alumni to change our country and the world for the better,” Salovey said. “He has inspired members of the Yale community — and individuals around the world — with his dedication to saving and improving lives, and to shining light on the most urgent needs of society.”

Last year’s Class Day address was delivered by poet Elizabeth Alexander ’84.

Contact
KAITLYN POHLY at
kk.pohly@yale.edu,
BENJAMIN HERNANDEZ at
benjamin.hernandex@yale.edu, and
ASUKA KODA
at asuka.koda@yale.edu .

FROM THE FRONT

“She rolled back the gears to the pain and the tears of that total eclipse of the sun.”

DON MCLEAN AMERICAN SINGER-SONGWRITER

Hundreds gather on Cross Campus and Leitner Observatory to watch eclipse

ECLIPSE FROM PAGE 1

cent totality, while those who traveled to Vermont or upstate New York witnessed 100 percent totality.

“This is the biggest event [at the observatory] since the pandemic,” Kristin Kampp, the program coordinator of the center, told the News.

Kampp said that staff members from the observatory have been preparing for the eclipse since last year, primarily by gathering special eclipse glasses that allow people to view the phenomenon without damaging their eyes. On the day of the event, the observatory gave out over 1,000 pairs of eclipse glasses.

10 minutes before the point of maximum coverage — which occurred at 3:27 p.m. — Kampp announced that they had run out of glasses.

The observatory allowed members of the public to view the eclipse through its telescope. The telescope, approximately one-and-a-half feet long, is outfitted with an attached solar finder, which automatically centered the telescope on the eclipse, and a hydrogen-alpha filter, which allowed viewers to view the eclipse safely.

A dozen student volunteers also helped operate sunspotters and different pinhole instruments — alternative devices that allowed people to view the eclipse. Joseph Wolenski, a molecular, cellular and developmental biology professor, also brought multiple eclipse-viewing devices and students from his class to the observatory, welcoming others to try his handmade contraptions.

Christopher Lindsay GRD ’26, a Gruber Science Fellow in the astron-

omy department, helped operate the telescope. In an interview with the News, he explained that the historic telescopes permanently mounted in the observatory’s domes are not well-equipped to view the sun.

“We can’t actually use telescopes that are that big,” Lindsay said. “Because if you have a large mirror or lens, pointed at the sun, you are collecting a ton of energy.”

Lindsay compared the mirrors in telescopes to those used in solar energy plants; to generate energy, energy plants focus light through mirrors to boil water, which is “not what you want to do to somebody’s eyes,” Lindsay said.

While dozens of people lined up behind the telescope to view the eclipse, hundreds of students also tried to use their phones to photograph the event.

Dozens of photographers came to watch, too — some were

interested in the phenomenon, but many aimed to capture the gathering itself.

Amartya De ART ’22 — a photographer who aims to capture “the city and the many subdivisions of New Haven” — brought his 810 Alpinist 8x10 view camera to capture viewers’ reactions. It was the first time De had ever watched a solar eclipse, yet he chose to spend his time capturing peoples’ reactions.

“I can’t capture both [the people and the eclipse with one camera],” De said. “So I choose the memory of people.”

In an interview with the News, Dean Pericles Lewis reflected on the first eclipse he ever witnessed when he was in elementary school.

“The [eclipse] I most remember was from when I was like seven or eight — sometime in

the mid 1970s or so,” Lewis said. “I remember building the pinhole camera in class and you don’t look directly at it, you see a shadow.”

Given the rarity of the eclipse, Lewis approved of the many students who left campus to witness the total eclipse. He also said that multiple students requested that students receive automatic Dean Extensions when there is a total solar eclipse in New Haven.

“So, in 400 years, everyone can have an automatic Dean’s Extension,” Lewis joked.

The Leitner Family Observatory and Planetarium holds weather-permitting planetarium shows and telescope viewings on Tuesday evenings.

Contact

ASUKA KODA at

asuka.koda@yale.edu.



Christina Lee, Photography Editor

Candidates for Yale College Council launch campaigns

YCC ELECTION FROM PAGE 1

list of candidates can be found here, accessible to viewers using their Yale University email addresses.

According to a Yale College Council email sent to the undergraduate student population, there are two senator seats open for every residential college.

“We’re starting from ground zero,” the email read.

The YCC Senate, according to Suh-Toma, is responsible for policy-

making. The Senate works on projects ranging from health and accessibility to dining policies. The body is led by the Vice President.

Public campaigning for all positions began at 9 a.m. on Thursday, April 11. Now, candidates can share their platforms through social media, organized events and word-of-mouth. To round out their campaign teams, candidates can recruit up to 40 individuals if running on a joint ticket or 30 individuals if running on a solo ticket.

“We are looking forward to having conversations with students to understand where community concerns lie and working together to find creative solutions,” Papathanasopoulos wrote to the News. “It’s going to be a fun week!”

While all the candidates have lofty goals for how to help transform Yale during their tenure, Fonkeu urged voters to stay realistic.

“The candidates are going to make a lot of promises,” Fonkeu

wrote to the News. “They should heavily consider whether or not those promises are feasible and whether that candidate has a track record of getting things done.”

There will be two live, open debates between candidates. The President and Vice President candidates will first appear in front of the Dwight Hall Cabinet on April 12 to answer questions from various affiliated organizations. The President, Vice President and Events Director candidates will participate in the

annual YCC-YDN Debate on April 14.

“Celene and I are really proud of our platform,” Borrego wrote to the News. “We can’t wait for the debates, events and other opportunities to connect with students.”

Polls for all positions will open on April 18 at 9 a.m. on YaleConnect. They will close at 9 p.m. on April 19.

Contact

KAITLYN POHLY at

kk.pohly@yale.edu .

“Crowd goes wild at her fingertips. Half moonshine, full eclipse.”
TAYLOR SWIFT SINGER

Yale students disagree on how to eliminate legacy preference

LEGACY OPINION FROM PAGE 1

end the practice on its own, with six of those students adding that they would support a governmental ban if Yale refuses. Two students preferred an outright governmental ban.

Owen Haywood '26 said that legacy preference is antithetical to Yale's goals of fairness and diversity. "I think it's a relic of colleges, and particularly Ivy League institutions, as institutions of aristocracy and catering to the wealthy and the elite," he said. "I think it's fundamentally opposed to [Yale's] mission as a meritocratic organization that rewards hard work and talent."

Since the Supreme Court overturned the use of affirmative action in college admissions, pressure has grown from college students and in state legislatures across the country to eliminate the use of legacy preference as well. Three-fourths of Americans oppose the practice, according to a 2022 Pew Research Center survey.

Legislators in seven different states have proposed measures to ban legacy admissions, including SB 203, a bill currently under debate in Connecticut. While Yale opposed the bill in a March hearing, the Yale College Council testified in its favor. Seven Yale cultural clubs as well as the Yale FGLI Advocacy Movement also signed the YCC's statement.

Jeremiah Quinlan, Yale's dean of undergraduate admissions and financial aid, said that Yale's recent initiatives to recruit increasingly diverse classes have seen success such that eliminating legacy preference would not be helpful or necessary to these goals.

Per his testimony against SB 203, 22 percent of students in the Yale College class of 2027 are eligible for Pell Grants, 21 percent are first-generation college students and 59 percent are domestic students who identify as members of a minority racial or ethnic group. Over the past 10 years, he said, the number of Pell-eligible students has doubled, and the number of first-generation students has increased by more than 60 percent.

Quinlan said that rather than banning legacy preference, Connecticut should focus on initiatives that work to directly increase access for FGLI students, including investing in recruitment and outreach programs.

Disagreement among supporters
KaLa Keaton '25 co-founded and serves as co-president of Yale's Generational African American Student Association, one of the clubs that signed the YCC's testimony. Keaton said GAASA supported the bill because she and others in the organization "fully agree" with it "content-wise," and

their primary goal was to send the message that they oppose the use of legacy preference.

However, despite GAASA's support for the bill, Keaton said that she personally would prefer an institution-led initiative over a governmental ban to achieve the goal of eliminating legacy admissions. She said she is wary about the idea of state legislators regulating universities, especially private ones.

Like Keaton, Joshua Ching '26 would like legacy preference to become a thing of the past. In his view, however, a governmental ban like SB 203 would be the best way to do so because, if passed, it would force Yale to change its admissions policy quickly.

"The priority really should be on the outcome, and at this point, the process has shown that the University is dragging its feet on this issue," he said.

Jairus Rhoades '26 said that it would be "gratifying" to see Yale end legacy admissions itself — and that it would avoid a "tone of reluctance" from the University that he fears would follow a governmental ban. However, he said he would support a ban if it were the only path to elimination.

Rhoades added, however, that he would be interested in Yale reinstating legacy admissions in a "nuanced way" at some point in the future, when children of the more diverse recent classes begin to apply.

Changing on-campus culture

Haywood said that he has noticed a social divide between legacy and non-legacy students.

"From the perspective of a non-legacy student who tends to hang out a lot more with other non-legacy students, there tends to be a legacy versus not-legacy divide," he said. "I don't think it's a super hard divide, but I think you can definitely tell that a lot of legacy students came from similar backgrounds or went to similar high schools, and have similar shared life experiences and tend to hang out more together."

Rhoades said that while he has not experienced a divide between legacy and non-legacy students at Yale, he did in high school while applying to colleges.

Rhoades said that he encountered the prospect of legacy preference early in high school and that it left him with a bad taste in his mouth. In his senior year, when he was applying to colleges, he said that the competitive atmosphere in his high school meant that he and his friends viewed students differently if they knew they were legacy applicants to competitive colleges.

"It was harmful in terms of how people not included in that legacy pool viewed their friends who are," he said.

David Rutitsky '27 said that from his perspective as a first-generation college student, he "knows what it's like to have to work your way up to get something like this" and would likely consider supporting a governmental ban on legacy preference if it becomes clear to him that Yale definitely will not eliminate the practice itself.

"Yale is a private institution, so I believe they should have the right to admit whoever they want," he said, but "it definitely goes against a lot of their standards of merit and merit-based admissions."

Societal implications

Evan Burkeen '27 said he opposes government regulation of Yale's admissions process because he thinks the government should step in when it would bring a "net benefit to society;" and that Yale, as a private institution, serves its students — not society as a whole. He also said that he is concerned about any governmental regulation of private schools, which he said could be a slippery slope, citing laws in Florida banning the teaching of critical race theory as an example of undue regulation.

Keaton also said that she worries about the precedent the bill could set for future governmental regulation of higher education, citing bills proposed elsewhere in the country to defund diversity, equity and inclusion, or DEI, offices and banning the teaching of critical race theory. "With this bill roping in private universities, I'm concerned that that will give other states the way to oppress their own private universities," she said.

Burkeen said, however, that legacy preference should be eliminated because the benefits it once promised, such as networking with alumni and other students, are no longer relevant. Since acceptance rates at selective universities have become so small, he said, a new spillover effect is emerging that will mean an increasing number of high-achieving students will attend other schools. He believes that increasingly, networking among high-achieving students will not only occur at selective universities — so it will be less important for legacy students to attend schools like Yale.

In contrast, Julian Daniel '24 called the use of legacy preference "un-American" because it infringes upon the core American principle of meritocracy.

"What legacy admissions says is that because of something that you didn't do, because of a factor that you had no choice in, you get an advantage when applying to one of the most competitive schools in the world!"



ELLIE PARK/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

As calls to end legacy preference in admissions intensify, some students told the News that Yale should terminate or scale back the practice, while others

Daniel said that he wholeheartedly supports the Connecticut bill because his prime concern is eliminating legacy preference, and he has no confidence that Yale will come to that decision itself.

He said that he is not worried about government intervention setting a bad precedent because "this isn't a law that would interfere with Yale's academic freedom ... it's an economic justice issue."

Impact on diversity

Roy Kohavi '26 said that the University is being hypocritical by continuing to grant legacy preference now that it is unable to use affirmative action in admissions.

He questioned why Yale considers it to be an important part of the admissions process.

"I think it's a matter of principle that we should not preference certain people because they have connections here," Kohavi said. "You've got to stick to whatever fairness principle you had before."

Ching, who is a Native Hawaiian student, said that he is worried Yale will begin to admit far fewer students who are Pacific Islanders if legacy preference continues while use of affirmative action has ceased, a concern echoed by students affiliated with other cultural groups.

Ching said that, speaking from a Hawaiian perspective, the use of legacy preference raises questions about what "forms of knowledge production" Yale values.

Kohavi also noted that while he supports SB 203, he hopes "on a deeper level" that Yale will take it as an opportunity to listen to student voices.

Kohavi, who is the voter advocacy coordinator for the Yale College Democrats, said that to persuade Yale, students would have to petition, protest, hold fundraiser events, rope in alumni and carefully explain their position.

"Many of the things we have now are because of students," Kohavi explained. "I would feel better knowing that it wasn't just because the state mandated a legacy ban."

Jesse Okoche '26, an international student from Botswana, said he has gone to school with many "brilliant students," but almost none of them come to top universities in the U.S. because there are several barriers to admission to U.S. colleges, including legacy preference.

Okoche said that attending a school like Yale can jumpstart success for international students, especially those from low-income backgrounds.

"I would go as far as to say it's anti-international student ... If they don't get to come here, speaking as a low income student, the only other option is to go to the nearest university, and the degree of difference between the standard of education that you receive here at Yale, I'm not being extreme when I say that you are costing a really high potential future for that international student."

For the class of 2027, 11 percent are legacy students.

Contact **JOSIE REICH** at josie.reich@yale.edu.

Legacy students debate their admissions boost

LEGACY DEBATE FROM PAGE 1

more qualified yet are four times as likely" to be admitted.

Students and state legislatures nationwide have called for the end of legacy preference, especially since the Supreme Court overturned affirmative action in college admissions last summer. A bill proposed in the Connecticut legislature would ban legacy preference at both public and private universities, and six other states have proposed similar bans. Yale spoke in opposition to the bill, while the Yale College Council testified in its favor, with the signatures of eight Yale affinity and advocacy groups.

Dean of Undergraduate Admissions and Financial Aid Jeremiah Quinlan said that ending legacy preference would not be helpful or necessary to achieve Yale's goal of recruiting increasingly diverse classes because the admissions office has been making significant progress toward that goal while still employing legacy preference. Quinlan said that instead of eliminating legacy preference, the office is prioritizing recruitment and outreach programs to increase access for first-generation and low-income students.

In high school, KaLa Keaton '25 debated whether or not to Dartmouth College, where her mother went to college. Keaton said she thought she would feel less proud of any acceptance in which her family's affiliation was a factor. Ultimately, she decided to not even apply.

Now a junior at Yale, where she is not a legacy student, Keaton co-founded and serves as co-president of Yale's Generational African American Student Association, one of the groups that undersigned the Yale College Council's testimony.

"What legacy admissions effectively does is it creates an elite pool," Keaton said. "It would benefit [GAASA members] as individual students and our future families, but it actually is counterproductive to that goal of growing the generational community and expanding those ties and those pathways into an elite institution."

Similarly, Thomasin Schmults '26 contemplated whether or not to include that her parents had attended Yale on her application. If she were to be accepted, she did not want to wonder or feel insecure about the reasons why. Ultimately, Schmults decided to include her legacy status in her application, worrying that she would regret not noting her legacy status if she were rejected.

"I think it would have been better if it wasn't something that I had to think about at all, if everyone here could feel 100 percent sure that they got in because of who they really are, not because of some random factor that they have no control over," Schmults said.

Schmults said that overall, she opposes legacy admissions because she sees the practice as an unfair advantage that makes the admissions process less meritocratic.

Jake Schramm '25 said that he can see both pros and cons to

Yale's use of legacy preference, but that he is a "tentative yes" in support of the practice. Schramm, whose parents both attended Yale, said that colleges and their graduates benefit from promoting an "engaged" alumni community.

"It keeps the Yale community together and it keeps the older members of Yale more engaged, even if the motives are selfish," he said. "If you do keep people who remember when Yale functioned differently in the conversation of what Yale should look like, you will have more options and creativity as you imagine ways to reform Yale."

Schramm said that grades and standardized tests are bad at determining which students would make good future leaders of the country, and that legacy preference is an example of a component of the admissions process that can help ensure that admissions are not solely based on "total compromise of your high school experience."

Unlike Schramm, Nate Olson '24, whose father attended Yale Law School, said that he opposes legacy preference because Yale should focus on considerations of merit to differentiate between candidates.

He said that there is a stigma that legacy students are less qualified because they receive a boost in the admissions process, which he said he thinks is annoying but understandable.

"I would have rather known 100 percent that I got into Yale on my own merits and that the legacy role didn't play a part in that," Olson said.



ELLIE PARK/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

As calls mount in universities and state legislatures across the country to end legacy preference in college admissions, the News spoke with legacy students at Yale about how legacy status affected their application processes and experiences at Yale — and about whether the practice should continue.

Eleven percent of the class of 2027 are legacy students.

Contact **JOSIE REICH** at josie.reich@yale.edu.

“Crowd goes wild at her fingertips. Half moonshine, full eclipse.”
TAYLOR SWIFT AMERICAN SINGER-SONGWRITER

Hundreds rally at the University of New Haven to support Local 217

BY TYSON ODERMANN AND CHRISTIAN LEE
STAFF AND CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

On Monday, over 100 people gathered at the University of New Haven to protest in support of Local 217 UNITE HERE, the union of Hospitality Workers across Connecticut.

The protest was against alleged union busting at the University of New Haven after UNH refused to guarantee job protection for its employees. Union workers, students and other allies of the facilities workers at UNH marched around the campus demanding job security after months of a standstill with the university regarding contract negotiations.

The protest began with speeches from Lieutenant Governor Susan Bysiewicz, State Senator Martin Looney and State Representative Bill Heffernan.

“This community is with you on this. We recognize and support your courage,” Senator Looney said. “This economy — the whole economy of the region will only be helped if union jobs grow and expand. You cannot agree to something that allows for the gradual contraction of a bargaining unit. That is suicide.”

In her speech, Bysiewicz emphasized that the union’s request for job security is not only directed at supporting current union workers of UNH but also future generations.

“This fight is about [young people],” Bysiewicz said. “What are jobs gonna look like? Are they gonna be minimum-wage jobs with no benefits? Or are they gonna be good, dignified jobs that pay enough to support families?”

Monday’s strike comes five days after Local 217 authorized a strike in response to UNH’s changed position on the unions’ demands for improved job security. On Feb. 19,

Local 217 organized a rally to call for improved health insurance, workplace safety and job security for facilities workers. After about six months, the union began contract negotiations with UNH — one for facilities workers and another for Sodexo US, the university’s third-party food service. Over a month later, UNH ratified the contract, meeting all three conditions proposed by the food service employees of Sodexo US. After nearly reaching an official agreement, UNH reversed its stance on bettering job security.

In a written statement to the News, UNH defended the contract they presented to facilities workers.

“We believe that the significant wage increases and reduction in benefit costs, combined with the layoff protection and guarantee regarding hours, is a robust and competitive package for our valued facilities employees,” UNH wrote.

Furthermore, UNH wrote that in the event of a strike, they are “fully prepared to take the necessary measures to ensure continued, successful operations, including maintenance of our facilities.”

Several union members, in addition to enthusiasm for striking, also voiced concern regarding the ramifications of a strike.

“These kids rely on us to provide a service for them. And as much as it’s gonna break our heart to walk away from that, I think it’s actually going to show them a lesson to stand up for what they believe in and what’s right,” said Joe Fowler, a custodian at UNH. “It’s nerve-wracking because I know how my coworkers live. They live paycheck to paycheck, and I know that they fear, you know, keeping the lights on and keeping food on the tables for their kids. And I have the same fears.”



CHRISTINA LEE/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

After UNH’s refusal to meet union members’ job security demands, hundreds rallied to support facilities workers across Connecticut.

Another union worker Damien Mercado in the maintenance department expressed skepticism about the university’s ability to maintain normal operations during the strike.

“It’s gonna be a mess. It’s gonna be chaos here. It’s gonna be crazy because this place is a very busy place,” Mercado said. “We do a lot here. We run around this campus like crazy. It’s not as easy as people think it is.”

Employees from surrounding universities represented by Local 217 were also present at the protest.

“I know that sooner or later we’re going to have to go through the same thing,” said Tamera Jordan, an employee of Connecticut College. “I hope that they get their con-

tract signed for the union because a union is best for all employees. It has great benefits to it. [The contract] needs to be long term because everybody needs us.”

Union members of Local 33 UNITE HERE, the Yale graduate and professional student union, were also present at the protest, affirming their solidarity with Local 217. In December 2023, Local 33 won its first contract, which secured higher pay, expanded health care and union recognition until 2031.

Arita Acharya GRD ’24, a graduate student at Yale and a member of Local 33, voiced her support of UNH facilities workers in an interview with the News.

“We’ve been in solidarity with Local 217 ... I was here at the last picket and we just want a really great

contract that contains job security, good wages and good health care. These workers deserve the same thing,” Acharya said. “We’re all workers in the academic labor movement ... It’s similar, and I want to maintain the same strong, high standard we have at Yale [for] educational institutions all across Connecticut.”

After the press conference, protesters began marching around the perimeter of the campus green. As they marched, they chanted “If we don’t get it, shut it down.”

Monday’s protest was held at 300 Boston Post Rd.

Contact **TYSON ODERMANN** at tyson.odermann@yale.edu and **CHRISTIAN LEE** at christian.lee@yale.edu.

Endowment Justice Coalition invites Yale Corporation to town hall, no trustees attend

YOLANDA WANG
STAFF REPORTER

On Wednesday, around 70 people gathered at a town hall led by the Yale Endowment Justice Coalition at Linsly-Chittenden Hall. EJC organizers invited members of the Yale Corporation to attend the town hall in the weeks prior, but no trustee responded to the invitations or attended the event. At the front of the lecture hall, EJC speakers pointed to a row of seats labeled with each trustee’s name, which remained empty throughout the event.

Members of the EJC called for Yale to disclose and divest its current investments in war and military weapons manufacturers, demanding that the University instead increase investments in the New Haven community and student life on campus.

“Yale has outsized cultural influence and its divestment could have a powerful cascading effect,” Naina Agrawal-Hardin ’25, an EJC organizer, said at the town hall.

In 2018, the Yale Corporation enacted a policy that forbids it from investing in retailers that market and sell assault weapons to the general public. The policy came in response to a request from School of Medicine professor Daniel DiMaio, which was considered by the Yale Advisory Committee on Investor Responsibility.

The ACIR concluded that mass shootings enabled by assault weapons retailers cause “incontrovertible societal harm.” However, the ACIR also considered distinctions between manufacturers and retailers of assault weapons, “since assault weapons may be used for sanctioned purposes by the military and law enforcement,” per the 2018 statement from the Yale Corporation Committee on Investor Responsibility. The CCIR is advised by the ACIR.

While the Yale Corporation has not divested from weapons manufacturers, in November 2023, University President Peter Salovey told the News that the ACIR may revisit its policy regarding investments in weapon manufacturing and retail. In February 2024, a University spokesperson wrote to the News that this review would consider extending the 2018 policy to “cover manufacturers who effectively retail to the general public” and confirmed that the review was “nearing its conclusion.”

Last week, Heather Tookes, chair of the ACIR, stated in an email to the News that the review was “prompted”

by a presentation by Yale Students Demand Action.

“The ACIR is preparing to provide an update to the community in the coming weeks,” Tookes wrote.

Students such as Agrawal-Hardin criticized the distinction between the current review and the 2018 review as being “unclear,” citing a lack of clarity as to whether the current review pertains specifically to divestment from military weapons manufacturing.

The University spokesperson clarified that investment in assault weapons retailers and military weapons manufacturers are “two separate but related issues” that have both been reviewed by the ACIR.

Patrick Hayes ’24, a researcher with the EJC, also expressed a desire for the University to maintain “consistency” between its investment policies for assault weapons retailers and military weapons manufacturers.

“I think the University rightly recognizes the harm that assault weapons can cause to people of all ages,” Hayes told the News. “Especially after multiple mass shootings, including in Connecticut, like at Sandy Hook, I don’t think that the selling and profiting off of weapons of destruction and violence is something that [the University wants] to be involved in. We [at the EJC] figured the University would probably also not want to be involved in military weapons manufacturing because of the same effects that can have.”

At the town hall, Agrawal-Hardin also discussed the importance of activism surrounding endowment justice on Yale’s campus due to Yale’s historical leadership in institutional investing. The “Yale Model” for institutional investing was developed by Yale’s former Chief Investment Officer David Swenson GRD ’80 along with Dean Takahashi ’80 SOM ’83, the former senior director at the Yale Investments Office. Emphasizing asset diversification beyond traditional U.S. equities and bonds into alternative investments such as private equity, venture capital, hedge funds and real estate, the Yale Model has become the industry standard in the past three decades and is now used by peer institutions such as Harvard, Princeton and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

“That’s why Yale places so much emphasis on what it does with its

endowment,” Agrawal-Hardin said, referring to the history of the Yale Model. “[Yale] knows it’s a leader in this field. It knows it sets an example for peers around the world.”

During the 36 years of Swensen’s tenure as CIO, Yale’s endowment grew from \$1 billion in 1985 to \$31.2 billion in 2021, at the time of Swensen’s passing.

Madeleine Zaritsky ’25, another EJC organizer, asserted at the town hall that the size of Yale’s current \$40.7 billion endowment is a “political statement” itself and that Yale makes political statements by choosing how to invest its endowment.

Besides the Yale Corporation’s 2018 divestment from assault weapon retailers, Yale officials have leveraged endowment money on other social issues in the past: in October 2020, Swensen sent a letter to firms in charge of Yale’s endowment threatening to pull Yale’s money if firms did not hire more women and people of color to be asset managers.

Organizer Norah Laughter ’26 explained the EJC’s demands for reinvestment into the New Haven community and Yale student life. Pointing to Yale’s position as the largest private employer in New Haven and referring to a Yale Daily News analysis showing that the University’s tax-exempt properties “add strain” to city finances, Laughter called for the Yale Corporation to reinvest its endowment funds into creating more jobs, expanding employment benefits, and raising pay for New Haven residents employed by the University.

Laughter also called for a higher standard of healthcare and larger financial aid packages for students, suggesting that funds be directed toward fixing “atrocious” wait times and “subpar” care within the Yale Health system.

EJC organizers also criticized Yale’s investment of 99 percent of its endowment into organizations that act as holding companies or limited partners, which organizers say promotes a lack of transparency. According to a June 2022 tax filing submitted May 15, Yale is associated with at least 165 organizations taxable as a partnership, 20 organizations taxable as a corporation or trust, and 68 organizations that are tax-exempt organizations or disregarded entities. The primary activity of most of these organizations is listed as investment, though some also support higher education, promote research or fund scholarships. Members of the EJC have previously

referred to these related organizations as “shell companies” and pointed out that they are not subject to the same federal filing requirements that bind Yale as a nonprofit.

The News reached out to all members of the Corporation for comment but received no response.

The University spokesperson refuted EJC organizers’ claims of



YOLANDA WANG/CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

The town hall called for divestment from military weapons manufacturing and reinvestment into the New Haven community and Yale student life on Wednesday.

The University spokesperson defended these confidential investment choices, citing “contractual obligations” and the need to “maintain competitive advantage.”

“Yale’s investment partners are among the best in the world, and sharing those relationships would likely increase competition for access to those managers,” the spokesperson wrote in an email to the News. “This would ultimately impact the Endowment’s ability to support our financial aid, extraordinary teaching, and state of the art research.”

Agrawal-Hardin stressed that EJC organizers have gone through all the “proper channels” to establish contact with trustees without response, such as sending over 1,800 letters to the Yale Corporation and attending meetings with the Yale Advisory Committee on Investor Responsibility.

“It’s extremely difficult to make contact with the trustees, as they meet behind closed doors, seal meeting minutes for fifty years, and don’t accept any direct comments on ethical investing via their online contact form,” Agrawal-Hardin wrote.

unresponsiveness and stated that trustees engage with students in both formal and informal ways.

“For example, a group of Trustees are the Student Liaisons of the Board who meet on an ongoing basis with student leaders,” the spokesperson wrote in an email to the News. “The trustees also engage with students through a range of activities including residential college teas, cultural center gatherings, athletic events, and meeting with students in other less formal ways.”

The spokesperson also explained that Yale positions ACIR as “the best forum for the community on ethical investing issues” in order to “preserve the integrity and rigor” of Yale’s investment process.

Echoing the spokesperson and the Yale Corporation’s contact form, which asks that messages regarding ethical investing be directed to the ACIR, Tookes reaffirmed that “the ACIR is the primary channel for raising concerns related to ethical investing.”

The Yale Corporation includes the University president and 16 trustees.

Contact **YOLANDA WANG** at yolanda.wang@yale.edu.

THROUGH THE LENS



TOTALITY IN VERMONT

By Samad Hakani and Elijah Lee
Photography Editor and Contributing Photographer



ARTS

“There’s nothing I can do, a total eclipse of the heart.”

BONNIE TYLER WELSH SINGER

Vna globalizes the DJ scene at Yale



COURTESY OF COREY NGUYEN

DJ Annie Nguyen '25 brings a multicultural angle to her sets that inspires listeners to seek out new genres of music.

BY LUCIANA VARKEVISSER
STAFF REPORTER

Vna — also known as Annie Nguyen '25 — incorporates different genres into her sets in hopes of exposing people to new styles of music. Nguyen started her journey as a DJ last year. After seeing some DJ sets in New York during fall break, she felt a spark of inspiration. Rather than letting this spark die, she decided to act on her newfound interest in the DJ-ing world. She said that her close friend and DJ, Justin Li '25, encouraged her and helped her find her footing. What started as a niche interest has since developed into a weekly DJ set at BAR, with a mission of diversifying the music scene at Yale.

“I want to be able to introduce music that people probably wouldn’t have heard on social media,” said Nguyen. “I really do try my best to source music from all around the world, from smaller artists [and] from less well-known areas because I feel like that’s one of a DJ’s jobs.”

Her sets include music from all over the world, including — but not limited to — Korea, Puerto Rico and Brazil.

She said she finds that the best way to expose herself to new genres and develop her skills as a DJ is to talk with professionals.

“At each club, I went up to the DJ and introduced myself,” said Nguyen. She explained to the DJs that she was interested in learning “different track ideas” and “different techniques” and asked if she could stand behind the DJ table and watch their sets. “Every time I asked that question they let me in,” she said.

This has also helped Nguyen grow her network and connections to the DJ community outside of Yale. Through these contacts, she said, she has received exclusive access to tracks and mixes that have helped expose her to new music and techniques.

Outside of being a DJ, Nguyen is a member of a Yale investing group, an ESL tutor and president

of the Southeast Asian Movement at Yale.

“She is a really driven person and she really carries a lot of the spirit behind the scenes,” said Owen Setiewan '27, events chair of SEAM, about Nguyen. “[She] ensures that the Southeast Asian communities represent a network of students who can have a space to have a shared identity.”

Nguyen’s DJ name — Vna — is connected to her Vietnamese identity.

In Vietnamese, the prefix Vina signifies Vietnamese origin. She said that her name plays on this and symbolizes her upbringing and culture with a “modern touch of contemporary expression.” She brings this same energy to her sets.

As a Vietnamese woman, Nguyen said that she has struggled with the lack of representation in the DJ industry.

“It is kind of difficult navigating just because you don’t have people that look like you,” said Nguyen. “It’s hard to gain the confidence.”

However, she added that the welcoming nature of the Yale DJ community has helped to give her the confidence she needs to pursue her love for DJ-ing.

Several students told the News that her presence in the DJ community at Yale has had a profound impact on the students who listen to her sets.

“I think a really big message behind her music is that music is very universal,” said Bella Le '27 Fundraiser Chair of SEAM. “Also being able to hear just a mixture of melodies that is coming from another Vietnamese person is really refreshing because that was never something that I grew up seeing or hearing. It’s something so empowering.”

She is also in the running to be an opening act at this year’s Spring Fling, and her submission can be found on the committee’s platform.

Nguyen holds a residency at BAR Pizza, where she is the front house DJ every Friday night.

Contact **LUCIANA VARKEVISSER** at luciana.varkevisser@yale.edu.

From Spider-Man to Yale: Swae Lee and his approach to music

BY HUBERT TRAN
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

Rapper and singer-songwriter Swae Lee will be performing at the 2024 Spring Fling alongside fellow artists Coco & Breezy and Dayglow on April 27.

Formerly known as part of the brother-duo Rae Sremmurd, Lee launched his music career in 2015 through the duo’s debut studio songs, including “No Flex Zone” and “No Type.” Most recently, Lee has stepped away from this group to perform solo and quickly rose to fame — most notably through his feature in the viral “Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse” soundtrack.

“I was genuinely surprised but also very excited that Yale could bring Swae Lee,” said Hien Tran '27. “He’s one of those artists that was a part of my growth and development in 2016 so it’s very nostalgic to bring him back and remind me of the next part of growth at Yale.”

Post Malone’s song “Sunflower,” featuring Swae Lee, shot to the top of the Billboard Hot 100 ratings over two months after it initially debuted. Since then, the hit single has been on the chart for 53 weeks and became the first ever double-diamond certified song.

The awarding organization, the Recording Industry Association of America, or RIAA, has established the minimum threshold of 20 million units for the double-diamond accolade; each download sale or 150 audio and/or video streams of the single within the United States constitutes one unit. Furthermore, due to the achievement of 20 million units, this song is also recognized by the RIAA as a 20x Platinum single, which has a requirement of 1 million units.

A major reason for Lee’s success can perhaps be attributed to his intersectionality, and his blending of social media and cinematography. His 2015 claim to fame was due in part to his popularity on the short-form video



WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Swae Lee is headlining the 2024 Spring Fling, bringing an extensive background in performance, lyricism and cinematography.

recognizable songs in his huge discography,” Spring Fling Hospitality Chair Olivia Telemague '26 told the News on the night of the lineup release.

However, it was not by a stroke of luck that Swae Lee came to dominate the music field. It was an explicit decision to use lyrics to illustrate daily life.

In an interview with Variety Magazine, Lee said “I basi-

While he is well known for his solo performances, he is also an avid songwriter for other singers; Lee even co-wrote alongside Beyoncé for the song “Formation” in her 2016 album “Lemonade.” Lee has also made appearances with other artists, such as French Montana on “Unforgettable.”

Because of Lee’s strong collaboration focus, Risha Chakraborty '25 believes that

movies and a lot of those are collaborations with other artists. So, if you listen to any pop or rap or watch movies, chances are you have heard [of] Swae Lee,” Chakraborty told the News.

He spoke about his unreleased songs in another 2019 Variety interview: “I don’t wanna give them away ... I end up loving them myself and want to use them for myself. Plus, I feel like

For Sheikh Nahiyen '24, this year’s lineup is more exciting compared to previous years; and he said that this sentiment holds “generally across the board.”

“The diversity in artists, from Dayglow to Swae Lee, means everyone can find something they’re interested in listening to,” Chakraborty added.

Spring Fling will be happening this year on April 17 on the Old

SPORTS

Bulldogs bounce back, upsetting Quakers



YALE ATHLETICS

Looking ahead, the Bulldogs will take on No. 22 Harvard University (8–2, 3–1 Ivy) at Reese Stadium on Saturday at noon.

W LAX FROM PAGE 14

With the victory, Yale improves to 10–1 overall for the first time in school history. Following the Quakers’ third goal in the second quarter, the Bulldogs held them scoreless for 23 minutes and 25 seconds, building a commanding 14–3 lead that Penn struggled to narrow. The game showcased remarkable displays from Sky Carrasquillo ’25, Taylor Everson ’25 and Collignon, each securing

hat tricks. Everson stood out by scoring three consecutive goals in just six minutes. Captain Chloe Conaghan ’24 also delivered a standout performance, tallying a career-high four goals and seven points, leading all scorers. Yale dominated defensively, with Molly McGuckin ’25 having a game-best three ground balls and Fallon Vaughn ’25 claiming the coveted title of defensive player of the week. “My favorite moment of the game aside from watching our cap-

tain, Chloe Conaghan, have an amazing game was definitely when we ran onto the field after the final buzzer,” Herrera wrote to the News. “The pride and comradeship we all felt marked our moment of redemption that we will all cherish forever.” Looking ahead, the Bulldogs will take on No. 22 Harvard University (8–2, 3–1 Ivy) at Reese Stadium on Saturday at noon.

Contact **COLETTE STAADDECKER** at colette.staadecker@yale.edu.

Elis outrun Harvard

T&F FROM PAGE 14

Karperos ’25, who earned the top spot in the steeplechase with a time of 11:35.19. In the field events, Romain earned herself another gold medal in the long jump with a 5.60m leap, and Abrianna Barrett ’24 took first in the high jump with a 1.68m clearance. “We had quite a few good performances on the women’s side this past weekend,” assistant coach Connor Shannahan wrote to the News. “As is expected from early

April outdoor meets, the weather was less than ideal, however it is always exciting to get a win over our rivals. We are looking to keep the momentum going this week-end as the team travels to invites at both Princeton and UConn.” The Bulldogs will compete next at two meets this upcoming week-end, Princeton’s Larry Ellis Invitational and UConn’s Northeast Challenge. Both will take place on Friday and Saturday, April 12–13.

Contact **PETER WILLIAMS** at p.williams@yale.edu.



YALE ATHLETICS

The Bulldogs will compete at two meets this upcoming weekend, Princeton’s Larry Ellis Invitational and UConn’s Northeast Challenge.

Yalies reflect on season

BASEBALL FROM PAGE 14

tively seem to agree on one specific moment this season where they all worked together to bark back against their opponents. The weekend of March 30, the Bulldogs outplayed the Princeton Tigers, beating them 2–1 in the series. A defining moment in this series was the incredible win on Saturday, where the Yalies crushed the Tigers completing 22 runs compared to Princeton’s mere two runs. “A high was putting 22 runs up on Princeton and winning the series after they beat us last year,” said infielder Davis Hanson ’26.

Currently, it seems as though the Bulldogs find comfort in playing ball in their home territory. Their home record stands at 5–5 compared to their away record, 4–11. They attribute their success at home to their close-knit bonds fostered on and off the field. “I’d say our team is a really tight group of guys and are relatively young, so happy with how we’ve been doing and I’m excited for the future of the team,” said pitcher Teo Spadaccini ’27. Even though the end of the baseball season is in sight, the Bulldogs still have more than

a month left to play. The team shared their future goals and what they are looking forward to most this season. “I’m really looking forward to the Columbia series coming up this weekend. We lost all of our games by 1 run against them last year and they are 1st in the Ivy League currently so it will definitely be a great series,” said Hanson. The Bulldogs face the Columbia Lions for the first time this season in New York this Saturday.

Contact **KATE ESTEVEZ** at kate.estevez@yale.edu.



YALE ATHLETICS

The Bulldogs face the Columbia Lions for the first time this season in New York this Saturday.

Bulldogs add win against BU

M LAX FROM PAGE 14

tallied four goals, from attackman Jimmy Kohr, midfielder Miles Lipton, attackman Brenden Kelly and D’Alto, reducing Yale’s lead to one. The Elis fired back with four points, the first unassisted by Brandau, the second unassisted by attackman Peter Moynihan ’27, the third by Keib assisted by Brandau and the fourth by midfielder Patrick Hackler ’24 assisted by Kuhl to close out the half. Running with momentum at the start of the second half, Boston University tallied three goals, by attackman/midfielder Tommy Bourque, attackman/midfielder James Corcoran and Kelly. Brandau assisted Keib in two goals with 6:16 and 0:38 remaining in the frame, interrupted by a Terrier goal by D’Alto. In the fourth period, BU and Yale alternated scoring four goals each. D’Alto made an unassisted goal, followed by an unassisted goal by Brandau. Midfielder Jake Cates’ goal was answered back by Anderson off an assist by Kuhl. BU attackman Louis Perfetto scored an unassisted goal with 7:17 remaining in the game, and less than five minutes later, Bragg scored off an assist by goalie Jared Paquette ’25. Perfetto made another unassisted goal 33 sec-

onds later, and Brandau secured the win for the Bulldogs with a goal in the final minute, raising the score to 18–16. Yale saw strong offensive play during the contest, with Keib securing a career-high five goals and Anderson following closely with four. Brandau also had four assists, which tied the Yale single-game record, currently shared by attackman Matt Gibson ’12 and attackman Jason O’Neill ’90. Brandau is the first player in Division I lacrosse this season to post two 10+ points-or-more games this season, as well, as he had 13 points in Yale’s game against Colgate on Feb. 21. While Boston University outshot Yale 64–35, they led by a much narrower margin in shots on goal, 31–24. Yale led 20–16 in turnovers, 41–34 in ground balls and 21–17 in faceoffs. Paquette made 15 saves during the game, his season high, and posted a .484 save percentage. On Saturday, the Bulldogs will travel to Hanover, New Hampshire to face Dartmouth College (3–7, 0–3 Ivy) at 3:30 p.m. The game will be streamed on ESPN+.

Contact **AMELIA LOWER** at amelia.lower@yale.edu.



YALE ATHLETICS

On Saturday, the Bulldogs will travel to Hanover, New Hampshire to face Dartmouth College (3–7, 0–3 Ivy) at 3:30 p.m. The game will be streamed on ESPN+.

“Nations, like stars, are entitled to eclipse.”
VICTOR HUGO, FRENCH WRITER

ANALYSIS: Protest vote sweeps younger neighborhoods, falls flat at Yale

ARIELA LOPEZ AND LILY BELLE POLING
STAFF REPORTERS

While most New Haven Democrats chose to sit out last week’s rainy election day, voters’ “uncommitted” to incumbent President Joe Biden had a strong showing in the city’s younger neighborhoods. In Tuesday’s Democratic presidential primary, 21 percent of New Haveners voted for “uncommitted” over Biden, the presumptive Democratic nominee. The statewide results, in which New Haven had the highest number of uncommitted votes from any town in the state, reflect a triumph for the Vote Uncommitted CT campaign, which encouraged voters to cast their ballots for “uncommitted” to express frustration over Biden’s response to Israel’s war in Gaza. Only 3,539 Democrats voted in the primary, per the official final results.

Uncommitted finds base in East Rock, Edgewood

On Primary Day, volunteers from Vote Uncommitted CT’s parent organization, the CT Coalition for Palestine Solidarity, canvassed voters outside certain polling locations in the city. According to Chris Garaffa, a campaign organizer, 22 volunteers signed up to canvas at four different polling locations — East Rock Community Magnet School in Ward 9, Wilbur Cross High School in Ward 10, the Ellsworth Ave. Firehouse in Ward 24 and the New Haven Hall of Records in Ward 7.

The wards where volunteers were stationed, as well as Ward 8, which is adjacent to Wards 7 and 9, recorded the highest percentages of ‘uncommitted’ votes in the city — over 30 percent in each. In East Rock’s Ward 9, represented by Alder Caroline Tanbee Smith ’14, “Uncommitted” received 72 votes, beating Biden’s 65. Smith, who interacted with East Rock-based Vote Uncommitted organizers when she went to vote, said she “appreciated” the campaign and the opportunity it provided for her to engage with constituents of a diversity of views.

“I don’t know if I had an instinct about what was going to happen with the results,” Smith said. “I think the main feeling I feel is I’m just really excited. I’m really happy that the primary happened so that people had the chance to express their views.”

In Ward 8, which covers

parts of East Rock and Wooster Square, 85 Democrats voted for Biden and 57 chose “uncommitted.” In Ward 7, which includes much of Downtown New Haven, 97 Democrats voted for Biden and 62 backed “uncommitted.” Alder Eli Sabin ’22, who represents Ward 7, said that the residents of his ward used the vote to express their feelings about the current state of affairs. “I think there are obviously a lot of folks who felt like they wanted to use primary as an opportunity to let the administration know how they feel about certain policy issues, particularly, obviously the war in Gaza,” Sabin said. In Ward 10, which includes parts of East Rock and Fair Haven, Biden received 191 votes and “uncommitted” garnered 94. In Ward 24, Edgewood, 78 Democrats voted for Biden and 37 for “uncommitted.”

The neighborhoods where “uncommitted” received the strongest support tended to be younger communities. According to 2020 census data, only five percent of Downtown residents, six percent of Fair Haven residents and eight percent of East Rock residents are 65 years or older. Nine percent of Edgewood residents and ten percent of Wooster Square residents are 65 years or older. Meanwhile, in Fair Haven Heights and the East Shore — New Haven’s “oldest” neighborhoods where over 20 percent of residents are older than 65 — the “uncommitted” vote garnered under 20 percent of the vote.

Low turnout had little correlation to “uncommitted” win

Zadie Winthrop ’26, a Ward 22 voter, said that after researching the primary election process, she was assured that an “uncommitted” vote would not contribute to another Donald Trump presidency and could, instead, result in an “uncommitted” Democratic delegate if enough voters in the Democratic primary picked “uncommitted.” The “uncommitted” vote did not secure any delegates in Connecticut.

“I chose to vote uncommitted because I am unsatisfied with the Biden administration’s complicity in the massive death and suffering that has occurred and is continuing to occur in Gaza,” Winthrop wrote in a text message to the News.

Vincent Mauro Jr., the chair of New Haven’s Democratic Town

Committee, speculated that the percentage of “uncommitted” voters was high because “uncommitted” voters were motivated to go vote, while other voters were not.



COURTESY OF MIRANDA RECTOR

“Uncommitted” got 21 percent of the Democratic presidential primary vote in New Haven, but underperformed in Yale-heavy Ward 1.

On the contrary, for people supporting Biden, “the election was already done,” Mauro said. The DTC did not organize an effort to get Democrats to vote for a specific candidate during the primary. According to a News analysis, wards with a higher share of “uncommitted” votes had a slightly higher average turnout, but the difference was not dramatic.

Turnout across New Haven was much lower than in recent elections, despite the city’s inaugural implementation of four days of early voting. Just over 3,500 Democrats voted, less than half of the 7,900 that voted in the Democratic primary in September to elect the party’s nominees for New Haven mayor and all 30 alders.

In the last presidential primary in 2020, which took place in August after Biden had qualified to be the Democratic nominee, 10,750 New Haven Democrats cast their ballots — a figure more than three times as large as this year’s turnout.

In 2020, Biden won 82.5 percent of the New Haven vote, with the remaining 17.5 percent going to Sanders, Rep. Tulsi Gabbard or the “uncommitted” option, suggesting that low turnout did not significantly help the “uncommitted” camp

increase their percentage of the vote. Mauro said he believes that the Democrats who voted uncommitted will vote for Biden in the November general election.

However, he acknowledged the significance of the “uncommitted” vote share.

“It was an important protest vote,” Mauro said.

Uncommitted snatches Sanders crowd — except Yale

The 2024 precinct primary results reflect trends from the 2016 presidential primary, where Hillary Clinton, the former secretary of state, ran against Vermont senator Bernie Sanders, who ran to Clinton’s left. In 2016, 16,933 New Haven Democrats voted in Connecticut’s April presidential primary. 9,710 voted for Clinton and 7,062 voted for Sanders.

Sanders received more votes than Clinton in six wards: Ward 1, Ward 9, Ward 18, Ward 7, Ward 8 and Ward 25. At the time of the election, these precincts encompassed Downtown, Wooster Square, East Rock, Edgewood, Fair Haven and the East Shore.

New Haven’s ward boundaries were altered in 2023 using information from the 2020 census.

“Uncommitted” largely did well in areas similar to those where Sanders triumphed, except for the East Shore, a traditionally more conservative neighborhood, and Ward 1 — the ward that covers eight of Yale’s residential colleges and

Old Campus, and includes few non-Yale affiliated residents. Sanders’ positive performance in the East Shore reflects his statewide popularity in more conservative and

white Connecticut municipalities in 2016. His victorious showing in Ward 1, however, followed months of campaigning by and for Yale students in support of Sanders’ campaign.

In 2016, 36 percent of eligible voters in Ward 1 voted, while only nine percent cast their ballots this year. Sanders received 66 percent of the vote in 2016 — the highest of any ward in the city — while “uncommitted” only garnered 18 percent — six votes out of 33.

This sharp drop from the trend may be a result of a lack of Vote Uncommitted campaigning targeting Yale students. On Primary Day, Vote Uncommitted CT organizer Garaffa said that while some Yale students had reached out to them about canvassing at polling locations Downtown, there was no coordinated in-person effort to get out the vote in Ward 1.

Garaffa said that some volunteers decided on Primary Day to participate in remote campaigning, instead of in-person canvassing, due to the rainy weather.

Joe Biden won all 60 of Connecticut’s delegates in this year’s Democratic Primary.

Contact **ARIELA LOPEZ** at ariela.lopez@yale.edu and Contact **LILY BELLE POLING** at lily.poling@yale.edu.

New Haven Register moves newsroom out of town

BY ETHAN WOLIN AND ZACHARY SURI
STAFF REPORTERS

The New Haven Register has moved its newsroom out of New Haven.

Since last week, journalists at the longstanding daily newspaper have worked at the Meriden offices of the Record-Journal, a publication acquired last year by Hearst Connecticut Media Group, the owner of the Register.

The move, which was not formally announced by the newspaper but was reported earlier by the New Haven Independent, marks a largely symbolic step in the evolution of the Connecticut media industry. Register staffers who cover New Haven will continue to report from the city, according to Mike DeLuca, the publisher of Hearst’s Connecticut chain.

“By relocating some staff members to Meriden, we are better positioned to bridge our service and coverage between New Haven and Hartford, which we believe will significantly benefit our readership across these areas,” DeLuca wrote in a statement to the News.

The Register has occupied part of a building on Gando Drive, in Quinnipiac Meadows, since 2014, when the newspaper vacated its longtime Sargent Drive facility in Long Wharf. The former building now houses Jordan’s Furniture.

On Thursday, staff from the Register’s billing department answered the doorbell on Gando Drive and told a News reporter

that they were the only Register employees in the building. The company will have its rented space there “until late this year,” according to DeLuca.

“At that time we will make a decision whether to vacate completely or maintain some presence. That has not been decided as of yet,” DeLuca wrote.

Register journalists are expected to work in the office only from Tuesday to Thursday each week, the Independent reported. DeLuca wrote that the move to Meriden will improve “flexible working arrangements” for employees.

John DeStefano, who served as mayor for two decades, told the News that he does not consider the relocation of the Register’s newsroom very consequential for the city, given the newspaper’s lack of New Haven ownership and the COVID-induced rise of remote work.

“The idea of a hometown paper disappeared long ago,” DeStefano said. He added that other outlets, such as the Yale Daily News and the Independent, a non-profit news website, have picked up some of the slack with hyperlocal coverage.

Paul Bass ’82, who founded the Independent in 2005, said he sees the Register’s move as part of Hearst’s effort to combine several Connecticut legacy publications into an integrated news operation.

Hearst bought the Register in 2017, following a decade in which the newspaper twice declared

bankruptcy. Hearst’s other Connecticut newspapers include the Stamford Advocate, the Middletown Press and the Connecticut Post. The publications share some content and staff but maintain separate websites and print editions.

“They’re really trying to make it work by making it a regional publication,” said Bass, who worked at the Register while he was an undergraduate at Yale. “In America now, there is not a for-profit business model for one-city local journalism.”

Several Hearst journalists declined to comment for this article on the latest shift for the Register.

The move to Meriden is expected to have little practical impact on the Register’s product, but it nonetheless represents a striking milestone for a newspaper that once occupied a more prominent place in New Haven’s media landscape — and its physical one.

David Leonhardt ’95, who worked as a summer intern at the Register before becoming editor in chief of the News, recalled the Sargent Drive location as “a big white building with big red letters that said ‘New Haven Register.’”

“You couldn’t approach New Haven from the south back then and not see this building,” Leonhardt, now a New York Times senior writer, added.

But even in the ’90s, Leonhardt said, the Register had begun to decline, with staff cuts that jus-

tified having a young intern like him arrive at 3 p.m. to help fill gaps in coverage.

Karen Alexander ’93 — a former editorial page editor of the News who reported for the Register as an intern and then, in 1994, as a staff reporter — recalled an office memo from the publisher that instructed the staff to reuse paper clips.

Still, the newspaper “covered the hell out of the city” at the

time, Alexander said. For her part, she worked in a Register bureau in Milford, Connecticut, with about five colleagues.

The New Haven Register was founded in 1755 and adopted its current name in 1812, according to Hearst.

Contact **ETHAN WOLLIN** at ethan.wolin@yale.edu and Contact **ZACHARY SURI** at zachary.suri@yale.edu.



COURTESY OF MIRANDA RECTOR

Journalists for the daily newspaper are now based in Meriden, at the headquarters of another publication owned by Hearst Connecticut Media Group.

“And everything under the sun is in tune but the sun is eclipsed by the moon.”
PINK FLOYD ROCK BAND

Michal Beth Dinkler to be next Head of Timothy Dwight

BY TRISTAN HERNANDEZ
STAFF REPORTER

On Monday night, Michal Beth Dinkler spoke to Timothy Dwight College's community for the first time as their incoming Head of College.

The associate professor of New Testament and Early Christian literature at the Divinity School will begin her five-year term on July 1, 2024, after the current Head of College Mary Lui announced she would step down following nine years in the role in January.

“When you choose curiosity and compassion over judgments, courage and connectedness over suspicion and fear — this is the work of community,” Dinkler told the crowd in the TD dining hall. “We can build trust and pull together through all of our beautiful challenging differences.”

Dinkler began at the University as a professor ten years ago, and her work focuses on religious studies and contemporary literary theory. She received her bachelor's and master's from Stanford University, her master's of divinity from the Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary and her doctor of theology from Harvard University. She

is also an ordained minister in the Presbyterian Church.

Alongside Head Dinkler, her husband, John Dinkler, will become the associate head of college. Dinkler is a cardiologist with a doctorate in health policy and practices at Consulting Cardiologists, PC in Wallingford and is the director of outpatient quality at Hartford Healthcare's Heart and Vascular Institute. Living in the college, the Dinklers will also be joined by their two children, 15-year-old Alethea and 12-year-old Daelen, and the family's puppy, Atticus.

“Professor Dinkler has had years of experience supporting students from vastly diverse backgrounds as they have prepared for vastly diverse futures,” Dean of Yale College Pericles Lewis wrote to the TD community in an email. “She is equally at home mentoring high school students and advising PhD students as she is guiding YDS students for careers as religious and nonprofit leaders, social justice and climate activists, artists, entrepreneurs, lawyers, and more.”

Lewis also wrote that, in recent years, Dinkler has served on the Divinity School's inaugural Antiracism Task Force and overseen the grant implementing “the first-ever

antiracist pedagogy trainings for YDS Teaching Fellows.”

Lewis ended his message by thanking Lui and Associate Head of College Vincent Balbarin, who led the TD community through the COVID-19 pandemic and some of the college's “best moments.”

“It's way way way too early for me to be saying goodbye,” Lui told the crowd. “It's only April 8, people April 8, you have classes to go to, papers to write, exams to study for, so we're not there yet.”

In her speech, Dinkler shared the story of whitewater rafting in Ghana with her husband and her raft flipped over in the Niger River, punctuating her anecdote that TD is the “life raft for all of us.”

She explained that current events on and off-campus can make life feel like when she was “alone in the rapids,” but the TD community can build trust with one another, and Dinkler said she already sees this in TD with their confidence and creativity.

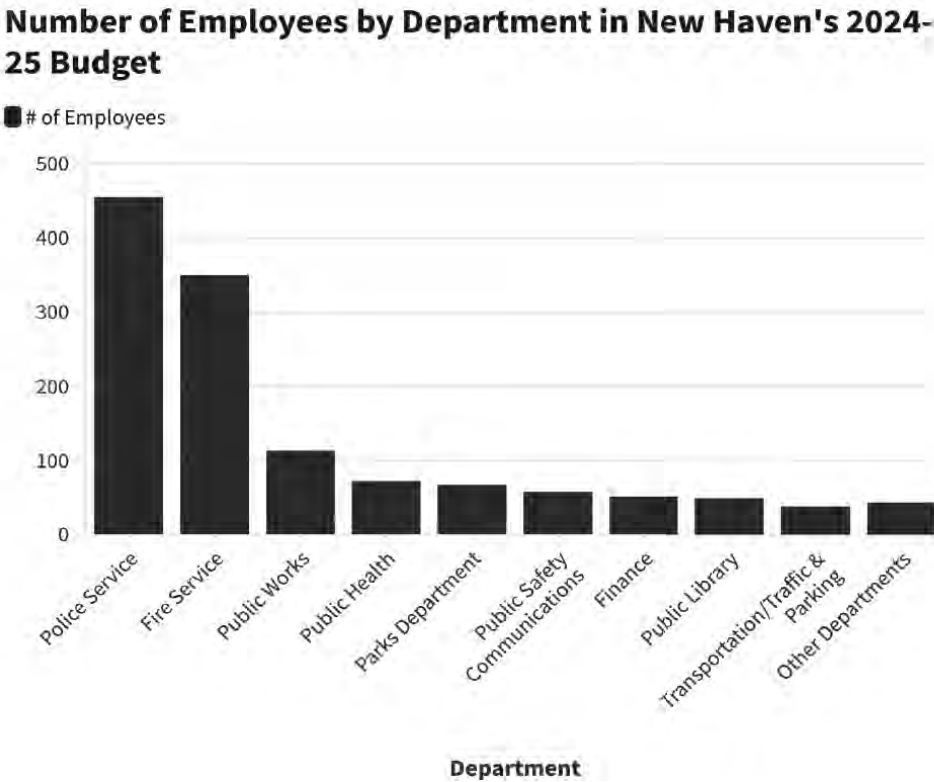
Timothy Dwight College is located at 345 Temple St.

Contact **TRISTAN HERNANDEZ** at tristan.hernandez@yale.edu.



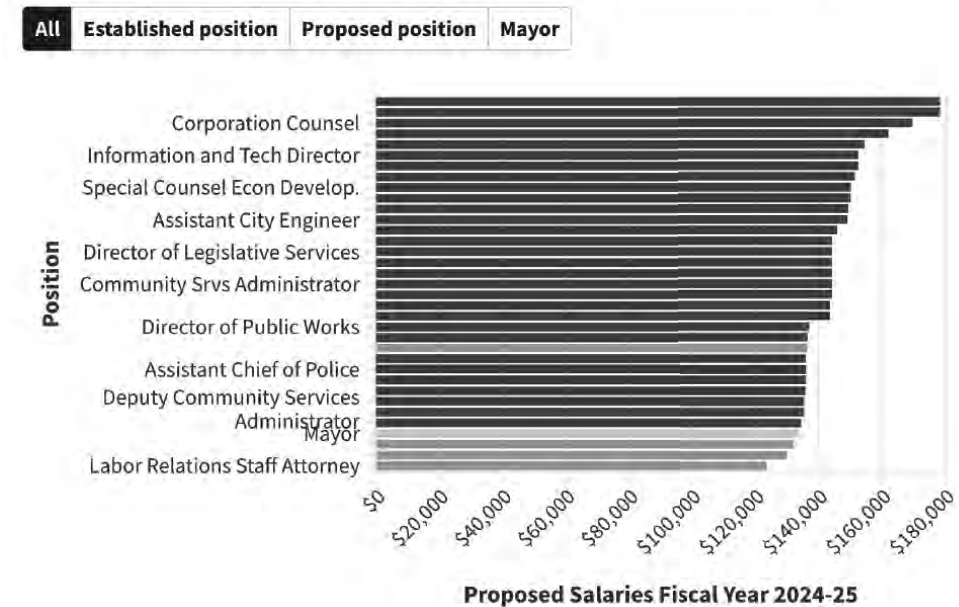
The Divinity School professor will begin her five-year term in July as the current Head of College Mary Lui steps down.

DATA: Who makes more than the mayor?



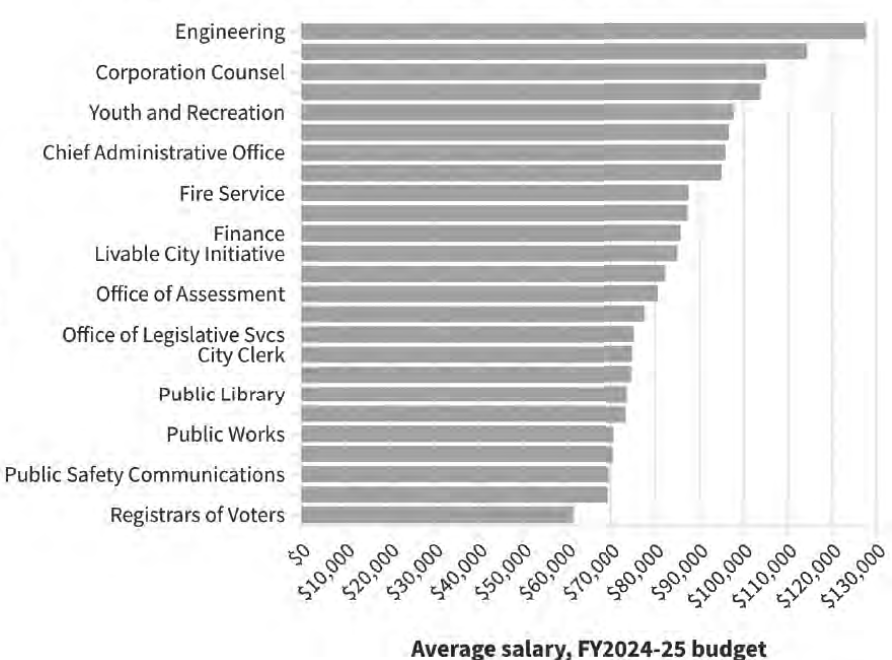
Top salaries in New Haven include police and fire chiefs, department directors

Of the 40 highest-earning positions in New Haven, the mayor ranks 37th. His new budget proposes adding four top-40 positions by salary.



New Haven's average salary by department

Mayor Justin Elicker's proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2024-25 features departments with a wide range of average salaries.



The News looked at salary data from Mayor Justin Elicker's proposed budget to identify department headcounts and averages by department.

BY YURII STASIUK
STAFF REPORTER

New Haven Mayor Justin Elicker annually receives a \$134,013 salary. But he is far from the highest-paid city employee.

The city employs over 1,400 full-time workers in total — excluding those employed through federal and state grants and the Board of Education employees. In his proposal for the next fiscal year, Elicker proposed adding 31 additional full-time and two part-time positions. The budget has to be first approved by the Board of Alders.

The News found that the average salary for Elicker's 31 proposed full-time positions, excluding workers at the Livable Cities Initiative

and part-time employees, is \$91,802. This compares to next year's average salary of \$80,589 for all full-time workers.

Out of 31 proposed positions, 21 will make more than the total average salary, including several deputy directors, which increases the average for the group.

Cost of running the city

If the budget is approved by alders in its current form, the city will employ 1,440 full-time workers across its 30 departments. This number does not include teachers and employees whose salaries will be paid by state and federal grants — like the proposed additional staffers on the Livable City Initiative.

Overall, the city will spend over \$116 million on salaries out of \$680 million of general funds.

Over 88 percent of the city employees work in one of the 10 largest departments. The two largest departments — fire and police — employ 805 workers, almost half of the city staff.

The next three biggest departments are the public works and parks departments, which currently are merged but, under Elicker's proposed budget, will be split apart, and the public health department.

Across its departments, the city also employs part-time workers to staff the polling locations on election days, do seasonal work in parks, enter data for various departments and enforce traffic rules.

In the proposed budget, the city plans to spend another \$3,783,782 on salaries for part-time employees.

City's highest earners

Next fiscal year, city salaries will range from \$46,350 for voter clerks to \$178,190 for fire and police chiefs, per Elicker's budget proposal.

The mayor proposed adding an additional deputy economic developing administrator, who will earn \$136,409, to oversee housing programs.

The proposed executive director of the parks department, which Elicker proposed to separate from the current parks and public works, will earn \$130,000. The deputy policy, management, grants budget director will earn \$132,000.

In total, 36 employees will earn more than Elicker. These mainly include directors of departments.

Three members of the mayor's office earn more than he earns. Other departments with a high number of high earners include engineering, in which four engineers earn more than the mayor, economic development and corporate counsel.

Last year, Elicker proposed adding 34 new positions, though the Board of Alders rejected 25. Alders are expected to approve the budget in May and can reject positions or amend salaries.

The next fiscal year starts on July 1.

Contact **YURII STASIUK** at yurii.stasiuk@yale.edu.

WHERE WRITERS AND READERS MEET THE YALE FESTIVAL REVIEW 2024

Workshops

Generative Workshop: Fiction

Tuesday, April 16
3:45–4:45 P.M. • HQ 134
Writing characters into spaces with Katie Kitamura, award-winning author of *Intimacies*, one of Barack Obama’s favorite books of 2021.

Generative Workshop: Poetry

Wednesday, April 17
3:45–4:45 P.M. • HQ 276
Learn strategies for transforming raw materials into first drafts with Catherine Barnett, author *Solutions for the Problem of Bodies in Space and Human Hours*.

Generative Workshop: Criticism

Thursday, April 18
12:00–1:00 P.M. • HQ 107
Lessons from Joan Didion’s sentences with Brian Dillon, critic and author of, most recently, *Affinities*.

WORKSHOPS OPEN TO MEMBERS OF THE YALE COMMUNITY.
SIGN UP HERE: [YALEREVIEW.ORG/FESTIVAL](https://yalereview.org/festival)

Readings & Panels

Writers at Work

Tuesday, April 16
12:00–1:00 P.M. • HQ 134
What is a novelist?
Enjoy lunch with Pulitzer Prize–winning novelist Hernan Diaz as he engages in a conversation with TYR deputy editor Elliott Holt.

Keynote Reading & Reception

Tuesday, April 16
5:00–6:30 P.M. • HQ L02/L90
Where fiction and history meet
Award-winning novelists Hernan Diaz and Katie Kitamura read from their work and discuss the role fiction plays in our understanding of history.
Reception to follow

Poetry Reading & Conversation

Wednesday, April 17
5:00–6:30 P.M. • HQ L02
American poetry and our present history
A reading and conversation with Aria Aber, Catherine Barnett, and Brenda Shaughnessy, introduced by Maggie Millner, poet and TYR senior editor, and moderated by Meghan O’Rourke, editor of *The Yale Review*.

What Is Criticism: A Panel

Thursday, April 18
5:00–6:30 P.M. • HQ L02/L90
What is criticism, and why do we write it?
A discussion with TYR editor Meghan O’Rourke and contributors Merve Emre (*The New Yorker*), Brian Dillon (*London Review of Books*), Namwali Serpell (*New York Review of Books*), and Christine Smallwood (*Harper’s*).
Reception to follow

Archives Out Loud

Friday, April 19
12:00–1:00 P.M. • HQ 134
Enjoy lunch with Merve Emre and Claire Messud, who will discuss the legacy of Virginia Woolf—novelist, essayist, and longtime contributor to *The Yale Review*.

Student Reading

Friday, April 19
3:00–4:00 P.M. • HQ 131
Featuring students from *The Yale Review*’s reading program.

CO-SPONSORED BY THE YALE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT AND CREATIVE WRITING PROGRAM, THE FAS DEAN’S OFFICE IN HUMANITIES, AND THE POYNTER FELLOWSHIP IN JOURNALISM.



SPORTS

FOR MORE SPORTS CONTENT,
VISIT OUR WEB SITE
goydn.com/YDNSports
Twitter: @YDNSports



YALE DAILY NEWS · FRIDAY, APRIL 12, 2023 · yaledailynews.com

“We got off to a slow start but since the past couple of weeks we have definitely picked it up. We are playing a lot better as a team and we are competing a lot better. Ultimately, we have been winning more games as a result.”

CHASE CHAPLIN '27 INF1 ELDER

W LAX: Bulldogs upset Penn in Ivy League clash

BY COLETTE STAADECKER
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

On Wednesday afternoon, No. 16 Yale women's lacrosse team (9-1, 3-0 Ivy) fell to No. 4 Boston College (11-2, 5-1 ACC) with a final score of 16-8, ending their impressive nine-game winning streak.

While the Bulldogs are among the four teams that have limited the Eagles to fewer than 17 goals this season, their efforts fell short of clinching the victory. Notably, Yale has not emerged victorious against Boston College since 2008.

The Blue and White demonstrated resilience until the last minute, as Jenna Collignon '25,

Karina Herrera '27 and Ashley Kiernan '27 each scored two goals. Particularly noteworthy is goalkeeper Laura O'Connor '27, who made 10 pivotal saves, marking the highest count in her Yale career.

On Sunday afternoon at Reese Stadium, Yale (10-1, 4-0 Ivy) topped No. 7 University of Pennsylvania (8-3, 2-2 Ivy) with a score of 16-8, maintaining their grip on first place in the Ivy League, and continuing to cause upset within the conference. The game marked Yale's largest margin of victory against Penn since 2001, where they won 10-2.

SEE W LAX PAGE 10



Following a tough match against Boston College, the women's lacrosse team secured a victory against Penn, preserving their undefeated record in the Ivy League.

YALE ATHLETICS

T&F: Bulldogs defeat Harvard at home



YALE ATHLETICS

The men's and women's track and field teams hosted squads from Harvard with both teams emerging victorious.

BY PETER WILLIAMS
BEATREPORTER

This past weekend, the Bulldogs hosted Ivy League rival Harvard at Coxe Cage here in New Haven, and both the men's and women's teams walked away with victories.

Head coach David Shoehalter, who has been with the Bulldogs since 1994, said this was the first time in recent memory that both the men's and women's squad have taken home head-to-head victories against their arch-rivals from Cambridge.

“Always good to beat our rivals, and it's the first time both our men and women have won the meet in recent memory,” Shoehalter wrote to the News. “We still have a long way to go in the season but the results are improving and I am looking forward to what the second half of outdoor brings.”

On the men's side of events, Nolan Recker '26 and Chris Ward '24 led the throws group. The former took first in the hammer throw with a PR of 58.24m and the latter took first in both the discus with a distance of 51.18m and shot put with a throw of 16.44m. Brian Di Bassinga '26 led the rest of the field athletes with consecutive leaps totaling 14.66m in the triple jump, earning him first place.

On the track, Tanish Chettiar '26 took first place in the 1500m with a time of 3:56.79, and Aaron Miller '25 took first in the 400m with a time of 50.17 seconds. In the 200m, Jacob Kao '25 blitzed his way to first place with a time of 21.64 seconds.

“I think we did what we needed to do,” men's team captain Matt Appel '24 wrote to the News. “They're a super talented team with loads of star power, but we have really great depth on our squad and we showed

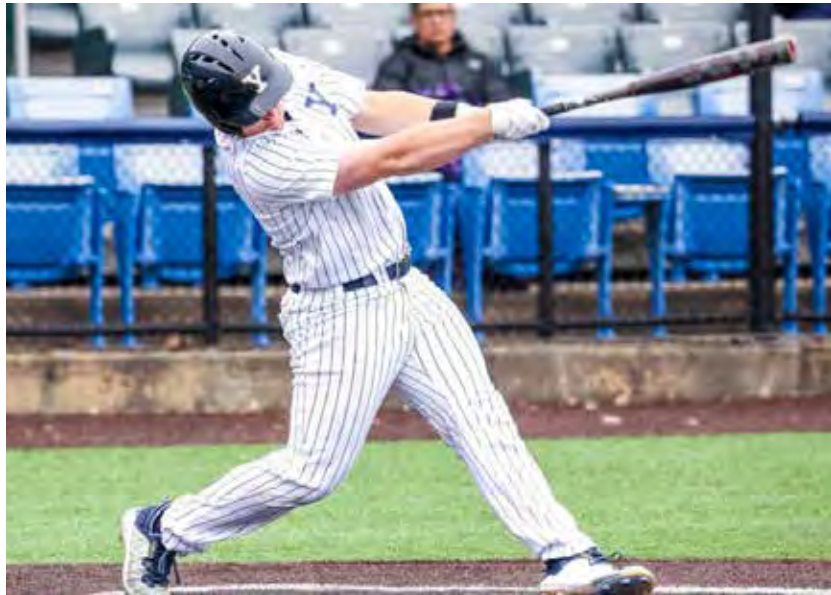
it off this weekend. It's a long season, and there's still a lot of work to be done leading up to HEPs, but it always feels nice to get a win versus that team up North.”

On the women's side of competition, the Bulldogs started off strong in the relays, with both the 4x100 and 4x400 teams taking first place with times of 48.29 seconds and 3:59.96, respectively. The 4x100 consisted of Sophie Spokes '27, Makayla White '26, Dominique Romain '25 and Juliette Kosmont '27 and the 4x400 consisted of Gloria Guerrier '27, Bridget Vitu '25, Peyton Parker '25 and Molly Harding '26.

Meanwhile, in the individual events, Gloria Guerrier also took home first place in the 400m hurdles with a PR of 1:04.38, and fellow first year Kalista Villatoro '27 earned gold in the 800m with a time of 2:15.93. Rounding out the track victories was Sophia

SEE T&F PAGE 10

BASEBALL: News checks in with Bulldogs at midseason



YALE ATHLETICS

The Yale baseball team gained a few triumphant wins, players spoke with News about how they think their season is going and what is next.

BY KATE ESTEVEZ
STAFF REPORTER

As the Bulldogs are (9-16, 4-5 Ivy) approaching their last month in the baseball season, they reflected on past games and shared their hopes for the future with the News. Coming off their sixteenth game this season with an epic win against the Penn Quakers (13-15, 5-4 Ivy) earlier this week, the Bulldogs seem excited and hopeful for what the future holds.

The baseball season began in Jacksonville, Florida on Feb. 23 where the Bulldogs suffered their first loss of the season. After that game, the Bulldogs were bested seven more times collec-

tively holding a 0-8 streak. However, their luck changed once they finally gained their first win at Towson University on March 10. The Bulldogs described their mentality through this period at the beginning of the season.

“We got off to a slow start but since the past couple of weeks we have definitely picked it up,” said infielder Chase Chaplin '27. “We are playing a lot better as a team and we are competing a lot better. Ultimately, we have been winning more games as a result.”

About two months into the season, the Elis have had their fair share of highs and lows but they collec-

SEE BASEBALL PAGE 10

M LAX: No. 9 Bulldogs edge Boston University

BY AMELIA LOWER
STAFF REPORTER

The Elis notched a mid-week win against Boston University at Nickerson Field in Boston, adding to their three-game winning streak, which started March 26.

The No. 9 Bulldogs (8-2, 3-1 Ivy) defeated No. 15 Boston University (7-4, 4-1 Patriot) last Tuesday, adding another win to their strong season record. Senior attackman Matt Brandau '24 — who had already surpassed the Yale school record for career goals on March 30 in Yale's game against Brown — broke Yale records for both career points and assists.

To date, Brandau has notched 183 goals, 144 assists and 327 points in his Yale career. The previous records were all held by attackman Ben Reeves '18 MED '24, who was on the 2018 NCAA championship-winning team and won the Tewaaron Award that year.

Fifty-three seconds into the contest, attackman David Anderson '26 began scoring, off of a Brandau assist. Midfielder Johnny Keib '25 raised Yale's lead 36 seconds later, with an unassisted goal, and midfielder Max Krevsky '25 tallied another unassisted goal for Yale 18 seconds later.

The Terriers answered back with three consecutive goals in the first

frame, by attackman Vince D'Alto, attackman Louis Perfetto and attackman Thomas Niedringhaus. Yale, however, scored three more within seven minutes.

Midfielder Thomas Bragg '24 made an unassisted goal with 9:06 remaining in the quarter, followed by a goal by Anderson and another by midfielder Carson Kuhl '25, both assisted by Brandau. Terrier attackman Zach Travaglini closed out the period with a goal for BU.

Yale started scoring in the second frame with points from Anderson and Keib, both also assisted by Brandau. Boston University then

SEE M LAX PAGE 10



YALE ATHLETICS

Last Tuesday afternoon in Boston, the Yale men's lacrosse team conquered the Terriers 18-16.

STAT OF THE WEEK

2

THE NUMBER OF YALE MEN'S LACROSSE RECORDS, FOR ALL-TIME POINTS AND ALL-TIME ASSISTS, THAT MATT BRANDAU '24 BROKE AS PART OF HIS 11 POINT

WEEKEND

// MARIA AROZAMENA

I am obsessed with ghost stories — trickles of the unknown, in whispers, against the skin of your ear as you walk through Cross Campus at 2 a.m.; watching books fall out of shelves in the library without being touched; shadows that shift through the winding tunnels in the basement, as you waddle in deep, uncanny solitude. Werewolves and witches, wickedness, hauntings.

I become lost in these moments of fear. It is only when I feel my heart sink and a weight pressing down on my throat that I suddenly begin to understand how centuries of humankind have led their lives with myths. Believing in apparitions, stories of the supernatural, rituals and duties and deities suddenly becomes second-nature to me, and in these moments, I begin to pray. I feel most religious when I am scared; I begin to feel the gravity of my existence stranded alongside the immensity of the human experience, and the totality of the natural world.

So, it's no wonder that I felt that totality — or at least 92 percent of it — on Monday, gazing at the white-gold blaze of stellar wedding bands in the sky. Witnessing the eclipse from Leitner Observatory, I was half marveling at the sky and half mesmerized by the masses of people standing heads-crooked mouths-gaped all around me.

A part of me expected the world to fall apart in a burst of flames and glory, catapulting us into the new-world dys-

topian era that I've been anticipating since 5th grade. If YA novels taught me anything, it's that you have to be on your toes if you experience a) a seismic shift b) a solar eclipse c) a randomly included romance subplot all in the span of one weekend.

Alas, all that occurred in the 20 minutes of feverishness following the eclipse were exclamations of “wow, that was so cool!” and “dude, wasn't that crazy?” battling against bitter “it wasn't that cool!”s and “that was it?!”s. The shadows of near-totality didn't take long to escape us, and onto PSETs and Italian homework we progressed.

Earlier that day, I panic-texted half of my contacts asking where I could find eclipse glasses. I wasn't about to miss the event at the tips of everyone's tongues, and I knew that if I didn't have immediate access to protective eyewear, I wouldn't be able to stop myself from staring straight up at the sun.

Even with eclipse glasses, once I acquired them, there's something about witnessing the event with naked vision — retinas on full blast — that tempts me against caution, makes me a little too un-wary and grants me a sense of confidence that I really should never be allowed to have. It's the same boldness that dares me to roller skate down Science Hill at midnight and to drive to Philadelphia on a Thursday evening despite a 9 a.m. the next day. Both of which, by the way, are never good ideas.

It's part-greediness, a want to see the world and leave no part unseen, no experience unnoticed. A desire to collect the spectacular, like tokens of experience that I can put on a mental trophy-case and polish for years, sprinkle them into my daily conversations like flakes of paprika — “Hey, remember that eclipse 30 years ago when we were back in New Haven?” “Didn't see it,” “Oh, what a shame! It was one of the most memorable moments of my life.”

Maybe it's part-petty attitude, a desire to compensate for the worlds I feel I haven't seen and the lands whose grounds my feet have yet to graze. I think seeing things like eclipses, witnessing the small shakes of the earth, make me feel more grounded and on the same level as others around me. What I can't relate to in visiting London or walking through the Great Wall or spending spring break on a yacht in Cancun is reclaimed in sitting down on a picnic blanket, munching on a pack of Fritos and watching the moon's lapse onto the sun. It's a sort of anti-FOMO, a bragging right that, selfishly, a part of me wants to claim.

Maybe it's also my desire to make a ghost-tale out of nature, of my want to be moved so badly that suddenly I'm jumping up and down, giddy, at two space rocks that intersect for just a moment in time. It could be the end of the world, it could be the beginning of a new saga — Twilight, anyone? — it could be anything and everything,

nothing at all or a completely new life.

When I was watching the eclipse, I was one of many mesmerized faces staring at the sky, some with wonder, some with partial fear, mine with infected joy. As much as I left Leitner feeling aware of how quickly a moment passes — boom, 25 minutes and the masses were already migrating — I also felt comforted, not only by the ecstasy of discovering the natural phenomenon for myself, but by the waves of shared experience I felt with everyone around me.

There were no werewolves, unfortunately; no prickles on my skin or whispers from ghosts, no calling from the beyond to satiate my desire to be spooked. But I did feel that sort of religion, that succumbing to forces greater than myself, as I watched all the faces around me move in unison towards the sky and to the beyond.

No matter how behind I was on my architecture project; no wonder the itchiness of the sweater I wore or the bitterness of the cold that slapped me; no matter the gray clouds that blotted the sky like guardians of a gate to the unknown; all of this stopped to let the moon overtake the sun, to let the natural mysticism of our solar system, our galaxies, take the reign.

Nothing else mattered for a moment, because I got to watch the eclipse.

Contact MARIA AROZAMENA at maria.arozamena@yale.edu

// MARIA AROZAMENA

WEEKEND

LYRICS

// BY SOFIA GAVIRIA PARTOW

Bad Bunny is one of the few Latin American reggaeton artists to ever dominate top 100 charts across the United States. And so he occupies a crucial role in Latino self-perception, both in the U.S. and Latin America. He emerged from beyond the dominant, white-coded narrative to now take up space in an American music industry built to exclude Black people and Latinos — people like him.

While Chuck Berry and Little Richard pioneered the Rock & Roll movement of the early 1950s, neither is today considered the “King of Rock.” This title was instead bestowed upon Elvis, who gained the recognition that, in a more just world, would have been shared with his predecessors. Non-white artists have been experiencing that same phenomenon since their time, making Bad Bunny’s power over the American musical scene all the more astounding.

In particular, his success seems indicative of the power of Latin American music, which, in the recent past, was contained to its birth region. His lyrics and references, most recognizable to people familiar with Latin American history and culture, make it seem like he is singing to you — the groups of people that exist beyond the narrative of mainstream American music.

I love Taylor Swift, but singing along to the line, “If she’s got blue eyes I will surmise that you’ll probably date her” always feels a little ironic, given that she is a white woman with blonde hair and blue eyes.

It’s something altogether different to sing along to the words of an artist who understands a little bit more about “your” life. In Bad Bunny’s song “El Apagón,” which deals with injustice in Puerto Rico stemming from American imperialism, he sings:

*Aquí el calor es diferente, el sol es taino
La capital del perreo, ahora todos quieren ser latino
Pero les falta sazón*

When he says that nowadays, “everyone” wants to be Latino, he tangentially addresses the topics of cultural appropriation as well as the popularization of traits of non-white groups by white people, while maintaining a rhythmic flow that captivates multiple communities of listeners — particularly with its incorporation of the influence of African drum.

For people who don’t experience this mainstream attention all too frequently, the feeling that a form of media has been tailored to your experience and identity is exciting and new. Being able to keep up with the fast-paced delivery of Spanish words packaged in a Caribbean accent, while simultaneously understanding every word you’re saying, is adrenaline-inducing.

And Bad Bunny doesn’t seem like his fellow reggaetoneros, and I think that this is a large part of his appeal. Adorned with eye-makeup, earrings and wearing a red leather dress and knee-high boots for his “Yo perreo sola” video,

Bad Bunny: Problematic Fave?

Bad Bunny defied the heteronormative gospel of reggaeton. In a Latin American musical culture in which men exist at the very forefront — not only able but encouraged to sexualize the women in their lives — this move appeared earth-shattering. A rejection of toxic masculinity and the objectification of women.

Then, there is his immense musical talent: one that seems to stop any and all critiques from leaving my mouth. His ability to shift from genre to genre has converted him into the region’s Taylor Swift. Starting with trap, he skipped around for a while, landed on reggaeton, released an indie album, and returned to a mixture of reggaeton and trap with his latest album, released Oct. 13, 2023.

During his dalliance with

indie, which he infused with a reggaeton-adjacent flavor, he returned rhythm to a genre that, to me, can often sound rhythmless. One of my favorite songs of Bad Bunny’s, “Después de la Playa,” opens with a more musical — yet somewhat electronic-indie sounding — slow section, which then transitions into a classic mambo that sounds much more real, as if being played by a live band composed of African drums, trumpet, and accordion. The song is a perfect example of the genre-blending he conducts within his music, which, as a result, transcends the bounds of typical reggaeton.

Coming from Puerto Rico — a U.S.-territory whose inhabitants’ right to representation in government has been kept from them — Bad Bunny understands

what it means to exist beyond the bounds of what white America accepts as its own. But in a more trivial sense, he knows what it is to be purposefully separated from the musical talents of our age: in last year’s Grammy’s, “Un Verano Sin Ti” won Best Urban Album, while the superior award of Best Album was bestowed upon Harry Styles for “Harry’s House.”

The two artists seem superficially similar. Both have been applauded for their rejection of toxic masculinity, with Styles appearing on the cover of Vogue in a dress in 2020. And interestingly, “Un Verano Sin Ti” was the best performing album of 2022, beating “Harry’s House” globally and leading multitudes of Bad Bunny fanatics to ask why.

To my ear, Bad Bunny seems the clear winner in terms of sound and musical innovation, with his album crossing the bounds of at least three different genres and bringing indie into the Latin American mainstream. But “urban” seems to be the name assigned to all artists who fall into the categories — categories painted by thick, untidy brushstrokes — of rap and reggaeton. Even though these genres are adored by the populace, they never receive the associated respect in award ceremonies. Bad Bunny obviously understands that.

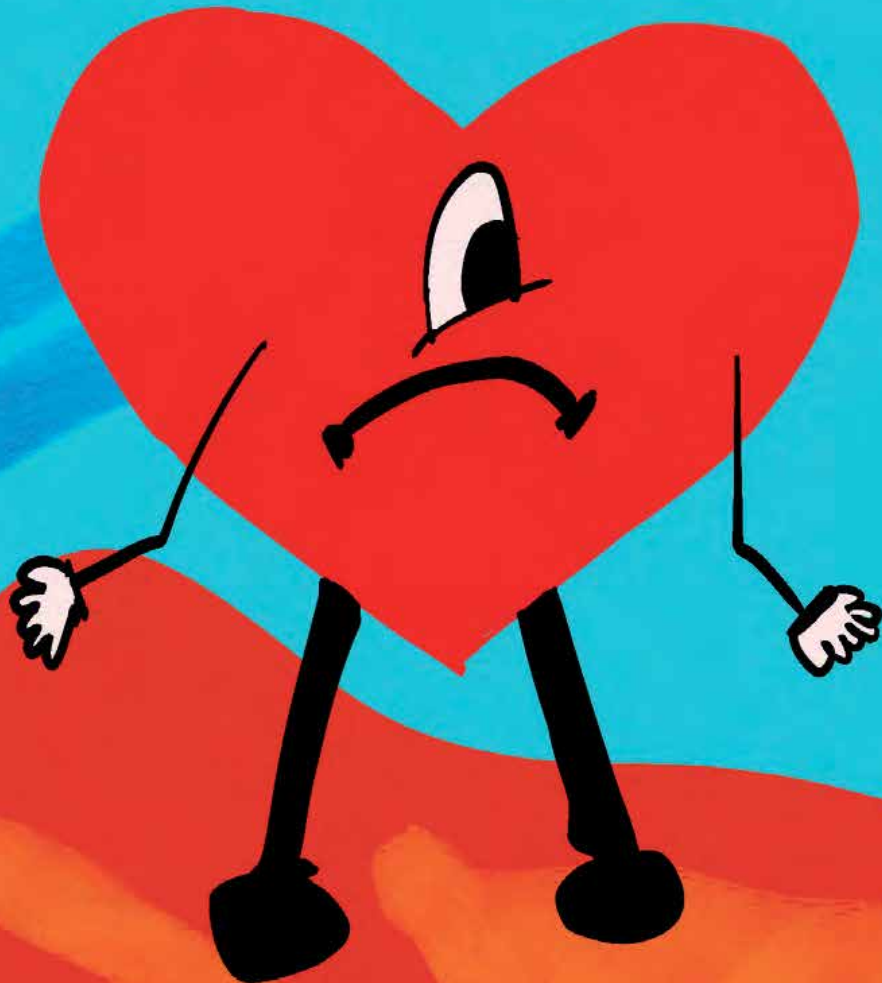
Then you listen to the rest of his lyrics. It’s hard to get through the entirety of any one of his two- to four-minute-long songs without noticing his explicit objectification of women. A focal part of his musical persona seems to be his detachment from love, a classic reggaetonero trope, and many of his lyrics center around the sexualization of women.

In “Un Verano Sin Ti,” Bad Bunny’s 2019 indie-adjacent album that served as his attempt at phasing out his playboy reggaetonero persona, he featured multiple female artists on the album and, potentially as a result, his lyrics became more respectful in nature (and sometimes even dealt with love).

But his new album, “Nadie Sabe Lo Que Va a Pasar Mañana,” features only one woman, who, crucially, collaborates with him in the dehumanization of other women, calling them sluts alongside Bad Bunny in the song.

The shift in tone from “Un Verano Sin Ti” to “Nadie Sabe Lo Que Va a Pasar Mañana” suggests that, maybe, there was only space for women to be respected in his music when he was indie. Which then poses the greater question of whether women can even exist in reggaeton as a genre without being belittled and dehumanized. And maybe Bad Bunny’s shift in persona — his embrace of drag, his inclusion of women in his music — was part of the indie persona that he occupied for a couple of years. And now he’s back, a true reggaetonero.

Contact SOFIA GAVIRIA-PARTOW at sofia.gaviriapartow@yale.edu.



WHY WORDS

// BY MADDIE BUTCHKO

I have always found words captivating.

I’ve always been precise with my words because that is how I convey the meaning of my inner thoughts. Everything in spoken languages is dependent on definitions. During conversations with others, I always asked, “How do you define this word?” Definitions reveal one’s perspective and thought processes. The differences in definitions enable one to understand subtle yet imperative differences in perspective. We might say the same words and mean to say entirely different things. Definitions are constructed from meaning. I am always searching for meaning in spaces, including the spaces between inked letters.

Starting in the 4th grade, I quenched my thirst for understanding words by flipping through my Kids Edition of the Merriam-Webster dictionary. Clutching my \$10 bill in my right hand, my nine-year-old self entered the book fair full of colorful chapter books, little gadgets and candies. While my classmates gravitated toward the rock candy, I gravitated toward the Merriam-Webster Children’s Dictionary. I craved something sweeter. I didn’t need rock candy when I had words.

Words were my favorite kind of candy because they held the sweetness of deeper meaning. Like hard candies, I let words sit on my tongue, savoring every bit of sweetness as they melt into my mouth. Rushing towards the sunshine yellow and lime green cover, I grasped the paperback pocket dictionary in my hands, carefully tracing the astronaut and ladybug drawn on the cover with my little fingertips. As I stood in line to pay for my dictionary, my mom took one glance at the dictionary, only to laugh in utter confusion.

Raising her eyebrows, my mom inquired: “Madison, are you sure you don’t want to buy a book?”

“This is a book,” I retorted with alacrity, eyes fixated on the front of the line, feet firmly planted. Stubborn? Perhaps. Headstrong? Absolutely. I wanted a dictionary, and I was taking it home tonight. With my dictionary, an endless candy jar, I was ready for the sugar rush of a lifetime.

Flipping through definitions, I wrote down my favorite words in a composition notebook: punctilious, parsimonious, pugnacious. I reveled in the sounds of each word, letting each syllable roll off my tongue. I began using complex words because I thought complex equated to smart. Did I understand what any of these words meant? Absolutely not, and neither did anyone else around me. Interjecting words like “lugubrious” or “subsequently” became my not-so-subtle way of flaunting my intellect. Bravery comes in all forms — including speaking like a walking thesaurus.

I learned the hard way that reading the dictionary for fun and inserting “extensibility” in conversation was not the golden ticket to popularity. Despite my vast vocabulary, I struggled to express myself. When speaking to new people, my words were

like little beads. When I tried to string the beads into bracelets of meaning, they slipped through my fingers, remaining disconnected and scattered. However, I reassured myself that even if I didn’t have friends, at least I had words.

Composed of pages and potential, my friends simply came in a different form. I discovered new collections of words in the form of books. Combinations of words constructed companionship and characters. Words became meaningful through stories, bringing joy and solace, transcending definitions to infuse meaning into touching narratives.

Reading became my world of “happily ever after.” I immersed myself in books beneath my bed covers. Despite my mom’s attempts to encourage me to play outside, I always had a strategy. When she called, “Reading time is over, Madison, get up!” I’d pretend to begrudgingly hand over my book. I kept a set of books I was currently reading hidden underneath my bed and in the sock drawer of my dresser for good measure. But I also hid from the outside world of real life and real people.

For me, it was simple. Why did I need people when every interaction felt like an impending disaster? Why bother with conversations that made me feel like a fly under a magnifying glass, scrutinized and dissected? Making friends was hard, but keeping them was even harder. So, whenever my parents inquired about school friends, I’d scowl before confidently retorting, “I don’t need people. I have books.” They hoped I’d have “real friends,” made of flesh and not fiction. Yet, the characters from books weren’t merely “imaginary friends”; they lived within the meticulously crafted realities of my mind. Everything I’ve ever needed or wanted resided within these pages.

Or so I thought. After a decade of retreating to my room, closing the door, and delving into books, I spent most of my time alone. Immersed in the two dimensions of book pages, I neglected the richness of living in the three dimensions of my own life. Although I cherished my book characters, I still needed connections. The concepts of “having a best friend” and “hanging out” felt foreign to me. Although people were friendly with me, that did not mean we were friends. Books could only partially fulfill my social needs because, as humans, we inherently need people. I needed to venture beyond the stories of fictional characters and embrace the stories of those around me.

I began my journey with words believing that the dictionary contained all of the answers. I championed the straightforward and concise definitions provided by the dictionary. However, I soon realized that relying solely on dictionaries left me lacking



a deeper understanding of vocabulary. Essential concepts, such as friendship, kindness, and connection, couldn’t be adequately defined in a dictionary. Friendship, for instance, is not a definition that can be found in the dictionary. Friendship is an experience that is lived through moments with those you love.

Before my freshman year of college, forming genuine friendships and stepping out of my comfort zone became my goals. I endeavored to understand people’s stories by asking questions — no longer seeking definitions from a dictionary but through conversation and curiosity. I want to truly engage with people to discover the stories they hold and the words they share. One of my favorite ways to delve into someone’s thoughts is by taking a walk around campus. As an avid speed-walker and speed-talker, I synchronize my walking pace with the tempo of my thoughts. Wandering around campus and up Science Hill, my friends and I wondered about the deeper existential questions of life, such as which dining hall has the best pizza (Morse and Stiles).

Through making friends in my math classes (trauma truly does bind people together) and through the Christian Union, I have been blessed with wonderful friends and people. Through late-night karaoke and long runs with my close friends, I realized I always enjoyed being around people. I just didn’t know how to effectively use my words to connect with those around me. Words were the answer, but not in the way I expected. They hold meaning because of the individuals who use them and the narratives they craft. They, like us, cannot survive alone.

Abacus, abstain, abode... and many words later, I still have my dictionary, tucked away on the bookshelf of my childhood room. I began as a student of words, but now, I am a student of stories. Words are not meant to remain isolated in a dictionary; they’re meant to be woven together to form stories. Words, like people, gain strength and significance when connected. When you connect words, you craft stories. When you connect people, you create meaning.

Communicating with words is how humans create connections and translate experiences and emotions. Words are not simply strings of letters, woven together into language. Words are strings of connections that weave people from a “human” into “humanity.” Words do not live in precision and perfection. Words live in perspective and people.

This is why I have always found words captivating.

Contact MADDIE BUTCHKO at maddie.cortes@yale.edu.

WEEKEND *SOUNDTRACKS*

'Til totality strikes again see you in 2079

// BY ANDREW CRAMER

It feels like everyone has already said everything there is to be said about the eclipse. You either loved it or were underwhelmed and probably don't care to hear my take. I certainly can't compete with some of the best conspiracy theories, like the observations that the earthquake plus the eclipse is a sign that Eric Adams has lost the mandate of heaven or that the eclipse's path traced the stripe from the Buffalo Bills logo and passed through Buffalo, so they're Super Bowl bound.

Outside of the "path of totality" — an awesome name for anything — the on-the-ground effects of the eclipse were ... eh. New Haven, even with our 91 percent coverage, did not go dark. Quite frankly, it just felt like another slightly overcast day in a long series of gloomy days. If I hadn't been told by every single person and spam brand discount email that it was #EclipseDay, I probably would have been looking upward sans glasses just to check if the sky looked like it might clear up.

And yet, in spite of my curmudgeonly attitude towards the phenomenon, I found myself enjoying the day. The visual of the sun peeking out from behind the moon lived up to the hype. However, the five-minute event was maybe less entertaining than the fanfare surrounding it.

Despite our equal ability to see the eclipse from every part of New Haven, it seems like half of campus marched up to the observatory, and the other half meandered over to Cross Campus so they could tell their friends that "it's so cool" in the moment, because analysis like that just can't wait 'till later.

In the midst of the gloomy sprint to the finish line after spring break, marred by a

dislocated shoulder, final projects, sleep deprivation and a search for summer sub-letters — please email me — there was an inescapable air of excitement and wonder on Monday. The eclipse, coupled with the first warm days of

// LIZZIE CONKLIN

spring, acted like a siren song emanating from Cross Campus, foisting an involuntary break upon us.

Why don't we have more events like this?

Surely there are other occasions we could find to get excited about as a campus. Sure, we have Harvard-Yale and we had those 48 hours between the end of the Auburn win and the first two minutes of the

second-round March Madness game, but why not more?

Per my very amateur research, it doesn't look like we're getting this close to totality in New Haven for another 50 years and 18 days, by which point most of us probably will have graduated. So if we're going to replicate the vibe, it's going to have to be a different event.

There are other exciting natural phenomena that we can collectively agree are worth postponing or canceling class for. I'm not advocating for astrology, but the full moon is pretty cool, right? As a colorblind guy, I don't totally get the whole fuss about rainbows and sunsets, but if they'll get everyone out, that's good enough for me.

I realize that the rarity drives the excitement, but I'd sacrifice a little to have these natural interruptions more frequently. We're not built to stare at a harsh, bright computer screen for 10 hours a day. We need breaks to do something healthier, like stare at the sun. And I recognize that we can appreciate nature individually, but there's something special about the collective excitement. And I know that I'm essentially arguing for a return to mystical religion, but I don't really care about worshipping these phenomena. For one thing, the lame scientists have stripped away a lot of the mystery so we know that the sun might not actually be a chariot driven by Apollo. But even if it were, I'd still care less about worshipping the event than sharing it with friends.

But it seems like the eclipse excitement was a one-time thing. Oh well. Let's do it again in 2079, I guess.

Contact ANDREW CRAMER at andrew.cramer@yale.edu.

OPEN TABS

Six Credits, Six Feet Under

// BY NORA RANSIBRAHMANAKUL

To be fair, I didn't go into course registration planning to take all six credits. I had taken five classes last semester and was having a great time — getting sleep, going out and dropping in to whichever concert or exhibition or speaker event struck my fancy.

I was set to take five again: two social science, one humanities and two STEM classes to give myself as many options as possible — to delay committing to a major.

My interests were limitless and my four-year plan was out the window. Anthropology? Applied math? Both?

Then I remembered that I had been on the interview committee for Saybrook's college seminar. I found out that we were offering a brand new class on white-collar criminal investigations, which I had helped interview the instructors for. The class was being taught by two lawyers. The syllabus included a trip to the Eastern District of New York courthouse and a star-studded lineup of guest speakers. It looked like a life-changing class. College seminars can't be audited.

To take six credits, you have to get permission from your Residential College Dean and provide justification for overloading. The caveat is that if you take six credits, you are expected not to drop any of them. You're unlikely to be approved again if you dump one.

Without consulting my academic advisor and against the advice of my friends and Froco, I decided to go for it.

I pride myself on being Type-A organized. I have my Notion pages, spreadsheets and checklists in order. This was tedious, but it saved me so many times this semester. And you can't just organize away work! Readings and discussion posts needed to be out of the way by Monday so I could spend the rest of the week on PSETs. Time needed to be blocked in for studying. I squeezed in emails in the little half-hour blocks between classes. My procrastination and screen time problems had to go.

I had some close calls, but the system was working fine until midterm season hit. And BOOM. That "college triangle" where you see Sleep, Good Grades and Social Life and you can only pick two turned into a none-of-the-above situation. I'm talking locking myself in the Saybrary, stumbling over the cobblestones on cross campus from dragging my feet, spilling coffee on myself at least once a day, my first Celsius, etc.

My impending assignments began to pervade every part of my mind. What I wound up missing the most wasn't getting a full night's sleep — it was having freedom to go see impromptu shows and chill all night in the common room. I started feeling like my downtime needed to be cut short to maximize the time for work. And even in the midst of conversations, I wasn't always fully there — a small part of my brain was looking to the next deadline. The credits come with the mental load of staying on top of your game.

You could say I bought into the sunk cost fallacy, and it's true. Maybe I should have bailed out. But we're two weeks away from the end of classes, so I'm going to focus on making it through in somewhat-acceptable academic standing. The finish line is in sight.

For me to say that you absolutely should never take a course overload would be hypocritical. I've never learned so much, from so many incredible professors, in the most specific topic areas that are somehow linked in the most unexpected ways. I learned to analyze court cases, study the creation of corporate personhood using anthropology and apply ethical frameworks to the newest tech developments. I have never pushed so hard and changed my mind so many times. If intellectual vitality was my only goal, then this semester was a success far greater than what I had hoped.

I found myself returning to a conversation with a friend whose opinion I value greatly. He told me to stop asking about what I wanted to be, and instead to consider what kind of person I wanted to be.

This is a minuscule shift in word choice, but it changes my understanding of the question entirely. There are so many things that I still want to do, both during my time at Yale and afterward in the "real world."

I want to be well-read and well-spoken. I also want to be a really good friend, dinner party hostess and team member. The type of person I want to be has the time to go on all the spontaneous adventures, which have taught me just as many lessons as my classes. A huge part of college is growing into that person.

What I consider the most influential paragraph on my ethos (in case anyone would ever ask about my favorite paragraphs) comes from the great Joan Didion, in her essay On Self Respect:

In brief, people with self-respect exhibit a certain toughness, a kind of moral nerve; they display what was once called character, a quality which, although approved in the abstract, sometimes loses ground to other, more instantly negotiable virtues. The measure of its slipping prestige is that one tends to think of it only in connection with homely children and with United States senators who have been defeated, preferably in the primary, for re-election. Nonetheless, character—the willingness



to accept

responsibility for one's own life — is the source from which self-respect springs.

My version of self-respect entails staying true to my commitments and not complaining too

much about the decisions that I made. I also think it means being honest about what I want for myself.

Hesitated writing this piece because I was worried about sounding like a workaholic with an ego trip. I think this is the experience that students face with any increase in workload or rigor. But when I was in the process of considering the overload, I couldn't find anyone to talk to who had done it. In a school full of some of the world's most hard-working and ambitious 20-year-olds, this is a conversation worth having.

My advice to fellow Yalies considering the overload is to think about why exactly you want to add that extra class. I got exactly what I wanted, but I also underestimated how much I would have to give up. Safe to say, this will probably be my last six credit semester.

Contact NORA RANSIBRAHMANAKUL at nora.ransibrahmanakul@yale.edu.

WKND Recommends

Trusting your crazy matchmaker friend

Jonathan Edwards

Head of College Tea



Conversation with three-time world champion figure skater and 2022 Olympic gold medal winner

Nathan Chen

Nathan Chen started skating in Salt Lake City at the age of 3 after watching his two older brothers play hockey. His two older sisters used to participate in figure skating as well. In addition to skating, he competed in gymnastics at the state and regional levels for seven years and previously trained in ballet with Ballet West Academy. Nathan entered his first figure skating competition in 2003.

Nathan is the 2022 Olympic Champion, three-time World champion (2018, 2019 & 2021), 2022 Olympic team silver medalist, 2018 Olympic team bronze medalist, 2017 Four Continents Champion, three-time Grand Prix Final Champion (2017-2019) and a ten-time U.S. national champion (2017-2022 in senior, 2012 & 2014 in junior and 2010 & 2011 in Novice).

Nathan is a student at Jonathan Edwards College, Class of 2024, majoring in Statistics & Data Science.

*“Never give up.
There are always tough times, regardless of what you do in anything in life.”*

Friday, April 19
JE Lower Taft
4:00 pm Tea
4:30pm Conversation