



DeLauro’s campaign office vandalized with graffiti

BY HANNAH KOTLER
STAFF REPORTER

The words “Blood on ur hands” and “Free Palestin” were spray-painted in red paint on opposite window panes of Representative Rosa DeLauro’s campaign office on Orange Street. The News obtained a photo of the vandalism Tuesday afternoon.

DeLauro released a statement after her office was vandalized condemning the action. “Violence, vandalism and the destruction of property are never acceptable,” DeLauro wrote. “Discussion and dialogue are the best way to address serious issues.”

DeLauro also wrote that she is committed to the safety of her staff.

Hamas launched a surprise attack against Israel On Oct. 7 that killed at least 1,400 Israelis, according to Israeli officials, as reported by the Associated Press. Israel responded to the attack with a formal declaration of war against Hamas, airstrikes, a siege of Gaza. The Associated Press reported Tuesday afternoon that according to the Hamas-run Gaza Health Ministry, Israel’s attacks have killed at



“Blood on ur hands” and “Free Palestin” were spray-painted on the congresswoman’s office on Orange Street. / Hannah Kotler, Contributing Photographer

SEE **GRAFFITI** PAGE 4

Survivor of Hamas attack shares story at Slifka Center

BY BEN RAAB
STAFF REPORTER

Yoni Diller grew up with a passion for maps and a keen sense of direction. On Saturday, Oct. 7, a choice between north and south became a matter of life or death, he told a crowd gathered at Yale’s Joseph Slifka Center for Jewish Life on Monday evening.

Diller, a filmmaker from Tel Aviv, Israel, was one of 3,500 attendees at the Supernova music festival that took place in Re’im — a town near the Israel-Gaza border — the day of Hamas’ surprise attack on Israel, which killed 260 festival-goers according to Israeli rescue service Zaka, as reported by CNN.

Diller spoke to a group of around 75 students at Yale’s Slifka Center on Monday about his experiences on that day.

“People deserve to know the truth about what really happened,” Diller told the News. “I survived this, I am the evidence for the horrors of this terrorist organization, Hamas, and I want students to feel secure in standing against the hate on campuses right now.”

His visit comes less than a week after a string of antisemitic incidents on college campuses, including at Cooper Union College, Tulane University and Cornell University. On Sunday evening, The Cornell Daily Sun first reported on online threats made on Saturday, Oct. 28 and Sunday, Oct. 28, including a threat to shoot Jewish students at a building that houses the Kosher dining hall.

Jason Rubenstein, the University’s Jewish Chaplain and a Slifka staff member, expressed gratitude that Diller could give his talk and “help the world understand the stakes of this conflict.”

“When something this awful happens we can only sustain our humanity by lis-

SEE **SLIFKA TALK** PAGE 4

Yale endowment performance on par with peers



The value of Yale’s endowment fell for the second consecutive year. / Tim Tai, Senior Photographer

BY BEN RAAB
STAFF REPORTER

Yale’s investment return of 1.8 percent for the 2023 fiscal year puts its performance on par with peer institutions. Although Yale’s return was positive, the total value of its endowment dipped to \$40.7 billion — down from \$41.4 billion in 2022 — after accounting for budget disbursements.

Of peers that have reported endowment returns for fiscal year 2023, Columbia University saw a 4.7-percent gain, Stanford University a 4.4-percent gain, Cornell University a 3.6-percent gain, Harvard University a 2.9-percent gain, Brown University a 2.7-percent gain and the University of Pennsylvania a 1.3-percent gain. Duke University posted a 1-percent loss, Princeton University a 1.7-percent loss and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology a 2.9-percent loss.

This year marks the first time in 45 years that Yale’s endowment has decreased in value two years in a row; the University’s 0.8-percent return last year also caused the endowment to decrease in value from \$42.3 to \$41.4 billion. The last time the endowment suffered back-to-back losses — in 1977 and 1978 — the endowment was valued at around \$550 million.

But these results also come on the heels of a historic performance in 2021, when the Investments Office reported a 40.2 percent return on its investments, and the endowment’s value soared from \$31.2 billion to \$42.3 billion. The growth was largely a result of U.S. economic policy during the COVID-19 pandemic, when the Federal Reserve lowered interest rates and the government pumped trillions of dollars into the economy.

Over the last year and a half, however, the Fed has imposed 11 separate interest rate hikes

in an effort to combat pandemic-era inflation. When interest rates rise, the economy cools and stock prices generally fall.

“Given the macroeconomic conditions that we have (higher interest rates for longer), I think that we are going to see poor performance in the next one or two years as well,” Frank Zhang, a professor at the School of Management, wrote to the News.

Zhang’s prediction falls in line with Chief Investment Officer Matthew Mendelsohn’s prediction of “challenging times ahead” in last year’s endowment press release. Mendelsohn cited rising interest rates, inflation and a tumultuous geopolitical environment as factors that could cause “stiff headwinds” for the Investments Office.

Mendelsohn, now in his third year as Yale’s CIO, did not include a statement in this year’s

SEE **ENDOWMENT** PAGE 5

Yale to revisit investments in weapons manufacturing

BY BENJAMIN HERNANDEZ
STAFF REPORTER

University President Peter Salovey told the News that the University’s Advisory Committee on Investor Responsibility is considering revisiting its policy regarding investments in weapon manufacturing and retail.

Currently, the University’s policies, outlined by the Investments Office’s Ethical Investment Policy, prohibit the University from investing in assault weapon retailers, which sell weapons to the general public. However, these regulations do not apply to weapons manufacturers.

Although the University’s policy review began last year because of long-held concerns by Yale community members, the review now accompanies mounting student calls for weapons divestment.

During a walkout of over 100 students on Oct. 25, student protestors called on the University to divest from arms manufacturers, such as Lockheed Martin. Student protestors also called for an end to both Israel’s siege of Gaza and the United States’ financial support for Israel.

Additionally, in January, Yale Students Demand Action — part of a larger grassroots network of the non-profit Everytown for Gun Safety — joined students from almost 30 colleges and universities across the country in signing onto the #KillerBusiness cam-

SEE **INVESTMENTS** PAGE 5

CROSS CAMPUS

THIS DAY IN YALE HISTORY, 2015. yale.edu reveals its new look. The redesign, Yale’s first in 9 years, features larger type and greater interactivity. Current students complain that some pages are still unintuitive and “annoying”.

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BULLETIN BOARD

Sorensen Lecture

Exile: A Refuge from History


Stan Grant

Indigenous Australian journalist

Wednesday, Nov. 15
5:30 PM
Niebuhr Hall
Divinity School
Reception to follow

Yale

DIVINITY





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GRACE HOPPER COLLEGE TEA



DEMOCRACY, CONFLICT, AND GOVERNANCE IN WEST AFRICA

A WORLD FELLOW'S JOURNEY

WITH ANN IVONU



Ann Ivonu is Executive Director of the Goodluck Jonathan Foundation, dedicated to democratic integrity, preventing violent conflicts, and promoting peaceful resolution of disputes across Africa. She holds an MA in Law and Diplomacy from the University of Jos in Nigeria, and is a Maurice R. Greenberg World Fellow at Yale.



WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 4 P.M.
GRACE HOPPER COLLEGE HOUSE
189 ELM STREET



EMILY CAI is a junior in Pauli Murray.
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OPINION

GUEST COLUMNIST
BILAL KHARRAT

Your silence speaks volumes

Why? This is my question to those who plead they have little understanding of the conflict currently forcing 1.1 million Palestinians to evacuate their homes and livelihood in the Gaza Strip. What is stopping you from reading the news, clicking on the article your friend sent you or simply scrolling through social media? With an endless stream of resources, there is absolutely no excuse for being unaware of the historical context and ongoing events surrounding the recent Israeli-ordered evacuation of northern Gaza.

DON'T COWER
BEHIND YOUR
SILENCE. IT DOES
NOT PROTECT YOU.
THE APPREHENSION
YOU DISPLAY
CARRIES GRAVER
REPERCUSSIONS
THAN SPEAKING
OUT EVER COULD.

You have the obligation to educate yourself. Fleeing Palestinian families are the target of endless Israeli bombardment, even outside of the evacuation zone. More than 2,000 Palestinian children have been ruthlessly killed since Oct. 7 and more die every day this evacuation to an unknown land continues. Are their lives not worth the ten minutes it takes to read the news? Many claim to feel disconnected from this conflict and, by extension, don't feel a desire to remain updated with ongoing events. If that is the case, don't do it for yourself. Educate yourself for your classmate whose family is currently abandoning the only home they've known in Gaza. Educate yourself for the 6-year-old Palestinian boy who was stabbed to death in his home in Chicago. Educate yourself for the 2.2 million citizens of Gaza who are at constant risk of attack, including the hundreds of Palestinian civilians who were recently killed after the bombing at a hospital in Gaza. Educate yourself for the thousands of innocent civilians — from both sides of this conflict — who have faced brutal

deaths over the past week. Educate yourself so you can advocate against the ongoing displacement and aid in ending this dangerous system of oppression. To those who are fully aware and up-to-date regarding the evacuation yet remain silent out of fear: speak out. Don't cower behind your silence. It does not protect you. The apprehension you display carries graver repercussions than speaking out ever could. I'd like to echo the sentiments of legendary civil rights poet, Audre Lorde: "Each of us is here now because in one way or another we share a commitment to language and to the power of language, and to the reclaiming of that language which has been made to work against us." It is the burden of the oppressed and their allies to educate the ignorant masses. I urge you to leave these masses and join in amending the meticulously crafted narrative that sides with the oppressor. With every additional voice of resounding support for Palestinians, world leaders are pressured to condemn the horrific actions of the Israeli government.

This evacuation is not an issue of Muslims vs. Jews. This evacuation is destroying innocent Palestinian civilian lives and shattering countless families. This evacuation is the culmination of 75 years of oppression in one final attempt to eradicate and displace the Palestinian people. This is a human conflict that should concern you. My intention with writing this article isn't to rehash the history and day-to-day events of the conflict leading up to the mandated evacuation or the gut-wrenching reality Palestinians have faced for decades. Rather, I write this as a call to action for those who have remained silent out of fear and ignorance. You can, and should, defend the Palestinian's right to exist while recognizing and mourning the devastating loss of life Israeli families have been forced to grapple with following attacks by Hamas. Expressing pro-Palestinian sentiment does not and should not come at the expense of Jewish life. Don't act as a silent bystander as thousands of fleeing civilians are mercilessly bombed by Israeli forces. Speak out and end the violence. Years from now, as this event becomes cemented in our historical records, etched in classroom seminars and political discussions alike, where will you find yourself positioned in the annals of history?

BILAL KHARRAT is a first-year in Pierson College. Contact him at bilal.kharrat@yale.edu.

EDITOR IN CHIEF & PRESIDENT
ANIKA SETH

On recent editor's notes

The Yale Daily News published an opinion column on Oct. 12 titled "Is Yalies4Palestine a hate group?" On Oct. 13, the News published a separate opinion piece titled "Stop justifying terrorism." In the former, the author wrote, in reference to Hamas' Oct. 7 terrorist attack against Israel, "yes, they raped women ... yes, they beheaded men." In the latter, the author wrote that Hamas "committed ... rape." The source that the columnists cited suspected cases of sexual assault. During our opinion editing process — which is separate from reported coverage — the News failed to ensure that the columnists' statements were properly cited and attributed. At the time of the columns' initial publication, those specific forms of violence during Hamas' Oct. 7 attack

were not independently confirmed by the cited source. On Oct. 25 and Oct. 26, the News published corrections to both pieces, modeled on reporting and corrections from other outlets — such as The Forward and The Los Angeles Times — from earlier in the month. The News was wrong to publish the corrections. By the time of the first correction on Oct. 25, there had been widely reported coverage from outlets such as Reuters publicly verifying that Hamas raped and beheaded Israelis. These corrections erroneously created the impression that, as of late October, there still was not enough publicly available evidence for those horrific acts. The News therefore retracts those editor's notes in their entirety and without qualification. The notes have been removed from

the columns, and the original text has been restored. It was never the News' intention to minimize the brutality of Hamas' attack against Israel. We are sorry for any unintended consequences to our readership and will ensure that such erroneous and damaging material does not make it into our content, either as opinion or as news. Threats of violence leveled against the News, its editors and their families have intensified this week. Threats of this severity are unacceptable in any circumstance. The News remains committed to reporting the facts and to creating a forum for free, fair and honest campus and community dialogue.

ANIKA SETH is the 146th Editor in Chief and President of the Yale Daily News. She is a junior in Branford College. Contact her at anika.seth@yale.edu.

LETTER 10.13: Poet Louise Glück, just passed, has staying power

Dear Editor: I attended the low-residency writing program at Goddard College in Vermont when Louise Glück served as a teacher, and a poet-in-residence (1970s). I remember the wonderful respect she earned and liking by the other teachers, as well as by students. Her house burned down during that time, a winter-time fire. The other pro-

gram writers knew the hardest loss for her was her books. They dipped into their own libraries and gifted her with her favorite authors and their books, lifting her spirits. Wiki connects her to Goddard this way: "The poems she wrote during her Goddard years were collected in her second book, "The House on Marshland," written in 1975, which many critics have regarded as her

breakthrough work, signaling her discovery of a distinctive voice." Now adieu to the good spirit of poet Glück. Yale students having class with her, you had a special presence among you. Sincerely, Lynn Rudmin Chong

LYNN RUDMIN CHONG is a professor at Plymouth State University and parent to a Yale graduate.

GUEST COLUMNIST
VITTAL SIVAKUMAR

Reflecting on Romney


In John F. Kennedy's 1956 book, "Profiles in Courage," the then-Senator from Massachusetts wrote that if Americans better understood the pressures "which drive a Senator to abandon or subdue his conscience", then they might be "more appreciative of those still able to follow the path of courage." The Kennedy family would go on to create the Profiles in Courage Award to honor individuals who displayed the courage that Kennedy described. In 2021, they decided that no one better fit this description than Mitt Romney. Romney, the junior U.S. Senator from Utah and the 2012 Republican presidential nominee, announced last month that he would not seek reelection in 2024. It is clear that the senator has displayed a level of political courage which has become rare in our ever more polarized political landscape. In the 2020 impeachment of Donald Trump, he became the first senator in American history to vote to remove a President from his own party from office. In Trump's second impeachment in 2021, he would vote to convict again, one of only seven Republican senators to do so. He marched with Black Lives Matter protesters after the killing of George Floyd, was one of only three Republican senators to vote to confirm Ketanji Brown Jackson to the Supreme Court, and has openly stated that he did not vote for his party's nominee in the 2016 and 2020 presidential elections. He is also aware of America's gerontocracy. In his announcement of his reelection plans, Romney stated that "it's time for a new generation of leaders," an important sentiment that leaders in both parties have failed to echo. Even more unusually, Romney has unrestrainedly criticized members of his own party. Last year, he called Republican Representatives Marjorie Taylor Green and Paul Gosar "morons" for

attending an event organized by white nationalist Nick Fuentes. He stated publicly that Senators Josh Hawley LAW '06 and Ted Cruz "were making a calculation that put politics above the interests of liberal democracy and the Constitution" when they denied the 2020 election results. And of course, he has been one of the GOP's most vocal critics of Donald Trump ever since 2015. [ROMNEY] HAS A HISTORY OF FORSAKING HIS MORALS AND SUCCUMBING TO THE PRESSURES OF REALPOLITIK. IT'S OBVIOUS THAT HE'S NOT THE PARAGON OF VIRTUE THAT MANY BELIEVE HIM TO BE.

I admire Romney for these actions. It couldn't have been easy going against the party that he once hoped to lead. He rapidly underwent a transformation from being seen as Republicans' future to a pariah in the party. That's a journey not many politicians would be willing to make. Romney has been a symbol of moral strength at a time when peoples' views of their elected officials have been highly negative. But it's important to acknowledge that Romney has also compromised his values in many of the same ways as the people he criticized.

When Romney was running in the 1994 U.S. Senate election in Massachusetts, he emphatically declared that he supported "a woman's right to choose," only to backtrack on those comments when he pursued the Republican presidential nomination in 2008. After Obamacare was passed in 2010, he attacked the legislation as an "unconscionable abuse of power" despite signing similar reforms into law when he was governor of Massachusetts. And in 2012, Romney played into the racially motivated birther movement when he told a cheering crowd in Michigan that "no one's ever asked to see my birth certificate." He even accepted the endorsement of future nemesis Donald Trump, back when Trump was known primarily as a business magnate and TV personality, despite Trump's promotion of birther conspiracy theories. Romney, like many of the politicians he now derides, did a great deal attempting to ingratiate himself with some of the most conservative factions of his party. He has a history of forsaking his morals and succumbing to the pressures of realpolitik. It's obvious that he's not the paragon of virtue that many believe him to be. Romney is not someone we should idolize, but he isn't someone whom we should cast aside, either. His role as a prominent Republican made the courage he displayed through his criticism of Trump's GOP more impactful than any Democrat's disapproval ever could have been. But he has also shown that he's willing to cross moral boundaries in the pursuit of power. He is someone whose career we can learn from, someone whose example our leaders should seek to follow in some instances and seek to do better in others.

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FROM THE FRONT

“Anything is possible!”
KEVIN GARNETT AMERICAN BASKETBALL PLAYER

DeLauro’s office vandalized with ‘Free Palestin’ and ‘Blood on ur hands’ graffiti

GRAFITTI FROM PAGE 1

least 8,805 Palestinians in Gaza. United Nations officials have called these attacks an “unprecedented catastrophe” and “collective punishment” in violation of international law.

On Oct. 15, DeLauro affirmed her support for Israel during an event hosted by Shabtai, a Jewish leadership society at Yale.

“Israel needs to know and to understand that they do not stand alone,” DeLauro said during the event.

DeLauro also released a statement on Oct. 31 calling for a “humanitarian pause” of Israel’s bombing of Gaza so humanitarian aid, including food, water, medicine and fuel could be brought in. In the statement she also called for the unconditional release of all Israeli hostages — over 230 — held by Hamas.

New Haven Mayor Justin Elicker and Senator Richard Blumenthal also expressed their support for Israel at the Shabtai event.

On Tuesday, Elicker condemned the graffiti as an inappropriate expression of free speech.

“Free speech is people’s right but not in this way,” Elicker told the News. “It’s unfortunate that people decided to vandalize the Congresswoman’s office. The police department is investigating to hold individuals accountable.”

The New Haven Police Department did not respond to a request for comment.

Congresswoman Rose DeLauro has represented Connecticut’s 3rd congressional district since 1991.

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Survivor of Hamas attack on Israel shares story at Slifka Center



Yoni Diller, an attendee at the Supernova music festival, shared his story of the Oct. 7 Hamas attack against Israel./ **Ben Raab, Contributing Photographer**

SLIFKA TALK FROM PAGE 1

tening with open ears and hearts,” he wrote to the News. “Hamas’s massacre of over a thousand innocent Israelis wasn’t abstract – it was a brutal crime against real, defenseless individuals – and hearing from survivors really brings that home.”

At the event, Diller recounted how he arrived at the festival with his friend, Nadav Morag, at 4:30 a.m on the morning of Saturday, Oct. 7. He said that two hours later, while on the dance floor, he noticed the bright orange sparks of rocket fire lighting up the still-dark sky.

At first, he said, many of the festival attendees were unphased. He said that police eventually came to the stage and told people to begin evacuating.

“In Israel, it’s not uncommon to hear occasional rocket fire,” he said. “Everyone knows to get in the shelters and just wait it out. At first, people weren’t that concerned, but after about an hour I decided it was time to evacuate.”

Some people, he said, chose to stay at the festival. Most people packed their stuff, got in their cars and headed north on the main road leading to other nearby cities and towns, according to Diller. But traffic quickly accumulated, resulting in a logjam of vehicles, he said. At this point, Diller said he suggested to Morag that they leave via a less crowded, south-facing side road, which eventually would loop back to the north and merge back with the main road.

But after a couple of minutes driving, Diller said that he and his friend came across a young woman trapped inside a car covered in bullet holes. He said that the woman was struggling to open the door, and blood was pouring from her shoulder and down her legs. In the background, he said, the sound of machine gun fire could be heard from the west.

Diller said that he, Morag and passengers in nearby cars ditched their vehicles and took cover in the bushes of an arid valley a couple of meters away. There, they hid for hours, as the sound of gunfire drew closer, Diller told the crowd at Slifka.

Diller said that he remembers pulling people to the ground in order to avoid the bullets, which were whizzing over their heads.

“Some people were still drunk from the festival,” he said. “They were disoriented and couldn’t even process what was happening. I wasn’t even sure what was happening. We assumed it was terrorists, but didn’t know.”

Diller said that he and Morag decided that their best chance of survival was to escape by foot. He said that he and others began a five-hour journey to the nearby village of Patish, which Diller found on Google Maps.

They eventually reached the outskirts of Patish, where residents awaited them and brought them into a community center to rest and have food and water, he said. Diller said that he later found out that two of his friends were dead while two others were kidnapped.

All of the festival-goers who chose to stay put or continue hiding were killed, Diller said. He added that many of those who had fled via the main route heading north arrived at towns that had been overtaken by Hamas.

In those towns, he said, “the Hamas terrorists did things I can’t even bring myself to say — unspeakable things.”

On Oct. 7, Hamas launched a surprise attack against Israel that killed at least 1,400 Israelis, according to Israeli officials, as reported by the Associated Press. Israel responded to the attack with airstrikes, a siege of Gaza and a formal declaration of war against Hamas. The Associated Press reported Monday night that according to the Hamas-run Health Ministry, Israel’s attacks have killed at least 8,306 Palestinians in Gaza. United Nations officials have called these attacks an “unprecedented catastrophe” and “collective punishment” in violation of international law.

At the end of his speech, Diller urged students to “remain strong,” referencing shooting threats at Cornell and antisemitic incidents at other college campuses.

As Diller took questions, many students in attendance expressed feeling scared and overwhelmed. Several students said that they have faced the trauma of both Hamas’ Oct. 7 attack and of rhetoric on Yale’s campus. These students mentioned that they have seen their peers reposting messages on social media claiming that Israel was responsible for the Oct. 17 bombing of the Al-Ahli Arab Hospital in Gaza. They also mentioned chants that Yale students led during a walkout on Cross Campus last week including, “when people are occupied, resistance is justified.”

“With all the misinformation and different narratives being spread across campus, I felt it was important to hear firsthand from someone who was at the [Oct. 7] festival,” Grace Bowden-Stone ’26 said.

One student in the audience asked Diller what he suggested they do to combat the spread of antisemitism and misinformation on campus.

Diller said that it is important for community members to spread awareness through “safe, respectful dialogue.”

Yossi Moff ’27 told the News that Diller’s speech “gave him strength.”

“It’s hard to be a Jew on campus right now,” he said. “But seeing someone who can hold his head so high after surviving a massacre, an event far more horrible than what’s happening here, it’s powerful.”

Before coming to Yale, Diller also spoke to students at New York University and Columbia University. He said he plans to continue visiting college campuses.

The Joseph Slifka Center for Jewish Life opened in 1995.

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Endowment performance in slow year for investment returns

ENDOWMENT FROM PAGE 1

press release, in a departure from recent custom. Following the initial report, however, he did address the Yale community in a letter outlining the office's goals for the future.

"As a 322-year-old institution, Yale benefits from the rare ability to invest with a truly long time horizon," he wrote in the letter. "Given this, we measure our success over decades, not days, months, or even years."

Mendelsohn was appointed to the position two months after the death of David Swensen, who had served in the role since 1985.

Under Swensen's leadership, the Office underwent a priority shift from its investment in traditional assets — stocks and bonds — to "alternative assets," such as international stock funds, emerging market funds and real estate. Yale's investment approach under

Swensen became known as the "Swensen Model" and is now the standard approach for most large university endowments.

Because of the Swensen Model, most of Yale's holdings are in alternative assets, which are generally illiquid — they cannot be readily converted to cash. Unlike traditional stocks and bonds, these assets do not have a clearly defined market value before they are sold.

In his letter, Mendelsohn highlighted the office's ability to "be patient" with long-term, illiquid assets as one of their "key competitive advantages."

Some experts argue that these assets make it difficult to analyze Yale's endowment on a year-to-year basis.

"I would be surprised if the endowment returns Yale and others report are completely accurate," Matthew Spiegel, a professor at the School of Management wrote.

"They all invest in quite a few illiquid assets, and it will take time (perhaps years) before they are accurately marked-to-market."

Of the educational institutions that yielded the highest returns in 2023, most are land-grant universities, such as the University of Nebraska, the University of Illinois and the University of Arkansas, which posted returns of 9.8 percent, 9 percent and 8.2 percent, respectively. This is likely because these institutions favor a more traditional "60-40" approach to stocks and bonds. According to the University of Nebraska's 2023 investment report, 43.3 percent of its portfolio is invested in an S&P 500 index fund, which responds to the aggregate performance of 500 of the largest publicly traded companies in the U.S.

David Yermack, a professor of finance at New York University's Stern School of Business,

called Yale's 2023 report "dreadful," pointing out that from July 2022 to July 2023, stock funds had risen an average of 15.3 percent and bond funds 2.5 percent. If Yale had had a 60-40 mix of stocks and bonds, he argued, "you would have expected something like a 10.2% return."

"Large institutional investors like Yale should really be passive investors, trying to diversify as much as possible and minimize costs," he continued in an email to the News. "If Yale had done that last year, its investment returns would have been 8.4% better. Given the starting value of \$41.4 billion, that's about \$3.5 billion that's been lost due to Yale's overconfidence about being able to identify attractive alternative investments. Even if this strategy has worked for Yale in the past, it gets harder and harder as an investor grows large."

But John Longo, the former chief investment officer of Beacon Trust and a professor at Rutgers Business School, told the News that the 60-40 model is not an appropriate benchmark to judge the performance of Yale's endowment.

He noted that Yale's peers all follow an alternative investment model, too.

"Performance over a one-year period is not meaningful for an institution like Yale which has a very long-term horizon," he told the News. "Despite the somewhat disappointing short-term returns, in my opinion, Yale's approach to managing its investment remains sound."

Yale's endowment was first established in 1718 with a donation of 562 British pounds from Elihu Yale.

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Yale to revisit investments following student concern, protest

INVESTMENTS FROM PAGE 1

paign asking their institutions to sever all economic ties with the gun industry.

"Yale adopted a formal divestment policy that requires Yale to divest from retail outlets that market and sell assault weapons to the general public," Salovey wrote. "The Advisory Committee on Investor Responsibility is studying whether there are grounds to revisit the policy under the university's ethical investment framework."

The current policy was adopted in 2018 following a request made to the ACIR — which is composed of alumni, faculty, staff and students — by School of Medicine professor and deputy director of the Yale Cancer Center Daniel DiMaio.

DiMaio requested that Yale divest from companies that manufacture or sell mili-

tary-style assault rifles. However, as the University's policy stands now, it only states that Yale will not invest in retail outlets that "market and sell assault weapons to the public."

The policy notes that the Corporation Committee on Investor Responsibility — which is composed of trustees and gives investing guidance to the full Corporation — "gave special consideration" to certain factors that the ACIR raised upon recommending the policy to the Corporation. Among them was a distinction between weapons manufacturers and retail distributors of assault weapons, and also a distinction between civilian weapon use and weapon use by military and law enforcement; the latter, per the recommendation, might use such weapons for "sanctioned purposes"

"The loss of life resulting from mass shootings in our country is

deeply tragic," the CCIR statement reads. "Yale is committed to research, scholarship and education for the betterment of the world; this requires an environment in which teachers and students are free from gun violence and the fear of gun violence."

As of Oct. 26, the U.S. has seen 565 mass shootings. According to Everytown, gun violence kills almost 40,000 Americans every year and is the leading cause of death among American children and teens. Research from the Violence Project and Best Colleges states that at least 98 people have been killed in 12 mass shootings that have taken place at U.S. colleges since 1966 — with 75 percent of those incidents occurring in the last 16 years.

It remains unclear whether the University has or previously held ties to weapons retailers or

weapons manufacturers because the Investments Office does not disclose its holdings. When asked about Yale's holdings in weapon manufacturers, the Investments Office referred the News to Salovey's initial response.

Finance professor and deputy dean for faculty Heather Tookes, who is also chair of the ACIR, wrote to the News that the current review of the assault weapon retailer divestment policy stems from a presentation by Yale's chapter of Students Demand Action in the 2022-2023 academic year.

"The process involves research and discussions within the committee," she wrote. "The deliberations of the ACIR are ongoing and confidential; however, we will inform the Yale community if the process results in any changes to the current policy."

DiMaio, who initially requested divestment, told the News that the

decision to divest entirely from the weapons industry and other industries is "not quite so clear cut."

He added that while he believes it is clear that assault weapons should not be in the hands of civilians, he also said that he knows there are reasons for weapons in the military and in law enforcement.

"I think we should be constantly thinking about: 'are we making responsible investments?'" DiMaio said. "However, I would say that I think there are legitimate uses of these sorts of weapons, so it's not clear to me that [total divestment] would be the right decision."

The gun industry brings in over \$9 billion every year, according to Everytown.

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Amid rising reports of mass shootings and the ongoing war between Israel and Hamas, students are calling on the University to amend its policy for investing in weapons manufacturing. / Tim Tai, Senior Photographer

ARTS

“Like the greats, you want to make your own story yourself and not be a copy of another.”
KYLIAN MBAPPÉ SOCCER PLAYER

South Asian performance groups come together for annual Roshni showcase

BY KAMINI PURUSHOTHAMAN
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

A one-man juggling show surprisingly captivated a packed audience at Woolsey Hall this weekend: Arnav Narula '25 was masterfully handling five balls with hit Hindi song Desi Boyz in the background.

He was one of dozens of performers who took to the stage on Saturday for the South Asian Society's largest annual cultural show, Roshni. Taking its name from the Sanskrit word for "light," the showcase illuminated South Asian creativity on campus. Featuring the groups like a cappella group Avaaz and classical singers Dhvani as well as dance groups ranging like Jashan Bhangra, Kalaa, MonstRAASity and Rangeela, the showcase celebrated South Asia's diversity.

"Every year, we end up getting a packed Woolsey Hall with so many diverse faces," said Avaaz member Ojas Mehta '25. "I love how all the groups come together at the same time." Concluding, he added that "Everyone always cheers really loudly for all of the other groups. There's no sense of real rivalry."

In fact, the only rivalry at Saturday's showcase was the friendly competition between classes. A time-honored tradition, each class performed their own choreography before the audience voted for a winner at the show's conclusion. This year, the class of '27 garnered the most audience-votes with their dance performance to "Ainvayi" and "Sauda Khara Khara."

Emphasizing the collaborative nature of the showcase, Maanasi Nair '25, co-captain for classical dance group Kalaa and modern Bollywood dance group Rangeela, lauded her teammates' efforts and the enthusiasm of her friends in the audience. She described it as a "mix of nerves, laughter and excitement that's so fun."

"I love being part of the whole production of such a large event that celebrates my culture," said Nair. "I feel honored to be able to contribute in the form of dance or music and the experience itself is so rewarding."

Every year, Nair participates in Roshni and another annual SAS-or-



KAMINI PURUSHOTHAMAN/CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

Hosted by Yale's South Asian Society, Roshni entertained audiences for two hours of cultural celebration.

ganized showcase, Dhamaal. She noted the several aspects that must come together to put on shows of this caliber. From weekly dance practices to music and costume curation, the rehearsal process spans the month before and culminates in the show's tech week. During this week, performers practice every day leading up to the show, working to perfect details, moves, and smoothen transitions.

Throughout the show, performers embraced both classical

Indian art forms and contemporary music, sometimes simultaneously.

Individual performances included Narula's juggling act and a traditional Bharatanatyam performance by Rid-dhi Pankhadiwala, a Hindi Fullbright Scholar at Yale. The audience erupted into applause after MonstRAASity took the stage in vibrantly-colored attire to perform Indian folk dance.

Two South Asian music groups take stage for second year of performances

Taking their name from the Hindi word for "voice," Avaaz is an all-gender acapella group that blends South Asian songs with popular western music.

According to Meher Sethi '25, being part of Avaaz and SAS as a whole makes him feel welcomed and "at home" because he knows he can access the space for "cultural and artistic expression," he said.

As the show concluded, the participating South Asian groups cheered for each other while audience mem-

bers chatted and congratulated their friends who had performed.

"I love sharing a stage with such good energy amongst my teammates," said Nair. "I'm so thankful for the community these events bring together."

The Yale South Asian Society's next showcase, Dhamaal, will take place in March 2024.

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Ticking down to 10:59: Yale Artists Cabaret holds fifth show

BY DANIELA WOLDENBERG
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

The Yale Artists Cabaret held their fifth show at the Off Broadway Theater on Friday night, featuring a musical medley of songs that are usually performed at the climax of Broadway shows.

Co-directors Soleil Singh '24 and Lauren Marut '25 selected the performers, songs and lighting for the two cabaret showings at 8 p.m. and at 10 p.m. on Friday. The performances showcased "11 o'clock numbers" — show-stopping pieces that are positioned toward the end of musical theater performances. The two shows consisted of 17 performances each, with a surprise song, called "Goodbye," to close the curtain.

"I truly think that in this setlist, every number stands on its own," said producer Abby Asmuth '26, who is a WKND editor for the News. "Every number will leave people in awe."

While other shows take performers weeks to learn music, choreography and logistics, Marut said that she and Singh focused on making "the best use of everyone's time." The entire rehearsal process consisted of two commitments for the performers before the show: a sing through and the dress rehearsal.

At the show, the audience was greeted by assistant director Benjamin Jimenez '26 and Asmuth who were serving mocktails called the "Spotlight Spritz" and the "Curtain Call." Meanwhile, a timer on the back wall counted down the last 10 minutes until the performance.

"This was a theme that was bound to happen," said Singh. "We couldn't go through all of our seasons at YAC without including iconic songs like 'Being Alive.' We wanted to pick the right time for it, and there was no better way to start our senior year."

Marut and Singh opened the show, singing "Raise the Roof," a piece that highlighted their dynamic voices and work as collaborators. The audience was immediately engaged, waving their hands and yelling out praises to Marut and Singh.

Following the opening number, "Ex-Wives," which starred six performers, was one of the larger groups YAC has had perform in a show. Katia George's '25 choreography highlighted the collaboration between the performers and the moves reflecting the characters from the musical "SIX," which is about the six wives of Henry VIII. Each performer also had a solo moment in the song.

Asmuth said that YAC is successful in capturing the duality of collaboration among a group and celebration of the individual, so that "everyone gets their moment" without the "hierarchy" that typically exists among the ensemble and leads.

"I haven't been to another performance on campus that has the same atmosphere," said Xavier Blackwell-Lipkind '24, who attended the show. "There was an incredible feeling of support, with people screaming out the names of performers and cheering for them, which is to the credit of the YAC team. They care to present the show as a concert space and not a traditional musical theater performance. It empowers people to participate vocally in the experience."

While each piece was an "11 o'clock number," the anticipation echoed by the title "10:59" never dissipated. As for the ordering and pacing of the songs, Marut said that they wanted to draw in the audience with a "big number," followed by several more quiet songs while they still had the audience's attention.

After these softer and more reflective numbers, they introduced songs such as "Crazy



COURTESY OF MELANY PÉREZ

The Yale Artists Cabaret's latest show "10:59," directed by Lauren Marut and Soleil Singh, featured 18 performances in two showings.

Rolling" and "Too Late to Turn Back Now" that "ramped up the energy," Marut said.

According to Asmuth, in addition to their singing, the performers' acting abilities also contributed to the audience's excitement.

"The performers act and bring all of the emotion and the tension of the songs," said Asmuth.

When Benjamin Jimenez performed "Good Kid," some audience members yelled out "Yes acting!" and "Ok, drama!"

Sadie Pohl's '26 rendition of "Roxie" and Taylor Robin's '24 "And I'm Telling You I'm Not Going" also earned praise and positive commentary from the crowd.

In addition to directing, Marut also designed the lighting for "10:59," which changed multiple times during a single song.

"The amount of work that Lauren put into production was amazing," co-director and best friend Singh said. "She was in the theater on Thursday night, the night before the show. The lights looked beautiful, and yet she wanted to add more. She stayed in the theater for three more hours after dress rehearsal to add extra cues, because that's how much she cared about making the visual spectacle of the show as exciting as the songs are."

In preparation for graduation, the co-directors told the News that they have begun to grow the

YAC team to keep the organization alive after their time at Yale ends. Marut and Singh said that they will be co-leading their next show with Asmuth and Jimenez.

Marut and Singh concluded the performance with a bitter-sweet rendition of "Goodbye" from the musical, "Catch Me If You Can."

"I hope [the audience] left feeling excited to see what's next," said Marut.

"10:59" kicked off YAC's third season.

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“Still, never say die!”
KATHLEEN FLORES RUGBY PLAYER

Thousands attend city’s 11th annual Halloween Trunk-and-Treat

TYSON ODERMANN
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

Spongebob, Patrick and Squidward traveled from Bikini Bottom to Southern Connecticut State University to celebrate the spookiest day of the year during New Haven’s Annual Trunk-or-Treat Halloween event.

The New Haven Youth & Recreation Department hosted the 11th annual Trunk-or-Treat event so that children from across New Haven could safely celebrate on Halloween, and dozens of community members answered the call, lining up their cars to give candy to a long line of New Haveners.

“New Haven’s a city, so sometimes it’s not always safe to walk around at night, and [Southern is] a safe place for kids to come with their families. And it’s also nice for college kids to be able to give back to the community,” said Delaney Cotter, a student at Southern Connecticut State University, who was one of many handing out candy.

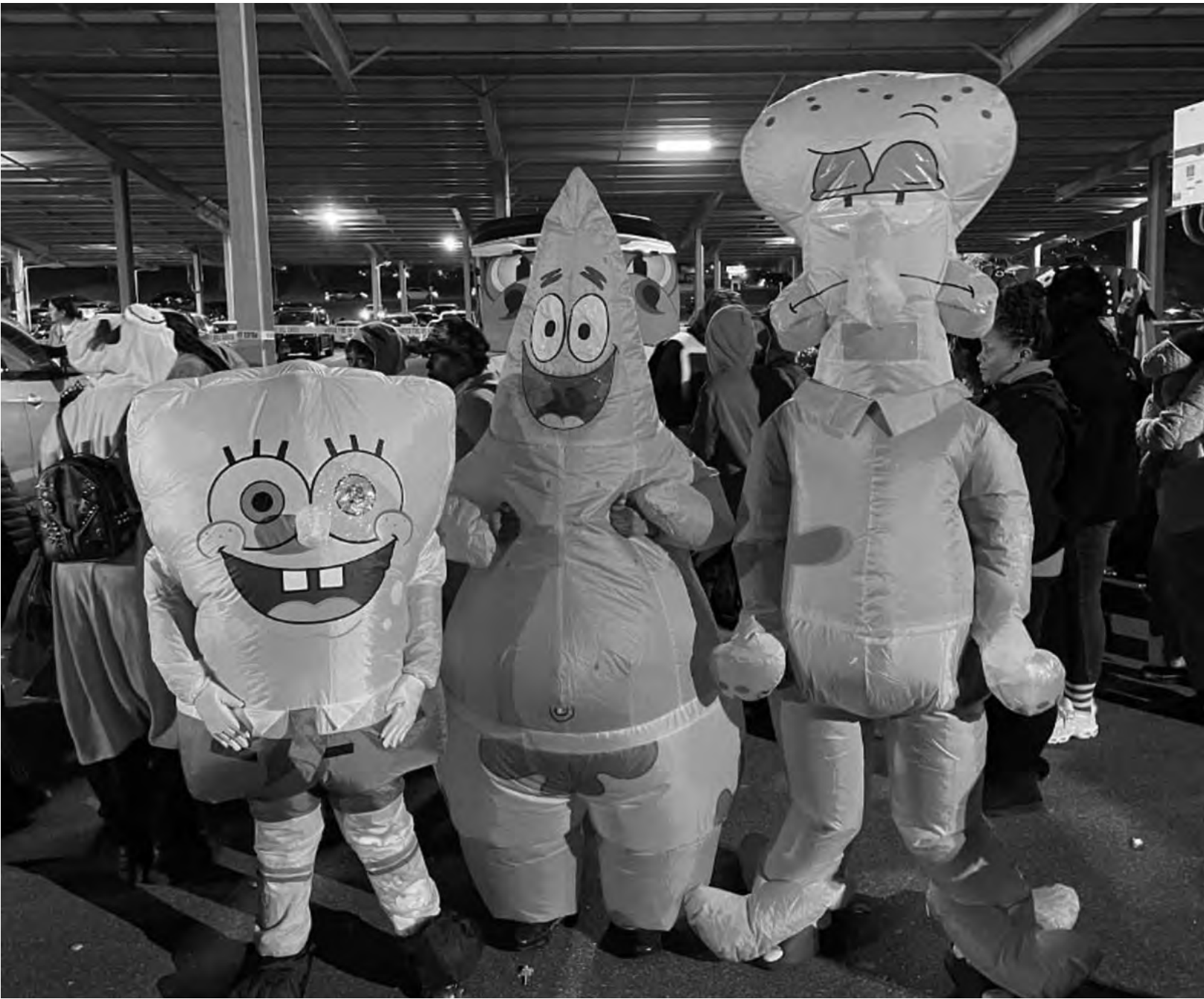
Cotter is in the Alpha Sigma Alpha sorority at SCSU where they have also previously participated in Trunk-or-Treat.

Families from all over New Haven attended the event, and community members expressed that they came for the sake of convenience. Several attendees also reported that they believed the event was a way to trick-or-treat more safely.

“It’s a good idea,” Jarvis Wilson, a New Havener attending the event with his family, said. “It’s good for the kids too and it’s good for the community.”

Police were also present throughout the entire night handing out candy.

Captain Keith Pullen of the Yale University Police Department was at the event handing



TYSON ODERMANN/CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

On Tuesday, families celebrated Halloween in an event hosted at Southern Connecticut State.

out candy with other campus police departments.

“We try to get involved with the community as much as we can,” Pullen said. “And we love

it. The kids, the families ... it’s just a good event, we love it.”

Pullen said that Truck-or-Treat has a major impact on the community because it offers a

one stop shop where families can collect candy quickly and without the fear of vehicle accidents.

The City of New Haven’s Annual Trunk-or-Treat Hallow-

een event was hosted from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

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New Haven Ghost Walk reveals spooky secrets

BY LILY BELLE POLING
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

Yale’s campus is haunted, with ghosts roaming throughout the University — at least, that’s what one local tour is telling visitors.

Every Friday and Saturday night, the New Haven Ghost Walk takes the bravest visitors through downtown New Haven and Yale’s campus to tell the tales of legends and secrets kept over decades. The tour hits the most haunted highlights and details the history of New Haven and Yale’s spookiest spots.

In a YouTube video linked on the Ghost Walk’s website, President of Ghost Walks USA Philip Schoenberg advertised the experience as a “hauntingly good time.”

The 8:30 p.m. tour on Oct. 28, which had approximately 20 attendees, began with a stop at Vanderbilt Hall — supposedly Yale’s spookiest residence hall. Tour guide John Degon said that there is an ominous door on the first floor that is always locked — so sinister that not even curious first-year students try to open it.

According to Degon, this door is only ever opened when a student from the Vanderbilt family is admitted to Yale, filling the “Vanderbilt suite” that hides behind the mysterious door. These students are much more stressed than the average Yale because legend has it that Cornelius and Albert Vanderbilt haunt this suite, pressuring the young Vanderbilt to put their nose to the “grindstone.”

The guide also claimed that throughout the years students have reported seeing a large man strolling the roof of Vanderbilt Hall. Degon said that he suspects it is Cornelius Vanderbilt haunting the residence hall, making sure the students in his namesake dormitory do nothing less than honor his name in their academic performance.

“I can’t believe there’s a ghost on my roof and I’ve never heard about it,” Sofia Arbelaez ’27 told the News. “It felt straight out of a movie.”

The tour’s next stop was at the Skull and Bones building on High Street, home to Yale’s old-



LILY BELLE POLING / CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

The Ghost Walk, which stops at multiple buildings on Yale’s campus, discusses the legends and secrets of downtown New Haven.

est secret society infamous for its powerful alumni and many conspiracy theories. Known as “The Tomb,” the hall is rumored to contain bones, souvenirs and trinkets.

Legend has it that one such set of bones belongs to Geronimo, a leader of the Chiricahua Apache who resisted colonization in the Southwest. After Geronimo’s death in the Apache prison camp in Fort Sill, Oklahoma, where the U.S. government had forced him into hard labor, it is rumored that Prescott Bush — father and

grandfather to former presidents George Bush and George H.W. Bush, all three of whom were members of Skull and Bones — stole Geronimo’s remains and sent them to the Skull and Bones tomb in New Haven.

In 2010, a federal judge dismissed a lawsuit filed by descendants of Geronimo claiming that his remains were stolen by students in the society in 1918.

Degon said that on one cold and foggy March night, he “saw something on the roof of Skull and

Bones while talking about Geronimo,” watching his tour group.

Degon said he believes this figure was the ghost of Geronimo.

Degon also detailed the disturbing history of the Milgram experiment at a stop at Linsly-Chittenden Hall, where the experiment took place in 1961. Stanley Milgram, a psychologist and professor at Yale, examined how far people would go in obeying an instruction to harm another person. Milgram reported he found that

most of his subjects would go as far as killing another person if under strict orders. Milgram faced backlash for the experiments, which critics said violated research ethics. According to Degon, all of Milgram’s equipment remains in Linsly-Chittenden Hall, gathering dust and locked away in the basement.

As the tour group moved to Harkness Tower, Degon told a few gory stories about the tower’s grisly history. He said that five different workers plummeted to their deaths during the 10 years of construction on the tower. The News was unable to find any information online supporting Degon’s claim.

Later on, according to Degon, students protesting the Vietnam War led a cow to the top of Harkness Tower. He said that the cow, named Janis Joplin, was left up there for four days as it is difficult for cows to walk backward or down stairs, and eventually died. The cow was then removed in pieces from the top of the tower, Degon said. The News was also unable to find any information online verifying Degon’s claims.

“When the bells are ringing at noon, you can still hear Janis mooing between the ringing of the bells,” Degon told the group.

Degon told the group that he recalled having lunch near the tower and hearing the sounds of a distraught cow amid the bells and the everyday chatter.

Finally, the tour made it to the Grove Street Cemetery. Degon said that in the 19th century, students in the School of Medicine dug tunnels to the cemetery to steal cadavers for their experiments. He said that two tunnels still exist under Yale’s campus and next to the cemetery, one of which, he said, is rumored to contain jars full of brains.

Patricia Illingworth, the cemetery’s chief docent told the New York Times in 2015, “trust me, there are no tunnels, and no one took bodies from here.”

The city of New Haven was founded in 1638.

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School of Nursing receives \$11.1 million anonymous donation

BY JESSICA KASAMOTO
STAFF REPORTER

In honor of the school’s 100th anniversary, an anonymous donor gifted the Yale School of Nursing \$11.1 million.

The money, which was announced during the school’s centennial celebration kick-off event on Sept. 21, will help offer students full-tuition scholarships as part of the YSN Community Scholars program. The program currently provides scholarships covering full tuition, fees, health insurance and an additional stipend of \$20,000 for the six selected students each year.

Gail McCulloch, the nursing school’s associate dean for development and alumni affairs, said that the new donation will be instrumental in providing many deserving students with the opportunity to attend nursing school without going into significant debt.

“Yale nurses and midwives often graduate with six figures of debt, a prohibitive burden to many talented people who would be incredible assets to the nation’s most trusted profession,” McCulloch wrote in an email to the News. “This gift makes it possible to welcome a cohort of future nurse leaders regardless of their ability to pay ... They will be able to bring their advanced practice skills to health-care deserts in rural areas, underserved communities and structurally marginalized populations.”

At the nursing school, the two nursing tracks for master’s students include the Master of Science in Nursing, which is for students with a bachelor of science in nursing, and the Graduate Entry Pre-Specialty in Nursing program, which is meant for those with no nursing experience. Students in either program are eligible to submit an application to the Community Scholars program.

Students who apply are selected based on academic achievement, financial need and their demonstrated commitment to working with underserved communities and reducing health disparities.

According to the American Association of Colleges of Nursing, there will be a shortage of registered nurses in the U.S. by 2030. The AACN fact sheet on their website claims that the shortage may be due to the increased need for healthcare as the Baby Boomer generation ages, as well as the increased number of nurses leaving the workforce in the past two years, likely due to stress caused by the pandemic.

According to Azita Emami, dean of the nursing school, the school’s Community Scholars Program aims to help address this shortage by making education more accessible for students from historically underserved communities.



NICK TABIO

The gift to the Yale School of Nursing will go toward funding full-tuition scholarships for students selected for the Community Scholars Program.

“YSN’s mission is better health for all people, and the Community Scholars Program is a signature effort toward making health equity a reality for all the populations we serve,” Emani wrote in a press release. “Our students, our faculty, and our school refuse to accept that the status quo of longstanding and shameful health disparities is inevitable and unchangeable.”

Emani said she expects Community Scholar students to act as “multipliers” once they graduate, helping to advance health equity and healthcare accessibility in their practice.

Carolyn Stewart NUR ’25 is a second-year student in the MSN program specializing in psychiatric and mental health. She praised the historic donation as well as the Community Scholars

program for helping current and future nursing students.

“It’s a beautiful thing to create opportunities for people to enter the nursing and advanced proactive registered nurses [APRN] space, especially given the provider shortage our country is facing,” Stewart wrote in an email to the News. “It is encouraging and inspiring to think about how this gift will impact future YSN students. I am confident that the students receiving these scholarships will embody YSN’s mission of better health for all people, and I am sure they will go on to do great work in their respective specialties.”

In addition, according to the press release, the University will match the donation as part of its For Humanity fundraising campaign, making the total donation \$22.2 million. The campaign,

which was launched in fall 2021, aims to raise \$1.2 billion for scholarships and fellowships across different University programs.

Ekaterina Ginzburg, assistant dean of teaching and learning at the nursing school, spoke in an interview with the News about the overall importance of such a donation to the nursing profession.

“This is a very exciting event for the school,” Ginzburg said. “The nursing profession helps everybody in the most difficult times of their lives. This gift is a tremendous recognition of the importance of the nursing profession and nursing education.”

The Yale School of Nursing was founded in 1923.

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Yale-led study shows that e-cigarette bans boost traditional cigarette sale

BY VALENTINA SIMON
STAFF REPORTER

Seven states have banned flavored e-cigarettes. A recent Yale-led study found that these policies push smokers toward traditional cigarettes, a more lethal habit.

In a study published on Tuesday, Oct. 31, that funded by the Tobacco Center for Regulatory Science through grants from the National Institutes of Health and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, researchers from Yale, the University of Missouri and Georgetown University analyzed retail sales from 2018 to 2023 and found that restricting flavored e-cigarettes increased conventional cigarette sales. As research has shown that traditional cigarettes are more dangerous than electronic cigarettes, current regulations against flavored electronic cigarettes may pose a public health threat, according to the new study. The research also notes that traditional cigarette sales have increased disproportionately for brands most often used by underage youth.

“As smoking’s health harms increase with the intensity of use, evidence that e-cigarette flavor restrictions yield an additional 15 cigarettes purchased for every 1 less 0.7mL e-cigarette pod sold suggests that these policies’ public health costs may outweigh their benefits,” Abigail Friedman, an assistant professor at the Yale School of Public Health, wrote to the News.

Both e-cigarettes and traditional cigarettes contain nicotine, which is an addictive substance, according to the NIH National Institute on Drug Abuse. But only traditional cigarettes have tar, which contains particles that can cause cancer and reduce the lung’s ability to absorb oxygen.

Tar also damages the small hairs, or cilia, that help protect people’s lungs from dirt and infection, according to Alex C.



TIM TAI/SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER

A Yale-led study found that banning flavored electronic cigarettes increases sales of standard, combustible cigarettes, which can cause cancer and are considered more dangerous.

Liber, an assistant professor at Georgetown University’s School of Medicine. He said that the saying “people smoke for the nicotine and die from the tar” is famous in the field.

“The cigarette is the most dangerous consumer product ever created by man,” Liber told the News. “E-cigarettes are not as dangerous, at least based on the evidence we have.”

Liber also expressed concerns about the Food and Drug Administration establishing policies that indirectly encourage smokers to use traditional cigarettes instead of e-cigarettes.

The Hill reported last week that the Biden Administration is looking to propose a ban on menthol and flavored cigarettes, saying that the FDA sent the rule to the White House for review in mid-October.

The FDA has implemented a Premarket Tobacco Approval Process, requiring all tobacco products to be approved by the FDA before they are marketed.

“I personally think e-cigarettes are over-regulated to the point that it is detrimental to public health,” Michael Pesko, professor of economics at the University of Missouri, told the

News. “It’s odd that a lot of places don’t allow menthol e-cigarettes but they do allow menthol cigarettes to be sold. It’s unusual that we would regulate the less harmful product more.”

Friedman, Liber and Pesko said they hope that the FDA will take this new study into consideration when designing future regulation for electronic cigarette products.

James McKinney, an FDA spokesman, told the News “the FDA does not comment on specific studies.”

According to their website, The Tobacco Center Regulatory Science program “helps inform and

assess FDA’s ongoing and potential regulatory activities.”

“This is high quality evidence that e-cigarettes as commercial products with flavors have the positive effect of reducing combustible use that would otherwise be occurring,” Pesko told the News. “[The FDA] hasn’t approved any flavored e-cigarettes yet. That might be a little short sighted.”

In 2022, 173.5 billion cigarettes were sold to retailers in the United States.

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SPORTS

Yale Men’s Basketball preview

M BASKETBALL FROM PAGE 14

sive Player of the Year, will likely anchor the team on the offensive and defensive ends. Sharpshooter guards Mahoney and Poulakidas, who averaged 10.9 and 12 points per game last season, respectively, join Mbeng in the backcourt. The two shot a combined 41.8 percent from three point range last season. All five of Yale’s leading scorers last season averaged more than ten points per game, with Knowing leading the charge at 13.6. “Most situations I’m either gonna get to my spots or I’ll have two almost fifty percent shooters around me, where I can kick it out to them,” Knowing said. “So it’s really a win-win either way.”

Yale is retaining 46.9 points per game among the 58.2 total points produced by its top five scorers last season. This mark ranks highest in the Ivy League. Danny Wolf ’26, a seven-footer with a soft shooting touch and elite passing ability, will likely move into a starting role this season. Last season, Wolf earned Yale’s “Rookie of the Year award.” “Danny was a freshman last year, went to Europe this summer and finished first in the tournament in rebounding and second in scoring,” Jones said. “We’re depending on him a lot.” Other frontcourt options include veterans Yussif Basa-Ama ’24 and Jack Molloy ’25, each of whom have been fea-

tured in the Yale rotation in the past and could earn key minutes. Other, younger options include Nick Townsend ’26 and Samson Aletan ’27. Townsend did not play much last season but has impressed in the offseason, averaging 16.6 points per game during Yale’s three exhibition games on the team’s ten-day trip to Greece this August. Aletan, the only player listed as a center on the roster, is a 6’10, athletic center from Lake Highlands High School in Texas. He arrives as the highest rated recruit in Yale history. He turned down offers from powerhouse programs such as The University of Texas at Austin, Texas Christian University and Texas A&M University to join the Elis. Named Defensive Player of the Year in Texas’s 7-6A division, he could play key minutes as a rim protector and lob threat. Also joining the Bulldogs is transfer student Casey Simmons ’26. Simmons, an ultra-athletic, 6’6 swing forward, was rated as the No. one prospect in Massachusetts coming out of high school, and the No. 92 player in the country by 247Sports and ESPN. He played his first season at Northwestern University in 2021, where he started seven games and averaged 2.5 points and 1.5 rebounds per game. He sat out during the 2022 season and joined Yale in 2023. Simmons’ long arms and quick feet will bolster a Yale defense that ranked top 50 in the nation

according to kenpom.com’s defensive efficiency metric. The Bulldogs will get a chance to display their talent early on this season, as they prepare for a difficult non-conference schedule that includes faceoffs against No. 11 Gonzaga University and preseason nationally ranked No. one Kansas University. Other tough games on Yale’s non-conference schedule include road matchups against Loyola Marymount University, Colgate University, Weber State University, The University of Vermont and Santa Clara State University. Their Ivy League schedule will begin on Jan. 9 against Brown. Princeton, the winners of last year’s Ivy tournament and fresh off of a Cinderella run to the Sweet 16, came in second in the media poll, recording two first-place votes. Following them is Cornell, Brown, Penn, Harvard, Dartmouth and Columbia. “There’s no nights off in this league,” Mahoney, the team captain said. “You’ve gotta approach every game with a must-win mentality and I think that’s what we’re gonna preach this year in the locker room.” Historically, the Bulldogs have exceeded their poll placement in 12 out of the 17 previous seasons. Last year, they were predicted to finish third and went on to finish first in the regular season.

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YALE ATHLETICS

Last year, they were predicted to finish third and went on to finish first in the regular season.

Yale Men’s Hockey season is underway

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ing pucks away hastily,” said Connors. “We hit our stride toward the end of the season last year, and we saw the confidence within our players grow, and our production increased consequently. Focusing on the small details that our coaches foster is going to be pivotal to winning close games this year.” Another Bulldog who will play a very important role this season is sophomore David Chen ’26. Last season, Chen finished his exceptional first year second on the team in points, with eight goals and seven helpers. Chen and senior Ian Carpentier ’24 both earned invitations to National Hockey League Development Camps. Carpentier skated with the Vegas Golden Knights over the summer while Chen suited up with the Winnipeg Jets. The NHL Development Camps serve to help the professional teams develop their young prospects, and the two Bulldogs gained the opportunity to

strengthen relationships with their prospective future teams. After last year’s strong performance, Chen said that he is focused on continuing to develop all areas of his game, both offensively and defensively, and is also hoping to slowly take on more of a leadership role. In net, Allain has confidence in all three goaltenders in the program, Jack Stark ’27, Nathan Reid ’24, and Luke Pearson ’25. Within the defense core, the Elis are bringing back seven returners, as well as two of the seven first-year recruits. Each new first-year in this year’s impressive class will look to contribute as quickly as possible. “Each of the freshmen brings something unique to the table,” Connors said. “Whether it’s grit, scoring touch, or lockdown defense, all of the freshmen are brought into the team’s structure and goals for the season.” This year, the team has been working tirelessly since the beginning of August, and they even trav-

eled to Europe to play professional clubs in both Austria and Slovenia. The early start was a focused effort to build camaraderie and integrate the first-year players, as well as to ensure that the players are more than up to speed for the start of the regular season. “I think our main strengths heading into the regular season will be our overall conditioning and speed of play,” Chen told the News. “The coaches have emphasized a fast pace of play for the entire preseason and we are hoping this will translate to dominating in games. I think our team has an extra confidence this year that will naturally produce high quality plays all over the ice.” The Bulldogs’ 29-game regular season kicked off on the road at Brown on Oct. 27 in Providence, and will be followed by their first home game on Nov. 3.

Contact **TOMMY GANNON** at tommy.gannon@yale.edu.



YALE ATHLETICS

The Bulldogs’ 29-game regular season kicked off on the road at Brown on Oct. 27 in Providence.

Bulldogs heading to Ivy Tournament

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Ivy). It also clinched them a spot in the first ever Ivy League Men’s Soccer Tournament. The tournament will see the top four teams in the Ancient Eight face off in a set of semi-finals determined by regular season seeding, both of which will be played on Friday, Nov. 10. The winner of each semi-final will advance to the championship game on Sunday, Nov. 12 at 1p.m. The champion’s season would then continue, as the tournament’s winner earns an automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament. While the team is proud of their season so far, team members told the News they know the most important games lie ahead. “We are absolutely thrilled to reach the Ivy Tournament, but it is no less than what we expected of ourselves coming into the season,” Rogers said. “The message in the locker room is definitely that the job is nowhere near done.” The regular season’s final game-week will determine the regular season champions — who will also get the advantage of hosting the Ivy Tournament. With a three way tie atop the table, each team’s final regular season game will be cru-

cial. In almost all scenarios, a tie for first place would not favor the Bulldogs based on the tie-breaking rules. Therefore, Yale will look to pick up more points this weekend than Harvard and Penn. With the seeding up in the air, each team will be only focused on the game in hand. This does not mean, however, that all postseason matchups are created equally in the eyes of Yale players. “There are no teams that we want to avoid in the tournament, but there is one that we hope to play — Harvard,” Schaffer said. According to the captain, the team wants a chance to avenge their regular season loss to their biggest rivals. Yale’s final regular season game will be against Brown (5-4-6, 2-0-4 Ivy), the only team in the Ivy yet to lose a conference game. With Brown’s spot in the postseason tournament on the line, the Elis can expect the game to be intense until the very last minute. The Bulldogs final regular season game will be played on Saturday, Nov. 4 at Reese Stadium in New Haven.

Contact **JOAQUIN FERNANDEZ-DUQUE** at joaquin.fernandez-duque@yale.edu.



YALE ATHLETICS

The Bulldogs final regular season game will be played on Saturday, Nov. 4 at Reese Stadium in New Haven.

Bulldogs dominate Crimson and Big Green



YALE ATHLETICS

Yale’s women’s ice hockey team competed in two consecutive home games this past weekend, winning against the Harvard Crimson and Dartmouth Big Green.

W HOCKEY FROM PAGE 14

ranked. The games are a grind night in and night out, so every win we amass is just as substantial as the last. Personally, I hope to live up to the high standards of leadership that I learned from my previous two captains, Claire Dalton [’23] and Greta Skarzynski [’23]. They were such amazing role models, and I want to lead this team to new heights just as they did!” As the team heads into their future games, they are remaining positive and excited. Coming off last year as the ECAC Regular Season Champions, they are ready for this season. The News spoke to the Yale women’s ice hockey team’s head coach, Mark Bolding, about his goals for the remainder of this season. “Highlights for sure this past weekend was seeing our captain,

senior Elle Hartje, surpass last year’s captain Claire Dalton to become the program’s all-time leader in assists,” said Bolding. “This is a massive accomplishment and we are very proud of Elle and know she will have an awesome senior year for us. As a team we are striving for more consistency with our passing and offensive attacks. We know we can play fast but connecting our lines and creating and converting on grade A scoring chances are a priority.” The Bulldogs face the No. 10 Cornell Big Red (6-0-1, 2-0-0 ECAC) and the No. 3 Colgate Raiders (7-1-0, 2-0-0 ECAC) this weekend in Ithaca, New York and Hamilton, New York respectively.

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“People throw stones at you and you convert them into milestones.”
SACHIN TENDULKAR CRICKET PLAYER

Annual Ivy Muslim Conference encourages connection and spirituality

BY NORA MOSES
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

This year’s annual Ivy Muslim Conference, held last weekend, brought together around 200 students to discuss issues ranging from personal religious identity to the Israel-Hamas war.

The Ivy Muslim Conference, an opportunity for Muslim students across the nation to gather and connect, took place Oct. 27 to 28 at the St. Thomas More Center. Organized by the Yale Muslim Students Association and the Chaplain’s Office, the event’s registration was open to Muslim college students from Ivies as well as nearby schools, including Quinnipiac University, the University of Connecticut, Vassar College and Williams College.

Omer Bajwa, the director of Muslim Life in the Chaplain’s Office, and his wife Lisa Kinney-Bajwa came up with the idea for the conference, which first occurred in 2010.

Per its mission statement, the conference serves as an opportunity for having conversations “about the intellectual and spiritual opportunities as well as challenges of being Muslim today” and for building relationships with other Muslim students.

“The conference is foremost a way for students of the different schools to get to know each other and make connections,” said Kinney-Bajwa.

This year the conference included a keynote address from Ustadh Ubaydullah Evans, the first scholar-in-residence at the American Learning Institute for Muslims. Evans converted to Islam in high school, and has studied in America and abroad.

Evans explained that the goal of his speech at the conference was to “empower” students by providing “a framework to make a contribution to the community.”

In his speech, Evans explained how everyone, regardless of their interests, backgrounds, or abilities, has a role to play in shaping the future of the American Muslim community.

“Not everybody will feel compelled to be a religious scholar, but everybody should feel compelled to do something in their capacity, as an expression of their individual talents, that seeks to give victory to Islam in America,” he said.

Another theme in Evan’s address was maintaining balance between the Islamic concepts of *deen* and *dunya* — religious life and secular life.

Evans urged the audience to practice Islam “authentically” and within the “boundaries” of the religion.

“Why not work on creating modalities of being that are authentically Islamic and fit within the world you live?” Evans asked.

In response to a student’s question about how to improve their relationship with God, Evans answered that one’s view of the relationship should be as a “covenant of love” rather than a “transactional” relationship.

Other questions centered around sacrifice and community.

Evans urged the audience to become an integral and respected part of the communities they inhabit. “One way you can ensure a greater rate of success is earning some credibility in the spaces” where you want to create change, Evans explained. Once you “do that work to assert your allegiance to the whole” you are more empowered to create substantial change.

Some students were particularly interested in Evans’ encouragement of religious literacy, engagement with community and general creation of a comfortable atmosphere where he frequently made the audience laugh.

The next event of the conference was the “Coffee House Conversations,” during which students engaged in a series of discussions over coffee. The discussions were guided by student facilitators and pre-written questions.

The Coffee House Conversations event was the brainchild of Abdul-Rehman Malik, an associate research scholar and lecturer in Islamic Studies at the Yale Divinity School. Malik has led coffee houses around the world at international conferences.



COURTESY OF OMER BAJWA

The conference drew attendees from across the Northeast to discuss what it means to be a Muslim student and more.

He explained to the News that his idea for the coffee house as a time for discussion of pertinent topics originated from its historical background.

“For me, the coffee house really represents, and I think in sociological history and human history the coffee house represents, this incredible eruption of human beings engaging with one another in the realm of ideas, in the realm of politics and in the realm of literature,” Malik said. “And coffee, which came from the Muslim world, became the libation that kind of sparked this. The institution of the coffee house became the institution where so much social, and political and economic change happened.”

Per Malik, the questions this year surrounded the war between Israel and Hamas.

Malik said that the event felt especially “real” due to discussion members’ direct connections to the conflict.

“We are in a really difficult moment right now. There are students here who are Palestinian,

whose families have been directly affected by what is happening in Gaza and Israel right now,” Malik said. “We know people, families and communities on the ground.”

The conversations themselves were closed to the press because, Malik explained, of the importance of maintaining the participating students’ sense of privacy and safety.

He explained additionally that these conversations serve to encourage civic participation and community organizing among Muslim students.

“One of the things that the students are discussing is how do we combat Islamophobia and antisemitism and anti-Black racism on Campus,” Malik noted. “I think to make sure that our students have an opportunity to understand these issues not as silos, but as a broader human impulse to freedom is really important.”

Another event was the “Changemakers’ Sessions,” which according to Bajwa, aimed to give students a sense of

different career paths by hearing from Muslims working in a variety of fields.

The speakers this year included Saquib Lakhani, a clinical director of Yale Medicine’s Pediatric Genomics Discovery Program, Mohsin Ansari, who has had a long career in hedge fund management, and Rusha Latif, a researcher and writer who recently authored “Tahrir’s Youth: Leaders of a Leaderless Revolution,” a book about the role of young people in the 2011 Egyptian Revolution.

Lisa Kinney-Bajwa noted that this kind of professional panel was a feature of the conference in its early years, but was later replaced by other events as a result of student feedback. This year, she explained, “we’re going full circle and doing professional panels again.”

The first Ivy Muslim Conference took place in 2010 despite a mid-Atlantic snowstorm.

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AI’s carbon footprint can be managed, computer science professors say

BY HANWEN ZHANG
STAFF REPORTER

ChatGPT has acquired over 180.5 million users and set a record for the fastest-growing consumer application in history, all while stirring fears about job replacement and plagiarized essays since its release last November. Nearing its one-year launch anniversary, though, ChatGPT’s carbon footprint has garnered concern by computer scientists.

With studies projecting large-language models like ChatGPT to potentially consume between 85.4 to 134.0 TWh of electricity — the equivalent of Sweden or Argentina’s annual electricity use — by 2027, the growing energy demands of artificial intelligence could likely make it a sneaky electricity guzzler. Foretelling its future, however, is still complicated. The News reached out to Yale computer science professors, who acknowledged the concerns regarding AI’s high energy consumption but also pointed to ways it could attain greater electrical efficiency.

“The problem of AI ... is a sub-specialization of just the general issue of how much carbon or energy computing requires,” computational biology professor Mark Gerstein told the News.

Gerstein explained that the problem of AI’s energy-use is not entirely new. He added that large-scale data centers and cryptocurrency mining are other notorious consumers of energy, which makes AI’s computational efficiency concerns no different from those of its predecessors.

The heart of AI’s energy problem lies in its “huge” operational demands, according to Amin Karbasi, professor of electrical engineering and computer science. Karbasi explained that large-language models are most energy-intensive in their training phase, during which researchers input massive datasets to refine “hundreds of billions” of parameters.

This training process — which ultimately allows models to predict word placement or develop sentences — can take weeks and requires thousands of graphics processing units. This makes for “staggering” figures of electricity consumption, Karbasi said.

Data center electricity use has accounted for one percent of global electricity use in recent years, according to a recent paper published in Cell. By the paper’s projections, AI could account for anywhere between 0.3 to 0.5 percent of the world’s electricity use four years from now.

By comparison, cryptocurrency mining — another energy-intensive process in which computers perform complex math problems to verify transactions — consumed an estimated 161 TWh of electricity last year, or 0.6 percent of the world’s electricity use.

Stephen Slade, professor of computer science, said that AI’s carbon footprint is not impossible to fix — or at least to reduce. Extrapolating from the current electricity usage of large-language models often does not consider the potential effects of scale or increased algorithmic efficiency, he explained. Advancing AI doesn’t always entail more GPUs.

“It’s one thing for the hardware to become more powerful,” Slade told the News. “But there’s a greater impact made in software if you can get algorithms that are more efficient.”

Increasing algorithmic efficiency has been the focus of Karbasi’s lab. In a collaboration with Google and Carnegie Mellon University, Karbasi added that the “simpler” algorithms developed by his team have helped ease some of the more taxing computational processes used by AI while attaining the same results. By streamlining the AI’s “self-attention unit” — the mechanism that allows large-language models to assess the relative importance and order of words in a sen-

tence — his lab has lowered some computation demands by 50 times their original amount.

Karbasi said that smarter algorithms could eventually compress some AI onto local “edge devices”

such as smartphones, which he predicts that most AI models will likely be consolidated in the future, which would also drive down energy demands. AI models would be maintained by just a handful of large enterprises,

As their data centers increase, companies like Google and Amazon have also made attempts at any hardware and physical improvements they can, said Gerstein. He added that strategically position-



ELLIE PARK/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Yale professors discussed the carbon footprint associated with AI and how growing industry management might better control its use.

such computers and smartwatches, many of whose applications must connect to outside servers. By migrating AI onto individual computer processing units, devices might decrease their reliance on cloud networks and reduce the strain on its servers.

According to Gerstein, training models with “imprecise calculations” or even embedding certain capabilities within devices could help increase AI’s energy efficiency. Gerstein added that most processes, such as facial recognition and email, currently require pushing data onto the cloud which makes the processing more inefficient.

on which users could then fine tune with their own data on these pre-trained models. While Karbasi noted that “fine tuning can be very expensive,” he said it is much more efficient than training individual models from scratch.

In the meantime, Karbasi added that “smaller models can be extremely beneficial” for understanding larger ones at the scale of ChatGPT or Bard. By acting as guinea pigs for potential improvements that accelerate the training process, his lab’s models have helped Google experiment with new methods and fixes to increase efficiency, he said

ing certain chips or placing data centers in cooler locations have helped mitigate some of the energy concerns, especially as computers have increased their complexity and power over the decades.

Earlier this year, Alphabet chairman John Hennessy had mentioned that an exchange with a large-language model cost 10 times more for the company than a standard Google search.

GPT-4, OpenAI’s latest system, can score a 90th percentile in the Uniform Bar Exam.

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“It doesn’t really matter who is the hero every night, as long as you win, you feel amazing.” DAVID PASTRŇÁK CZECH ICE HOCKEY PLAYER

Blumenthal, Elicker, city officials celebrate lead remediation grant



GRYFFIN WILKENS-PLUMLEY / CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

The grant from the federal Dept. of Housing and Urban Development will go toward addressing lead poisoning in New Haven.

BY GRYFFIN WILKENS-PLUMLEY
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

Last Friday, city and state officials held a press conference to announce a new federal grant for lead hazard reduction in New Haven.

In attendance were Mayor Justin Elicker, Senator Richard Blumenthal, various city officials and a representative of the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development, which provided the grant. According to city officials, the grant will provide for up to \$15,000 in funding per qualified homeowner to eliminate dangerous lead from their homes, free training for 136 maintenance workers in lead-safe practices and a public education program to get the message out on lead poisoning prevention.

“Don’t believe the landlord. Don’t believe the landlord. Test,” Senator Blumenthal said. “It is easy and simple to do. Not a lot of time. Better to know than to be sorry.”

Elicker introduced the occasion by thanking the New Haven Health Department team and Senator Blumenthal’s delegation for pushing for the funding in the Senate.

Maritza Bond, director of the Health Department of New Haven, spoke about the accomplishments of her working team who will be handling the distribution and publicizing of the grant as well as the lead-safe training program.

“I am only as strong as my team and I want to take this moment, although I am amongst great legislators and elected officials ... to applaud my team for the wonderful work that they do,” said Bond.

Elicker spoke about how the threat of lead poisoning impacts New Haveners, especially children.

Elicker said that lead has been a challenge for New Haven in particular, due to its large share of housing stock pre-dating the 1978 federal ban on consumer use of lead-based paint. He also said that the city does not face issues with lead contamination in New Haven’s water supply.

According to the state’s Department of Public Health, Connecticut ranked in the top third of all 50 states for reducing lead exposure from service lines, which are pipes connecting private homes to the public system.

Still, according to reporting by Connecticut Public Radio from Feb-

ruary, unmapped lead service lines may pose a risk to residents across the state, particularly in New Haven.

Elicker said that the main risk of lead poisoning in the state is for children playing outside in dirt contaminated by chipped lead paint. He said that these children could then touch their mouths, track lead-contaminated dirt into the house or otherwise come into oral contact with chipped lead paint inside the home.

“If your house was built before 1978, my ask today for homeowners and landlords is to take advantage of the grants that we have available and to be proactive,” Bond said, “because we know that 70 percent of our properties are rental properties and that the likelihood that a child is going to be living in them is significant.”

The funds made available to the city by the HUD are expected to be able to pay for the lead remediation of about 200 units over the next three and a half years.

Only homeowners are able to apply for the grant.

Bond provided more information on the scale of the lead problem — she estimated that close to 55,000 homes in New Haven, a significant majority

of homes in the city, were built before the 1978 anti-lead paint legislation.

Blumenthal, while he said he was grateful for the grant, expressed concern over a perceived discrepancy between the scale of the problem and funds available to address it.

“We have talked about lead for years and years. And now we’re beginning to do something, but we need more than \$7.7 million, a lot more,” Blumenthal said.

Bond also spoke about how certain neighborhoods, including Edgewood, the Hill, Fair Haven and Newhallville, in the city are more at risk for chipping lead paint.

Blumenthal also spoke how lead exposure disproportionately impacts Black and Brown communities across the country.

“That is devastatingly unfair to kids in New Haven, in Waterbury, all across the state of Connecticut — half of all the kids who have lead poisoning live in the big cities, many are poor, many are Black and Brown,” Blumenthal said. “This issue is one of environmental justice, and frankly, racial justice.”

The city will be following a proactive approach, according to Bond, who announced that her department began proactive testing of children’s blood levels last week, and that they would be prioritizing high-risk neighborhoods first.



GRYFFIN WILKENS-PLUMLEY / CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

City demands removal of tiny homes for the unhoused

BY NATASHA KHAZZAM
STAFF REPORTER

The Rosette Village Neighborhood Collective finished constructing six tiny homes to serve unhoused people in New Haven on Saturday, Oct. 21.

Six days later, the Collective received a cease-and-desist letter from the New Haven City Plan Department asking the group to remove the homes, saying that they violated city zoning codes.

Mark Coleville, who founded the Rosette Village Neighborhood Collective and coordinated the tiny house project, maintained that unhoused people in New Haven require “immediate relief” before the temperatures begin to drop, which a lengthy official process may not allow for.

“This is an emergency,” Coleville said. “People need immediate hospitality... They don’t need forms filled out.”

The tiny homes, which members of the Collective built in Colveville’s backyard at 203 Rosette St., violate the city’s structural zoning codes by increasing housing-unit density beyond zoning code limits. In addition to asking for the removal of the six tiny homes and cessation of any further construction, the cease-and-desist letter also outlines a process through which the Collective could apply for an exception to these zoning codes and build the tiny homes with the city’s approval.

According to city zoning regulations, the Hill neighborhood is a “RM-2 High Density Zone,” in which the use of land and buildings within these areas is limited, in general, to dwellings at a density of about 22 dwelling units per acre. According to New Haven Mayor Justin Elicker, the city advised the Rosette Village Neighborhood Collective that the construction of tiny homes violated these regulations.

“[The Collective’s] intentions are laudable,” Elicker told the News. “But they are doing this outside of the legal framework

that community members have spent decades creating.”

He also said the city informed the Collective that they could submit a zoning variance application to the New Haven Board of Zoning Appeals, which, if approved, would allow for an exception to the zoning code.

Elicker acknowledged that there is no guarantee such a proposal will be approved.

“We have the same expectation for [the Rosette Village Neighborhood Collective] that we have for every other property owner in the city that follows the law,” said Elicker.

The Rosette Village Neighborhood Collective did not apply for a zoning variance application.

In an interview with the News, Mark Coleville pointed to a recent statement by Connecticut Governor Ned Lamont declaring homelessness to be a public health crisis.

“With the state of emergency and coming into the winter, we’re just concerned that delaying puts people’s lives at risk from hypothermia,” said Shannon Carter SPH ’22, who is working with Coleville to address the Collective’s efforts to build tiny homes.

Coleville also expressed frustration with the city’s response to the tiny homes project, especially in light of Lamont’s declaration.

“When there is a state of emergency, the mayor has the authorization to bypass zoning laws and to get permits for exactly what we’re doing,” Coleville said.

Elicker told the News he believes the city needs to continue to increase support for people experiencing homelessness. He outlined city efforts to address the housing crisis including the city’s recent purchase of a hotel that will be converted into a shelter.

Elicker also said he believes that individuals must adhere to zoning laws out of respect for the city community.



MAGGIE GREETHER / CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

On Friday afternoon, the city sent out a cease-and-desist letter asking The Rosette Village Neighborhood Collective to take down six tiny homes they built this month.

“There are laws in place that have gone through extensive community input,” Elicker said. “For one entity then to decide to disregard previous community input and just do what they want to on their property is not fair to the overall community.”

Elicker mentioned the Board of Alders’ 2021 decision to unanimously approve a zoning ordinance amendment that would allow owner-occupants to install accessory dwelling units in their homes. Accessory dwelling units include structures like garages or sheds that are converted into housing units. However, the first phase of this amendment only allows for the creation of ADUs if they are modifications of a pre-existing structure — which does not encompass the tiny homes that were newly built.

According to Elicker, an original version of the bill received

pushback from the community after prompting concerns about increased density. The city’s solution involved phasing in the changes. He added that the second phase of the change, which has not yet been proposed before the Board of Alders, will allow for any homeowner to construct an additional unit to serve as an ADU.

Coleville claimed that members of the Hill neighborhood consented to the Collective’s plans to construct the tiny homes.

“This is a neighborhood response,” he said. “The Hill is an example of what a neighborhood should be, because we take care of our own, and we take care of everybody else who shows up.”

Before the tiny homes project, Coleville set up a private encampment in the backyard of his home in order to avoid government intervention with his activist efforts.

This initiative, he said, was a response to the city’s decision to

bulldoze the tent city at West River last spring.

“Since they’re kicking everybody off encampments on public land, we put one on our private land so they can’t do that very easily,” Coleville said.

According to the New Haven Independent, Elicker said that the city would pursue litigation against Coleville if the Rosette Village Neighborhood Collective does not comply with the city’s requests.

Coleville told the News that he welcomes city litigation because “the law is on [his] side.” He added that the Rosette Village Neighborhood Collective might eventually engage the city in litigation if the city does not take legal action first.

The New Haven City Plan Department is located at 165 Church St.

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THROUGH THE LENS



These images intend to capture the underlying eeriness of Halloween. This feeling is one that people fabricate through scary costumes and decorations; however, it also exists naturally and can be seen in our surroundings, during moments of pause and in our celebrations. The distortion of some of these images plays with the idea of memory and how it is often incomplete, especially when it comes to understanding the eeriness of those around us. WORDS AND PHOTOS BY WILLA FERRER



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“For the most part, we got everybody back. It puts us ahead of schedule, having that many returners, that many guys who have started and scored points and have been successful for you,” JAMES JONES, LAST YEAR’S IVY LEAGUE COACH OF THE YEAR

MBASKETBALL: Yale picked first in preseason poll

BY BEN RAAB
STAFF REPORTER

Just over six months ago, the Yale men’s basketball season came to an end in the Ivy League finals — one stop short of March Madness.

Heading into the 2023-2024 season, Yale — selected first in the Ivy League’s preseason media poll — is loaded.

“For the most part, we got everybody back,” head coach James Jones, last year’s Ivy League Coach of the Year said at Ivy League media day in mid-October. “It puts us ahead of schedule, having that many returners, that many guys who have started and scored points and have been successful for you.”

The Bulldogs earned 14 of 16 first place votes in the poll, which asks media members to rank each team in the Ivy League from 1-8.

The team enters this season returning four of their five starting players from last year’s team: forward Matt Knowling ’24 and guards August Mahoney ’24, John Poulakidas ’25 and Bez Mbeng ’25.

The departure of forwards EJ Jarvis ’23 and Isaiah Kelly ’23 leaves a void in Yale’s frontcourt that will have to be filled. In particular, the Elis will miss the offensive and defensive production that Jarvis provided. He scored 11.3 points per game and led the team in rebounds and blocks.

But with the core of last regular season’s first place team still intact, and a promising cast of young talent, Yale has more than enough depth to make up for those losses.

Knowling, named to the All-Ivy League first team last season, and Mbeng, named Defen-

SEE **M BASKETBALL** PAGE 10



YALE ATHLETICS

After returning four of their five top scorers from last season, the Bulldogs seem poised to make another strong push for the Ivy title.

M HOCKEY: Allain, Connors and Chen preview upcoming season



YALE ATHLETICS

Head coach Keith Allain, captain Reilly Connors and sophomore star David Chen spoke with the News before beginning the 2023-2024 season.

BY TOMMY GANNON
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

The Yale men’s ice hockey team is looking to carry over a strong finish last year into the beginning of their 2023-2024 season. With the season kicking off, the Elis’ senior class is poised to lead the way.

“I am really excited to see the impact that our senior class will have on our team this season,” head coach Keith Allain told the News. “They have battled through a lot in their Yale career, and they feel a real sense of responsibility to our program and this team in particular. They are all different players; they are all leaders and they will all make a major contribution to the success of our team.”

Senior forward and captain Reilly Connors ’24 will be leading the charge, and his exceptional work ethic and drive for improvement have been clear over the course of his Yale career. Connors told the News that Yale Hockey’s competitive and relentless spirit could help set it apart from its ECAC opponents this year. Not only, he said, does that mentality create a team that is tough to play against, but it can also help spur offensive production.

Maintaining trust and positivity throughout the long season is also crucial.

“We are emphasizing the importance of confidence and making high IQ plays rather than throw-

SEE **M HOCKEY** PAGE 10

MSOC: Elis to in inaugural Ivy League Tournament



YALE ATHLETICS

The Yale men’s soccer team beat Cornell 2-0, earning them a ticket to the Ivy League’s first postseason tournament.

BY JOAQUÍN FERNANDEZ-DUQUE
STAFF REPORTER

The Yale men’s soccer team (8-5-2, 3-1-2 Ivy) traveled to Ithaca to face off against Cornell (8-4-2, 2-2-2 Ivy) this Saturday. With the teams tied atop in the Ivy standings, it was set up to be a hard-fought and decisive game.

The Bulldogs got off to a hot start, with Max Rogers ’25 and Eric Lagos ’24 firing off a couple of shots in the opening minutes. In the 28th minute, a pass from Quanah Brayboy ’25 allowed Rogers to go on a run past the Cornell defense. Rogers slotted the ball into the net, giving Yale the 1-0 lead. A strong defensive performance prevented Cornell from registering any shots on goal in the first half, and Yale went into halftime with a one goal lead.

Speaking with the News, defender and captain Jake Schaffer ’24 highlighted three

of his teammates for their unseen work this year: Sam Harshe ’25, Diego Zaffanella ’26 and Jonathan Seidman ’25.

“You won’t see any of them on the scorecard, but all three do a ton of dirty work — tackles, running, etc. — that helped us keep a clean sheet,” Schaffer said.

In the second half, both teams had a few chances to score, but neither scored additional goals until late in the game. With only six minutes left, Brayboy tallied his second assist of the game as Lagos brought the score to 2-0 and sealed the win for Yale.

Lagos and Rogers have a combined six goals and four assists over the team’s six conference games. Rogers attributed their success to the team’s understanding of their individual strengths, saying that they have been put in positions where they can shine.

Rogers told the News he operates best in the half spaces

and pockets between the opposition’s lines, where he can receive the ball on a half turn and have the option to pass, cross or shoot. As for Lagos, the forward thrives on balls played into channels and behind the defense, where he uses his exceptional pace and power to finish chances.

Lagos told the News that his chemistry with Rogers is very good, and he hopes their connection and form carry on into the Ivy Tournament.

“Max [Rogers] has been excellent at getting me chances in front of goal,” Lagos said. “I just have to keep focusing on putting them away. I definitely owe him a couple more assists this season.”

The win kept the Bulldogs first in the Ivy standings, tied with Penn (6-3-5, 3-1-2 Ivy) and Harvard (5-4-6, 3-1-2

SEE **M SOCCER** PAGE 10

W HOCKEY: Bulldogs dominate Crimson and Big Green

BY KATE ESTEVEZ
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

This weekend, the No. 7 Yale women’s ice hockey team (3-1-0, 3-1-0 ECAC) faced the Harvard Crimson (0-5-0, 0-5-0 ECAC) and the Dartmouth Big Green (2-3-1, 1-3-1 ECAC) in their home territory.

The Bulldogs secured the win against both teams, dominating the Crimson 2-1 and the Big Green 8-0.

The Bulldogs faced the Crimson on Friday, Oct. 27 in their fourth game of the season. Although Crimson Gwyn Lapp scored a goal on the Elis, Sylvia Bojarski ’26 and

Emma DeCorby ’25 helped the Bulldogs bark back and effectively clinch the win against their rivals, ending the game by a score of 2-1.

“The win against Harvard was especially exciting since we got to beat our rival,” forward Suzy Higuichi ’27 said. “I think getting a shut-out win against Dartmouth was definitely big since it reflected how much we dominated them. For our future games I think we’re just trying to keep the momentum going and looking for the same success we had this weekend with other teams.”

The next day, the Dartmouth women’s ice hockey team visited the Bulldogs in the Whale and, after 60 minutes, the Big Green left dom-

inated by the Elis in an eight-to-nothing defeat.

After these two games, the team is riding on a high as they are undefeated in the Ivy League. This season, outside of winning the Harvard game and the Dartmouth game, the Yalies also defeated the No. 15 Princeton Tigers (3-3-0, 1-3-0 ECAC), pushing them to the top ranking in the ECAC standings.

“My biggest takeaway from last season is to not take any victories for granted,” said captain Elle Hartje ’24. “Winning is hard, especially in the ECAC where every team is competitive and highly

SEE **W HOCKEY** PAGE 10

STAT OF THE WEEK

90

CAREER ASSISTS FOR ELLE HARTJE ’24 OF THE WOMEN’S HOCKEY TEAM, SETTING A NEW YALE RECORD.

WEEKEND



Just An Old Sweet Song

// BY ALEXANDER MEDEL

WEEKEND

LABYRINTH

Cont. from page B1

Pleasant, persistent and pleasurable. These are the characteristics of any earworm: a song, tune or melody that reverberates constantly in one’s mind. An earworm can have a catchy beat, a rhythm in step with one’s daily routine or a sentimental allure. Regardless, an earworm serves as the broken record of the soundtrack of your day. And for me, this tune — my earworm — is “Georgia on My Mind.”

A jazz standard written by Hoagy Carmichael and Stuart Gorrell in 1930, the song has encountered nothing but universal fame and recognition in the nine decades it has spent gracing the ears of countless generations. As a part of the musical canon, it has been recorded by many luminaries of the music industry from Ray Charles, Ella Fitzgerald and Willie Nelson.

Those who know me well understand my deep appreciation and love for the Great American Songbook, yet out of the multitude of songs in that collection, “Georgia on My Mind” has always had a special place in my heart since it reminds me of my home. There is a catch, however; I am not from Georgia. I haven’t even been to the state. I was born and raised in the San Francisco Bay Area. So, this obviously begs the question: why would a song about Georgia remind a Californian of home?

Upon an initial listen, “Georgia on My Mind” is an ode to Georgia and how her song “comes as sweet and clear as moonlight through the pines.” There is no mention of the shores of the Pacific, sun-kissed vineyards or towering redwoods that would remind me of California. My appreciation for this song, however, is rooted in the way it conveys one’s love for home. In my mind, “Georgia on My Mind” transforms from a song about the Peach State to a declaration of love for home: a universal sentiment

that transcends geographical bounds. The song is not popular simply for the sake of it being a standard. The very nature of the song’s timelessness endures in the way that it encapsulates beautifully in its sentimental melody and poetical lyrics, the enduring human appreciation for home.

As a first year, it is my first time studying and staying at a place far from home. Needless to say, California has been on my mind as I transition to life in New Haven. And unlike some of my peers who can take a short train ride home, I am three time zones away from mine. The distance is tangible, yet made negligible by a song as powerful and evocative as “Georgia on My Mind.”

Indeed, the song has followed me from California to Connecticut. It was a constant fixture on beach trips the summer before moving to Yale, but I have found, to my great surprise, that it is a favorite tune on campus. At a Camp Yale talent show I heard “Georgia.” At my residential college’s first-year welcome dinner, I heard “Georgia.” At an a-cappella rehearsal, I heard “Georgia.” It is not only an earworm that serenades the movement of my mind’s thoughts, but one whose melody caresses the ears of our very own community.

“Georgia on My Mind” is a perfect example of the way music bridges distance and brings home ever nearer to the heart of a wayward and wandering traveler on any of the roads of life. I cannot personally relate to the love one singer has for Georgia, but I can empathize with the singer’s love for home in the same way it encourages me to reminisce of mine. In the end, “Georgia on My Mind” is “just an old sweet song” that is special to both those who call Georgia home, and indeed to those who truly love their own.

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SEX ON THE WKND:

DAMN DATING APPS

SEX

ON THE

WKND

Pining after your FroCo? Dying to get on the orgy panlist? Sick of seeing khakis on men? You're in luck! Welcome to Sex on the WKND, YDN's anonymous column dedicated to answering your burning questions about sex, love and anything in between. Obsessing over sex is a Yale tradition as old as the Oldest College Daily itself. This year, we have a love-savvy columnist who has done it all — including everyone on the aforementioned orgy panlist — and is ready to share. Whether you have a seminar with a hookup-gone-wrong or accidentally sent a raunchy text to your chemistry study group, Sex on the WKND is ready to help. Don't be shy. Submit your anonymous questions, stories, and tips here.

Dear SOTW,
I need a breakup message that sounds more genuine than the one Chat GPT is coming up with. Please help me ditch Tinder for good!!
- VirginMary

I got you. Let's keep it short and blunt. Tinder doesn't deserve anything more than that. What if it goes something like this:

Dear Tinder,

You give me more dopamine than a hit of a vape. Maybe even more than an actual orgasm. I'm so addicted that I have to set a time limit to make sure I don't go insane over you.

Above everything, you fulfill my thirst for excitement in my monotonous college life. Sure, when we first started hooking up I was kinda doing it for the plot. But like all shitty Noah Centineo romcoms, the plot sucks so bad. And the men are lowkey toxic. Yet, I can't help myself. I continue watching with my eyes half closed and my heart fully delusional.

I guess I just want to say: fuck you for making me doubt my hotness. Because even the guy that swiped on me first ghosted my cute message. Oh and constantly coming up with a risk-free yet flirty message is like reading a "choose your own adventure" book in middle school, where all but one end is utterly deadly.

The fact that I still haven't ended things is so wild. Especially since I'm more likely to find a better connection with a sticky frat boy than through you.

The reality is that people, conversations, and feelings evoked on dating apps are just pretend. First, I definitely know that I would fall in love with half of the dudes I ghosted had we met in person. Second, the object of my obsession with you is not due to my crush on some random guy who thinks parkour is a workout. Rather, the object of my affection is emotion itself. Obsession is so sexy. And, through you, I find an outlet for my obsession with control over whatever else is missing in my life. Maybe the comments on a paper with only "A-" scribbled on it. Or fulfillment in my future corporate job.

So farewell!! I'll remember you in my wildest dreams (or you know, worst nightmares).

Much love,
VirginMary

In Defense of

DIRECTED

STUDIES



// BY LANDON BISHOP

It is August, and I am arriving at a lecture hall far below the stairs of the Humanities Quadrangle.

Plato and Gilgamesh shroud my mind, and the Hebrew Bible is somewhere in the back knocking on the front door; hours in attempt of pouring over their meaning weigh heavily over me. The lecture hall's interior is a lowly-lit labyrinth of nervous, but enthusiastic students, full of an inviting presence that I did not previously associate with Directed Studies.

I take a handout outlining today's lecture, Professor Michael Della Rocca, speaking on the first three of Plato's Five dialogues and take a seat near the front. I, and the other students in my Directed Studies cohort, spend the next hour in notetaking and conversation. When it is all over I realize that it was actually... interesting. I survived my first week as a Yale and Directed Studies student. I feel at my limbs and check that all vital organs are still in the same shape as I found them. Hah, look at that. I'm none the worse for wear.

When I tell most people that I'm in Directed Studies, their initial reactions are usually flabbergast, genuine interest, or utter disdain.

When I first heard of the program, I was intrigued by its main two components — reading books and talking about them. I was already a steadfast consumer of 1,000 page, 14-book long fantasy series', far-too-long-and-convoluted-for-their-own-good and I figured, “Well, reading old literature from a time where people still believed in dragons and giants and the Fates can't be far off.”

And like most things worth doing, going into Directed Studies, I sought advice from a variety of reputable sources (ie. Reddit, I know, I'm not proud of it either) and discovered Yale students held a whirlwind of opinions, very few of which could be considered “favorable.” After weeks of being divided, I sent in my application essay, a piece about how Susanna Clarke inverts the narrative of English superiority in Jonathan Strange & Mr. Norrell, and the rest is history.

Now, I'm in the final stretch of my first Directed Studies semester. Fall is holding open the door and winter is trudging in, and with it follows final exams and the culmination of a millennium of Western writings.

The canon is becoming increasingly complex as cultures and languages mingle, empires fall and are born, authors take more and more from their predecessors. With each essay, I find myself becoming slightly better at writing from the perspective of exiled Greek historians, or

writers of epics whose names have been lost to time or philosophers who carry different ideologies but still find themselves building off of each other.

All and all, I have to say that my time in Directed Studies has been nothing short of magical. It is everything that pleases me best: an introduction to the great works of antiquity that never prove boring.

Personally, I think Directed Studies gets an unnecessarily bad reputation. The syllabus of readings seems daunting on paper, but they're spaced out and paced in a way where each week is spent striving to deeply understand the books, rather than just get through them.

My three professors — Benjamin Barasch, Timothy Kreiner and Brad Inwood — are all experts in their fields, masters of taking their discussion sections from simple conversations to tours of the past.

Weekly lectures are the icing on the cake. The entire Directed Studies cohort gets to see the already vibrant community of Humanities professors speak on that week's reading. Mixing this with a deep exploration of their fields of study, they often present new angles in which to interpret the texts.

From Professor Pauline LeVen's fascinating lecture on the subversive nature of Sappho's poetry in contrast to the epics of Homer to Professor Bryan Garsten's speech on the moral underpinnings of the Near Eastern literary tradition to our first colloquium on the foundational scientific innovations of Ancient Greece, it has been an amazing experience to see so many individuals who have immense passion for their craft and fields.

But nothing has prepared me for the friendship and support of my peers and professors. There's an inspiring element of being in a room with so many people who love the humanities. Whose passion for dusty, old texts matches my own. Professors who work tirelessly to prepare lessons and discussions, and who even now are learning with us — still getting excited over stories and treatises they've read hundreds of times.

It's only my first semester at Yale and I'm still trying to find exactly where I fit in. But through Directed Studies, the tall, Gothic walls and cold evenings have become a little more familiar. Now that I've braved the harsh seas of the Mediterranean and spent my nights strolling the long streets of Rome, I'm confident to say Yale is finally starting to feel like home.

Contact **LANDON BISHOP** at landon.bishop@yale.edu.

WKND Recommends

Doing a 1000-piece puzzle.

Boombox couture's

wireless express mini boombox

with LED speakers

// BY ANNA CALKINS

This past summer, I spent a lot of time thinking about what I might need to bring for my first year of college. I watched YouTube videos, read articles and made multiple packing lists. I couldn't really fathom how I was ever going to be able to pack everything I needed to bring into the trunk of the car. Ultimately, I did alright, but of course wound up forgetting some important items, including my Crocs.

In addition to sheets, toothpaste and enough socks, I knew it was important to also think about what I'd be bringing to share with my suitemates. We coordinated a fridge, a microwave and gloves for cleaning the bathroom. We neglected to discuss vacuums and now have three.

One object we talked about only in passing was a speaker. Two of my suitemates mentioned they were bringing speakers, but it wasn't totally obvious if these were for their personal use or for the suite as a whole. We didn't speak much of it, but the question of a speaker lived in the back of my mind.

It was sitting there, in a far corner of my brain, when one day I walked into a Salvation Army back home in Chicago. I wandered the aisles with some friends and, by some miracle, struck gold. Sitting on the shelf was a classic, a legend, an icon of our times: "Boombox Couture's Wireless Express Mini Boombox with LED Speakers

– Retro Bluetooth Speaker w/ Enhanced FM Radio – Perfect for Home and Outdoor (Retro)." With its flashy colors and e y e - like

s p e a k - ers, the boombox immediately drew me in. I was curious about its functionality, given its location on a shelf otherwise occupied by dusty wine glasses and a few rustic picture frames. I powered it on and was greeted by a charming voice declaring that, "the bluetooth device is ready to pair." I

connected my phone, lowered the volume on the boombox and chose "Bikini Bottom" by Ice Spice to test the sound. I was impressed. The speakers lit up, flashing green, blue and red with every downbeat, and the sound quality was great. I decided that this mysterious boombox must come with me to college. I had visions of myself

in a "Say Anything" scene, the retro boombox held bravely above my head outside Durfee Hall as I asked my crush to be my date to Mormal to the tune of "Munch".

A few weeks after move-in, our common room was pretty bleak. Our only decorations were the promotion flyers various clubs

had slipped under our door. I decided it was time to introduce the boombox to the suite, so I brought it out and set it front and center on the mantle above our obsolete fireplace.

For a while, the boombox was the only pop of color in the suite. We've since added LEDs and improved our wall decoration situation, but the boombox remains in its place of honor. It's flashy, fabulous and FM tuned – we can listen to the radio, but we more frequently opt to use the bluetooth feature. Everyone uses the boombox fairly regularly.

Finding the boombox was lucky. My suitemates have their own speakers that they can use whenever they want in their rooms, and the boombox is perfect for when we're hanging out in the common room. The only problem, though, is that I have yet to have my "Say Anything" moment. If anyone is looking for a date to Mormal and interested in a grand gesture, please do contact me.

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That

5 a.m.

glow



// JESSAI FLORES

// BY KARLA CORTES

In high school, my AP Psychology teacher taught me I needed a solid eight hours of sleep a night, barring disaster. What Ms. Sand didn't realize was that her very class was itself a factor in my sleep deprivation. With homework and other tasks ending at 2 a.m. and having to get up at 6 a.m. for school, I've maintained an extreme sleep schedule since sophomore year of high school. I go to school on four hours of sleep per night.

In that class, I learned sleep deprivation is linked to low immunity and mood changes. However, I'd like to think I haven't fallen victim to these unfortunate side effects, aside from the inevitable mid-day sleepiness. My high school sleep schedule primed me for Yale; I evolved during those formidable years. Now, going to sleep at 5 a.m. is normal, as is proceeding to say hi to the surprised Silliman dining hall employees who spot me, bleary-eyed, on their way into work.

With all this said, I couldn't embark on my nightly journeys without my trustworthy companion: Celsius energy drinks. For whatever reputation energy drinks have, I always include them in my daily gratitude journal. Caffeine is God and I worship the Peach Mango Green Tea Celsius.

I've tried to convert to coffee but didn't have enough faith in it. I already was skeptical of the difference in milligrams of caffeine. An average cup of coffee has 100 milligrams of caffeine, while a 12-ounce can of Celcius has 200. Coffee gives me the breath of a 40 year-old librarian and I can never find the perfect combination of cream and sugar. Coupled with the pretentiousness of coffee connoisseurs who would judge me for ordering a Starbucks Caramel Macchiato, espresso shots and lattes don't give me the burst of satisfaction that Celsius does.

My schedule may seem insane and a bit excessive to some. Others may argue that procrastination gets the best of me. But I see the situation differently. I could work between my classes, or get up earlier in

the morning to do readings, but the eerie light coming through the Humanities Quadrangle windows or the claustrophobic Bass Library study cubicles create the best environments for me. In these rooms, I carve out space for myself, away from noisy notifications, the stress of finding a seat in libraries and the distraction of people-watching. However, I also stress myself out, with good reason. Working through assignments due the next day, these high-intensity, pressure-driven study spaces make me determined to finish my work before 5 a.m. (and I always do!). Most nights, I finish right at 2 a.m., motivated by the fact that I'll soon be asked to leave Bass.

I will say that my goal wasn't always to finish my problem sets before the sun rises. My junior summer of high school, I was captivated by the promises of a Pinterest aesthetic morning routine. I went to sleep at 10 p.m. and woke up at 7 a.m. This lasted a total of two weeks before I decided to regress into my comforting night-owl habits. During that short spurt of early mornings, I dreaded waking up even though I knew I slept more than the recommended eight hours. In fact, I was much more sleepy than if I had followed my usual routine. It seemed like my usual sleep cycle had made me incompatible with an early start to my day.

Yale didn't exactly change my sleep patterns. Instead, it validated them. As I bond with students I recognize coming out of Bass or random HQ classrooms, I take comfort in knowing there's someone out there who is more sleep deprived than me (a shout out to a particular Electrical Engineering major: you know who you are). And though it may seem like I have no rules when it comes to sleep, know that I do. I consider it a triumph that the creeping need to pull an all-nighter hasn't caught up to me yet. Until it does, I'll continue to hold myself to my four hours, even if they begin at 5 a.m.

Contact KAYLA CORTES kayla.cortes@yale.edu.

WKND Recommends

Order slurpees from Seven Eleven.



Jonathan Edwards College Head of College Tea



Rashaad Newsome

Black Queer Immaterial Expressivity: Reimagining the Archive

November 9
JE Head of College House
4:00 pm Tea
4:30pm Conversation

Rashaad Newsome's work blends several practices, including collage, sculpture, film & video, animation, photography, music, writing, computer programming, software engineering, community organizing, and performance, to create a divergent field that mirrors the intersectionality of their lived experience. Using the diasporic traditions of improvisation, they pull from the world of advertising, the internet, Art History, Black and Queer culture to produce counter-hegemonic work that walks the tightrope between social practice and abstraction. Collage acts as a conceptual and technical method to construct a new visual, performance, and literary language that highlight the immaterial and material expressivity related to Black American Life. Rashaad holds a 2023 honorary Doctorate Degree in Fine Arts from the University of Connecticut and a 2001 BFA in Art History from Tulane University. Newsome's work is in numerous public and private collections. They have exhibited and performed in galleries, museums, institutions, and festivals throughout the world.