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## Inflation squeezes grad student stipends

### As costs soar, concerns rise

BY MEGAN VAZ STAFF REPORTER

As inflation rates have soared to record levels, some graduate students have raised concerns over how far their annual stipends can stretch.

For decades, Local 33 — a Yale gradu-

ate worker union that is fighting for Univer-

sity recognition — has drawn public attention toward stipends, alleging they are not high enough to meet the state's cost-of-living level. With inflation levels on the rise since April 2021, this year's consumer prices are the highest the country has faced since the 1980s. Although Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Dean Lynn Cooley announced a stipend raise for this semester in response to steep inflation, some workers are calling for more.

"I love the research that I do and the community I've found here, but the cost of living

in New Haven is rising faster than our pay is," Madison Rackear GRD '25 wrote to the News last week. "Dean Cooley announced last fall that the graduate school would be increasing our pay in response to historically high inflation, yet we waited for almost a year to see any change in our paychecks."

Graduate students often balance their studies with a variety of jobs and positions that meet their program requirements, including as researchers, lab workers, teaching fellows and instructors. Rackear told the News in April that

she balanced working at the medical school with a nine-to-five lab position.

Living in Connecticut can be costly, and graduate students must live in the New Haven area for at least three academic years, in accordance with GSAS policy. One 2021 estimate placed the state's cost of living as 27.7 percent above the national average, while another 2022 estimate placed it as 22 percent higher. In turn, the state's median

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## Carbon Charge funds climate change programs



Revenue from the Carbon Charge program will be used as funding for emissions reduction initiatives on campus starting this year / Tim Tai, Staff Photographer

BY ISABEL MANEY STAFF REPORTER

Yale will now use the money it makes from its internal carbon charge program to fund decarbonization initiatives across campus buildings.

Yale pioneered its Carbon Charge program in 2017. The University tracks the amount of energy used in Yale buildings, converts these energy units into their carbon dioxide equivalent and multiplies that number by the price of carbon. Building units are then charged that value, and must pay it to a central pool in the University.

In past years, the University has then redistributed that pool back to the buildings, with the buildings who have decreased their energy usage receiving the largest refunds. In the new carbon charge model, the money is instead put into a central fund to invest in major projects to reduce carbon emissions across campus.

"One of the key points about the carbon charge is it's this cool example of applied research where we implemented an academic idea and have worked to make that experiment transparent," said Casey Pickett, director of the Yale Carbon Charge program.

Due to the difficulties of tracking energy use, only 273 of the University's 500 buildings participate in the Carbon Charge program. Those 273 buildings make up 75 percent of the University's building emissions, Pickett said.

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### COVID-19

## U. alters isolation policy

BY SIONA JAIN AND SARAH COOK CONTRIBUTING REPORTER AND STAFF REPORTER

Yale is no longer sending students living in doubles to isolation housing when they test positive for COVID-19 after isolation housing has steadily filled up

Yale College Health and Safety Leader Julie Sweigard wrote in an email to undergraduates last week that students who live in doubles and test positive for COVID-19 are now supposed to isolate in their rooms. Their roommates have the option to remain in their current room or relocate to temporary housing if they test negative. If the roommate tests positive, they will isolate in their current room as well.

"I think it's a pretty big inconvenience to the roommate, who doesn't even have COVID," Alexandra Martinez-Garcia '26, who recently tested positive for COVID-19, wrote to the News. "I think Yale should've stuck with their policy of moving students with COVID to temporary housing, because that lowers the risk of exposure for suitemates, for other people in

SEE ISOLATION PAGE 5

## City recognizes tenants' unions



Years in the making and championed by activists, Mayor Justin Elicker signed an ordinance that formally recognizes tenants' right to unionize and organize around grievances on Tuesday / Yash Roy, Contributing Photographer

## Move aims to address affordable housing crisis

BY MEGAN VAZ STAFF REPORTER

Mayor Justin Elicker stood alongside a mix of city officials, alders and tenants' rights activists on Tuesday, signing an ordinance recognizing tenants' right to unionize and supporting their power to collectively bargain with the support of city government.

The ordinance will take effect in the midst of an affordable housing crisis and tenants contending with "bad-acting mega-landlords," as written in a city press release. Currently, waitlists for Section 8 vouchers and public housing number tens of thousands, and tenants in affordable housing and apartment complexes have raised the alarm over poor living conditions. Elicker, who has long advocated for

since passed the chamber unanimously.

The brief text clearly defines and approves a tenants' union, lists the responsibilities of the existing Fair Rent Commission — the body in charge of determining if landlords are charging excessive rents, gives tenants a role in

the ordinance, initially submitted it to the

Board of Alders for review in June, and it has

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## Safety leadership reworked

BY SARAH COOK STAFF REPORTER

Over the summer, University President Peter Salovey announced the appointment of former Yale Police Chief Ronnell Higgins as associate vice president for public safety and community engagement and Anthony Campbell '95 DIV '09 as his replacement as Yale police chief.

In the June 21 message to the Yale community, Salovey and Senior Vice President of Operations Jack Callahan wrote that, in this new role, Higgins will collaborate with University leaders in security and mental health "with special consideration for circumstances that do not require the intervention of Yale police officers." They said that this restructuring of public safety is part of Yale's work to reform campus safety and policing amid continued concerns over police brutality across the nation.

"The leader of public safety should not be the chief of police," Callahan told the News, "That's a little bit of an old historical artifact."

Higgins said he plans to work with student life and mental health leaders across the University to "ensure the most appropriate public safety resources respond to each sit-

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### CROSS CAMPUS

THIS DAY IN YALE HISTORY, 1977. Former New Haven police chief Biagio DiLieto refused to concede defeat after a 265-vote loss to then-Mayor Frank Logue in the Elm City mayoral race. Logue won 20 of the city's 27 wards.

### Inside The News

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PRIDE WEEK The New Haven Pride Center invited two Connecticut-based drag artists to read queer-focused stories to children.

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## THROUGH THE LENS











hat is music? It is a sound or a feeling? Is it cacophonous and dissonant or liberating and suspenseful? How does a musician animate music? To turn a sedentary and inanimate instrumental object into a catalyst for something so indescribable that even archetypal authors struggle to capture is a dynamic and arduous process. The euphonious procedure of musical animation is a dance between the musician and the river of sound that reverberates through our ocean of air. A duet that entices and breathes life into the score and into our lives.

**ZOE BERG** reports.





## We won't change anything

Much fanfare was made about the fact that I'd be going to Yale. My family bragged whenever given the chance. My school chose me to make an appearance on a daytime talk show. Family friends inquired about the steps I took to accomplish such a thing (no doubt hoping to replicate it with their children).

WITH THIS PERSPECTIVE ON THE "ELITE" UNIVERSITY'S PLACE IN SOCIETY, THE NEXUS OF CONFLICT LIES IN COMPETING DEFINITIONS OF WHO BELONGS AT UNIVERSITIES LIKE THESE.

There was something compelling about the story of a kid from the west side of Chicago going off to the land of power and prestige, a sort of underdog or outsider narrative that made people inclined to attach their hopes and dreams to my college journey. This manifested in comments like "you're going to be president," or "don't forget about me when you've made your millions." Knowing lit-

**CALEB DUNSON** 

the attention I was receiving, I leaned into this story. I let myself believe that I was off to become a leader, off to use mv Yale educa-

tle about where

I was headed

and relishing

What We tion to change Owe the world. But now. at the halfway point of my time here, I am beginning to realize that coming to Yale has, in a way, hamstrung my ability to advocate for the kind of change that matters to me. The conceptions of justice and equity that I want to push the world toward are in direct conflict with the univer-

stake in maintaining. Universities like Yale occupy a particular space in the collective imagination. They are tickets to the American elite, training camps for world leaders and incubators for ideas that shape humanity. They are places where the important and influential congregate, and so inclusion in their ranks is seen as admission into the halls of power. This perception is what makes "elite" universities symbols of hope and promise. They can change the trajectory of an individual's life by handing them an acceptance letter, and they can amend the course of history by giving certain people the platform and resources they need to exert influence over world events.

sity's status, which I now have a

With this perspective on the "elite" university's place in society, the nexus of conflict lies in competing definitions of who belongs at universities like these. The main battlefronts become affirmative action and increasing diversity because "if we just get enough good people access to a good education, progress becomes inevitable." Through all of this, the university maintains a facade of neutrality and innocence - it confers knowledge and power, but what is done with those things is left to the discretion of the knowledge-bearer and power-wielder. And so, in this framework, it made sense for myself and others to believe that I could leverage my Yale pedigree to pursue just ends. But this perspective is so deeply and tragically flawed.

Though Yale presents itself as an impartial arbiter of light and truth, and though its faculty and students may strive to live up to that mandate, Yale, and other similarly "elite" institutions, has a material stake in the maintenance of the status quo. That's because Yale's power flows, in large part, from its wealth and reputation. Our university needs to be seen as a prestigious institution so that it can continue to attract top students and faculty; and it needs to have wealth so that it can retain students and faculty through generously funded fellowships and research opportunities, state-of-the-art facilities and lavish amenities.

Yale's effort to project power and importance in a society where power and importance are often acquired through dubious means keeps it from remaining neutral. It necessitates that the university maintain and protect its swollen endowment to provide the "Yale experience," even if that comes at an increasing

AND SO IN THAT SENSE, YALE DOES NOT CREATE WORLD-CHANGERS. BY AND LARGE, YALE CREATES PEOPLE WHO THINK THEY CAN CHANGE THE WORLD, BUT MORE OFTEN THAN NOT KEEP IT SPINNING AS IS.

cost to New Haven public services and the environment. It necessitates that the university employ a private police force to make campus feel safe, even if that endangers the lives of students of color and New Haveners. It necessitates that the university launch a multi-billion dollar capital campaign, even as it refuses to recognize its graduate students' union. These actions signal to the world a set of values grounded in self-interest and only peripherally guided by concern for the common good. They communicate a conception of the world where

appearance matters more than substance and power more than purpose.

The people that make up this university are inevitably and unavoidably marked by these values. Because our status is inextricably linked to the status of Yale, we have an interest in the university retaining its wealth and reputation, which means we have an interest in preserving the values that allow Yale to retain its wealth and reputation.

And sure, many of us are willing to challenge the university and decry its actions; but how many of us are willing to give up the power and status that come from our connection to this place? How many of us are willing to shrink and redistribute part of the endowment if it means the classrooms won't be as nice and the fellowship funding slows down? How many of us are willing to diminish the reputation of the university if it means fewer job opportunities and less generous pay?

These divided interests — between values and status-protection bound the power of activism that comes out of this place. They create a distance between belief and action which all too often manifests in adopting the aesthetic of activism while quietly seeking money, power and status for ourselves. And so in that sense, Yale does not create world-changers. By and large, Yale creates people who think they can change the world, but more often than not keep it spinning as is.

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NEWS

of 12-25 instrucers of the Yale community.

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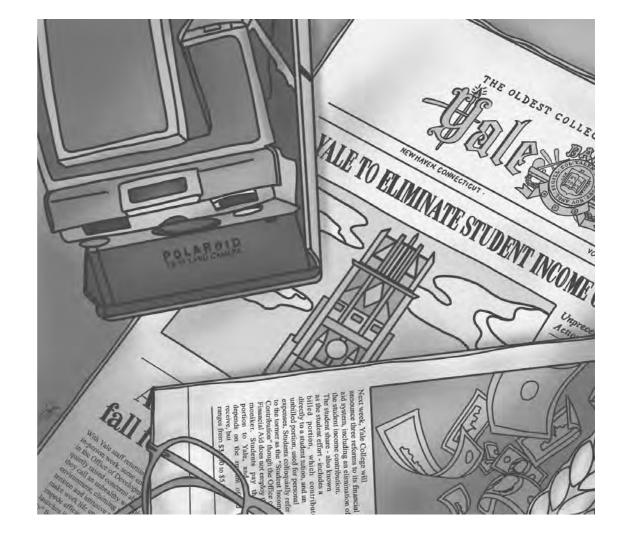
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## FROM THE FRONT

"There's a lot of stupid men out there who feel like makeup is a betrayal of the truth, and that is so funny to me."

KATYA ZAMOLODCHIKOVA AMERICAN DRAG QUEEN

## Grad students air stipend concerns, inflation hits record levels

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household income exceeds the national average at nearly \$80,000 dollars per year.

Meanwhile, graduate student stipends currently range from \$38,300 to \$40,000 per year. These reflect an increase that came into effect this semester — previously, the minimum yearly stipend stood at \$33,600, and greater disparities existed between pay levels across divisions.

"I was disheartened to see Yale admit the cost of living has risen more quickly than usual & still make us wait almost a year to receive our raises," wrote Serena Strecker GRD '26 in a post on the Local 33 Twitter profile. "My partner's grad union [at Stony Brook University] negotiated a COLA that retroactively increased pay."

Strecker, a third year PhD student who organizes with Local 33, told the News that her rent pay-

ments have drastically increased over the past few years and that groceries have become less affordable. She recalled a conversation she recently had with her roommate — another Yale graduate worker — about eggs, questioning whether she should buy them due to rising prices. She noted that many graduate students face financial insecurity.

At many other universities, stipend amounts for graduate students tend to be lower than or similar to those at Yale, but several schools with graduate unions provide larger stipends. Dartmouth, where there is no graduate union, provides graduate students a yearly stipend of \$35,196; the University of Pennsylvania gives PhD students a minimum of \$30,547 for nine months. At Columbia, where graduate students are unionized, students actively working as researchers or instructors receive minimum yearly stipends of \$45,320, while those not working on appointments receive a minimum of \$44,431. Earlier this year, Brown University's graduate student union reached a deal with the university to secure stipends of \$42,411.

Princeton, where the graduate student union is unrecognized, announced a 25 percent increase in graduate student stipends across the board in January, shortly after Columbia graduate students engaged in a ten week strike. The Yale GSAS announced their own stipend boost in November 2021, a month after a Harvard graduate union strike over wages and other issues.

The new raise, while in response to this year's inflation, represents an upward trend over the past few years.

"One of the first changes I made as dean in 2014 was to guarantee six years of central funding to eligible Ph.D. students in the humanities and

social sciences," Cooley wrote in an email to the GSAS student body this fall. "Since that time, stipends have increased 35% in the humanities and social sciences; 22% in the physical sciences and engineering; and 21% in the biological sciences."

Like recognized and unrecognized unions at other universities. Local 33 has made wage increases in response to inflation a central issue during their campaign for recognition. Weeks ago, organizers spent time talking to other graduate students and Yale community members at card-collection tables around campus, attempting to gather signatures to prove majority support for a union. Although the union said it received support from a majority of GSAS students in May, it must now gather cards to file with the National Labor Relations Board for a union ballot.

Strecker noticed that stipend changes came up frequently in

Local 33 members' conversations at these tables and with their coworkers across departments. Emphasizing the prospect of having "a seat at the table" in future pay negotiations, Strecker also said that graduate workers across divisions are committed to working together for better conditions collectively.

"Grad workers at MIT are about to start negotiating their first contract. Grad workers at Boston University just announced they are unionizing last week," Paul Seltzer GRD '23, co-President of Local 33, wrote to the News. "It's been really incredible to see grad workers all over campus be so excited to sign their union card in the last few weeks."

The U.S. inflation rate stands at 8.3 percent for the month of August.

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## U. revises safety leadership in effort to "reimagine" policing

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uation."

He added that he hopes to serve as a liaison to the New Haven community in his new role. He is working on developing a program to support the city's traffic and pedestrian safety efforts and wrote that the University is committed to supporting the New Haven Police Department's work in addressing gun violence.

Campbell, who will replace Higgins, has previously served on YPD's Executive Command Staff, and he has also taught a course at the Yale Divinity School entitled "Police Others as You Want to be Policed: The Changing Face of Community-Police-Ministry Relations in the Twenty-First Century."

In their message, Salovey and Callahan wrote that Higgins has been "nationally recognized as a model of community engagement" since he became police chief in 2011. They added that Higgins has been appointed to the Commission on Racial and Ethnic Disparities in the Criminal Justice System and the Police Officers Standards and Training Council. He currently serves on the executive board for the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives for Connecticut.

These changes come over two years after the University released a report titled "21st Century Policing Solutions," or the 21CP report, which assessed policing at Yale and resulted in 88 recommendations, including the need for a differential response system where police officers are not the sole responders to calls. This report was followed up by another report from the Abolition Alliance in April 2020 which called for the abolition of the YPD.

One year after the release of 21CP, Salovey said the University had no intention of abolishing or disarming the YPD. Today, Callahan told the News the University is in "very good shape" in terms of the progress made since the 21CP report.

He said the University has formed a committee on policing and worked on developing a differential response strategy which is currently called the "fit for purpose response plan," and sends different responders for different situations.

Still, members of the Yale community said the changes, though a start, were insufficient. BSDY Chair Callie Benson-Williams '23 told the News that while she appreciates Yale's consideration of the need for non-police responses and their potential plans for mental health professionals to address mental health crises, she still opposes the existence of the YPD.

"I think it is also critical that it is clearly publicized what responder people should expect when calling for what types of situations," Benson-Williams said. "It is dangerous for people to be surprised by police officers arriving when they expect medical professionals, and it is also dangerous for people to fear calling for help in crises because they are afraid of interactions with police."

Callahan shared additional reforms that public safety is taking, including the development of four strategic priorities by the committee on policing in



Over the summer, University President Peter Salovey appointed Ronnell Higgins to associate vice president for public safety and community engagement / Lukas Flippo, Senior Photographer

December, including leveraging resources to address public safety needs, engaging the community, embracing continuous improvement and strengthening Yale's public safety infrastructure.

Callahan said that this past spring, the University gathered input from the campus community regarding public safety. It will continue to do so each year. He also wrote that the University's public safety department has launched a "roadshow series" in partnership with the the Office of University Life in order for community members to "hear from diverse voices and reinforce the message that while 'we may come from different backgrounds, we all share that everybody wants to feel safe.'"

Callahan said this past summer the University's public safety department partnered with Meta

to provide hate crime training for the YPD officers.

Still, Callahan said "there's more work to do" is incorporating IT with public safety, as public safety has historically run its own IT system but was recently brought into the central IT domain.

"If we're going to be more nimble, and deploy the right resources to the right situation, we have to have better communication than what we've had," Callahan told the News.

This new role of assistant vice president for public safety and community engagement aims to increase collaboration between student life, mental health, Yale Security and YPD.

Secretary and Vice President for University Life Kimberly Goff-Crews wrote to the News that Assistant Vice President Pilar Montalvo is leading the work of her office with the YPD and Mental Health and Counseling in helping to develop a "co-responder model" when responding to mental health crises.

"This plan will allow the YPD to partner with a mental health professional or other university administrator in these sensitive situations," Goff-Crews wrote to the News. "Development of the plan will involve significant discussion with many individuals on campus, including students."

Even so, Campbell said that YPD officers still currently respond to mental health crises. He added, however, that all 91 officers are trained in crisis intervention.

Yet many students feel as though these changes are not enough, with groups such as Black Students for Disarmament at Yale, or BSDY, maintaining their calls to abolish the YPD.

Benson-Williams said that if Yale Security and mental health professionals can adequately respond to the calls YPD responds to, this demonstrates the YPD is unnecessary. Further, she said, the "imbalance of power" created by the YPD's power as a privately run police force will not be changed through outreach to the New Haven community.

The YPD was established in 1894 as the nation's first college police department.

Contact **SARAH COOK** at sarah.cook@yale.edu.

## FROM THE FRONT

"And I think I might be one of the first, if not the first, drag queens, in drag, to ever walk down the red carpet at the Oscars." SHANGELA AMERICAN DRAG QUEEN

## After isolation housing nears capacity, Yale revises its policy

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the same dorm building, and for people in the dining hall."

For the first week of the school year, those in doubles who tested positive were isolated in Arnold Hall, with students living in singles isolating in their room. However, the policy was scrapped mere days into the school year as isolation housing began to fill up.

Sweigard wrote to the News that Arnold Hall will now be used for students whose roommates test positive and who opt for temporary housing. McClellan Hall, which was used for isolation housing last school year, is being used for standard student housing this year.

"I think [the new policy is] not great because the roommate of the person who got COVID will still be living with other negative people and using the same bathroom and so on," Emily Neumeyer '26 told the News, "And it really sucks for the roommate."

Sweigard said the change in policy was enacted in order to free up room in isolation housing. Per information distributed to COVID-19-positive students last week, isolation housing reached capacity at the time that the new policy was announced. The "flipped" system now has

decreased the number of students living in Arnold Hall many students are choosing not to live in temporary housing, Sweigard said.

"This arrangement is more flexible because it gives those roommates options, and in fact many of them have opted not to relocate to Arnold, choosing instead to stay in the suite, or with friends, until they can return to their shared bedrooms," Sweigard wrote to the News.

Should too many people opt to move into Arnold Hall to escape their COVID-positive roommates, Sweigard said they will "reevaluate" and "consider other options." She added that the number of students with COVID-19 is "very low."

According to Yale's COVID-19 dashboard, 184 undergraduates tested positive during the week ending Sept. 9. Yale's testing program is currently voluntary.

Even prior to Sweigard's announcement, isolation housing shortages led the University to inform some students living in doubles to isolate in place.

Catalina Mahe '26, who lives in a double with Martinez-Garcia, wrote to the News that after her roommate tested positive on Sept. 5, her roommate was told to stay in their room. She was told she could find an alternative place to sleep, but isolation hous-



Students living in doubles will now isolate in their room, with their roommates given the option to stay or relocate / **Tim Tai, Staff Photographer** 

ing was full — Mahe was given the options of staying in the common room, moving in temporarily with a friend or requesting outside housing from the University.

side housing from the University.

However, Mahe said the last option was "a bit unclear," because she was not sure how Yale would provide housing.

Mahe added that she is confused about the University's lack of isolation housing.

"I think Yale underestimated the spread of COVID that would inevitably occur as students and faculty returned to campus with loosened mask mandates," Mahe wrote to the News, "If there was enough housing

to accommodate students last year, why is this a problem now?" Arnold Hall is located at 304 Elm St.

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## Carbon Charge will fund emission reduction initiatives

**CARBON** FROM PAGE 1

Economics and management professor Edward Snyder, who sat on the University's Presidential Carbon Charge Task Force, explained that the purpose of carbon charge programs is to make the cost of carbon use more accurately reflect the damage it does to the environment. Many peer universities are piloting similar programs, but Snyder says he ultimately hopes the program will be enacted nationwide.

Currently Yale prices carbon at \$20 a ton. The new price estimate of carbon under the Biden administration, \$50 per ton, will be phased in over three years, Pickett said.

The new carbon charge model is expected to create larger energy reductions than the older one. While energy levels have decreased on campus since the start of the carbon charge program, the decrease has not been statistically significant enough to establish a causal link, according to Pickett. By giving building managers the ability to make infrastructure changes, Pickett hopes the carbon charge program will have a greater impact.

"It's really hard to make the substantial gains of the type we really need to make by focusing on that kind of incentive," Pickett said. "There's just only so much that individual units can do with their buildings. But we can make more substantial impacts on carbon emissions with some major central investments."

The carbon charge could, for example, fund the kind of investments that would allow a building to switch to a zero carbon fuel or generate its own electricity, Pickett said.

Yale was one of the first colleges to implement a carbon charge on its campus. The program has been well received in other universities around the world, including University College London.

"Because we had so many good supporters internally for the scheme, we were eventually oversubscribed for the pilot," Joanna Marshall-Cook, a leader of climate actions programs at UCL, said on Yale's Carbon Charge podcast. "There were more departments that wanted to take part than we could actually support."

As for the implementation of the program off college campuses, it does seem likely that governments will implement a carbon charge program, Snyder said.

"As to whether Yale will be a model — it should be, but I don't think it will," Snyder said. "It has more to do with the political feasibility of implementing a carbon charge program rather than the data on the efficacy of the program. It's really unfortunate to not have a more market-based approach."

In 2020, the United States greenhouse gas emissions averaged 5,222 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalents according to the EPA.

Contact **ISABEL MANEY** at isabel.maney@yale.edu.



The new carbon charge model is expected to create larger energy reductions than the older one / Tim Tai, Staff Photographer

## Elm City officials recognize tenants' right to unionize

**TENANTS** FROM PAGE 1

the Commission's investigations and provides guidelines for assessing their complaints.

"Tenants, individually, have power, but as a group they have way more power," Elicker said during a June 9 press conference. "Facilitating that group, communicating with each other and having some sort of legal definition and legal authority can dramatically improve not only the situation for those tenants, but for other multi-unit properties across the city."

In the ordinance, tenants' unions are defined as "an organization whose membership is comprised of the tenants living in a housing accommodation ... and that has been created by agreement of a majority of the tenants listen as lessees within

the housing accommodation." Tenants have long organized unions in New Haven, but Tuesday's ordinance formally recognizes them.

According to a city press release, the ordinance is "believed to be" the first of its kind in the state of Connecticut, as state law neglects to define or elaborate upon tenants' unions and their rights. Nonetheless, discussions over tenants' unions have picked up steam throughout the state. The tenant organization Connecticut Tenants Union, or CTTU, has used social media to share stories of tenants organizing in cities like Bloomfield and nearby Hamden. The Central Connecticut chapter of the Democratic Socialists of America, or DSA, who have long advocated for housing justice in cities like New Haven, applauded today's event as a sign of progress in a tweet. CTTU organizers joined Elicker and other activists at City Hall for the ordinance signing

Hall for the ordinance signing. Since the start of the pandemic, city rents have skyrocketed. As of April 2022, rents have seen a yearover-year rise of 23 percent, and vacancies have grown more slim at 2.5 percent. Unionized tenants, under the new ordinance, can become involved in the Fair Rent Commission's determinations on whether landlords should lower rents for any tenant reporting excessive charges. The ordinance additionally lists criteria the Commission must consider as they deliberate, which includes the quality of sanitation and utilities, whether repairs are adequate, health and safety compliances, landlord expenses and tenant incomes.

Tenant unions have sprung up across the city over the past few years, representing different properties. One union, representing the Quinnipiac Gardens apartment complex, protested mismanagement and poor conditions outside of the property and City Hall last year.

Standing beside Elicker in June, Quinnipiac Gardens union representative Jackie Swell-Freelove, who has lived in the complex for 18 years, described that the union was formed because of "broken promises" amid these conditions.

"I just think it's sad that people have to live in bad conditions, but yet they want the rent," Swell-Freelove said. "If you don't pay the rent, the first thing they say is — they send a letter out, 'We're gonna evict you.' For what? You didn't come in here and do no work in none of the apartments."

Fair Rent Commission Executive Director Wildaliz Bermudez, at the June 9 conference, described that the Commission will also host a public forum for tenants, unions

and landlords to "discuss the general conditions and to help create a record." Landlords will, according to Bermudez, have due process as complaints are processed.

In addition to Pike, other landlords and housing management companies faced increasing accusations of health and safety violations, among other grievances.

"One of the most common complaints I hear around the city is around housing issues and landlords that don't take care of their properties," Elicker said at the June 9 event. "Frankly, there's a number of very, very large landowners, property owners that are frequent flyers when it comes to violations in the city."

On Oct. 18, the Fair Rent Commission will ultimately review the ordinance's proposals and regulations.

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## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

## Yale experts weigh in on differences between COVID-19 and Monkeypox

BY JESSICA KASAMOTO

CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

While both COVID-19 and monkeypox have dominated public health headlines, Yale experts emphasized that the two infections have substantially different origins, spreads and symptoms.

While both diseases are currently spreading in the United States, Saad Omer, director of the Yale Institute for Global Health and a professor at the School of Public Health, believes that it is unlikely that the monkeypox outbreak will play out as the COVID-19 pandemic has. However, he said it is still important for public health professionals to learn more about containing the spread of the disease.

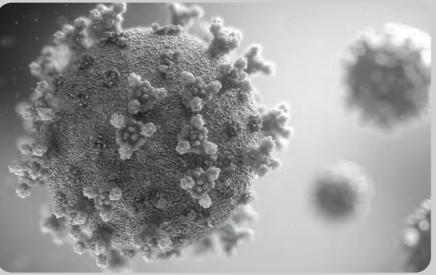
"The more the focus of public health professionals is on monkeypox, the less the general public will have to worry about it on a day-to-day basis," said Omer. "There are high-risk groups for monkeypox, but COVID-19, on the other hand, has a wider impact. There's a difference in concern between the two by a few orders of magnitude. That doesn't mean that we should not be concerned about monkeypox, but this concern should be measured and focused towards taking precautions and reducing the risk of contracting the disease."

The primary similarity between COVID-19 and monkeypox is that they are both zoonotic infections, meaning that they spilled over into human populations from animals. COVID-19 is believed to have originated in bats, although this origin is still debated. Monkeypox was first discovered in monkeys in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, but rodents are believed to be the main reservoir for the virus.

But most of the similarities between the two infections seem to stop there. COVID-19 is a respiratory illness, meaning it spreads through tiny airborne droplets from breathing, speaking, coughing and sneezing, making it extremely contagious and difficult to control spread.

While monkeypox can also be spread through respiratory droplets, the vast majority of spread is through close and prolonged physical contact with condistinct symptom profile makes it much easier to identify infected individuals to help curb the spread.

"The monkeypox virus is a really different bug than SARS-CoV-2," Melanie Chitwood, a doctoral student at the School of Public Health and a member of the Yale Public Health Modeling Unit,



taminated materials or with infected individuals. Recent research has indicated that sexual transmission has been a major driver in the current outbreak. Due to these different routes of transmission, the overall potential for monkeypox infection being as widespread as COVID-19 is quite low.

In addition, the symptoms of monkeypox infection are much more distinct than those of COVID-19. COVID-19 symptoms typically vary from individual to individual and oftentimes are confused with cold, flu or allergy symptoms. Monkeypox infection, on the other hand, is characterized by a painful and itchy rash that develops on wrote in an email to the News. "It's not nearly as contagious and, to our knowledge, it isn't transmitted asymptomatically... Altogether, this gives us a lot of hope that monkeypox can be contained."

Chitwood added that the public health community already has a highly effective vaccine for monkeypox and that the infection is thought to confer lifelong immunity.

Furthermore, while COVID-19 was first discovered in late 2019, monkeypox was first discovered in 1958. According to Omer, this has a major impact on the outlook for the two infections.

"You have a new virus that jumped from animal species to humans," Omer

the face, extremities and genitals. This said. "So we didn't know the disease as well as monkeypox. With monkeypox, we have collectively some experience from its previous spread, mainly

> Current data also suggests that monkeypox is much less fatal than COVID-19. According to the Centers for Disease Control, there have been 31,799 confirmed monkeypox cases globally with 12 deaths from Jan. 1 to Aug. 15. On the other hand, there have been 296,643,720 confirmed COVID-19 cases globally with 965,282 deaths from Jan. 3 to Aug. 15, according to data from the World Health Organization.

> While most signs suggest that the monkeypox outbreak will not be similar to the COVID-19 pandemic, Gregg Gonsalves, associate professor of epidemiology at the Yale School of Public Health, still emphasized the importance of understanding the current scope of monkeypox spread.

> "We first need a better handle on the extent of local transmission, if it's happening," Gonslaves said at a Monkeypox Update panel discussion hosted by the Yale Institute for Global Health. "In our communities, it really feels like we're getting the tip of the iceberg here. I'm not saying that it's a COVID situation, where [we're going to] have hundreds of thousands of people infected in just a short amount of time, but it's likely a lot more than what we know."

> Omer encourages individuals to take proper precautions against the spread of monkeypox on campus, which includes being mindful of activities that put someone at highrisk for monkeypox, monitoring for symptoms and getting the vaccine when eligible.

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## STARS Program at Yale receives donation for expansion

BY MANAS SHARMA STAFF REPORTER

The Science, Technology and Research Scholars Program has experienced its largest expansion to date, connecting more first-generation, low-income students to research and STEM opportunities at Yale.

The program is directed by Sandy Chang '88, associate dean of science education at Yale, who said that one of his biggest motivations in taking the position was to direct the STARS program. This year, through the Yale College Dean's Office, the program is accepting over 200 first-years into the landmark STARS I program and nearly 50 juniors and seniors into the STARS II program.

"Though STARS I was originally a tutoring initiative for women and underrepresented students to help navigate their STEM education, it has now evolved to include peer-mentoring, access to research opportunities, networking and career planning in STEM fields," Chang said.

STARS I specifically targets first-generation, low-income women and students of underrepresented populations in STEM to support and enhance their first-year education and increase retention in STEM fields to promote diversity. Previous STARS I and STARS Summer students participate as peer mentors to the first-year students to provide insight into succeeding in this new environment. Furthermore, the program hosts many seminars and workshops throughout the year to help students with building relationships, learning about STEM opportunities and preparing for a career in STEM after Yale.

The expansion of the program followed the trend in Yale College's admission of a higher percentage of FGLI students over the past few years. Chang initiated the first expansion of the program by doubling STARS I to 107 students in 2020-2022, but required additional funding to increase the number of students further. The Yale College Office of Development worked closely with the STARS Program in order to secure this funding, and partnered with Anne Wojcicki '96, the founder of ancestral genetics company 23andMe, whose foundation made a significant investment in the program.

"This gift was incredible," Alison Cole '99, senior associate dean of external affairs and social projects at YCDO, wrote to the News. "It took great teamwork to make it happen."



This increase in funding allowed STARS I to double its students to 200 and support a population made up of approximately 60 percent women, 90 percent of students on financial aid, students from 16 different countries and 50 Questbridge scholars. In addition to STARS I, Chang has initiatives in place to help students excel in STEM research in Yale: STARS Summer allows 30 rising sophomores in STARS I to conduct fully-funded summer research at Yale with a faculty member and take "Scientific Research: Process and Presentation," a class intended to teach students how to read, write and present research.

In order to prepare STARS I students to conduct research over the summer, Chang and Charles Bailyn, professor of astronomy, teach year-long courses called "Perspectives in Biological Research" and "Perspectives on Research in the Mathematical and Physical Sciences," respectively. These classes are intended to teach students how to read and write scientific papers and grant proposals, and high-achieving students in the class receive funding to conduct research at Yale over the summer. These two classes add 36 first-year students to the 30 already in STARS Summer.

Finally, Chang expanded the STARS II program from 20 juniors to nearly 50. This program funds juniors for four semesters of scientific research at Yale, including summers; supports attendance at scientific conferences to present their research and provides mentorship from graduate and MD-PhD students. This program has proven successful in its mentorship and preparation of students for graduate and medical school, boasting a 95 percent acceptance rate for its medical school applicants.

"Fundraising for STARS and other programs that support FGLI students is a top priority for the For Humanity campaign," Abby Douglas, assistant director of student engagement at YCDO, wrote to the News. "STARS is one of the amazing results of an ongoing collaboration with our community of students, administrators, alumni and donors and we look forward to continuing our track record of success in securing gifts of this nature."

The STARS program was originally founded in 1995.

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### NEWS

"You're perfect, you're beautiful, you look like Eva Evangelista, you're a model..."

AJA AMERICAN DRAG QUEEN

## YCBA exhibits works by Marc Quinn

**BY OLIVIA CHARIS**CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

The Yale Center for British Art is showcasing six works by Marc Quinn — a British artist known for his uniquely real yet simultaneously abstract examinations of the human condition.

The works in the exhibition, which began on May 20 and will run until Oct. 16, stand out among the YCBA collection, as most of the museum's exhibits date back to the Tudor Period. In his art, the 58-year-old artist highlights recent events that have garnered public attention, including school shootings and protests.

Perhaps the most shocking of his works, however, is a self portrait. As viewers enter the gallery and walk past the information table, they are met with "Self 1991" — a mold of Quinn's likeness filled with ten pints of his own blood. While jarring at first to some, the piece examines an important message about the tenuousness of human life.

Quinn described the work as "portraiture in its most absurd form" during a visit, according to Anissa Pellegrino, YCBA assistant shop manager.

This tension between violence and the sacrosanctity of life can also be seen throughout the remaining five works in the exhibition.

Four of the works in particular do this through the use of both photorealism and abstraction — taking inspiration from press photos of historical events but adding symbolic elements.

The work, titled "History Painting Emma [X] González Speaks at a Rally for Gun Control (Fort Lauderdale, 17 February 2018) RWB," captures a moment of grief during a rally following the mass school shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida in 2018.

Quinn depicts González in a photo-realist painting, an art form in which an artist studies a photograph and then attempts to reproduce the image as realistically as possible.

However, Quinn contributes an additional element to the portrait of Gonzáles, by scattering the canvas with paint. According to YCBA's website, the smearing spatters of color are meant to portray



YALE NEWS

The exhibited works of Marc Quinn, on display at the Yale Center for British Art, showcase the bloody truth of life through abstraction and coagulation.

the visceral emotions of the rally's participants at that moment. This combination of the photo-realist depiction and the artist's abstract interpretation adds to the emotional depth of each photographed moment Quinn has chosen, resurfacing the emotions in each photo back to the present.

Quinn's splatters also speak to the distortion and constant inundation of news, despite the intimate emotional effects stories have on those directly impacted.

"History Painting (London, 8 August 2011) ROYBWN" works in a similar way, with the photo's subject being Mark Duggan, a Black British man who was killed by police in North London in 2011. The streaks of paint on this photo blaze with the fire in back of a grounded protestor.

"History Painting Ieshia Evans Protesting the Death of Alton Sterling (Baton Rouge, 9 July 2016) GPBWOR" memorializes a photo of racial injustice protester Ieshia Evans. In addition to adding the paint, Quinn has divided the photograph into four distinct panels, allowing viewers to observe the moment from new perspectives.

Peter Hoffenberg, associate professor of history at the University of Hawai'i, Manoa, visited the exhibition and noted the distinction between abstraction and realism

"That's not the way the world is..." Hoffenberg said, pointing to an 18th-century painting of a royal dog.

"This is the way the world is," he said contrastingly, circling back to an abstract landscape by Joseph Mallord William Turner.

Abstraction, chaos, imperfection — these are often more real than the supposedly realistic

artworks, Hoffenberg explained. The YCBA's website notes this stark contrast between Quinn and most of the other artists on display: "Traditional history paintings fictionalized depictions of contemporary events to glorify nation and empire."

The realness of the photographs are not enough to capture the nuance and emotion behind the events Quinn highlights.

"Quinn's History Painting (Kiev [Kyiv], 22 January 2014) YGORBW", for example, covers a photo-realist painting of police violence against protesters in Ukraine with streaks of orange, purple, and green. Quinn again reimagines the intensity of the moment by dividing the photo into three distinct parts.

The final piece in Quinn's exhibition, titled "Thames River Water Atlas" (2017), is solely abstract.

Here, Quinn separates his abstraction from that of British romanticist painter J. M. W. Turner, speaking to humanity's consumption and dependence on water as a resource under corporate hold.

This kind of art, Hoffenberg said, "some people can handle, and others can't."

Whether or not people can handle it is beside the point for Quinn; walking out of the gallery, viewers are met once again with his looming coagulated head.

The freezer maintaining the work shuts off every few hours, Pellegrino said. "[Quinn] loves 'the neurosis' this creates", as people previously unaware of the source of the constant hum become aware of its bloody origin.

Marc Quinn was born in 1964.

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## CT Folk Fest spotlights musicians, sustainable vendors

**BY SADIE BOGRAD** STAFF REPORTER

After a two-year hiatus due to the pandemic, the strumming of banjos and acoustic guitars once again filled Edgerton Park for the annual CT Folk Fest & Green Expo.

Now in its 29th year, the festival aims to bring a broad range of folk musicians and sustainable artisans to New Haven. Over the course of the weekend, CT Folk drew thousands of attendees to Edgerton Park to hear the tunes of headliners like Valerie June and Oliver Wood, as well as lesser-known local acts. Visitors also enjoyed a

range of food trucks, workshops and youth-focused activities.

"It just feels so happy. It's just a sense of relief and giddiness to be back in the park, which is where we've always done our festival," Lisa Kaston, board member and former president of CT Folk, told the News. "It's great to see the crowds coming back."

Although CT Folk has been around since 1989, the lineup has expanded as of late. Board member Anna Grace Barry said that people often associate folk music with "white men with beards playing acoustic guitars on the stage."

In the last few years, however, the festival has broadened its definition of folk to include jazz, rock and other styles. According to Barry, 50 percent of this year's performers were people of color. The majority of attendees were white.

"Everyone typically thinks that folk music is pretty much white music, which is not the case," Assistant Festival Director Typhanae Williams told the News. "There's a lot of people now that are doing folk who are BIPOC, which is pretty cool, because it just shows how music has evolved."

CT Folk aims to be accessible to the entire New Haven community, including by offering free shuttle buses to the festival. The event itself was free, but \$20 donations

were encouraged at the entrance.
Kaston noted that CT Folk is also trying to appeal to a broad age range. The festival offered many activities for kids, from yoga to art workshops.

"They're just running around blowing bubbles and building things, and I'm lying back with a beer listening to music, so it's been fantastic," said Alex Noble, who brought his eight-year-old and nine-month-old daughters.

In addition to its emphasis on diversity, CT Folk Fest aims to promote environmentalism. Kaston said that the festival started as a fundraiser for the Farmington Rail

to Trail Association.

She added that this year's festival included workshops from nonprofits like Gather New Haven, which discussed sustainable farming, and Reimagining New Haven in the Era of Climate Change, which discussed climate change and grassroots action. Gather New Haven is hosting a free festival in Goffe St. Park on Sept. 18, and Reimagining New Haven is holding a "Climathon"

on Oct. 29.

Anna Pickett YSE '10 represented the Urban Resources Initiative, a local tree-planting non-profit, at the festival. She said that turnout had been "really wonderful" and that visitors were "enthusiastic" about volunteering. M.A. Lawrence, of the vegan Caribbean restaurant RastaRant, noted that business had been "steady."

The last CT Folk Fest, in 2020, was held online. This year, the festival expanded to include two days of performances and two stages. Barry said the festival drew about 3,500 attendees on Saturday alone.

"This is what New Haven's about, right? It's awesome," Mayor Justin Elicker, who attended the festival on Saturday, told the News. "So many people coming together to listen to good music, support environmental initiatives ... and us being able to do this again, in person together."

CT Folk also hosts concerts throughout the year.

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COURTESY OF CAITLIN CHUNG

Connecticut Folk Fest, a two-day music festival brought thousands to Edgerton Park this past weekend, offering activities geared toward attendees from all age groups.

"Throughout my life, I have always believed in love; I've always put my heart in love. But I've seen fear take people so often. It's very scary." Rupaul American drag queen

## Surgeon General Murthy visits Yale to talk youth mental health

BY ABE BAKER-BUTLER CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

U.S. Surgeon General Vivek

Murthy SOM, MED '03 arrived in New Haven on Thursday for a jam-packed, 18-hour visit focused on the youth mental health crisis and other pressing public health issues.

Murthy spoke to crowds at the Law School, the School of Public Health and the School of Management. He later led a panel discussion and interactive exercise at Southern Connecticut State University (SCSU), where he was joined by Gov. Ned Lamont SOM '80 and students from the University of New Haven, Yale, SCSU and Gateway Community College.

Murthy also spoke to the undergraduate class "Health Economics and Public Policy," taught by Howard Forman, professor of economics and director of the MD/MBA program, and met with Mayor Justin Elicker ENV. SOM '10. Surgeon General Murthy even made time to explore New Haven, making a stop early Friday morning at Claire's Corner Copia to stock up on the restaurant's popular Lithuanian coffee cake, a favorite of Murthy and his wife, Alice Chen '01.

"Don't 'stay in your lane." Murthy urged students. "Because your lane is far broader than others may appreciate."

Forman, a long-time mentor to Murthy, organized the Surgeon General's visit to New Haven. He explained that Murthy has been a frequent visitor to the Elm City, returning twice in recent years for Yale graduations and at least four times for visits with students, faculty and the Yale and New Haven community. For this visit, Forman said, he and Murthy wanted to be sure to reach beyond the Yale community's confines. Forman said it was an important challenge to ensure they were engaging a wide array of constituencies, especially non-Yale New Haven.

"I wanted to come here particularly to hear the community and students about mental health and well-being and it's exciting to see that people want to be part of the solution," Murthy shared in an exclusive interview with the News.

Mental health has long been one of Murthy's priorities. While a student at the School of Medicine, ne neiped create тпе Healer's Art," a first-of-its-kind operating on a premise of "the class focused on physician burn-

out, coping with loss and the art of healing.

Since March 2021, Murthy has been serving his second term as Surgeon General, an office he held during the Obama administration, and in December 2021, he released a landmark advisory on the youth mental health crisis and the COVID-19 pandemic. This paper has been cited nationwide, including by advocates for Connecticut's recent package of mental health legislation, which was passed by the Connecticut General Assembly last spring.

Murthy said he is proud of the Advisory's existing impact on mental health awareness, but there is still much more to come.

"We've had substantial engagement with members of the House of Representatives and the Senate on legislation that they would like to put forward to both increase access to mental health care but also to increase our investment in prevention programs," he said. "All of us have to keep pushing forward the conversation on mental health so that we address the shame and stigma."

According to Murthy, mental health was still a challenge during his time as a graduate student at Yale and as an undergraduate at Harvard, though perhaps not at the levels seen today.

Murthy noted that while people struggled with anxiety, depression and loneliness when he was in medical and business school, he "saw it a lot more when [he] was in college." Then, people found it even more difficult to openly discuss mental health than they do now, he added.

"People didn't talk about their struggles," Murthy said. "It was very taboo, and though we talked a lot about how to deal with patients who were struggling with mental health and anxiety and depression, we rarely talked about ourselves."

Murthy said he believes that everyone, including college students, can help address the mental health crisis, and he urged students to share their stories and challenge the stigma around mental health, advocate for "readily available, easily accessible" campus mental health services and ensure accountability by reporting mental health incidents.

Murthy said he is open to new ideas, including the potential formation of a youth advisory board, more youth input, the better."

"You don't come to a solution by having a small group of administrators in a room by themselves," Murthy said. "We need input, and young people have to be at the table."

Murthy also noted that the youth mental health crisis has wide-ranging effects beyond young people, including on parents, employers and educational

"There is no pain worse as a parent than seeing your child struggle and not being able to help," Murthy said. "From an institutional perspective, if you don't support student and worker well-being, performance and productivity suffer."

Forman offered some potential explanations for the growing youth mental health crisis, one that started even before the COVID-19 pandemic. He cited the rise of social media and the weakening of family and social networks as contributors to loneliness. However, he believes that perhaps even more significant is society's move toward greater returns on intellectual capital and skills."

In Forman's view, people are being left behind and are not reaping the rewards that used to flow to them for "just working hard," in part due to an increase in the premium associated with post-secondary and post-undergraduate education. In that climate, there is an extraordinary amount of pressure on students who now face higher expectations and who may have an existential crisis if they fall short, he said.

"That puts an enormous amount of stress and strain on individuals and one would hope that we start to think about how we address that," Forman said.

Some experts have argued that a new federal position, a "Psychologist General" or "Mental Health Czar," is needed to address the ballooning mental health crisis. California established such a position in 2010.

Murthy is uncertain that such a position is necessary -- in his view, sustained prioritization of mental health by the public, Congress and the presidential administration will make the difference.

"In some ways you could call President Biden the mental health 'lead' for the Administration right now" he said. "This is the most alignment I've seen in my years in everyone on my team and peo-



The U.S. Surgeon General spoke to three Yale graduate schools and an undergraduate health economics class to address current public health issues.

ple around the country that windows of opportunity don't stay open forever and we have to use this moment to make sure we take as much action as we can."

Kaveh Khoshnood SPH '89, GRD '95, faculty director of the Yale School of Public Health's Humanitarian Research Lab, attended Murthy's speech at the Law School and praised his remarks. However, Khoshnood, whose research focus includes refugee mental health, said he is eager to see Murthy and the federal government devote increasing attention to the mental health of migrant and refugee populations.

Kanhai Amin '24, a student in Forman's undergraduate class, admired Murthy's engagement with students and described Murthy as "genuinely curious" about student perspectives. However, Amin feels much less optimistic about the federal government's ability to make change than Murthy does. Amin lamented that the U.S. govern public health and that's why I tell ment has known about many of the health problems Murthy

covered during his visit, including tobacco addiction and food deserts, for decades, yet has done little to improve the public health outlook.

Murthy said that students give him hope for the mental health crisis and the future of public health in the United States. Young people, both those with and without medical degrees, will lead the country toward a healthier future.

But Forman pointed out that it is not only students giving Murthy hope -- visits to campus by role models like Murthy play an important role in inspiring students and shaping their career aspirations. In a full circle moment, Forman fondly recalled Murthy's excitement when, as a Yale student 20 years ago, he had the chance to meet former Surgeon General David Satcher during Satcher's visit to Yale's campus.

49.5 percent of American adolescents have experienced a mental health disorder.

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## Students, staff herald return of study abroad programs

BY ISABELLA ROMERO STEFANONI AND HANDAN DILARA BIKMAZ

STAFF REPORTER AND CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

After a pandemic-induced two year hiatus, the Yale Summer Session Programs Abroad took place

in person this summer. In most summers, the University offers a variety of YSS Programs Abroad where students can participate in study overseas and improve their language skills. Travel and social distancing restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic halted students' plans for the 2020 and 2021 summers. But the program was able to return this summer, sending students around the world.

Kelly McLaughlin, director of study abroad, wrote in an email that the programs ran well even after "

such a long disruption in travel." "While Covid presented some of the usual challenges, programs and participants were, by that point, prepared for and experienced with handling that,"

McLaughlin wrote. This summer, students participated in 17 programs offered by Yale as well as a number of other approved non-Yale programs. According to the Yale Study Abroad website, the summer's sessions included historical courses in Croatia, filmmaking and cinema courses in the Czech Republic and France and language

courses offered in Italy and Spain. According to McLaughlin, 691 students participated in study abroad programs this summer. In the summer of 2019, prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, 803 students were in study abroad programs.

The Study Abroad Office plans to continue operating as normal. McLaughlin wrote, given that the Yale University International Travel Policy for Yale College Students has "effectively reverted to its pre-Covid status."

The only change in Yale's travel policy was the addition of general vaccination recommendations and guidance on region-specific risk assessment before travel.

For students who participated in non-Yale study abroad programs for Yale credit, like Cem Kupeli '25, pandemic restrictions had almost no effect.

"Everything was absolutely normal," said Kupeli, who participated in a non-Yale program in France. "I did not encounter any Covid-related problems neither

during my homestay nor courses." A number of students who participated in these programs spoke to the News about their experiences and reflections after spend-

ing the summer studying abroad. Students were generally enthusiastic about their decision to study abroad and many talked about their goal to learn a

new language. "I chose to study abroad over the summer to immerse myself in a foreign culture, catch up on credits and become more proficient in my target language," Ali Aldous '25 said. "Also, it seemed like a fun opportunity to live and learn with my classmates and friends in a new and exciting setting."

Aldous participated in the Intermediate Italian YSS Program in Siena, Italy. She discussed some of the challenges she faced while studying abroad over the summer, including the demanding course load and adapting to a new culture.

Meanwhile, Tim Lingk '25 studied abroad in Taiwan through the Yale CET Taiwan program in partnership with National Taiwan

"I would like to use Chinese professionally in the future and plan to live and work in East Asia," Lingk said about his decision to study abroad. "As such, improving my Chinese while exploring Taiwan struck me as a great way to

spend my summer." Christian Tamez '25 studied abroad in Brazil and did the YSS in Paraty and Rio de Janeiro: Ele-

mentary Portuguese program. While Tamez reminisced about the travel experiences he had while studying in Brazil, including a boat ride in Paraty and the increased confidence in his Portuguese language skills, he also discussed the challenges he faced upon starting his study abroad program.

"I do think the main challenge was living at the beginning since we were just starting the language in general and were expected to survive in the metropolis from day one," Tamez said. "But it proved to be a great learning curve being able to apply my language on a daily basis."

Tamez plans to continue his Portuguese studies at Yale and feels confident about the road ahead due to the language skills and experiences he picked up over

Veronica Zimmer '25 studied abroad in Paris, France and noted the initial challenge of having to communicate entirely in French with a host family. Now, Zimmer



**ZOE BERG/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR** 

Students reflected on their summer after participating in Yale language programs abroad.

said, she is more confident with her French skills and reminisced about her experiences visiting the French countryside with her classmates.

"The countryside was stunning and I got the chance to have lots of one-on-one conversations with my professors," Zimmer said. "We explored the beach, a farmers market, and the places that inspired Van Gogh's paintings. I feel much more confident speaking in French now. I'm certainly not using every idiomatic phrase. but I can communicate smoothly to francophones who don't speak any English."

Although summer programs have come to a close, Yale also allows students to study abroad during the fall, though the University does not sponsor its own fall programs. According to McLaughlin, there are currently 28 Yale students studying abroad for the fall semester in a variety of programs.

With everything going back to normal, students who are eager to "engage with the larger world," as McLaughlin put it, can now meet with a study abroad adviser to start planning their travels.

The application for Yale Summer Session Programs Abroad closes on Feb. 7, 2022.

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"A lot of men do have a fear of my ultra-femininity. Sometimes people say I look like a drag queen, that I look scary, but I think that's a fear of my confidence." PALOMA FAITH SINGER

### NHPD's new chief launches innovative recruitment efforts



NHPD has been able to increase its department's diversity and policing in the community.

BY MIA CORTÉS CASTRO CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

The New Haven Police Department, following the appointment of new Police Chief Karl Jacobson, has started new efforts to recruit a more diverse department where it previously failed.

The department finished its formal recruitment period last week after months of social media campaigning, door-to-door recruiting and local university, high school and church visits. Jacobson was sworn into the chief role after former Acting Police Chief Renee Dominguez was asked to step down from the post. One of the major criticisms of Dominguez was her recruitment's lack of focus on diversity. Since Jacobson was appointed as the new NHPD chief in May 2022, the department claims to have been moving successfully in that direction.

"We want our police force to reflect New Haven's diversity. If you have officers that share some of the same life experiences as the community, they're better able to serve that community," Mayor Justin Elicker, who was in charge of Jacobson's appointment, said in an interview. "It is challenging for us in today's environment to recruit people for the police department in general, but it's even more challenging for us to increase diversity for the simple fact that many fewer people are applying to become police officers."

Traditionally, the NHPD recruitment team would seek out potential officers through schools, colleges and universities in the area, as well as through other community groups. Nowadays, the team is using alternative means of contact to connect with the community.

The recruitment team has tried to build up its Instagram presence. Through transition videos, creative flyers and easy-to-access links, the department has tried to reach a younger audience.

We're trying to use any kind of recruitment tool at our disposal," Assistant Chief David Zannelli said in an interview. "Before this [Karl Jacobson] administration took place, we didn't really make use of our social media access, but we recognize that the new generation is very social media oriented, so we want to make sure that even if you don't go to the church or the schools that we visit, if you're just a member of the community who has what it takes to become a police officer, that you have the opportunity to

When asked about new aspects of their application system, Sergeant Paul Finch, supervisor of NHPD recruitment, said that after applying for the officer role, applicants are able to train for their physical agility test, giving them all an equal playing field regardless of previous experience.

Finch noted that he participates and trains with the applicants himself as they prepare for the physical agility test, running alongside them and getting to know them on a more personal level. He has also been hosting weekly training sessions every Wednesday and Sunday to help applicants prepare.

"They see us in a different light when we're outside and not in our uniforms," Finch added. "Sometimes our uniforms can be a barrier, but when they see the same person not in a uniform and running alongside them, they put their guard down a bit and they're more open to having a conversation. We end up having great conversations?

When asked if he thought these efforts have helped increase the diversity of applicants, Finch noted that though there is room for more efforts, there has been an increase in people of color and people from other minority groups, including women and nonbinary people, both at training sessions and as candidates. Although recruitment statistics for 2022 are not currently available, the statistics for the applicant pool that Finch provided to the News show a 22.8 percent increase in minority applicants from 2020 to 2021. He did not say when the statistics for 2022 would

Leonard Jahad, executive director of the Connecticut Gun Violence Intervention Program, said that honest and individualized conversations can "make a difference within the youth engaged in risky activities on the streets," maybe leading them to join the police force instead.

Jahad's program in New Haven, which was started in 2018, focuses on working with youth in New Haven that are engaged in gun-related criminal activity. Through this program, he has gained experience working with Jacobson and with the department's diversity efforts. When interviewed, he praised Jacobson's prioritization of humanity when policing, stating that it's one of the things that sets the NHPD apart.

"I think these efforts will help solve problems with policing." added Jahad. "He [Chief Jacobson] is a great guy and New Haven really benefits from having him. He's empathetic, he really gets it, he's out in the community talking to kids and helping them out."

Despite these changes, the NHPD recognizes that there is still much more to do in order to diversify their staff.

"For some, experiences with police officers may not have always been positive, but having police officers that are from your own community, that you may even know personally, makes you feel more comfortable. Additionally, seeing a police officer that looks like you makes you feel more comfortable," said Finch.

Jacobson was sworn in on July 6.

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## New Haven Pride Center kicks off pride week with Drag Artist Story Hour

BY MIA CORTÉS CASTRO CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

This Sunday, the New Haven Pride Center kicked off its Pride Week with its largest Drag Artist Story Hour ever.

Hosted by Connecticut-based drag artists Frizzie Borden and Ram Shackle, Drag Artist Story Hour formed part of a nationwide initiative encouraging local drag artists to serve as queer role models for children. During Story Hour, the two drag artists read six books aloud to a group of parents and children between six months and 10 years old. They also asked kids questions to spark conversations on their passions and interests.

"I think it's important to introduce kids and parents to these types of stories," Frizzie Borden told the News. "The kids were so engaged, they were answering our questions, so I think these stories are good to help introduce more difficult conversations in an easier way and to help answer any questions that the kids may have about these complicated topics."

The New Haven Pride Center hosted the event in its own office space on Orange Street after various Drag Artist Story Hours were bombarded by criticisms, protests and death threats. Hosting the event at the Center instead of in partnership with the libraries has helped foster a safer environment for both the families that come to the storytelling and the queer artists who host them. After four years of Story Hours, the Center invested in colorful mats for the kids to sit on, as well as their own library of queer-focused children's books, in order to self-sustain the initiative.

"I had a very traumatic drag artist story hour experience as a drag artist, so it made me want to create that safe space for families to come," Dunn said. "Being a parent is hard in and of itself, but being a parent that is either LGBTQ or has a queer kid is like an extra layer of complicated, so being able to host a space where parents can build relationships with each other and hopefully have playdates and stuff like that creates a great community."

The six books read during Drag Artist Story Hour were "Harriet Gets Carried Away" by Jessie Sima, "Neither" by Airlie Anderson, "What Riley Wore" by Elana K. Arnold, "Julián Is a Mermaid" by Jessica Love, "Call Me Max" by Kyle Lukoff and "From the Stars In the Sky to the Fish In the Sea" by Kai Cheng Thom. All of these books belong to the GLSEN Rainbow Library Collection, and some are Lambda Award winners.

In addition to reading the books aloud, drag artists Frizzie Borden and Ram Shackle also talked with the children about the characters in the books. They were surprised to hear that some children already owned the books and had read them at home.

"I really enjoy hearing their [the children's] answers to my questions and it's also really nice that a lot of them had these books aiready decause it means that their parents care about them understanding queer concepts," Ram Shackle said after the event. "I think it's fun for the kids to see people in fabulous costumes reading to them, it's really exciting, and that also makes them enjoy these stories themselves."

During the Story Hour, the children laughed along to the stories, stood up and danced around when they felt restless and were given candy at the end

Many parents in attendance expressed their appreciation for the sense of community built by the New Haven Pride Center.

"I think it's just important for always come to a place where everyone is accepting of everybody no matter who you choose to be or how you choose to represent yourself," said Katrina Hopkins, one of the parents in attendance at the event. "If you bring them when they're this little, they don't know any different, they just grow up knowing that this is normal and that anyone can be anything and that that's normal. They might not get that everywhere in the world so I'm glad that the New Haven Pride Center makes a point to create a space like this."

The New Haven Pride Center has diversified its drag artist roster in order to introduce children to know that they can children to a diverse array of artists and to mix up the Story Hour styles. The Center is also a primary advocate for creative expression in the New Haven queer community, preaching art as a tool to bridge gaps between

> Recently, the Youth Services office at the Center expanded in an effort to provide aid and mentorship to more queer vouth in the New Haven community.

> New Haven Pride is taking place from Sept. 11 to 18.

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MIA CORTES CASTRO/CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

The New Haven Pride Center kicked off pride week by inviting two Connecticut-based drag artists to read queer-focused stories to children on Sunday morning.

"I think if you start thinking we have to win three in a row, we have to do those kind of things, it becomes big."

CURT MILLER CONNECTICUT SUN HEAD COACH

## Men's soccer wins both games



MUSCOSPORTSPHOTOS

The men's squad bagged two wins against top teams while the women lost both games in Kansas.

**SOCCER** FROM PAGE 14

Yale was outshot 13-6, but managed four shots on goal to West Virginia's three. Both goalkeepers registered two saves.

The first half of the game finished with a 1–1 tie. With an early goal from WVU just three minutes in, senior Paolo Carroll '23 was able to match the score with a penalty kick at 37. This was the Brazilian's second scored penalty kick in a row.

Then, after a challenging second half and less than three minutes left on the scoreboard, midfielder Max Rogers '25 sent a piercing shot from well outside of the box and straight into the net, which meant a 2-1 win for Yale over last year's NCAA quarterfinalists.

Despite gleeful celebrations in the locker room singing "Take Me Home, Country Roads," the Elis had to lace up their cleats again, hungry for victory, on Sunday. They battled Villanova at Reese Stadium, who made it to the second round of the NCAA tournament last year.

"It was a hard-fought three points," defender TJ Presthus '25 told the News. "It wasn't always the prettiest, but we're really proud of the guys for getting it done. Took us a little bit to find a goal, but we were all really confident it was going to come at some point."

The first 45 minutes proved unfruitful for both teams, as

goalkeeper Elian Haddock '23 was perfect with two saves to his net so far.

Forward Kahveh Zahiroleslam '24 also saved Yale's shutout as he kicked out a ball from Yale's goal towards the end of the second half. This was not the Californian's only heroic feat that night, however, as he also played a key role for the goal.

The Elis came ready to score as the clock started ticking again. After dangerous plays from both teams, Zahiroleslam came charging towards the box dribbling past three defenders and finding an opening to pass to Kai Moos '24, who was free in front of the goal. Moos shot a deadly ball to the far post for the sole goal of the game.

"I think it was a product of a lot of work by the team on the corner," Zahiroleslam told the News. "It was a good clearance and Alex [Umana '25]looked up to find me the ball, and I just had a lot of open green grass in front of me. Thankfully, Kai was in a good spot and gave me the assist with the finish; so, I was happy we could get the win tonight."

The weekend proved to be a clean sheet for Yale, despite the Bulldogs also being outshot 14–7 during the game on Sunday night — with seven shots on target for Villanova to Yale's two.

As the team came dancing into the field after the clock stopped at 90 minutes, Presthus told the News how the first clean sheet of the season feels "good as a thunder."

The women, on the other hand, headed West this weeked to battle two teams in Kansas — Kansas State on Friday and Kansas on Sunday.

On Friday, despite the 1–0 loss, goal-keeper Maya Bellomo '25 registered five saves. Yale was outshot 21–9, with six shots on goal to Yale's four. The Wildcats' goal came in the 38th minute, and was the first point scored against Yale after three straight shutouts.

The next day, although the Bulldogs ended with a 4–1 loss to Kansas, Laila Booker '25 scored her first career goal with only two minutes to go to end the match.

The Elis were outshot 21–10, with 12 shots on goal to Yale's five. Bellomo once again was in the spotlight with an impressive eight saves during the whole game. The Jayhawks' goals came at 13,' 27,'57' and 89.'

Yale women's soccer had never faced either program in its history.

The men's squad will return to the field this Saturday, Sept. 17 against Marquette (3–1–0, 0–0–0 Big East) in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, which Zahiroleslam thinks will prove to be "a good atmosphere." The next game for the women's team will be this Friday against UConn (3–2–1, 0–0–0 Big East) at 7p.m.

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## Field Hockey marches toward Colgate

FIELD HOCKEY FROM PAGE 14

half and finally conceded a goal from the penalty spot when Drexel was awarded a penalty stroke. The controversial call led to a video review, one of the new NCAA rules ahead of the 2022 season.

The video review system is just one part of a multi-million dollar renovation to Johnson Field. Previously infamous for its large exterior area of dark blue turf surrounding an inner, royal blue field, the field now has more traditional green turf. Another major addition is the new video scoreboard, which can show replays and pregame hype up videos.

Jackie Kisa '19, a former captain who traveled from New York to attend the game, said she believes the renovations will impact the team's success.

"The new scoreboard is game changing when it comes to reviews and hyping up the team before the game," she said. "I wish we had that in our year."

Kisa, an avid fan of the program, was confident Yale could hang on to its narrow lead heading into the fourth period saying that the team "has always been a last quarter kinda team."

Kisa would prove to be correct, as Yale somehow managed to close out the game despite being forced to defend another seven penalty corners. The Dragons had 26 shots, including 15 on target. Summer, who finished with a career-high 14 saves, constantly

received cheers from the packed stands and was a crucial player for the win.

Head coach Melissa Gonzalez praised her team for capitalizing on chances and its strong defensive backbone, but also emphasized a need for improvement in certain areas.

"Our defensive corner unit really shined against a great Drexel opponent who generated a lot of opportunities. Being able to finish two of our four chances also should be celebrated," Gonzalez said. "Heading into this weekend, we'll be looking to refine our counter structure, possession and our choice [and] timing of tackles."

Gonzalez, who took over as head coach ahead of this season after longtime coach Pam Stuper stepped down to take a position within USA field hockey, gave all the credit to the team for her first ever home win.

Gonzalez also credited the fans for their big alumni day turnout.

"The large crowd set an incredible atmosphere for the team to play in," Gonzalez said. "We were celebrating 50 years of Yale field hockey, and to have the opportunity to play in front of alums, fans, family and friends was special for the group."

The Yale field hockey team will look to keep its momentum going when it heads to New York to play Colgate (2-4, 0-0 Patriot) on Friday, Sept. 16 at 6:00 p.m.

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The Yale field hockey team will look to keep its momentum going when it heads to New York to play Colgate (2-4, 0-0 Patriot) on Friday, Sept. 16 at 6:00 p.m.

## Volleyball holds 5-1 record

**VOLLEYBALL** FROM PAGE 14

Army. The last time the two teams faced off was in 2019, when the Elis swept the Black Knights in New Haven. This encounter, Army looked to prove itself.

The Blue and White had a good start, winning the first set 25–20. However, the Black Knights fought back and clinched a 25–20 win of their own in the second frame. A back-and-forth battle ensued between both teams, as Yale won the third set and Army won the fourth. However, the Bulldogs were able to win the match with a strong fifth frame, which they won 15–11 while hitting .368.

Though the Army defense was strong, with the Black Knights having more blocks than the Elis, Yale was able to surpass its opponent offensively. The Bulldogs had more kills and were dominant at the serving line with 11 aces.

with 11 aces.

"This year, we all kind of have the mindset that everyone is here to contribute," outside hitter Audrey Leak '24 said about the team's recent offensive success. "We are here to work together and cooperate. Alot of different girls can come in and hit. We all have this mindset that we are here to dominate and can change the game."

Just a few hours after its gritty victory against Army, Yale faced another formidable opponent: Syracuse. The two squads have a heated history. Prior to last Friday, the Elis had never won a match against the Orange. The most recent match-up between the two teams took place in the 2021 Yale Invitational, where Syracuse swept the Bulldogs. In 2018, the Orange had also broken the Bulldogs' perfect record in the first round of the NCAA Tournament.

Going into last weekend's match-up, Yale sought to change the narrative. The Bulldogs had a strong start, winning the first set by hitting .286 and limiting the opponent to a .154 percentage. In the subsequent frames, the Orange attempted to launch comebacks and reduced the point margins between the two teams. However, the hosts eventually fell short against the smooth Eli offense. Yale swept Syracuse 25–18, 25–23 and 25–22.

Renee Shultz, who is one of the few on the team to have experienced both of Yale's past losses against Syracuse, emphasized the significance of the moment. She already considered the win to be "one of the highlights of the season."

"We've come full circle from the 2018 NCAA playoff games and [the match in 2021]," the captain said. "I couldn't be more proud to see how this program has progressed. To not only grab a win, but a sweep, against an ACC team is pretty awesome. Coming off a five set battle with Army, it was exhausting ... It was a very quick turnaround [to then face Syracuse] ... We really [dug] deep to find the energy and intensity we needed to play hard. I think the energy in the gym also became a big factor in how we played ... Ultimately, it worked in our favor."

The Bulldogs wrapped up a winning weekend with another sweep over Hofstra 25–22, 25–15 and 25–22. The Elis were a menace at the net and limited their opponents to a mere .072 hitting percentage. More dominance at the serving line, culminating in eight aces, also helped propel the Blue and White to victory.

Blue and White to victory.
Setter Carly Diehl '25 and Leak
were named to the all-tournament team after stellar individual performances. Diehl had also
been named to the all-tourna-

Going into last weekend's atch-up, Yale sought to change the narrative. The Bulldogs had strong start, winning the first to by hitting .286 and limiting the opponent to a .154 percenter. In the subsequent frames, the

"It definitely feels really good and I am grateful for it," Cara Shultz said about the recognition. "But at the end of the day, it really is not about [individual awards]. Any given person on our team could have gotten that award. I'm very grateful that whoever made that decision gave it to me, but there are so many girls on our team who should have deserved it as well. Last weekend was a team effort through and through."

The Blue and White will now look to bring their momentum with them back to New Haven, as they prepare to host the Yale Invitational. This will be the Bulldogs' first opportunity of the season to play at home. Yale will face Villanova, Fordham and Sacred Heart.

After the tournament, the team will also open the Ivy League season with three straight weekends on the road. The Yale Invitational will serve as a welcome reprieve from the grind of multiple consecutive away games this season.

"I'm excited to be back in front of our fans," Leak said about the upcoming week. "We haven't gotten a chance to play at home yet. I really missed the feeling of being back in Payne Whitney and playing in front of my friends. I think my parents are also coming up this weekend. I am just excited to be at home and in our own court."

The Bulldogs currently have a .233 hitting percentage and average 13.43 kills per set.

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## Sailing prepares for Yale Invitational



melanie Heller/Staff Photograf in and the Bears Invite, as well as sec

They won victories at the Harry Anderson and the Bears Invite, as well as second-place finishes at Pine Trophy and Toni Deutsch.

**SAILING** FROM PAGE 14

found some difficulties in their first regatta together.

"The regatta had its challenges with shifty conditions, typical of the Charles," Emma Cowles said. "[Berg] and I worked on keeping a clear head and adapting our game plan as conditions changed. One area that went well was our starts. Our communication was crucial to having a good acceleration

and being full-speed at 'go.'"

The co-ed team also sent three more teams to the Bears Invite at Brown, where they were only able to sail three races because of a lack of wind. However, even in limited action, the Bulldogs still managed to dominate, with their squads finishing in first, second and 10th place.

Lastly, the Bulldogs sent last year's national match racing champions —a lineup featuring skipper Jack Egan '25 and a crew consisting of Nicholas Davies '24, Megan Grimes '24 and Christophe Chaumont '23 — to compete for the Pine Trophy at the Coast Guard Academy.

The team finished the event in second place out of eight competing teams. By placing among the top four, the Bulldogs earned the right to compete in the New England Match Race Championship.

"Overall we are happy with how the weekend went," Egan said. "The Pine is a qualifier to another qualifier regatta, so top four was always the goal... Our risk management and overall strategy this regatta went well, but an area which can always be improved is our cohesiveness while sailing the boat, which always improves with time."

Next weekend, the co-ed team will defend their home territory in the Yale Invite, and send out crews to compete in the Hatch Brown Trophy at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology where they won both the A and C divisions last year.

The women's team will return to the Charles River to compete for the Regis Trophy where their two boats finished first and second last year.

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"Sometimes being your most authentic self involves accepting others for who they are." Bob the drag queen american drag queen

## PROFILE: Jim Levinsohn talks newly-opened Jackson School

BY MIRANDA JEYARETNAM STAFF REPORTER

In February, then-director of the Jackson Institute for Global Affairs Jim Levinsohn told the News that he intended to make the new Jackson School of Global Affairs the "best-in-class."

Now, nearly seven months later, the new professional school has officially opened its doors, and Levinsohn says they have succeeded.

"Let me be clear, it's not me," Levinsohn said. "It's having faculty, it's having an amazing staff, it's having a career counseling office, director of student affairs, admissions, deputy dean. I feel like I've just got the best team imaginable to help make this happen. ... It's been a team effort."

The Jackson School of Global Affairs opened on July 1, and its first new cohort of students matriculated at the end of August. With the school's opening, Levinsohn became its inaugural dean.

Levinsohn told the News that there was a "historical piece" to the matriculation ceremony that kicked off the school year, since it was Jackson's first. While students have enrolled at the Jackson Institute over the last decade, they graduated with a master of arts from Yale's Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. Now, as a professional school, students will be awarded with a master of public policy degree.

Levinsohn has a habit of interspersing jokes into his more serious answers. "I get new stationery," he quipped when asked about how his role has changed since last year. But his excitement about the new student opportunities at Jackson shines through.

"In July ... it was pretty darn quiet, because no one's here in July," Levinsohn said. "But it really kind of hit home in September when the students came, because the students are the heart of any school."

Sangbin Choi GRD '23, a second year student at Jackson, told the News that Levinsohn is attentive to students, always responding immediately to their emails and occasionally visiting the graduate students' lounge to check in on them. Choi described how Levinsohn had invited him and other international students to his home for a potluck Thanksgiving dinner over the break, where attendees each brought a dish from their home countries.

Hosting dinners for students is not unusual for Levinsohn — he told the News that he is planning to have each of Jackon's firstyear students over in groups of six. The first of these happened on Monday, Levinsohn said, and he rattled off a list of those students and their backgrounds: a South Korean army officer, a former Peace Corps volunteer who spent time in Ecuador, a senior fellow from Kenya.

"The diversity of thought is one of the things that's really, to me, striking, when I get together with the students because people have such different experiences," Levinsohn said. "I mean, just looking around the dinner table, it was like, 'Yeah, this is why we're doing this,' you know?"

Levinsohn highlighted the Senior Fellow Program, which has been running since the founding of the Jackson Institute in 2011, as another pillar of Jackson's intellectual and demographic diversity.

This program, as well as Jackson's size — "we're small, and we plan to stay that way" — and access to Yale's other professional schools, are what distinguishes Jackson from its peer institutions, Levinsohn said.

"I think the senior fellows allow us to add a dimension of diversity that is harder to achieve if you restrict yourself to academic faculty, just because as academics, we're all part of the same industry at some level," Levinsohn said. "If I opened a med school, and I didn't hire any doctors, you would think I'm crazy. If I opened a law school and didn't have any lawyers, it's probably illegal. But you can open a school of public policy and not have any policy practitioners, and people just say, 'Yeah, that makes sense,' and I think that's crazy."

Levinsohn has led Jackson since its 2011 establishment, serving as director of the institute until its transition into a professional school this year.

He recalled his first meeting with Richard Levin, the president of Yale during the Jackson Institute's founding, as one of the most transformative meetings of his life. He had been attending an economics conference at Yale while he was a professor at the University of Michigan, when he received a call from Levin's secretary who asked him to meet with Levin for lunch.

"I look at myself and literally, I've got on a T-shirt, a pair of shorts and a pair of Birkenstocks, and I'm thinking, I'm not sure I can go see the president of Yale dressed like this," Levinsohn said.

"She says, 'Oh, we're very casual here in the summer' — you know, I learned that casual meant no tie, but still a jacket and slacks," he continued. "But I went, and I remember Levin saying, 'We were thinking of opening a School of International Affairs,



MIKANDA JEYARE INAM/CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPI

As the Jackson School of Global Affairs officially opened its doors this fall, the News spoke to the school's inaugural dean.

do you want to put your name in the hat to run it?' Of all the meetings I've ever had, that one probably changed my life the most."

Prior to his appointment at Jackson, Levinsohn taught in the University of Michigan's economics department for 20 years. He told the News that teaching and doing research gave him "tremendous satisfaction," but by 2011 he had reached a point where the chance to build a school was something "worth making a trade off for."

The impact of Levinsohn's research experience and his students is clear from the decor of his office in Horchow Hall, which looks out across the street at the two buildings that Jackson will be acquiring next year. Levinsohn pointed out the photographs lining the walls, one of which depicts a mother sitting at a sewing machine, working while cradling her baby in her lap. He found the photograph while digging through the archives of the Southern Africa Labor and Development Research Unit, he said.

"That picture jumped out at me and I've had it in my office ever since because it reminds me
— I'm a development economist
— of why I want to do the work
that I do," Levinsohn said.

One wall is lined with books, many of which are authored by other Jackson faculty. But according to Levinsohn, what he really loves reading is fiction. He is currently reading "Crossroads" by Jonathan Franzen, set in a small town in the Midwest, where Levinsohn grew up. Levinsohn said in his town in the rural Midwest, a lot of the social interactions were around church — although he himself did not attend — so the milieu of the book felt "familiar" to him.

On the opposite wall, above the fireplace, sit trinkets that students, senior fellows and visitors to Jackson have given Levinsohn over the years.

"One of the cool things working here is people coming from all over the world," Levinsohn said.

Apart from the "new T-shirts and new stationery," Levinsohn told the News that his responsibilities have changed over his time at Jackson. During the institute's first few years, Levinsohn said that he was working alongside a small group of people, which meant that he directly supervised many administrative and managerial decisions.

Over time, though, the institute got to the point where it had faculty governance — a point that Levinsohn said with pride.

"It's been an evolution, not a revolution," Levinsohn said. "My role has changed from trying to envision something that didn't really exist to now trying to work with my faculty to set up processes."

Director of International Security Studies Arne Westad, whose office sits beside Levinsohn's, described Levinsohn as "an inspirational academic leader."

"His greatest strength is that he has a clear vision of what the Jackson School should aspire to be, without imposing his views on the faculty and being willing to take advice in the process," Westad said.

The Jackson School of Global Affairs is Yale's first new professional school in over 40 years.

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## Wi-Fi outages impact student learning and classroom experience



YALE DAILY NEWS

In the midst of a five-year IT revamp, Wi-Fi outages cause campuswide disruptions.

**BY ANNA LENAKER**CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

By 10 a.m. on Sept. 6, rainfall had surpassed what New Haven typically gets in a month, resulting in campuswide interruptions to Yale's connectivity services.

In an email that morning to the University community, Yale Information Technology Services cautioned that outages may impact a range of services, including the campus network, CAS, VPN and the IT system status page, among others. According to John Barden, vice president for information technology and chief information officer, the outages were caused by water infiltration into campus network infrastructure situated near an active construction site.

"A significant amount of rain fell in a short amount of time, and the switch room in [Kline] Tower became extremely wet due to ongoing construction there," Barden wrote in an email to the News. "It was not possible to keep water out of this active construction site."

In the fall of 2019, the University embarked on a five-year plan to update campus network equipment and improve the resiliency of its information technology infrastructure to weather-related issues, Barden said. He added that the combined efforts between Yale ITS and the Office of Facilities have made system-wide outages "significantly" less frequent and have improved the department's recovery time when outages do occur.

Barden highlighted that all of the switch room projects which have been completed over the course of these renovations remained dry during Tuesday's storm. And when the Kline Tower switch room is completed, he said, Yale ITS is confident that the facility will remain dry, "reducing the risk of future weather-related network disruptions." In the meantime, the construction team is actively working to reduce the likelihood of future water infiltration.

Minnie Li ENV '23 shared that the recent outages impacted an important job interview — an experience she described as "very frustrating."

"In general," Li said, "this year Yale Secure has been kind of terrible... sometimes I cannot connect to it."

Rebecca Harris LAW '24 shared similar sentiments to Li as she recently had an online interview that required a faster internet connection than was available to her on campus. Ultimately, Harris relied on her cell phone data for the interview.

Barden told the News that the five-year plan will improve day-to-day Wi-Fi strength and connectivity, making it "better, faster" and more able to cover more area.

Some students, however, are adapting the way they do things in the short term as their trust in Yale's network reliability falters. Li said she will be taking future interviews at home, worried about the risk of another important interview being interrupted by network outages on campus.

Of future concern to Harris is the possibility of disruptions occurring during crucial moments when law students are working virtually with realworld clients.

"Now in the COVID era, things like settlement conferences, hearings and meetings with your clients and opposing counsel all happen via online platforms," Harris said. "I imagine it's terrifying to be representing a real client in a real hearing and not knowing whether your internet is going to be cutting out"

is going to be cutting out." Without a fully-functioning Wi-Fi network, students may face difficulties accessing digital resources and online programs such as Zoom. Barden said that Yale ITS is working to refine the engineering design of the University's network components to isolate future disruptions and minimize the impact of future outages. These changes and other recently employed resiliency efforts focused on better localizing disruptions will be tested over the coming winter break, according to Barden.

Even so, the five-year plan to improve Yale's network may take slightly longer, he added.

"The overall network replacement project was planned for 2019-24, though this schedule is being reassessed due to significant global network equipment supply shortages which have required slowing the deployment through the pandemic," Barden said.

Barden is the inaugural vice president for information technology in the University cabinet.

Contact **ANNA LENAKER** at anna.lenaker@yale.edu.

"Out of drag, I'm a white guy with a guitar, which isn't special. There are a million white guys with guitars. But being a drag queen with a guitar is a lot more commanding." TRIXIE MATTEL AMERICAN DRAG QUEEN

## Yale experts weigh in on rising costs and consumer spending

BY MADELINE CORSON CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

In advance of the upcoming U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index Report on Tuesday, Yale economics affiliates spoke about the relationship between inflation and changes in consumer spending.

The most recent BLS report was published on Aug. 10. Citing data from July of this year, it revealed that the Consumer Price Index remained unchanged from the previous month, but has risen by 8.5 percent overall in the past 12 months, meaning that the current cost of a theoretical basket of consumer goods is 8.5 percent more expensive today than it was 12 months ago. Economics professor Giuseppe Moscarini told the News that any monetary or fiscal policy aimed at curbing this inflation will take time to affect the market.

"Monetary policy acts with a significant lag," Moscarini wrote in an email to the News. "We have known this for a long time. The [Federal Reserve's] recent actions should start showing effects this fall, not yet now. Congress's fiscal policy has been mostly stimulative; the recent act providing incentives to green investment can increase production capacity and bring prices down, but it will take years."

Economists have established that rising prices constrict consumer spending habits. In particular, a Gallup poll conducted last month found that rising prices are imposing financial hardship on 56 percent of American households, marking a 7 percent increase since January.

Moscarini explained that inflation would be "harmless" if all prices and all wages were to rise predictably and universally. Yet when inflation rises quickly, he said, the volatile nature of inflation can inflict negative consequences on real wages, or the purchasing power of paychecks.

He added that inflation particularly affects households who rely on consistent earnings, as well as individuals who hold financial assets like bonds and savings accounts. Students, according to Moscarini,

are "typically the least exposed" to inflation's negative impacts.

At its last meeting in July, the Federal Reserve raised the target range for the federal funds rate — the interest rate that banks charge one another to borrow money overnight — from between 1.50 and 1.75 percent to between 2.25 and 2.50 percent to help target rising inflation. Jerome Powell, chairman of the Federal Reserve, recently indicated that the Fed will likely continue to raise interest rates.

Moscarini referred to a phenomenon called the "liquidity channel," in which higher interest rates reduce business activity by making certain operations and investments more expensive for companies to finance. As business activity decreases, Moscarni said, companies may cut back on hiring or decrease real wages. As a result, certain workers may be forced to cut back on their spending habits if they are unable to borrow money from other sources.

In an interview with Yale Insights, Yale School of Management professor Ravi Dhar stated that inflation can have complex

and unexpected impacts on consumer behavior.

"You can't make a general statement that people all buy less or trade down; it depends," Dhar said. "For example, when people start eating out less at restaurants, they spend more on food products they'll consume at home. Since I'm not spending \$20 on fish at a restaurant this week, I can go to the store and buy not the cheapest fish, but one of the better fish. You see these fascinating changes in

behavior. Taken together, there's a lot of complexity."

Moscarini said that consumers can do their part to combat high inflation by shopping for more inexpensive opportunities, which pressures sellers to keep their prices low.

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics will publish its next Consumer Price Index report on Tuesday at 8:30 a.m.

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ZOE BERG/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Despite damage control efforts by the government, rising costs still pose a detriment to consumer purchase power, Yale professors shared.

## Students and faculty reflect on one-week add-drop period



YASMINE HALMANE/CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

This semester, the University shortened add-drop period to a single week, a move exacerbating concerns brought by last year's elimination of shopping period.

BY EVAN GORELICK AND CALLIE KRUEGER

STAFF REPORTER AND CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

What was once a several-week shopping period has shrunk into a single-week add-drop period at Yale College, prompting some students and professors to express concerns over the course registration process.

This semester, the add-drop period lasted from the beginning of classes on Wednesday, Aug. 31 until the following Wednesday, Sept. 7. Two years ago, then-Dean of Yale College Marvin Chun announced that the traditional shopping period would be scrapped in favor of early pre-registration with an add-drop period at the start of the semester. Rising sophomores, juniors and seniors were required to register

for their fall 2021 courses at the end of the spring 2021 semester. The change ignited backlash from students and alumni, who raised concerns that students would not have enough time to choose courses. This semester's further abbreviation of add-drop period, from 12 days in Spring 2022 to a single week in Fall 2022, has aroused new questions about whether these changes aggravate existing course selection difficulties.

"I'd be very interested in hearing what the reasoning was behind making the add-drop period so short, but none has been offered," music lecturer Joshua Rosenblum said. "The real culprit is the unnecessary Monday-classes-meet-on-Friday policy right before Labor Day weekend. When I was a Yale student in the early 1980s, that scheduling oddity did not exist, and somehow everything functioned just fine."

The altered schedule accounting for Labor Day weekend meant that Friday classes did not meet during the add-drop period. For students considering Friday classes, this change was especially frustrating.

Students enrolled in Friday-only courses were in most cases forced to gamble on the value said courses would have for them; the wrong bet could result in a student's \$20 course drop fee and a hole in their semester credits.

Faculty members also raised concerns about the exclusion of Friday courses from the add-drop period, explaining that they hope students feel comfortable committing to taking their course despite never attending it.

To combat this issue, comparative literature professor George Syrimis said he tried meeting with his students before the end of add-drop to ease any anxieties, to get to know his students and to help familiarize them with their potential learning environment.

"The [schedule change] makes Friday courses less appealing precisely because students do not get a chance to try out the courses before committing to them," Syrimis told the News. "The Monday/Friday switch exacerbates the problem it tries to address."

Anya AitSahlia '25 added that some of her classes assigned "nor-

mal" workloads that interfered with her ability to try out classes, further adding to the stress of the add-drop period.

"Once you start a class, you're immediately dropped into the work for it," AitSahlia said. "And that for me has been a reason to not shop classes, even if they seem super interesting, [because] I would not only have an insane day ... going from class to class, but also then be expected to do the work for all of those classes once I'm back home for the night, since normal workload starts day one."

Still, many students and professors did not express issues with the current add-drop system. Solomon Gonzalez '23 said that the change did not have much of an effect on his planned schedule and his add-drop period experience.

Add-drop period closed on Sept. 7.

Contact EVAN GORELICK at evan.gorelick@yale.edu and CALLIE KRUEGER at callie.krueger@yale.edu.

## City sues motorcycle stunt show organizers for \$92K

BY CHARLOTTE HUGHES
STAFF REPORTER

The daredevil motorcycle tricks at the annual EastCoastin' stunt show will not happen in New Haven this year.

After the 2021 EastCoastin' motorcycle stunt show was illegally held near the New Haven waterfront and cost the city an estimated \$92,000 in overtime pay, the city has sued the organizers to recoup the costs.

"It may take some time to do so, but we will hold you accountable," Mayor Justin Elicker said in a press conference last Tuesday.

Last September, EastCoastin' 2021 welcomed over 5,000 people to New Haven's industrial waterfront, temporarily blocking Waterfront Street. Revving their engines, the participants performed motorcycle stunts, the New Haven Independent reported. The paper estimated that 150 city police officers were present at the event, along with public works employees helping with dump trucks and barricades.

Mayor Elicker said at the press conference that the organizers did not request a special permit before the event. The police department told the public that the event was canceled, but the organizers still went ahead with the event.

The organizers, Gabriel Canestri and Salvatore Fusco, did not respond to multiple requests for comment.

The civil suit, which was brought on Friday, hopes to regain the over \$80,000 in police overtime costs and additional \$12,000 in costs that other city departments incurred from the event.

"[Fusco and Canestri's] goal was to profit off of this entire action," Blake Sullivan, assistant corporation counsel to the City of New Haven, said at the press conference. "We want to see to it that that doesn't happen again, and that those costs are recouped."

Typically, people who organize special events in New Haven must pay for costs of police protection and other permit and license fees. By not securing a special event permit, the civil suit said that Fusco and Canestri sought to evade the associated costs, while still profiting from corporate sponsorships and advertising at the event, as well as from monetary contributions by attendees.

Plex Audio, a manufacturer of plug-and-play music systems for Harley Davidson motorcycles, confirmed to the News that they were at the September 2021 stunt show.

### Community or Chaos?

People's views on the Sept. 24, 2021 EastCoastin' stunt show vary widely; some call it extremely dangerous, while others say it's the best event that's happened to New Haven in years.

The show has been held since 2016 in New Haven, the New Haven Independent reported. It grew from 300 to 600 to 1,500 participants, with 3,000 expected this year, according to organizer Gabe Canestri Jr., a High School in the Community grad.

But in 2021, the stunt show was a "come at your own risk" event.

"We tried everything from pulling permits, to paying for road closures and even renting a local spot for a venue," @Eastcoastincrew posted on Instagram on Aug. 27, 2021 — approximately a month in advance of the show to their 67,700 followers. "All were shot down and pretty much shushed out the door by the Mayors Office."

Mayor Elicker said at a press conference the Wednesday before the stunt show that the show was not permitted and would not be tolerated.

Ward 6 Alder Carmen Rodriguez said at the same press conference that chaos erupts when EastCoastin' takes place.

"Shame on these two young men," she said.

But some EastCoastin' attendees told a different story.

"I've been to multiple years and [EastCoastin' has] gotten bigger and more enjoyable every year," said Ryan Callahan, a 2021 attendee. "It's a safe environment of like-minded people. It's disappointing that they come

after our community."

He described the Eastcoastin' community with four words—
unconditional loyalty and reliability.

"We don't change who we are for anybody," Callahan said. "We are only as strong of a community as the person next to us."

New Haven police chief Karl Jacobson said that the event was "extremely, extremely dangerous."

After the stunt show, @East-coastincrew posted to Instagram on Oct. 1, 2021, thanking attendees for coming out to the "cancelled event" that "went as smooth as it could have."

### Multiple Actions: Strings of city litigation

The new civil suit is not the only step New Haven has taken in try-



YALE DAILY NEW

During the press conference last Tuesday, Mayor Elicker said that the city has taken multiple actions to hold the EastCoastin' organizers accountable.

ing to clamp down on illegal street speeding and stunt tricks.

During the press conference last Tuesday, Mayor Elicker said that the city has taken multiple actions to hold the EastCoastin' organizers accountable and ensure that the type of event does not happen again.

City prosecutors charged Canestri with one misdemeanor count of second-degree breach of peace and one misdemeanor count of inciting a riot in fall 2021.

Those charges were later dropped — under the condition that Canestri not "solicit, organize, hold or participate in any motorcycle event" in the city over the next three years unless properly permitted. If not, he could go

The city had taken action prior to EastCoastin' 2021.

State police had arrested Canestri in April 2017 on 15 counts of reckless endangerment, 23 counts of reckless driving and 24 counts of operating a motorcycle without facial protection. He pled guilty to misdemeanor crimes.

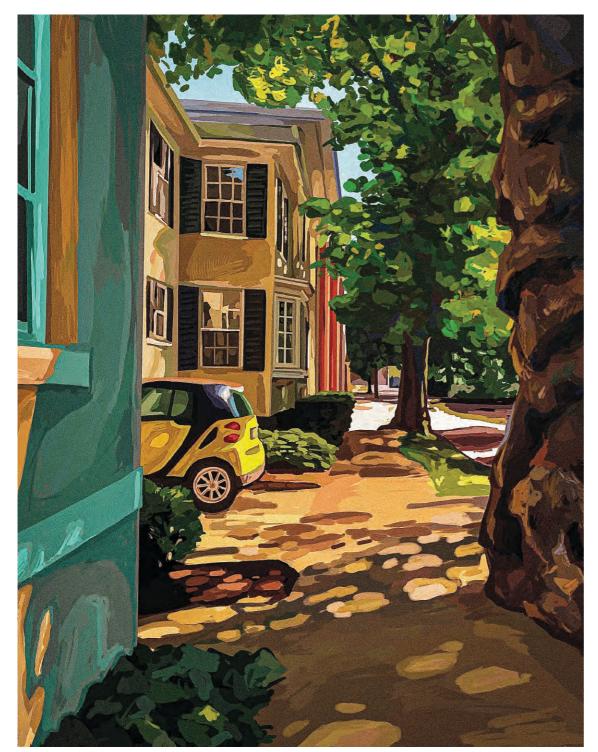
Jacobson said at the Friday press conference that according to Canestri, Eastcoastin' 2022 will not occur.

"I'd like to believe him, but we're prepared, we're looking at everything that would normally go out [in publicizing the event]," Jacobson said.

EastCoastin' 2021 was held on Sept. 24, 2021 at locations including 153 Forbes Ave.

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Reflections on the Legacies of the Week of Modern Art and the Bicentennial of Independence

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**SPORTS** 



YALE DAILY NEWS · FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2022 · yaledailynews.com

## FOR MORE SPORTS CONTENT.

SEASON ON PAR

Despite a weekend of mixed results, both the men's and women's squads saw standout performances from individual players as the women place fifth at home and men take tenth in Minnesota.



STARTING THE CRUSADE Team 149 will make its debut on Saturday as it travels to Worcester, Massachusetts to face Holy Cross. The formidable opponent will test the team ahead of conference play.





"The new scoreboard is game changing when it comes to reviews and hyping up the team before the game'

**JACKIE KISA'19** FORMER FIELD HOCKEY CAPTAIN

## Field Hockey beats Sacred Heart, Drexel



MUSCOSPORTSPHOTOS.COM

On the newly-renovated Johnson Field, the Bulldogs improved to 3-1 with two more wins.

BY BEN RAAB STAFF REPORTER

In its home opener, the Yale field hockey team (3-1, 0-0 Ivy) continued its early hot streak with a 1-0 victory over Sacred Heart (0-4, 0-0 NEC) on Friday, and extended their winning streak against Drexel (record, 0-0 CAA) on Sunday 2-1.

These were the team's first games on the newly-renovated Johnson Field. Yale Athletics marked the occasion - in conjunction with the field hockey program's 50th anniversary - with a massive turnout for Alumni Weekend.

Under the Friday night lights, the Bulldogs took on Connecticut rival Sacred Heart. The teams battled hard in the first half, but came up scoreless when the buzzer sounded at the half.

The break between periods must have put a fire under the Elis, as less than a minute into the third quarter, forward Ellie Barlow '25 deflected the ball into the Pioneers' net off her own penalty corner.

Sacred Heart had a hard time getting to the other side of the field, only getting two shots off, neither of which made it to goalie Luanna Summer '24.

On Sunday, Yale found itself under intense pressure in the opening minutes of the game. Summer was forced into three saves within the first five minutes, including a crucial deflection off a penalty corner that drew a roar from the fan section. The Bulldogs' bend-but-don't-break philosophy would be a constant theme throughout the game.

While Drexel struggled to execute on chances in its offensive zone, Yale wasted no time converting on its first big chance of the game. Midfielder captain Alissa Wong '23 gathered the ball at the top of the zone and lasered a pass in to Barlow, who redirected it in. Drexel, unfazed by the 1-0 deficit, continued to push back the Yale defense, earning several penalty corners.

With seconds remaining in the first quarter, Drexel's Amber Brouwer broke the Yale lines on a breakaway opportunity and looked certain to score, but was thwarted by a charging Summer, who demonstrated incredible awareness and reflexes to make a diving save, her fifth of the period.

Yale extended its lead to 2-0 in the second quarter after forward Poppy Beales '26 scored her first career goal off a nifty backhand from open play. Beales, who hails from Norfolk, England, was playing in her first ever game at Johnson Field.

"I just picked it up, contested the center back, managed to pull it back and get the shot off," Beales said. "I didn't think it was going in initially."

Beales' goal was made possible after a great takeaway by midfielder Théodora Dillman '23, who intercepted a pass and led the counterattack.

Yale continued to face pressure from the Drexel attack in the second

SEE FIELD HOCKEY PAGE 10

## Women's soccer loses for first time in season

BY TOTA CONDE RODRIGUES DA CUNHA STAFF REPORTER

The Yale men's soccer team charged into Reese Stadium this Sunday night dancing and singing after bagging two hard-fought wins against West Virginia (2-3-0, 0-0-0 Big 12) and Villanova (1-2-1, 0-0-0 Big East). The women's team (3-2-1, 0-0-0 Ivy), on the other hand, registered two losses against Kansas State (3-3-1, 0-0-0 Big 12) and Kansas University (6-2-0, 0-0-0 Big 12).

The Bulldogs packed their bags and traveled far and wide this weekend. The men's team found themselves in Morgantown, West Virginia this Friday to play WVU, and then back home in Reese Stadium on Sunday to play Villanova. The women's team headed over to

the Sunflower State to play Kansas State on Friday and Kansas University on Sunday.

"Hard to put into words how proud I am of our team and staff," men's head coach Kylie Stannard told Yale Athletics after the men's first game. "Not only is WVU a top side, it's a tough place to play and I am most impressed with our ability to control our emotions and not panic after conceding an early goal."

In West Virginia, the Yalies battled one of the toughest teams in college soccer. The Mountaineers are ranked No. 10 in the nation by Top Draw Soccer and ranked No. 23 in the NCAA. Yale is not included in either ranking at the moment.

SEE SOCCER PAGE 10



TEDDY CAVANAGH/CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

The next game for the women's team will be this Friday against UConn (3-2-1,0-0-0 Big East) at 7 p.m.

## **Bulldogs dominate** at Syracuse



MUSCOSPORTSPHOTOS.COM

The Yale volleyball team went 3-0 — including two sweeps — at the Syracuse Tourna-

### BY WEI-TING SHEH STAFF REPORTER

Last weekend, the Yale volleyball team (5-1, 0-0 Ivy) continued its winning ways with a spectacular performance at the Syracuse Tournament. The Bulldogs won the event after defeating all three of their opponents,

including the hosts. On Friday, Sept. 9, the Elis opened the tournament with a gritty five set match-up against Army (4-6, 0-0 Patriot), which Yale won 3-2. Just a few hours after, the Bulldogs managed another impressive win, this time a 3-0 sweep against tournament host Syracuse (4-5, 0-0 ACC). On Saturday, Yale wrapped up a winning weekend by taking out the brooms once again against Hofstra (3-8, 0-0 CAA), sweeping the Pride 3-0. Coupled with a 2-1 record at the Seminole Invitational the week before, the Elis are

looking strong in non-conference play. "I am really, really proud of what our team did this past weekend at Syracuse," captain and setter Renee Shultz '23 said. "In the face of different challenges and adversity, we really stayed focused and grounded, ultimately playing good, sound volleyball. It's not easy being on the road and traveling for a long time. When it came to it, we were up against big competition. [Last week] we were able to really do some incredible stuff ... It makes me proud of the team and where we're at, as well as really excited to see how we continue to progress as the season goes on."

The Bulldogs kicked off the tournament with a hard-earned win against

SEE VOLLEYBALL PAGE 10

## **Yalies sail at four regattas**



MELANIE HELLER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER The Bulldogs placed well at each of the four regattas they competed in this past weekend.

BY ANDREW CRAMER STAFF REPORTER

The Yale sailing teams sent sailors to four different regattas this weekend. The crews secured first-place finishes at the Harry Anderson Trophy and Bears Invite and second-place finishes at the Pine Trophy and Tony Deutsch Regatta.

Competing on home waters at the Yale Corinthian Yacht Club, the co-ed teams dominated the Harry Anderson Trophy. Ben Markert '23 and Carmen Cowles '25 prevailed in the A division.

"Sailing with [Markert], we focused on playing to our strengths and capitalizing on high-percentage moves," Cowles told the News. "Overall, I'm proud of how [Markert] and I sailed this weekend, it being

the first time we've competed together, and I'm excited for the many weekends to come."

The Elis entered another boat in the A division, featuring Mia Nicolosi '25, Helena Ware '23 and Meredith Ryan '23. That crew continued the Bulldogs' dominant ways in the event, finishing in third place. Yale's two teams in the B division finished first and eighth, leaving the regatta with an overall team victory across both divisions.

Markert, as one of the veteran presences on the team, recounted some of the successes and struggles the team experienced at the event.

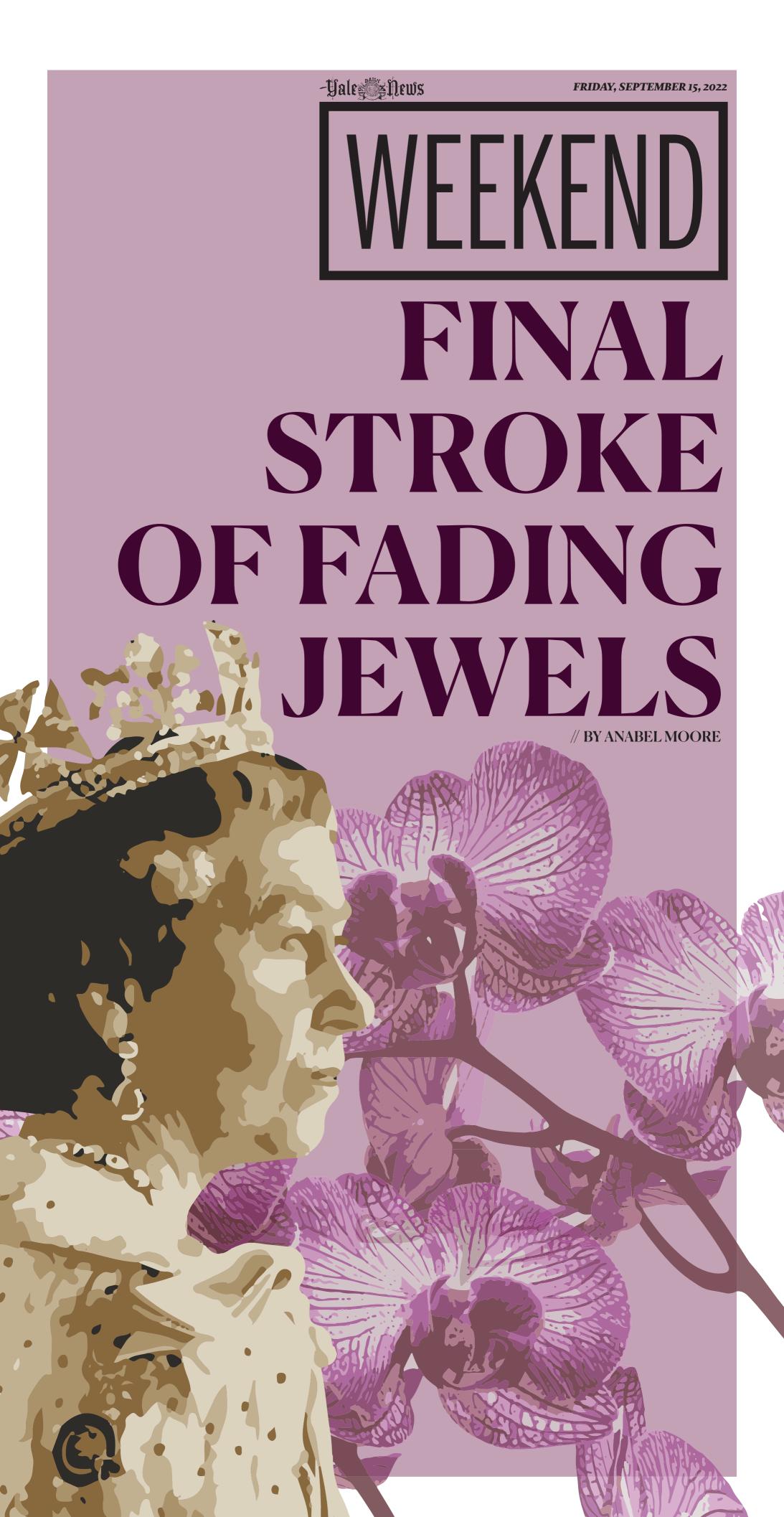
"The conditions were tricky, and there are certainly some areas to work on, but we sailed well enough to take the win home again," Markert said. "I

thought that our ability to put the occasional bad race behind us and move forward with a clear head was crucial. The nature of light wind and choppy waves can make for uneven score lines and frustrating racing, but I thought our team did a great job staying level-headed and sailing smart."

Competing on the Charles River at the Toni Deutsch regatta, the women's team finished second in the A division and fourth in the B division, earning them second place in the event overall behind their rivals from Harvard.

Emma Cowles '25 sailed with rookie Carmen Berg '26 in the A division. The sophomore explained some of the areas where the two excelled as well as where they

SEE **SAILING** PAGE 10



### WEEKEND COMMONS

# THE QUEEN AND HERENPIRE

Black photo albums, treasure troves of almost 70 years of my nuclear family's personal histories, are stacked in a cupboard in my living room. Each houses a different flavor of sweet nostalgia: the '50s and '60s of my dad's idyllic childhood in Jamaica, the stainless-steel playgrounds of my mom's '70s in Minnesota, the Kenyan savannah of my brothers' late '80s and my cherub-cheeked ownership of the new millennium, testing the boundaries of Caribbean fauna.

There is a crown jewel amongst these albums, inconspicuous save for its unwieldy bindings. It holds a sliver of photographic reproductions of 15 original mixed media paintings of Jamaica's orchids. The original paintings by Charlotte Hall were considered by the late Alex D. Hawkes — a noted botanist and horticulturist — to be amongst the most enchanting and delightful he had ever encountered anywhere in the world.

Charlotte Hall was my greatgreat-grandmother and a painter of considerable talent who used the profits from her works to support and educate her young family. The orchid paintings now live in my parents' home.

One remarkable photo in the orchid album, dangling to the binding by the same willpower that propelled her to 96, is of Queen Elizabeth II. She was approximately 57 years of age and in a green and white polka dot dress and white gloves. With a discerning eye you can spot her signature white Launer handbag. She is flipping through an oddly familiar thick black photo album as the orchid portraits hang austerely against a back wall. Her hairstyle had not changed in my lifetime, only in this picture it is chestnut brown, rather than gray.

The photo was taken in 1983, when the Queen presided over the



// ANABEL MOORE

re-opening ceremony of Devon House in Kingston, Jamaica. The site would later be named a national monument by the Jamaica National Heritage Trust. The gilded mansion was built by George Steibel, Jamaica's first Black millionaire, on land originally gifted to the Anglican church by King

Charles II. Though it once faced demolition in 1965, the property is now an endearing history center and wedding venue, as well as National Geographic's 2011 fourth best place to enjoy ice cream.

When she toured Devon House, these orchid paintings were on display in the restored

dining room, shown by several distant family members to whom I know I'm related but can't identify. They hang in the photo with the Queen, in bamboo frames at this point undamaged by Hurricane Andrew.

I think of these paintings similarly to how I think of the Queen:

they are silent images and a tenuous link to an old order that is warmer to memory than the future. The Jamaica she visited in February 1983 is not the Jamaica my dad grew up in, nor the Jamaica I know today. Prime Minister Andrew Holness announced in March that the country is to secede from the Commonwealth, following a controversial visit by then-Prince William and Duchess Kate that was condemned by over 100 prominent Jamaican leaders. Then and now, the jewel tones hide the colonial backbone of the monarchy and its increasingly mauger Empire.

The queen will be known for being a stanchion of quiet consistency to a Britain in what now seems like perpetual turmoil but also as a hollow symbol of a jaded monarchy that still fails to adequately condemn the throne's role in the atrocities of slavery and imperialism. The missing apologies and reparations for centuries of systematic oppression in the wake of the transatlantic slave trade, the hostile upper lip through decades of exponential scandal and her understated implication in Prince Andrew's deeply unsettling personal life are tarnishes on her reign that need never be buffed out.

I admire both Charlotte and the Queen's dedication to their families, but history will view them as more than matriarchs. They were both relics of an antiquated and inequitable status quo. I don't know if I'll ever figure out how to reconcile my family's role in Jamaica's colonial past with the country I love so dearly today, but I do know that the queen's passing is the final stamp on a gilded age of crown ignorance. Neither the throne nor anyone implicated in its imperialism will ever again get away with being so quiet - my own family's legacy included.

Contact ANABEL MOORE at anabel.moore@yale.edu.



WKND RECOMMENDS

London fogs.

## Existing in a Liminial Space

// BY ANDREW CRAMER

As a sophomore in high school, I fell in love with the concept of liminal spaces while discussing the "Aeneid." Those moments where the epic exists in the in-between — having just left one space but not yet having entered another — appealed to me in a way I can't quite explain.

I remember the words that captured my imagination: "the wooden horse halted four times on the very threshold of the gate, and four times the weapons gave a noise from the belly." If the Greek horse failed to make it past the threshold, Troy would survive. And if it passed into the city, Troy would be destroyed. We know how it ended, but for those four shudders back and forth across the city limits, the fate of an empire hung in limbo.

I may not be invading Troy, but I'm experiencing a similar feeling of uncertainty. Relationships from last year changed over the summer. Some of my friends talk about career plans, but I'm not thinking that far ahead yet. I am much more comfortable here than I was last year, but I still feel quite inexperienced compared to the upperclassmen I know.

For my first week or so on campus, I found myself overwhelmed by my own feelings of liminality. They left me confused and tired and a little bit stressed.

I tried going out more, but that just wore me down. I tried sleeping more, but then felt like I wasn't doing enough to get back into the swing of things. I threw myself headfirst into clubs, and that was

fun, but I felt I wasn't spending enough

time with my friends.
On and on it went. Each potential solution for my funk seemed insufficient. With everything in a state of transition,

there was no single resolution.

The answer should have been obvious: I had to embrace the liminal spaces. I had forgotten that there is nothing inherently bad about being in a state of transition.

If everything is settled and clearly defined, there is no room for growth or exploration. My current lack of certainty means that I have the chance to determine my priorities and pursue them with intentionality. Instead of succumbing to an overwhelming wave of uncontrollable chaos, appreciating the power of a liminal moment has allowed me to reimagine what my life at Yale could be.

This change in mindset, more than any change in action, has brought me comfort. It forced me to be purposeful. If I was tired, I slept. If I was lonely, I saw friends. I didn't ask myself what I "should" be doing, but rather what I needed to do in that moment.

It's been four years since I started reading the "Aeneid," but the image of the horse faltering on the threshold of Troy won't leave my mind. I'm not quite sure why. I still don't even know why I fell in love with it in the first place. My best guess is that as a high schooler feeling like every moment was a transition from adolescence to adulthood, I latched onto a description of soldiers on the precipice.



I think it's strange to realize that the last four-plus years have been one prolonged liminal moment, or perhaps a series of smaller liminal moments connecting one mini-phase of my life to another. I don't know if or when I'll feel a little less uncertain and a little more settled. But that's okay.

Worst case, my liminality ends in the violent destruction of a great city. Or maybe I'll just declare a major.

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## SEX ON THE WKND: Kinkshaming My Fans

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, the News' anonymous column dedicated to answering your burning questions about sex, love and anything in between. Obsessing over sex is a Yale tradi tion as old as the Oldest College Daily itself. This year, we have a love-guru 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 online.

The person I am hooking up with asked me to set up their computer for a movie, and their most recent search on private browsing mode popped up. The content was interesting, to say the least. I don't even want to know how those people held that position for so long. I don't personally watch porn; how can I tell if what I saw was normal?

-SawEvilHeardEvilSpokeEvil

First off, I am so sorry. I remember my first time seeing an Unexpected Digital Penis – a UDP, if you will. I was 12 years old and on Omegle, and I put "kids" as my interest. I thought that would mean I'd see other kids. I was gravely mistaken. Now, I'm not 100 percent sure what you saw, but I think it's safe to say that some serious unpacking is necessary.

Inis week, I will be ranking some of the most popular porn categories from the least to most concerning, so my loyal followers know when to run from the Zuckerburg-eved, sore-wristed sex freaks of the world. Yes, despite all instinct, Sex on the WKND is here to kinkshame.

### 1. Amateur

In most cases, ameteur porn - colloquially known as "noobs with boobs" - is the greenest flag in the industry. A low bar, I'll admit. Amateur videos are often made by people in relationships who are interested in sharing their connection with the world. This often means more realistic positions, penises and passion - and too little experience to be problematic.

### 2. Massage

Honestly, I think this one is kinda hot.

### 3. Blowiob

There's nothing inherently unusual about feeling fellatious from time to time.

Don't get me wrong, I understand the appeal of a sweet, slurping lovescape too. However, when someone has the whole internet at their beck and call, why would that call be "suck my dick?"

### 4. Threesome

Threesomes are harder to follow than the latest Christopher Nolan release. There are too many characters, too many storylines and no sense of linear time. But at least you can always count on Michael Caine to make a cameo.

### Masturbation

Life may mimic art, but if you're gonna fuck yourself, at least let it be a mutual affair.

### 6. Hardcore/Romantic

You know that political-spectrum diagram that people use to prove that communism and fascism are the same thing? It's the same concept; there's a fine line between cock rings and promise rings. Extremism is bad.

### 7. Stepsibling

This category is way more popular than it should be. I don't have any siblings - step or otherwise - so I can say with a completely unbiased, outsider view that this is

strange. I know "Game of Thrones" – and the Oueen, may she rest in peace - normalized fucking your family, but I think we need to vary our gene pools before the next generation pops out with Habsburg jaws.

### 8. Virtual Reality

You are not an ex-machina metaversal sexbot who only fucks via blockchain. Stop pretending you are. At least go analog and pleasure yourself with a copy of "The Rumpus." Even that soiled sex rag has more decorum.

### 9. Hentai

Anyone that fantasizes about fucking anything but other humans should not be fucking other humans.

10. Any ethno-specific descriptions

I really couldn't end with anything else - unless you want to go back to the kids section on Omegle.

If you feel affronted after reading this, that's on you. I recommend going to therapy, learning to do missionary and liking it.

Or maybe missionary is all you get, and that's why you're watching porn in the first place. In that case, maybe try flip-







**WKND Recommends** 

Eating breakfast.

# THE UNSPOKEN TRUTH ABOUT THE CLASS OF 2026

// BY JACQUELINE KASKEL



"They walk too slow."
"They travel in packs."

"They're crowding up the dining halls."

These are only a few of the complaints that I've heard from various people about the new first years at Yale. I remember getting to campus in the afternoon of Aug. 20 — the campus was gloriously empty. The Branford College courtyard was gleaming in the evening sun. The Stiles College dining hall was filled with upperclassmen, but not

to a frustrating extent. The

streets were peaceful and the

sidewalks were navigable.

Then came the morning of Aug. 21. I woke up bright and early to start my shift with the Branford move-in crew. which ended up being more of a four-hour strength workout than work. It was here that I received my first impressions of the Yale class of 2026, as they pulled up to the Vanderbilt driveway in their SUVs jam-packed with anything and everything imaginable. From cartons of soda to flatscreen TVs, these kids seemed to be prepared for anything that might come their way. I found it hard to believe how these incoming first years managed to fit so many IKEA bags and yoga mats and mini fridges into their cars. And, yet, I was even more perplexed at how they were going to fit it all in their suites. The chaos was palpable in those common rooms ... multiple suitemates, their parents and everything they could find at Target were crammed onto each floor of Vanderbilt Hall.

But can I really blame them? Can I really reprimand their hoarding tendencies and zealous parents? Or their bright faces as they set their eyes on Vanderbilt Hall for the first time? They're first years, after all. They don't know any better. They wouldn't know about the dangers of overpacking. Or about the small size of the closets — or wardrobes if you're unlucky. Or about the horrifically tiny doubles on Old Campus. These are things you learn along the way, usually as you start unpacking and run out of surface and drawer space

within five minutes. We were all as clueless once as they are now, mixing up lecture halls and getting lost in basements. The problem I think upperclassmen at Yale really have with the class of 2026 is not how they're glued together in groups as they walk down the street. Or how they're sometimes completely oblivious to people behind them on the sidewalk that have places to be and people to see. Or how they completely took over the only dining halls open during Camp Yale. It's instead an issue of jealousy.

Nobody likes to admit that they're envious of what

another person has — it's an admission of vice. Sometimes jealousy of another person's life feels like a weakness, like a sentiment we're never supposed to feel. Sometimes life tells us that we should always be perfectly content with what we've had and what we have, that wanting something we

cannot have is shameful. This is bogus. We're not perfect people in any capacity. It might be fruitless to have feelings of jealousy, but it's human. And I believe that the upperclassmen are maybe, just possibly, the tiniest bit envious of the class of 2026. That they are getting the classic and normal Yale experience that we never had. It's only instinct to feel a twinge of jealousy or to think to yourself every once in a while, "They don't realize how lucky they are."

But while they might not realize how incredible it is to finally be experiencing Yale at nearly its full extent, that does not give us the excuse to pester them. In fact, it makes me so happy that they don't have to deal with struggles and stresses that have plagued Yale for the past two years. No Arnold and McClellan Hall fiascos. No biweekly testing. No two-week residential college prison sentences. No Zoom classes. No required masking in spaces outside of class. Things are going to be as close to normal as they

can get for these first years, and though I wish it had been that way for me, I'm happy for them.

Seeing their optimism for the future and their nervous excitement about college was inspiring. If anything, I'm not jealous of the opportunities ahead of them, but of their blank slates. They are at a point in their lives when anything is possible, where the world is theirs for the taking. Whatever they dream of is within reach. As a FOOT leader this year, I got to see some of this hopefulness firsthand. Their eves shone with curiosity towards everything they encountered. They were brimming with enthusiasm for all that life has to offer. They were, and still are, the younger versions of ourselves just wanting to find happiness and somehow make a mark in the world along the way.

So, the first years might still travel in packs, crowd up the best dining halls and walk way too slowly down the already-cramped York Street sidewalk; yet, had we been in their position in our first years, I guarantee we would have done the same. I wish the first years the best of luck in their four years at Yale. I hope that they cherish those years and make the absolute most of them.

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### **WKND Hot Take:**

A bowl of barbecue sauce > A bowl of ranch.