

THE CHARGER BULLETIN



The student news source of the University of New Haven.

WHO WILL BE THE NEXT USGA PRESIDENT?



FIVE CANDIDATES VYING TO BE FUTURE USGA PRESIDENT



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F is for Feminism

Cover photos courtesy of the individual candidates for USGA president.



THE CHARGER BULLETIN

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Letters to the Editor are published under the discretion of the Editor in Chief, and not every submitted letter will be published. The Charger Bulletin also reserves the right to withhold Letters to the Editor that are excessively vulgar or nonsensical, or do not meet our editorial standards.

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Honorable Mention, Mobile App of the Year - Pinnacle Awards by College Media Association, 2017



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A Look At The USGA Presidential Candidates

BY KARINA KRUL & SERENA PIERVINCENZI
THE CHARGER BULLETIN

Full Q&A with each candidate can be found on chargerbulletin.com.



O Merranda Zehner, junior accounting major

On her platform: "...focused on outreach, inclusion, and growth. Through making a conscious effort to reach out to more demographic on campus...my goal is to see USGA's reputation become filled with positive interactions rather than a constant state of doubt and resentment... see USGA and individuals within the campus community grow to their fullest potential."

On how she can make a difference: "I've worked tirelessly...to make sure my face is a familiar and friendly one on campus..."

What she wants you to know: "...plans for presidency are solely based on the students' and organizations' needs...not personal gain..."

O

Johnathan Matyasich, junior fire science major

On his platform: "...streamlining USGA processes for student organizations, support research to enhance the Coordinator of Inclusion and Campus Relations position...expand USGA's focus to all student concerns by strategically diversifying the Senate, promote civic engagement on campus..."

On how he can make a difference: "I don't think it's possible for one person to...make this campus a better place...I can help..."

What he wants you to know: "...everything I have done...is in response to what students wish to see from their leadership..."



O Kenzie Whiting, junior biology: pre-med major

On her platform: "...the ideas of clear communication, a feeling of connection, mental health advocacy, and improving the newly paid positions of the Senate and the Coordinator of Inclusions and Campus Relations...starting with USGA and expanding our reach with the discussion and implementation of more mental health resources..."

On how she can make a difference: "I believe that the first place to start is building a connection between everyone..."

What she wants you to know: "I am running for them...seeing the passion that others have for USGA has made mine grow..."

O

Ian Maloney, junior criminal justice and legal studies double major

On his platform: "...streamlining USGA processes for student organizations, support research to enhance the Coordinator of Inclusion and Campus Relations position...expand USGA's focus to all student concerns by strategically diversifying the Senate, promote civic engagement on campus..."

On how he can make a difference: "I don't think it's possible for one person to...make this campus a better place...I can help..."

What he wants you to know: "...everything I have done...is in response to what students wish to see from their leadership..."



O Christina Genovese, junior communications and English double major

On her platform: "...integrating a diversity standard into the university classrooms so that there can be a better relationship between students and faculty...it is important for the USGA Eboard to be transparent and work cohesively with the student body...more USGA exposure to the campus..."

On how she can make a difference: "I can make this campus a better place by listening to the student body...creating positive change..."

What she wants you to know: "...with my passion for USGA from the last 3 years until now...I am a strong candidate..."

What Happens With Course Evaluations?

BY VICTORIA CAGLEY
STAFF WRITER

At the end of each semester, students are asked by the university to fill out course evaluations for the classes they took, and to reflect on their instructors. Many students, however, do not know how those evaluations are used by the university.

Associate provost of the College of Arts and Sciences, Stuart Sidle, says that student course evaluations are a vital part of the way courses are updated and improved upon. About every three years, there is a faculty committee that comes together and selects the different questions that appear on the course evaluation forms. The questions can come from faculty proposals or the use of question banks that other universities create.

From there, once students fill them out and the semester ends, professors do not see their course evaluations until after their grades are in. They then see a summary of the evaluations, where student names stay anonymous through a system of alphabetic listing, to prevent professors from knowing which student wrote which comment. There is a summary of their scores and averages for each item, and the comments are shown word-for-word to the instructor.

“We learn from feedback,” said Sidle. “If you want your school to be better, your university to be better, by doing [course evaluations] you’re con-

tributing to making it a better institution.”

According to Sidle, the university’s response rate has improved since the implementation of online course evaluations in 2014, with the average rate being about 80 percent of the entire university student population.

If an instructor consistently gets poor evaluations and resists changing their teaching methods or the course with the help of the department chairs and deans, it can impact whether or not they get asked back to the university, amongst other things. Faculty members have to complete annual performance reviews in which they reflect on their scores and pose ways that they can improve the courses that they teach.

“Overall at this university, we’re a teaching-oriented university,” said Sidle. “So we have a low tolerance for instructors who don’t care about teaching.”

One of the main points that the university makes on their website is that the faculty is “committed to your success and to helping you achieve more than you ever thought possible.”

In terms of the difference between university course evaluations and websites like Rate-MyProfessors.com, the student evaluations, though they aren’t public data, are used behind the scenes. Third party websites are often used as a resource for students to understand what a professor is like, but the university is able to control their course evaluations and know that actual students are the ones responding to them.

“I would hope that course



Graphic Illustration by Tyler C. Butler/The Charger Bulletin

evaluations have a little more of that personal touch, where students are actually caring about their community, and about the people they are working with, and say ‘I want to help this person, I want my program to be better’,” said Sidle.

The idea of making the course evaluation public data is not such a stretch. Some faculty oppose the idea of having that data revealed, but others think it would prove to be valuable to the students. Sidle’s biggest concern with doing this, however, is that faculty could feel a sense of competition and be more reluctant to embrace the feedback and learn from it.

Sidle continuously encourages students to fill out their course evaluations, and not just for the early grade view incentive.

“[Course Evaluations] gives

you an opportunity to reflect on the experience, how did you contribute to learning in the class, and how much effort did you put in,” he said.



Gryphons & Gargoyles Take Over Riverdale

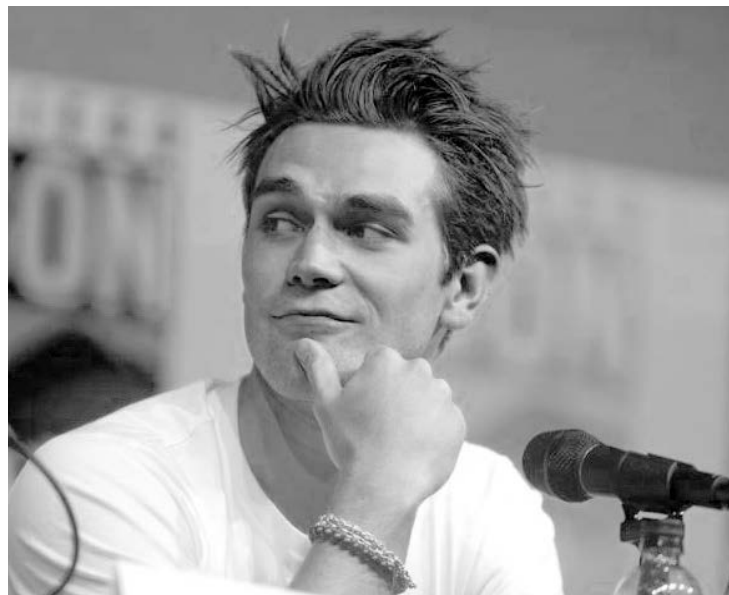
BY KARINA KRUL
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The third season of the popular CW show “Riverdale” returned to television after two seasons of suspense and plot-twists. With the mystery of Jason Blossom’s killer gone and the Black Hood caught and arrested, the third season came with a new mysterious focus: Gryphons and Gargoyles (G&G).

Season three shows the town of Riverdale in a G&G craze, with everyone taking orders from its cult-like, unknown leader, the Gargoyle King. The game, that has a somewhat satanic feel to it, relies on role-playing. Players get sent on wild quests presented by the game master, but dictated by the Gargoyle King. It ultimately drives its players to drink cyanide and blue raspberry fresh-aid, a fate that has recently found its way to many Riverdale residents. Finding people dead with blue lips quickly became the norm for the town of Riverdale.

G&G is introduced when two students, Ben and Dilton, begin playing it, although it soon leads to their untimely death, making them the games first victims. Jughead enlists the help of Ethel Muggs, to become a game master himself in an effort to infiltrate the game and bring down the Gargoyle King.

Eventually, we learn that



KJ Apa plays Archie Andrews, who takes on the mysterious title of the Red Paladin in Gryphons and Gargoyles. Photo: Courtesy of Creative Commons

the game is much older than it appears. Betty, Jughead, Archie, and Veronica soon discover that their parents, along with former mayor Sierra McCoy, and former sheriff Tom Keller, formerly called the Midnight Club, played the game when they were in high school, until one night a quest resulted in the death of their old principle. They all vowed to never speak of it again, but it soon became clear that G&G is back and there to stay.

Through the 12 episodes, we learn that almost every character is (or was) playing the game and taking orders from the Gargoyle King. The Sisters of Quiet Mercy were using hallucinogenic drugs and the threat of the Gargoyle King to scare their patients into submission. Eventually the sisters too are found dead with blue lips. Even the warden at the detention center Archie was in is on a G&G

quest, which is later revealed to be killing Archie, who’s been labelled in the game as the Red Paladin. What that means remains unknown, but it is clear that Archie plays a vital role in the mystery that is G&G.

Hiram Lodge is perhaps the most connected to the Gargoyle King. Throughout the season, it is insinuated that he’s taking his orders to run an illegal drug trade, as well as other still hidden plans, directly from the Gargoyle King.

As time progresses, two people are unmasked as the Gargoyle King: Tall Boy, an exiled Serpent running drugs for Hiram Lodge, and Major Mason, who was using the role in an attempt to kidnap his son and his boyfriend, Moose and Kevin Keller, in an attempt to scare them out of “impure” thoughts. For now, fans remain waiting for the mystery of the true Gargoyle King to be solved.

Galentine’s Day

BY NICOLE MANALL
OPINION EDITOR

Follow the Charger
Bulletin on Spotify!

Grab your best girlfriends and celebrate Galentine’s Day with this playlist of awesome ladies.

Light On - Maggie Rogers

This track shows that Maggie Rogers knows the importance of staying true to herself and her sound.

Honey - Kehlani

Kehlani is a great pop star who shines best unplugged. “Honey” is an acoustic delight that showcases just that.

High Horse - Kacey Musgraves

“High Horse,” a single off of her fourth album “Golden Hour,” mixes pop and country perfectly.

I Do - Cardi B feat. SZA

This hip hop dream team shows both of their individual talents as they let listeners know that they refuse to be tied down.

Juice - Lizzo

Lizzo brings an energetic delivery as she sings and raps about self-love and being the best.

1950 - King Princess

In her debut single, King Princess sings about unrequited love.

When I Was Older - Billie Eilish

Inspired by the Oscar-nominated movie, “Roma,” “When I Was Older,” shows how Eilish continues to experiment with her music.

Hunger - Florence + The Machine

This standout track off of their fourth studio album, “High As Hope,” has Welch singing about her hunger for love.

Me & My Dog - Boygenius

Lucy Dacus, Julien Baker, and Phoebe Bridgers form this super group and express their fears and excitements about dating someone new.

Make Me Feel - Janelle Monae

Janelle Monae can really do it all, and it shows on this flashy single that put her voice on full display.



Re-capping the 61st Grammy Awards

BY KARINA KRUL
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Fifteen-time Grammy award winner Alicia Keys hosted the 61st Grammy Awards on Sunday, Feb. 10. Camila Cabello opened the award show, bringing a taste of “West Side Story,” with her stage set up.

Keys, during her opening remarks, brought up Lady Gaga, Jada Pinkett Smith, Jennifer Lopez, and surprised the crowd with former first lady, Michelle Obama, to speak about the importance of music in this time of political turmoil.

“Music helps us share ourselves,” said Obama. “It allows

us to hear one another.”

Lady Gaga and Bradley Cooper took home the first award of the night for their song “Shallow,” as Gaga accepted the Grammy for best pop duo with an emotional speech about mental health issues and the importance of self-care.

“So, if you see somebody that’s hurting, don’t look away,” said Gaga in her speech. “And if you’re hurting, even though it might be hard, try to find that bravery within yourself to dive deep and go tell somebody, and take them up in your head with you.”

History was made throughout the night, as Cardi B became the first female to win best rap album for “Invasion of Privacy,” and Childish Gambino became

the first rap artist to win record of the year for “This is America.” Gambino also took home song of the year for the same track. Kasey Musgraves took home best country album and album of the year for her fourth studio album “Golden Hour,” and left with a total of four Grammys. Ariana Grande won her first Grammy with best pop vocal album for “Sweetener,” and Beck took home best alternative album with “Colors.”

H.E.R. seemed to be the breakthrough artist of the night, with her first album receiving five Grammy nominations. Her first Grammy of the night came when she won best R&B album for “I Used to Know Her,” which she accepted with a hint of surprise. She also took home



Graphic Illustration by Tyler C. Butler/The Charger Bulletin

the Grammy for best R&B performance.

“It’s not even an album, it’s an E.P.,” said H.E.R. before inviting her team on stage with her to accept best R&B album.

While H.E.R. was certainly a force to be reckoned with, Dua Lipa snagged the Grammy for best new artist.

Although the Grammys are an award show, the night comes with performances that can’t be missed.

Red Hot Chili Peppers took the stage with Post Malone, but the duo experienced unfortunate microphone issues. This wasn’t different from the performance at last year’s Grammys when Lady Gaga took the stage with Metallica, only to experience a microphone failure.

Jennifer Lopez performed a powerful tribute to Motown, bringing out Smokey Robinson and getting the audience on their feet. The montage of classic Motown hits like “The Best Things in Life Are Free,” “Do You Love Me,” “Please Mr. Postman,” and “My Girl,” had the crowd reminiscing on distant memories. Lady Gaga’s performance of “Shallow,” from

her movie “A Star is Born,” with Bradley Cooper also received well-deserved attention.

The Grammys honored three artists: Dolly Parton, Diana Ross, and Aretha Franklin.

Parton’s tribute was performed by Katy Perry, Kacey Musgraves, Miley Cyrus, Maren Morris, Little Big Town, and Parton herself. Cyrus’ rendition of “Jolene” left the crowd with goosebumps, and the group ended the performance with “9 to 5.”

Diana Ross was welcomed to the stage by her nine-year-old grandson and performed her own tribute with “The Best Years of My Life” and “Reach out and Touch (Somebody’s Hand).”

“All is possible with music and with you,” said Ross during her performance.

Andra Day, Fantasia, and Yolanda Adams all gathered to perform a tribute to the late Franklin, who died in August of last year. They sang a chilling rendition of “(You Make Me Feel Like) A Natural Woman.” Overall, the night was certainly one that would not soon be forgotten.

App of the Week

BY ANNA DOWNS
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Genius Scan allows you to easily scan only the pages you need of documents, photos, receipts, and more into your phone within seconds and save them as a JPG or PDF. It works effectively in the free version, but also has multiple upgrade options for a few more dollars. With the free version, you can share files only via email. In order to share the file in other ways, you have to upgrade the app. Another upgrade within the app allows you to have your files backed up within a storage cloud. Overall, this app may be helpful to college students who need to keep track of handouts or study on the go. Get scanning, save time, and be organized!



Anna's Rating:



Genius Scan - PDF Scanner 4+

The Grizzly Labs >

Offers In-App Purchases

★★★★★ (194,159)

GET

SPORTS

Men's Track & Field End Successful Season

BY ETHAN CARDONA
STAFF WRITER

Men's track and field took home gold for the weight throw at the Spartan Invitational in Staten Island on Jan. 11 as they returned for the season.

Senior Michael Kandolin threw a distance of 17.57 meters to secure the gold for the Chargers.

This was Kandolin's second straight gold and the effort was enough to earn him his second Male Field Athlete of the Week honor from the NE-10 office.

Kandolin finished 14th in the shot put competition, while teammate junior Jonathan Pierre placed 12th with a distance of 13.21 meters in a 53-man pool.

Next up on the schedule was the Joe Donahue Games in Boston, the Chargers swept the

weight throw contest as Kandolin took home gold, senior Dillon Swaine earned silver and Pierre collected bronze.

In the triple jump competition, freshman twins Jackson and Jacky Marescot finished in second and third place respectively.

The Chargers' next competition was at the John Thomas Terrier Classic in Boston, where Kandolin won his fourth weight throw of the indoor season. He was the only non-Division I competitor with a top-10 finish.

This contest also saw all eight men in the 200-meter dash set a new season-best time, led by sophomore Matt McLaughlin with 22.75 seconds.

The most recent contest for the Chargers came at the New England Intercollegiate Amateur Athletic Association championships where freshman AJ Greene hit a National Collegiate



Senior Michael Kandolin throws the shot-put in competition. Photo courtesy of Charger Athletics

Athletic Association (NCAA) provisional qualifying mark in the long jump competition.

Greene set a new personal record with a jump of 7.13 meters, which earned him All-New England honors and is now the top long jump in the Northeast-10 and the NCAA East Region.

Following the meet, he was announced as both the NE-10 field athlete of the week and

field rookie of the week.

Most recently for the Chargers, the team took the short drive into New Haven for the Giegengack Invitational at Yale University, where junior Michael Reddy took home gold on the mile run.

He finished with a time of 4:22.40, more than three seconds off the second place finisher, to take home the only

medal of the day for the blue and gold.

Freshman Brett Deri finished just four-hundredths of a second off the first place runner in the 400-meter dash, earning him a personal best of 52.03 seconds.

The Chargers next meet will be this coming weekend, Feb. 16 and 17 for the Northeast-10 conference championships.

Girls Softball Gears Up For The Season

BY CHRIS DIGERONIMO
SPORTS EDITOR

The 2019 softball season is just around the corner, and it's time to get started. Last season, the Chargers finished 25-21 with a 14-12 record in the NE-10 Conference. New Haven ended its season in the NE-10 Championship quarterfinal after losing to Southern New Hampshire 6-2.

The 2019 Chargers will be led by seniors Taylor Luzzi, Maddy Derosia, Sierra Whitlock, Jolie Morrell, and Rachel Gilmore.

Head coach Jen Starek added a lot of depth to the roster as the team added seven freshmen including two pitchers, Mia Iodice and Ava Fitzmaurice to help bulk up the pitching staff.

Other notable returners are junior pitcher Megan Butts and sophomore Jovanna Hillman who was an NE-10 First Team All-Conference selection as a freshman in 2018. The 2018 season left more to be desired for this experienced group of seniors, and they know what needs to be done to be successful in 2019.

"Last season didn't turn out the way that we wished it had, so it is important that we learn

from it," said Derosia "This year it will be important for us to simply outwork teams and want it more than any team we compete against. We have great chemistry and have been having solid practices which is pushing the team in the right direction."

Games may be played during the season, but it is the work you put into the offseason that really helps the team. The Chargers believe that they have put in enough work to make a difference on the field.

"In the offseason we worked our butts off doing lifting, conditioning, hitting individuals, fielding individuals and other training," said Derosia. "We

spend a lot of time at the batting cages hitting off tees, doing front toss, and going live off of our own pitchers. I'm confident that we will have a great offensive year backed up by solid defense and pitching."

The expectations for this team have declined as they were picked to finish third in the NE-10 Southwest Division, accord-

ing to the leagues preseason head coaches poll. The players believe they have what it takes to take it all the way due to the talent and depth that is currently on the roster.

"I believe that we can make it all the way to the World Series this season," said Luzzi. "Just like two years ago, we gained

Read more on pg. 8...



Photo courtesy of Charger Athletics

Men's Basketball Suffers a Setback

BY ZACK PINCINCE
STAFF WRITER

The battle for the Elm City took place on Wednesday as the team across the street came to North Campus. Southern Connecticut State University came into the contest at 14-8 and looked to take the lead in the southwest division of the NE-10 to break the tie with the Chargers and Le Moynes.

The first half was highly competitive as Southern Connecticut jumped out to an early lead behind the hot hand of senior guard Kealen Ives. The Char-

gers though begin to catch fire behind junior big man Kessly Felizor. Felizor finished the first half with 16 points and was a perfect 3-3 from behind the arc. The story of the first half appeared to be that the winner would be whoever knocked down more threes.

The Chargers shot an impressive 8-16 from deep while the Owls only went 5-12. New Haven struggled on the glass though and was out rebounded in the first half which led to their 44-41 deficit at the break. The Owls were led by Ives who had 14 while Felizor led the Chargers with 16. The second half was all New Haven as they came out

of the break with a pair of free throws and a three-pointer from junior Elijah Bailey. Despite Southern Connecticut's best efforts on defense, New Haven seemed to make every shot they took.

Bailey reached the milestone of 1,000 career points. Bailey also would go on to lead the Chargers in scoring with a career-high 32 points for the game. Sophomore guard Derrick Rowland finished with 27 and was an impressive 7-11 behind the arc. As a team, the Chargers made a season-high 18 three pointers. The Chargers went on to win the game 99-77 and completed the season sweep

of the rival Owls.

The Chargers took to the road on Saturday to face off against conference foe the Adelphi Panthers. Adelphi stood just below New Haven in the Southwest standings. New Haven went in looking to extend their lead over the Panthers as the season comes to a close. Unfortunately, the Chargers weren't able to keep their two-game winning streak alive as they lost 83-78.

New Haven had a solid first half led by Bailey who had 12 points and played the entire first half. New Haven went into the half with a 36-32 lead. In the second half, New Haven extended their lead to as much

as 11 at one point as Felizor began to heat up from deep going 3-4 from the three-point arc in the second half. The Panthers spurred a run midway through the second half to diminish the Chargers lead and with seven minutes left in the half, the Panthers took a two-point lead that they never lost for the rest of the game. Bailey finished the game for New Haven with 21 points and freshman guard Quashawn Lane had a career high 19 points. Adelphi was led by Nick Cambio with 23 points. The Chargers will take the court again on Wednesday as they take on Pace University on the road. Tip-off is set for 7:30 p.m.

Women's Track & Field Finish the Season

BY ETHAN CARDONA
STAFF WRITER

The women's track team's first meet after the finals layoff brought them to Staten Island to compete in the Spartan Invitational, where a new school record was set in the 4x200 meter relay.

The squad of freshman Maritza Blanchard, junior Dominique Pendleton, junior Aries Burrell, and senior Amaysia Lake finished with a time of 1:46.62, besting the previous record by almost five seconds. This time was good enough for fourth place in the meet.

Lake also earned a third-place finish in the 60-meter hurdles with a time of 9.10 seconds, which was a New England Intercollegiate Amateur Athletic

Association (NEICAAA) qualifying mark.

Teammate, junior Madeline Morrisson, finished her heat in first place and finished 14th overall with a time of 11:14.20 in the 3,000 meter capping off an impressive first meet back for the Chargers.

The following week the Chargers traveled to the Joe Donahue games, where it was Blanchard who earned gold in the 400-meter dash, along with a top-five finish in the 200-meter on the day.

Lake also finished in second place in the 60-meter hurdles with a time of 9.20 seconds. She placed second in the long jump with a distance of 5.40 meters, while Morrisson's 5,000-meter time of 19:31.59 earned her second place in the field.

Next up was the John Thomas Terrier Classic, which saw a 9th place finish by Lake in a 48

woman pool in the long jump with a distance of 5.45 meters.

Several personal records were also broken, including junior Adriane Long who set an indoor personal best of 2:21.26 in the 800 meters, while junior Mary Kate Barton set her personal best in the mile run with a time of 5:25.31.

The team then competed in NEICAAA championships where Lake qualified for the semifinals with a 12th place finish in 9.09 seconds in the 60-meter hurdles. She would go on to finish 12th in those semifinals as well, with a time of 9.15 seconds.



Photo courtesy of Charger Athletics

Softball

Continued from pg. 7

two strong freshman pitchers this year who have been working their butts off."

Depth will be a recurring theme throughout the 2019 season, and the players feel that it is a contributing factor that will help them get through their tough NE-10 schedule.

"The fact that we can have multiple people playing multiple positions will definitely be key in our success," said Derosia. "It causes us to be constantly competing against one another in practice which is only making us better."

The Chargers will kick off the 2019 season when they travel down to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina to participate in the Snowbird Freezeout on Feb. 15. New Haven will return to West Haven for their home opener on March 1 to take on Saint Thomas Aquinas in a doubleheader.

Article 13 Is Out To Get Your Memes

BY NICOLE MANALL
OPINION EDITOR

Article 13 of the European Parliament's new copyright directive has initiated fears that memes will effectively be banned, and platforms such as YouTube and Facebook will need to pay publishers when individuals link their websites.

Simply put, this copyright directive places more responsibility on websites such as YouTube, Twitter, and Facebook to make sure that copyrighted material is not being illegally

shared on their platforms. This article also includes that the platforms will have to pay a fee to share a link.

According to Article 13, the platforms should, "take measures to ensure the functioning of agreements concluded with rights holders for the use of their works or other subject-matter or to prevent the availability on their services of work or other subject-matter identified by rights holders through the cooperation with the service providers."

This is why the article has been nicknamed the "meme ban" since no one is sure

whether memes, which are often based on copyrighted images, will follow these laws. Some argue that memes are protected as parodies and so are not required to be removed, but others argue that filters won't be able to distinguish memes and other copyrighted material, so they'd end up being removed anyway.

As much as the writers behind the article would just like YouTube and Twitter to simply remove the content that violates the law, no one can agree how these platforms are supposed to identify and remove this content. One suggestion that was brought to the EU's attention

was that platform owners use automate filters to scan every piece of upload content, and stop anything that might violate from being uploaded.

Critics, such as YouTube and Google, who have been vocal about not supporting the article, think that Article 13 violates the fundamental right of internet users, and misunderstands the way people engage with the internet. Remixes and covers, and other types of user-generated content would all be put at risk since these could technically be seen as breaches of copyright.

Agreeing with critics, it seems almost impossible to put a stop

on these different platforms when there are people posting at all times of the day. 300 hours of video are uploaded to YouTube every minute, so to have a program go through all of those hours of video to make sure that it doesn't violate this article seems unimaginable.

So when does this come into effect? On Jan. 18, the EU could not come to a conclusion since they did not receive the 55 percent of votes that they needed to pass this article. They meet again in April, and until then there are individuals protesting and fighting back to #saveyourinternet.

University's Green Lawns Aren't Sustainable

BY REGINALD WALDEN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The University of New Haven's website states it has a "Culture of Sustainability," as shown by the presence of solar panels and trayless dining. However, the university continues to take part in one of the most wasteful and ultimately useless forms of pollution: the use of fertilizers in its lawns.

Fertilizers cause "eutrophication," or the excess input of nutrients into aquatic environments. Eutrophication comes from a wide variety of sources, including untreated sewage, agricultural waste, runoff of fertilizers, and burning fossil fuels. While nutrients like phosphorus and nitrogen are necessary for most forms of life, excessive

nutrients can cause harmful algal blooms which threaten the environment and human health.

Algal blooms are a serious threat to coastal ecosystems like the Long Island Sound. When an algae bloom decomposes, it creates areas of low oxygen in the water, which can create a lifeless dead zone. The Long Island Sound dead zone had an area of 89 square miles in 2018, making it larger than Martha's Vineyard.

Eutrophication poses a risk to some of the most important and vulnerable ecosystems in Long Island Sound: seagrass meadows and salt marshes. Algal blooms smother seagrass by depriving them of light and eutrophication damages salt marshes, making them more vulnerable to erosion and collapse.

Wildlife throughout Long Island Sound rely on salt marshes and seagrass. Both ecosystems

provide crucial nurseries for commercially important fish and invertebrates. Northern lined seahorses in Long Island Sound rely on seagrasses for shelter and mating grounds. Endangered sea turtles eat seagrass and a wide variety of birds rely on salt marshes.

Most importantly, salt marshes and seagrasses play a vital role in storing carbon dioxide by trapping it in extensive root systems. Per acre, they are more effective carbon sinks than vital tropical rainforests, although rainforests store more because they cover larger areas. Just like terrestrial forests, salt marshes and seagrasses must be protected to prevent climate change.

The University of New Haven has already taken a significant step towards sustainability by sourcing shrimp from farms that don't harm mangroves. The university can improve its "culture

of sustainability" and image by removing wasteful, ugly fertilizer from its lawns.

The impact of fertilizers on the ecosystems of Long Island Sound and climate far outweigh the benefits of making our

grass a little greener. Instead of conforming to the same path set by common landscaping practices, the university should lead the way towards cleaner, more environmentally-friendly landscaping.



Why We Need To #Exposechristianschools

BY REBECCA SANTOS
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Recently, there has been a hashtag circulating on social media that looks to expose intolerant practices within the Catholic Church. #exposechristianschools started in response to Karen Pence teaching at a school that openly denounces homosexuality. Momentum for the hashtag increased when a video of boys from Covington Catholic high school mocked a Native American man surfaced.

Since then, the hashtag has exploded across social media platforms as an outlet for students to expose the secrets of Christian schools. With the use of social media, finally, light can be shed on some of the secrets that remain hidden behind their preppy and exclusive names.

Coming out will always be one of the most difficult experiences of my life. Regardless of how long I have been out as a lesbian, a pit still forms in my stomach each time the subject is brought up. It is not that I am embarrassed of my sexuality; it is the uncertainty of others' reactions that makes me anxious.

Not only is this experience nerve wracking, it is recurring. With every new person who enters my life, the subject, along with the tension, eventually gets brought up. The first few moments after coming out are spent assessing the listener's response. In most cases, the response is positive and supportive, but this is not always the case.

When I was first coming to terms with my sexuality, I was a

senior in a Catholic high school. I had been dating my first girlfriend for several months without saying a word about it to my friends. I loved my friends, but the subject of anything LGBT was not brought up within my school.

During senior year, it was mandated that all students enroll in one of two religion-based classes; bioethics or community service. Bioethics was advertised as a class where students would be able to express their opinions on a variety of subjects that were considered controversial in the Catholic Church. However, this was far from the reality.

Every class began with the teacher presenting a topic that was considered controversial, and explaining why it was an unforgivable sin in the eyes of the Catholic Church. There would then be a few minutes of class time to allow students to express their opinions.

On numerous occasions these few minutes of so-called discussion led to students being kicked out of class for voicing their opinions. During a lecture on why stem cell research was an insult to the Catholic Church because it devalued human lives, several of my classmates were asked to leave because their individual discussions showed support for the research. Students who expressed differing opinions from those being taught were dismissed, and those that were submitted in homework assignments received lower grades.

Nearing the end of the school year, the subject of homosexuality was broached as an unforgiv-



Graphic Illustration by Tyler C. Butler/The Charger Bulletin

able sin in the Catholic Church.

I sat in class surrounded by friends and classmates who did not know I was gay while we were lectured on why gay marriage was an insult to the idea of marriage. I had to sit there quietly as my teacher droned about how it would never be legitimate, because marriage was only to be between a man and a woman for the sole purpose of having children. She also assigned a journal article on the

illegitimacy of gay marriage.

After that came time for discussion. The viewpoints were mixed, but one of my guy friends expressed that he didn't believe that gay marriage should be legitimized. As someone who was not out yet, this environment just made me feel even more isolated.

In general, I have never considered myself a religious person, and after my experiences within the Catholic schooling

system I find it even harder to accept some of the teachings of the Catholic faith. It's not that I do not believe in some of the values and teachings of Christianity, it is more the way in which they are presented. Religion has always been correlated with feelings of unity through a common belief, but in an environment that considers your lifestyle to be "immoral" it is hard to feel anything but isolation.



NAACP Discusses How To Police the Police

BY CHRISTINA GENOVESE
COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT EDITOR

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), hosted Policing the Police, a panel in the Alumni Lounge on Tuesday, Feb. 5. The event was open to anyone on campus, and included a panel of students, professors, and professionals in

the criminal justice field.

“It came about because Youth Justice did a panel last semester to discuss Colin Kaepernick, so we wanted to do a panel about the policing aspect to bring good insight on it since it is an issue in the community,” said Jordan Harris, the first vice president of NAACP.

The panel included six panelists; Kendall Coker, professor in psychology at the University of New Haven, Dillion Swaine, executive vice president of

NAACP, Lieutenant Joseph Murgo, from the East Haven Police Department, Jesse Giddings, assistant state’s attorney and prosecutor for the state of Connecticut, Tatiana Gay, a senior criminal justice major at the university and former intern at the New Haven Police Department, and David Schroeder, associate dean of the Lee College.

As a part of Black History Month, they discussed how policing is an issue in the black



Panel discusses policing in the black community.

Photo by Christina Genovese/The Charger Bulletin

community. Also, as a criminal justice school, for students that want to be police officers, or lawyers, this panel was a way for them to hear from professionals in those fields, and see what their experiences have been.

According to their Charger Connection page, part of NAACP’s University of New Haven chapter’s mission is to “address campus-wide, social, and political issues as well as educate, empower, and unite the next generation of student leaders.”

Students that attended were able to be a part of a larger discussion about issues we see everyday, and shared stories of injustices they have faced

or seen. Some of the questions for the panelists were centered around implicit biases seen in society today, as well as students in the audience sharing implicit biases they have witnessed or experienced.

These discussions lead to panelists expressing how the younger generation going into the policing field can be the ones to make the better decisions and enforce much needed justice. Murgo said he was honored to be with “the next generation of leaders.”

“Positive discussion is needed in today’s society, especially with disconnect between police and minorities,” said Murgo. “I appreciate coming, and would love to come again.”



From left to right: Karina Curbelo, Arely Parra Lopez, Jordan Harris, Lieutenant Joseph Murgo, Tatiana Gay, Dillion Swaine, and Kaela Bazemore.

Photo by Christina Genovese/The Charger Bulletin

International Night Brings Cultures Together

BY KATRINA STOLAR
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

On Saturday, Feb. 2, the International Pathways Program, in conjunction with the International Student’s Association (ISA), hosted “International Night” in Bartels Alumni Lounge. The event had a selfie station, streamers, balloons, and

served beverages, subs, chips, and ice cream. Music from around the world played, and students showed off their dance moves. This event also acted as a welcome reception for new international students, giving them the chance to sign up, meet each other, and discuss the details of the program.

Zehra Abbas, the international student advisor says that this event “promotes domestic and international integration

on campus.” Since most of the international students attending the University of New Haven come from homogenous cultures, it is important to introduce them to the melting pot of cultures that is America. This benefits the students because not only will they learn about American culture, but also the cultures of international students. More so, domestic students who may not have the option to study abroad, or come

from a non-diverse hometown, still receive cultural awareness by having international students right in their classrooms.

The International Pathways Program is an organization under the International Student Offices that pairs new incoming international students with global student leaders, who act as mentors throughout the school year. Global student leaders help new students to adjust to campus. The International Stu-

dent Association is “dedicated to uniting cultures on campus,” according to Carlos Soto, the International Pathways Program Coordinator. The ISA takes trips to New York City, and hosts various events on campus.

“We want to help students create a support system and peer to peer interaction to help facilitate international students’ success here at the University of New Haven,” says Abbas.

STUDENT LIFE

SIA Brings Feminism to Campus

BY CHRISTINA GENOVESE
COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT EDITOR

Hermandad de Sigma Iota Alpha, Inc. (SIA) hosted an event on Tuesday, Feb. 5, to educate the campus on feminism. This was an educational event and discussion open to anyone on campus and aimed at creating a better understanding of what it means to be a feminist.

Amber Marrero, a junior cyber systems major, and the executive assistant and secretary for SIA coordinated the event. She created an interactive presentation that talked about the origins and history of feminism. Students who attended learned new things about feminism that they had never realized before, for example, the different types of feminism like liberal, radical, and black.

"I didn't know there were different types of feminism, it was a very educational presentation," said Natalie Aparicio, a junior criminal justice and

national security double major. Marrero has gone to women's marches back home in the Bronx, New York, including one over winter break. She became passionate about this event because she noticed in society people will use the term "feminist" in different ways. According to Marrero, some use it to mean women's equality, some use it in more of an extreme way, and some do not really know what the term means.

"If people are going to identify as something they should understand it, and have a reason for doing so," said Marrero.

This event was a way for people to understand this popular

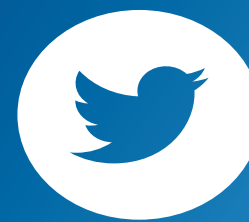
term that gets used so much today. The presentation talked about the four waves of the feminist movement and opened up discussion about what feminism is like in the fourth wave today. There were also videos played, one was women age 5 to 50 define feminism in one word and another one was called "I am a Feminist, but I am not ____." This sparked discussion as students went around the room filling in the blank.

"I liked the idea that we were talking about something that isn't talked about much, and got to learn the facts," said Clarie Berantuo, a sophomore psychology major.



SIA executive assistant and secretary, Amber Marrero with her presentation on feminism.

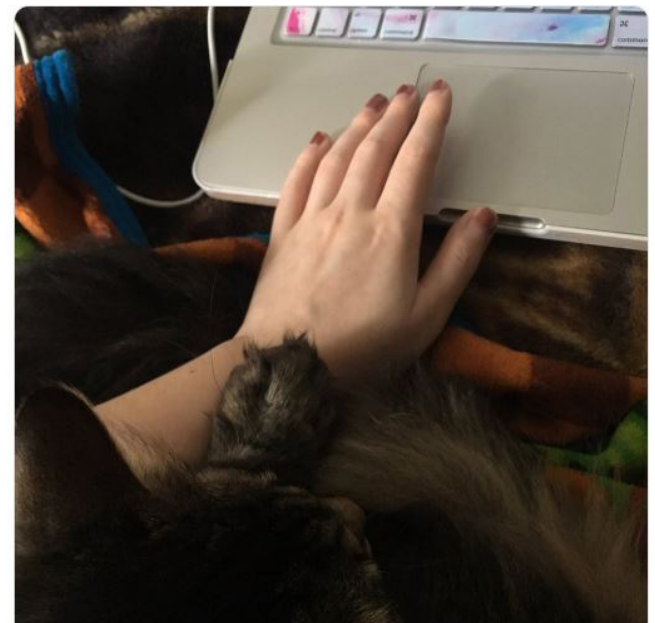
Photo by Christina Genovese/The Charger Bulletin



STUDENT TWEETS OF THE WEEK

Penny @PennyLane19 · Feb 4
Seeing my SOAR babies come up on Tinder is honestly the most cringe worthy thing

Sierra @sierraadeux · 5h
Me: hello can i get some work done on my computer
Link:



CHARGER COMICS

BY TYLER C. BUTLER
GRAPHICS EDITOR

