

The Charger Bulletin

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Ophelie Rowe-Allen named new vice president of student affairs

BY JUSTIN COVIELLO AND VALENTINA ORTIZ ELIAN

To many college students, the dean of students is the one person you want to avoid; a meeting with them must spell the end of your collegiate career, after all.

However, University of New Haven students can rest assured that Ophelie Rowe-Allen, dean of students, chief diversity officer and newly announced vice president of student affairs (VPSA), is not the stereotypical “big, bad wolf.” As a student, she didn’t know what she wanted to do with her life right away, just like so many of us. As a professional, she concentrates on effective time management. As a person, she cares deeply about the success and wellness of her students.

“My care is to make sure that and hoping that they [students] feel a sense of belonging on campus, they feel that they are included,” said Rowe-Allen. “They know that they can be successful and they know that if they need someone to talk to that I am here.”

Ophelie Rowe-Allen began her undergraduate career at St. Thomas University in Miami as an international student studying sociology. She quickly transitioned to the psychology department, where she began studying and understanding the effects of mental health on colleagues, family members and members of her college campus. As an undergraduate student, Rowe-Allen was heavily involved across

campus as a resident assistant, research assistant and a leader in the psychology honor society which helped her become more connected to student life and affairs.

Through the guidance of her professors and peers, Rowe-Allen advanced to graduate school and applied to St. Thomas’ Masters of Science Mental Health Counseling/Counselor program. During her time as a graduate student, she became involved at a college counseling site for internship expe-

rience, saying, “While I was there, I started seeing how much college students [and] what they were going through.”

Rowe-Allen transferred her understanding of the shared experiences and struggles that most college students endure to her position at Fairfield University as associate dean of students and director of residence life. During her 14 years at Fairfield, she applied different initiatives and learning development programs to student

residential living. At the end of her career at Fairfield, her aspirations to transform the dean of students position from a conduct-related task to a development-oriented role evolved at the start of her tenure at the University of New Haven.

“One of the things I wanted to do is to change how students look at the dean of students office,” said Rowe-Allen. “Because the dean of students is if you get in trouble. So I wanted to change it to the dean of students; where they see the

office as they could come. It does not matter what they want, what they want to talk about. This was the place that they could just come into.”

When stepping into her role at the university, Rowe-Allen said she had to evaluate herself and see the contributions she could make to the community, with one of those contributions being mentorship.

“That was important to me in terms of making sure that mentoring and wellness is something that is at the forefront for me in helping students... and not just mentoring for students, but also mentoring for staff,” Rowe-Allen said.

Much like her undergraduate career, Rowe-Allen continues to possess various titles at the university on a professional level. As the dean of students, she has centered policies at New Haven around the self-development of students while she targets community development as the chief diversity officer.

Rowe-Allen discusses the importance of community development in the academic journey of underrepresented student populations, saying, “There are students that celebrate different kinds of traditions and rituals on this campus, right. And so are we celebrating that with them or are they celebrating it alone?”

She further spoke on how the differences in the student population should be embraced and discussed as part of creating a better under-



Rowe-Allen poses for a picture in Alumni Lounge, West Haven, April 5, 2023. Graphic courtesy of Charger Bulletin/Charlotte Bassett.

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University mourns professors with faculty memorial service

BY JUSTIN COVIELLO
Campus News Editor

Life is precious; it’s perhaps the simplest fact that we will ever know, and yet one which we may never truly grasp until it affects us in the most permanent way. Sadly, it is a fact that the university has had to grapple with far too often in recent months.

The university hosted a faculty memorial service this past Wednesday to celebrate the lives of seven professors who passed away in the past year. Professors Charlie Coleman, Howard Harris, Craig Parker, Anshuman Prasad, Baldev Sachdeva, Thurmon Whitley and Kento Yasuhara were honored in a joint celebration of life.

Tributes for those lost were delivered by various faculty members and students who saw them as more than just colleagues or professors; they were friends and mentors whom they looked forward to seeing.

The remembrance began with opening remarks from Nancy Savage, interim provost and vice president of academic affairs. Brett McCormick, chair of the division

of humanities, delivered a verse from the Hindu Bhagavad Gita, followed by the director of the masters of public administration (MPA) program, Christy Smith, reciting the poem “We Remember Them,” which moved her and others to tears. Campus Chaplain Martin O’Connor led a prayer and blessing, offering kind words to all who were honored that night.

“They, like many of us, were governed by the cherished and familiar rhythms of academic life,” O’Connor said. “Classes to teach, papers to read, students to advise... it was a life they loved, and taught so many of us to love as well.”

Criminal justice professor Bobby McDonald and public administration professor Cynthia Conrad delivered testimonies to the character of Charlie Coleman. McDonald’s words were layered with light humor and sentimentality for his former professor which garnered a few laughs from the audience, while Conrad spoke glowingly of Coleman as a colleague, mentor and person.

“If we measure a life well lived by what we leave behind, Charlie lived a very successful life,” Conrad said. “He had a wonderful home

life and he left behind two successful children... At [the University of New Haven] the scope of what he left here and his vision here is all around us, and it should endure for many years.”

Forensic science professor Tim Palmback spoke about Howard Harris. Palmback acknowledged that many in attendance might not have interacted with Harris, as he

only taught at the university until 2003 and served as a professor emeritus until his death; however, he offered enough insight into Howard’s dedication to his students and his craft that it helped audience members feel like they knew him, even if just a little bit.

“He was on campus more than most faculty,” Palmback said. “He loved innovative ideas, he loved

crazy ideas, he loved challenging ideas and he loved teaching that to anybody who would have the mind or heart to doing the same, whether they were students or fellow faculty members.”

Criminal justice professor Cassandra Sedelmaier spoke next about Craig Parker. Sedelmaier took the audience on a journey through both her undergraduate and graduate



The memorial service taking place in Bucknall Theater, West Haven, April 5, 2023. Graphic courtesy of Charger Bulletin/Justin Coviello.

Senator Chris Murphy announces campaign for reelection

BY LILY FLEMING
Contributing Writer

After serving Connecticut's fifth congressional district for six years, Chris Murphy (D-Conn.) was elected to the Senate in 2012. On March 30 Murphy announced he will be running for a third term in 2024. Murphy was elected just weeks before the Sandy Hook school shooting in 2012. In the past decade he has worked to eliminate gun violence. Murphy said that "the tragedy motivated him to prioritize passing gun reforms, which have stalled in Congress for years."

"I'm planning on running

for reelection. I don't know that I'll do a big splashy announcement, but I'm certainly, you know, starting up the process of standing up a campaign," Sen. Murphy said to News 8. "I love this job. I really do. This is obviously a state that I grew up in. My parents grew up [in], and I think I'm getting better at the job as time goes on, not worse."

After months of negotiation, Murphy helped pass the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act, signed into law by President Joe Biden in June 2022. It had been decades since Congress last passed gun safety legislation. Despite it leaving out the priorities

and concerns of Democrats, including Murphy, it was still a step in the right direction.

Murphy said he is "determined to right another wrong" with his upcoming reelection. He made a strong statement by promising to not accept any corporate or political action committee (PAC) donations during his most recent Senate campaign.

In a video posted to Twitter, Murphy said, "I'm not going to raise money for this campaign the way that Washington says that I'm supposed to. I'm not going to take corporate money. I'm not going to accept PAC money... I'm not going to use fear tactics or hyperbole to scare people into

donating."

Murphy explained that it's a risk to accept money from corporations and PACs. He says the gun industry and special interests will be breathing down his neck. He also says that the fight against the gun lobby is a risk, but it's one that he feels is worth taking.

Murphy has been quite successful winning his past two Senate races by double-digit margins: such as in 2012 when Murphy ran for Senate against Republican Linda McMahon, despite the latter spending tens of millions of her own money in campaigns against Murphy and Blumenthal. Murphy also ran for reelection in 2018, defeating Republican Matthew

Corey as well.

Murphy's opponent Robert Hyde has also said that he will run for Senate in 2024. Hyde is a landscaper who did not qualify for the Republican Senate primary in 2022, and was charged with a DUI but said he still plans on running.

Murphy's plans are to focus on the Senate and to continue to work on gun safety over other national ambitions. He said "I have seen this year what a difference I can make in this job, it feels like my efforts can be best exerted in the senate. Right now, my focus is on the Senate and growing this movement."

Trump prosecuted after pleading not guilty to 34 felony counts

BY FAITH ARCURI
Contributing Writer

In a 16-page indictment, prosecutors said former President Donald Trump "orchestrated a scheme with others to influence the 2016 presidential election by identifying and purchasing negative information about him to suppress its publication and benefit the Defendant's electoral prospects."

Prosecutors said the scheme involved three payments made by Trump allies to conceal damaging stories, including: \$30,000 to a former Trump Tower doorman who said Trump had fathered a child out of wedlock; \$150,000 to a former Playboy model who said she had an affair with Trump; and \$130,000 to adult film star Stormy Daniels, who also alleged an affair. Trump has denied having affairs with both women and the company that paid the former doorman determined his story was false.

Michael Cohen, Trump's former attorney and "fixer," made the payment to Daniels in the days leading up to the 2016 election. Prosecutors said Trump illegally disguised his reimbursement to Cohen by classifying them as legal fees.

"The payment records, kept and maintained by the Trump Organization, were false New York business records," the statement of facts said, referring to Cohen. "In truth, there was no retainer agreement, and Lawyer A was not being paid for legal services rendered in 2017. The Defendant caused his entities' business records to be falsified to disguise his and

others' criminal conduct."

Falsifying business records is typically a misdemeanor under New York law, but can be charged as a felony if done with an "intent to defraud [that] includes an intent to commit another crime or to aid or conceal the commission thereof." Prosecutors said Trump's conduct was intended to violate election laws.

During Tuesday's arraignment, prosecutors said they were negotiating the logistics of a "protective order" with Trump's defense team, which would limit how Trump and his attorneys can use the documents they will be given from the grand jury proceedings during the discovery process.

Prosecutors said they want to prohibit Trump from posting any discovery materials to social media or sharing them with third parties such as journalists. They also said they plan to allow Trump to review certain sensitive materials only with his lawyers.

Trump's attorneys must agree to the specifics of the agreement, but the exchanges on Tuesday showed concern from the district attorney's office about what Trump might say or post about the evidence they hand over.

"The entirety of the prosecution's case file will soon have to be turned over to the defense," said CNN legal analyst Karen Friedman Agnifilo. "Prosecutors don't want it made public because they're focused on the proceedings and know Trump will try this in the court of public opinion way before any trial in a court. That's where

the integrity of the proceedings can get really dicey – and that's what they're trying to accomplish with a protective order."

If the case goes to trial, it's not going to be until next year – when Trump could be in the thick of the 2024 Republican presidential primary.

New York Judge Juan Merchan set the next hearing date in the case for Dec. 4, nearly eight months away. He also set an Aug. 8 deadline for Trump's

lawyers to file motions in the case, such as an attempt to get the charges dismissed or reduced to misdemeanors. Prosecutors have until Sept. 19 to respond and then Merchan expects to rule on the motions at the December hearing.

Prosecutors asked Merchan to plan for a trial beginning in January 2024, but Trump's attorneys suggested that the spring might be more realistic given that they had not yet

received any documents in the case.

Merchan seemed to side with Trump's lawyers.

"I understand what you are saying," Merchan said. "I think that is reasonable. You have not received discovery. It is difficult to anticipate if you will be ready for trial in January of 2024. The message I would like to deliver is we would like to move ahead as expeditiously as possible, without undue delay."



Donald Trump makes a speech, Fargo, N.D., June 27, 2018.
Photo courtesy of Wikimedia Commons/The White House.

Unexpected earthquake during April Showers concert

BY MIA ADDUCI
Managing Editor

Last Tuesday, the Music Industry Club (MIC) hosted their April Showers show. Three rock bands took to the stage, shaking the floor and blowing out the speakers of the German Club. Them Airs opened up the night, followed by Dead Tooth who preceded headliner Bass Drum of Death. The lineup showcased a wide range of sounds and vocals, and each band flooded the space with their own distinct dynamic. Whether it was screaming with their shoes off or doing standup between taking a performance to new heights on the saxophone, last night had it all.

Everyone knows that you go to an alternative show for the supporting acts, so it's only sound that last night's rundown focuses on the underdogs.

Them Airs took to the stage with a unique aesthetic that certainly lacked cohesion across the group. This did not keep them from banding together as a solid group during their set, though it did elicit some feelings of confusion when trying to unpack their overarching vibe.

A couple of the band members, including lead singer, tackled their set barefoot and the group was running off of an admirable amount of cranberry juice which

joined them on the stage.

The drummer of this group truly carries the depth of their sound, though the lead singer had facial expressions that proved to be rather entertaining.

In some songs, Them Airs managed to create a nice build, though overall their sound is inarguably generic. They've got that outwardly awkward vibe going for them, but in this scene that item has also become overdone.

This local CT band is still pretty fresh to the industry, having their first release only date back to 2018. It's clear that they have loads of potential and musical talent, but they need to experiment with diversifying their sound more to take their act to the next level. Listeners should absolutely keep an eye out for the more mature eras of Them Airs.

Dead Tooth claimed the stage next, storming in with an aesthetic that was out of this world. Sporting accessories including a bandana, some pairs of super tinted glasses, a fanny pack and even a wife beater, it was impossible not to love them before they even made a sound.

The word "rad" truly should not make way out of anyone's lips in 2023, but there is not another singular syllable that could more accurately sum up

this group.

The chemistry across Dead Tooth's members and the level at which they played off of each other's energy to create a layered dynamic onstage makes it clear early on that this band has spent some time crafting their presence together. Their first release was also in 2018, but the nuance of their sound and performance composure would have you convinced they dated much further back.

It's hard to decide whether the layers of their sound or their movements were more seam-

less. The lead singer made the stage his playground, and used every possible inch to suck the crowd in. His composure deeply mirrored the style of Fosse, bringing a level of abstraction underneath the strobing lights of the German Club. Not only was his vocal range encapsulating, but the fluidity of his movements worked to make him the total package.

While the band before them decided that shoes were where they drew the line, Dead Tooth called it a day at shirts and it wasn't long before a couple of

their members were barebacked, drawing more attention to their hair flowing in every direction and subtly flexing a cactus tattooed on their abdomen (a sick choice, honestly).

In combination, this duo truly set the stage for headliner Bass Drum of Death, proving once again that the underrated bands of the earlier hours of the night are the ones to really keep your eyes peeled for.

Stay up-to-date with MIC by following their Instagram @mic_newhaven.



Dead Tooth performs at the April Showers concert, West Haven, April 4, 2023.
Photo courtesy of Charger Bulletin/Mia Adduci.

Professor hosts talk on her new book about incarcerated mothers

BY PRESLEY DEPUGH
Arts & Life Editor

Discussions on women in the carceral state are rare within the criminal justice field. Janet Garcia-Hallett, a criminal justice professor at the university, recently published a book about her research on incarcerated mothers their journey after being released from prison and bonding with their children.

This past Wednesday, Garcia-Hallett hosted a Zoom webinar about her book titled "Invisible Mothers: Unseen Yet Hypervisible after Incarceration." She had the opportunity to interview 37 mothers of color from New York who had been in the prison system.

Garcia-Hallett began the discussion by saying that mothers who were once in the prison system face more shame and discrimination because of their gender. Garcia-Hallett said, "they not only face stigma and criticism for their involvement in the system but are also judged and ostracized as mothers for the same involvement."

There is a misconception that parole is helpful, when in reality it can be harmful to formerly imprisoned individuals. Garcia-Hallett described how those on parole would get in trouble for

smaller infractions such as not reporting to their parole officer, not documenting a change in their address and not making it back home before curfew, among others.

"Advocates of the criminal legal system claim that the purpose of parole is to serve as a transitional phase between confinement and freedom in the community," said Garcia-Hallett. "However, parole is just another form of incarceration without the physical barricades, like within the correctional facility."

There was one anecdote from the book about a previously incarcerated mother named Donna, whose son had grown up before her eyes and become a man. The anecdote discussed how Donna had to become reacquainted with her son. Garcia-Hallett said, "So she found herself needing to learn about her son and learn where she fit in, in terms of his new interest, things that he liked now and things that he wanted to do now."

Another mother whom Garcia-Hallett interviewed for the book named Tanya Thompson was also on the panel. "This book is one that every policymaker, every founder, every executive director of entry agencies, students, criminal justice students [and] social work students all need to read," said Thompson.

Thompson also attributed her pushing through her journey to grit, which she said is "a combination of passion, perseverance and an effort to achieve long term goals."

There was discussion on the need for social and financial programs that would assist mothers when coming out of prison so they could build their futures. Thompson also mentioned being part of the College and Community Fellowship, which "[works] with justice-involved women through community support, access to higher education, and eliminating systemic opportunity barriers," according to the website.

Thompson thanked Garcia-Hallett for telling her story and the stories of other mothers involved with the criminal justice system. "Until I met her, I never really shared my story outside of what I'll call formerly incarcerated centered space," said Thompson. "And I'm going to say here that even speaking about your experiences with people that are just like you is often challenging." If you would like to read "Invisible Mothers: Unseen Yet Hypervisible after Incarceration," it is available in the Marvin K. Peterson Library.



Dead Tooth performs at April Showers, April 4, 2023.
Photo Courtesy of Charger Bulletin/Mia Adduci.

Game of Life teaches students about financial wellness

BY PRESLEY DEPUGH
Arts & Life Editor

As soon as you walked into the Alumni Lounge last Wednesday, you immediately stepped foot into the Game of Life, which was given a spin by the university's Financial Wellness Program for students to learn about financial wellness as part of their Spring Cashpensity Series.

Tables surrounded the edges of the room, each with a different category for spending and earning money. The first stop was at the Career and Life Table, where you pick up a card with the title of one of the university's colleges on it, which has a career and its monthly pay on the back. They would spin the wheel at the next table to determine their personal life, such as if they are married or have kids in the game.

Students also received a pamphlet where they would "budget" themselves throughout the game.

Vanessa Ort, who works in the Financial Aid Office and runs the Financial Wellness Program, said that the interactive event was "a fun way to get people thinking about money." Ort also said that this event was an introduction to those inevitable discussions about money that students will have.

After receiving the necessary supplies, students walked around the room to different tables to practice their budgeting and talk to the staff running those tables. One of those tables included spending money on clothes and whether you wanted to buy them from a discount store, thrift shop, department store or designer clothing store, each having a different price.

Discussions took place at other tables centered around topics including student loans, entertainment and housing. The final table had a wheel to spin to win some prizes ranging from stickers to a university water bottle.

The prize table was run by Kaitlyn Naples, who works for the Office of Marketing and Communications along with serving on the Financial Literacy Committee. Naples said this event was a good opportunity to "get exposure out there to the students and show them the resources that are available to them on campus and show them the importance of learning about their financial wellness

before they graduate and go out into the world."

Not only were prizes at the end of the game, but also the chance to tally up your "spending" throughout the game. You would check how much you spent and whether you were able to save money, which gave students that hands-on experience on finances.

If you are interested in checking out other events in the Spring Cashpensity Series, look at their calendar on MyCharger, and check out their Instagram @unewhavenfinwell to check out the Financial Wellness Program's resources.



A wheel at the Game of Life event, West Haven, April 5, 2023.
Photo courtesy of Charger Bulletin/Presley DePugh.

Rein Records artist Chris Chase talks about new single

BY PRESLEY DEPUGH
Arts & Life Editor

Rein Records takes on artists who time and again prove their worth in the music world. This can be said of Chris Chase, a University of New Haven alumnus and artist who released his latest single "Ben Simmons" last month.

"Ben Simmons" was released on Spotify, Apple Music and other streaming platforms on March 24. The song has a calm melody that floats through your ears, which is a common element in all of Chase's work. The song's mellowness allows you to listen to and understand the intense lyrics and vocals communicating heartbreak.

Chase said, "[The] lyrics [are] not necessarily aimed at one person, more so aimed at multiple people, you know." The song was written during a difficult part of his life both mentally and emotionally, where he just wanted to "get it out there," in terms of lyricism. "I was really down, and I just had to like record that and get it all out because I realize I'm the type of person where... when something's bothering me, I just keep it in and bottle it up,"

said Chase.

There were also drum stick sounds that established the soulful beat, allowing you to nod your head along. Chase said, "And when I was listening to the beat, I think I was right here in the same desk, just playing [it] over and over again."

More developments are in store for Chase, the first being a music video coming out for "Ben Simmons." He said that when he was in Atlanta, Ga. for a show, Chase and two of his friends rented an Airbnb to film the video. This was the same crew who worked on the music video for Chase's other single "John Wick," which was a collaboration with fellow artist FM Wu.

Chase has another music video currently in the pre-production stage for his upcoming song "2K23."

For now, you can look forward to the "Ben Simmons" music video that will be released on Friday, April 14. Also in the meantime, check out Chase's other work by visiting his Linktree.

Asian American Student Union hosts their first Pop-up Shop

BY PRESLEY DEPUGH
Arts & Life Editor

The Asian American Student Union (AASU) hosted a Pop-up Shop this past Friday, offering students a calm, yet exciting way to spend their evening. Live entertainment, crafts and the opportunity to learn about Asian cultures were offered to students at the event.

Origami flowers hung from the entryway of the Alumni Lounge, establishing the wondrous mood as people checked into the event. An origami table was stationed right next to the decorated entrance where students followed instructions to make their own origami creations.

Students also had the opportunity to practice calligraphy on wax paper using a brush and ink. Participants wrote out the symbols for flowers, March and spring and were even able to learn how to spell out their own names. Paper instructions showed the order of strokes to make so they can have an accurate replication.

Attendees who wanted to learn more about mythologies from various Asian cultures could

stop by the table hosted by the Mythology Club. A presentation was available for students to flip through and learn about Asian folk tales and stories. Stickers were also available to pick up as well.

More memorabilia were offered for students to take pictures with, which many took advantage of. There was also a prize table where students could enter a raffle to win cool items ranging from candy to stickers.

Jason Wu, a senior business management major and AASU event coordinator, ran the prize table while expressing excitement about the event. Wu said that he wanted "everybody [to] just come out and enjoy them-

selves," especially with the hopes of making this an annual event.

Tabling was not the only highlight of the evening; Abigail Chang, a graduate cellular and molecular biology major and secretary of AASU, introduced two dance groups to hype up the crowd.

Up first was Incendio Dance Project, which brought out six members, three of whom wore blue flare dresses while the other three wore black leggings and shiny, black shirts. All wore heels and partnered off into three duos, pulling off a phenomenal and well-coordinated dance routine.

The next group was the Chargers K-Pop Dance Crew wearing purple shirts paired with white pants and shoes. They formed a line and spread out in a smooth form once the music started pumping. Strong coordination was displayed through the collaborative dance moves that conveyed amazing chemistry between teammates.

After the performances, attendees were able to return to walking around and mingling with other AASU members, marking the end of a great event.



Students at the Asian American Student Union Pop-up Shop, West Haven, April 7, 2023.
Photo courtesy of Charger Bulletin/Sadara Funches.

Rowe-Allen named to new role

BY JUSTIN COVIELLO
Campus News Editor

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standing for topics of race, social class, spirituality, gender, sexuality and ethnicity. Rowe-Allen's regularly sent emails are an initiative to keep the campus community informed, to which she said, "I will send out [emails] when it's Ramadan, when it's Passover [and] when it's Lent. Outside of this, people will not think of that. Because it seems very individualistic, we need to see this as a community. Coming together, to say there are different people in our community. Not just by skin color, but it is beyond that. And so how do we embrace them to let them know that we stand in solidarity with them."

On March 1, Chancellor Steven Kaplan announced Rowe-Allen's promotion to VPSA. When comparing her different positions, she explained the differences between the objectives of strategic planning versus development.

"Within higher ed, when you have the combined positions of dean of students and vice president of student affairs, it overlaps," Rowe-Allen said. "The VP position is really more of strategic planning: 'What are the key priorities that you are going to be developing and what is the assessment plan that's going to be happening?' For the dean of students position, it is mostly what are the policies: 'we need to look at these things, right, and here are the things that will be done.' But from a strategic level,

the VP has to have that lens of looking at 'how' the community and students are changing."

Rowe-Allen expanded her role as VPSA to include a wellness outlook outside of counseling for students. "We have been sending out the wellness newsletter because we realized some of the things [that] were happening: students weren't going to class," she said. "We wanted to let them know how important that is. So we were like, 'what resources do we need to provide?' And we realized that we needed to expand that more."

Throughout the wellness newsletter email campaign, the student responses collected by the dean of students office enabled individualized wellness plans for students facing different struggles related to mental health, financial circumstances and other disparities.

"It was a team effort where you have the center for student success. You have Dr. [Tiffany] Hesser in the Provost Office," said Rowe-Allen. "And I have a case management team here that really looks at: 'Okay, how are we going to help this student?' To make sure, can this student survive the rest of the semester or not?"

And if there is one thing Rowe-Allen wants everyone to know about her, it's that she never wants to be seen without a smile on her face. Likewise, she will do everything in her power and more to ensure students enjoy a collegiate experience predicated on inclusivity, understanding, health and prosperity.

University holds faculty memorial service

BY JUSTIN COVIELLO
Campus News Editor

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experience, as she had Parker as an instructor in both and explained how she attempts to embody her mentor's ability to be a caring and devoted professor as a first-year instructor at the university.

"As a first-year faculty member, when I think about the type of mentor that I want to be to my students... Craig Parker is always one of my strongest inspirations as an instructor and a mentor," Sedelmaier said. "He challenged me throughout my career... and he took genuine joy in the success of his students and happiness of those around him."

Khadija Al Arkoubi, a professor in the management department followed Sedelmaier, speaking about Anshuman Prasad. Before informing the audience of how Prasad cared deeply about his students' success and global awareness as professor, Al Arkoubi delivered a personal anecdote about the compassion and worldliness which he encompassed after he recruited her from her previous job in Dubai.

"I remember how he kept sharing tips when I was trying to settle in the great area of New Haven," Al Arkoubi said. "I also remember the time he invited me and my family for dinner in his house in Branford... My husband and I were nicely surprised to notice their high cultural sensitivity in terms of food choices, and we were impressed by their generosity and welcoming

spirit."

Jim Uebelacker and Erik Rosenthal, both professor emeriti in the math department, delivered witty and heartfelt comments about the recently passed Baldev Sachdeva and Thurmon Whitley, respectively. Uebelacker and Rosenthal described how these two figures helped revitalize the math department in the 1970s and 1980s and how their impact has kept the program as successful as it is today.

Uebelacker called on the words of a fellow colleague who could not be at the service to describe their late colleagues, who said, "he was friendly, perceptive, optimistic, yet realistic and funny."

"Given these two colleagues, you wouldn't know which one he was talking about," said Uebelacker. "Because those descriptors are very relevant to both of them."

The final tribute was dedicated to Kento Yasuhara, which was delivered by two students and a faculty member who knew him well: Len Diamond, a sophomore mathematics major, Bryan Cadavos, a senior genetics and biotechnology major, and Melissa Whitson, a psychology professor.

Diamond and Cadavos met Yasuhara during his time as the advisor of the Asian American Student Union (AASU). Diamond spoke candidly about how Yasuhara's presence made him feel more at home within AASU and appreciated his stress relief lessons and conversations in Japanese.

Cadavos also spoke about Yasuhara's stress relief tactics, citing videos that he shared regarding

the practice of progressive muscle relaxation, which Cadavos employs to help students as an academic peer mentor. He looked up to Yasuhara, who helped him become more involved on campus with AASU and inspired him to pursue leadership opportunities.

"As an individual who was still trying to figure out what it means to be a leader, I looked up to Dr. Yasuhara as a role model," Cadavos said. "I saw the impact that he had made on previous [executive board members,] alumni of AASU and most importantly the [Asian American and Pacific Islander] community. This inspired me to be a leader who people are comfortable coming to... talk to, a leader who is selfless and humble and most importantly a leader who is empathetic."

Whitson, as a friend and colleague, was able to see Yasuhara as a spirited professor and kind person. She shared an anecdote about Yasuhara's bountiful optimism, where he believed he could teach a spring semester at the university's Prato campus and still be there for his wife as they were expecting their second child in February. Those who worked with him were eventually able to talk him out of going to Italy and Whitson shared that she "fondly remembers this as one example of his exuberance and optimism."

The Charger Bulletin grieves with the campus community for the recently deceased and offers condolences to their friends and family.

AASU brings awareness to AAPI Heritage Month

BY JUSTIN COVIELLO
Campus News Editor

Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month celebrates the lives and achievements of all Americans who trace their lineage to Asia and the islands dotting the Pacific Ocean. The month of May marks the first report of a Japanese immigrant to the United States and the completion of the transcontinental railroad – a feat accomplished mainly by Chinese immigrants. Although AAPI Heritage Month is nationally recognized in May, the university is commemorating the month throughout April.

The Asian American Student Union (AASU) provides a space for all AAPI students to celebrate their heritage, as well as experience and learn about other cultures within the regions.

"Having AASU [on campus] helps me stay connected with [my] Asian culture, and I also get to learn about all the other different Asian countries and their cultures and traditions," said Len Diamond, a sophomore mathematics major and sergeant-at-arms for AASU. "I made a lot of new friends... [in] AASU."

Much like other multicultural recognized student organizations (RSOs) on campus, AASU does not only welcome AAPI students exclusively but also opens its doors to all students at the university. Diamond

and Abigail Chang, a graduate cellular and molecular biology major and secretary for AASU, listed some of the fun activities that AASU held at general meetings in the past, such as calligraphy lessons, Asian foods and mythology and lessons on different ethnicities.

Diamond and Chang both agreed that AASU has helped them feel more welcome on campus, and gave them an avenue to become more involved from the moment they

arrived on campus. Chang especially credits AASU for helping her find more people who look like her after coming from a primarily-white town.

"Coming to the university and seeing that, even though you might not share the same background [with someone else], you still have something that you can talk about," Chang said. "Just being able to establish a community that we can feel safe and talk about specifically Asian

Americans was really great."

Chang is appreciative of the school's recognition of AAPI Heritage Month because it allows her and others like her to feel seen.

"Getting that support from the school... makes me feel appreciated, makes me feel welcomed and [that I'm] able to share what I can offer as myself," she said.

Although it may seem easy for many people to be kind to one another and commemorate those around

them, we live in a world where acts of bias, discrimination and hate persist. After the COVID-19 pandemic began in the United States in March 2020, there was a massive uptick in hate incidents against AAPI people. According to stopaapihate.org, there were 10,370 documented bias reports filed by AAPI people from March 19, 2020 to Sep. 30, 2021. This past January, a gunman entered a dance studio in Monterey Park, Calif. and killed 10 Asian residents and injured 10 more people in a deadly rampage.

Nobody should expect a month of commemoration to be the solution to anti-AAPI rhetoric and violence but it opens a path to celebrating all people of all cultures year-round. Chang sees AAPI Heritage Month as a small way to help put an end to the targeting of AAPI people.

"I think it also just gives more appreciation to what the Asian community has to offer," she said. "We want to feel more represented in the community; we want to show that we would like to share in respects to culture, food and everything... just showing that we're still here, we're not going to go away... [or] stay secluded to us. We're going to try and push more for [AASU's] events and showcase the Asian culture and feel appreciated by the community."

For a full calendar of events for AAPI Heritage Month, check the "Happening on Campus" tab on myCharger.



The Asian American Student Union e-Board poses for a picture, West Haven, April 7, 2023. Photo courtesy of Charger Bulletin/Sadara Funches.

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Enjoy the spring weather ahead of us

BY EDITORIAL STAFF

Editorial

New England winters can be harsh and unforgiving. New Haven winters in particular can be random and annoying. Either way you look at it, winter is always a long period of cold, gray and gross days. Now, with the page turning to spring, and a week full of temperatures over 70 degrees ahead of us, it is time for us as students to take advantage of that.

The school year is reaching a point where final projects, papers and exams can be seen on the horizon. Along with that comes an abundance of stress and worry about the results of a semester's worth of work. This is the week to take some time

and enjoy the weather; step outside and bask in the sunlight; head to a quad and throw a frisbee for 30 minutes.

Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD) and the "winter blues" are ailments that many people struggle with, whether they realize it or not. It becomes present through the prolonged stretches of cold or snow that we are accustomed to on campus. After all, there are only so many days that one can bear the rapid wind tunnel passing between Celentano and Sheffield Halls.

Conditions like this can bring the mental health of students down, making them want to stay in bed and away from the bad weather. It can heighten stress and anxiety levels as

well, making it hard to get through each day. These are all compounded within college students with every passing day of classes and homework.

While there have been moments of warm weather throughout the past few weeks, this will be the first time it will truly feel like spring. It is the perfect opportunity to let ourselves reset from the winter, get some sun and vitamin D and head into the finale of the school year refreshed. One

week of this may not cure students of their feelings of anxiety around this time, but it can certainly help put a smile on their face under the warm sun for at least a moment.

Before we know it, the school year will be over and we will head home for the summer. The end is near, and we should let this week of rising temperatures feel like a preview of what's to come.

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A eulogy for my dog

BY LINDSAY GIOVANNONE
Columnist**Column**

Last Friday, I said goodbye to my best friend of almost nine years. Just a month ago he was hiking and playing, but cancer and brain tumors don't care.

Everyone says this about their pets, and I'll say it too – Leo was the best dog ever.

I often joked that he reached self-actualization, but I believe I was right. He would sit outside and seemingly reflect for hours, which is something I've never seen any other dog do. An area of our yard was designated as "his corner." He'd stare off quietly through the fence, nose twitching and eyes alert. Leo always appreciated a good sunset or the breeze in his face.

He had this unmatched gusto for life. Leo anticipated nothing and participated in everything. Whether it was a trip to Home Depot, spending the day at my dad's office building or hiking in a state park, he wanted to experience everything with us. Leo was the constant through life's highs and lows. He laid next to me on the couch when I was struggling with my mental health, licked away tears during my first heartbreak, celebrated my graduating high school and getting into college.

In his last few days, Leo's

friends came over. Our neighbors came and cried with us. Some brought their own dogs and others brought their children. Despite being unable to walk or even sit up, he raised his head and wagged his tail whenever someone new came through the door.

Leo's favorite place in the world was the town's open space and trail system. Some of his ashes will be spread on his favorite trail - the Basil Brook Bypass. His soul will now be freed from his failing body to run forever through the trees and streams, sniffing every plant and chasing geese.

Humans have built civilizations, caused war and developed economies. We are at the precipice of existence where we can destroy ourselves, but Leo was unaware of all of this. Every day was his best day. He taught me how to slow down and appreciate the world's beauty.

I know for sure that all dogs go to heaven (after all, God spelled backwards is dog). The Book of John tells us, "Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love." All Leo knew was to love and be loved. I hope I am worthy to enter Heaven so I can see him again.

If you knew my Leonardo, you loved him – and he probably loved you back tenfold.

Self-defense classes are needed at the university

BY PRESLEY DEPUGH
Arts & Life Editor

The Beckerman Recreation Center holds weekly group classes for its students known as GroupX classes. These classes consist of different forms of exercise such as pilates, yoga and zumba. GroupX classes help keep students active, so why not create one for self-defense lessons?

Self-defense classes should be free or folded into tuition. Having these lessons would help students develop defensive tactics and help give them the confidence to use them if necessary.

Despite having West Haven police officers and security guards patrolling campus, there is still a risk of harm. According to the university's 2022 Annual Security and Fire Safety Report, in 2021 there were eight cases of rape, one robbery, two burglaries and one motor vehicle theft on campus.

Some of these incidents are harder to prevent than others and having sexual crime cases nearing double digits is discouraging. According to the Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network (RAINN), an anti-sexual assault organization, "more than 50% of college sexual assaults occur in either August, September, October, or November," said Jeremy Bauer-Wolf's article. "Avoiding the Red

Zone." The rate of sexual assault is at a high at the beginning of the fall semester, and those four months are called "The Red Zone."

Self-defense classes could add an extra layer of protection during the Red Zone.

Of course, self-defense classes cost money, and there is no guarantee that students will sign up. The university would need to find a qualified instructor, find open times in the Rec Center and make sure enough students sign up. But these classes could lessen the risk for violent crimes at the university.

The University of Connecticut already offers self-defense lessons which are free to students and held every Thursday. The classes are a collaboration between the University of Connecticut Police, Off-Campus Student Services, Residential Life, the Department of Allied Health Services and the Hawley Armory.

UConn's website says the 12-hour course is usually taught in three to four hour blocks, and students learn different defense techniques.

Self-defense isn't necessarily a natural skill. It's something you must learn and it does not come quickly. Having multiple classes is essential for students to pick up and understand whatever they are learning.

If the university administration devotes resources to self-defense classes, those classes should be offered without a hitch.



Dominant offensive attack leads the charge in win over AIC

BY CHRISTOPHER ELWELL
Sports Editor

Rebounding from a big loss is never easy, especially when it's a conference opponent in a key matchup. The season continues, however, as the next game is an opportunity to get back on track and put the team in a position to win and boost the confidence of the players and coaching staff.

That confidence came into play for the New Haven women's lacrosse team who now sit at .500 on the season as they put together a dominant display of offense in a huge 23-8 win over American International College (AIC) on Saturday afternoon. Eleven players tallied a goal for the Chargers, taking the lead in the opening two minutes of the first quarter and never looking back.

AIC struck first just one minute and eight seconds into the game on a free-position goal by midfielder Gabrielle Walz, but it quickly became a 1-1 game as New Haven attacker Raegan Bailey netted her own free-position shot for the first of her five

goals on the day.

A turnover caused by Bailey set up New Haven's next scoring chance as attacker Cameryn Antler put the Chargers ahead by one with a free-position shot, followed by another goal from Bailey and one from midfielder Ivanna Hernandez in the next minute and a half of play to make it a three-point game.

After a goal by attacker Marielle Colalillo that stretched New Haven's lead to four, AIC went on a run in the next three minutes that quickly brought it back to a one-point game. A turnover from AIC set up another scoring chance for the Chargers, which turned into attacker Savannah Ernst's first of five goals on the afternoon to take a 6-4 lead going into the second quarter.

The second quarter was dominated by New Haven, outscoring AIC 10-2 to break the game wide open. Bailey started the offensive explosion just 26 seconds in for her third goal of the game, followed by Ernst's second of the game that was set up by her own ground ball pickup.

After a goal by AIC attacker Antonella Mikolyuk made it a four-point game, New Haven rattled off six consecutive goals to go ahead by 10 with 3:38 left to play in the first half. Everything seemed to be going New Haven's way, scoring 10 goals on 16 shots as Ernst finished off the quarter with a goal with just four seconds remaining.

New Haven's defense also made an impact, allowing just two goals and seven total shots in the second half. AIC did not score until 5:14 left in the third quarter as they looked to generate scoring chances and bring themselves to a respectable deficit, but the Chargers continued to dominate on both sides of the ball to keep them playing from behind.

Midfielder Shauna Curran tallied the 20th goal of the game for New Haven in the fourth quarter as they continued adding to their lead. Scoring three goals in the final six minutes, the Chargers put an emphasis on their huge win as they found themselves back at .500 on the season coming off two consecu-

tive losses.

New Haven will stay at home for their next matchup against Mercy College in a non-conference matchup on Tuesday. The game is scheduled to start at 7 p.m. as the Chargers look to

improve to 6-5 on the season before a crucial stretch, all against conference opponents as they look to make a playoff push. More information can be found at newhavenchargers.com.



New Haven's Annie Acquavita scores against AIC, April 8, 2023.
Photo Courtesy of Charger Bulletin/Tori Gonzalez.

UCONN captures 5th NCAA title in school history

BY CHRISTOPHER ELWELL
Sports Editor

Teams do not often cruise to a championship title, especially when the smallest margin of victory is 13 points. However, a team accomplished this for the first time in NCAA tournament history this year. One of the most dominant runs in college basketball history cemented the legacy of a historic men's program as a Blue Blood – an elite group of teams in the collegiate ranks.

The crowd at NRG Stadium was electrified with just five minutes left to play in a dramatic five-point game but quickly turned to a one-sided crowd after a huge shot from a likely but unlikely source. The stage was set for an electrifying final minutes, but ended in a lopsided affair that brought back a celebration to Mansfield, Conn.

The University of Connecticut (UConn) earned their fifth NCAA men's basketball championship on Monday, April 3 in their 76-59 win over San Diego State University (SDSU), putting them in the conversation for the most dominant team in the last 25 years. Their tournament run has been unlike any other in history, as SDSU became the first team to be within single digits of UConn during the under-eight minute media timeout.

UConn is now tied with Duke and Indiana for fourth all-time in NCAA championships with five titles, trailing UCLA with 11, Kentucky with eight and North

Carolina with six. It is their first title since 2014 and they rank number one in ESPN's way-too-early 2023-24 season rankings.

After losing the Big East Conference title game against Marquette University, UConn entered the NCAA tournament as the number four seed in the West regional hosted in Las Vegas, NV. Coming off a 24-7 season, the Huskies looked to make noise in the tournament, in the middle of an eight-year skid in which they advanced to the Round of 32 just once.

Head coach Dan Hurley spoke highly of his players back in 2020, saying the team was on the rise and would be a threat to contend for a title in the near future. His promise was fulfilled as his team dominated at all stages of the tournament in large part to an incredible group of recruiting classes that brought UConn back to national prominence.

"This was our dream," Hurley said. "This is what we talked about when we recruited these guys, that we could get together and do something big like this."

In their Round of 64 matchup, UConn dominated Iona University in an 87-63 win, led by the tournament's Most Outstanding Player Adama Sanogo, who recorded a double-double with 28 points and 13 rebounds. Four players recorded double-digit points, putting their depth on display early in the tournament which was a major contributor to their title run.

A dominant defensive perfor-

mance willed the Huskies into the Round of 16, allowing just 55 points in their win over Saint Mary's College of California. No player for Saint Mary's tallied double-digit points as UConn cruised to another win, beating the Gaels in rebounds, assists, blocks, field goal percentage, three-point percentage and free throw percentage.

The combo of Sanogo and sophomore guard Jordan Hawkins led the way in UConn's huge 88-65 win over the University of Arkansas, marking their second-largest margin of victory in the tournament. Hawkins scored a game-high 24 points and added two rebounds and three assists, while Sanogo continued his historic run with 18 points, eight rebounds and two blocks.

The Huskies' depth once again played a huge role in the win, with nine players registering a basket and hauling in 43 rebounds as a team. They held a wire-to-wire lead, keeping the Razorbacks playing from a huge deficit and leading by as many as 29 points in the game.

Their Elite Eight matchup against number one seed and perennial powerhouse Gonzaga University turned into their largest margin of victory in the tournament with an 82-54 upset win. Averaging a conference-high 86.1 points, Gonzaga's offense simply had no answer for UConn as the Huskies rode a huge second-half performance to victory, breaking the game open by as many as 33 points.

Coming off a huge statement win, UConn traveled to Houston, Texas for the Final Four and a semifinal matchup against number five-seeded University of Miami. Miami quickly became one of the biggest surprises of the tournament, knocking off respective number one- and two-seeded University of Houston and University of Texas in back-to-back games.

Miami was stopped in their tracks by the red-hot Huskies, who came away with a 72-59 win, their narrowest win of the tournament. UConn's stingy defense led the way once again as they reached the title game for the first time since 2014, looking to add to their incredible 4-0 record in championship games.

UConn broke the game open by as many as 16 after a three-pointer from guard Joey Calcaterra with 3:19 remaining in the first half, going into the break with a comfortable 12-point lead. They kept a double-digit lead for much of the second half, going ahead by 15 after Calcaterra knocked down another huge three.

SDSU would not make it easy for the Huskies, quickly making it a six-point game with 7:40 left after a layup from guard Darrion Trammell. UConn stretched their lead back to nine after a free throw from Hawkins, which was quickly cut down to five in what looked to become a down-to-the-wire finish.

UConn's crowd erupted as Hawkins, who was questionable to play due to food poisoning just

two days before the championship, knocked down the biggest shot of the game to put them ahead by eight with just over five minutes to play.

SDSU's crowd fell silent as the Huskies swung the momentum right back in their favor, dominating the final minutes to come away with another win in the title game to move to 5-0 all-time. Hawkins tallied the last two points of the game on a pair of free throws to make it a 76-59 game, a score that held until the buzzer sounded as UConn celebrated their fifth championship in the last 25 years.

No team in the country has more than three titles in that span as they move into rarified air of the college basketball world, joining the University of Arizona in 1997 as the only teams to win the tournament as a number four seed.

Coach Hurley will be challenged to replace Hawkins who is projected to be a lottery pick in the NBA draft, and could also see the departure of guard Andre Jackson Jr. UConn's recruiting class is led by five-star recruit Stephon Castle, as well as Top 100 2023 high school graduates Solomon Ball and Jaylin Stewart to retool an already loaded roster.

When thinking of college basketball powerhouses, UConn may not be one of the first schools that comes to mind, but their level of success and ability to win on the big stage cements them as one of the top programs in collegiate men's basketball history.

Offense stays red-hot in fifth consecutive win vs Felician

BY CHRISTOPHER ELWELL
Sports Editor

As the weather starts to heat up, balls begin to fly all over the yard and teams start to see more success at the plate. When a team is consistently putting up runs, it only enhances their ability to generate scoring chances and capitalize on them in big moments.

Both teams saw big success at the plate on Saturday afternoon, but New Haven came out on top once again for their fifth consecutive win, beating Felician University 9-5 behind another big offensive performance headlined by two long home runs from third baseman Matt McIntire.

New Haven's offense continued their incredible season, coming up with timely hits and taking key bases to set up big run-scoring chances that put them ahead early and never looked back. The Chargers saw big contributions from all spots of the lineup as six players tallied a hit and stole eight bases as a team along the way for a non-conference win that moved them to 20-5 on the season.

Starting on the mound for the Chargers was graduate right-hander Izaiya Mestre, who picked up his third win of the season, going five innings, allowing three runs on three hits and striking out

four.

Felician drew first blood against Mestre in the top of the second inning as right fielder Chris Fernan lined a single into center field that plated the first two runs of the game. Mestre quickly responded from the single, retiring the next two batters in order to keep it a two-run game.

New Haven continued to do what they have all season as second baseman Noah Budzik came through in a key moment to cut the deficit in half with a two-out single to center that brought shortstop Kenneth Franquiz around to score.

After retiring the side in order in the top of the third inning, New Haven took the lead in a big way with McIntire going to the opposite field for his first collegiate home run, a three-run shot that made it a 4-2 game.

After a walk from right fielder Shaun Callahan, Felician turned to their bullpen and gave the ball to right-hander Derek Vonhorn to keep it a two-run game. New Haven took advantage of an error to set up another chance with runners in scoring position as first baseman Andrew Bianco watched his long three-run home run leave the yard to cap off a huge six-run inning that put the Chargers ahead by five.

Felician answered right back in the top of the fourth with a solo home run off the bat of first

baseman Jack Scrivan that cut the lead to four. Following the home run, Mestre was able to keep the damage to a minimum, striking out Fernan looking to end the inning.

McIntire continued his hot start at the plate as he lifted a ball to deep center field that cleared the fence for his second home run of the game to put New Haven back ahead by five. Center fielder Robert Taylor knocked in another run in the sixth on a lined single to left field that scored Bianco for the ninth run of the game.

Felician brought a pair of runners home in the seventh on a double from center fielder Julian Uejim to make it a 9-5 game, but could not scratch any more runs across, ending their four-game winning streak.

New Haven now finds themselves in the midst of another long winning streak, heading on the road to Springfield, Mass. to take on American International College for their last non-conference matchup before a weekend series at Frank Vieira Field, taking on crosstown rival Southern Connecticut State University. First pitch against AIC is scheduled for 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday as the Chargers look to continue their success at the plate and stay in the win column. More information can be found at newhavenchargers.com.



New Haven's Izaiya Mestre pitches against Felician, West Haven, April 8, 2023.
Photo courtesy of Charger Bulletin/Neva Bostic.

Softball dominates doubleheader vs. Staten Island

BY CHRISTOPHER ELWELL
Sports Editor

Pitching is instrumental in the success of any team, especially in the middle of the season when quality innings are most needed. Giving your team as many chances as possible to get off the field and limit the number of runs allows for optimal possibilities to play with a lead.

Two complete games led the way for the University of New Haven softball team as they swept a doubleheader against the College of Staten Island on Wednesday afternoon. Allowing just four runs between the two games, the Chargers were able to take advantage of mistakes and add to their leads as the pitching kept Staten Island's bats quiet.

Freshman right-handed pitcher Skylar Griffin got the nod in game one, coming off a dominant performance against Saint Michael's College in which she held a no-hitter through five innings. She followed that game with another great outing, going the distance and allowing five hits and two earned runs along the way for her third win of the season.

Staten Island struck first in the top of the first inning on a sacrifice fly from designated hitter Amelia Funston, bringing center fielder Mariah Carcano around to score after reaching on an error to lead off the game.

New Haven's offense found their stride in the bottom of the third as third baseman Ashley Veisz was hit by a pitch to lead off the inning. Shortstop Maeve Lougheed followed with a line drive single

up the middle and after a fielder's choice off the bat of left fielder Hailey Polisano, center fielder Bella Chenet brought both runners around to score and advanced to third on the throw to give the Chargers a 2-1 lead.

Staten Island answered right back in the top of the fourth to tie the game at two with a single up the middle by right fielder Alyssa

Acosta after a one-out double from Funston.

New Haven tacked on two more runs in the fourth as first baseman Ashley Veillette reached on a fielder's choice which brought catcher Halle Frederick around to score. Later in the inning, pinch runner Sophia Piccirilli got caught in a rundown between first and second base, which allowed right fielder Aa-

liyah Amidon to score and give New Haven a 4-2 lead.

New Haven broke the game open in the sixth after adding another run in the fifth on a single by designated hitter Selena Aponte, plating four runs to jump out to a seven-run lead.

Veillette opened the frame with a single to left field, followed by a one-out double to right-center field by Lougheed to put two runners

in scoring position who both came around to score on a single down the right-field line by Polisano. Chenet followed her up with another double, advancing to third again on the throw and scoring the final run of the inning on a sacrifice fly from second baseman Kylie Thorpe.

Staten Island brought one more run around in the seventh to make it a six-run game, but Griffin shut the door to seal the 9-3 win in the first game of the doubleheader for the Chargers.

New Haven got another brilliant pitching performance in game two from right-hander Mia Iodice, who was in command all game, finishing with just two hits allowed, no earned runs and seven strikeouts.

Staten Island's only run of the game came in the top of the first on a groundout by Funston, bringing Carcano around to score after a walk to lead off the game. Iodice worked around the error to keep the damage to a minimum, striking out the next two batters to escape the jam.

New Haven's offense was held quiet until the fifth inning when they exploded for six runs which provided all of the offense Iodice would need.

Right fielder Stephanie Smith lined a one-out single to left field for New Haven's second hit of the game, and after a walk from Polisano, pinch hitter Meg Anderson walked to load the bases. Designated hitter Olivia Roberto and Frederick each drew a walk to give New Haven a 2-1 lead, which they held onto for the win.



The New Haven softball team huddles before an inning against Staten Island, April 5, 2023.
Photo Courtesy of Charger Bulletin/Tori Gonzalez.