

The Charger Bulletin

The student news source for the University of New Haven

Volume 113, Issue 17 | March 5, 2024 | West Haven, Connecticut



Members of the lacrosse team in their 16-6 win over Dominican, West Haven, March 2, 2024. Photo courtesy of Charger Bulletin/Tyler Rodriguez.

Lacrosse dominates with 16-6 win over Dominican in home opener

BY CHRISTOPHER ELWELL
Managing Editor

On Saturday, March 2, the New Haven women's lacrosse team took to Kathy Zolad Stadium for the first time in the 2024 season as they faced off against non-conference opponent Dominican College. After a tight 13-12 loss in their season opener against Mercy College, the Chargers looked to pick up their first win of the season on their home turf.

New Haven dominated the game from start to finish as they jumped out to an early lead in the first quarter that they would never give up. Attacker Kyra Sparks gave the Chargers an early lead with a goal under three minutes into the game, quickly followed by attacker Cameryn Antler's first of five goals that dou-

bled their lead in less than four minutes of play.

Just 55 seconds later, midfielder Katie Schenk stretched the lead to three with her first of two goals. New Haven continued to dominate the opening quarter of the game as they controlled the pace offensively and fired shots consistently on net. Antler and midfielder Summer Castiglione kept the pressure up with shots on net before attacker Caitlin Seleny picked up a ground ball and scored the Chargers fourth consecutive goal.

Dominican tallied their first score with 2:42 left to play in the first quarter, but New Haven added another goal with just eight seconds remaining from Antler to finish with a commanding 5-1 lead.

New Haven picked up right where they left off to

begin the second quarter as midfielder Gianna Caprioli added the first two of her four goals for the game to make it a six-goal lead less than three minutes into the quarter.

New Haven goalkeeper Gabby Buscemi stood tall in net, not allowing Dominican to bring themselves within striking distance of the lead. After saving two shots in the middle of the quarter, the Chargers high-powered offense was back on the attack as Antler scored her third goal of the game, followed closely by a free-position goal from Caprioli to make it a 9-1 game.

Antler added another to bring the Chargers to double digits before Dominican attacker Madelyn Grella made it an eight-point lead with 2:33 remaining in the first half. Caprioli and

attacker Lucy Shafer closed out the scoring with a goal each to give the Chargers a commanding 12-2 lead going into halftime.

The opening minutes of the second half were quiet as neither team could control possession, but during a free-position shot, midfielder Cypress Levitt tallied the first score of the third quarter to give New Haven an 11-point lead. Grella and Antler exchanged goals in the closing minutes of the quarter as the Chargers held a 14-3 lead going into the final 15 minutes of play.

Levitt added her second goal of the game just one minute and 19 seconds into the quarter before Dominican made it a 10-point game with goals from Grella and midfielder Jordana Tomasetti. Following the two goals, New Haven was able to maintain possession

and attack Dominican's defense with a shot from Schenk that hit the post before she found the back of the net on a free-position shot for their 16th score of the game.

Attacker Erica Ortiz tallied the final score of the game for Dominican to make it a 16-6 game, which would stand until the final buzzer sounded.

The Chargers dominated the game from start to finish for their first win of the season and will look to continue their strong play in their next matchup in Philadelphia, Penn. against Jefferson University on Tuesday, March 5. The game is scheduled to start at 2 p.m. as New Haven will face off against another non-conference opponent. More information about the team can be found at NewHavenChargers.com.

Connecticut universities plead for more funding from the state

BY ERIN SMITH
Politics Editor

Federal COVID relief funds are running out for public universities in Connecticut. Schools such as the University of Connecticut and Connecticut State Colleges and Universities (CSCU) could be affected. Last week, students and higher education officials from these schools attended a legislative public hearing to persuade state officials to increase their funding for higher education.

The CSCU system is facing a \$140 million shortage in the upcoming fiscal year which starts on July 1. In Nov., the system provided a plan that included layoffs, removal of campus services and raising tuition.

Although, the CSCU system will still need \$47.6 million. “I want to be clear that the \$47.6 million that we’re asking for is literally just to cover the deficit,” said Chancellor Terrence

Cheng at the hearing. “I don’t want to give the impression that the \$47.6 million will make all our concerns or problems go away. It absolutely will not.”

At the University of Connecticut, they are expected to face a \$70 million shortage in the upcoming fiscal year. UConn President Radenka Maric said the university is looking for ways to increase its revenue and bring in more students.

This doesn’t mean that the university will be set, Maric said. “The things that are important to students are advising and mentoring, quality of education, mental health support and housing. We have the priorities, and what students said to us [through a survey] is important to them, but if there is no additional support from the state, the reduction has to happen on all these levels.”

The reason these universities will receive a drop in funding is because federal COVID relief plans provided Connecticut

schools with more funding will come to an end.

Connecticut Gov. Lamont’s Office of Policy and Management received \$27.8 million “for the purpose of ensuring continuing educational opportunities for students of all ages affected by the COVID-19 pandemic,” according to the Office of Policy and Management’s website. This was received through Lamont’s Governor Education Emergency Relief Fund.

When the state received this funding from the federal government, they put aside \$2 million for each public institution of higher education to accommodate remote learning.

Through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act approved by Congress, UConn received \$32.1 million to help with COVID deficits. Around \$10.7 million of this money was designated for emergency grants to students. The remaining funds

were designated for use by the institution to cover expenses related to COVID-19.

At New Haven, the school received \$4.6 million through the federal CARES act, which was put into place to support higher education through the pandemic. Around \$2.3 million of that money was used toward students who needed emergency grants.

Students who received these emergency grants had to submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and meet federal guidelines.

Funding under these acts ended for the university in 2022. UConn and the CSCU system will be running out of their COVID funding.

Students from UConn and Central Connecticut State University (CCSU) attended the public hearing last week to add to their case in front of state officials.

“UConn is not merely a collection of figures and spread-

sheets, it’s a fiber tapestry of the voices, aspirations and dreams of each individual before you today. UConn is us, the staff, students and the faculty. UConn is the voice of the future,” said Victoria McCarthy, a student at UConn Hartford at the public hearing. “We serve the state and the people who inspire growth, strength and passion. Be part of the future that chooses to keep funding that passion, those voices and that future.”

Taylor Doyle, a student at CCSU said that CCSU was the only school she could pay out of pocket for and has only been able to do so “with the guidance, support, encouragement and resources provided to me by the Connecticut State College and University faculty, staff and peers.”

It is now up to Gov. Lamont to answer these pleas for more funding towards higher education as their COVID funding has come to an end.

CT librarians push for bill to expand ebook and audiobook access

BY JESSIE HYMOWITZ
Contributing Writer

Public libraries have been accommodating the changes to modern media, providing access to digital resources, implementing an information technology department and allowing library patrons to check out ebooks.

E-books have proved to be a convenient way to read that gives readers more of an opportunity to partake in a book even when they don’t have access to the physical version of a book.

The current agreement between publishers and public libraries is that ebook publishers can limit the use of individual publications for a maximum of two years, or 26 borrows. The ebooks can only be checked out from the individual libraries that borrowed them, meaning neighboring libraries cannot exchange ebooks with each other as they could with physical books (for example, inter-library loans). Over the years, librarians have railed against this agreement because of the inconvenience on the part of the patrons and the expense to the libraries.

There are several bills that Connecticut librarians are supporting this legislative session that seek to lower the limitations of the licenses that publishers sell. This is in relation to the contract between

libraries and publishers that will take effect July 1, 2026. The proposed bill, was introduced on Feb. 24, said libraries will not participate in contracts with publishers that:

“Prohibits the library from loaning any electronic literary material, including through any interlibrary loan system;

“Restricts the number of times the library may loan any electronic literary material over the course of the license agreement if such agreement also restricts the library’s loan period for electronic literary material;

“Limits the number of electronic literary material licenses the library may purchase on the same date such electronic literary material is made available for purchase by the public;

“Prohibits the library from making nonpublic preservation copies of any electronic literary material;

“Restricts the library from disclosing the terms of the contract or license agreement to any other library in the state;

“Restricts the duration of the contract or license agreement unless the library also has the option of a contract or license agreement on commercially reasonable terms in consideration of the library’s mission, that either (A) is based on a pay-per-use model, or (B) provides for the perpetual public use of the electronic literary material.”

The university’s Library Leader, Lauren Slingluff, raised concerns about the bill’s prospects and said, “It’s hard to know what will go through. There’s a very strong lobby against bills like this because the current pricing structure and e-book options are very advantageous for publishers. But I hope this will be different because there has been a lot more awareness... ultimately, it comes down to consumer rights... I’m cautiously optimistic.”

Regarding the change within the publishing industry and library-publisher relations, she

said, “Ownership has decreased... you are often paying for access on a streaming platform rather than owning something in perpetuity. So the move to digital... has changed how we own and access things, and when it comes to e-books there are two primary models where they’re kind of pricing to what the market will bear and if ebooks get too pricey... consumers will switch back to physical books and the market will adjust... When we’re talking about institutional access, it’s more advantageous for publishers [to stay the same].”

Slingluff said libraries buy what they think their patrons will want to read and university library patrons are different from public libraries.

“In university libraries, we’ll purchase based on the classes students are taking and the research they’re doing. In public libraries, it’s based on what people are reading, such as bestsellers and popular fiction, and they often have to provide many different formats such as large print, e-book, and audiobook,” said Slingluff. “But all libraries just want to invest our dollars in the best way for the patrons.”

If you were a UNH student enrolled in any UNH course as of March 24, 2020 (other than a non-matriculated high school student) and you did not opt out of the Settlement of Krystian Wnorowski, on behalf of himself and others similarly situated v. University of New Haven, Case No. 3:20-cv-1589 (D. Conn.), you will receive the one-time \$200 Non-Cash Tuition Credit described in the Settlement if you enroll or have enrolled in a UNH course commencing in September 2023 or later. Go to www.unewhavensettlement.com for more information.

Exemplary student-athlete Michael Celatka balances responsibilities with dedication

BY ADAM SIGAL
Contributing Writer

Being a student-athlete is a significant amount of work, whether it's competing in sports, managing schoolwork, or striking a balance between the two. A day in the life of a student-athlete can seem pretty exhausting.

Michael Celatka, a sophomore at the university, competes in both the mile and the 3k for the university's men's cross-country team. Throughout the fall cross-country season, Michael showed his dedication and skill by participating in all six team meets and consistently secured a top-seven position for New Haven.

At the NCAA Division II East Region Championship, Celatka finished sixth in the demanding 10k course with a time of 36:37.5. Early in the season, Celatka managed a top-25 finish at the Wesleyan Cardinal Invitational and broke the 29-minute mark twice, with his season's best of 28:47.2 at the Bruce Kirsch Invitational.

Celatka starts his mornings early with training that consists of fast-paced sprints, long-distance runs or pace sprints.

When he isn't running, Celatka is in the gym.

"There is a common misconception that runners will never lift heavy, but distance runners only lift heavy because it's all strength training," he said. "We're not trying to build muscle. We're trying to build strength—how much strength can you have in that small amount of muscle so you can perform at the highest level you can."

He said athletes also focus on injury prevention by using bands, balance boards and emphasizing a large range of motion. He said his coach advises that runners should recover twice the amount they train, whether through stretching, rolling, or visiting the trainer. Celatka said that even in class, he is stretching, whether it's his ankle for mobility or stretching other leg muscles.

His afternoons start after practice ends. He returns to his room and gets ready before having to leave for

class.

Celatka said he grabs to-go boxes from the Marketplace and eats during class. The track team has a nutritionist; Celatka said he consumes around 5,000 calories a day as he burns approximately 4,000 each day. He said he typically consumes large amounts of proteins such as chicken, along with ample carbs, vegetables and fruits.

There's not much time for eating during the day due to class restrictions, which is a significant part of a runner's day given the substantial calorie loss during training—ranging between 4,000 to 7,000 calories, depending on body mass.

Beyond the physical aspect, student-athletes are expected to perform mentally. The team mandates a GPA of 3.0 or higher. If this requirement isn't met, student-athletes have mandated study times. Celatka said it's challenging to study and do work around his strenuous athlete's schedule.

After classes, he typically finishes homework and works as a referee at the rec center. He insists on getting

eight hours of sleep, so depending on when his first class is and when practice starts, determines when he goes to sleep. However, in Celatka's free time, he hangs out with friends,

plays sports – especially basketball, a passion of his.

From grueling training sessions to demanding academic requirements, Celatka finds time for personal interests and hobbies.



Michael Celatka poses for his headshot, West Haven, March 3, 2024.
Photo courtesy of University of New Haven.

Top (not expensive) things to do with your roommate

- Go on a New Haven Pizza Tour. Take a day to try the different spots the town is known for. <https://tasteofnewhaven.com/tours/pizza-lovers-tour/>
- Binge a movie or television series together. For homebodies, find a movie or show to watch. If you're indecisive, spin a wheel with all your options.
- Cook dinner together. Want to save a little money? Try some of these easy and cheap recipes: https://www.budgetbytes.com/top-10-recipes-for-college-students/?utm_content=buffer70af8&utm_medium=social&utm_source=pinterest.com&utm_campaign=budgetbytesbuffer%3Futm_term%3Dclean+eating+snacks&utm_campaign=3805122587
- Make a playlist for getting ready to go out together. Fighting over music tastes? Create a joint playlist that you can blast around the house. Whether it's cleaning, getting ready or cooking, you'll always have a playlist to listen to together. <https://www.businessinsider.com/guides/streaming/collaborative-playlist-spotify>
- Try activities your roommate likes. Learning more about your roommates is always a great idea. Who knows, maybe you'll like those activities, too.

By Jillianne Lopez

A look into COVID-19 eligibility for New Haven student-athletes

BY ERIN SMITH
Politics Editor

Paige Garrett and Kat Trammel moved to the University of New Haven in Aug. 2020 to start their collegiate field hockey season.

A deadly virus was reshaping the world and on March 30, 2020, in the middle of the spring 2020 sports season, including sports such as track and field, baseball and softball, the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) shut everything down. Every athlete's season abruptly ended out of safety concerns before some of the seasons even started. The NCAA Council announced they would grant another year of eligibility to spring athletes whose season was forced to come to a close. That meant spring athletes who were ready to compete in their 2020 season would be able to play another year of collegiate athletics after they graduated. According to an NCAA newsletter, the rules "limit student-athletes to four seasons of competition in a five-year period."

And then the Northeast-10 (NE-10) conference decided on Jul. 16, 2020, that fall and winter sports in the 2020-2021 season would be canceled because of the pandemic. New Haven is a part of the NE-10 conference, so the university's fall and winter sports were canceled for the 2020-2021 athletic season, which provided student athletes with an extra year of eligibility in sports such as field hockey, basketball, football, tennis, soccer, golf, volleyball and cross country.

"We had to change outside in tents and had to wear a mask while practicing, conditioning and lifting," said Garrett regarding her freshman season in fall 2020. "We couldn't use a locker room and if we wanted to get a drink of water, we had to make sure we were six feet apart from everyone else before taking off our mask."

Trammel said she felt the restrictions impacted her relationship with the team.

"For a long time we weren't even allowed to practice with the whole team, so I felt as if I didn't know some of the girls on my own team," said Trammel.

"The Council's decision gives individual schools the flexibility to make decisions at a campus level," said NCAA council chair M. Grace Cal-

houn, athletics director at the University of Pennsylvania. "The Board of Governors encouraged conferences and schools to take action in the best interest of student-athletes and their communities, and now schools have the opportunity to do that."

Since the spring of 2021, student athletes have been using their ability to play an extra season. In the 2023-2024 athletic year, 74 athletes have used or are using their extra year of eligibility.

According to the university's athletic department, 53 male student athletes used their extra year and 21 female athletes used theirs. The team with the highest number of athletes using their extra year was football with 36. Baseball and men's track and field both have five athletes extending their athletic careers because of COVID. Women's basketball and lacrosse both have four athletes.

Field hockey had just two athletes use their COVID year this past season. Ally Saigh and Hallie Reiger, both transfers, came to New Haven to play one last season of field hockey. For the upcoming 2024 season, Garrett and Tram-

mel will use their extra year.

In addition to challenges in their sport, Garrett and Trammel faced other first-of-their-kind obstacles during their freshman year of college.

"Classes were either all online or a hybrid schedule, which was one day online and one day in person," said Trammel. "I feel as if it really hindered my learning which was the foundation of the rest of my degree and it made it more difficult than it needed to be in the following years. I feel as if it is still affecting my work ethic and study methods today."

Garrett said she struggled socially with the university's restrictions.

"I was 3.5 hours away from home living with people I never met," she said. "We couldn't have guests in our rooms. If we wanted to eat with friends we had to eat outside, even when it was winter."

The two teammates decided at the end of this past field hockey season they would continue to play field hockey using their COVID eligibility year.

"I never thought I'd take my COVID [year] but every year I grew to love the team and everything that came with the

sport more and more," said Garrett. "I couldn't see myself ending my athletic career with the way our season ended." The team ended with a 5-13 record and it was Garrett's first time to not go to the NE-10 playoffs in her collegiate career.

"With only playing three real seasons, I felt as if my time wasn't up," Trammel said. "It all went so fast, and I would have left so much unfinished if I had not decided to stay. This past season did not pan out how I wanted and want one more chance to leave it all out on the field."

Garrett will graduate this spring with a degree in psychology and a concentration in forensic psychology. Her studies will continue in a two-year master's program in investigations. Trammel is a forensics major and is in the 4+1 program that will allow her to get both a bachelor's and master's degree in five years.

According to a 2022 National Library of Medicine study, 237 athletes were asked how they planned to use their year of eligibility academically. Out of the pool of athletes, 86 said they would pursue graduate school, 91 said a minor degree,

34 would double major and 26 would pursue an internship.

Audrey Larson, a psychology major with a concentration in forensics, decided not to stay for her fifth year.

"This wasn't the right path for me because staying would have only made sense if I was interested in getting a master's degree from the university, which I was not," said Larson.

Trammel said she understands that "if someone felt like taking their fifth year would not benefit them emotionally, physically or financially then I think it is their own decision to walk away."

The 2024-2025 athletic season will be the last year COVID-eligibility years for athletes in NCAA-affiliated schools. The class of 2024 student athletes are the last to be affected by the pandemic.

"Your athletic career will come to an end eventually so take every opportunity presented to you while you still can," said Garrett. "I'd rather regret doing it than regret not doing it and left to wonder what my fifth year would've been like."

Erin Smith is a member of the New Haven field hockey team.



#15 Paige Garrett talking to the team, West Haven, Oct. 7, 2023.
Photo courtesy of Charger Bulletin/Tyler Rodriguez.

A review of the remade “Mean Girls” movie

BY AMANDA THOMPSON
Contributing Writer

The remake of the 2004 film “Mean Girls” was released in January with a budget of \$36 million. The nearly two-hour movie starred Reneé Rapp, Auli’i Cravalho, Bebe Wood and Angourie Rice, with Tina Fey, who directed the film and continued her role as Ms. Norbury.

The movie also starred members of the University of New Haven marching band – well, not “starred,” but they were at least onset and got a few seconds of screentime. Some of the university’s band members served as background for one of the film’s songs.

Seniors Samantha Borsari and Megan MacNeil, students who were part of the movie, said it was one of the most incredible experiences of their lives and they loved being able to interact with cast members and watch them play their roles.

They were disappointed their screen time was cut from the final version, as they appeared onscreen for roughly five seconds, but seeing them and their friends’ names in the credits made the experience worth it.

The movie got mixed reviews, in part because the movie’s soundtrack did not fit the cast. Having Rapp reprise the role that made her famous on Broadway was appreciated and is something I enjoyed. However, Rice is not known for her singing and she was constantly overshadowed by Rapp and the other talented singers.

People who went to the theater with little context were shocked to find out that, unlike the original movie, the reprise was a musical. It took songs from the Broadway musical to the big screen, which got negative backlash from critics and fans alike.

On the other hand, some people thought this recent

version was a perfect blend of both worlds, the original movie and the musical.

With a rating of 70% on Rotten Tomatoes, the movie still made \$102.3 million at the global box office. Was it a success? I knew the movie was a musical, which made it more enjoyable for me. I thought the characters were well cast;

the 2004 movie storyline was clear and the songs were good and added to the overall effect of the movie.

I also liked seeing Rapp back in a role that suits her well. Even though I was not a part of the band scene, it was awesome recognizing the uniforms and being able to say “Hey! I know those people.” Who

knows, maybe the movie would have done better if the Chargers were given more airtime.

If you didn’t get the chance to see the movie in theaters, it will be available for streaming soon, though the release date has not been announced. Despite the mixed reviews, I recommend this movie.



The cast of “Mean Girls.”
Photo courtesy of Teen Vogue.

As we head into spring break, language professors and native speakers shared how to say (in their respective languages):

“I’m tired, and I need a break.”

- In Italian: Sono stanca e ho bisogno di una pausa
- In French: Je suis fatigué et j'ai besoin d'une pause
- In Arabic: أنا متعب وأحتاج إلى استراحة
- In Russian: Я устала, нужен перерыв
- In Spanish: Estoy cansada y necesito un descanso

Our Staff

Publisher

Tyler Wells

Editor-in-Chief

Mia Adduci

Managing Editor

Christopher Elwell

Multimedia Editor

Emily Lavoie

Jason Kull

Horseshoe Magazine**Executive Editor**

Lee Salazar

Associate Editor

Faith Arcuri

Politics Editor

Erin Smith

Sports Editor

Skylar Griffin

Arts & Life Editor

Alexis Dawkins-

Maldonado

Photography Editor

Charlotte Bassett

Advisor

Susan L. Campbell

300 Boston Post Road | West Haven, CT 06516
chargerbulletin@newhaven.edu | www.chargerbulletin.com
Office: 203.932.7182
Printed by Valley Publishing Co. Derby, CT.
Archives can be found at ourschoolnewspaper.com/Charger

Since 1928, The Charger Bulletin has been the official student news source of the University of New Haven.

Recipient of 1st Place - ASPA Annual Contest/Review for Scholastic Yearbooks, Magazines and Newspapers, 2020, 2021, 2022.

The Charger Bulletin staff strives for excellence and accuracy in writing and reporting. We remain committed to providing the University of New Haven community with up-to-date and accurate news. We recognize that mistakes may occur and encourage readers to notify the Bulletin if they feel a correction is necessary. Please email the Editor-in-Chief at chargerbulletin@

The Charger Bulletin ad rate sheets are available upon request or by emailing chargerbulletin@newhaven.edu. The Charger Bulletin reserves the right to refuse any advertisement. Advertisements within The Charger Bulletin are inserted by outside sources identified in the advertisements themselves and not by the University of New Haven. Advertising material printed herein is solely for informational purposes.

Clumps of cells are now considered children

BY ERIN SMITH
Politics Editor

A clump of cells is now considered a child in Alabama. I don't think parents struggling with infertility are looking for a clump of cells to name. My mom and dad weren't.

Parents aren't looking for a clump of cells to celebrate birthdays with. My mom and dad weren't.

Parents aren't looking to fill out a birth certificate for a clump of cells. My mom and dad weren't.

I am a product of in vitro fertilization (IVF). My triplet brothers wouldn't be here if my parents didn't do IVF.

My older brother wouldn't be here if my parents didn't do IVF.

My parents got married in 1992 and didn't have their first child until 2001. For almost ten years my parents struggled with infertility. It wasn't until they tried IVF they were able to have their first child. Then in 2004 they used IVF again. This time the three embryos that were used all survived and my parents were granted triplets (and a two-year-old at home).

Many people struggle with infertility and because of

modern medicine there are fertility treatments and IVF available so they can have children. IVF may counter traditional standards as to how you are supposed to have a kid, but it serves as a lifeline for so many families who want children of their own.

Without IVF, my parents' dreams of having children would have gone a lot differently.

The recent decision of Alabama's Supreme Court that embryos used in the IVF process are considered children and individuals could be held liable for destroying them. This may harm the future of IVF.

Alabama has since created legislation stating that legal immunity will be provided if a "death or damage to an embryo" occurs. Until the bill is passed, it seems that IVF will be protected but since there is more leverage surrounding the topic there are concerns for the future.

First of all, does Alabama teach science in its school? Because it seems as if the Chief Justice Tom Parker didn't get a fully rounded education. Instead, the basis of his decision was impacted by God and scripture, not science. Should we remind him that IVF is performed in

a lab and not in a church?

"We believe that each human being from the moment of conception, is made in the image of God, created by Him to reflect His likeness," Parker said. "It is as if the People of Alabama took what was spoken of the prophet Jeremiah, and applied it to every unborn person in the state."

When was a requirement to be a Chief Justice to also be a priest?

Yes, the three families who filed the lawsuit should be outraged that their frozen embryos were destroyed by another person. They deserve to win that side of the case. Why should they decide for the state of Alabama when the chances of that occurrence happening again are so small.

It's not just Alabama's IVF centers that are affected by this decision. This also gives people involved in anti-abortion movements more leverage in the post-Roe era to push for more bills supporting pro-life movements.

The president of an anti-abortion group called Live Action, Lila Rose, said "Each person, from the tiniest embryo to an elder nearing the end of his life, has incalculable value that deserves and is guaranteed

legal protection."

So how far will our country go to say whether something is considered life or not? Why aren't we asking doctors or scientists to make these decisions? Unqualified people with their own intentions are making decisions for thousands of people. Sitting here, I am shocked at what the U.S. has become. We are leaders of modern medicine and for some reason we are taking multiple steps back because of an interpretation of a law from 1872.

There is no growth in that. How are we supposed to cure cancer? Cure medical mysteries? It seems like some of our courts want to go back in time to the 1800s.

No matter what, people who want to have children should have the opportunity to do so. Likewise, people who do not want children should have the opportunity to do so.

I'm so sick of seeing more and more court decisions and legislation that has no place even being discussed in state and federal governments. Alabama's Supreme Court made the wrong decision and if the majority of the U.S. doesn't see the problem in that then we are truly way worse than I thought.

Winter Guard fights for adequate treatment from university

BY EMILY LAVOIE
Multimedia Editor

Students involved in extracurricular activities on campus should not have to worry if their respective groups will be supplied with appropriate space.

But as a member of the university's Winter Guard and one of its current captains, that has been our year so far. Winter Guard is a competitive performance art and includes handling different pieces of equipment, including large flags, to put on an artistic show that is judged and scored.

Because these are large pieces of equipment, the specifications for a practice space are precise. Winter Guard needs a gym, but we

are currently assigned to University Hall, previously Saint Paul's Roman Catholic Church. The team is either in the main portion of the building, which is filled with old pews and several chandeliers or in the basement with low ceilings and support beams every six feet. This is an insufficient and dangerous space for practice.

The Winter Guard season goes from January to early April, with competitions on Saturdays. The group's coaches, as well as the university band director, Jason DeGroff, started working – with no luck -- to find an adequate rehearsal space starting last November. How many people should it take to provide a university affiliated group with appropriate

space?

The school has more than 200 Registered Student Organizations (RSOs) that are overseen by the Undergraduate Student Government Association (USGA) and Graduate Student Council (GSC). There is something for everyone on campus.

The Winter Guard is a special case, as it is a competitive group as well as a university-registered course. According to Louis Annino, associate vice president for facilities on campus, groups and people typically register for facilities with a digital reserve system, including athletic and recreational spaces. However, these spaces are not prioritized for non-athletic groups.

You can imagine that

members of the Winter Guard feel they are not a priority. The program has even considered moving off-campus, which could cost its members. An on-campus group and class should have a reserved space that is close by.

Annino said he is determined to find a solution.

"Your program is pushing us into new territory and that is a very good thing," he said.

Annino said he is working to secure a proper rehearsal space and could be booked on one of the correlating reservation systems. This is a work in progress, but perhaps soon the Winter Guard will see the school provide accessibility to all respective groups on campus.

New Haven SAAC concludes Make-A-Wish week with annual polar plunge

BY SKYLAR GRIFFIN
Sports Editor

On Sunday, March 3, the University of New Haven Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) hosted their annual polar plunge to conclude their Make-A-Wish week, where the committee hosted events to raise money for Make-A-Wish Connecticut.

At 12 p.m. on Sunday, over 100 student-athletes arrived at Prospect Beach in West Haven and plunged into the cold water to support the cause. Make-A-Wish kids Troy, Addilyn and Evan attended the festivities with their families and cheered on the student athletes as they ran into the water.

“The goal of this event is to help end our Make-A-Wish Week, which is the week where we raise money for Make-A-Wish through SAAC,” said lacrosse player and SAAC member Lindsey Belmonte. “So, we start on Monday, and we do an event every day and then we end with the Polar Plunge. Make-A-Wish Connecticut comes along with

some Make-A-Wish kids and it’s a really great way to end the week.”

According to Senior Associate Director of Athletics for Compliance and Student-Athlete Services Sara Richwine, 100% of the proceeds raised over the week go to Make-A-Wish Connecticut, to help grant a wish for local children.

“I think it was amazing,” said Richwine. “There were so many athletes here to support Make-A-Wish, and we do this every year in hopes of granting another wish. I’m just so excited about how many kids showed up.” Student athletes from all teams gathered to support the cause, took pictures together and talked with the Make-A-Wish children that were present at the event.

Make-A-Wish Connecticut Senior Community Development Manager Christina Alt said she was thrilled to see how many student athletes attended the polar plunge.

“To see the student athletes come out today... to see them show up, year after year in such a big

way for our Wish kids means everything to us,” said Alt. Alt also said that the average cost for a wish in Connecticut is around \$10,000.

SAAC’s goal every year is to raise enough money to grant one wish, so every dollar that the student athletes raise goes towards that goal in hopes of granting a wish.

“SAAC works so hard every year, planning multiple events on campus, raising money through an online giving platform, sharing with their friends and family about what we do, our mission, while also

driving those vital funds to help Make-A-Wish come true for a local child fighting a critical illness,” said Alt. “We’re just so grateful for all that they do. We’ve got three wish kids here today that came out to cheer them on.”

Alt shared the experiences of the Wish kids who attended the event. Addilyn’s wish is to have a pink-interior cottage in her backyard which has not yet come true, but Make-A-Wish hopes to grant it this spring. Troy is another Connecticut child in the Make-A-Wish foundation, whose wish to go to

Disneyland came true in December.

“They have such a fun time getting to meet all the athletes and interact with them,” said Alt. “And they love getting to cheer them on.”

SAAC has raised \$4,445.70 towards their goal of \$10,000. Leading in donations are the cheer-leading squad, men’s track and field and cross country, women’s lacrosse and women’s rugby.

“I thought it was really fun,” said lacrosse player Helena Dunwoody. “I like that all of the teams got together for a good cause.”



New Haven student-athletes during the Make-A-Wish polar plunge, West Haven, March 3, 2023.
Photo courtesy of Charger Bulletin/Victoria Gonzalez.

Track and field competes at New England Championships

BY SKYLAR GRIFFIN
Sports Editor

After a strong performance at the Northeast-10 conference championships, the New Haven men’s and women’s track teams returned to The Track at New Balance in Boston, Mass. to compete against the best of New England in the New England Championships. Seven Chargers led the way for the team on their way to receive All-New England accolades.

Junior Nathaniel Peters finished fifth overall in

the 500-meter and earned All-New England as he crossed with a time of 1:05.28.

Jordany Dely took home second place in the 60-meter hurdles and also earned All-New England accolades. He finished his strong indoor season with a time of 8.08 seconds.

The men’s 4x400 meter relay team consisted of Peters, Dely, Christopher Gregory and Nile Colson. All four athletes earned accolades as the team finished fourth overall and crossed with a time

of 3:20.52.

Two Chargers received All-New England accolades in the triple jump. Sophomore Matthew Steele finished fourth overall in the event with a jump of 14.12 meters. Following Steele was teammate Jackson Marescot, who placed fifth in the event just one hundredth of a meter under Steele at 14.11 meters.

On the women’s side, three runners earned All-New England accolades. Freshman Jada Kamtha

earned All-New England accolades in the women’s long jump. After opening with a mark of 5.44 meters, Kamtha improved on her jump in her fourth attempt, where she jumped 5.50 meters and moved into third place overall.

Savannah Sistrunk earned All-New England accolades in the 60-meter dash where she crossed in 7.95 seconds and placed eighth overall in the event.

Lastly, Gabrielle Teel finished second overall

in the triple jump to earn All-New England accolades. Teel jumped a mark of 11.61 meters in the event to earn second place.

The New England Championship concluded the indoor season for New Haven’s track and field team. The team will look to carry their success into the spring for the start of outdoor competition. For more information about the programs and athletes, please visit NewHavenChargers.com.

Men's basketball concludes regular season with OT win over Franklin Pierce

BY SKYLAR GRIFFIN
Sports Editor

The New Haven men's basketball team concluded the 2023-24 regular season with a close match up against the Franklin Pierce Ravens that resulted in a 73-68 overtime victory on Tuesday, Feb. 27. The Chargers were coming off a two-game losing streak against the College of Saint Rose and Saint Anselm College last week.

The first half was a back-and-forth affair, with neither team gaining a significant lead before halftime. New Haven trailed by one point going into the second half, with a score of 32-31. The second half remained similar to the first, with neither team able to extend their lead. At the end of the second half, the game was tied at 61.

The Chargers went into

overtime looking to take the win in their last regular season game. With the home court advantage, New Haven took charge and put up six points during overtime before Franklin Pierce was able to score. The momentum stayed in favor of the Chargers late in the overtime period when forward Sean Braithwaite beat the shot clock with a three-pointer that put New Haven ahead by six with two minutes remaining. After they held the lead for the remainder of the overtime, the Chargers prevailed over the Ravens, 73-68.

Freshman guard Jah'Likai King led the offense for New Haven with a team-high 25 points. Tuesday's game was King's eighth game with at least 25 points this season and his 11th game in a row

scoring double digits. King finished the night shooting 10-of-23 from the field and added a pair of three-pointers.

Behind King were guards Tyler Saint-Furcy and Davontrey Thomas, putting up 18 and 17 points, respectively. Two other Chargers put points on the board, with seven from forward Joshua Hopson and six from Braithwaite.

Overall, New Haven finished the night shooting 41% from the field, connecting on 25-of-61 from the field. Seven of those came from behind the three-point arc. Hopson led New Haven on the boards with 12 rebounds, followed by Saint-Furcy with seven and Thomas with six.

With the win, New Haven closed out the regular season with a 10-18 overall record and a 7-15



Davontrey Thomas goes for a layup vs AIC, West Haven, Feb. 17, 2024.
Photo courtesy of Charger Bulletin/Evan Pecorale.

record in the Northeast-10 Conference. The Chargers have earned 10th place in the conference and traveled to Manchester, N.H. for the first round of the NE-10 Championships, as they will face off against

the Saint Anselm Hawks, in which they suffered an 83-69 loss and ended their season in the quarterfinal.

More information about the program and the team can be found at NewHavenChargers.com.

Women's basketball drops regular season finale to Franklin Pierce

BY MIKAELA MOTZ
Staff Writer

The Chargers hosted the Franklin Pierce Ravens on Tuesday as they looked to end the regular season in the win column before the start of the Northeast-10 (NE-10) playoffs. But after a strong start in the first quarter, New Haven was unable to keep up with the Ravens' persistent offense and lost 70-59.

New Haven started strong in the first quarter as they jumped out to a 17-12 lead. Franklin Pierce dominated in the second as they outscored the Chargers 20-7 and went into halftime with an eight-point lead. New Haven's offense got back on track in the second half as they scored 17 and 18 points in the respective quarters, but were unable to get themselves out of the deficit they entered the second half with.

Guard Lindsay Hogan led the team offensively with 21 points and finished the game shooting 8-for-14 from the field. She also went 5-for-9 from behind the three-point arc. Hogan tallied a pair of rebounds and blocks in addition to an assist and a steal.

"There was a lack of energy," said Hogan. "When they go on runs, we need to counter and we just didn't do that today. We are always in a fight to the end, even if our energy's down and we're not scoring as much, we need to stick with them all the way."

Following Hogan was forward Aurora Deshaies with 13 points, going 6-for-12 from the field. In addition, Deshaies had seven rebounds, two assists and a steal. Guard Charlotte Bassett tallied 11 points, six assists and five rebounds.

Behind New Haven's leading scorers, three other

Chargers were able to put up points against the Ravens. Forward Makaela Johnson tallied eight points, going 3-for-3 from the free-throw line. Johnson also had two rebounds, two steals, an assist and a block. Guard Gabrielle Stickle added four points, four rebounds, four assists and a steal. Forward Bianca Pendleton had two points and an assist.

Against Franklin Pierce's 46.8% from the shooting field, the Chargers finished the game shooting 43.8%. In the second quarter, the Ravens shot 3-for-4 from beyond the arc, while New Haven only shot 1-for-4.

While falling behind on offense, New Haven tallied 19 personal fouls which led to the Ravens shooting 17-for-23 from the free-throw line. The Chargers finished the game going 9-for-11 from the free-throw line.

The Chargers finished

the regular season with a record of 8-18 and 4-18 in the NE-10 conference. New Haven will now enter the NE-10 playoffs and stay local for their first-round matchup with Southern Connecticut State University on Friday, March 1. The Chargers were unable

to get anything going offensively, losing 60-44 to their crosstown rival and ending their season with a record of 8-19 (4-18 NE-10). For more information about the program and the team going into next season, please visit NewHavenChargers.com.



#1 Gabby Stickle against American International, West Haven, Feb. 17, 2024.
Photo courtesy of Charger Bulletin/Evan Pecorale.