

The Charger Bulletin

The student news source for the University of New Haven

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#21 Christopher Ais celebrates a touchdown, West Haven, Nov. 11, 2023.
Photo courtesy of Charger Bulletin/Tyler Rodriguez.

New Haven defeats Bentley 24-17, earns fifth NE-10 Championship

BY SKYLAR GRIFFIN
Sports Editor

The stands were packed full at DellaCamera Stadium on Saturday as fans anticipated the game of the year between the top two teams in the Northeast-10 (NE-10) conference.

The win clinched New Haven's second NE-10 title in three years. Going into the final regular season game of the season, the Chargers were ranked 10th in the Super Region One rankings with seven teams making the NCAA Division II playoffs. However, with losses for No. 1 Slippery Rock, No. 4 California (PA) and No. 8 Fairmont State, New Haven was able to make it as the seventh seed.

The first quarter was back-and-forth as both teams put seven points on the score-

board. Bentley was first to score with a 95-yard return by cornerback Tajon Vassar for a touchdown on the opening kickoff. New Haven's defense prevented the lead from growing with linebacker Joe Vitale combining with defensive lineman David Abolarinwa for a sack on third down on Bentley's next possession. Defensive lineman Chisom Okoro forced an intentional grounding penalty and later combined with defensive tackle Jaysen Triunfer for a sack. In between those two drives, running back Christopher Ais got the ball nine times on a 10-play drive and tied the game at seven with a four-yard scoring run.

Bentley took the lead back in the second quarter after converting on third and fourth down with a 15-play drive re-

sulting in a 40-yard field goal. On New Haven's next drive, a third-down pass to wide receiver Javon Turner was originally ruled complete before being reversed to an incomplete pass, giving Bentley one more chance to add to their lead. Bentley was unsuccessful after Vitale got his hands on a third-down pass, keeping the score at 10-7 to end the first half of the game. With the NE-10 Championship Title on the line, the Chargers needed a big comeback in the second half.

Trailing by three, the Chargers went into the second half ready to put up a fight. New Haven regained the lead after quarterback Daelen Menard connected with wide receiver Dev Holmes for a 25-yard touchdown pass. Bentley answered to take the lead once

again on a five-yard touchdown run by quarterback Mark Waid. The third quarter ended 17-14 with New Haven once again down by three. The fourth quarter would determine the champions of the NE-10 title and the Chargers needed to leave it all out on the field.

Menard connected once again with Holmes early in the fourth quarter, this time with a 53-yard touchdown pass to put New Haven back in front by four. A key sack from Okoro and an interception by defensive back Jalen Fisher kept Bentley from answering back as the Chargers continued to battle. Bentley was given another chance to regain the lead after Menard's third-down pass to wide receiver Kasi Hazzard was wiped out by a late flag

resulting in a holding penalty. Bentley's momentum was shut down three plays later, as Ais intercepted a pass and returned it inside the Bentley 10-yard line. The Chargers were unable to turn this take-away into a touchdown, but a 25-yard field goal from kicker Vincenzo DeSimone capped off the 24-17 win for New Haven and secured the NE-10 regular season title.

The stands and players went wild as helmets flew off and shouts of joy rang through the stadium. New Haven finished the regular season with an overall record of 8-2 and a 6-1 record in the NE-10. The first round of playoffs are on Saturday, Nov. 18, against the University of Charleston in West Virginia. For more information, visit NewHavenChargers.com.

Dorinda Borer elected mayor of West Haven

BY ERIN SMITH
Politics Editor

University of New Haven alumnus Dorinda Borer won the mayoral election in West Haven on Nov. 7. She received 6,001 votes to beat Barry Lee Cohen, who received 3,671 votes. All 10 districts in West Haven voted for Borer, as Democrats swept municipal elections, only losing the 10th district City Council race.

After the votes were counted, Borer spoke at the town Democratic headquarters and said “We are heading for a brighter future... we’ve got a message for the rest of Connecticut: We are back.”

Throughout the day, Borer visited polling

places in West Haven and said, “There was a lot of hope and a lot of energy in the air when I was standing at the polls. I think we’re all just excited.”

Borer refers to the Covid-19 relief fund scandal when former Rep. Michael DiMassa stole \$1.2 million in federal funds given to West Haven for pandemic relief. After DiMassa was arrested, Gov. Ned Lamont placed West Haven under the highest level of state financial oversight from the Municipal Accountability Review Board (MARB). This is to ensure that city leaders, especially West Haven’s mayor at the time Nancy Rossi, managed and oversaw the city’s spending effectively.

Borer said on her campaign website “We need to partner with them [MARB], take their input, build trust and confidence and create an exit plan for West Haven to manage the City’s finances independently.” She will ensure that positions in the finance department are filled with qualified people to instill proper financial controls.

“Number one is we have to rebuild trust,” Borer said. She said her priorities as mayor are to focus on economic development, “rebranding” the city and attracting private and public partners to invest in the city.

Other priorities on Borer’s agenda when in office include improving the environment through creating a coalition of

Environmental Volunteer organizations throughout West Haven and creating a beach nourishment replacement program.

Public safety is another priority listed on Borer’s campaign website, as she plans to start a first-time home buyer program for police officers so they stay in West Haven. Another future initiative is to complete the Security Camera Boardwalk project and directly communicate with the police about other areas that need more police presence.

Cohen arrived at the Democratic headquarters to concede and said though he did not win the election, “I still believe that this is a referendum on change. And the change that West Haven has decided is not my

change, it’s Dorinda’s change. Which I hope will be our change, and West Haven’s change.”

Cohen lost the 2021 mayoral election against Mayor Nancy Rossi by 32 votes and this year won the town Republican committee nomination for mayor. After his defeat in this year’s election, he said he would step away from politics.

“I’ll always love this town,” Cohen said. “I believe I have much more to give. But for right now I’ll be taking some time off myself. It’s been a very, very long journey.”

Borer will be inaugurated next month and said she will be taking everything “one day at a time” and that “residents can expect to see some immediate changes.”

Biden announces new funding for Amtrak

BY ERIN SMITH
Politics Editor

Pres. Joe Biden announced recently that the federal government will provide \$16 billion to Amtrak’s Northeast Corridor, which will include 25 passenger rail projects.

The Northeast Corridor is a system that connects cities such as Washington, New York City (NYC) and Boston. Amtrak is the National Railroad Passenger Corporation; it operates intercity passenger rail services in 46 states and the District of Columbia, in addition to serving as a contractor in various capacities for several commuter rail agencies.

The funds “will upgrade aging infrastructure on the nation’s most heavily traveled rail corridor to increase train speeds, reduce passenger delays and create good-paying union jobs,” a White House official said in a statement.

The money is part of the \$1 trillion Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, which was signed into law nearly two years ago and included \$66 billion for investments in rail systems.

“I’ve been talking about this a long time, I know. But finally, finally we’re getting it done,” Biden said at an event held at a maintenance warehouse for Amtrak trains in Bear, Del. where he announced the new funding.

Biden is a long-time passenger of Amtrak. During his 36 years as a U.S. senator, he rode from Wilmington, Del. to Washington daily.

“How can you be a leading country in the world and have a second-rate infrastructure?” he said. “It’s not possible.”

12 of the 25 projects will be carried out by Amtrak such as the Susquehanna River Rail Bridge project in Maryland, the East River tunnel project in New York and replacing the Connecticut River Bridge between Old Lyme and Old Saybrook.

The tunnel that runs under residential Baltimore, also known as the Baltimore and Potomac Tunnel, is the slowest section of the mainline track between Washington and New York City. About \$4.7 billion will go toward replacing the tunnel, which will allow speeds to increase from the current speed 30 miles per hour to 110 miles per hour.

“These grants will help advance Amtrak’s plans to modernize the Northeast Corridor and unlock major bottlenecks on the busiest passenger rail corridor in America,” Stephen Gardner, Amtrak’s chief executive said in a statement.

The 13 other projects will be carried out by Amtrak partners and will focus on the Gateway project in New York and New Jersey. The Gateway Hudson River tunnel project began

during the Obama administration and saw extensive delays during the Trump administration. The tunnel connects New York to New Jersey by underwater train tunnels and is about a century old. The span suffered damage after Hurricane Sandy in 2012.

“This historic investment demonstrates President Biden’s commitment to updating our nation’s aging infrastructure and prioritizing the public transportation so many Americans rely upon,” New Jersey Gov. Phil Murphy said in a statement.

“The funding for the Gateway

Program will support efforts my administration has been working toward for years alongside our partners to update bridges and tunnels along the Northeast Corridor that serve 260 million passenger trips per year,” Murphy said.

According to a White House official fact sheet, this is the largest investment in passenger rail since the creation of Amtrak and the projects will create around 100,000 union jobs. At the event, Biden said “if this line were to shut down for just one day, it would cost our American

economy \$100 million a day.”

There are around 800,000 trips daily along the Northeast Corridor. Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg told reporters, “Americans need and deserve world-class rail, which is the president’s vision. But for decades now, we have underinvested as a country in passenger rail in the United States.”

After years of no improvements in U.S. infrastructure, “this is the U.S.A., for God’s sake,” Biden said. “We’re better than that and now we’re proving it.”

If you were a UNH student enrolled in any UNH course as of March 24, 2020 (other than a non-matriculated high school student) and you did not opt out of the Settlement of Krystian Wnorowski, on behalf of himself and others similarly situated v. University of New Haven, Case No. 3:20-cv-1589 (D. Conn.), you will receive the one-time \$200 Non-Cash Tuition Credit described in the Settlement if you enroll or have enrolled in a UNH course commencing in September 2023 or later. Go to www.unewhavensettlement.com for more information.

Tropixx Dance Collective brings Afro-Caribbean dance culture to campus

BY PRESLEY DEPUGH
Arts & Life Editor

General meetings and practices for the Tropixx Dance Collective were posted on Charger Connection by the Center for Student Engagement, Leadership and Orientation and marked the arrival of a new student organization at the University of New Haven.

Despite the stress of starting a registered student organization (RSO), Krysti Jackson, the president of Tropixx Dance Collective and senior accounting major, was excited to begin.

“There is nothing like it here,” said Jackson. “All the other dance groups are kind of focused on more Americanized dance techniques.”

The Tropixx Dance Collective’s style of dancing is Afro-Caribbean, which incorporates dances

with roots from African countries such as Nigeria, South Africa and Ghana. Some of these dances include Soca, Kompa and many others.

Jackson said the closest organization to Tropixx Dance Collective is Incendio Dance Project, which incorporates Spanish-speaking Caribbean and Latino roots in their dancing.

Jackson was born and raised in Jamaica, and she said that she did not see much Afro-Caribbean culture on campus aside from the Caribbean Student Association (CSA) which is “more focused on bringing us together,” said Jackson. CSA has events and meetings that explore different aspects of Caribbean culture, but does not have a dance-specific element, which is what motivated Jackson to create the collective.

Chandler Kirby, trea-

surer of Tropixx Dance Collective and senior accounting major, said that Jackson came to her with the idea for a club. Kirby said she joined because the team is “an Afro-Caribbean dance group, and not just like a general dance group.” Kirby also said that she, too, has ties to Afro-Caribbean culture, which motivated her to help start the club.

The Tropixx Dance Collective’s mission statement says the “Tropixx Dance Collective will serve as a way to bring the campus community together through the art form of Caribbean and Afro dance styles.” Jackson said in addition to the mission statement, “We aim to both educate and promote physical wellness while having fun and showcasing the very rich culture of Caribbean dance.”

Jackson said a major goal



Members of the Tropixx Dance Collective, West Haven, Nov. 8, 2023.
Photo courtesy of Charger Bulletin/Evan Pecorele.

she has for the team is to keep their authenticity and mission of bringing people together through Afro-Caribbean dances.

“I want the authenticity of it from [its] creation to kind of flow through the entire time,” she said. “I don’t want to come back here [in] five years and

then [hear that] the tropics has a million American-style.”

Currently, the club has 14 members and was able to grow its membership count through their Instagram page, unh.tropixx, and word-of-mouth advertising.

Newly announced Animation Club provides outlet for creativity

BY ALEXIS
DAWKINS-MALDONADO
Arts & Life Editor

On Nov. 9, one of our university’s newest clubs in the Arts department hosted their first interest meeting.

The Animation Club is run by Gian Rodriguez, the club president and freshman graphic design major and Jesus Uriarte, the vice president and freshman interior design major. The club has a vision of “showing how the world of animation can be fun to manipulate,” said Rodriguez.

When asked about what the plans for the club entailed, Rodriguez explains that one of the first things that they plan to discuss is storyboarding. “I know it seems like a daunting task, and it is, but storyboarding can

be very fun. If you enjoy shows such as Regular Show, the show’s episodes were made through storyboarding,” said Rodriguez. “By literally taking a sticky note on what the episode would be about, the most important part of animation is jotting down your ideas and drawing them out.”

Another thing the Animation Club plans to do is to create and use games to build camaraderie and teach about animation by creating frame-by-frame animations. “We all work as a collective group and create an animation together, computing the frames together to create our very own frame-by-frame piece,” says Uriarte.

When asked about their inspirations for creating

the club, both agreed that it was an early influence from the television shows they watched when they were younger. “I’ve seen a lot of animation-style shows, not just anime but even cartoons, these inspired me to become an animator,” said Rodriguez.

The meeting setting and times are to be announced, but will most likely take place from either 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. or 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. as they hope to find a classroom to hold meetings before Thanksgiving break. “We want to conform to those who are commuters, we don’t want to keep them here late at night, no one wants to stay on campus after [9 p.m.]”

The club even goes so far as to discuss what type of setting

they would prefer. “We are looking for a classroom that will allow our thoughts to move around, such as the interior design classrooms in Dodds Hall. We are looking for a place with computers, also with an animation tablet, hopefully, so we aren’t just showing everyone, but actually guiding everyone as well.” said Uriarte.

Rodriguez shared his point of view when asked about how his club will stack up against other well-known art clubs and about how they appear to be only for those in the specific majors. “We understand that there are only two big other clubs on campus, which are the Graphic Design Club and the Interior Design Club, which are primarily used as resources for those

who match their majors, respectively,” said Rodriguez.

“We want to create diversity in a means of the matrix between the two main arts of this university,” said Rodriguez. “I would describe this club as a sort of gateway between classes and experiences”, he continues. “We want to show you that animation, or rather the world of it, is beautiful.

Future events for the animation club are to be announced. Uriarte said flyers for the club will mainly go around Dodds Hall.

If you have any further questions or are interested in joining the Animation Club, you can reach out to Rodriguez at grodr5@unh.newhaven.edu.

New Haven celebrates National First-Generation Student Day

BY JEIRY DE LA
CRUZ-REYNOSO
Staff Writer

The University of New Haven celebrated National First Generation Student Day with information about resources, arts and crafts and encouragement.

This day celebrates first-generation students and offers resources such as networking opportunities to students to be successful during and after their college career.

It is also a day to recognize and celebrate students for their achievements. The event celebrates students, staff and faculty achievements. The event drew students and faculty in conversations with each other. The topics revolved around the experiences of first-generation students, from experiences to choosing minors and majors.

Tables set around the Alumni Lounge held the resources consisting of information from the Career Development Center (CDC), Dean of Students Office, Myatt Center for Diversity and Inclusion, One Stop Office and Counseling and Psychological Services.

There were also arts and crafts stations such as tie-dye bucket hats and button making that said “I’m a first gen.” On all the tables were lists of questions to start up conversation, from “What is your major?” to “What is something that you need help with as a person that is a part of the first generation population?”



Students gather to celebrate National First-Generation Student Day, West Haven, Nov. 8, 2023.
Photo courtesy of Charger Bulletin, Presley DePugh.

Brian Ibarra, the associate director for case management and student support at the Dean of Students Office, said that as a first generation student, he knows there are questions that he wishes he could have had answered to so “the resource fair is a way to support the first generation students the best way possible by giving them the opportunity to ask questions they feel may help them.”

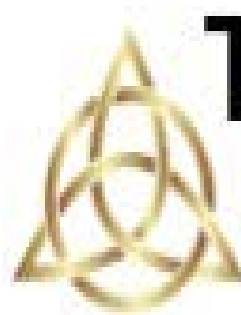
Izabella Mancini, president of the First Generation Student Association and senior psychology major, then provided the group with a breakout of the arts and crafts portion of the gathering.

The audience then got a short message from Natalie Criniti, a career advisor at the CDC, who said she is a first-generation student and that many people

have questions but that many stay quiet because of the question of “Do I belong?” and “Am I

in the right place?” She said she wanted everyone to feel included because as a first-gener-

ation student, she knew how difficult it can feel to not be.



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Diwali Celebration provides evening full of dance and music

BY PRESLEY DEPUGH &
ALEXIS DAWKINS-
MALDONADO

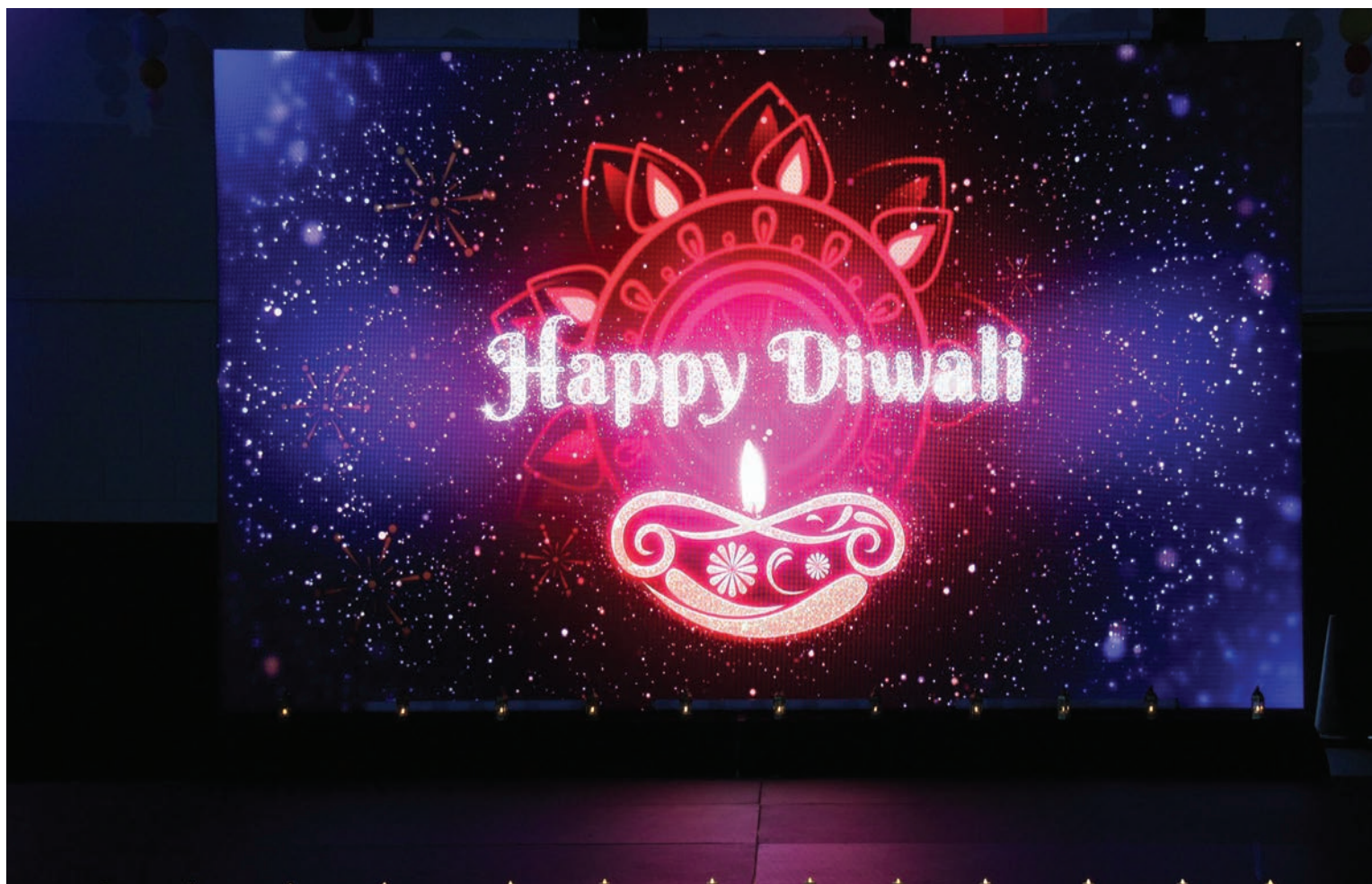
While the actual holiday of Diwali, the Hindu festival of lights, did not take place until this past Sunday, offices across campus held a large-scale celebration in the Beckerman Recreation Center on Friday.

The Office of Graduate and International Student Life (OGISL) and the Indian Student Council partnered to hold the campus' Diwali celebration. Students came dressed in their finest to participate in a night of dancing, food and lights.

The festivities started with Indian music in a dimmed room that was illuminated by strobe lights and a massive screen that said "Happy Diwali" in front of a fuchsia flower.

Diwali is the festival of lights and the audience was treated to a dance performance from Dorothy Classen, an international student life advisor from the Office of Graduate and International Student Life. Classen's movements were smooth yet quick and gave energy to the crowd.

Dances by other performers showcased the styles of different Indian countries. One was a Rajasthan folk dance to represent the state in India known for textiles and histor-



Diwali celebration, West Haven, Nov. 10, 2023.
Photo courtesy of Charger Bulletin/Alexis Dawkins-Maldonado.

ical forts. The dancers were quick on their feet as they received cheers from the audience.

Next was a Garba dance based in the Indian state of Gujarat. The dancers were coordinated and maintained phenomenal synchronicity throughout.

Dancers also demonstrated different folk dances based in the Maharashtra state of India. Dances such as the Lavani Koli that displayed high energy from the dancers.

When the onstage performances were over, people flooded to the stage because of the upbeat music that played as white strobe lights circled around the walls of the multi-activity court, keeping up the audience's high energy. The group's excite-

ment escalated, as evidenced by people picking each other up and trying to get onto

the stage to take a couple of the faux lights and candles.

At one point, a

group of people crowded, leaving few people near the tables at the back.

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University of New Haven celebrates the life of Priyanshu Agwal

BY ALEXIS DAWKINS-
MALDONADO

Arts & Life Editor

On Nov. 8, the University of New Haven hosted a Celebration of Life in honor of Priyanshu Agwal who was in the process of earning his master's degree in business analytics at the university. On Oct. 18, while riding his electric scooter on the corner of Whalley Avenue and Amity Road at 11:20 p.m. Agwal was hit by a motorist. He was brought to the hospital but never recovered and died on Oct. 26.

Before giving Agwal's friends and loved ones a chance to speak, university officials shared memories of the former student. Agwal's brother, Aman, is also a student at the school.

"The Agwal brothers were always to blame, whenever one did some-

thing, they both did it, whether that be good or bad, they were always together, and pursued their dreams at this university together," said Selena O'Toole, the executive director of enrollment." She thanked the Agwal family for "choosing University of New Haven as their host."

After O'Toole's tribute, Agwal's parents, represented by a family friend, Sanmit Jindal, spoke about public safety, especially on an exposed vehicle such as an electric scooter.

"To all students, if you ride a bike or an electric scooter, practice safety cautions, it is better to arrive late, than not at all," said Jindal. The Agwal family commended everyone who supported their family by bringing food and visiting Mr.

Agwal during the days before his death.

His parents said that Agwal came to the university even after promising that the two brothers would never go to the same school together "because a school could not handle both of them at the same time."

When it was his brother Aman's turn to speak, he recalled that his brother was outgoing and had a "zest for life." "Priyanshu loved flashy things, like for example, he wanted to get a G-wagon, or a Rolls-Royce," he said.

"We were preparing for a good life, he was one month away from graduating, and we could have all those dreams fulfilled."

The university will be conferring Agwal's master's degree at the 2024 graduation ceremony.

The university also announced that his family donated his heart. Aman Agwal said he and his family felt that "despite the immense grief we have experienced, we have also found solace in knowing that Priyanshu's life was not in vain," and that "this decision has been a beacon of light in our time of mourning, providing us with some comfort, knowing that his generosity and spirit will continue to live on."

The memorial ended with a video montage of him and his family. The video showed him laughing, singing, sharing shayaris and singing songs.

The family has set up a GoFundMe page to help pay the hospital bills for his stay at Yale New Haven Hospital, which included multiple surgeries.

SheWorks! visits Orange Campus to deliver opportunities for women in business

BY PRESLEY DEPUGH
Arts & Life Editor

Racism and sexism permeate the internship and job hiring process, said Hannah Jean-Pierre, a SheWorks! program manager.

Recently, the Women in Business club invited students to the Orange Campus Atrium for a SheWorks! presentation.

Jean-Pierre, who facilitated the program, reviewed her organization's mission and emphasized the importance of, as she said, "creating a world that is free from gender and racial inequality."

SheWorks! has had 330 women partici-

pate in the program since 2020 with 74% of them being women of color; 50% of them being first-generation college students.

She also said that while men and women participate in internships at the same rate, women participate in 20% more unpaid internships.

Jean-Pierre stressed the importance of connections. She referenced a recent Forbes survey that said 91% of college interns said their connections helped them land an internship; 43% were family connections. Something like this affects women of color and first-generation students negatively,

said Jean-Pierre.

"There are talented and brilliant students out there, but because the company for so long has just been hiring their family members, that's an internship discrepancy," said Jean-Pierre. "We're here to be that connection."

She said SheWorks! connects applicants to intern at companies such as Boeing, Northwestern Mutual, Stone Point Capital, among many more, during this program.

Internship applications open on Dec. 1 and close on Jan. 5. Interviews are held by March 5 and are announced March 31. Jean-Pierre said all

interns are assigned a mentor whom they can contact, especially when microaggressions occur.

"If you feel like you're experiencing microaggressions in the workplace, unpack that with your mentor," said Jean-Pierre. "They are equipped to help you in those areas."

Jean-Pierre said that mentors are trained and able to help interns with anything related to the SheWorks! program because they want to ensure that the interns are thriving throughout their internship, which last from June 1 to July 31.

Student organization petitions to add wellness days into academic calendar

BY PRESLEY DEPUGH
Arts & Life Editor

The Young Democratic Socialists of America (YDSA) are circulating a petition asking for wellness days to be added to the University of New Haven's academic calendar.

During the Student Committee of Planning and Events' (SCOPE's) National Election Day Debate, Mason Smith, president of the YDSA and junior political science major, briefly mentioned mental health days being incorporated into the University of New Haven academic calendar.

Following this event, Anabelle Davis, treasurer of YDSA and senior criminal justice major further explained the applied efforts of her organization in order to make a reality of this goal.

Davis said the petition asks for "two wellness days without classes and labs per semester, consisting of the following: university organized and run events, no academic assignments due, attendance for athletic and RSO meetings are optional, [and] student workers can accept or deny shifts without penalty."

Catie Carvalho, YDSA vice president and junior criminal justice major, said the idea was formed when the Recognized Student Organization (RSO) was tabling at the Fall 2023 Involvement Fair.



Wellness Fair, West Haven, Oct. 10, 2023.
Photo courtesy of Charger Bulletin / Logeswaran Ganesan Kattikulam.

They were collecting initiative ideas during this event, which led to wellness days.

"Mental health was a recurring priority that students felt the [university] was not properly addressing," said Carvalho.

Carvalho said something similar was implemented during the 2020 – 2021 academic year when Covid-19 and its restrictions were in place. Re-Charge Days were held once a semester, when classes were not in session and no assignments due.

Davis said that YDSA wants to enact wellness days now because they believe there has been a lapse in the prioritization of mental health since Covid-19 policies ended.

"Despite socialization being able to commence the way it did

prior to the 2020 lockdown, mental health studies... show that it has only gotten worse, especially among college students," said Davis.

In a recent national study that looked at 96,000 U.S. college students from the 2021 – 2022 academic year, 44% said they had depression symptoms, 37% had experienced anxiety and 15% had contemplated suicide.

Paige Bartels, the director of Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS), said about mental health on this campus: "I cannot speak for all of the students on campus, but we are certainly seeing the impact of the challenges of the last few years add up on campus, making it an ever-present challenge for students to attend to

their mental health and well-being."

Davis said YDSA spoke with CAPS about wellness days, as well as the Undergraduate Student Government Association and professors and department heads.

Carvalho said there is a lot of support for this initiative, including from Bartels, who said, "I think that time for students to attend solely on their well-being, to recharge [and] refresh can only help them come back to their responsibilities with increased energy and ability."

Bartels also said "I'm always happy to see students mobilize towards a cause they feel is important, even more so when it focuses on mental health and well-being."

Davis said the peti-

tion's demands could take a couple of years to be implemented and will take place after much of the current YDSA executive board has graduated.

"We hope to instill the values driving this petition into our future leadership, and trust that there will be the same support not only within YDSA, but around the campus community as well," said Davis.

If you are interested in involvement towards this mental health movement, you can reach out to the YDSA at YDSA@newhaven.edu. For any concerns pertaining to wellness and mental health, CAPS is available 24/7 at 203-932-7333. Updates on this student-run initiative will be provided accordingly.

Volleyball earns NE-10 Co-Conference regular season champions

BY SKYLAR GRIFFIN
Sports Editor

Saturday was a big night for the New Haven women's volleyball team, who honored the team's seniors while closing out their regular season with a 3-0 sweep over the Saint Michael's Purple Knights. This victory also secured the title of Northeast-10 (NE-10) Co-Conference Champions and guaranteed second seed in the conference for playoffs.

New Haven will look to make the NE-10 Championship final for the first time since 2021 and potentially win their first conference title since 2017.

Before the start of the match, the Chargers honored senior and four-year starter, Rilee Jessee. Jessee picked up her 1000th career dig against Post University earlier this season, along with her 100th career service ace against Saint Anselm College on Friday night. Additionally, New Haven honored two transfer seniors, setter Michelle Henwood and outside hitter Lydimar Soto De Los Santos.

Jessee opened up serving in the first set after scoring her 100th career ace the night before. Picking up right

where she left off, she scored three straight aces to put the Chargers ahead early. New Haven refused to step off the gas, carrying this momentum for a 7-0 run at the start of the match. The Chargers stayed in control for the remainder of the opening set, closing it out with a score of 25-13 and putting the Chargers up 1-0 to start the night.

The second set was much closer than the first with the Purple Knights finding their rhythm and putting up a fight. Both teams traded points back and forth until the Chargers were able to go on a 5-3 run to close out the set, winning it 25-19. The Chargers were up 2-0 after the second set and looked to close out the match early with a 3-0 sweep.

The third set of the night was not much different from the second, with both teams trading points throughout. The Chargers were able to pull away by riding a 3-0 run with a pair of kills from middle blocker Kylie Reynolds-Martin and Soto De Los Santos. The Chargers carried this momentum and closed out the third set strong, winning 25-18 and securing the 3-0 victory over the Purple Knights. Reynolds-Martin led the Chargers with 11 kills as Henwood added 38 assists and Jessee had three aces in the match.



New Haven celebrates a point in their win over Saint Michael's, West Haven, Nov. 11, 2023. Photo courtesy of Charger Bulletin/Tyler Rodriguez.

The victory allowed the Chargers to clinch their tenth NE-10 Championship and their first since 2018. With conference play beginning on Tuesday, Nov. 14, the Chargers have found themselves in a good place,

taking the second seed in the conference. New Haven finished the regular season with an impressive 20-9 overall record and a 10-1 record in the NE-10 conference. The Chargers will host the Purple Knights of Saint

Michael's College tonight at 7 p.m. for a rematch to kick off conference play. For more information on this game and those coming up, visit NewHavenChargers.com.

Volleyball sweeps Saint Anselm Hawks in first of two weekend matches

BY SKYLAR GRIFFIN
Sports Editor

With two home matches this past weekend to close the regular season, the Chargers took the court on Friday, Nov. 10 ready to continue their incredible season. Stakes were high, especially for setter Michelle Henwood, who would be facing her former team, the Saint Anselm Hawks.

New Haven was first to score, taking advantage of an attack error from the Hawks. Carrying this momentum, the Chargers extended their lead with a 4-0 run and kills from outside hitter Macy Brown, middle blocker Kylie Reynolds-Martin and outside hitter Grace Juergens. New Haven was able to maintain control throughout the first set despite a

short-lived comeback from Saint Anselm, who closed the gap with a scoring run of their own towards the end of the set. Juergens closed out the opening set for the Chargers with a kill that secured the first set 25-22 and put New Haven up 1-0 in the match.

The tables turned in the second set, with Saint Anselm taking the early lead, forcing the Chargers to play from behind in the set. Three consecutive points allowed New Haven to take the lead for the first time of the second set at 14-13 and a late 4-0 run was the push needed for the Chargers to secure the lead. Brown and Juergens closed out the second set with a kill each, resulting in a 25-21 victory. New Haven was now up 2-0 with a chance to end the match in the third set.

In the third set, the Chargers

were first to score, putting up the first two points. The Hawks were quick to respond, putting up two points of their own to tie the set. This energy remained throughout the set for both teams as the Chargers and Hawks traded scores. Later in the set, New Haven advanced their lead and utilized defensive techniques to force mistakes out of Saint Anselm. The Chargers took the last set with a score of 25-21, sweeping the match. Brown led with kills, adding 15 to her total. Henwood, facing her former team, added 37 assists and 13 digs and senior libero Rilee Jessee led the defense with 18 digs. Opposite side Peyton Mast along with Juergens tallied nine kills, followed by Reynolds-Martin with seven.

With one final regular season

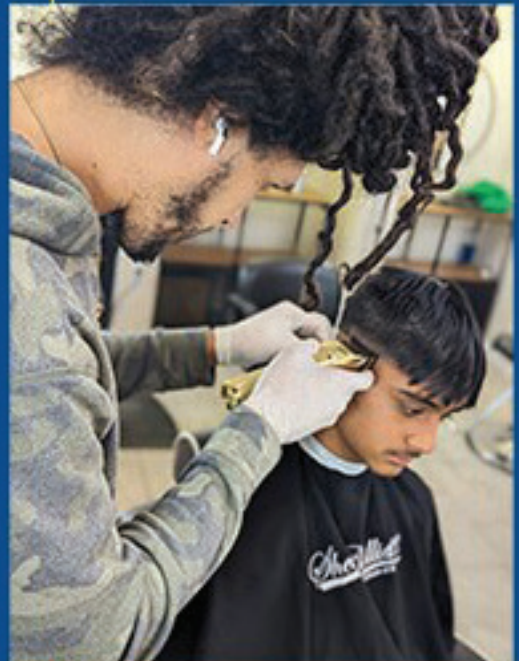
game to go, which would also be Senior Night for the Chargers, New Haven looked to carry that momentum against the Purple Knights of Saint Michael's Col-

lege, winning once again to finish the regular season with another win in straight sets. For more information, visit NewHavenChargers.com.



The New Haven volleyball team during their 3-0 win over Saint Anselm, West Haven, Nov. 10, 2023. Photo courtesy of Charger Bulletin/Tyler Rodriguez.

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