

TheCharger Bulletin

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Overlook of organizations at the career fair.
Photos courtesy of Charger Bulletin / Maya Pacheco

Career Development Center hosts spring career and internship fair

BY MAYA PACHECO
Campus News Editor

Last week, the Career Development Center (CDC) hosted its spring career and internship fair. The CDC hosts a fair every semester for students to learn more about different opportunities and experiences through organizations and companies partnered with the university.

“We try to cast a wide net for organizations that fit our student population and what they are hiring or looking for,” said Desmond Anderson, assistant director for employee relations for the CDC.

Anderson and CDC executive director Matt Caporale explained the behind-the-scenes of hosting this event, including constant outreach and relationship-building with companies and organizations. The event also requires back-office logis-

tics to make sure parking is set up, booking for space is confirmed and students and employers are all present and accounted for to make it a smooth event.

“We are also trying to make sure that there are employers that run the breadth of different programs and colleges that we have,” said Caporale. “It is a hard balance to get a little bit for everybody.”

The fair had a combination of organizations that are frequent guests and others that are experiencing the New Haven community for the first time.

Sergeant Bergeron, Air Force recruiter, and Second Lieutenant Hoyos share their first-time visit to New Haven. Bergeron came to represent the enlisted side of the Air Force, while Hoyos explained the officer route.

“It’s great! Especially, I

feel like a lot of the students have done a lot of their research, so they know some of the components and the parts of the military,” said Hoyos. “It’s just guiding them so they can make the decision that is right for them and as well as giving them the steps that they have to take so that they can achieve that as well.”

These professionals are gaining connections with potential interns and employees, an exchange that keeps talent acquisition specialist Nick Brenchak of Charles IT returning each semester.

“We always love coming to UNH,” said Brenchak. “We feel that the students are always extremely eager to learn about the opportunities we have, they are always super excited to learn about what’s going on as far as professional development and career opportunities,

so that’s always exciting to see.”

This spring career fair featured companies from a wide range of fields, including law enforcement, medical, psychology, IT and military.

Savannah Pantoja, a senior mechanical engineering student in the 4+1 program, attended the event to search for a job while finishing up her last year at the university.

“I had great luck getting my first internship from this career fair, so coming back again and again, I want to see what other opportunities there are,” said Pantoja. Anita Hodge, cellular and molecular biology graduate student has attended the career fair more than once, but not with the same luck.

“Honestly, every year I get my hopes up thinking there’s gonna be more science and lab jobs, and it’s still a

lot of criminal justice and engineering, which I know is their biggest majors, but there’s barely any lab,” said Hodge.

A common concern among students who have attended the career fairs is the lack of variety in participating companies and organizations. Hailey Crassula, a freshman homeland security major, and Grace Elliot, junior criminal justice major, agreed that the career fair is more beneficial for networking rather than immediate career opportunities.

“I think that there are great opportunities here, it just kind of depends on what you’re looking to do,” said Elliot. “There’s a lot of like law enforcement stuff, so if you are looking to do something within law enforcement, it’s probably better than if you are looking to do something in forensics.”

New Haven Pride Center suspends activities for 30+ days for financial reasons

BY ANNE LEE
Contributing Writer

Because of an estimated outstanding debt to the IRS that began four years ago, the New Haven Gay and Lesbian Community Center Inc., operating as the New Haven Pride Center (NHPC), has suspended all activities and furloughed employees for the following month.

According to their 990 tax forms, in 2022, the center had 12 employees, which also became their biggest expense. Salaries and wages totaled more than \$660,000 that year.

Their next biggest expense? Their events.

The NHPC had spent more than \$100,000 on two different categories of other expenses in 2022

alone: Artist & Speaker Expenses as well as Production Expenses.

The Center owed \$200k to the IRS after 2022.

“A nonprofit tax-exempt status under section 501(c) (3) is not automatically threatened just because the organization is holding financial debt or temporarily furloughing employees,” said Andrew Asher, the president of the campus’s Legal Society. “The IRS focuses primarily on whether the organization continues to operate for a recognized charitable purpose, avoids private inurement, and files required annual returns.”

On Jan. 20, 2023, they announced a furlough of eight out of nine of their employees. NHPC’s first shutdown wasn’t because of debt, it was because the center had

not filed taxes for several years.

“Prolonged financial distress can create indirect risks,” said Asher. “First, if the organization cannot carry out its charitable programs, the IRS may question whether it is still operating for an exempt purpose. Additionally, failure to file Form 990 for three consecutive years will result in an automatic revocation of tax-exempt status.”

After reinstating their nonprofit status and receiving \$200,000 in funding from the state in February 2023, the NHPC was able to begin the process of bringing back furloughed employees by the second week of February.

Their outstanding debt to the IRS from 2022 accrued

interest, and they’ve had to shut down to reassess sustainability as a center.

As of Feb. 28 the center has suspended all activities for at least one month and furloughed all employees.

The decision poses economic and social challenges for those who work at and are involved with the NHPC.

Recent decisions made by the center have increased their expenses over the past years. They moved to 50 Orange St. in late 2023, and their occupancy expense in 2026 was triple that of 2022.

They went into 2024 with no savings and only 50,000 in assets (which decreased to 12,000 after the fiscal year was over). In 2024, the center’s reported revenue from contributions and

grants were the lowest since 2020, nearly \$150,000 less than the revenue received in 2022.

The exact amount of debt that the center has paid off has not been made public at press time.

But supporters say there is hope. Community involvement in the pride center has increased, with 35 volunteers listed on their 2024 tax returns, a jump from 20 in 2022 and less than 10 in 2023. These numbers offer hope that the center will continue to thrive even after the temporary furlough.

During these times, the NHPC is encouraging people to continue to seek support and community in local organizations such as A Place to Nourish Your Health and Q Plus.

CT coalition opposes bill lacking “clear guardrails” against Islamophobia

BY PATCH BOWEN
Contributing Writer

Coalition leaders gathered for a press conference at the Hartford capital building on Feb. 25 criticizing an ‘antisemitism working group’ included under a recently revived bill, which organizers warn leaves the door open for zionism and islamophobia to enter schools K-12.

The Freedom to Learn Coalition (FTL), in partnership with organizations statewide, held the press conference to, address questions from the press and public about what happens next for the bill and demands.

Coalition leaders highlighted how the working group does not define, for its purposes, ‘antisemitism.’ FTL explains how, without an accurate definition of antisemitism, partisan-political agendas could manipulate education on faith-based discrimination in schools throughout Connecticut.

Among the speakers was Rep. Maryam Khan, house chair of the Select Committee on Special Education, Jewish Voice for Peace (JVP) Chairperson Shelly Altman and President Seth

Freeman of the 4C’s SEIU Local, a Connecticut teachers union.

In a letter to Governor Lamont and State Department of Education officials, signed and endorsed by 33 organizations, the coalition leaders shared their concern about the “[working group’s] significant influence over school policies, teacher training, and curriculum guidance without sufficient safeguards for academic freedom, civil liberties, or balanced community representation.”

Pres. Freeman shared the letter, detailing four demands calling for the proposed antisemitism working group to “include representation from diverse Jewish, Palestinian and Muslim communities.”

“There should be meaningful representation by teacher unions, higher education unions and civil liberties experts,” said Pres. Freeman. Only one organization is specified by name, the Jewish Federation Association of Connecticut (JFACT), and is permitted two seats on the ten member working group.

JFACT is a lobbying organization with chapters all around the U.S. seeking to create political relations with local state lawmakers. It also donates funds to the state of Israel and the Israeli Defense

Force, or IDF.

“Working groups rarely, if ever, make recommendations directly to school boards,” the letter reads.

The coalition cites legal precedent set by the Minority Teacher Recruitment Working Group in 2018. The bill, as written, permitted this antisemitism working group to meet with school boards and guide policy decisions without oversight from the state legislature.

JFACT is but one arm of the United Jewish Federation (UJF), whose website explains, “Israel is a priority in our conversations with elected officials... We work closely with the Israel Action Network to speak out against BDS and anti-Zionism.”

The UJF and JFACT levy large donation sums on Connecticut politicians, lobbying for “increased security funding in our state.” Israeli organizations are perceptibly biased towards zionist politics and promote broader definitions of antisemitism that run contrary to Title VI law.

Chairperson Shelly Altman, cofounder of the New Haven JVP chapter, pressed on the important distinction between Jewish faith and Israel. “There are many communities... loving Jewish



Rep. Maryam Khan speaking in Hartford Capital beside Chairperson Shelly Altman. Photo courtesy of Charger Bulletin/ Patch Bowen

communities who practice the faith, completely separate from Zionism,” said Altman.

Altman and the FTL coalition advocate that this proposed working group treat antisemitism “completely separate from any relationship with the State of Israel, and its atrocities against the Palestinian population.”

HB 7009 has passed the house, with only one of four demands met for coalition organizers. FTL committed legislators to one amendment. The proposed antisemitism working group must now report to the state legislature before it can be

permitted to amend any school district(s) policies.

The FTL has already seen success through protest and civic engagement in 2025. Altman described a policy which proposed allowing the police surveillance of Palestine solidarity protesters on college campuses.

“About over 300 people testified against the bill,” said Altman, “They were public hearings, just like we’ve [the FTL] have been asking for public hearings on this bill.” Section seven of the bill is public and accessible online via Fast Democracy.com.

A conversation about dining hall accommodations for students with dietary restrictions

BY MAYA PACHECO
Campus News Editor

What influences a high school senior’s college decision more than food? For students with dietary restrictions, food accommodations are not only important but essential.

Freshman forensic psychology student, Mallory Holst, has celiac disease. When deciding which university to attend, Holst had to be very cautious of dining halls and if they could accommodate her allergy to gluten.

“Before coming to UNH, I spoke with the campus dietitian, Sam, about my allergy and how the dining halls would accommodate it,” said Holst. “I also had a discussion with her in the beginning of last semester, where she gave me a tour of all the stations and what I could eat.”

Ashley Greenwood, junior interior design student, can account for a similar experience. Greenwood suffers from allergies to peanuts,

tree nuts, sesame, eggs and fish, making it difficult to find foods that she can eat.

Both Holst and Greenwood share similar opinions on the dining halls on campus.

“To an extent, yes, I will say they definitely accommodate better than other schools I toured, it did play a part in my decision-making on schools,” said Greenwood. “That doesn’t mean there still aren’t things that can be worked on.”

Greenwood made a point that for the general student body, there are plenty of food options, but for students with dietary restrictions, they feel limited to the same foods. Their concern isn’t the university’s ability to provide, but the content of what is served.

“Simple servings rotate the menu less frequently, and after having to eat three meals daily, you get kind of sick of eating the same things,” said Greenwood.

When comparing the two dining halls, Greenwood thinks that Food On Demand (FOD) is a hit or miss. In the

past, FOD has changed their ingredients without modifying the menu. The other dining hall, Marketplace, is a safer option, given the variety and buffet-style service.

“Although the dining halls accommodate my food allergy, they are very limited on what they serve,” said Holst.

Samantha Standish, the university’s registered dietitian, shared the process of deciding weekly menus at meetings with the residential dining management team. The team consists of Standish, two campus executive chefs, the operations manager, the Front of House Marketplace manager and the marketing team.

“Many students dine with us three times a day, seven days a week, for up to 36 weeks each academic year,” said Standish. “We recognize that this routine can sometimes lead to menu fatigue or the perception that options never change, even when offerings rotate regularly.”

Standish works with students and the dining staff in efforts to aid the dining



Dr. Abigail Hall Blanco presenting her perspective.
Photo courtesy of Charger Bulletin/ Evan Pecorale

service in accommodating individual students. Standish encouraged students to make a list of preferred or favored products for her to reference when purchasing items for the simple zone.

“Each year is a new group of first-year students with different eating experiences we strive to meet the needs of,” said Standish.

The university also has a Dining Committee that meets monthly to review feedback on dining and improvements. If you are interested

in providing feedback on the university’s dining services, reach out to the co-chairs, Dean Ophelie Rowe-Allen at ORAllen@newhaven.edu and Greg Overend at GOverend@newhaven.edu.

If you want to get in touch with Standish or dining services, email sstandish@newhaven.edu or dining-services@newhaven.edu. For updates on dining hall menus, food trucks and pop-ups, visit the dining hall Instagram, [@unewhavendining](https://www.instagram.com/unewhavendining).

Hazard team shuts down Allingtown after fuel tanker rolls over



Heavy machinery arriving to assist FD in cleanup.
Photo courtesy of Charger Bulletin/ Patch Bowen

Roughly 2,600 gallons of oil spilled Thursday on Forest Road near campus after a car collided with a full oil tanker. A campus public safety officer at a nearby crosswalk saw the crash and called 911. Personnel from the state’s Department of Energy and

Environmental Protection and Department of Transportation, as well as the Coast Guard responded. The road was closed until Friday afternoon. The driver of the car had minor injuries; the truck driver refused medical care.



Fuel tank flipped over.
Photo courtesy of On the Scene Media New Haven via Facebook



EMT clearing path for departing ambulance.
Photo courtesy of Charger Bulletin/ Patch Bowen

How the MSA celebrates Ramadan and what it means to students

BY NATALIA LIZAK
Managing Editor

Everything accelerates as students prepare for spring break. Long nights are spent studying for midterms, all while keeping up with classes, other assignments and everyday responsibilities.

For some students, this time of academic pressure overlaps with something much bigger.

Ramadan is the ninth month of the Islamic lunar calendar, typically lasting 29 or 30 days. During the holy month, Muslims fast from dawn to dusk, during which they abstain from consuming foods, drinks, smoking and other activities, and instead focus on prayer. This year, Ramadan began on Feb. 18 and will end on March 19 with the celebration of Eid al-Fitr, or the “the festival of breaking the fast.”

But Ramadan is about more than just a month of fasting.

“Beyond just not eating or drinking, it’s really about spiritual growth, self-discipline, gratitude and strengthening your relationship with God,” said Diederick Ojeda, treasurer of the university’s Muslim Student Association (MSA). “It’s meant to reset

you mentally, physically and spiritually.”

Ojeda, who also goes by his Muslim name, Nurislam, given to him by members of the Muslim community, said the purpose of fasting is to build self-discipline and control, while also deepening one’s spiritual awareness.

“It teaches us gratitude and empathy for those in need,” said Ojeda.

Ojeda also said how the month of Ramadan offers him a time to reflect.

“It’s when we, as Muslims, are required to focus ourselves to be better in the eyes of Allah (SWT) and to be better to each other, but also to take the time to think about how we wish to carry ourselves moving forward, especially after Ramadan,” said Ojeda. “It’s easy to fall back into bad habits or unhealthy habits, but if we truly wish to be better, then I think it’s time to accept change.”

SWT is an abbreviation for “Subhanahu wa ta’ala,” meaning “Glory be to Him, the Exalted.”

As a month dedicated to spiritual significance and reflection, Ramadan can present students with distinct challenges when it comes to balancing their academic responsibilities with religious

observances.

“The hardest challenge, I think, is having to study, do assignments and work my brain while also working around the school’s schedule for dining and the rec center,” said Ojeda.

Regardless of the challenges he faces, Ojeda said how he incorporates the traditions of Ramadan with his schedule as a college student.

“I get through it by waking up early around 4:30 a.m. for suhoor, which is the pre-dawn meal before the fast begins (about an hour before sunrise). Suhoor focuses on eating well and hydrating plenty,” he said. “This requires discipline because if I don’t wake up on time, I miss the opportunity to properly prepare for the fast.”

“Because of this, I have to be strict with my sleep schedule, eating habits, hydration, and productivity. As I’ve gotten better at disciplining myself, it’s not as difficult to go about my day. I know what to expect, so I prepare adequately by practicing healthy habits, sleeping well, staying productive and exercising at night after breaking my fast.”

Ojeda also said how professors’ understanding of what students take part in during



MSA e-board.

Photo courtesy of Diederick Ojeda

Ramadan helps with those challenges.

“I think my professors are understanding in that they wouldn’t be harsh on me if I’m not performing at my sharpest because of fasting,” he said. “Personally, since I’ve become more disciplined, it hasn’t been as difficult to manage my day. But having professors who are understanding definitely helps.”

The MSA hosts different events during the month which are open to all. On Feb. 20, they hosted an event as an introduction to Ramadan and provided iftar, the meal eaten after sunset to break a fast.

“During Ramadan, we host iftar every Friday around sunset, which is when we break our fast,” Ojeda said. “Our goal is to help Muslim students feel at home on campus, so we do our best to accommodate them. After the meal, we hold a group prayer to make the night more special. All students are welcome, including non-Muslims. If anyone has Muslim friends without Friday night plans, we encourage them to spread the word that the MSA is hosting iftar.”

For more information on events being hosted by the MSA, visit their Instagram, @unh_msa.

Controversy sparks BAFTAs Tourette’s interruption

BY ANTHONY DIBIAGIO
Contributing Writer

Perspective

For Michael B. Jordan and Delroy Lindo, both at the peak of their careers, the 79th British Academy of Film and Television Arts Awards (BAFTA) in London were less of a celebration and more of a spectacle.

The BAFTAs are meant to be a celebration of cinematic excellence, with Ryan Coogler’s “Sinners,” a film exploring racial trauma and John Davidson’s “I Swear,” a documentary about his severe Tourette’s and coprolalia, which causes uncontrollable and sometimes obscene outbursts.

Both were frontrunners in

their respective categories, however, no one talked about art that night, but rather the traumatic broadcast of racial slurs.

The interruption hit as the “Sinners” stars were presenting the first award of the night for Best Visual Effects. During the presentation, the N-word could be heard from the crowd multiple times, followed by an awkward sea of laughter. Despite the disruption, Jordan and Lindo maintained their composure and continued presenting as if they were confident that the moment would be edited out.

Despite a two-hour broadcast delay and prior assurances given to Davidson that his disruptive outbursts would be edited

out of the broadcast, the British Broadcasting Company (BBC) chose to air the slurs, only scrubbing them after public outrage. However, just minutes later, the same production team chose to mute another winner who proclaimed “Free Palestine.” It is evident that this was not a technical error, but a deliberate editorial choice by BBC about what they believe is suitable for global broadcast and what crosses a line.

Delroy Lindo later spoke to Vanity Fair at the after-party, and said, “We did what we had to do... but I wished someone from BAFTA spoke to us afterward.” Not only did BAFTA fail the two actors by putting them in a compromising situation, but the

organization also showed apathy.

BAFTA and the BBC’s apologies only deepened the disrespect. In a statement, BAFTA said, “We take full responsibility for putting our guests in a very difficult situation and we apologise to all. We will learn from this, and keep inclusion at the core of all we do.”

The BBC said, “We apologise unreservedly for failing to edit out the racial slur during the live broadcast despite having a two-hour delay.”

But, by framing the issue as a production error rather than institutional failure, the statements failed to recognize the lived trauma Black attendees experienced.

The student body isn’t buying it.

“I believe it was a conscious choice...” said Breana Jenkins, sophomore biology student. “I don’t think they cared about offending people.”

When Jenkins thought about why the institutions would be so cavalier, she said, “they could have been trying to start controversy... y’know, get people talking.”

When racism hits global stages, why must Black professionals show grace under pressure, while institutions dodge accountability with conditional apologies? Why does Black excellence become the punchline but “Free Palestine” gets an edit? When global media fails so obviously, it forces all students to question what standards we accept.

Trump delivers longest State of the Union in American history

BY ADAM RELKIN
Politics Editor

Clocking in at one hour and 47 minutes, Pres. Trump broke his own record set last year for the longest State of the Union address.

Under Article II Section three of the Constitution, the president is required to give a speech “from time to time” to Congress on things that he or she believes is necessary to fulfill and pass for them to then sign into law. Addresses tend to last 30 to 50 minutes, though Pres. Bill Clinton’s State of the Union speech tended to last longer than an hour. Every address except for three under George W. Bush has been more than 50 minutes.

At the beginning and end of his speech, Trump called on Americans to join in celebrating the 250th anniversary of the U.S. as he promoted this to be the “golden age of America.” Trump also used the speech to honor individuals with medals and awards, including two military veterans who received the Medal of Honor, one of them who served as far back as World War II. Purple Heart awards were presented to two National Guard members who were victims of an attack in Washington D.C., and Trump also announced his plan to give the Presidential Medal of Freedom to the U.S. Olympic hockey goaltender, Connor Hellebuyck.

Toward the end of the speech, Trump suggested he wanted to give the medal to himself but said, “I’ve always wanted the congressional Medal of Honor, but I was informed I’m not allowed

to give it to myself.” Related to the Olympics and sports, Trump talked about looking forward to the 2028 Olympics being held in Los Angeles as well as the 2026 FIFA World Cup which is being held in the U.S., Canada and Mexico.

He also took shots at the Democratic Party over the current shut-down of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), for not supporting the SAVE Act which he claimed most voters support. He claimed that the Affordable Care Act was meant for insurance companies and not people and he called out former U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi for not supporting the Stop Insider Trading Act.

Trump discussed foreign policy, and claimed he “ended eight wars,” though some deals he helped broker have fallen through and some countries involved have said he had little to no role in the ending of their conflicts. He also went after the Supreme Court decision that struck down his tariffs with some justices in attendance.

Similar to the last State of the Union, there were interruptions from the audience. Al Green, of Texas, held up a sign that read “Black People Aren’t Apes” and was removed shortly after. The sign was a reference to an artificial intelligence video Trump posted to Truth Social which showed former President Barack Obama and former First Lady Michelle as apes. Other House Democrats – including Ilhan Omar of Minnesota and Rashida Tlaib of Michigan – yelled over Trump’s rhetoric regard-



ing immigrants. However, neither were removed like Green. Norma Torres of California held up pictures of Renee Good and Alex Pretti who were killed by U.S. Immigration Customs and Enforcement (ICE) agents in Minnesota.

About half of Congress’ Democrats refused to attend the State of The Union to protest the Trump administration’s policies. From Connecticut, U.S. Sen. Chris Murphy spoke at the “People’s State of the Union” at the National Mall in Washington D.C., a counter protest to the State of The Union. Three out of the five members of Connecticut’s House of Representatives delegation did not attend.

John Larson of East Hartford also attended the National Mall rally, and in a press release he said, “I cannot in good conscience attend this

year’s State of the Union and will instead join with Americans from across the country to speak out against this president’s failed leadership. We need to disband ICE and divert its funding to the issues keeping families up at night.”

Jim Himes, who represents districts in the southwest part of Connecticut, also attended the National Mall rally and said, “I will not legitimize this Administration’s gross unconstitutional overreach by participating in the President’s propagandist diatribe. Instead, I’ll be attending the People’s State of the Union, where my colleagues and I will focus on the issues that make life better for the American people.” Jahana Hayes, whose district covers central and northwest Connecticut, also did not attend the

State of the Union.

In her response to the speech, Abigail Spanberger, the newly-elected governor of Virginia, asked the audience multiple questions about issues facing Americans, focusing her speech topics on affordability, healthcare and ICE.

“Tonight, as we watched our nation’s lawmakers gather for a joint session of Congress, we did not hear the truth from our President,” said Spanberger. “So, let’s speak plainly and honestly, and let me ask you three questions: Is the President working to make life more affordable for you and your family? Is the President working to keep Americans safe — both at home and abroad? Is the President working for YOU?” U.S. Senator Alex Padilla, of California, delivered a response in Spanish.

Completed State of the Union bingo card.
Photo courtesy of Charger Bulletin / Natalia Lizak

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The heart and soul of the university, Martin O'Connor

BY ALEX SOTO
Associate Editor

While the University of New Haven (UNH) has a number of admired faculty, few compare to Martin O'Connor.

Throughout his career at the university, O'Connor has been a significant presence in the lives of faculty and students. He has served as a professor, campus chaplain, faculty advisor to the President's Public Service Fellowship and faculty member of the university's committee on community service.

As a way to recognize O'Connor's contributions to the campus community, he was awarded the 2026 Philip H. and Susan S. Bartels Award for Advocacy, Service & Leadership at this year's Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebration. Having introduced this award to O'Connor, Interim Dean for the Henry C. Lee College of Criminal Justice and Forensic Sciences, David Schroeder, knew his service well. The introduction was a difficult one for Schroeder to write, because of O'Connor's individuality and service at all levels.

"Of all the things that you want to say about someone who's had the kind of cultural effect on the college and the university, Marty's very, Marty's singular in that regard," Schroeder said. "There's nobody who's been around and has been as connected and has been as involved at all levels, I think as Mario O'Connor has."

Michael Rossi, who recently retired from the university as associate dean for the College of Arts and Sciences, worked with O'Connor in his role as chaplain.

"Martin O'Conner is one of the most ethical people I have ever worked with," said Rossi. "He is

a great example of living a life of service."

Using examples of O'Connor's dedication to students, Schroeder recalled a story from his early years at the university.

"I became the assistant chair of criminal justice, the second year that I was here, and I remember at that point, I was working on a lot of scheduling stuff," said Schroeder.

At the time, student registration was not the simple task it is now where students can set up meetings with their advisors over email and finish their meeting within a couple of minutes.

"Professors would be placed in the Tagliatela College of Engineering, where students would come in packs to then get the opportunity to schedule with professors individually," Schroeder said. "It was a very hands-on process, and Marty and I were engaged in this a lot."

Schroeder said students involved in extracurriculars such as athletes or members of band proved to be difficult to find a schedule for, because they needed to satisfy their requirements while working around their other commitments. Schroeder described having to work long hours with students whose schedules were challenging.

"I would look over and across the room and Marty would still be there," said Schroeder. "He'd be working on the impossible students that he met, and I'll be working with the Impossible Student that I met, and we just kind of had this way of agreeing that we were not gonna leave the room until we got these students what they were there to get."

Following the murder of George Floyd in 2020, Schroeder was instrumental in the implementa-



Martin O'Connor.
Photo courtesy of University of New Haven

tion of the UNCommon Course, which O'Connor co-teaches.

During the class, professors rotate weekly and visit other classes, in what they call their "carousel."

"Marty's carousel is, I would say it's unlike the others," said Mike Lawlor, acting associate dean and associate professor at the Henry C. Lee College of Criminal Justice and Forensic Sciences. "It's really inspirational for students to get them to focus on, you know, what's gonna give them the most personal satisfaction, not just in employment, but in, you know, your personal life and stuff and so it does dovetail with the main themes of this course."

Lawlor, a friend of O'Connor, said that O'Connor embodies service.

"Yeah, so Marty has got his hand in quite a few different things, right?" Lawlor said. "He's very active in the community. Basically, he's been the kickoff speaker at every campus-wide event since campus wide events

began.

"Doing like a prayer, an opening prayer, and usually his prayers are preceded by a very thoughtful message appropriate to the occasion, which is, you know, and it's important to have somebody to do that," said Lawlor.

"I think if you talk to students who have had any interactions with him, I mean, they view him as the go to person to answer questions or to give them some inspiration or if they're feeling down to talk to him, because I think that's, that's his skill set."

Sophomore Virginia Scaccabarozzi took O'Connor's "Tools to live a Good Life" course and described him as friendly and inviting.

"He was really nice, he found out that I was from Italy and he started talking about the campus in Prato and how was my freshman year going," said Scaccabarozzi.

Schroeder said O'Connor is the heart and soul of the university.

"Some people may not agree with that, but it's kind of hard not to," he said.

Chargers lacrosse falls to Wofford College, 21-15

BY MIKAELA MOTZ
Editor-In-Chief

In a matchup against the Wofford College Boston Terriers, the lacrosse team lost, 21-15.

The Terriers put up three goals before the Chargers were able to make any offensive moves. Midfielder Summer Castiglione scored the first goal for New Haven, but Wofford responded with four consecutive goals that gave them a 7-1 advantage entering the second quarter.

The Terriers struck first off a free position shot from Ella Bartlett, but the Chargers quickly responded. Attacker Helena Dunwoody got draw control for New Haven and scored off an assist from Cas-

tiglione. Wofford's Mia Leon was able to get another shot past the Chargers' goalkeeper, Ainsley Bourbeau, which extended the Terriers' lead, 9-2.

New Haven took back control and scored three goals. Midfielder Lucy Shafer put up the first goal, followed by attacker Sophia Devaney. Attacker Taryn Murphy scored the third goal, and each goal was assisted by attacker Caitlin Seleny. The Terriers responded with two goals and the Chargers finished the first half with a goal from Seleny assisted by Dunwoody. New Haven entered halftime with an 11-6 deficit.

After halftime, the Chargers put up four goals in an attempt to mount the comeback. Dunwoody scored the first two goals, the second from an assist by Castiglione. Murphy

and Devaney both struck the back of the net again with their second goals of the night. After two goals from the Terriers, Dunwoody scored her fourth goal, assisted by Castiglione, before Wofford found the back of the net four times to close out the third quarter.

Dunwoody scored her fifth and final goal of the game to open scoring in the fourth quarter. The Terriers responded with three goals of their own, but the Chargers' offense was able to put up another three points before the game finished. Devaney scored her third and final goal of the game off an assist from Seleny. Midfielder Maren Lowell and Seleny both scored a free position shot, respectively. With just over a minute remaining, Wofford scored one more goal to finish

the game, 21-15.

New Haven took 28 shots compared to Wofford's 33. The Chargers finished 2-for-5 in free position shots and had 15 draw controls. New Haven committed 15 turnovers and seven fouls. After thirty minutes of play, Bourbeau had seven saves at goal and goalkeeper Caroline D'Angelo recorded one save after entering the match for 15 minutes.

The Chargers also faced off against Presbyterian College and lost 15-7.

After the loss, New Haven's lacrosse team has a 1-2 record. The Chargers will be back in action Wednesday at North Andover, M.A. when they face the Merrimack College Warriors. Draw is at 3:30 p.m. For more information, visit NewHaven-Chargers.com.

Softball struggles in opening tournament and finishes 0-5

BY ADAM SIGAL
Sports Editor

The softball team opened its first Division I season this week with a full slate of games in Boiling Springs, N.C. In this weekend's tournament, the Chargers faced the North Dakota State University (NDSU) Bison twice, along with matchups against the Lafayette College Leopards and the Gardner-Webb University Bulldogs.

On Friday, the Chargers faced their first doubleheader of the season, opening against NDSU. New Haven struggled offensively, finishing with two hits and no runs, drawing five walks and leaving seven runners on base.

NDSU scored in the first inning with an RBI single to right field followed by another RBI single and a throwing error which resulted in two unearned runs. The Bison added another run in the third on a single up the middle and broke the game open in the fifth with a two-RBI double and a run-scoring on a fielding error. NDSU capped the scoring with

a home run in the sixth. Emily Ricci and Carson Schakel both recorded a hit for the Chargers, but New Haven lost 8-0.

In their next match up, both New Haven and Lafayette struggled to generate consistent offense. Skylar Griffin held the Leopards scoreless through the first two innings until Caroline Hall hit a two-run home run to left center in the third inning, which gave Lafayette a 2-0 lead.

Despite falling behind, the Chargers responded in the fourth inning when Schakel singled through the left side, advanced to second on the throw and drove in Bri Pellicone, cutting the deficit to 2-1. However in the final inning, Lafayette scored the game-winning run on an RBI hit by Maggie Klugg, with Katie Harrington coming across to score, sealing the 3-1 victory and dropping the Chargers to 0-2 for the day.

On Saturday, the Chargers faced another two-game day, opening their second match against NDSU.

The Bison jumped out quickly, scoring nine runs in the second inning and

adding two more in the third to take a commanding 11-0 lead. Their offense finished with 13 hits, including a home run, and capitalized on New Haven's errors. The Chargers managed to push across a run in the fifth inning when Elyse Genaway singled to first base to drive in Gianna Haniff. This was the only run the Chargers scored as they finished the game with two hits, committed two errors defensively and fell short, 11-1.

In their second game of the day, New Haven fell to Gardner-Webb, 11-1. Gardner-Webb struck early, with a three-run home run by Maggie Knight in the first inning. The Bulldogs brought in two runs in the third before scoring six runs in the fourth to take an 11-0 lead. Gardner-Webb totaled seven hits and capitalized on walks, hit batters and defensive miscues to extend innings.

New Haven managed four hits and broke through in the fifth inning when Allison Murai scored on a wild pitch, but it was their only run of the game. The Chargers committed one



Final score graphic against NDSU.
Photo courtesy of Charger Athletics / @unewhavensb

error and were limited by strong pitching from Alli Stidham, dropping to 0-4 on the season.

In their final game against Gardner-Webb, New Haven started strong and scored two runs in the first inning on RBI singles from Brianna Trueman and Schakel. Gardner-Webb responded with an eight-run third inning, using a series of key hits, including multiple doubles and a three-run inside-the-park home run, to swing the momentum.

The Chargers added a run in the fourth when Murai

reached on an error allowing Genaway to score. With that being New Haven's final run, the Chargers finished with seven hits and fell 9-3 to close out the tournament.

After the tournament, the softball team has an overall record of 0-5. The Chargers will be back in action on Saturday to face the Yale University Bulldogs and the Boston University Terriers in a doubleheader. First pitch is at 10:30 a.m. in New Haven, Conn. For more information, visit NewHavenChargers.com.

Chargers drop series to Texas Christian University, 0-3

BY ROB DILLMAN
Contributing Writer

The baseball team faced the Texas Christian University (TCU) Horned Frogs for a three game series, but fell short 3-0. The Chargers lost 14-3, 12-4 and 20-1, respectively.

After an inning and a half, the first game was tied at one before TCU scored four runs in the second and five more in the third to extend their lead, 10-1. Aedan Forde scored an RBI single to cut the lead to 10-2, before four more TCU runs scored over two innings. In the seventh, Jake Russo added an RBI single to make it 14-3, before TCU finalized their 14-3 win. Russo, Cam McGugan and

Matt McIntire all recorded multi-hit games, and pitcher Myles McDermott allowed nine runs, six earned, over 2.2 IP for his second loss of the season.

On Saturday, the Chargers attempted to even up the series. Through three innings, the Chargers fell behind 4-0 before getting on the board. New Haven scored three runs on a two-run double from Bobby Herzman and an RBI single from Joe Frazzetta to shorten the deficit to 4-3. Over the next four innings TCU scored six unanswered runs, leading 10-3 after seven innings. Frazzetta added another RBI on a double, scoring the fourth run of the day. TCU added two more in the bottom half and took

the series with a 12-4 win.

In the first two games, the Chargers were outscored by 19, 26-7. Four Chargers had multi-hit games in the second game and pitcher Vincent Fusco allowed four runs over three innings, walking five and taking his second loss.

In the final game of the series, the Chargers struggled offensively. Casey Cerruto singled to right field and drove Shaun Callahan home in the first inning, scoring what would be the Chargers only run of the game. The Horned Frogs had a strong offensive start in the first inning and scored eight runs. TCU brought in another run in the fourth inning followed by 11 runs



Final score graphic against TCU.
Photo courtesy of Charger Athletics / @unewhavensb

in the fifth. The Horned Frogs called the game with a 20-1 win over the Chargers.

After the series loss, the baseball team has a record of 0-6. The Chargers will be back on the

field on Wednesday when they face the University of Connecticut (UConn) Huskies. First pitch is at 3:05 p.m. in Storrs, Conn. For more information, visit NewHavenChargers.com.

Chargers drop conference matchups as season nears its end

BY ADAM SIGAL
Sports Editor

With the Chargers' first Division I season coming to a close, the team entered its final slate of games and faced off against NEC rival, the Wagner College Seahawks and the Le Moyne College Dolphins.

For their first game of the slate, the Chargers battled a tough Wagner squad in a back-and-forth contest that came down to the final possession. The opening quarter set the tone, with both teams trading baskets and keeping the score within four points, as New Haven shot 7-for-15 from the field. The Chargers followed with an even stronger second quarter and went 7-for-11 to take a four-point lead into halftime, shooting 55% overall in the first half despite early struggles from the three-point range.

Momentum shifted in the third quarter, however, Wagner tightened up defensively

and held New Haven to just 4-for-14 shooting, which turned the deficit to 48-43 entering the fourth. Both teams went back and forth in the final quarter, with the Chargers shooting 23-for-52 overall and 7-for-16 from beyond the arc.

Trailing 62-59 with 10 seconds remaining, Jasmine McKay, who led New Haven with 17 points off 6-for-10 shooting and 3-for-5 from the three-point range, knocked down a clutch three-pointer to cut the deficit to one. Wagner answered at the free-throw line, converting one of two attempts to extend the lead to two, and New Haven's final shot attempt fell short, sealing a 64-62 loss.

Aniya McDonald-Perry added 14 points and a dominant 17 rebounds, helping the Chargers win the battle on the glass, 40-28, and tally 28 points in the paint.

In the match against Le Moyne, the Chargers lost

53-48. New Haven started strong in the first quarter, knocking down four three-pointers and shooting 6-for-17 to take a 17-14 lead. The momentum carried into the second quarter, where the Chargers built their largest lead of the game at 32-21, but as shooting struggles began to surface, they went just 5-for-20 in the period.

After entering halftime with the lead, the third quarter marked a turning point as Le Moyne caught fire and shot 8-for-15, outscoring New Haven 22-10 to take a 43-42 lead into the fourth.

The Chargers' offense continued to stall in the final frame, managing just 3-for-17 from the field and going scoreless from beyond the arc. New Haven finished the game 17-for-69 overall and 7-for-27 from the three-point range. Lindsay Hogan led the way with 18 points and six rebounds, while McKay added 13 points and



Jasmine McKay going in for a layup
Photo courtesy of Charger Athletics / @unehavemvbb

went 4-for-4 from the free-throw line.

McDonald-Perry chipped in seven points and 10 rebounds as the Chargers were outrebounded 47-39 and limited to 12 points in the paint, unable to overcome Le Moyne's second-half surge.

With the two losses, the Chargers fell to 7-21 overall

and 5-12 in conference play. On Thursday, the women's basketball team will travel to New Britain, Conn., to face the Central Connecticut State University (CCSCU) Blue Devils for their final game of the season. Tip-off is at 7 p.m. For more information, visit NewHavenChargers.com.

Chargers close regular season with road heartbreaker and gritty home finale win



BY DONOVAN RODRIGUEZ
Sports Editor

The men's basketball team finished the regular season with a split that reflected much of its NEC first impression; competitive, physical and decided in the margins. A narrow road loss at Wagner College was followed by a hard-fought victory over Le Moyne College at the Hazell Center to close the year.

On Thursday night, the Chargers went toe-to-toe with the Wagner College Seahawks in a back-and-forth conference battle that ultimately tipped in the Seahawks' favor, 65-62.

From the opening possession, neither side was able to create sustained separation. The first half featured multiple lead changes and a defensive tone, with New Haven limiting Wagner's

Bench celebrating the Chargers' play.
Photo courtesy of Charger Athletics

clean looks while executing patiently on the offensive end. At halftime, the Chargers held a 22-20 advantage.

The tempo picked up after the half as Wagner found a rhythm from the perimeter. Timely three-point shooting helped the Seahawks surge ahead, but New Haven continued to answer behind disciplined ball movement and

steady shot selection. The game tightened in the final minutes, with both teams trading stops and buckets. Wagner shot a critical three-pointer late in the quarter and sealed the outcome at the free-throw line, while the Chargers were unable to convert on their final possessions.

Senior guard Jabri Fitzpatrick led the team with 21 points, attacking downhill and converting at the line during intense moments. Andre Pasha added 15 points and made his presence felt defensively, while Najimi George chipped in double figures to round out a balanced effort.

After the loss, the Chargers returned home and finished their season with a 66-59 win over the Le Moyne Dolphins. The finale unfolded as a physical half-court battle, with both teams trading baskets early before New Haven began to take control midway through the second half. Fitzpatrick delivered a

complete performance, pouring in 28 points while facilitating the offense and setting the tone late. His ability to control tempo and make the right read proved decisive as the Chargers stretched the lead during key stretches. George continued his strong play with 15 points on efficient shooting, while Pasha added 13 points and nine rebounds, anchoring the interior on both ends of the floor.

Le Moyne stayed within striking distance behind strong individual efforts, but New Haven's defensive discipline and execution down the stretch made the difference. The Chargers forced contested shots, secured critical rebounds and calmly knocked down free throws in the closing minutes to close out the win.

With the victory, New Haven ended the regular season at .500 in NEC play. For more information, visit NewHavenChargers.com.