

The Charger Bulletin

The student news source for the University of New Haven

Volume 104, Issue 15 | February 14, 2023 | West Haven, Connecticut

New men's soccer coach returns to New Haven, seeks to revitalize program

BY CHRISTOPHER ELWELL
Sports Editor

The New Haven men's soccer team will begin a different era in the 2023 season under the direction of their new head coach Thomas Mattera. He will become the 16th head coach in program history.

Mattera started his coaching career at New Haven in 2010-12 as assistant coach before heading across town to Southern Connecticut State University (SCSU). During his four years at SCSU, Mattera helped lead the team to an NCAA Division II semifinals appearance in 2014, while also being ranked as high as number five nationally in Division II.

But New Haven drew him back.

"It's amazing," said Mattera. "It's the place where it all started for me as a college coach and it's somewhere I hold very near and dear to my heart."

He said his second stint at the university will be different from his first after seeing all of the changes that have been made and the differences in staff from his 13 years away from the school.

Mattera experienced the Northeast-10 (NE-10) conference as both a player and coach, when he played three years at SCSU from 2005-07 and helped bring the team to an East Regional championship in 2006 and an NE-10 Conference Championship in 2007.

"[I'm excited to] be back in



The New Haven soccer team huddles against SNHU, West Haven, Oct. 1, 2022. Photo courtesy of Charger Bulletin/Tyler Rodriguez.

the NE-10," he said. "Getting out there and getting back in the competitive nature of the conference is something I'm excited for."

"Knowing that each school has its own challenges that you have to overcome," Mattera said, is

one of the biggest challenges of the job. Despite the challenges, he has found success in each program by leading teams to conference championships and individual awards, such as winning Skyline Conference Coach of the Year during his time at Mount

Saint Vincent College.

Mattera's hope for the team is to make the conference playoffs but his immediate goal is to see daily progress and build a competitive team. Coming off a tough 2022 season, Mattera said the team's "record did not reflect

how they played" and he is looking forward to helping them get back on track.

"We want to show up and be the same every day and try to be as authentic as possible," Mattera said.

University professor uses art series to spark "an investigation of chaotic progressions"

BY MIA ADDUCI
Managing Editor

If you take a trip down Nicoll St. in New Haven, chances are you'll be drawn to the complex which houses mActivity Gallery, where university professor John Arabolos' most recent art project lines the walls.

Arabolos is a professor in the Department of Art and Design here at the university and a professional interior designer and artist in residence. His most recent exhibition is entitled "Chaotic Symmetries - the Fabric of Life Series," in which he takes a deep dive into the patterns he has observed in the natural world.

In this series, Arabolos takes a heavy lens to the world around us, and uses it to highlight the intrinsic patterns that make up the things that compose the world in which we immerse ourselves in every day.

The visuals on display in the hole-in-the-wall gallery in New Haven are definitely interpretive and play into geometrics heavily. It's as if you're looking through a kaleidoscope or an upscaled version of an Etch-a-Sketch drawing.

It is an interpretive collection and the duality between the complexity of the geometrics and their placement in a pilates studio is certainly fascinating.

Arabolos uses this exhibition to study self-symmetry, which he describes as the theory that "[there are] compositional elements, that are readily identifiable as the same, yet varying in size and scale and existing randomly in placement within space and time."

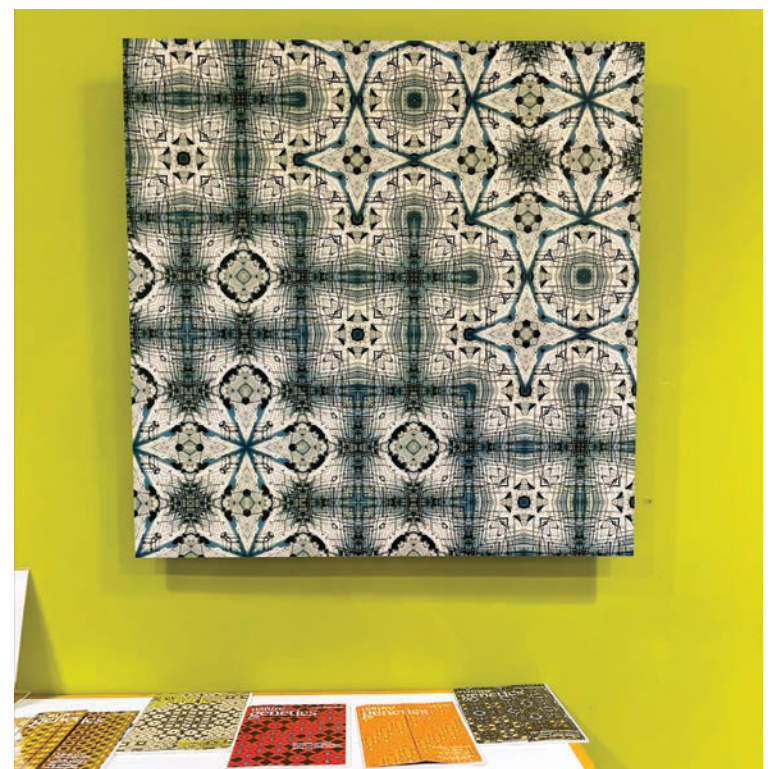
According to the descriptors present at the gallery, the collection hones in on "creating order out of randomness." Arabolos takes the naturally occurring and manipulates it skillfully to create the images present in this collec-

tion.

The most alluring part of his exhibit was the line of magazine covers on a long table in the center of the space. These covers were all issues of "Nature Genetics" published from July 2006 to May 2014.

His full-scale cover images are eye-catching and draw readers in to inquire about what information is being presented behind such elaborate textuales. The "Nature Genetics" issues which feature Arabolos' work include a wide array of niche subject matter on "schizophrenia and bipolar risk loci," "predicting phenotype from sequence," "mutational analysis of intestinal cancer," "expression of Korean genomes," "somatic mosaicism and aging" and "metabolic networks."

The coloration of the images is entirely unaltered yet incredi-



One of John Arabolos's artworks, New Haven, Feb. 9, 2023. Photo courtesy of Charger Bulletin/Mia Adduci.

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James breaks all-time scoring record, cements legacy as the “King”

BY DANTE NARDUZZO
Contributing Writer

Perspective

On Feb. 7, LeBron James surpassed Kareem Abdul-Jabbar’s NBA scoring record, which lasted from 1984-2023. This has been the most anticipated moment of the 2023 NBA season. In the game, James was 36 points away from breaking the record. The Lakers listed ticket prices at an astronomical price and nearly sold out the arena.

He finally hit the historic shot in the third quarter, coming down the court against the Oklahoma City Thunder. James received the ball at the high post, took three dribbles, and attempted his signature turnaround jumper; the crowd went crazy as the ball sailed through the bottom of the net.

This record has stood for almost four decades and during that time players like Kobe Bryant and Michael Jordan couldn’t even approach this record. Bryant had the longevity of 20 seasons but his body was falling apart, causing him to miss significant time during the final few years of his career. Jordan would have broken the record if he did not go to college or retired at his peak the first time he played baseball.

If he did not retire or go to college, he would have played 19 years in the league instead of just 15. Now LeBron is an all-time leader in points, while also being top five in assists and field goals made.

This award’s impact on James’ legacy is astronomical

because he will only add to these statistics. For over a decade, James has been compared to Jordan as the greatest player of all time. The biggest argument against James has been his poor NBA Finals record of 4-6 compared to MJ’s 6-0 record.

Another point to help Jordan’s case is when he played, his finals series never went to 7 games, and his team was the only team to three-peat twice. The first time was in the early to mid-1960s with the Celtics. However, Jordan never made it out of the first round of the

playoffs until the Bulls put the pieces around him, with players like Scottie Pippen and Horace Grant.

In the second three-peat, the only difference was replacing Horace Grant with Steve Kerr, Dennis Rodman and Ron Harper. The Bulls also paired Jordan up with the perfect coach in Phil Jackson, who implemented the triangle offense. Jordan prospered as an individual and as a teammate in this system.

There is no doubt that Jordan was a winner, but he had flaws similar to James. Both struggle to score from the three-point line. James shoots 34.4%, while Jordan shoots 32.1%; they are so close in comparison.

It is impossible to pick a unanimous greatest player; basketball evolves every season with new rules, talents, faces and cultures. The only consistent factor in basketball is that everything is short-lived. Every year, new talent comes in and an entire wave of talent leaves. It is a lifecycle, and it is only a matter of time before James retires. All fans of the sport can do now is tip their hats to James for all he has done for entertainment on and off the court throughout his career.



LeBron James on the court against the Philadelphia 76ers, Philadelphia, Jan. 10, 2016.
Photo courtesy of Wikimedia Commons/Ian D’Andrea.

Chiefs outlast Eagles, win Super Bowl 38-35

BY TYLER WELLS
Editor-in-Chief

With just 1:44 left in the second half, Kansas City Chiefs quarterback Patrick Mahomes was wrapped up on a scramble. His right foot, getting caught underneath Philadelphia Eagles line-backer T.J. Edwards, twisted and reagravated the high ankle sprain that has hobbled Mahomes during the playoffs.

The play forced fourth down for the Chiefs, letting Mahomes get up and limp off the field in obvious pain. To make it worse, the Eagles marched down the field and connected on a field goal as the first half ended. Hobbled and seemingly on one leg, Mahomes and the Chiefs faced a 10-point deficit in the Super Bowl.

This set the stage for a conclusion that lived up to the lofty expectations of the big game.

Entering as slight favorites, the Eagles dominated their way to the Super Bowl all season. They were led by a historically good defensive front and the league’s best rushing attack, along with the emergence of quarterback Jalen Hurts.

It was Hurts who took over in the first drive of the game. He connected on big passes to wide receiver Devonta Smith and tight end Dallas Goedert, bringing them into

the red zone. After back-up running back Kenneth Gainwell came up just inches short of scoring, Hurts was able to enter the endzone on his signature QB sneak, registering the first score of the Super Bowl.

The Chiefs wasted no time responding. Travis Kelce, who sought to cement his legacy as one of the sport’s greatest tight ends, proved why he is nearly unguardable. He was able to break away from the Eagles defense and haul in a touchdown pass, tying the game up.

After a stop and missed field goal from the Chiefs, the Eagles once again had the opportunity to take a lead. Hurts launched a 45-yard pass to top target AJ Brown, who slipped behind the Chiefs’ defensive back to catch a touchdown and take a 14-7 lead. Another stop by the Eagles defense gave Hurts the ball again with a chance to extend their lead.

The Super Bowl is about big plays though, and the Chiefs defense were able to find theirs.

Chiefs linebacker Nick Bolton broke into the backfield on a designed run for Hurts, punching out the ball and sending it rolling towards the Eagles’ end zone. Bolton was then able to scoop it up and return it for a touchdown, shifting momentum and tying the game.

Hurts, a former second round

pick that was benched during the National Championship while at Alabama, showed his comfort in pressure. On the ensuing drive, he rushed for 28-yards to convert a fourth-and-five and then finally ran into the end zone a little later for his third touchdown of the game.

After Mahomes’s injury on the next drive, the Eagles were able to end the half with a field goal to hold onto a 24-14 lead at half.

The Chiefs entered the second half with the ball and a healthy looking Mahomes. He showed enough mobility, evading the Eagles’ threatening defensive line on multiple plays. With the ball on the Eagles’ 18-yard line, Mahomes broke off a 14-yard run to put the Chiefs in good position to score. Pacheco was able to punch in the score, cutting the Eagles lead to three.

After the next Eagles drive stalled and resulted in just a field goal, Chiefs coaches Andy Reid and Eric Bienemy proved why they are some of the league’s best play callers.

A play action left WR Kadarius Toney wide open in the flat, letting him walk into the endzone to give the Chiefs their first lead of the game. After the Chiefs defense came up with a stop, Toney left his mark on the game again, posting the longest punt return (65 yards)

in Super Bowl history and placing the ball at the five-yard line. Then, rookie WR Skyy Moore ran a reverse motion and was left wide open, letting him walk into the endzone for his first career touchdown.

Now trailing 35-27, the Eagles high-powered offense took over. After a series of plays got the Eagles across midfield, Hurts took to the air and found Smith open down the left sideline. He was off-balanced though, and he fell just out-of-bounds at the three-yard line. Hurts finished the job though, rushing for his third TD and setting a record for the most rushing TDs by a QB in a Super Bowl.

After making the two-point conversion, the game was now tied at 35. With a potential game-winning drive ahead of him, Mahomes had a legacy ahead of him to set. With a hurt ankle and at the 44-yard line, Mahomes slithered through the pocket and just escaped rushers Hassan Reddick and Jason Hargrave. This let him break off a 28-yard run and put the Chiefs in the red zone.

The Eagles still had a chance as they forced the Chiefs into a tough third down. Mahomes dropped back in the pocket and threw up a ball to the end zone, but it fell well beyond intended WR Juju Smith-Schuster. However, there was a controversial flag on the play

as the Eagles’ James Bradberry was called for a hold. While Bradberry said after the game that it was the right call, fans and spectators contested the flag on social media.

The penalty gave the Chiefs a first down and set up a last second field goal opportunity. Kicker Harrison Butker was able to drill the 27-yard attempt, giving the Chiefs a 38-35 lead with just eight seconds remaining.

That would be it, as the Eagles came short of a miracle and 38-35 was the final score. The win gave Mahomes and the Chiefs their second Super Bowl title in the last four years, establishing the franchise as a dynasty.

Mahomes finished the night with 182 passing yards and three touchdowns; it wasn’t his best game, but he threw no interceptions for the first time in any of his three Super Bowl appearances. Pacheco finished with a game-high of 76 rushing yards, and Kelce led Chiefs receivers with 81 yards. On the defense, Bolton had the game of his life as he registered eight tackles and a fumble-six.

Despite the loss, Hurts stood out. He finished with 304 passing yards and a touchdown, along with 70 rushing yards and three touchdowns. Smith finished with 100 receiving yards, while Brown had 96 and Goedert 60.

Biden tackles his second State of the Union Address

BY ERIN SMITH
Politics Editor

President Joseph Biden made his annual State of the Union address on Tuesday night in front of the new Congress, new Speaker of the House Kevin McCarthy and Vice President Kamala Harris.

Heavily focusing on his running theme of rebuilding and uniting the country, Biden said his vision for the country is “to restore the soul of the nation. To rebuild the backbone of America, the middle class. To unite the country. We’ve been sent here to finish the job.”

Starting off with many highlights from his two years in office, Biden mentioned the unemployment rate being the lowest it has been in 50 years at 3.4%. The Biden Administration created 800,000 manufacturing jobs, which is the fastest growth the country has seen in the last 40 years.

“Gas prices are down \$1.50 a gallon since their peak,” Biden said, adding that inflation in general has been going down in the past six months. Many Americans have been greatly impacted by higher gas prices, but Biden en-

sured they will keep going down.

The main topics of the speech were heavily focused on infrastructure, healthcare and the economy. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law caused unanimous cheering among the audience. This law is one of the largest infrastructure investments that has already funded over 20,000 infrastructure projects.

Biden took a strong stance against Big Pharma, saying “Big Pharma has been unfairly charging people hundreds of dollars – and making record profits. Not anymore.” Making sure his colleagues understand if they try to raise the cost of prescription drugs, he will veto it.

The ongoing federal debt crisis was mentioned with “nearly 25% of the entire national debt, a debt that took 200 years to accumulate,” from the Trump Administration.

In previous years, the debt ceiling has been lifted three times without anything preventing that process from happening. Until now, Biden said “other Republicans say if we don’t cut Social Security and Medicare, they’ll let America default on its debt for the

first time in our history.”

This caused some commotion coming from the Republican side of the chamber, especially from Rep. Marjorie Greene Taylor (R-Ga.) shouting “liar” to Biden from across the room.

Besides this moment of division, there were some moments of unanimity between Republicans and Democrats. There were bipartisan rounds of applause, especially for

topics like public school teachers getting a raise and giving law enforcement the right training.

Topics such as gun control, the climate crisis, reproductive rights, childcare, LGBTQ+ rights, immigration and the Russia-Ukraine war were only mentioned briefly. Biden concluded his remarks by recognizing that we need to see each other not as enemies but as Americans.

“Democracy must not be a partisan issue. It must be an American issue,” he said. “We are the United States of America and there is nothing, nothing beyond our capacity if we do it together,” causing the chamber to erupt into standing ovations. Both Democratic and Republican senators and representatives appear ready to take on their agendas.



Joe Biden speaks during his State of the Union Address, Washington D.C., Feb. 7, 2023.
Photo courtesy of @cnn on Instagram.

Republican-led states fight to ban drag performances

BY ERIN SMITH
Politics Editor

Bills have been proposed in many Republican-led states to prohibit drag show performances in the presence of children. These states claim that drag performances expose children to sexual themes and imagery that are inappropriate.

In recent years, drag culture has become more mainstream in society. Drag is a performance of art that celebrates gender fluidity, self-expression and self-acceptance. Drag performers dress in exaggerated clothing and make-up styles representing gender identities, usually of the opposite sex. The actual show involves performers singing or lip-syncing to songs. There may also be comedy, skits and audience interaction.

There are 11 states throughout the United States working on legislation to ban drag performances: Montana, South Dakota, North Dakota, Arizona, Texas, Nebraska, Arkansas, Missouri, Tennessee, West Virginia and South Carolina.

Nebraska’s proposed bill would prohibit anyone under the age of 19 from attending a drag show, and those who do not comply would be guilty of a misdemeanor.

South Dakota’s proposed bill would prohibit any state-operated facility from hosting any event “where a performer exhibits a gender identity that is different from the performer’s biological sex through the use of clothing, makeup, or other physical markers, for the predominant purpose of appealing to a prurient interest.”

In West Virginia, parents or guardians who bring minors to drag shows could be “required

to complete parenting classes, substance abuse counseling, anger management counseling or other appropriate services.”

The eight other states with proposed bills are limiting “adult cabaret performances” on public property to shield from children. Also, restaurants or bars may have to register as “sexually orientated businesses.”

Drag Story Hour is a nonprofit organization that allows drag performers to read to children. On the proposed bills, their executive director Jonathan Hamilt said, “if drag wasn’t rooted in gay culture and rooted in queer community, I don’t think it’d be up for debate.”

Arkansas Senator and supporter of the bill Gary Stubblefield said, “when you take one of these little kids and put them in front of drag queens that are men dressed like women, do you think that helps them or confuses them in regard to their own gender?”

Sen. Jack Johnson (R-Tenn.) said, “this bill is not anti-drag. It is pro-child.” Johnson’s stance is that he needs to protect children from being shown sexually explicit drag show performances and that the bill is similar to laws that restrict children from going to strip clubs. Shangela, a famous drag queen who gained popularity from being on the show RuPaul’s Drag Race, said “you can’t characterize the world of the drag by one particular type of show, the same way that you can’t characterize the way a television film by one particular program.”

Drag is a beloved activity and source of entertainment for the queer community and is in danger of being stripped away. “The world of drag is no different than any

other aspect of entertainment in our world,” said Shangela. If these new restrictions are imposed on places that host drag show performances, the country will be seeing less and less shows.

In New Haven, there are many restaurants and bars that hold drag

show performances, including The Diva Royale Drag Queen show which is held at 168 York Street Café. Drag in New Haven started in a common theater but has evolved to be an award-winning form of entertainment. Drag queens can be dated back to plays

in Shakespeare time and has gained more popularity throughout the years.

11 states in the U.S. may be putting restrictions on drag shows which John Hamilt said “is just the 2023 trending version of what homophobia looks like.”



An event by Drag Story Hour, Burlington, VT, Jan. 18, 2023.
Photo courtesy of @dragstoryhour on Instagram.

What's happening with on-campus Grubhub delivery?

BY JUSTIN COVIELLO
Campus News Editor

The university's Grubhub partnership began in 2020 at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, where students could not gather to sit inside any of the campus dining locations. In order to keep retail locations afloat, Grubhub allowed students to order ahead of time, which posed as little risk to each other's health as possible.

Frequenters of the app will recognize that there is an on-campus delivery option, yet it never became a staple among students. Juan Dominguez, general manager of dining services on campus, said that deliveries were active "for no less than two semesters," and also indicated that the most deliveries in any day was five.

A service catered by university staff would necessitate extra pay to those workers, and Dominguez said that an average of single-digit deliveries a night on a campus with thousands of residential students would not be worth the overhead. He has even considered having students or recognized student groups conduct deliveries, with the ability

to collect tips, but that plan never came to fruition.

On paper, a delivery service for college students to receive food right to their door using their dining dollars seems like a match made in heaven. The question becomes: why didn't it ever take off?

There are two hurdles. First of all, the delivery options which have been offered, those being WOW, Moe's and the Re-Charge Convenience Store, are some of the central eateries on campus; it's less of a hassle to walk to these locations, so the novelty of delivery isn't as convenient as first thought.

If the app is ever relaunched, Dominguez said it might include Food on Demand and The Marketplace. He said The Marketplace's variety could work well.

"I would like to add... pizza [and sandwiches] from The Marketplace, and just extend the venue and options so more people get interested," he said.

Dominguez said deliveries will only ever occur on the contiguous campus area because they will only be accomplished on foot. This means that students' personal housing and off-campus

residential housing such as Forest Hills or Main Street apartments will not be eligible.

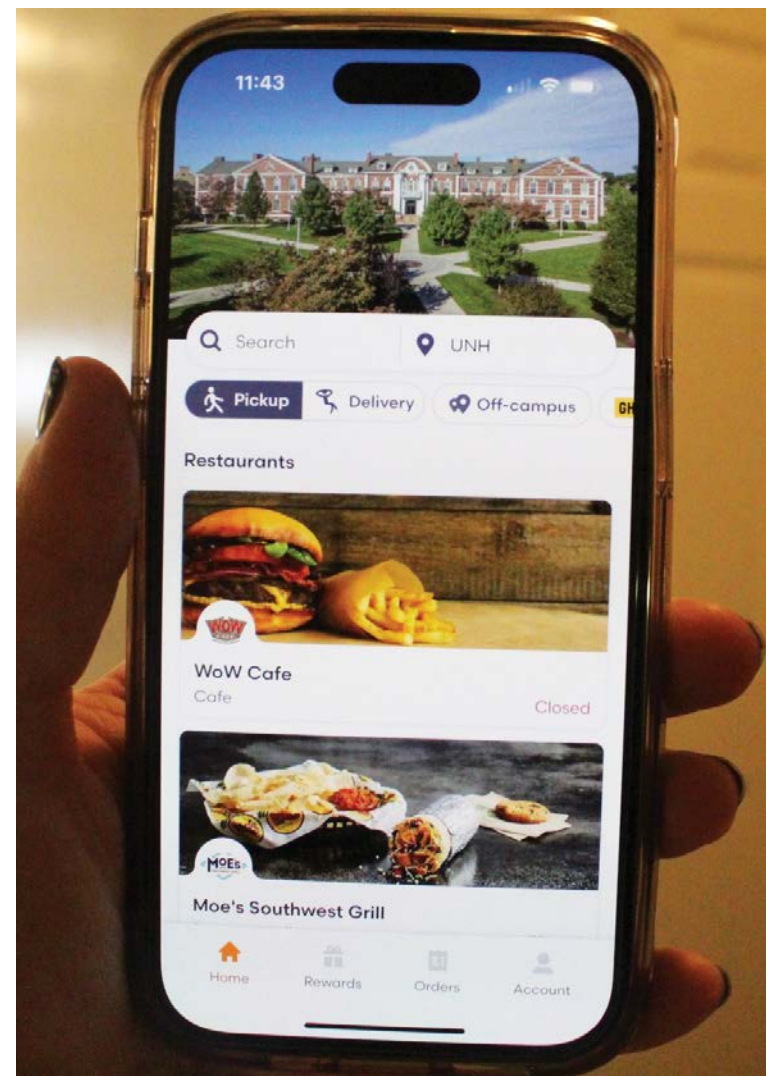
But the biggest hurdle, according to Dominguez, is that university dining directly competes with off-campus establishments. McDonald's and Subway are both a crosswalk away.

For this, Dominguez emphasized the luxury of spending dining dollars as opposed to cash. Additionally, with the introduction of new safety measures across campus, outside deliveries have become more of a hassle.

Delivery is an idea which Dominguez is highly willing to bring back.

"I think all day long about how we can be creative [with what we offer] to the students," he said. "How can we make [delivery] more attractive? Because I think it is a service we should do, but it has to make sense."

If you have any questions, concerns or advice for an on-campus delivery service, reach out to dining services on Instagram @unehavendining and be sure to respond to their survey which will be posted on their Instagram to gauge interest.



Student view of the Grubhub partnership, West Haven, Feb. 12, 2023.
Photo courtesy of Charger Bulletin/Charlotte Bassett.

Local police authorities lack information surrounding university students

BY MIA ADDUCI
Managing Editor

In light of the heightened quantity of off-campus events involving student safety and well-being, it becomes paramount for local authorities to provide information to the student body impacted by these shaking events.

Following the reported death of graduate business analytics student Sri Ram Kalidindi, a message to the university from Dean of Students Ophelia Rowe-Allen informed the community that Mr. Kalidindi "died in the early morning hours of January 31 in his off-campus residence. The New Haven Police Department is handling this incident."

The New Haven Police Department (NHPD)'s Records Division has been contacted consistently on the incident since Feb. 5 at 11:30 a.m.

Multiple representatives from the records desk and the freedom of information department have claimed no information, including notes and active case numbers that should be present in their records under Mr. Kalidindi's name.

On Feb. 7, a request surrounding the cause of death directed to Executive Secretary of the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner Linda Sylvia was responded by press inquiries for the office, informing that the "Cause of Death is 'Pending further Studies' and Manner is 'Pending Investigation.'"

On Feb. 8, Dave Cranshaw from the Office of Marketing responded on behalf of a number of university

officials who were sent inquiries on the matter. In this university statement, he said "The University of New Haven community is deeply saddened by the loss of Sri Ram Kalidindi, a graduate student in our business analytics program, who died in the early morning hours of January 31 in his off-campus residence. A native of Vijayawada, India, he joined the university at the start of the spring semester. Grief counseling is available to students. The New Haven Police Department is handling this incident. Any inquiries should be directed to the New Haven Police Department."

A second request for information that would aid in obtaining police records on the incident was made and has yet to be granted a response.

The University of New Haven Police Department was also contacted, to which they said that they had no knowledge surrounding the incident and that all concerns were to be directed to the NHPD.

This past Sunday, the records desk confirmed again that "no records populated" in their system under Mr. Kalidindi's legal name. They repeatedly requested his date of birth, which has yet to be provided by the university, even after repeated inquiries. This information was provided by "clerk 14" from NHPD's desk. She also voiced awareness that the requests have been unfulfilled throughout the past calendar week, and voiced speculation that the individual may not possess registered forms of identification.

President's Public Service Fellowship offers students real-world experience

BY JUSTIN COVIELLO
Campus News Editor

With the spring semester underway, students are already beginning to make plans for their summer and fall schedules. One of the most rewarding experiences that the University of New Haven has to offer is the President's Public Service Fellowship. This fellowship is a paid position that takes place over the course of 11 weeks during the summer and a main goal of granting university students real-world experience with non-profit organizations and community service.

There are a variety of different organizations which the university regularly partners with. This past summer, students worked with New Haven Reads, Christian Community Action, Yale Prison Education Initiative, CitySeed and many more.

Delianne Ayala-Ramos, a junior forensic science major, worked for New Haven Reads this past summer, where she helped tutor students to improve their reading skills. Her tenure at this organization opened her eyes to the plight of some in our community, saying, "My time in the President's Public Service Fellowship made me realize just how privileged I am in regards to my education." She now regularly gives back to her community, and continues to work with New Haven Reads in a part-time position.

Senior Associate Dean of Students Ric Baker is a huge propo-

nent of this opportunity, for both students and the community as a whole. "The fellows also act as a university ambassador to get them out into the community," Baker said. "Students find that being exposed to some of the challenging needs in the greater New Haven area... they're able to gain not only skills for themselves, but a better understanding of what's really going on in the... community."

Baker noted that the program has previously enrolled upward of 10 students as fellows but numbers have dwindled the three years he has been involved, citing the COVID-19 pandemic and widespread leanness "for people to go out into the community" as cause for fewer applications.

With COVID restrictions eased, Baker emphasized the marketing tactics employed to get more students involved with the fellowship, including information sessions held on Feb. 3 and Feb. 7 as well as advising faculty members to make their students aware of the opportunity.

A key aspect of the fellowship program is that it is meant to mimic the feeling of being in college during the semester, while still feeling like a true summer work experience. Fellows all live in university housing over the summer, engage in weekly team building events and submit reflection papers over the course of the summer using the university's Competency Learning Experience.

Students are selected to work with non-profit and public service organizations which do not directly tie into their major or field of study. This is done intentionally, with the purpose of "expanding their world view," Baker said. "There's a lot more going on in the city, and so this is a great opportunity to be able to bring our students out into the community and also bring the community into us."

Ayala-Ramos experienced the positives of getting involved in a new environment first-hand, "So although the Fellowship is designed to push you out of your comfort zone, it actually brought me back to a place I had once loved to be," She said. "Now I read a lot more and still get to work with kids at New Haven Reads while still pursuing my degree, so I'm living the best of both worlds."

The President's Public Service Fellowship is available only to undergraduate students who will be returning in the fall 2023 semester. Graduate students can instead apply for the Fellowship Coordinator position, which Baker described as a "supervisor/advisor to the students," and they are responsible for working with fellowship sites and setting up co-curricular events.

The fellowship was created over two decades ago by University Chaplain Martin O'Connor and former Dean of Students Becky Johnson.

K-Pop dance group is “a step closer to starting something different”

BY ANCHAL BHATIA
Staff Writer

“K-Pop was the diversity I wanted to bring on campus and have several students enjoy this dance form,” said Len Diamond, a sophomore mathematics major and president of the Charger K-Pop Dance Crew (CKDC), a new Recognized Student Organization (RSO) at the university. Starting last semester, the CKDC is now a family of 14 members and is continually working towards further growth. When asked about the motivation behind starting the K-Pop Dance Crew, Diamond shared anecdotes about his high-school days.

As a new addition to the university, the CKDC is set to offer exciting opportunities for the club and university students. Diamond is elated to see how things will unfold this semester. Apart from the showcase near the end of the term, he has planned several goals that he aspires to accomplish in 2023.

“As we are a recent RSO, many people still do not know about the [Chargers K-Pop Dance Crew], and though they wish to, they might have missed out on being part of us when our auditions were held. However, we certainly wish for everyone’s entertainment and indulgence and would love to interact with a larger group,” he said. “To

achieve this, I plan on hosting open workshops and classes for the dance enthusiasts of our university frequently. Besides this, the K-Pop Dance [Crew] Club is open to collaborations with other RSOs, and we would love to join in the events and activities on campus. In fact, we recently were invited to an event where students could come and create their own [do-it-yourself] K-Pop crafts. It was an exciting start as we got to network and spoke with an expanded group of members.”

Diamond further opened up about his experiences as a founder of an RSO and stated it to be a lengthy process. Moreover, he talked about aligning schedules and listed this as a challenging task, saying, “It is difficult managing everyone’s schedules together, but we are now on a set routine which makes me happy. We practice Mondays and Thursdays [after] everyone’s classes, and I am delighted to see the response I have been getting so far. On days when someone misses their practice, we help the individual by sending them our recordings. It is good to see all the members doing well in this journey of the K-Pop Dance [Crew’s] early days.”

Indeed, in any group or organization, friendship makes a huge difference. Diamond agrees with this thought and believes

in communal harmony. His goal of having a fun, friendly and like-minded group of students practicing together is being fulfilled in CKPDC.

“At K-Pop [Dance Crew], we do not believe in being strict with our members. However, we consider the importance of discipline, punctuality, and leadership and implement those in our organization. I feel overjoyed to see everyone’s friendship here, which makes our practice sessions more fun,” he said. “What I appreciate the most about our club is that we give everyone an equal opportunity to showcase their ideas and choreography

rather than sticking to the conventional or a set pattern. We all provide each other with equal learning and growth opportunities, strengthening our bond as a group.”

As the founder and president of the CKDC, Diamond is exuberant in exploring the valuable opportunities that will come his way for his remaining two years at the university. He aspires to see the CKDC gain a larger reputation even after his graduation and is adamant about making this dance club a noteworthy choice for many K-Pop and dance enthusiasts. Diamond is content with the support he re-

ceived throughout setting up this RSO and continues expecting the same for years to follow. He was joyous upon thanking the university and is on his journey to strengthen the club’s marketing, along with their executive board [e-board]. Diamond believes this club is his safe space and works in unison with the e-board members to fulfill the marketing goals and needs further. The club is open to suggestions and collaborations and can be contacted via email at kpodance@newhaven.edu. Follow the club’s every day activities by looking at their Instagram, @unewhaven.ckdc.



Members of CKDC rehearse, West Haven, Feb. 2, 2023.
Photo courtesy of Charger Bulletin/Charlotte Bassett.

University Greek Life breaking stigmas during recruitment

BY PRESLEY DEPUGH
Arts & Life Editor

A new semester calls for new members. Many Recognized Student Organizations (RSOs) are undergoing a recruitment process in search of new members by tabling and doing meet-and-greets. Panhellenic sororities such as Phi Sigma Sigma (Phi Sig) and Alpha Sigma Alpha (ASA) held tables to interact with the student body and get people to sign up for recruitment.

Gabriella Onofrietti, a sophomore interior design major and sister of ASA, outlined the rewards of tabling, saying, “Probably just ... getting new members and ... seeing their perspective and ... why they want to join,” said Onofrietti.

Onofrietti also said that joining their sorority is “a great way to put yourself out there and also to get more involved. And it’s a great way to make friendships.”

Rebecca Lovatt, junior health sciences major and education chair of Phi Sig, was enjoying her time at their recruitment tabling in the Bartels Campus Center. “There’s a lot of foot traffic. So we get to talk to a lot of people,” said Lovatt. Phi Sig’s

table was near the entrance of Bartels, which allowed Lovatt to talk to as many people as possible.

Joining any RSO on campus can be a commitment to some, so hesitancy from prospective members was to be expected. “I think that a common consensus would definitely be that everybody was nervous,” said Lovatt. “But once you kind of try it, it works out for the best and it’s nothing to be afraid of.”

Students are likely hesitant to join sororities and fraternities due to the stigmas built around them such as hazing and intense activities. The university has a “strict anti-hazing policy,” which defines hazing as “any action taken or situation created which produces mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment, or ridicule,” and outlines what is prohibited during recruitment for sororities and fraternities. “We really emphasize that that’s just not good,” said Lovatt, who also mentioned the anti-hazing workshops that these organizations go through.

Lovatt mentioned the values that Phi Sig promotes for prospective and existing members, which include “faith, friendship,

love, integrity, sincerity.” The education chair went on to say, “We really promote being women of substance, character and influence.”

Bethany Demarco, junior criminal justice major and public relations chair of ASA, discussed some of the questions brought up when they table. “Usually just [questions about] what we do, what we’re about, and how we’re involved on campus,” said Demarco.

Demarco said that for some of the sororities, such as ASA, the tabling is the first step for recruitment. “So just for this week and last week, all of the sororities have been doing tabling,” said Demarco. “But next week is our actual recruitment process, so we’ll be doing a whole week of open houses.”

The Interfraternity Council previously held recruitment during the week of Jan. 30 and the Independent Greek Council held recruitment during the week of Feb. 6.

If you are interested in checking out a particular sorority or fraternity, check out the organizations tab on Charger Connection to look through the list.

Professor’s art series

BY MIA ADDUCI
Managing Editor

Continued from page 1

bly vivid, which is surely commendable even as a standalone component of this project. Deep, powerful reds, weighted oranges, multifarious shades of blue and vibrant yellows and greens filled the canvases on the walls, bringing intense levels to the complex textiles of the natural world. To magnetize and then supersize the interactivity of the rainbow as it exists beneath our eyes is incredibly powerful.

Arabolos says that this project “becomes a profound insight into how nature works and how we as beings of consciousness realize our environment.”

He also voiced a number of postulations surrounding perception and size in the natural world, saying “This is the crux of perception, art making and the experiencing process. What is size?... and in relationship to what? How do we determine scale, when through abstraction we do not have a frame of reference to base our perceptions and observations? What is size - but an individual’s physiological intuitive response to his/

her [their] own environment?”

To hone in on the intrinsic details of the natural world and to create something large-scale from a smaller one is something to be commended.

Perhaps the most moving sentiment about the pieces in this collection is that there is no importance held to the origin of the images — it doesn’t matter nearly as much where they came from but rather what power the patterns hold to spark thought from the viewers.

The applications of his investigation into the natural world’s patterns extend far beyond the walls of mActivity Gallery. In 2008, Arabolos applied for a patent for what is called a new “Disruptive Technology” to be used to create “systemic morphology pattern sequencing.” He gained patent approval in 2013.

To visit the exhibition, you can head over to 285 Nicoll St. from now until April 30. Hours of visitation are Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

To view Arabolos portfolio, head over to Arabolosart.com.

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Printed by Valley Publishing Co. Derby, CT.
Archives can be found at our-schoolnewspaper.com/charger

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

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

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There is a lack of substance in Black History Month events

BY EDITORIAL STAFF

Editorial

Every February, communities gather to celebrate Black History Month and recognize the countless accomplishments of Black people in the United States in the face of a country that has continuously discriminated against them.

The University of New Haven kicked the month off with a Black Lives Matter flag raising outside of the German Club, which signifies the start of a month full of various events, celebrations and learning about the Black experience. While the flag flying above the Kathy Zolad Stadium serves as a reminder of the importance of the month, it also highlights the shortcomings of the university so far.

This is a time to educate and inform the student body about the accomplishments of Black figures throughout history. Black culture and Black history are American history, weaving the foundation of what it means

to be a citizen in this country. Not only this, but it also aims to teach about struggles of Black people against a system slanted against them, an important lesson for those that will never experience such racial discrimination.

This is especially important at a predominantly white institution such as this university, where diversity numbers are largely lacking.

While there are a handful of events going on, the bulk of them are being hosted by the student-led multicultural organizations. These can be found on Charger Connection, but the university administration could be doing much more to highlight these for students.

For example, the Women in Business club hosted a Black Women in Business Panel on Monday, allowing students to hear from Black women in the field of business. This was an opportunity for students to engage and learn from those in the professional world while reflecting the meaning of the

month. However, it took a deep dive into Charger Connection or knowing the club itself to be exposed to the event.

The Myatt Center for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion is hosting a Digital Racism & Blackface event on Thursday, but yet again it may be hard for students to find this event. No emails have been sent about it from the university, nor has it been advertised anywhere on social media. Charger Connection is helpful, but many students may miss it.

Part of the onus falls onto the university to advertise for these events. They should offer these various RSOs the chance to grow, flexing the numerous student-driven initiatives to help enrich the learning experiences on campus.

These events deserve recognition and should all be pushed to students in any and every way

possible.

Beyond this, the university itself should be looking for guest speakers to facilitate helpful conversations. While we are not a large school, there is still value in trying to offer this option to students. Whether it be university alumni or outside scholars, it would be a great opportunity for not only present students, but also those interested in attending the school.

These practices should extend beyond just Black History Month. College campuses are areas to welcome guest scholars and speakers that those not in college may not get to see. Students deserve to have this opportunity, giving more representation for minority cultures and experiences through an increased effort in the planning and advertising of events, especially given how expensive tuition is.

Page Six View*There's no such thing as alcoholism when you're in college*BY LINDSAY GIOVANNONE
Columnist**Column**

It's Friday night. You've had a hard week of classes and homework, writing multiple essays and delivering a 15-minute presentation. All you want right now is to hang out with your friends and - while you're at it - you've definitely earned a drink for your efforts. After all, it's not alcoholism until you graduate, right? *Right?*

Sort of.

The definition of what constitutes alcoholism lies on a spectrum ranging from "mild" to "severe" alcohol use disorder (AUD). According to the Mayo Clinic, AUD is a pattern of drinking that involves problems controlling drinking, being preoccupied with drinking, or continuing to use the substance even when it causes problems. It can also involve having to drink more to get the same effect (upping your tolerance).

I have met people who can shotgun Four Lokos or crush 10 cans of Busch Lite without flinching. 20% of college students fit the criteria for AUD. The normalization of abusing alcohol creates an environment of habitual binge drinking for 50% of college students, and

there is seldom a middle ground for social drinking.

Mixed drinks are common at parties, and particularly risky because you truly don't know how much alcohol you have consumed since the liquor content varies. Pregaming before even going to drink at the party is also common. Some students don't eat as much during the day when they know they'll be going out that night, since an empty stomach makes intoxication occur faster and, of course, the point of drinking is to be drunk.

The logic behind this being, "I could never go to a party sober" or "It's no fun being sober when everyone else is drunk." Alcohol is sometimes a crutch used to make gatherings more bearable. There is nothing inherently wrong with drinking and being tipsy occasionally but normalizing and even celebrating regularly blacking out isn't healthy behavior.

Alcohol is and has always been an important part of college life. You and I will continue to have fun but we need to be cognizant that 2,000 students die each year from unintentional, alcohol-related incidents. Be safe, self-aware and don't become a statistic.

**La vita oltre i nostri confini:
Life beyond our borders***A trip that changed my life forever.*BY STEPHEN GANGI
Executive Business Manager**Column**

Do you have a bucket list?

I do. My list is full of places to visit, sights to see and people to meet. This past weekend, I crossed off one of the locations that I vowed to see during my life: the beautiful landscape of Switzerland.

No words could properly describe the feeling of fulfillment I experienced as I sat alone next to Lake Brienz, one of the two remarkable lakes surrounding the town of Interlaken. In the background, only the noise of my music interrupted me as I listened to the serenity of the water as its small but meaningful seiches clashed against the land.

I sat there, simply existing, for hours before the time of day caught up to me.

The feeling of water brushing my hands as I stared off into the distance, watching the world's natural beauty exist in front of me is an experience and a memory that will forever be cemented into my being. The tears that marked up my face created a ripple as they fell into their new forever home and I learned there is no better emotion that this Earth can give you than pure, unwavering happiness.

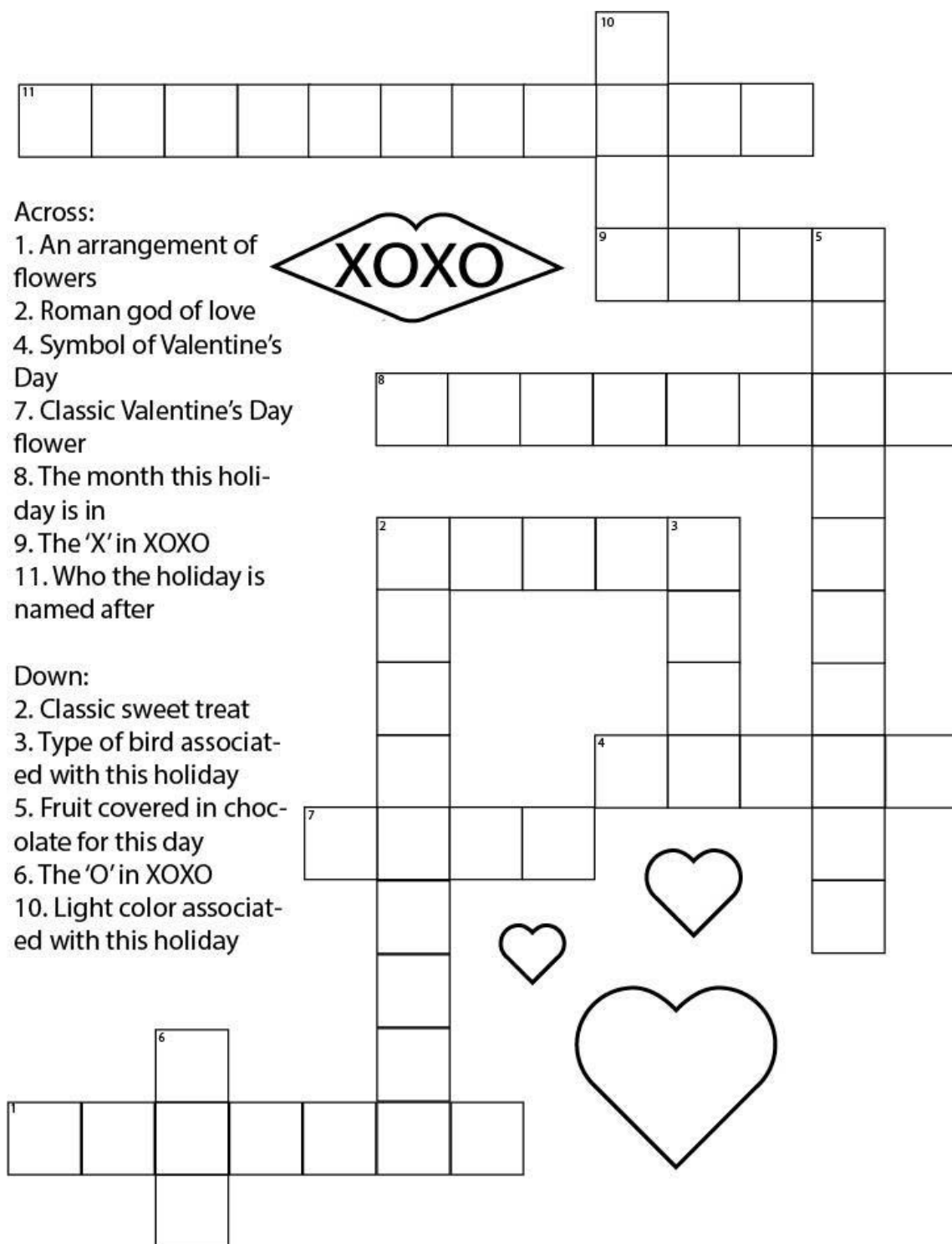
As the day came to an end I made my way back to the hotel, and as I approached the door I was met with a magnificent purple hue as the evening sun had put on its best apparel for the night. A sunset to impress an emperor — that is what was in front of me.

When calling my family and friends back home, they always tell me how proud they are of me. Coming out here, living my dream, doing things that they never were able or brave enough to do. All of it is extremely touching, but until I sat here I never truly understood what they meant. Taking this trip meant so much more than seeing someplace new; it meant I was proudly walking into this new era of my life and that left me bewildered.

The plans I have for my future, will they lead me to the same feeling I felt as I sat by the lake? Change can be good and sudden change can be terrifying, but finding the right path has never been something that proved easy.

The rest of my trip to Switzerland was filled with happy memories surrounded by some of my best friends, but as the time came for the trip home, nothing had amounted to the same gratification experienced on that first day.

P.S. The chocolate here was really good.



Valentine's Day sucks, but let's keep it

BY PRESLEY DEPUGH
Arts & Life Editor

Column

As a person who wants a romantic relationship but can't find one, Valentine's Day kind of sucks. Jealousy and bitterness rise whenever I hear people talking about date plans and gift ideas, raising the dreaded question: Have you found a significant other yet?

Societal pressures to find romantic relationships are based on life's checkpoints: getting married by this age or having kids by that age, etc. Because of these presumptions, many are still under the impression that you need romance in your life to be happy. Valentine's Day can be a trigger for people who are single and unhappy.

Seeing or hearing people talk about dating around Valentine's Day while you are not romantically involved can cause some hurting. However, we shouldn't write off the holiday completely.

Different societies and communities have progressed from a romance-oriented Valentine's Day. For instance, in Finland and Estonia, they celebrate a Valentine's Day alternative

called Friends' Day. "Known as YstävänPäivä in Finnish and Sõbrapäev in Estonian, Friend's Day is celebrated by single people and couples alike. Families, friends and couples gather for shared meals and sporting activities like skating or sledding," said Time magazine writer Melissa Godin in her article "Why Valentine's Day in These European Countries Is All About Friendship."

In the United States, where Valentine's Day is most popular there is hope to take a platonic approach to the holiday. There is even an unofficial tradition set on Feb. 13 called Galentine's Day, which is about hanging out with your friends. While it is disappointing to see that an entirely new holiday had to be created as a platonic alternative to offset Valentine's Day, it is great to see the effort put into celebrating friends and family instead of celebrating just romance.

As time passes, the stigma of needing romance in your life, especially around holidays like Valentine's Day, will be gone. Not receiving chocolates and flowers from a significant other will not bring shame to people soon.

Unclaiming the term "sex symbol" for celebrities

BY AMBER CHOLEWA
Community Engagement Editor

Column

For decades, celebrities have been coined as "sex symbols," both male and female artists admired for their "conspicuous sex appeal." But is this really what they want to be known for?

Throughout the years we have heard the names: Megan Fox, Scarlett Johanson, Chris Evans and Ryan Gosling. Why? They were labeled as sex symbols. Although it may not seem like a big deal to someone with an outside perspective such as fans who go along with the sexualizing of the celebrity, talking about a person in this manner reduces a person's identity and makes it seem as if they are only valued for their looks rather than what they produce.

Few things change as the years go by but the over-sexualization of celebrities never seems to change. Many don't speak out or feel as though they will be taken seriously, since it seems as though some people only talk about looks rather than the art that takes time and effort to become what it is.

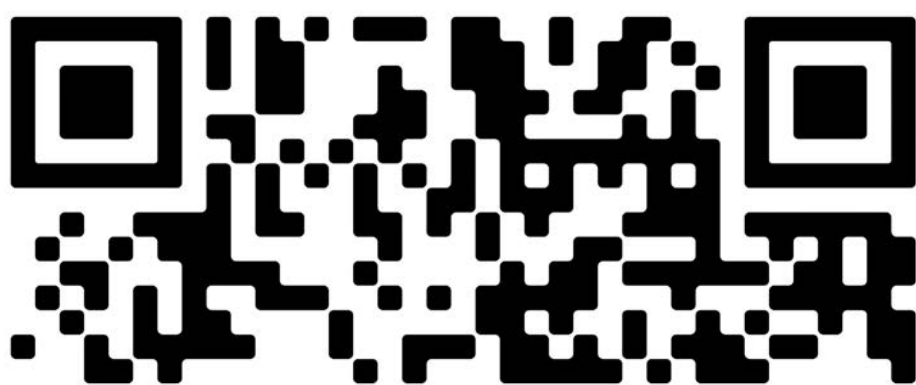
Every so often, a celebrity who has stepped into the spotlight, no matter the quality of their craft, gets this attention based on appearance from millions of people. Harry Styles for example, has impeccable music but it seems as though he is only talked

about for his looks or how he presents himself to the world.

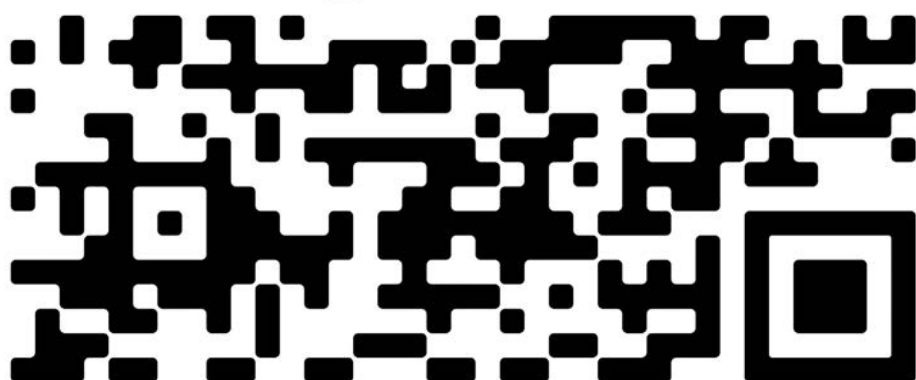
For example, Styles was over-sexualized at this year's Grammys. Throughout the show, the host Trevor Noah said, "Women throw their panties at him, then he puts them on and then he looks better than they do," while also noting that, "he is easily the sexiest man." The host proceeded to say that there was "no competition" when it came to talking about looks. Is this really what you want to hear at an award show that focuses on music? Listen to the artists, appreciate their music, love their words not their attractiveness. They are more than their looks.

In an interview with Us Weekly back in 2019, Styles discussed how uncomfortable it is to be known as a sex symbol. In the interview he described the experience saying, "So uncomfortable, I'd say I try to think of it as little as possible because it's a very strange dynamic thing."

He said, "It's also a weird thing to think of about yourself." Celebrities have had varying reactions to being dubbed sex symbols, but I chose Harry Styles as a focus subject since he is one of the only people who has spoken about how uncomfortable he was for being referred to in this manner. Stop putting celebrities in a position where they have to openly speak about how uncomfortable they are when they shouldn't be feeling this way at all.



The Charger Bulletin



Women's basketball wins 8th straight: beats Saint Michael's 49-40

BY CHRISTOPHER ELWELL
Sports Editor

Make it another win. The New Haven women's basketball team's win streak has now reached eight games, their longest since the 2018-19 season. On Feb. 7, they came out with a gritty 49-40 win after a defensive battle against Saint Michael's College. This win streak has come at the perfect time for the Chargers, approaching the final stretch of the regular season and giving them a prime opportunity to move ahead in the conference standings.

The defense came out firing for New Haven in the first quarter with steals from guards Kameryn King, Lindsey Hogan and forward Aurora Deshaies. King started the scoring for the Chargers with an and-one to complete the three-point play. Both teams continued to play strong defense early on and Deshaies added to their lead with a pair of free throws.

Saint Michael's tallied their first score on a three-pointer from Paige Slaven but Deshaies and King continued their hot start to the game with a pair of free throws and a jumper, sending Saint Michael's into a timeout. Brianna Furch knocked

down a three for the Purple Knights out of the timeout, making it a three-point game.

New Haven's offense came alive late in the first quarter, scoring 11 consecutive points to take a commanding 20-6 lead with 1:17 remaining. Emma MacDonough hit a jumper to cut into the lead but forward Bianca Pendleton added her first score of the game with five seconds left to send the Chargers to the second quarter with a comfortable 14-point lead.

A steal by Deshaies set up King for New Haven's first score of the second quarter, sending Saint Michael's into another timeout. The Purple Knights' offense responded with three consecutive baskets to cut the deficit to 10.

New Haven's defense was able to control the game. After a block by forward Alyssa Stevenson the offense got back on track with a jumper from Deshaies and a missed jumper from Slaven gave New Haven another opportunity to add to their lead. Guard Camryn DeBose added to her team-high 17-point performance with a jumper. Forward Leighanna Lister tallied another basket with 36 seconds left in the half to send the Chargers into the break with a 12-point lead.

In the third quarter, with

a jumper from Hogan and a fastbreak layup from DeBose, New Haven continued to add to their lead with eight minutes left to play in the third quarter. The defense continued to be a strong

point for the Chargers as Lister registered a block and New Haven held Saint Michael's to just 20 points well into the third quarter.

A turnover by Saint Michael's



New Haven's Aurora Deshaies drives against SMC, West Haven, Feb. 7, 2023.
Photo courtesy of Charger Bulletin/Tori Gonzalez.

Makayla Blake set up another score for Lister, who made the layup to give the Chargers a 19-point lead with 2:38 left in the quarter. Saint Michael's offense could not get anything going, finishing with just 24 points through the first three quarters.

The fourth quarter started with promise for Saint Michael's, who cut the deficit within ten minutes with just under nine minutes to play. But King would have nothing to do with a comeback and brought the lead back to double digits for New Haven with a three, snapping the team's 4:21 scoreless streak.

After a timeout by New Haven, DeBose knocked down a three to stretch the lead to 15. Saint Michael's started to chip away again with a three and a pair of free throws from Slaven. Their comeback would come up short, as King and DeBose hit free throws to seal the game for New Haven and mark their eighth consecutive win.

The win streak came to an end on Saturday though as New Haven lost to No. 18 Assumption University 60-44. The Chargers return home on Wednesday for an out-of-conference game against the College of Staten Island at 5:30 p.m. More information can be found at NewHavenChargers.com.

MBB wins second straight, beats Saint Michael's 55-48

BY CHRISTOPHER ELWELL
Sports Editor

The New Haven men's basketball team came away with another win last Tuesday night, earning a big 55-48 win in a defensive battle with Saint Michael's College. The Chargers were largely in control from the opening minutes of the game and would not give up the lead at any point. The win marks their second in a row, bringing their record to 12-5 in Northeast-10 play, placing them second in the conference standings.

Saint Michael's opened the scoring with a three-pointer from guard Alan Brzezinski, followed by a layup from forward Dario Milojevic to take an early lead in the opening minutes. New Haven responded quickly with a pair of threes from guard Victor Olawoye and forward Ty Perry taking the lead, which they held onto for the rest of the game.

The Chargers added to their lead with layups from guard Quashawn Lane and forward Davontrey Thomas to stretch the lead to four, and they continued with a pair of free throws from Olawoye.

With just over eight minutes to play in the first half, Thomas knocked down a jumper, but the Purple Knights responded with a



New Haven's Majur Majak attempts a shot against SMC, West Haven, Feb. 7, 2023.
Photo courtesy of Charger Bulletin/Tori Gonzalez.

three from forward Jacob Duniver that cut the lead to five.

After a jumper from forward Sean Braithwaite, neither team registered a basket for nearly two minutes. Forward Jason Edokpayi added a layup, sending Saint Michael's into their first timeout of the game.

The Chargers came out of the timeout with a quick basket by Olawoye to give New Haven a double-digit lead, which they held for most of the half until guard Chuma Oyigbo knocked down a three with 36 seconds remaining to make it a nine-point game.

New Haven's offense came out of the break with a jumper from Perry, who finished with a team-high 16 points. Guard Darrel Yepdo brought the deficit within eight with a three as they looked to stage a comeback early in the second half.

The Chargers responded, as

Perry scored the team's next six points to give them a comfortable 13-point lead with 15 minutes left to play. The defense held up with their efficient scoring, stretching the lead to as much as 21 after a layup from Olawoye.

Saint Michael's brought the game within eight with just three and a half minutes remaining with 13 consecutive points. After a pair of free throws from Perry, the Purple Knights' offense once again looked to stage a comeback with a fastbreak three from Oyigbo and a free throw from Yepdo with 18 seconds left to play. But New Haven sealed the game with free throws from Thomas and Perry.

The Chargers returned to the court on Saturday with a match-up against Assumption University. This did not end well for New Haven, as the Greyhounds connected on a layup with 18 seconds left to take a one-point lead. That held for Assumption, as they walked away with a 65-64 win.

New Haven returns to the court on Wednesday as they host the College of Staten Island at Charger Gymnasium. Tipoff is scheduled for 7:30 p.m., and more information can be found at NewHavenChargers.com.