



YALE WILL NOT DIVEST FROM MILITARY ARMS

Yale announced on Wednesday that military weapons manufacturing does not meet the criteria for divestment.

BY KAITLYN POHLY, YURII STASIUK AND YOLANDA WANG
STAFF REPORTERS

April 17 — Despite student protests, Yale will not divest from military weapons manufacturers, the University announced on Wednesday.

Yale wrote in a statement that its Advisory Committee on Investor Responsibility updated its policy to cover all assault weapons manufacturers that “engage in retail activities to the general public” but refused to divest from military weapons manufacturers.

“The ACIR concluded that military weapons manufacturing for authorized sales did not meet the threshold of grave social injury, a prerequisite for divestment,” the University wrote in the statement.

The announcement comes amid monthslong calls from students for divestment from military weapons manufacturers, including a current student demonstration occupying Beinecke Plaza and a hunger strike that has urged the University to completely divest from weapons manufacturers.

Hunger Strikers for Palestine has urged the University to divest from weapons manufacturers, stating their willingness to risk their “bodily health and wellbeing” in an effort to get the University to meet their demands.

Yale Students Demand Action, a group working on gun violence prevention, brought a proposal to the ACIR to divest from



On Wednesday afternoon, Yale announced that the endowment investment policy would be expanded to bar holdings tied to assault weapons manufacturers that retail to the general public. / **Ellie Park, Photography Editor**

all gun manufacturers last spring, prompting the review of the policy.

Last November, University President Peter Salovey told the News that Yale would revisit its investments in weapons manufacturing amid student protests, renewed after Israel formally declared war against Hamas in Gaza.

In the Wednesday announcement, the University said that the ACIR had heard student presentations concerning the military weapons manufacturing divestment at its annual open meeting in November 2023.

While the ACIR expanded the scope of the divestment policy,

the key demand of protestors and hunger strikers — divestment from military weapons manufacturing — was not met.

In the statement, the University stated that the military weapons manufacturing “supports socially necessary uses, such as law enforcement and national security.”

The new policy on assault weapons manufacturers is an expansion of a 2018 policy that prohibited the Yale Corporation from investing in assault weapons retailers. Now the University will also divest from assault weapons manufacturers that “effectively retail” to the public.

Protesters, who had been on Beinecke Plaza since Monday, moved to the rotunda in Schwarzman Center to avoid rain. The group of student hunger strikers declined to comment, saying that they would release a statement this evening.

Josie Reich and Adam Walker contributed reporting.

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Students react to Yale divestment decision

BY YURII STASIUK, JANE PARK AND YOLANDA WANG
STAFF REPORTERS

April 18 — On Wednesday, the University announced that it would not divest from military weapons manufacturing amid efforts by student organizers on both sides of the issue.

The University’s announcement comes after a months-long advocacy campaign — from various students and coalitions who favor divestment — that has culminated in both an ongoing sit-in demonstration on Beinecke Plaza, which drew about 150 protesters at its height, and an ongoing hunger strike with 14 student participants.

The University’s decision — which also included a commitment to divesting from assault weapons manufacturers that retail to the general public — was met with widespread backlash from protesters who have been demanding that Yale divest from military weapons manufacturers. Yale’s rationale is that military weapons manufacturing does not satisfy “the threshold of grave social injury, a prerequisite for divestment,” per the Wednesday release.

“I am disgusted and appalled by the [Advisory Committee on Investor Responsibility’s] decision not to recommend divestment. How much death does Yale money need

SEE **DIVESTMENT REACTION** PAGE 4

Admin fails to explain policy behind forced removal of protester-installed bookshelves



Administrators have yet to clarify the University regulation that forbids the structure’s placement. / **Christina Lee, Photography Editor**

BY BEN RAAB, TRISTAN HERNANDEZ, AND BENJAMIN HERNANDEZ
STAFF REPORTERS

April 16 — Assistant Vice President for University Life Pilar Montalvo tasked Yale Facilities workers with unbolting and dismantling a pop-up library display on Monday afternoon shortly after 1 p.m., just over an hour after protesters calling for Yale to divest from weapons manufacturers erected the fixture.

Students installed the wooden structure as part of Monday’s “Books not Bombs” protest. Per a press release posted to Instagram account “Occupy Beinecke” — the name of the student coalition responsible for the structure — the group took inspiration from shanty

towns built in 1986 to rally for Yale’s divestment from companies operating under South Africa’s apartheid regime. These structures were torn down at the mandate of Yale administrators but were rebuilt and left in place until 1988.

Just after noon, when the fixture was first installed and administrators began asking students to remove it, the News asked Montalvo at the scene under what protocol the fixture was not permitted; she asked that reporters “send an email” as she was “responding to the situation.” Around 12:30 p.m., she redirected all requests for comment to the University spokesperson and declined to individually weigh in.

SEE **ADMINISTRATION** PAGE 4

Corporation members to meet this weekend

BY BENJAMIN HERNANDEZ
STAFF REPORTER

April 15 — The 16-member Yale Corporation, the University’s highest governing body, will meet in person for its last meeting before the end of the semester on Saturday, April 20.

This meeting is the Corporation’s last before the Yale community disperses for the summer recess and arrives as the Presidential Search Committee nears the eighth month of its process. University President Peter Salovey previously told the News that Corporation mem-

bers, also known as trustees, typically arrive a few days before their Saturday appointment for “informal meetings” throughout campus.

As trustees trickle onto Yale’s campus, a coalition of roughly 12 students known as Hunger Strikers for Palestine will continue their hunger strike. The hunger strike which began on Friday is part of an ongoing effort to demand that Yale divest from weapons manufacturers “contributing to Israel’s assault on Palestine.”

SEE **CORPORATION** PAGE 5



The Yale Corporation will attend a private dinner event on Friday evening to celebrate University President Peter Salovey’s departure from the role. / **Ellie Park, Photography Editor**

Police union holds rally, passes out leaflets during Bulldog Days

BY LAURA OSPINA AND LILY BELLE POLING
STAFF REPORTERS

April 17 — More than 50 members and supporters of the Yale Police Benevolent Association, the police union, rallied in front of the Schwarzman Center as scores of prospective students visiting campus for the annual Bulldog Days event watched on.

Children wearing “Yale Police Union” t-shirts, along with other police union supporters, handed out pamphlets to prospective students on Tuesday afternoon, calling on admitted students and their families to support the union in their 14th month of contentious contract negotiations with the University. The pamphlets mark at least the sixth time the union has branded New Haven as dangerous during active contract negotiations.

When asked if YPBA intentionally scheduled their protest for Bulldog Days, Union Secretary Adam Marong — who was leading the protestors’ chants — told the News that they wanted to maxi-

SEE **POLICE** PAGE 5

CROSS CAMPUS

THIS DAY IN YALE HISTORY, 1993. The Freshman Outdoor Orientation Trips group puts up king-size footprints on Harkness Tower to promote the program.

INSIDE THE NEWS

Admissions office hosts Bulldog Days with fewer prefrash. PAGE 11 **NEWS**



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PA PROGRAM The end of Yale’s online physician assistant program. PAGE 8 **SCITECH**

GREAT WAVE ‘The Great Wave’ on display at the YUAG for a limited time. PAGE 9 **ARTS**

BULLETIN



LAWRENCE D. BOBO

DEAN OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND THE W.E.B. DU BOIS PROFESSOR OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCES AT HARVARD UNIVERSITY

“WHY AFRO-PESSIMISM FAILS: DU BOIS AND THE STRUCTURE VS. CULTURE DEBATE”

TUESDAY, APRIL 23, 2024, 4:00PM
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Crosswords

Puzzle by Ariana Borut '27

- ACROSS**
1 The "F" in KFC
6 Times New ___
7 Last Greek letter
8 One-named "Kiss from a Rose" singer
9 Sharpen, as skills
- DOWN**
1 First-year student, informally
2 Juliet's love
3 "Know what ___?"
4 Two under par
5 Double-helix molecule

1	2	3	4	5
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7				
8				
9				

Solutions from last week

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5				6
A	T	R	E	E
7				
T	W	I	R	L
8				
S	A	L	E	M
	9			
	S	L	S	

Puzzle by Ariana Borut '27

- ACROSS**
1 Baja ___, Taco Bell drink
6 Holiday on April 22, with 9-Across
7 Atlanta university
8 Disaster relief org.
9 See 6-Across
- DOWN**
1 ___ Wellington
2 Rendered ineffective
3 Pleasant smell
4 Shelter adoptee
5 "Love ___ neighbor"

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	9			

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	E	V	E	S
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	R	E	N	T

OPINION

LETTER 4.18: Your student group needs to call for divestment

This week, we invited hundreds of members of the class of 2028 to attend Bulldog Days events at Dwight Hall, Yale's Center for Public Service and Social Justice. We told them how Dwight Hall can support them while they volunteer, learn about careers and join student groups. What is harder to tell students is that these activities are funded by an endowment that profits from war. The Yale Advisory Committee on Investor Responsibility released a statement opposing divestment from military weapons manufacturers on Wednesday, making it more critical than ever for the campus community to continue the push for divestment. Student groups have a role to play.

Dwight Hall is both a part of the Yale community and is an independent 501(c)(3) organization with its own endowment, which totals over \$12 million. In 2008, Yale agreed to manage the majority of Dwight Hall's endowment — totaling \$11,537,356 at the end of the last fiscal year — as part of the Yale University Endowment portfolio.

The Yale Student Environmental Coalition, or YSEC, is in a similar position. As a student-run 501(c)(3) nonprofit, YSEC relied upon a variety of funding sources before receiving an endowment donation in the 2000s. This endowment was specifically directed for Yale management and YSEC's yearly budget is now largely determined by the returns on this sum, itself totalling around \$250,000. YSEC has previously reached out to the donor about removing the fund from the Yale Investments Office's control but has been met with complete opposition.

According to research from the Yale Endowment Justice Coalition, or EJC, published in February, Yale has millions of dollars of investments that are exposed to defense contractors and weapons manufacturers that facilitate war and mass atrocities in Gaza. Yale has over 6,400 shares in an exchange-traded fund, or ETF, that includes Boeing, Lockheed Martin and Raytheon in its portfolio. Yale owns an additional "342,000 shares of an international ETF that includes international weapons and war corporations in its portfolio." Yale also employs asset managers that invest heavily in weapons suppliers. The full extent of Yale's weapons ties is unknown due to Yale's lack of transparency.

The Dwight Hall Student Executive Committee affirms that the resources of Dwight Hall should not be invested in industries that contradict our mission of social justice and public service. The Yale Student Environmental Coalition asserts that no one should profit off of genocide and environmental destruction, and the decisions of the Yale Investments Office are completely against what YSEC stands for as an

organization and what its members value as human beings. Dwight Hall and YSEC, as a collection of students committed to equity and service, maintain that any involvement in such industries is a moral failure, which we cannot condone.

Dwight Hall and YSEC's situation is not unique. Almost every student group on this campus operates with support from the Yale Undergraduate Organization Funding Committee. When we book rooms in William L. Harkness Hall for a cappella rehearsal, or use the name "Yale" to promote our events to people around the world, we benefit from a university built atop an endowment that gives social license to war.

Yale has immense power in setting cultural and political norms, especially since its institutional investment model is considered the industry standard and influences endowment management everywhere from universities like Princeton and Harvard to the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Yale is responsible for the message it sends to the world about which industries can and cannot be ethically invested in. In 2018, Yale divested from assault weapons in the wake of mass shootings in the U.S. because this was an industry that facilitated the tragic loss of life, and the university must similarly divest from military weapons.

As student groups, we must call for divestment or else we will be collectively complicit in Yale's investments in war. We believe that endowment justice is the concern and responsibility of every group on campus.

This February, YSEC and the Student Executive Committee of Dwight Hall at Yale signed on to a list of demands that EJC wrote calling for Yale to disclose its investments in military weapons manufacturing and divest from all companies that profit from war, "including companies profiting from Israel's war activities in Gaza."

The Yale Board of Trustees, the University's governing body, is meeting on campus this Saturday. Dwight Hall's Student Executive Committee and YSEC will continue calling for disclosure and divestment as partner organizations of the EJC. Your student group should join.

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MADELEINE ZARITSKY is a senior in Pauli Murray College and Executive Chair of the Yale Student Environmental Coalition. Contact her at madeleine.zaritsky@yale.edu.

ROSE HANSEN is a junior in Benjamin Franklin College and Co-President of the Yale Student Environmental Coalition. Contact her at rose.hansen@yale.edu.

JOINT COLUMNISTS PUBLIUS

Celene Bennett '26 for president, Juan Borrego '26 for vice president

Editor's note: Led by two co-presidents, Publius is an independent, member-led body of the Yale Daily News, separate from the newsroom and News editorials. Publius is composed of eight undergraduate students who represent a variety of backgrounds, interests and perspectives.

This endorsement does not reflect the views of the News or any representative body thereof.

To prepare this endorsement, before interviewing the candidates, Publius internally disclosed conflicts of interest within its membership in order to approach the endorsement process in an unbiased manner. Publius then conducted 25-minute interviews for each ticket. After each set of interviews, members deliberated each ticket and candidate independently, without reference to other tickets or candidates. From there, members also attended the annual YCC x YDN debate. The final endorsement passed with a two-thirds majority of the members present.

* * *

Last week, we argued that the titles of Yale College Council President and Vice President are misleading. Understandably, students expect leaders who will swiftly turn ambitious visions into sweeping reform, but in reality these positions are fundamentally those of liaisons with special access to university officials and administrators. YCC leadership can enact meaningful change, but it takes compromise and concerted maneuvering with non-student stakeholders in the university. Most of all, it takes time.

An effective president and vice president have to work in concert with the Senate, build on the work of past administrations and skillfully navigate Yale's bureaucracy. Given widespread student apathy, it is equally important that these leaders engage with students so that they may better represent the whole student body. Beyond work ethic and general organizational skills, then, we should look above all for leaders with a genuine passion for connecting with students and hands-on experience with driving change. Whether or not you agree with our endorsement, we hope that our careful consideration of each candidate will prove valuable.

YCC LEADERSHIP CAN ENACT MEANINGFUL CHANGE, BUT IT TAKES COMPROMISE AND CONCERTED MANEUVERING WITH NON-STUDENT STAKEHOLDERS IN THE UNIVERSITY. MOST OF ALL, IT TAKES TIME.

Celene Bennett '26 and Juan Borrego '26: Connecting Yale

Publius is pleased to endorse Celene Bennett '26 for YCC president and Juan Borrego '26 for YCC vice president. Though their track record in the YCC and passion for student advocacy is very impressive, what puts them above other candidates is a genuine desire to engage with students and a keen awareness of what their respective roles demand of them. We are confident that, if elected, their experience, earnestness and rapport will ensure a fruitful presidency and vice presidency.

Bennett and Borrego have extensive experience in the YCC, both in the Senate and the Executive Board, in areas ranging from financial policy to academics and student healthcare. They are well-prepared to continue with the policies they have been advocating for, among them financial aid transparency, Cr/D/Fail reform and healthcare transportation reimbursements, as well as to spearhead other key priorities of their platform, such as expanding the role and responsibilities of the New Haven engagement chair and mak-

ing the YCC a more readily-available resource to student organizations. Their own experience outside the YCC, such as Bennett's with the UOFC funding process for Kasama, the Filipino Club at Yale, convinced us of their empathetic approach to YCC decision-making. They also underscored the role of YCC leadership in facilitating student advocacy through their proposals to match YCC Policy Directors to their respective Deans and involve student organizations in policy-making. Institutional memory was a recurring theme in our conversation with them, and their experience working with administrators and revival of policies from past YCC administrations, such as the YCC incubator, lent credence to their message.

Beyond their policies and experience, a major strength of their ticket is how they fit their roles and complement one another. Borrego's history of spearheading student welfare initiatives equips him for the more internal-facing role of vice president, while Bennett's work as a bridge between administrators and the student body places her well for the external-facing presidential duties. Their chemistry and shared history was evident when we spoke with them; They have known each other before even stepping foot on campus, and we are confident that they will prove to be effective as a pair.

Finally, Bennett and Borrego's positive attitude and eagerness to serve shone through in our conversation. They expressed how much they enjoyed meeting Yalies in residential college butteries on the campaign trail, and we expect that they will continue to put themselves out there and meet individual students. They also had insightful ideas for increasing student engagement — in particular better leveraging of the YCC Instagram, publishing the Senate agenda a week in advance and allowing students to sign up to speak at Senate meetings via a guest form. We were particularly impressed by the no-nonsense presentation of their policies and their recognition of the dangers of overpromising, which we believe is an indication that theirs will be a transparent YCC administration. But most of all it was their interpersonal dynamic and earnestness that made them stand out. Bennett claimed she would "genuinely enjoy every second of the YCC presidency." We believe her.

Mimi Papatathanasopoulos '26 and Esha Garg '26: Together Yale

Both Papatathanasopoulos and Garg are truly invested in the welfare of the student body, and it shows. Their warmth, enthusiasm and kindness were evident during our conversation with them and will undoubtedly serve them and the student body well if they are elected. As seasoned YCC senators, Papatathanasopoulos and Garg are prepared to combine their experience in the YCC with their innate optimism in order to succeed.

At the heart of their platform is student engagement, health and accessibility and FGLI support. In particular, they emphasized their idea of adding a student engagement branch to the YCC, with the aim of strengthening the YCC's relationship with student organizations, and their commitment to meet with at least five students each month. Papatathanasopoulos and Garg also focused on their ideas for reforming the YCC, such as creating handbooks for YCC positions to help streamline YCC transition periods and introducing a Senate mentorship program that would partner new senators with senior members, increase engagement and ensure accountability. Although they do bring together skill sets from different parts of the YCC, we felt more confident in Bennett and Borrego's ability to carry out the specialized responsibilities of their respective offices. However, we are confident that the student body would benefit both from Papatathanasopoulos and Garg's experience in the YCC and their bright and upbeat attitudes.

Brian Zhang '25: Opening for the Gates of Yale for You

The only solo candidate, Brian Zhang, is ready to put his all into the position of YCC president. He con-

veyed to us his deep personal resolve to forge genuine, emotional connections with his fellow Yalies and "take care of every student." Put simply, Zhang "loves Yale." This passion and devotion permeated through every element of his campaign: his decision to run solo — out of loyalty to his preferred running mate who opted not to run — his repeated emphasis on keeping "everyone happy and healthy," and his policies. His main priorities include providing FGLI students with accessible professional development resources, expanding Yale's available mental health services and collaborating with Yale Hospitality to provide EpiPens at all Yale dining halls.

With a track record of success, having kept all of his Junior Class Council promises, we are confident that Zhang will bring a refreshing energy to the YCC as President or Events Director. His run is unorthodox but passionate, his visions grand but meaningful and his self-admitted awkwardness — although the YDN debate showed him to be a confident speaker — only makes him more endearing. However, though he emphasized his experience as JCC President, we believe his unfamiliarity with the policy side of the YCC will make it difficult for him to effectively serve the student body, and some of his more ambitious goals may distract from achievable reform.

AFTER SPEAKING WITH EACH CANDIDATE, ATTENDING THE YDN DEBATE AND DELIBERATING AT LENGTH, BENNETT AND BORREGO STOOD OUT FOR THEIR EXPERIENCE, EARNESTNESS AND RAPPORT. WE ARE CONFIDENT THEY WILL MAKE EXCELLENT ADVOCATES FOR THE STUDENT BODY.

All five candidates would do well if they were to serve in the YCC's highest offices. But after speaking with each candidate, attending the YDN debate and deliberating at length, Bennett and Borrego stood out for their experience, earnestness and rapport. We are confident they will make excellent advocates for the student body. In any case, we wish the best to whomever is elected come Friday, and we hope our new YCC leadership will bear in mind their roles as liaisons to the administration and the importance of engaging with the whole student body.

This piece was written by a two-thirds majority of Publius, excepting two members who recused themselves because of conflicts of interest. Members of the body include:

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FROM THE FRONT

“Ugh, as if!”
CHER CLUELESS

University to not divest from military weapons amid efforts by student organizers

DIVESTMENT REACTION FROM PAGE 1

to fund before this genocide is considered a ‘grave social injury?’” Ky Miller YSE ’25 wrote to the News. “I truly hope that the ACIR will reconsider this decision in light of the ongoing social turmoil, violence, and death of the Palestinian people — social injuries that are a direct result of Yale’s investments in mass weapons manufacturers.”

Yale’s decision came on the same day as other advocates also expressed their opposition to divestment directly to the University.

On Wednesday morning — before Yale released its announcement — Eytan Israel ’26 and other co-authors sent a letter to University President Peter Salovey in opposition to calls for divestment from military weapons manufacturing.

Israel himself also circulated the letter among Yale affiliates to collect signatures. It received signatures from over 130 students and parents, alumni and faculty as of late Wednesday evening.

An organizer who favors divestment — and requested anonymity due to safety concerns — added that since November, students have sent more than 2,000 letters to Salovey and the ACIR calling for divestment from military weapons manufacturers.

“Our position doesn’t require endorsing every targeting decision the IDF has made in Gaza; it doesn’t require supporting the structure of their campaign against Hamas; it doesn’t require supporting any policy of the current Israeli government,” Israel said. “Our position is based on the realization that the liberal democracies of the world — the U.S., Ukraine and Israel among them — face recurrent and serious military threats from their non- and anti-democratic neighbors and therefore require the means to defend themselves, and democracy itself, militarily.”

Pro-divestment organizers intend to keep protesting

In the Schwarzman Center, where protesters temporarily moved from the Beinecke Plaza due to rain, student organizers read aloud the University’s statement on its decision while protesters chanted “shame.”

“What are we telling the trustees? If there’s no justice, there’s no peace,” protesters shouted.

The University’s Board of Trustees, which made the decision following the ACIR’s review, will meet this Saturday.

In a post on the Instagram account “Occupy Beinecke,” the protesters wrote that they intend to “continue to occupy” Beinecke Plaza until the trustees “themselves commit to disclosure and divestment or publicly justify their failure to do so.” The group wrote that they refuse to accept a decision from the ACIR — “a body with no decision-making authority.”

The ACIR is an advisory body to the Yale Corporation Committee on Investor Responsibility — or CCIR — which consists of two students, two alumni, two faculty and two university employees. It does not have official authority to amend the University’s investment policies. According to the University announcement, the ACIR makes recommendations to the CCIR, which in turn advises the Board of Trustees. The Board makes the final investment decisions.

“Our occupation has grown every day because the Yale community knows that the indiscriminate bombing of thousands of civilians constitutes ‘grave social injury,’ even if the ACIR has convinced itself otherwise,” wrote Lumisa Bista ’25, one of the protesters.

Disagreements over Yale’s involvement, Israeli right to self-defense

Organizers on both sides of the issue are divided on the extent of the University’s monetary investment in

companies that supplied the state of Israel with weapons.

According to Yale’s February 2024 SEC filings, the University holds over 6,400 shares of the iShares Core S&P Total U.S. Stock Market ETF, with a total value of around \$680,000. It also holds 342,000 shares of Vanguard FTSE Emerging Markets ETF, totaling over \$14 million. Both the iShares ETF and the Vanguard ETF — which are exchange-traded funds with investments in a slate of various companies — can directly fund manufacturers that sell weapons to Israel, such as Boeing, or companies that operate in Israel’s defense and weapons manufacturing sectors, such as Larsen & Toubro Ltd.

Yale publicly discloses 1 percent of its endowment investments, so the full extent to which the University has financial holdings tied to weapons manufacturers remains unclear. Even in that 1 percent, it is difficult to determine exactly how much of Yale’s investments directly reach such companies, as third parties manage both exchange-traded funds.

To Samuel Rosenberg ’26, the student protests for the University’s divestment exaggerate the scale of the University’s investment in weapons manufacturing.

“The degree of investment is fairly insignificant,” Rosenberg said. “So it’s sort of blowing out of proportion something that’s not actually of particularly large material consequence.”

Rosenberg said that the University’s investments are several steps removed from the military aid Israel receives.

“Yale has one ETF amongst thousands of holdings,” Israel added, referring exclusively to one of the at least two exchange-traded funds in which Yale invests. “This ETF has three companies, out of hundreds, that deal with the defense industry.

Within that minuscule amount, an even smaller portion of this is manufacturing offensive weapons being used in the war in Gaza. If four degrees of separation from what some perceive as immoral were the standard for divestment, Yale would need to divest from all of its holdings.”

While Israel described one ETF in which Yale invests — citing coverage from the News earlier this week that referred only to iShares — the 1 percent of endowment information that Yale publicly discloses includes holdings in at least one other such fund. These two ETFs are tied to dozens of weapons manufacturing companies involved with Israeli military defense.

Adam Nussbaum ’25, one of the protesters on Beinecke Plaza, pointed out this discrepancy.

“The S&P 500 is only the tip of the iceberg,” Nussbaum wrote to the News. “This is about Yale’s direct ties to weapons manufacturing via shell companies managed by Wall Street asset managers, which they refuse to disclose to the Yale community. Yale should not be complicit in the destruction of educational institutions in Gaza or anywhere in the world.”

Students also remain divided on the implications of Yale’s investments. Both Rosenberg and Israel said that Yale’s continued investment in weapons manufacturing would provide the state of Israel and other “countries of the free world” with the ability to defend themselves. In response, a Beinecke protester — who requested anonymity for safety concerns — said that the price of self-defense was incomparable to the cost of Palestinian lives in Gaza.

The student disagreed with the necessity of U.S. involvement in the military defense of other countries, such as Israel and Ukraine.

“As Americans, we have funneled billions of dollars into creating and protecting the Zionist settler colonial project,” the protester wrote to the News. “To this

I say, yes, divest! Divest from the defense of Israel, Ukraine, America, and more. Forty billion dollars and God are worth the same to me, which is to say I think they are both worth absolutely nothing compared to a single Palestinian life.”

While Rosenberg opposes divestment, he said that he does not “endorse” or “pursue” the suffering of the Palestinian people.

Though Rosenberg hopes for an eventual ceasefire, he said that it would have to come with certain conditions, including Hamas returning all Israeli hostages and the surrender of its power in Gaza.

During its Oct. 7 attack on the state of Israel, Hamas killed 1,200 people and took more than 250 people as hostages. In response, the Israeli military began an offensive in Gaza and has so far killed more than 33,700 Palestinians, the Associated Press reported on April 15 based on estimates from the Gaza Health Ministry. The Israeli government reports that Hamas still holds more than 130 hostages, of whom 36 are confirmed dead.

“As we say in the letter, war is awful and terrible, and not something that really I ever want anyone to have to endure ... that is something that I hope does not get lost,” said Rosenberg. “I think that it is important to recognize that Israel, as does any country, has the right to defend itself and, on Oct. 7, was put into a position in which it needed to defend itself against a terror organization that has destroyed and caused the loss of life for many, many, many Israelis and Palestinians.”

The Yale Corporation is the University’s 17-member board of trustees.

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Alyssa Chang, Contributing Photographer

Facilities workers unbolt and dismantle pop-up library display

ADMINISTRATION FROM PAGE 1

“Following guidelines around free expression and peaceful assembly, and the use of outdoor spaces, Yale staff members asked that the bookcase be removed to allow free and unfettered access,” the University spokesperson later wrote to the News at 3:41 p.m.

According to the spokesperson, staff offered to have students remove the display themselves, and when the students chose not to do so, the protesters were told facilities staff would remove it. At the protest itself, however, Montalvo said that if protesters took it down themselves, they could keep it, but if administrators took it down, they could not promise to maintain the integrity of the structure nor have a storage space for it.

Yale’s spokesperson also wrote that staff offered to help organizers with the application process for putting up an art installation.

The University claimed late on Monday night that the bookcase

had spanned across the entirety of the staircase leading up from Beinecke Plaza to the Schwarzman Center, thus blocking pedestrian access — but pedestrians were still able to walk around the structure to reach the other side of the Plaza, including the entrance to the Schwarzman Center.

The University did not directly address further questions, sent around 2 p.m., on the University’s policies on required access to buildings or updated status of the shelves that were taken by Yale Facilities, nor to follow-up questions sent around 5 p.m., 8 p.m. and 11 p.m. about the specific definitions of access to University facilities or of what blocking transit entails.

University policy for use of outdoor spaces states that “registered groups and organizations from Yale’s schools who want to use the University’s outdoor spaces for an event must apply for and obtain permission” and that “pathways and entryways to buildings must be kept clear and accessible.”

To apply for proper consideration and approval of requests, permission should be requested 72 hours prior to the event. Monday’s demonstrators did not inform University administrators of their intention to build the structure in advance, according to an organizer.

In September, Montalvo informed a student they could not construct a Sukkah — a hut-like temporary structure for the Jewish holiday of Sukkot — according to an email exchange obtained by the News.

“Buildings of this sort may not be constructed on campus,” she wrote.

The takedown of the structure is also not the first time Montalvo has cited University regulations in dismantling the work of protesters.

In December, Montalvo gave a student permission to take down a banner that listed the names of thousands of Palestinians killed in Gaza during the Israel-Hamas war. Later, she told the News that there were “administrative errors” made in allowing the poster to go up and in authorizing the student to take it down.

If Yale were to change its policies, it wouldn’t be the first Ivy to do so.

At Columbia University, administrators announced in February changes to their demonstration policy that reduced the protest approval window from 15 business days to two business days and created designated times and spaces for campus protests. The policy change came amid criticism of the University for its enforcement of policies regarding protests and demonstrations since the onset of Israel’s formally declared war against Hamas in Gaza, according to the Columbia Spectator.

Specifically, Columbia suspended its student chapters of Students for Justice in Palestine and Jewish Voice for Peace in November, seventeen days after revising its events policies to hand Columbia administrators “sole discretion” to determine “final and not appealable” sanctions against student groups and their individual members, per the Spectator.

Now, under policies enacted in February, Columbia “may not deny registration or approval of an exception for any Demonstration based on the viewpoint of the individual or group seeking to hold the Demonstration.”

University President Peter Salovey, Dean of Yale College Pericles Lewis, Dean for Student Affairs Melanie Boyd and Montalvo all did not respond to immediate requests for comment following the protest. Montalvo told the News to route all questions through to the University spokesperson.

Update, April 16: This article has been adjusted to clearly attribute the assessment that the bookshelf spanned the full stairway to the Schwarzman Center to the University.

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FROM THE FRONT

"This is the last game so make it count. It's now or never."
TROY BOLTON HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL 3

Fourth annual Corporation meeting could include presidential search updates

CORPORATION FROM PAGE 1

Meanwhile, over 1,200 admitted students are expected to make their way to New Haven for Bulldog Days, which will begin at 2:00 p.m. Monday and conclude at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 17.

Corporation members will also attend a private dinner event at the Schwarzman Center on Friday evening to celebrate Salovey's service to Yale. The event will bring

together partners and volunteers that Salovey has worked with over the years, per a member of the President's Office.

The University's by-laws dictate that all decisions made by the Corporation are to be decided by a majority vote. The Presidential Search Committee is chaired by Corporation senior trustee Joshua Bekenstein '80 and consists of seven additional Corporation members: Catharine Bond Hill GRD '85 and

William Kennard LAW '81, who serve as vice chairs to the committee, as well as five others — Ann Miura-Ko '98, Joshua Steiner '87, David Sze '88, Marta Tellado GRD '02 and Michael Warren '90. The committee also includes four faculty members who were appointed in September.

In September, Bekenstein told the News that all 16 trustees will ultimately become involved in choosing the next president. Trustees convene in person and on campus five times a

year, with their final meeting of the year scheduled for June 8.

Salovey is set to step down from his role on June 30. In his Aug. 31 announcement that he would be returning to the faculty, Salovey wrote that he had informed Bekenstein of his willingness to extend his set departure date "to provide leadership continuity."

The last public update from the presidential search committee was released on Jan. 29, synthesizing

information from a report received by the Student Advisory Council — which the News obtained in full — and the committee's other outreach efforts, including listening sessions and surveys.

The Corporation's last meeting of the academic year is on June 8, after classes end.

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Over 50 police officers rally in front of Schwarzman Center for new contract



The Yale Police Benevolent Association rallied with over 50 people in front of the Schwarzman Center — a move administrators described as "irresponsible and reckless." / **Christina Lee, Photography Editor**

POLICE FROM PAGE 1

mize the number of people hearing about the Yale Police Department's issues negotiating with the University.

"When you think of the Ivy League, you automatically think of trees, suburbs, so we want [incoming students and parents] to know what the level of crime is at the University so they can do the proper things to feel safe," Marong said.

Chanting slogans such as "Down with Yale greed, up with campus safety," union members at the rally advocated for a speedy and fair contract settlement with a substantive raise and improved pension benefits for officers killed or injured in the line of duty. Billboard trucks paid for by the YPBA, flashing messages like "Yale: \$41 Billion Endowment But Offers 1.75% Wage Increase," circled campus for the second day.

Pamphlets provoke University condemnation

While the rally was in line with a long history of YPBA protests during visitor events, Tuesday's pamphlet used comparatively tame language to the "Survival Guide" leaflets distributed to first-year students and their families on move-in day in August. The heavily criticized Grim Reap-

er-adorned leaflets from August claimed that "some Yalies do manage to survive New Haven?" Tuesday's pamphlet, while still branding New Haven as a dangerous city, employed a more diplomatic tone.

YPBA President Mike Hall addressed the leaflet to prospective students and their families, where he introduced the Yale Police Department, detailed the union's contract priorities and underscored the YPBA's commitment to protecting "your daughters and sons."

Not all of the union's claims about crime in New Haven are true. Messaging emblazoned by YPBA claimed that over 2,574 gunshots were fired in New Haven in 2023 and that New Haven was the most dangerous city in the state in 2023.

There have been 273 confirmed shots fired from Jan. 1 to Dec. 17, 2023, down from 294 in 2022, according to public crime records from the New Haven Police Department. In downtown New Haven, the NHPD recorded six confirmed shots in 2023. While New Haven had a higher property and overall crime rate in 2023, Hartford led the state in violent crime rate, according to publicly available crime data.

Tuesday's pamphlet attempted to appeal to the intellect of its audience, instead of the instinctual fear like other YPBA leaflets. Jorge Camacho LAW '10, polic-

ing, law and policy director of the Justice Collaboratory at Yale Law School told the News.

Camacho said that the pamphlet's evidence to support the YPBA's characterization of New Haven as a dangerous city was not convincing. Downtown New Haven, which contains Yale's main campus, has an "incredibly low" crime rate, Camacho said.

The pamphlet also cites rising school shootings nationally and a Fox News headline that describes campus homicides in universities in Georgia, Colorado and Kentucky. Camacho said that events happening throughout the country do not prove insecurity in New Haven. Given that crime rates on college campuses are already low, for Camacho, the YPBA's statements amount to "fear-mongering."

Interim Senior Director of Public Safety Duane Lovello wrote that the YPBA aimed to elicit fear among students and families by utilizing "misleading" and "inflammatory" language.

"We unequivocally condemn the irresponsible and reckless actions of those who chose to spread this inaccurate information," Lovello wrote in a statement to the News, referring to the pamphlets passed out by the union. "There is no indication of increased campus crime approaching the levels the YPBA suggests, and

we are seeing a decrease, especially in violent crimes."

Camacho also questioned the effectiveness of appealing to prospective students.

"It's just curious to me that, for example, they're not disseminating this to the incoming medical students, law students, the School of Management students," Camacho said. "They're not targeting the older, more sophisticated students. They're really targeting fresh-faced freshmen who are arriving. This is probably their first time out in the real world without the support of their families. And they're trying to take advantage of that in a way that just feels like a bad tactic."

Rally elicits mixed response from prospective students

Prospective students' reactions to the rally were mixed. Many accepted a pamphlet or stopped to talk with union members. Tatyana Kaul, a prospective student, said she saw a person wearing a Yale Class of 2028 shirt ripping the YPBA pamphlet in half immediately upon receiving it.

"It's reasonable to ask for a fair wage seeing that Yale does have such a large endowment, but at the same time I also think it's fair for the University to have gripes about them wanting to place a 60-day cap on police complaints,"

Kaul said, referencing the YPBA's proposal to place a statute of limitations on civilian complaints against police misconduct.

The union received honks of support from passing Yale Shuttle, Yale Facilities and New Haven public transit vehicles.

Vivian Quint, another prospective student, said that the union staging the protest during Bulldog Days was a logical way to disrupt Yale's programming.

"[The YPBA protesting during Bulldog Days] makes total sense as we're new students coming in," Quint said. "We're seeing the pretty picture of Yale, and it makes sense that these people want us to know that it's not a pretty picture. It's obviously pretty strategic to do it outside the Schwarzman Center, where our signature events are."

Hall said that the union has other rallies planned for the rest of the academic year.

The next bargaining session between the YPBA and the University will occur on Wednesday, April 17.

Yurii Stasiuk contributed reporting.

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NEWS

“Do you remember in kindergarten how you’d meet a kid and know nothing about them, then 10 seconds later you’re playing like you’re best friends?”

GABRIELLA MONTEZ HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL

Yalies send letter to Salovey opposing divestment



ELLIE PARK / PHOTOGRAPNY EDITOR

University affiliates sent Yale President Peter Salovey a letter advocating for Yale to divest from weapons manufacturers.

BY JANE PARK & YURII STASIUK
STAFF REPORTERS

On Wednesday morning, Eytan Israel '26 and other co-authors sent a letter to University President Peter Salovey in opposition to the calls for divestment from military weapons manufacturing — hours before the University publicly announced its decision to maintain such investments.

In the first 24 hours of its circulation, the letter gained 133 signatories — including students, parents, alumni and professors across Yale College and Yale's graduate schools. The letter followed the monthslong advocacy campaign to pressure the University to divest from military weapons manufacturing and claims that only a minority of Yale students support the divestment. The News could not independently verify views across the student body.

“We call on you not to divest from companies that provide Israel, along with Ukraine and other countries of the free world,

with the integral ability to defend itself against countries that seek to dismantle democracy and plunge the world into panic and destruction,” the authors of the letter wrote.

The letter refers to Iran launching drones and missiles against Israel earlier this week, an escalatory retaliation to Israel killing seven people — including two senior members of Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps — in a strike this month against Iran's consular building in Syria. The letter also refers to Hezbollah's rocket and drone attacks on Israel to justify military weapons investments as a way to support what it describes as Israeli self-defense.

The document mentions as well Hamas' Oct. 7 attack on Israel, during which Hamas killed around 1,200 people and kidnapped around 250 more. Since then, Israel has killed more than 33,700 Palestinians over the course of its war against Hamas in Gaza, the Associated Press reported on April 15 based on

estimates from the Gaza Health Ministry, and the Israeli government reports that Hamas still holds more than 130 hostages, of whom 36 are confirmed dead.

The letter further cites remarks from a post that Ukrainian president Volodymyr Zelensky made on X, formerly Twitter, comparing Iran's recent attacks on Israel to routine Russian attacks on Ukraine. Russia has used Iranian Shahed drones to attack Ukrainian energy infrastructure and residential areas.

“Words do not stop drones and do not intercept missiles. Only tangible assistance does,” Zelensky wrote in a post — which the letter cites — condemning Iran's attack on the state of Israel.

The Patriot air defense system, which the U.S. provided to Ukraine to shut down Russian rockets and drones, is manufactured by Lockheed Martin, Raytheon and Boeing — companies from which protesters have called on the University to divest.

Israel noted that no Ukrainian student directly contrib-

uted to writing the letter but said he spoke with a Ukrainian peer about it.

“When I let [a Ukrainian classmate] know the contents of the letter and asked her if she thinks her Ukrainian friends would be willing to stand against the call for the divestment of the companies that also provide the defense equipment that allows Ukraine to defend itself,” Israel recounted, “she said that although she had not yet read the petition, if the emphasis is on defense, she thinks it is likely many Ukrainian students would sign.”

Israel added that he reached out to Ukraine House at Yale, a student organization that has advocated for aiding Ukraine amid Russia's full-scale invasion, but had not yet received a response due to “the rapid progression of the petition and events.”

In Israel's view, Yale's investments have played an important role in aiding democratic countries in defending themselves.

“As stated in our petition, without the military jets of Lockheed Martin, the Iron Dome (Raytheon Manufacturing) and Arrow (Boeing Manufacturing) interceptor missiles, and the patriot defense systems (Raytheon, Lockheed Martin, and Boeing), democratic countries around the world would have no means to defend themselves against the powers that seek to destroy them,” Israel wrote.

To one Beinecke protester, who requested anonymity on the grounds of safety concerns, claims of Israel's self-defense and American democracy do not fully encapsulate the scope of the destruction in Gaza.

“These words like nation, Western world, Israeli defense, American democracy: they have little meaning to me,” the protester wrote to the News. “You must remember that for most of us with non-European heritage, the imperial and colonial interests of the West are responsible for the very worst of our homeland's wounds. We know very well who the true malicious

actor is. We know very well what America seeks to destroy.”

In its final remarks, the letter urged Salovey to “refuse the demands from a small minority of students.”

At around 150, the number of participants in the pro-divestment sit-in protests this week has been slightly greater than the number of signatories the letter accrued in just under one day.

Since November, Yale students have submitted more than 2,200 letters to Salovey urging Yale to divest its investment in arms manufacturers. At the beginning of the Beinecke occupation, the Yale students for divestment created a second letter campaign which has since garnered 480 letters. Accordingly, another pro-divestment protester who also requested anonymity on the grounds of safety concerns said the letter's mention of a “small minority” is dishonest and disingenuous.

“We hope that this is the end of the campaign against the companies that allow Israel and the western world to defend itself, but we are aware that this is likely not the case,” wrote Israel to the News of the University's decision on investment policies. “We will stand strong by our beliefs, growing our coalition every day, to continue showing the administration that hundreds of their students, faculty, alumni, and parent body support them and their decision.”

Yale adopted a policy prohibiting investments in assault weapons retailers in 2018 and committed in its Wednesday announcement to divestment from assault weapons manufacturers that retail to the general public.

Stasiuk, one of this article's co-authors, is also the vice president of Ukraine House at Yale but was not involved in any sourcing or reporting directly related to that affiliation.

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Bone marrow drive, divestment sit-in converge on Beinecke Plaza

BY ETHAN WOLIN
STAFF REPORTER

Beinecke Plaza was home to a mix of campaigns on Wednesday, as a drive for bone marrow cancer treatments coincided with an encampment of students pushing for Yale to divest from military arms makers.

The confluence of disparate causes — which also included a pro-Israel table and advocates of Yale investment in summertime food for New Haven youth — came on the last morning of Bulldog Days and during a week of heightened student activism before a Yale Corporation meeting this weekend.

“It's the center of Yale's wealth. It's a gathering place for people. It's a symbol of Yale's power,” divestment activist Adam Nussbaum '25 said, referring to Beinecke Plaza. “Today, we had the Mandi Schwartz marrow drive alongside of us, and they've been lovely neighbors.”

The effort to collect DNA swabs that could aid in marrow transplants took place for a 16th year in honor of Mandi Schwartz '10, a women's ice hockey player who died of leukemia in 2011 after being unable to find an adequate match for her genes. Players from several varsity sports teams, such as football and women's ice hockey, promoted the drive around campus.

While tents for the marrow drive stood by the Schwarzman Center entrance, pro-divestment protesters filled a part of the plaza in front of the World War I memorial, surrounded by works of art and stacks of books.

The group Occupy Beinecke and more than a dozen mostly graduate students calling themselves Hunger Strikers for Palestine have urged Yale to divest from the makers of weapons being used in Israel's war against Hamas in Gaza. By late afternoon on Wednesday, the sit-in's third day, the protesters vacated the plaza amid light rain, while the University released a statement saying it would not divest from military weapons manufacturers.

“It seems like a very active campus,” said Ann Evans, who works for



SAMAD HAKANI / PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

An annual drive to aid cancer treatments and a sit-in for Yale divestment from arms manufacturers were among the causes promoted on Wednesday.

football team and an organizer of the bone marrow drive, said that he had been concerned that the sit-in would prompt tension between the groups about their shared space. But, Ciotii said, his worries were not borne out.

Robby Tattersall '27, a wide receiver on the football team who wore a bulldog costume and head covering during an interview with the News, said there was little interaction between the two camps. He said that he and other volunteers for the bone marrow drive were sometimes energized by cheers from the Occupy Beinecke area.

“It seems to be bringing more people to the space,” Tattersall said. “The more eyes we get, hopefully, the more people we can draw into the drive.”

The various groups on Beinecke Plaza had created “a lot of sensory overload,” an American Studies grad-

Volunteers boosting the marrow drive avoided using megaphones on Beinecke Plaza, as they normally would, so as not to disturb Occupy Beinecke events, according to Ciotii.

Avery Chesek '26, a women's ice hockey player, said she thought the variety of causes present on Beinecke Plaza left some passers-by confused and less inclined than last year to participate in the bone marrow drive. “We try and make today the most about Mandi as we possibly can,” Chesek added.

By 5 p.m., when the drive ended, 600 people had provided samples — within the typical range of between 400 and 900 swabs for the annual one-day effort, Ciotii said. He said the drives at Yale have resulted in nearly 100 bone marrow matches to date.

At about the same time, pro-di-

recited pro-Palestine chants before administrators told them to leave the building at 11 p.m.

The bone marrow registration effort and the divestment sit-in did not represent the only groups with a message to convey on Beinecke Plaza on Wednesday.

Yale Friends of Israel set up a table on the plaza, a move from its position on Cross Campus the day before. The group displayed a banner urging the return of Israeli hostages held by Hamas, as well as many Israeli flags.

“People are coming by Commons to swab their cheeks. We want to get in on the action,” said Kira Berman '25, the organization's president.

Berman said she had come to the pro-Israel table directly after a class and noticed that a peer from class had gone to the Occupy Beinecke area. Soon Berman

Earlier in the day, organizers affiliated with the organization Witness to Hunger came to Beinecke Plaza to hand out flyers calling for Yale to donate \$100,000 annually to a program that offers food to New Haven families when public schools are on summer vacation. The flyers included a QR code linking to an online petition with 372 signatories as of Wednesday evening.

The Hewitt University Quadrangle, the official name of the area directly west of the Schwarzman Center, has previously been the site of protests for arms divestment during South African apartheid and for recognition of Yale's graduate student union, Local 33-UNITE HERE.

Christina Lee, Josie Reich and Laura Osning contributed reporting.

NEWS

“Get in loser, we’re going shopping.”

REGINA GEORGE MEAN GIRLS

Are ‘tiny homes’ a long-term solution to homelessness in New Haven?

BY NATASHA KHAZZAM
STAFF REPORTER

After their construction in October, Rosette Street’s “tiny homes” were approved by the city’s Board of Zoning Appeals on March 12. Yet the long-term contribution of “tiny homes” to ending the housing crisis remains uncertain, according to city officials.

The six “tiny homes” in question were installed by a collective of unhoused activists working with Amistad Catholic, a local nonprofit. After the city’s repeated opposition to the construction — which violated local and state zoning codes — the city’s Board of Zoning Appeals, or BZA, granted activists a variance, or exception to the zoning code. While the variance granted by the city is indefinite, exemptions to state building codes are set to expire after 180 days. This has led some city officials to view the structures as a temporary solution to homelessness in the city.

“The project in the backyard was not about tiny homes, it’s not about us developing housing,” said homelessness activist Mark Colville, who headed the “tiny homes” project. “What we’re trying to do is to redefine the issue of homelessness, and to recognize that it’s the zoning laws themselves that are the instrument by which people are being denied [emergency shelter].”

Board of Zoning Appeals retroactively grants zoning code variance

Upon construction, the “tiny homes” — which fall under the technical category of emergency shelters — violated the city’s zoning codes on several fronts, including being built too close to neighboring property lines and suppressing the limit of units that are allowed to be built on a given property. The structures also violated the Connecticut State Building Code, which does not permit residential structures without a kitchen or bathroom.

The BZA approved the application for an exception to city zoning codes on four conditions, which include the following: only two individuals can reside in each

structure at a time, both residents must be direct family members, no more than the six structures currently at Rosette Street are allowed to serve as residences and an easement must be in place for structures that extend beyond the property lines of Rosette Street if Amistad House is sold in the future.

New Haven Mayor Justin Elicker told the News that the state granted the activists an exception to the building code. Unlike the city’s exception, which is indefinite, the state’s exception will expire after 180 days.

“The state made clear that they made this 180-day exception because there’s an emergency because of the winter,” Elicker said.

According to Elicker, after 180 days, individuals living in the homes will have had “ample time” to find alternative accommodations. Due to this, Elicker said he believes the state is highly unlikely to extend the extension past 180 days.

Colville noted that one difficulty with the city’s zoning codes is that they do not include a category for emergency shelters, which are necessary, especially during cold winter months.

“People have to make tough decisions in order to survive when [they] are unhoused,” Colville said.

Laura Brown, the executive director of the city plan department, confirmed that emergency shelters do not currently exist within the zoning ordinance. However, Brown noted that it would be “ostensibly” possible to change the zoning ordinance to include emergency shelters at some point in the future.

According to the New Haven Independent, activists at Amistad are currently working to expand this legislation for emergency housing.

Potential for a long-term future

“In order to make long-term changes, we need systemic change,” Colville said.

According to Colville, the “tiny homes” project is a necessary component of providing emergency shelter for people experiencing homelessness.

However, he said that he hopes to expand the project through-



MAGGIE GREYER/CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

While activists highlight the benefits of emergency structures, officials remain wary of “tiny homes” as a lasting solution.

out the city, namely by designating a parcel of public land to build “tiny homes” for a larger quantity of people. Colville compared his vision for the emergency shelters to models that have been set up in Providence, Rhode Island, where 45 “tiny homes” were designated by the state to a single plot of land.

Colville noted that these developments have the potential to de-stigmatize homelessness and offer individuals the “respect” that accompanies private space.

Brown acknowledged that in other cities, tiny homes and emergency shelters have served an important purpose in providing emergency housing. However, she said that installing these emergency shelters would not serve as a singular solution.

“It would need to be one piece of a bigger piece of the puzzle toward addressing the broad scope of availability and affordability,” Brown said.

Elicker said that he is opposed to the idea of placing “tiny homes” on

public land, saying that this land ought to remain available for all of the city’s residents.

Instead, Elicker proposed that the alternative pathway to addressing housing challenges within the city should be building more affordable housing.

“The instant you put a home for someone on public land, it becomes not public land, it becomes land for that person,” Elicker said. “We don’t believe that is an appropriate strategy or an effective strategy to have a significant impact on affordable housing.”

Elicker noted that the city’s housing stock has increased by 1,900 units in the past four years and that there are currently 3,500 units in the pipeline. He also emphasized the city’s focus on improving inspections and landlord accountability through plans to restructure the city’s Livable City Initiative in order to ensure that the existing housing stock remains “safe and clean.”

The fair market rent for a one-bedroom apartment in New

Haven is around \$1,334. However, the average rent currently hovers at around \$1,600.

Additionally, Elicker shared that the city’s Board of Alders is currently engaging in a proposal that looks to expand the legal ability of property owners to build accessory dwelling units, or ADUs, which can effectively serve as miniature homes. Much like “tiny homes,” these ADUs are relatively small in size but comply with state building codes because they will be equipped with a bathroom and a kitchenette. The proposal likely will be voted on sometime in May, according to Elicker.

Elicker also noted other larger-scale efforts that the city has recently engaged in, including the acquisition of hotels that were converted into non-congregate shelters.

Rosette Village is located in the Hill Neighborhood of New Haven.

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Yale faculty members weigh in on hunger strike

BY BEN RAAB
STAFF REPORTER

With 14 Yale students set to enter the third day of a hunger strike for divestment and University President Peter Salovey refraining from making public comments, the News sought out faculty opinion on the ongoing demonstration.

The strike, consisting of two undergraduate students and 12 graduate students, is part of an ongoing effort to demand that the University divest from weapons manufacturers involved in Israel’s war against Hamas in Gaza.

“I’m trying to put myself in Salovey’s shoes, and I think he should talk with them directly

and offer a kind of timeline for this decision,” James Scott, Sterling professor of political science, told the News. “Administrations are often happy to wait these things out, but Salovey should be concerned enough to engage with them and provide a reasonable timeline. Nobody wants anyone to get hurt here.”

Salovey told the News on Nov. 2 that the University’s Advisory Committee on Investor Responsibility — composed of faculty, students, staff and alumni — is “studying whether there are grounds to revisit” its current investment policy under Yale’s ethical investment framework.

The Yale endowment owns 6,564 shares — worth \$621,171 —

of iShares, an exchange-traded fund managed by Blackrock. According to the Blackrock website, the ETF holds shares in Lockheed Martin and Boeing.

On the first day of the strike, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., students gathered on Cross Campus to handwrite letters to Salovey in support of the hunger strikers.

Neither Salovey nor Dean of Yale College Pericles Lewis has responded to requests for comment on the strike. Yale’s spokesperson previously wrote to the News that Yale is “committed to free expression and the right to peaceful protest,” and that University administrators have reached out to protestors to “provide them with resources.”

“I think the students are quite likely to end up sacrificing their health and wellbeing for no gain,” Barry Nalebuff, a School of Management professor specializing in negotiation and game theory, told the News. “Yale wants to make decisions based on rational consideration of the arguments, not the impassioned views of a few students.”

Even if Yale wanted to divest, Nalebuff said, the administration would not do so in response to a hunger strike, a concession which he said would “send the wrong signal.”

English Professor Feisal Mohamed affirmed the students’ right to protest while expressing concern for their well-being.

“I certainly respect the peaceful, and indeed self-sacrificing, form of protest that the Hunger Strikers for Palestine have chosen to adopt,” Mohamed said. “But as a member of the faculty, and so someone invested in the well-being of all students on campus, I will watch with no small anxiety for their safety.”

Mohamed added that he believes the protesters’ demands are “within the spirit of Yale’s previous commitments on responsible investment.”

Yale’s endowment is worth \$40.7 billion.

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SCITECH

"She doesn't even go here."
DAMIAN MEAN GIRLS

The end of Yale's online physician's assistant program

BY JANICE HUR
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

For many years, Alison Streeter MED '25 did not think she would ever work in the medical field. After double majoring in vocal performance and general studies at Indiana University, she worked as a school counselor and primary therapist at multiple secondary schools and even helped direct an arts and events space in Virginia.

But Streeter had always been interested in becoming a physician's assistant, or PA. During the COVID-19 pandemic, after seeing many of her friends switch jobs, she decided to apply to Yale's Online PA program in 2022. She was accepted and will graduate from the program next year.

Though Streeter was accepted into another on-campus PA program in Atlanta, she decided to accept Yale's offer because the program's online format made it much more practical.

"I really liked the flexibility of the Yale PA online program, so that's why I opted to accept that position," Streeter told the News.

However, students will not be able to take advantage of Yale's online program in the future. In December, the School of Medicine announced that it will be closing its PA Online Program. While there are currently 40 students in this year's graduating class, no future students will be

able to apply and the final graduating class will be in 2026. Launched in 2018 amid primary clinician shortages, Yale's PA Online Program sought to make PA education more accessible by offering remote education that allowed students to remain in their home communities.

In a co-written email to the News, Elizabeth Roessler, Alicia Bolden and Alexandria Garino, all of whom are professors at the PA school, cited the program's difficulties in finding clinical placements near students' residences for the program's discontinuation.

"Facing an increasingly challenging clinical placement landscape for health care students across the country, we found ourselves over the past few years competing with clinical training programs in other states seeking to place their own students in clinical settings," the professors wrote.

The PA administrators said that they have struggled to secure suitable clinical placements for their students because many healthcare providers and facilities have scaled back their student-training capacities following the COVID-19 pandemic. Many healthcare systems have grappled with a shortage of preceptors due to increasing workload expectations, time constraints, potentially lower clinical productivity and self-perceived lack of

qualification by providers. This, in turn, has caused an increase in competition for fewer spots.

Yale's PA Online Program was structured similarly to its traditional campus-based PA Program. Students in both programs receive a Master of Medical Science, or MMSc, degree after 28 months of study. For the first 12 months, those in the online program receive a "didactic" curriculum, which includes online classes on the anatomy and physiology of the human body, supplemented by clinical experiences.

Then, over the following 16 months, students participate in clinical rotations at a local hospital. A clinical placement team at Yale helps coordinate PA students to hospitals that can give them hands-on experience.

"I really liked the hybrid model of the curriculum," Emily Lin Syed MED '25, a second-year student in the online program. "I think that this was an innovative program, and it was successful in many ways."

Additionally, the PA professors cited concerns about having to compete for placement spots against students in other local in-person PA programs. Because Yale's Online PA program was reluctant to assert placement demands locally, some students had to travel long distances for their clinical rotations.



YALE NEWS

Yale announced it would be ending its online physician's assistant program. The News spoke with several students and professors to learn about their reactions.

Though the program hired additional clinical support staff and gradually reduced class sizes, they ultimately decided to discontinue the online program.

Nevertheless, the PA program administrators underscored the importance of continuing efforts to broaden educational accessibility.

"We are proud of our current PA Online students and the nearly 250 program graduates," they wrote.

The Yale in-person PA Program accepted its first class in 1971.

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Yale School of Public Health partners with Cambodia

BY JOHNNY YUE
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

The School of Public Health is helping develop a new track of study in the Masters of Public Health, or MPH, program in Cambodia.

Working in collaboration with the Southeast Asian country's National Institute of Public Health, or NIPH, three professors from the School of Public Health, alongside professors from Harvard, Hong Kong University and the National University of Singapore, will travel to Cambodia and provide training in health economics and financing to students in their MPH program. The NIPH currently offers an MPH program in Health System Development. With the support of a grant from the Chinese Medical Board, each professor will teach an intensive two-week block once a year.

"Health economics is so important in places like Cambodia where money is scarce and the health needs

are so intense," said Robert Hecht, a professor of epidemiology at the Yale School of Public Health. "Making tough decisions about how to use limited money to help the population comes to the heart of what Cambodia is facing."

The Health Economics and Financing program, known as the MPH-HEF for short, will offer six courses that allow students to gain expertise in economic analysis and apply these skills to different sub-fields within public health.

One of these economic concepts is health financing, which comprises a significant portion of the program's initiative. Health financing classes consider different countries' capacities to offer universal coverage to those who cannot access healthcare due to high costs. Nationwide health insurance would allow citizens in countries like Cambodia to access a pool of money and acquire necessary health services rather than paying from their own pockets.

Chhea Chhorvann, the director of the Cambodian National Institute of Public Health and Dean at the School of Public Health of NIPH, first reached out to Hecht in 2023 to help develop the program. Hecht then received seed funding from the Macmillan Center to help organize planning and training.

Hecht and faculty from Harvard and Hong Kong then visited government officials, health professionals and faculty at the NIPH to gauge Cambodia's public health landscape and brainstorm different ways to administer health economics training. Later, in October and November 2023, faculty from Cambodia visited Yale, where they took courses and attended seminars to gain more knowledge on health economics and communications.

"As of now, Cambodia does not have a lot of capacity for teaching and training on health economics and financing, which

is why we are collaborating with them to develop a stronger infrastructure of teaching and learning," said Maria Socorro Santos MPH '23, the project coordinator at MPH-HEF.

According to Santos, the program aims to have roughly ten graduate students each year. They hope that graduates will subsequently take jobs in different government bodies, such as national health insurance offices or the Ministry of Health, to craft policy and help make healthcare more affordable for Cambodians.

Chham Savina, a team lead for curriculum development at MPH-HEF, said that the implementation of the program is an important step for the nation to achieve universal healthcare.

"In Cambodia, since the establishment of the new prime minister of Cambodia last August, our goal [has been] to achieve universal healthcare across the nation," said Savina. "Health economics exper-

tise is very important to implement healthcare systems and expand medical protection for citizens."

Still, the Yale School of Public Health does not intend to build a long-term permanent presence in Cambodia through its health economics program. Rather, Hecht described the program as a collaborative training initiative that strengthens the nation's knowledge of healthcare economics and broadens its capacity to build a more affordable healthcare plan.

"We're not going out there to keep teaching for the next 10-20 years and creating this dependency of the Cambodians on us," said Hecht. "We hope to give them a boost and hand over this program to them in a few years."

The School of Public Health was founded in 1915.

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TIM TAI/SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER

The MPH-HEF program will help students gain expertise on health economics and financing.

ARTS

Spirit, soul and song since 1973

LUCIANA VARKEVISSER
STAFF REPORTER

This past weekend — April 12 through 14 — the Yale Gospel Choir, or YGC, hosted alumni and performed at Woolsey Hall to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the founding of the choir.

In addition to the concert on Saturday evening, the weekend featured a variety of events for the alumni. Gatherings included a meet-and-greet on Friday, a gala on Saturday night and a brunch on Sunday morning. YGC alumni were able to take a trip down memory lane and celebrate with current members of the choir. This cross-generational event celebrated the spirit of the YGC.

“The YGC has been a place where people can explore their faith, restore their faith and settle their faith,” said co-chair of the YGC 50th-anniversary performance Xzandre Smith ’25.

The history of the YGC goes back to 1973 when it was founded by Irene Jackson, who performed at the concert. Jackson started the YGC as an adjunct to the Black Church at Yale. But the group soon grew and blossomed until it became the over 30-member choir that it is today.

Based on the Christian religion, the YGC is a place where students at any step on their faith journey can find community through music.

“We have a varying experience with religion,” musical director Ceily Addison ’26 said. “But we listen to each other and love to have that fellowship and cultural understanding.”

The YGC has five musical directors: two to direct the band and three to direct the music. Directors are responsible for picking the music and conducting the singers and instrumentalists.

The concert on Saturday included songs performed by both students and alumni. Some performances were done by the alumni and students together, and some were sung by just the alumni choir or just the student choir. Songs included the anniversary theme “Sing our Strength” and the alumni song “Total Praise.”

According to YGC’s other 50th-anniversary performance co-chair Nana Ama Ocran ’26, all the alumni were excited to return to Yale and reconnect with members of the YGC.

This was the first time that YGC alumni have been brought back to Yale for a performance.

The presence of the choir’s founder was of special significance to many members of the group, who feel like they are the embodiment of Jackson’s legacy — according to Smith.

“The YGC really is a community built on love,” said YGC president Adwoa Danso-Doodoo ’24. “The foundation of this choir is love, support and help in time of need. That was shown so greatly during this concert.”

This was the Yale Gospel Choir’s second performance of the academic year.

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COURTESY OF NOEL BROWN

The Yale Gospel Choir hosted its 50th-anniversary performance featuring alumni from across the country and decades.

‘The Great Wave’ on display at the YUAG

KAMINI PURUSHOTHAMAN
STAFF REPORTER

The Yale University Art Gallery, or YUAG, unveiled its “Year of the Dragon” exhibition, featuring East Asian art from the 17th century to the modern day.

Concurrent with the Chinese Lunar New Year, the exhibition opened on March 15. Curated by Sadako Ohki, the Japan Foundation associate curator of Japanese art, it includes artworks from the YUAG’s own collection and outside sources. The exhibition will remain up until Nov. 10.

“Originally, I was planning on a regular rotation for the Japan section,” Ohki said. “But as the plan changed, I started thinking about how I could expand it to examine Chinese and Japanese art and other art.”

Ohki said that dragon imagery is much more prominent in China than in Japan, so incorporating more Chinese works into the exhibition better fulfilled her theme. Still, many of the Japanese works feature or allude to the mythic legacy of the dragon.

Some pieces include koi fish swimming upstream, a visual that Ohki said illustrates the Japanese legend that koi fish who reach the top of a river transform into dragons. Ohki said this exemplifies the Japanese ideal of perseverance and hard work in the pursuit of success.

Another portrayal of the dragon — as the divine authority of water — manifested in the “Year of the Dragon” exhibition as well. A Japanese pair of screens from the 1600s shows two dragons amongst ocean waves. Placed next to a contemporary Japanese stoneware piece that glistens with a quartz glaze as if wet, the dragons exemplify their role as harbingers of water.

According to Ohki, one notable difference between Chinese and Japanese depictions of dragons is their claws. While the Japanese tradition does not specify a particular type of claw, Ohki explained, Chinese portrayals almost always feature five-clawed dragons, perhaps in an anthropomorphic effort to connect the dragon to the rulers of China.

According to Alicia Deng ’27, a CASA board member, the dragon



KAMINI PURUSHOTHAMAN / CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

From March to July, Hokusai’s famous print will be available to view at the YUAG’s “Year of the Dragon” exhibition.

represents power, “especially with its ties to imperialism as one of the most traditional Chinese motifs.”

The most recognizable piece on display, one of Hokusai’s prints of ‘The Great Wave Off Kanagawa,’ will be part of the exhibition until July. The YUAG acquired the print in 1973. According to Ohki, the piece can only withstand three months under exhibition lighting.

“Scientific reading shows any exposure beyond that time frame causes deterioration,” she said.

Of maintaining the artwork’s quality, she said that “the rule is if you display something like this for three months, you can’t show it for three years after that.”

Beside “The Great Wave” rests a contemporary work made of twelve sheets inspired by it called “The Wave.” The work, created by the Philippines-born artist Peter Soriano, calls attention to the evolving climate crisis through a depiction of a tsunami. To Ohki, the inclusion of “The Wave” serves to bring the dragon’s legacy into the modern day.

“If the God of Water — the dragon — came today, what would he say?” she asked before answering, “He would lament.”

The “Year of the Dragon” is one of three special exhibitions on display at the YUAG this semester. The exhibition includes paintings, screens, ceramics, woodblock prints and stoneware among other mediums. Drawing from various sources, Ohki said she sought to encompass the breadth and depth of the Dragon’s significance as a motif and its symbolism within the zodiac.

According to a statement released by the YUAG’s director Stephanie Wiles, the exhibition “celebrates 2024, which is linked to the dragon in the Eastern Zodiac calendar, with a consideration of the long, complex and persistent artistic tradition surrounding this fantastical creature.”

The “Year of the Dragon” exhibition is displayed on floor 4M of the gallery, the venue for special exhibitions.

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SPORTS

Bulldogs conquer Dartmouth and Hofstra

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balls during the game.

The Bulldogs played two goalkeepers during the matchup, Jared Paquette '25 and Hugh Conrad '26. Conrad made 10 saves with three goals allowed, logging a .769 save percentage and securing the win.

The game secured the Yale men's lacrosse team a spot in the Ivy League Tournament for the 13th season in a row, and Yale is the only Ivy League school to do so.

In their game on Tuesday night, the Elis triumphed over Hofstra in their third consecutive away game and fourth game in 11 days.

Yale started the game off with the first two goals by Brandau, the first assisted by midfielder Max Krevsky '25 and the second unassisted. The Pride then answered back with five consecutive goals in less than four minutes, three by midfielder Justin

Sykes, one by face-off man Chase Patterson and another by defenseman Blake Cooling.

To close out the first, each team scored another goal, one by attacker Peter Moynihan '27 for Yale and another by midfielder/attacker John Madsen for Hofstra. Yale, however, opened up the second frame with three goals in less than six minutes, the first by Brandau and the second two by Anderson, both assisted by Brandau.

While Pride attacker Colton Rudd scored with 7:03 remaining in the half, Stuzin answered back with an unassisted goal four minutes later to close out the half in a 7-7 tie.

Madsen began scoring in the second half, followed by two Yale goals by Krevsky, off a Brandau assist, and Brandau, off a Kuhl assist. Pride attacker/midfielder Trevor Natalie leveled the score at 9-9, yet the Bulldogs retook the lead with unassisted goals by Cash-

ion and Kuhl.

Hofstra midfielder Griffin Turner made an unassisted goal to close out the third period, and Krevsky opened up scoring with a Brandau assist less than three minutes into the final frame. The Pride's Natalie and midfielder Rory Jones both made unassisted goals to tie the score again at 12-12, but then Yale shut Hofstra down with four consecutive, unanswered points.

All four goals unassisted, Cashion started the series with 7:45 remaining in the game, followed around three minutes later by midfielder Thomas Bragg '24. Cashion scored again with 2:13 remaining, and Brandau tallied the final goal with under a minute left in the contest, securing the victory for Yale.

While Hofstra led the contest in shots, Yale led 21-7 in saves. Despite the Pride dominating 24-7 in faceoffs and 37-24 in ground balls, the Bulldogs pulled out the win with an effective offense, tallying 16 goals out of their 29 attempts on goal, and an effective defense, going 26-of-29 on clears.

Brandau led the offense with five goals and four assists, followed by Cashion, who made a career high with three goals during the contest.

Both Paquette and Conrad saw time in goal during the game, Paquette playing the first half and Conrad taking over in the second. Paquette donned a .636 save percentage, making 14 saves, while Conrad made seven.

Brandau was also recently named as one of the 25 nominees for the Tewaaraton Award this season. The star attacker currently leads the nation in points per game, assists and total points.

On Friday night at 7:00 p.m., the Bulldogs will host UAlbany at Reese Stadium in New Haven. The game will be streamed on ESPN+ and internationally.

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Bulldogs going to Ivies

W LAX FROM PAGE 14

gap, never coming within three goals of the Bulldogs.

The game highlighted outstand-

overs, matching the season's highest for a Bulldog. Lane contributed four caused turnovers, while Laura



YALE ATHLETICS

Looking ahead, the Bulldogs will travel to Ithaca, N.Y. to take on Cornell University (7-6, 2-3 Ivy) on Saturday at 3 p.m.

ing performances, particularly from Jenna Collignon '25, who led with six goals and seven points. This performance equaled her career-high point tally, previously achieved on April 1, 2023, in a victory against Brown. Ashley Kiernan '27 was also a key player, scoring four goals in what was her most impressive offensive display since joining Yale. Additionally, Sky Carrasquillo '25 and Fallon Vaughn '25 each contributed two goals to the team's success.

Yale showcased dominant defensive play, led by Vaughn who secured a game-high five caused turn-

O'Connor '27 came through with seven crucial saves.

Emmy Pascal '26 and the Yale defense restricted Harvard to just 18 shots, marking only the second occasion this season that Harvard has been held to fewer than 13 goals in a game.

Looking ahead, the Bulldogs will travel to Ithaca, N.Y. to take on Cornell University (7-6, 2-3 Ivy) on Saturday at 3 p.m.

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DAVID SCHAMIS / YALE ATHLETICS

On Friday night at 7:00 p.m., the Bulldogs will host UAlbany at Reese Stadium in New Haven. The game will be streamed on ESPN+ and internationally.

Yale tops Dartmouth

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enough to allow Yale's third boat to slip ahead and clinch the finish — the crew equivalent of a nerve-wracking buzzer-beater.

Despite this stroke of luck, and Yale's dominant position in the majority of the day's races, captain Harry Keenan '24 said "Dartmouth are always a very gritty opposition and we never take anything for granted."

Though clearly opposed to complacency, the team's captain has plenty to be proud of. On Saturday, Keenan coxed the Yale varsity to a 2.6-second win over Dartmouth, securing the Olympic Axe. This triumph adds another year to the Axe's tenure in Gilder Boathouse, which began in the trophy's 2004 inception.

There's still much to prove in the rest of the season — the team will take

on Columbia University and the University of Pennsylvania in New Jersey on Saturday, April 20th. If victorious, the Bulldogs will take home the Blackwell Cup, which has been awarded to the winner of the three teams' varsity race since 1927. With 48 first-place finishes, including last year, the Elis have claimed the trophy more than either other squad.

Harry Geffen '25 said that last weekend's triumph against Dartmouth was a "good step in the right direction," with only the Blackwell Cup against Columbia and Penn and the Carnegie Cup against Cornell and Princeton remaining before the end of the dual season.

The Bulldog varsity was ranked No. 5 in the most recent IRCA/IRA Men's Heavyweight Varsity 8 poll.

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Track splits between UConn and Princeton

TRACK & FIELD FROM PAGE 14

David Shoehalter wrote to the News. "I am looking forward to the weeks to come."

At Princeton, the women's team saw the strongest performances in the field events. Maria Leskovec '24 set a PR in the hammer throw with a distance of 52.81m, earning her sixth place. Meanwhile, also at Princeton, Dominique Romain '25 finished sixth for the Bulldogs in the long jump, covering 5.68m with a single leap.

At UConn, the women's team's performance was marked by more strong performances in the field events. Sydney Kunkler '24 took the top spot for Yale in the long jump, covering 5.44m in one stride, just shy of her teammate Romain's performance in New Jersey. Meanwhile, pole vaulter Eileen Yang '24 cleared 3.63m, her seventh meet in a row clearing 3.60m.

"The majority of the team competed at UConn, while a few of our field event athletes traveled down to New Jersey this weekend for the Larry Ellis invite," assistant coach Connor Shannahan wrote

to the News. "Between both meets we saw the team compete well in less than ideal conditions. We are excited to build off those performances this week, as we have athletes competing down in North Carolina for the Wake Forest Invitational and at home for the Mark Young Invitational."

On the men's side of competition, the throwers led the Bulldogs with strong performances at Princeton. Chris Ward '24 took fourth in the shot put with a 17.21m throw, while team captain Matt Appel '24 took fourth place in the discus with a 56.55m toss.

At UConn, the Bulldogs managed to set several PRs on the track. Tanish Chettiar '26 kicked things off for Yale with a 3:51.21 PR in the 1500m, finishing just ahead of teammate Ronan Luff '27 who set himself a PR with a time of 3:54.94. Meanwhile, Simon Jupp '25 set a PR in the 200m with a time of 22.31 seconds.

"Having the team split is tough because we aren't able to support each other as we want to," Appel wrote to the News, "but it was a great opportunity for the throwers,

some of the jumpers, and some of the distance runners to get a feel for what competing at Princeton is like before HEPs."

Appel added that while the bad weather was "unfortunate" for a lot of the sprinters, they needed to be prepared to compete in such conditions "if those are the cards that we are dealt."

"As the season starts to wind down, we need to make sure that we double down our efforts at practice and in the classroom to put us in the best situation come May 4th," Appel wrote.

The Bulldogs will compete next at the Wake Forest Invitational on Friday, April 19, and on Saturday, April 20 they will host the Mark Young Invitational in New Haven at Coxe Cage.

The Bulldogs have two more weekends of competition left before their postseason kicks off with the Ivy League Outdoor Track and Field Championships which will take place on May 4 in Princeton.

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YALE ATHLETICS

The Bulldogs have two more weekends of competition left before their postseason kicks off with the Ivy League Outdoor Track and Field Championships which will take place on May 4 in Princeton.



YALE ATHLETICS

The Bulldog varsity was ranked No. 5 in the most recent IRCA/IRA Men's Heavyweight Varsity 8 poll.

NEWS

But we think you're crazy to make us write an essay telling you who we think we are.

BRIAN JOHNSON THE BREAKFAST CLUB

Admissions office hosts Bulldog Days with fewer prefrish

MOLLY REINMANN
STAFF REPORTER

Campus is busier than usual this week, with over 1,300 prospective Yalies and their parents visiting for Bulldog Days, an annual event that brings admitted students to Yale's campus for three days of programming.

Last year's Bulldog Days was the largest ever, with over 1,400 students in attendance. This year's event is slightly smaller, with just over 1,300 students coming to scope out Yale College this week.

This year's Bulldog Days is the third in-person iteration of the program since the COVID-19 pandemic. Throughout the three-day event, admitted students will have the opportunity to take part in 250 events, 150 of which are run by current students and student groups.

"This is an amazing campus-wide effort," Mark Dunn '07, the senior associate director for outreach and recruitment at the Office of Undergraduate Admissions, said. "The scale of the operation and the number of people who need to be involved is pretty impressive. We just are so appreciative of how many students, faculty and staff continue to step up and really kind of roll out the red carpet for our admitted students."

According to Dunn the downsizing of Bulldog Days from last year is "by design" and can be attributed to multiple factors, including that Yale admitted fewer applicants this year than last. The College admitted 2,146 students to the class of 2028, down 129 from the 2,275 students admitted to the class of 2027.

Another reason that fewer potential Yalies are attending Bulldog Days this year is that they have opted to take part instead in Bulldog Saturday, a day-long alternative to Bulldog Days on April 20. During Bulldog Saturday admitted students and families will have the chance to visit the College and partake in activities during the weekend. This year is the first year since before the COVID-19 pandemic that the admissions office has offered Bulldog Saturday. According to Dunn, nearly 300 admitted students will visit campus for Bulldog Saturday this year.

This year's Bulldog Days also comes amid a week of intense protest across campus, including the

"Occupy Beinecke" sit-in, a Yale Police union rally and leaflet campaign and a hunger strike that began on April 13.

While the weekday Bulldog Days programming will have a lower attendance than last year, the total number and percentage of admitted students coming to campus for April programming has increased. This year, roughly 1,600 students, or 75 percent of the admitted class, will attend Bulldog programming, whereas last Bulldog Days saw roughly 63 percent of the admitted class.

"There's a level at which we reach capacity," Dunn said. "In dining halls, or in terms of getting students to host. We made work last year, but this year we were all feeling like reducing the number a bit would just be a lot more comfortable."

Of the 1,300 prefrish who came to campus, 900 are staying with current students with whom they were connected by the admissions office. According to Dunn, 500 current students signed up to host a prefrish. The remaining admitted students found their own accommodations.

"I had such a wonderful experience at Bulldog Days last year, so I wanted to pay it forward and host some prefrish this year," said Crawford Arnow '27, whose suite is hosting three prefrish. "I just want to do my part in sharing my love for Yale with prospective students."

Among the most popular Bulldog Days events are the two student showcases in the Shubert Theatre on Monday and Tuesday evenings. Each performance will have about ten student groups performing each night, Dunn said.

This year's Bulldog Days also is the first since the Supreme Court banned affirmative action in higher education last June. While admissions officers involved in the application reading process will not have access to information about the racial makeup of the admitted class of 2028 until after all spots on the waitlist have been granted, other employees who do not read applications do have this information.

These employees were able to share racial demographic data about the admitted student class with Yale's cultural centers, which run many popular Bulldog Days



CHLOE EDWARDS / PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Over 1,300 prospective students are visiting Yale's campus this week for the program.

programs, according to Dunn. While access to information about students' self-identified race may be useful to the cultural centers in directing their Bulldog Days outreach, Dunn "encourages everybody" to engage with the cultural centers' programming.

As in years past, the admissions office hosted a Bulldog Days fly-in program, wherein costs of travel are covered or subsidized for domestic students who qualify. According to Dunn, more than 600 admitted students qualified for the fly-in program.

Travel coverage can range from a metro ticket from New

York City to multi-stop flights from Hawai'i, Dunn said.

"We think it's essential that all of our students have the chance to visit campus before they make their decision, especially students from lower income backgrounds, who are less likely to have visited before applying," Dunn said. "It's important to invest the money, the staff energy and the time into ensuring that they can do that. It's quite an operation; it's like we're running a travel agency out of the admissions office."

In the past, one of the biggest student concerns about Bulldog Days was the lack of swipe access

granted to prefrish, according to Chandler Houldin, senior assistant director in the admissions office and director of the Bulldog Days program.

While prefrish are able to scan into residential college dates and dining halls, they do not have access to entryways. According to Houldin, this decision is to maximize the safety of both prefrish and current students.

Yale's acceptance rate for the class of 2028 was 3.7 percent, the lowest ever.

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Presidents of Stony Brook and Morehouse sit on the Yale Corp. Could either be Yale's next president?

BENJAMIN HERNANDEZ
STAFF REPORTER

The presidents of Stony Brook University and Morehouse College — Maurie McInnis GRD '90 GRD '96 and David Thomas '78 GRD '86, respectively — will make their way to Yale's campus this week for their fourth annual meeting as members of the Yale Corporation.

Although the Search Committee has not released formal requirements for the job, the News compiled a list of eight potential candidates in September by examining the shared qualifications of former Yale presidents. The News found that the University's presidents have often received advanced degrees and amassed a prominent record of scholarly research and publications before also serving as deans, as provosts or in other higher education leadership positions at institutions including Yale.

Both McInnis and Thomas fit those criteria.

"If the corporation elected one of their own members as president that would be legitimate and legal," said Henry "Sam" Chauncey Jr. '57, former University Secretary and special assistant to former President Kingman Brewster from 1963 to 1972. "It has happened in other colleges and universities, it's not impossible or unusual."

Salovey did not directly respond to the News' request for comment about whether Yale's by-laws dictate whether a member of the Corporation might be able to ascend to the presidency. McInnis and Thomas did not respond to the News' request for

comment on the same topic — or about whether they would accept an offer, if extended, to become Yale's 24th president.

University spokesperson Karen Peart responded on behalf of Salovey and the trustees, referring to the News to Corporation senior trustee Joshua Bekenstein's '80 comment from a search update issued on Jan. 29 that the committee's "goal is to complete a thorough search that fully considers every potential candidate."

Yale's presidential search committee, composed of eight trustees and four faculty members, does not include McInnis and Thomas. Peart wrote that this committee will bring a recommendation to the Corporation and elect the President based on the University Charter.

"We are fortunate to have members from the public and private sector, including leaders from higher education on our board," Peart wrote. "This allows for a great diversity of perspective and thought and does not pose a conflict."

McInnis' and Thomas' backgrounds

Prior to taking the helm of Stony Brook, McInnis served as a professor, provost and executive vice president at the University of Texas at Austin from 2016 to 2020. McInnis earned her bachelor's degree in art history with highest distinction from the University of Virginia in 1988 before earning her master's and Ph.D. degrees in 1990 and 1996, respectively. McInnis also served on the faculty at the University of Virginia for nearly 20 years and served as vice provost for academic affairs from 2013 to 2016.

At Stony Brook, McInnis heralded in a \$500 million gift from the Simons Foundation — the "largest unrestricted gift in the history of higher education," McInnis wrote in an email to the News. Aside from her duties as a successor trustee to the Yale Corporation, McInnis also currently serves as the inaugural board chair of the New York Climate Exchange.

McInnis wrote to the News on April 5 that she finds it "personally fulfilling" to lead Stony Brook, "where excellence and equity are deeply ingrained in its culture."

"It is a great honor, and it has been exciting to lead the institution to new heights," McInnis wrote of her current role as Stony Brook president to the News on April 5. "We have set clear and ambitious goals grounded in expanding our impact through our research and scholarship, our engagement in some of the most challenging issues of the day and our extraordinary success in moving students up the economic ladder. And it has been an exciting year at Stony Brook."

After earning a bachelor's in administrative sciences from Yale in 1978, Thomas also earned his master's and Ph.D. in organizational behavior from the University in 1984 and 1986. Thomas has also served as assistant professor of management at the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School, as a professor of business administration at Harvard University, and as dean and chair of the Georgetown University McDonough School of Business.

Elected as an alumni fellow to the Yale Corporation in 2011,

Thomas currently serves on the boards of Commonfund, DTE Energy and Vanguard.

If it was McInnis or Thomas, why would it be taking so long?

Chauncey told the News that McInnis and Thomas "could be the choice" if the Corporation were to elect someone among its own ranks to the presidency.

But Chauncey added that he suspects that if either Corporation member were being considered for the search, they would have been selected sooner. He said that one possible reason why the search has taken so long is that creating an offer for a candidate takes time — especially if the University's first pick turned their offer down.

"You would have thought if it was one of those two, that they would have come to a decision a little sooner than now; it's quite late and the search has taken quite a while," said Chauncey. "Once you get as far as offering it to someone new, that takes quite a while and when your offered person ends up turning it down, you have to go back to scratch and start over again."

Internal presidential hiring has precedent in the Ivy League. Lawrence S. Bacow was appointed as Harvard University's 29th president in 2018 while still a member of the Harvard Corporation, concluding a seven-month search process. According to The Harvard Crimson, Bacow agreed to relinquish his spot on the committee in mid-December 2017, six months into its search process.

Former senior fellow of the Harvard Corporation William F.

Lee told the Crimson at a press conference announcing Bacow's selection that the search committee had received many recommendations from within and outside of Harvard in favor of Bacow.

"He went through the same processes our other candidates, but in the end, he emerged as the person who we unanimously and enthusiastically believed was the best choice to lead Harvard forward," Lee told the Crimson. "He is one of the most respectful, insightful, and experienced leaders in American higher education."

The Corporation will meet this Saturday following a private Friday dinner event celebrating outgoing University President Peter Salovey.

Yale's presidential search committee is now seven months into its search process to find Salovey's successor.

A public update on the search was last released Jan. 29.

"Such a search takes time, discipline, and focus. It is also a confidential process out of respect for everyone being considered," Bekenstein wrote in that update. "That can limit how much information we can share during the process. Most of all, we look forward to the day when we announce Yale's next president."

In its 322-year history, Yale has had 23 presidents, all of whom have been men — with the exception of Hanna Holborn Gray, who served as interim president from 1977 to 1978 — and all of whom have been white.

Contact **BENJAMIN HERNANDEZ** at benjamin.hernandez@yale.edu.

"Do you think they are maybe the same thing? Love and attention?"

LADY BIRD

Yale College Council Candidates

CANDIDATE PROFILE: Celene Bennett '26 and Juan Borrego '26

BY CHRIS TILLEN
STAFF REPORTER

In their campaign for Yale College Council president and vice president, Celene Bennett '26 and Juan Borrego '26 are focused on "Connecting Yale."

"Connecting Yale" includes four prongs striving to connect the YCC to the student body, the administration and to student organizations. The fourth prong aims to connect Yale with New Haven. With this platform, Bennett and Borrego say that they are committed to using the power of the YCC to enact tangible change.

This year, Bennett has served as a YCC senator from Timothy Dwight College and as the deputy director of the financial policy team. Borrego has been a YCC senator for Silliman College. Both Bennett and Borrego have served on numerous teams within the YCC, including the health and accessibility team, the financial policy team and the laundry task force. Both from Georgia, they first met the summer before arriving on Yale's campus as first years and decided to run together after successfully working on policy this year.

"I think this campaign process has been an opportunity to share the things that I've been so excited about all year, and I have so much excitement still to continue the projects that are in progress, and then also pursue new ideas," Bennett said.

The two cited the balance between them as their greatest strength and emphasized the power in being friends in addition to campaign partners. Borrego added that he was "inspired" by Bennett's work in the YCC before they became running mates. Bennett praised Borrego's honesty and added that it's "the best type of relationship to bounce ideas off of each other."

On their platform, Bennett and Borrego have identified a disconnect between YCC and the student body. Bennett highlighted the potential the YCC has to make change due to its budget and direct connection to Yale administrators yet noted that she feels that students aren't fully aware of this power and how effective the YCC can be.

Bennett and Borrego plan to publish the agenda of senate hearings a week in advance and intro-

duce a senate guest form, allowing students outside the YCC to get a spot on the YCC agenda.

Bennett and Borrego are also committed to the relationship between Yale and New Haven, where they believe that accessibility to transportation is one of the largest barriers for Yalies to engage with the city.

In their platform, they plan to pass a program that connects Yale with U-Pass, a program through the Connecticut Department of Transportation that provides free public transportation across Connecticut.

"We want to make things as clear as possible to increase engagement because we want it to be very easy for students," Bennett said, adding that it is important to go beyond just providing information.

In reference to student organizations, Bennett and Borrego noted that they want to use the power of the YCC to amplify the efforts of different organizations.

Borrego described the YCC as "a funnel for all this energy, all these ripples of change," adding that the YCC should not be "taking credit for work that other groups have worked so tirelessly on all these years."

Bennett and Borrego cited their established connections with administrators through their work at the YCC as something that sets their campaign apart. The two noted that setting up standing meetings between YCC senators and administrators is one of their plans to further connect the YCC with the administration.

"We've touched so many, so many parts of the YCC policy branch that I think we're best suited to address these issues and start from the ground running," said Borrego.

Bennett and Borrego are in support of raising the student activities fee, which is currently a \$125 payment that is part of undergraduate tuition. The fee goes toward activities and events on campus, and this change has already been discussed in this year's YCC. Bennett noted that in her meeting with the financial aid team, the financial aid office stressed that the higher fee would be covered by aid packages for students on financial aid.

Moreover, Bennett and Borrego further highlighted that it is possible to opt out of the fee. In the case that students opt out, Ben-

nett and Borrego said that the University still covers the fee.

"We [are] for the idea of having more money to contribute back to student organizations," Bennett said.

Throughout their campaign so far, Bennett and Borrego have hosted buttery bonding sessions in Branford, Saybrook, Jonathan Edwards, Pierson, Davenport and Trumbull colleges. They will visit the remaining college butteries on April 15, April 16 and April 18.

In addition, their Instagram, @connectingyale, has included their spin on The New York Times Connections game, with connections between aspects of their campaign and platform.

"Just speaking with students one on one, that's one of my favorite things, and the issues that they care about, and who they would like the qualities of the next president and vice president to be," Borrego said in reference to the people he and Bennett have met while campaigning.

Voting begins on April 18 at 9 a.m. on YaleConnect and closes at 9 p.m. on April 19.

Contact **CHRIS TILLEN** at chris.tillen@yale.edu.

CANDIDATE PROFILE: Mimi Papathanasopoulos '26 and Esha Garg '26

BY NORA MOSES
STAFF REPORTER

Yale College Council presidential candidate Mimi Papathanasopoulos '26 is looking to change how Yalies engage with the YCC.

In her platform — "Together Yale" — with vice presidential candidate Esha Garg '26, Papathanasopoulos said that they are also planning to expand on reform to mental health care. For Papathanasopoulos, who currently serves as the sophomore class president and health and accessibility director on the YCC's executive board, her motivation stems from the positive feedback to the recent YCC push making mental health an explicit reason to request Dean's Extension, which she helped lead.

"I know this is kind of silly, but there was a Fizz post about the Dean's Extensions for mental health and I think got two thousand upvotes," Papathanasopoulos said. "Everyone was like 'Yay, the YCC is doing something exciting!' And that made me so happy."

Papathanasopoulos and Garg, a YCC senator for Grace Hopper College and deputy dining policy director, have both worked in the YCC for two years. They say

that their combined experience would help to expand the broad reach of YCC projects.

"Esha and I are unique because we've had experience across all sectors of the YCC, so events, the policy side and executive board," Papathanasopoulos said. "So we've really gotten to get to know how the YCC functions and have a lot of relationships with student organizations, and also administrators."

Beyond pushing to add mental health as an explicit reason to request a Dean's Extension, Papathanasopoulos has worked on the YCC's campaign alongside Yale administration to install period product dispensers in University bathrooms. She also has worked on YCC efforts to reserve a space for deaf and hard of hearing students in front of interpreters at Spring Fling and organized the sophomore formal. Garg has worked with Yale facilities to ensure working water fountains on Old Campus, ensuring that the University provides furniture to sophomore suites and increasing administrative support for students who stay on campus over spring break.

Papathanasopoulos and Garg said that they are hoping to expand

on the initiatives they have worked on in their YCC tenure.

Their platform includes six areas of policy focus: Student Engagement, Funding Student Orgs and Cultural Centers, FGLI Support, Health & Accessibility, NHV Engagement and Sustainability. Their top goal, they emphasized in their platform, is to "work together," or build relationships with students "so that we can all work together and build off each other's progress to drive meaningful change."

The pair noted that to achieve this goal they want to prioritize increasing student involvement in the YCC.

"One thing we've noticed is people don't always come to office hours or town halls," Garg said. "But we want to make sure that we're actually making the effort to outreach directly into the community, rather than expecting people to come to us. Yeah, that's a really big part of our entire path forward."

They said that they also plan to establish a "Student Engagement Branch" within the YCC to spearhead YCC outreach to students.

Per their platform, the new branch will be responsible for "monitoring student outreach completed by the Presi-

dent, Vice-President, and Senators" and monthly meetings with leaders of various student groups that are often "overlooked" in YCC determinations and initiatives.

"We want to forge strong relationships and bonds with student organizations and collaborate with them," Papathanasopoulos said. "And we also want to advocate and uplift everyone's voice."

In their interview with the News, Papathanasopoulos and Garg also acknowledged recent student criticism of the YCC, specifically responding to claims that YCC presidential candidates make big promises that end up being unrealistic.

"I also think that everything in our platform, we have thought through very carefully and think that everything is very realistic and could definitely happen," Papathanasopoulos said. "Just from our conversations with administration, we understand where they push back and how we can be creative with solutions to answer that."

Garg added that the pair decided to scale back certain promises on their platform to ensure that they can be accomplished.

For example, the pair said that they decided to specify how exactly making laundry in the residential colleges free for students, a common platform item of YCC presidential campaigns, can be accomplished. On their platform, they said that they plan to "push administrators to break the CSC contract" which is set to end in 2026 and ensure that the new contract includes free laundry.

"I feel like every YCC administration promises to free laundry, and it never happens, because it's very complicated," Garg said. "And we've been very realistic on our platform by stating: we will either try to make Yale break that contract early or we're going to work towards making a better and new contract in 2026."

The pair also added that they want to expand the YCC policy tracker to include what policy items have been completed and accepted by the administration and more specific information on administrative pushback.

Voting begins on April 18 at 9 a.m. on YaleConnect and closes at 9 p.m. on April 19.

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CANDIDATE PROFILE: Brian Zhang '25

BY KAITLYN POHLY
STAFF REPORTER

Brian Zhang '25, the current Junior Class Council President, is the only candidate running on a solo ticket for Yale College Council President. An Arts Editor for the News, Zhang is also running for 2024-25 Events Director.

When asked to define his campaign for both Yale College Council President and Events Director, Brian Zhang '25 chose "loyal," pointing to the fact that all of his proposed policies "come from a place of heart and drive," and to act as a resource on campus for students of all identities.

The only candidate running on a solo ticket for YCC President, Zhang is focused on widening representation for all students on next year's council. He said that this school year, he served as one of the first openly gay and first-generation, low-income Junior Class Council presidents.

"I've never really seen myself in these positions before performing these roles on campus," Zhang told the News. "And you know, it's not just about surface-level representation, it's about the action. It's about what you want to do for the community, it's about putting power within."

Identity was enmeshed into many of the events Zhang planned this year as Junior Class Council President. Zhang planned an HIV/AIDS fundraiser and a Cystic Fibrosis awareness fundraiser, having had a childhood friend pass away due to CF. Pointing to some of his other achievements as JCC President, Zhang emphasized that 100 percent of the campaign promises he made last year were kept.

A big part of Zhang's candidacy centers around the idea of being a "second-place champion," which he brought up twice at Sunday night's candidate

debate. Zhang acknowledged that the role of YCC President is typically filled by a junior. Running as a rising senior, he's ready to make the sacrifices and "let other people shine."

Embracing his role as a rising senior, Zhang noted that the senior class is often left out of YCC discussions since seniors rarely hold positions on the council in either the Senate or the Executive Board.

Under his presidential platform, Zhang is looking to expand exam reimbursements for the MCAT, LSAT and FRE to cover test preparation resources and subscriptions, trips to consulting receptions and conferences, and travel costs associated with touring graduate schools. He also hopes to expand Dean's Extensions to professional development reasons.

Regarding academics, Zhang hopes to push the administration

to allow one retroactive Credit/D/Fail a year.

"As President, I have to think about the wins that we can get," Zhang said. "I think part of that is negotiating with the administration and coming up with more reasonable and practical goals."

Zhang noted that retroactive Credit/D/Fail has long been a goal of the YCC, yet little progress has been made with the administration.

Zhang's full platform additionally includes initiatives for FGLI support such as making the price for summer courses proportional to a student's respective aid package. Currently, no matter what amount of financial aid a student receives, they are only eligible for 50 percent off a summer course; still costing them approximately \$2,500 for a single summer course. Zhang also hopes to raise the full financial aid threshold from a household income of \$75,000 to \$100,000.

Zhang is looking to focus on health and accessibility: working towards providing Epi-Pens in every dining hall, water fountains in all entryways and increased mental health resources.

When asked why he wanted to run for YCC President, especially on a solo ticket, Zhang pointed to his upbringing. For much of Zhang's childhood, he was homeless.

"Yale was the first real home I had," he said, highlighting his desire to give back to the school as YCC President. "This position requires so much time, I want to show other FGLI students that they can do it too."

Polls for YCC President begin on April 18 at 9 a.m. on YaleConnect and close at 9 p.m. on April 19.

Voting begins on April 18 at 9 a.m. on YaleConnect and closes at 9 p.m. on April 19.

Contact **KAITLYN POHLY** at ariela.lopez@yale.edu.

THROUGH THE LENS



BEINECKE BOOKSHELF

Divestment discourse on campus has surged this week. Protesters erected a wooden bookshelf on Monday afternoon on Beinecke Plaza as part of a “Books not bombs” protest urging Yale to divest from weapons manufacturers.



Photos by Samad Hakani, Christina Lee and Ellie Park, Photography Editors

SPORTS

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"My favorite part of the game this weekend was playing on Reece. There is nothing like playing on our home turf with beautiful weather in front of our families and fan base. It was especially exciting to get another Ivy win to add to our undefeated Ivy record,"
YALE WOMEN'S LACROSSE MIDFIELDER TAYLOR LANE '25 WROTE TO THE NEWS OF THE TEAM'S WIN OVER HARVARD.

M LAX: No. 8 Elis tally two wins on the road

BY AMELIA LOWER
STAFF REPORTER

The Bulldogs added two wins to their four-game winning streak this week with a victory over Dartmouth in Hanover, New Hampshire on Saturday and a triumph over Hofstra in Hempstead, New York on Tuesday.

The No. 8 Elis (10-2, 4-1 Ivy) conquered Dartmouth (3-8, 0-4 Ivy) last Saturday afternoon in a runaway 20-13 game and followed up their win with another against Hofstra (4-9, 1-4 CAA) on Tuesday night, where the Bulldogs out-scored the Pride 16-12. The Tuesday victory marks the Elis' sixth in a row, since Yale's victory over Le Moyne on March 26.

The Elis made a big comeback on Saturday, finishing the first quarter in a 7-1 deficit. Big Green attackman Nate Davis began the scoring 1:44 into the first frame, which was answered back by attackman Matt Brandau '24 12 seconds later with an unassisted goal.

Dartmouth then added six consecutive goals within the following 13 minutes. Davis scored another, in addition to attackman Henry Bonnie, attackman Colin McGill, defen-

seman Andrew Johnston, midfielder Emmett Paradine and midfielder Quinn Moore.

In an effort to come back from a rough start, midfielder Johnny Keib '25 opened up scoring in the second frame off an assist by midfielder Carson Kuhl '25. Midfielder Patrick Hackler '24 added another goal, assisted by Brandau, less than a minute later, and Keib tallied another to reduce Dartmouth's lead to three.

Dartmouth midfielder Brandon Ventarola made an unassisted goal with 8:09 remaining in the half, and Keib scored off an assist by Hackler less than two minutes later. Big Green defenseman/midfielder Will Cohen and McGill both added points to raise the score to 10-5.

Attackman David Anderson '26, off an assist by midfielder Logan Soelberg '24, restarted Yale's offensive, followed by an unassisted point by defenseman Jack Stuzin '25 to close out the half.

Early in the third quarter, Hackler and Brandau both tallied unassisted goals, which was followed by a non-stop Yale attack later in the frame. Within the final 3:04 of the period, Yale scored four points, with two goals by Anderson, one

by Kuhl and another by midfielder Cole Cashion '27.

In the final frame, face-off man Anthony Annuziata '27 made his first career goal, followed by scoring by Hackler, Anderson, Cashion, Brandau and Anderson again to establish a 19-10 lead.

Bonnie and McGill attempted to make a comeback with their goals for Dartmouth, but they were soon shut down by Brandau, off a Cashion assist, who added another point to Yale's now 8-point lead. Dartmouth's Bonnie added one last point with 1:54 remaining to cement the final score as 20-13.

Over the course of the game, Yale led 65-36 in shots and 39-27 in shots on goal. Yale also edged Dartmouth in faceoffs 19-17. Anderson led the team with five goals in the game, matching his career high, followed by Brandau with four and Hackler and Keib with three.

Brandau led the team with five assists, followed by Kuhl with two. Annuziata won 12-of-22 faceoffs, and Stuzin caused two turnovers and three ground balls. Midfielder Jack Monfort '24 had six ground

SEE M LACROSSE PAGE 10



COURTESY OF DAVID SCHAMIS

Last Saturday and Tuesday, Yale defeated Dartmouth 20-13 and Hofstra 16-12.

WLAX: Yale beat Harvard, clinched spot in Ivy Tournament



YALE ATHLETICS

The women's lacrosse team claimed victory against Harvard, securing their spot in the Ivy Tournament.

BY COLETTE STAADECKER
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

The No. 10 Yale women's lacrosse team (11-1, 5-0 Ivy) beat No. 22 Harvard (8-3, 3-2 Ivy) at Reese Stadium on Saturday with a score of 16-8, clinching a spot in the Ivy League Tournament.

This victory propels the Bulldogs to the top of the Ivy League standings with just two games remaining. The top four teams make the Ivy League Tournament, which is hosted by the No. 1 seed.

"My favorite part of the game this weekend was playing on Reece," Taylor Lane '25 wrote to the

News. "There is nothing like playing on our home turf with beautiful weather in front of our families and fan base. It was especially exciting to get another Ivy win to add to our undefeated Ivy record!"

This season marks the first time in school history that Yale has reached an 11-1 record.

Despite an early 2-1 lead by Harvard, the Bulldogs swiftly turned the tide by netting five consecutive goals between the 8:59 mark of the first quarter and the 13:07 mark of the second. From then on, the Crimson struggled to close the

SEE W LAX PAGE 10

T&F: Bulldogs split up between UConn and Princeton



YALE ATHLETICS

The men's and women's track and field teams split up their squads this past weekend between the Larry Ellis Invitational at Princeton and the Northeast Chal-

BY PETER WILLIAMS
STAFF REPORTER

After getting a taste of competition against Ivy League rival Harvard Crimson the previous weekend, many of the Bulldogs' Track and Field athletes headed to the home of the Princeton Tigers on Friday, April 12 and Saturday, April 13, while the remainder of the men's and women's teams headed to the home of the UConn Huskies on Saturday, April 13.

With the Ivy League Outdoor Track & Field Championships being held at Princeton at the beginning of May, many of Yale's throwers, jumpers, and distance runners had the opportunity to try out Princeton's facilities before the more important meet comes in just three more weekends. Between Princeton, NJ and Storrs, CT, both teams faced inclement conditions.

"We performed well in challenging conditions," Head Coach

SEE TRACK & FIELD PAGE 10

M CREW: Yale beats Dartmouth in four of five races, Olympic Axe remains in Derby

BY ELEANOR LOCKHART
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

On Saturday, the Yale heavyweight crew team defeated Dartmouth in their first and only home race of this season.

In a fierce early morning tailwind, the first four Bulldog boats came out on top of extremely competitive races: the largest margin at the finish was three seconds.

The fifth varsity, however, fell to the Big Green by more than fifteen seconds. Last year, every Yale boat except the second varsity beat Dartmouth.

Head coach Mike Gennaro said that the team's goal was to "expand through executing what we trained to do all week at practice," characteristically highlighting the heavyweight's emphasis on long-term development.

The third varsity race proved to be the most dramatic of the weekend. Yale and Dartmouth had close contact throughout the course and around the turn until, with just 100 meters to go, a Dartmouth rower's oar caught under the water.

This mistake, which is called "catching a crab," can create so much traction that it brings the boat to a stop. On Saturday, the Big Green's accident slowed their boat just

SEE M CREW PAGE 10



YALE ATHLETICS

The Yale men's heavyweight crew team won the Olympic Axe against Dartmouth this past weekend, winning four of five races.

STAT OF THE WEEK

7.17

POINTS PER GAME FOR YALE MEN'S LACROSSE ATTACKMAN MATT BRANDAU '24, BEST IN THE COUNTRY AND MORE THAN A POINT BETTER THAN THE NEXT HIGHEST PLAYER.

WEEKEND

A CHILD'S WISH (pre-release edition)



"In Vietnamese, the word for missing someone and remembering them is the same: nhớ..."

I miss you more than I remember you."

- Ocean Vuong

// BY KIMBERLY NGUYEN

March 30th, 2023, 7:05 PM.
I clicked the "View Update" link as soon as the Yale admissions portal opened. While the site was loading, my eyes were drawn to something below – Admissions Offer Reply Form. My eyes widened, and I jumped out of my seat in excitement, tearfully hugging my father before the acceptance video even played.

Vivid memories replayed in my mind – perpetual sleepless nights, my mother bending her back tirelessly as she worked at the nail salon during my childhood, my father's chapped hands after working long hours in a factory, my struggle with understanding why my elementary teachers yelled at me during a time I had not yet grasped the English language.

Finally, my hard work had paid off, and at that moment, I saw a bright future where I could repay my parents for their sacrifices. However, my excitement quickly fell as the sound of a heart rate monitor brought my attention to the phone screen next to my computer. My senses dulled as if I was shaken out of a dream and thrust back to reality. I felt myself crying harder for a different reason.

On the other side of the screen, my grandmother laid unconscious on a hospital bed while my mother told her I had just been accepted to Yale.

For years, I had dreamed of the moment when my hard work would pay off. I'd be accepted into a good school, and my parents and I would hug each other in celebration. Yet, when the moment of opening my decision letter came, it was nothing like I had envisioned. My mother was in Vietnam, far away from my side. My grandmother – my Ba Ngoai – was dying, and I could do

returned to the U.S. once we both thought Ba Ngoai had gotten better. That summer, my family planned on visiting Vietnam, and I was excited to see Ba Ngoai and take her to an elephant sanctuary. A few weeks after Mom's return, my grandma returned to the hospital.

As soon as our plane to Vietnam landed, we headed straight to the hospital. My mom almost skipped donning the hospital PPE gown before rushing to her mother's side in the ICU. Ba Ngoai opened her eyes when she heard my mom's voice, an action that became harder for her the sicker she became. My mom's family decided to take her home that day, where she would eventually pass away surrounded by her family and friends. As Ba Ngoai was being wheeled out into a transport car, her eyes widened and gaped at the sky.

There were already family members and a Buddhist monk waiting at my mom's childhood home, chanting a prayer while the home travel nurse installed my grandma's breathing equipment. The machine consisted of a tube that essentially forced her lungs to take in air, and I could tell that it caused Ba Ngoai pain with the way her eyes scrunched with each breath. It felt like hours had passed until the monk allowed the chanting to stop, and a long pause followed.

The air of the breathing machine cut through the silence until finally, the monk suggested that we speak to her, letting our unspoken promises, dreams and regrets be known to our dying loved one.

I was one of the first people to talk to Ba Ngoai that night. My voice trembled when I told her about my life in the past few years, betraying my attempted optimism. I had no idea when Ba Ngoai would leave me, so any word I spoke to her could be the last. I told her that I was accepted to Yale and had just graduated high school. I told her that I would make her proud and continue my education since I knew that she couldn't afford to learn after the fifth grade. I told her that I couldn't have succeeded without her or my mother's sacrifices and support. With a shuddering breath at the end of my speech, I thanked her.

My mom was next. She glanced at me before taking a couple of seconds of silence to compose herself, seemingly trying to put on a strong appearance. "Was she doing it for me? Even now?" My eyebrows furrowed at the thought. However, her attempt crumbled a few words into her speech, tears falling and voice cracking with a certain type of pain that only grief can bring. Soon, hiccups interrupted every other word that she tried to speak. The world faded around us, and I stared at my mom in shock while her attention was on

her own mother.

My mom had never cried in front of me, so when she allowed her agony and grief to take over just this once, my heart wrenched at the sight and my attempt at staying strong became impossible as I, too, began weeping beside her.

"What are you doing? You couldn't even stay strong for your mom?" I inwardly scolded myself for failing to be a reliable source of comfort for my mom in one of the most depressing moments of her life. The world around me faded as my attention was drawn solely to my mom and Ba Ngoai. My mom expressed her guilt of chasing the American Dream during her lifetime while my grandma spent hers cleaning people's homes to make a living and sleeping on staircases when guest rooms weren't available.

And as she voiced her thoughts, I listened closely. I knew that my mother wished she spent more time with her family when she was younger, but it was only now that I could see her expressing her feelings. It made me realize that she had been holding onto these feelings, pushing them deep inside her to focus on working to make enough money to raise me. My mom's guilt was something I understood all too well.

Sometimes, I wish I could've been born later. If I wasn't born when my parents were still trying to stay afloat in a foreign country, maybe they could have found better jobs. Maybe my mom could have visited her family more instead of taking care of me. How often did I wish that I could give back to my parents? I'll continue to shed my own sweat and

to take Ba Ngoai's breathing tube out. The following day, her remaining friends and family came to visit, and when I practically forced my mom to leave Ba Ngoai's side to eat or sleep, I kept watch over the visits. Over and over, I heard the same phrases: "I'm sorry...", "I wish...", "I love you..."

With each visit, I learned something new about my grandma. I learned that seven of the visitors were adopted by Ba Ngoai after they lost their parents. I stood to the side and watched my adopted aunts and uncles sob as they expressed their sorrow and gratitude to the mother that took them in. The next visitors were Ba Ngoai's sisters. Ba Ngoai was the youngest sibling in her family, so when her older sisters saw her in her dying state, they wept and reminisced on their childhood. I couldn't help but let a few tears escape after they wistfully talked about taking care of each other after their parents died when they were still young kids. Once they were done, one of the sisters grasped onto Ba Ngoai's hands, wailing that her baby sister was too young to die.

The next day, I entered Ba Ngoai's room in the morning only to find my mom already there. Ever since we took Ba Ngoai home, my mom had been glued to Ba Ngoai's side. Her pronounced eyebags conveyed her exhaustion, so I volunteered to keep watch over Ba Ngoai. While my mom slept on a floor mattress, I sat next to my grandma and monitored her oxygen levels.

As I watched each rise and fall of her chest, a moment of nostalgia overwhelmed my senses. I remembered catching a whiff of tea leaves and incense, scents that I learned to associate with her, after she placed me on her lap when I was a toddler and taught me how to say her favorite phrase – *thở và hít*, or breathe and smile. She explained that if I could do those two things mindfully, I would be happy. But how could I smile when she's no longer with me?

All of a sudden, my grandma pried her eyes open with much effort, gazing into mine. I could tell that the simple feat exhausted her and was about to wake my mom up before deciding against it. She hadn't been getting much sleep lately, and it would be hard for her to relax again. I maintained eye contact, chocolate meeting obsidian, and squeezed my grandma's hand, feeling the paper-thin texture of her skin. My grandma slowly shifted her eyes to look at something across the room, and I turned my head to where her attention lingered. Her eyes were glued onto a Buddha painting my family had hung across from her until they eventually moved to something beyond it. Behind the painting was a window, and I quickly realized what she was focused on – the sky.

The pulse oximeter started beeping, and my eyes quickly darted to the pixelated numbers on its screen. Her oxygen levels were lower than usual, and I abruptly woke my mom up. We summoned a prayer circle, chanting for hours until her oxygen levels returned to normal again. Ba Ngoai's arrhythmia occurred numerous times after her breathing tube was taken out, so my family had to treat every drop in her oxygen levels as if it were her last moment.

In the middle of that night, I watched my grandma take her last breath.

A week after Ba Ngoai's funeral, my parents and I visited Hu , my dad's birthplace. My mom seemed numb after Ba Ngoai's death, so I suggested that we explore the city.

At nightfall, my dad's family took me and my parents to a river that was famous for its boat tours. When we arrived, a woman chased us around, pushing us to buy a tour ticket on her boat. I got increasingly irritated with the boatwoman, as all I wanted at the moment was to get my mom

on a sightseeing boat that promised breathtaking views to briefly distract her from her grief. Surely, she could sell her tickets to another group of unsuspecting tourists.

My family eventually accepted the woman's offer, her cheap tickets making us cave in. It looked tiny and plain compared to the other vibrantly decorated tour boats that surrounded it along the deck. As we boarded, two young children grabbed my attention as they scrambled to place plastic chairs down for us before the river tour started. I decided to sit on the deck of the boat, while the rest of my family sat inside the roofed part. When the boat engine finally started and we were transported along the flowing water current, I became awed by the twinkling city lights that littered the horizon and the moon's pale glow on the clear waters.

As I was taking pictures, my attention was drawn to the floor. Soda cans littered the deck of the boat, and tiny sandals accompanied wooden oars. My eyes drifted back to my family, and I saw that while everyone's eyes were on the view, my mom's were on the boatchildren. Their mother – the woman I was angry about for refusing to leave us alone – was changing her kids into their nighttime clothes. I realized that this tour boat was also their home and that the woman's persistence was just a mother's desperation.

Gosh, I felt like crying.

It was then that I understood that parents stand still so their children can look back to see how far they've progressed, but how are we supposed to leave them behind after all their sacrifices?

The boatchildren's experience, along with the visits to Ba Ngoai from both young and elderly loved ones as they shared their poignant last words with her made me wonder:

"We may grow older, but do we ever grow up?"

Our most intense moments of joy, sorrow, grief and regret can transcend time and age. Our parents may want us to become happy and successful, but don't we wish the same for them? A child's wish is for their parents to be healthy and content. A child's wish is for their parents to follow them on their journey to success after all the sacrifices that they have made. It is a child's wish for their parents to live comfortable lives and to "remember" their legacies.

Dear Ba Ngoai,

Thinking about your death sends a sharp squeeze to my heart. The grip of loss and grief is still fresh even after almost a year has passed. Last summer, I wish I could have caught up about my life with you under different circumstances, preferably over a bowl of steaming white rice and tea on your porch swing like you'd have wanted. In another life, I'll take you to the elephant sanctuary just as we had planned. In another life, I hope to still be my mother's child so that I can be close to you once more. In another life, I hope that my mom can spend more time with hers.

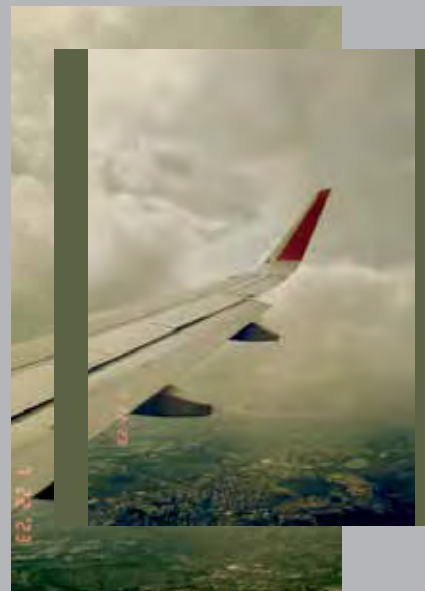
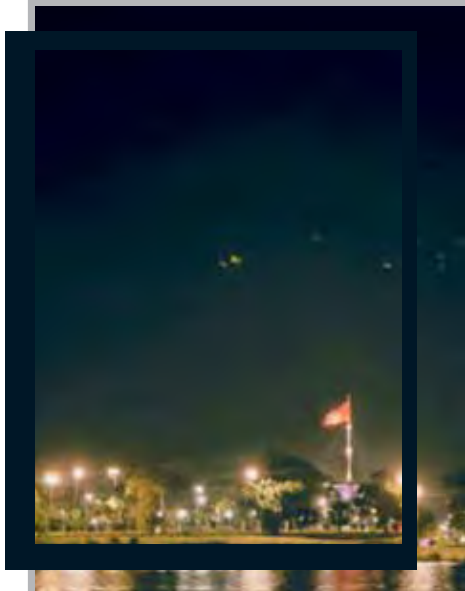
In this life, I will remember you, Ba Ngoai. Although the thought that you are no longer physically around fills me with profound sadness, I will remember you more than I miss you.

You live through my memory, my smiles and the sky. As I walk to class during the dawn of spring, basking in the sun's warmth along my skin and welcoming the fresh scent of blooming flowers, I remember. I remember that it feels like the lap I slept on when I was three, the arms that held me when I was four, the soft kisses against my temple when I was six, the warm hands that cupped my cheeks when I was ten and the life that departed when I turned eighteen followed by the promise of a new one.

For you, my parents and my family, I promise to move forward surrounded by the scents of tea leaves and incense entwined.

Love,
Kim

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nothing but watch.

My tears were tainted with grief instead of joy during one of my most anticipated moments until my crying turned into full-blown sobs. For the rest of the evening, my eyes stayed glued to the phone screen with my grandma, the computer screen with my acceptance letter long forgotten.

One month later, my mom

A few days later, my family decided

tears if it means I can pay them back for their sacrifices, but I know that it will never be enough.

So as I continued to listen to my mom's tearful speech, I could do nothing but rub soothing circles on her back and resonate with the guilt and grief that I learned weighed heavily in both of our hearts.

WEEKEND *FLIGHTS*

Goodbye, Euphoria?

// BY IDONE RHODES

Spoilers ahead!

Hit television series *Euphoria*'s return has been delayed yet again. In late March, HBO announced that shooting for season 3 would not start in the next few months as initially planned because show creator Sam Levinson was still writing the scripts, according to Deadline. In the ensuing days, rumors flew that the network was considering replacing Levinson, who recently incited controversy over the infamous and short-lived series *The Idol*. And since the last season came out, many of the cast members have exploded in popularity: Zendaya, Sydney Sweeney, Colman Domingo, Storm Reid and Jacob Elordi, just to name a few. Whether *Euphoria* will ever return remains unknown — a true 'see-it-to-believe-it' situation.

Although the show has now become the butt of entertainment industry jokes, *Euphoria* was massive when it first premiered in 2019 — a pre-pandemic world, for context. After releasing two special episodes during COVID, the show's second season came out in January 2022. At the time, the season 2 opener pulled in 19 million viewers, and the show was second in views only to *Game of Thrones*.

When *Euphoria* was actively releasing episodes, it seemed like every high school and college-aged person in the United States was tuning in every Sunday to see what trouble Rue Bennett (Zendaya) and her orbit of drama-prone friends would get into next. The show inspired new make-up trends and aesthetics, served as the theme for every other college party for a good year and generated a slew of memes still in frequent circulation. To call the show a cultural phenomenon is almost an understatement. But, now, *Euphoria*'s 2+ year hiatus and myriad of production challenges beg the question of whether the show needs a neat final season or if it is better left as an excellent, if incomplete, work of art.

To help answer this question, I returned to the place where *Euphoria* got its start, the show's June 2019 pilot. And, to my delight, it's just as good as I remember it.

The element of the show that sets it apart, even from the first episode, is its

formal design, which suggests that no production detail was left unconsidered. Within the first ten minutes of the show, we see a graphic depiction of Rue's birth, vignettes of the tragic suicides of artists that share Rue's mental health diagnoses and the technicolor, gravity-defying psychological state of a young woman who uses drugs to escape reality. And the show doesn't slow down from there, using inventive lighting, cinematography, and sound to create an atmosphere simmering with barely-contained chaos.

Filtered through the eyes of this self-consciously unreliable narrator, we learn of the different dynamics that govern Rue's social ecosystem. We get the stories of the various key characters in a dizzying, fragmented fashion, but what the narrative lacks in linearity it makes up for in depth; the emotional stakes

But as early as the premiere, Leslie is left chasing Rue down maze-like corridors until Rue shuts the door in her face, leaving her mother to yell at a wall — the first of many door slams in the series. As always, Rue's younger sister, Gia (Storm Reid), is hidden but in earshot, a fearful witness to her family's dissolution. Later in the episode, the spatial stakes become even greater as an entire hallway starts to spin on its axis after Rue gets high, an effect Levinson achieved by building an actual rotating set.

On the level of plot, *Euphoria* hews more closely to the standard fare of teen drama television shows, if the stakes were dialed up to max volume. Although *Euphoria* is propelled by sex, drugs, and violence that I imagine are not the norm of the average high schooler's experience, its themes feel quite grounded in reality. "The world's ending, and I

the days after her birth in the hospital, watching as news channels ceaselessly reported on 9/11 and its aftermath. I was born two weeks later.

Honestly, when I first planned to rewatch the *Euphoria* premiere, I expected to find it overhyped and perhaps a little outdated. What I instead discovered was an innovative, moving beginning to a show that blossomed over its existing seasons, though the series' quality had its highs and lows. The second season became increasingly cluttered with loose plot lines and was thankfully saved by moments of stark vulnerability and impressive acting. But despite how much I enjoy *Euphoria*, I still think the series should end as is.

To accommodate the maturing cast, Levinson proposed a five-year time jump for the third season. I'm hesitant about time jumps in general, but I feel especially strongly in the case of a show like *Euphoria*. The characters are, for the most part, deeply selfish people, and the grace of youth helps us understand them as humans in the process of becoming. To cut out any stage of their development feels like a huge loss for the series, especially someone like Rue who can change so quickly, so unexpectedly, and I'd argue that it's better to leave the characters as they are than skip ahead. Let them be, if we can't see how they become who they are.

What the series finale offers now is a series of possibilities: the possibility for Rue to stay sober and repair her relationship with her family and Jules, the possibility for Nate to work through some of the trauma inflicted by his father, the possibility for Maddy and Cassie to figure out who they are outside of their shared boyfriend. In a show that depicts characters who make the wrong choices time and time again, this ending asks us to have faith that, for once, they'll do the right thing. This ambiguity offers a variety of positive futures for Rue and her friends, ones they deserve to have after all that they've endured.

All this being said, I root for these characters and love the world of this show, so if a third season ever does get made... I will surely tune in.

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euphoria

and flare points are immediately clear. The premiere beautifully balances the necessary world-building with a genuine artistic flair. At the end of the episode, all the different puzzle pieces come together at a house party turned violent — as will happen several times throughout the show — and we (finally) see Rue and Jules' (Hunter Schafer) first interaction, grounding us in the budding relationship that will animate the rest of the series.

Perhaps most striking in this first episode is Levinson's masterful understanding of space. One of the most jarring, tense scenes in the entire show occurs in season 2, episode 5 when Rue destroys her family home after her mother, Leslie (Nika King), throws away her drug stash. The narrow, wood-paneled hallways become an arena for Rue's anger as she overturns bookshelves and kicks down doors.

haven't graduated high school," Rue remarks to Fezco (Angus Cloud), her surprisingly principled drug dealer. The young men in the show, like Nate Jacobs (Jacob Elordi), are plagued by porn and toxic masculinity brain rot. Cassie (Sydney Sweeney), Maddy (Alexa Demie), and Kat (Barbie Ferrera) desperately need validation. Jules (Hunter Schafer) wants to fit in in a new town. The show takes the typical anxieties and insecurities of the 16-year-old mind and transposes them onto a world of neon lights and free-flowing pills.

The show also speaks in a true Gen Z idiom. Unlike other series oriented toward a young adult audience, *Euphoria* understands how we communicate, our patterns of speech, and even our social media habits. Most of all, at the show's core is an existential dread which seems to be the humming undercurrent of our generation. After all, Rue's parents spent

Years Apart, Away Together

// BY SASHA POST-LAIS

Last week, New Haven's temperatures reached so high that the chairs on Beineke burned my legs as I sat beside sun-soaking yalies. We all know what that means. It's been on its way for some time — the LinkedIn summer posts piling up and the long white linen skirts adorning cross campus. It's almost summer.

Coming from the Northeast — more Northern than New Haven, that is — the first streaks of summer present a chance to wear your lightest layers and start making your bucket lists. Summer is to be maximized.

Since I turn 20 in the fall, this summer is feeling as though it is particularly significant for me. It is my last summer of teenagehood and I am making the most of that fact. On Yale's dime, I am away for a large part of the summer in the beautiful city of Seville, Spain.

This place holds significance not only in its rich Flamenco history and former Roman roots, but as a familial space for my mother and me. Nearly 30 years ago, she studied in Seville, living with a host family and advancing her Spanish fluency, of which she attempted to pass on years later in my childhood. I can see this influence everywhere, in my little sister's middle name, in stories recounted of her time and in my mom's reunification 30 years later with her partner from Spain whom she now is dating again. Seriously, it's a lifetime movie worthy story, but I'll let her tell it.

I initially took Spanish classes rather passively through my primary education, fulfilling requirements and talking with my friends anytime pair work was offered. College poses a different setting — after the internet crashed during my placement test the summer after senior year,

I have worked my way up to L5 before I ship off to blistering Seville for four weeks. I've grown to love the language and the breadth of the cultures it is communicated in, acknowledging the rich and diverse manners in which it is spoken.

In my suitcase I will take my essentials: my passport, computer, the same pair of flip flops I have had since freshman year of high school, a bottle of nail polish, the Levis I thrifted last year, and my mom. Literally. She will be visiting while I am there.

I'm not sure exactly what to expect. I've heard my stories from my peers and my mother, but to live in a foreign country and be so far from my everyday life still scares me, yet mostly excites me. I'm expecting a shock, even after researching the country more and cramming to study even the most basic grammar conjugations. Don't take a semester off your language just to start it again. You will forget everything.

It's a privilege to study abroad and something I went into college saying I would do by any means necessary. I'm so happy it has, so far, aligned thus far and that in just a few short weeks, I will be hitting the outside of the plane door as I walk on for good luck. I have not booked my tickets yet, which could very well mean these could be my parting words as I embark on a 56 hour Spirit Airlines flight of which you never hear from me again. It's a gamble for sure.

I hope I will come back even more appreciative and understanding of the world, a wider Spanish lexicon, and a bit more tan. Only time will tell.

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**WKND Recommends**

Taking the bus!

WEEKEND *PRE-FROSH*

SPONGE ERA

What are you hoping to get out of the rest of this year?

// BY ANNA PAPAKIRK

It just recently dawned on me... okay, that actually sounds too beautiful, like a seaside sunrise in Cape Cod on a calm August morning. I've never been to Cape Cod, so I don't actually know what this looks like, but I can only imagine it's surreal.

So, let me rephrase. It just recently struck me like a torrential New Haven downpour that I have one week left of classes this semester followed by reading week and finals. Then, my first year of college is over! This realization has caused me to spiral into a state of incredulity. If this time of my life were a Taylor Swift Era, it would be my "Disbelief Era," and the album's hits would be "Where Did the Time Go?" and "Growing Up." This album, like myself, will sound like a broken record because I still can't get over the fact that I am closer to being a sophomore in college than a senior in high school.

Even though I am nearing my last final — my final final of the year — on May 6, I have to incessantly remind myself, like an annoying fly that won't leave me alone, that freshman year is not over yet! There is still some time left, so I'm going to cherish it like that beautiful, fleeting Cape Cod sunrise.

Now, before I dive deeper into this essay, I just want to remind everyone that I'm not a graduating senior, so I'm making this sound a little more sentimental than necessary. Nevertheless, it is sentimental to me because I will no longer be the

baby on campus, and, more importantly, I can't get away with the excuse, "I'm just a first-year! I have no clue what I'm doing!" Because at this point, I really should know what I'm doing. Plus, I won't be on campus or in New Haven for three months, so I need to treasure all of the things I love before leaving.

For starters, I want to relish this campus's beauty for as long as possible. And I don't just mean the stunning architecture. While walking around campus and enjoying the beautiful buildings is a pleasure I often take for granted (especially walking down Hillhouse Avenue on the way back from my econ lecture), there's so much more to this campus than what meets the eye. Have you ever noticed the way that the sunlight filters in through the dining hall windows early in the morning? Have you admired the yellow daffodils in the

Vandy courtyard or the tulips outside Branford's dining hall? The epitome of happiness, I firmly believe, can be found in these hidden pockets of campus beauty that are too often overlooked.

On the other hand, something you most definitely can't overlook is the liveliness of campus at this point in

the year. Yes, many of us are bogged down with final assignments and assessments, but campus seems to be buzzing with energy and excitement in these final weeks. It undoubtedly has to do with the weather, because Cross Campus and Beinecke Plaza seem to be filled with this exuberant, sunny spirit that's permeating through the air. I've been trying to channel that spirit into my work, but any time I attempt to "do work" in

either of these locations, I find myself in the library later that night actually finishing the assignments that were meant to be completed earlier. But that's okay because back at home, I won't be able to experience the same type of energy that emanates from these crowds.

Speaking of energy and crowds, who else is excited for Spring Fling? I'll be honest, this is the event that I have been most looking forward to since Spring Break, serving as my motivation to make it through the rest of the semester. It's starred and circled and stands out on my calendar in every possible way that it can. And now, it's on the horizon. The music, the vibes, the fun — what's not to look forward to?

Last but not least, what I really want to get out of these last few weeks is spending time with the people here. I may not see many of them until next fall, which makes these final weeks bittersweet. So, here's to more spontaneous trips to Ashley's, walks around campus, late-night GHeav runs, early morning breakfasts, sushi dinners and Old Campus strolls with all of the people that make this place and these experiences so special.

After taking the time to contemplate, I think I'm going to retile this era. From now on, if you see me around campus, just know that I'm in my "Sponge Era" because I will be soaking up every minute of it!

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// BY KAYLEE PIERRE

My Google Calendar, a mosaic of colors on my laptop screen, cast a vibrant light in my dorm. As the publicity director of Yale's Undergraduate Moot Court Team, Bulldog Days was shaping up to be an extremely busy time for me. Our team schedule was packed with four events: an open practice, two informational sessions and a late-night informal chat. Amidst these events, I had to balance my regular coursework, an essay and preparation for an upcoming Moot Court Competition the following weekend. "It'll get done," I coped.

My first day of Bulldog Days began with a tour. The first real day of Spring helped generate excitement. Knowing most organizations would be throwing food at the pre-frosh, I advised them to take advantage. I learned from experience, at once attending informational sessions for organizations I knew nothing about, but hey, they had chicken nuggets from Garden Catering.

After my tour, I joined my team to prepare for our three consecutive events that evening. We planned and put together everything we knew that would capture the pre-froshes' attention: sweet treats, balloons, stickers and bracelets. What more could they ask for?

When our informational session began, our once well-crafted elevator pitch devolved to simply yelling, "free cookies," without realizing the slightly creepy implications of doing so. But, it worked! We had pre-frosh coming to our open practice to

watch us perform our arguments. Not only did they watch, but they engaged, asking us questions about our constitutional speeches. The event surpassed our expectations — witnessing the pre-frosh engaged in our display, albeit still in development, filled us with anticipation for the fall tryouts. After the open practice, the excitement of all of them transcended onto us — all we could think about was welcoming a new class of bright and enthusiastic minds. Thirty minutes after our open practice ended, we began preparing for our information session in LC.

We swiftly moved all our decorations across the hall in LC, resetting up for the pre-frosh. The upcoming informational session presented a chance to engage with the pre-frosh in a casual setting and talk about our team. We had pre-frosh coming in and out, chatting about anything from moot court to boba places around campus. Despite our efforts to deplete our inventory of baked goods, many pre-frosh declined our treats, as they had already indulged in sweets from several other student organizations on campus.

It was now late in the evening when our late-night event began directly after our information session. Pre-frosh continued to come in and out. It is truly remarkable to connect with other students who share the same passion. Moot court has been a significant part of my life since high school, and now, at the collegiate level, it continues to hold importance. Engaging with pre-frosh who harbor that same enthusiasm was invigorating. Having these conver-

Bulldog Days

sations and informing students about the micro-community of students with a passion for public speaking and constitutional advocacy was rewarding. In a place as vast as Yale, it is especially reassuring for students to know they can find a sense of belonging. While I missed out on my Bulldog Days experience last year, I was fortunate to meet other freshmen through FOCUS and my extracurricular activities. It meant a great deal to me to help other pre-frosh discover that there's a welcoming community awaiting them on Yale's campus.

While our initial aim in conversing with these pre-frosh was to spark an interest in moot court, they ended up igniting a reminder of the community we have built at

Yale. Their optimism about the future and their aspirations for campus life inspired us profoundly. It reminded us of the endless possibilities available here at Yale, motivating us to embrace new challenges and endeavors. By the end of Bulldog Days, the team and I had spent a significant amount of time together, fostering a stronger sense of camaraderie among us. Bulldog Days serves not only as a time for pre-frosh to engage but also for admitted students to strengthen their bonds with one another. I'm genuinely excited about the future of Yale and the ongoing collaboration with my team.

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Why is this Seder different from all others?:

My First Yale Passover

// BY JULIETTE PROPP

This April, I've been clearing my search history more than usual. Not for the reason one might normally press delete — get your mind out of the gutter — but because it is riddled with "is ___ kosher for Passover?" Every year I try and fail to keep kosher for Passover, but maybe this year will be different.

Luckily, I have no problem getting rid of my non-kosher snacks — my suitemates will no doubt be up to the task of finishing them — so I can cross in-room temptations off the list of potential complications. But, besides my suitemates picking up the slack, I have

no idea what to expect for my first Passover at Yale.

I have gotten so used to celebrating Pesach at my grandma's house, where my cousin, my two sisters and I play the parts of the four children. If you were wondering, I am always the wise child, obviously, and can practically recite the part by heart. My older sister is the wicked child — how fitting — and my younger sister and cousin divy up the remaining parts.

Being a freshman in college has, of course, come with a lot of firsts. But my first Passover away from home is not something I have thought about until recently. Is there a certain etiquette to follow at a Slikka seder?

Are we limited to one serving of charoset per person? If so, we might have a problem. Will there be an afikomen? Fair warning, I get pretty competitive.

Passover is a timeless narrative of liberation; a commemoration of the Jews' exodus from slavery in Egypt. For me, the seven-day holiday is marked by traditions that bind family and history together. Passover reaffirms my connection to my roots, reminding me of the struggles and triumphs of those who came before me. It's about the laughter and debates around the dinner table, the shared meals, and, most importantly, a sense of belonging.

This year, as I prepare to celebrate Pass-

over at Yale with peers instead of family, my excitement mingles with a sense of nostalgia. The setting may be different, and the faces less familiar, but the spirit of Passover remains the same. Opening myself up to the possibility of making new traditions is what college is all about. I imagine each person will bring a piece of their home to share, bridging the gap between the familiar past and the uncharted future. As I sit at the Seder table with my peers, I'll carry the essence of my family's traditions with me, ready to add new layers to my Passover story.

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WKND Recommends

Saybrook dinners...



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