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Yale Daily News

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Jacobson pleads not guilty

BY SABRINA THALER
STAFF REPORTER

Former New Haven Police Chief Karl Jacobson on Friday pleaded not guilty to two charges of larceny connected to allegations that he embezzled more than $85,000 from public funds.

The New Haven Independent reported that Jacobson and his lawyer submitted the plea on Friday morning in the New Haven Judicial District courthouse.

The not-guilty pleas are listed next to each of Jacobson's charges on the Connecticut Judicial Branch

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Reeti Malhotra / Contributing Photographer



William Qian / Staff Photographer

YCC leaders elected from different tickets

BY ANAYAH ACCILIEN
STAFF REPORTER

Alex William Chen '28 and Michelle Jimenez '28 were elected to be next year's Yale College Council president and vice president.

In the presidential race, Chen, who ran on a ticket with Brendan Kaminski '28, defeated John Robert Walker '28, who ran alongside Jimenez, by 231 votes. Jimenez defeated Kaminski by 431 votes. Jalen Bradley '27, the vice president of the YCC, announced the results in an email to the student body on Saturday.

The current president and vice president, Andrew Boanoh '27 and Bradley, as well as their predecessors, ran for their positions on the same ticket and campaigned with shared platforms.

Chen said that he is excited to have the opportunity to work with Jimenez because she brings a "fresh and experienced perspective" that he believes will "complement" his own.

"It is going to be super important that Michelle and I are sitting down, running through our ideas, seeing where the overlaps are, where some differences might be and then eventually unifying them into a strong message," he said in an interview. "We will be able to work strongly as a team and as a unified force regardless of us running on different tickets originally."

Chen said that he envisions his role as president as being "a first among equals in the unified interests of advocating for the student body."

"I have gratitude for the other candidates who made me a better person," Chen said. "I have deep appreciation and respect for Brendan,

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Yale outspends peers lobbying so far in '26

BY LEO NYBERG
STAFF REPORTER

As the Trump administration entered its second year, Yale spent $310,000 on lobbying in the first quarter of 2026 after dropping record sums on advocacy last year.

Yale's quarterly disclosure, which was released Monday, revealed the amount Yale spent on federal lobbying from January to March and the bills and provisions the University engaged with. Yale's lobbying expenditures skyrocketed to $1.24 million during the first year of the Trump administration, more than doubling the amount it spent lobbying in 2024.

Yale outpaced its Ivy League peers in lobbying expenditures during the first quarter, the reports show. As of Monday evening, Brown had not filed its first quarter report. In 2025, Yale spent the second most in the Ivy League, trailing only the University of Pennsylvania, which spent $1.27 million.

Under a bill signed into law by President Donald Trump over the summer, the University is set to face a steep endowment tax hike, from 1.4 percent to 8 percent. Unlike peer schools like Harvard, Cornell and Columbia, Yale has avoided targeted funding cuts from the White House.

Yale and Dartmouth are the only two Ivy League universities who have been spared from punitive cuts by the federal government. Dartmouth spent $70,000 on lobbying this quarter, the least of any Ivy League school.

Lobbyists are required to disclose the amount of money they spent on advocacy, as well as the

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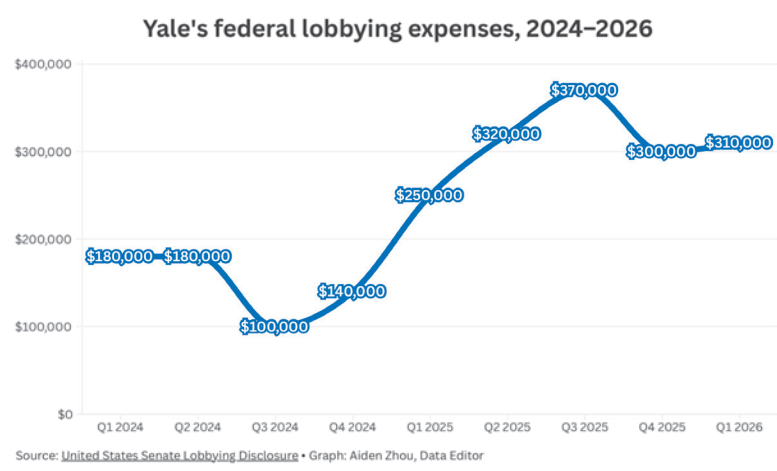

Spring Fling limits tickets for Larsson

BY KIVA BANK
STAFF REPORTER

The Spring Fling Committee limited the number of tickets available to guests and graduate students this year.

In past years, each student has been allowed to bring one guest to Spring Fling, but the committee placed limits on attendance this year after administrators approached the committee with concerns of high attendance due to the "popularity" of this year's artists, according to production chair Jalen Freeman '27.

This year's concert will feature Swedish pop star Zara Larsson as the headliner, with British singer-songwriter Aluna and rapper Sheck Wes opening the concert. Larsson has over four billion streams across platforms and over 68 million monthly listeners on Spotify. Rapper Ken Carson, who replaced NLE Choppa as the headliner of last year's headliner, has 6.5 million monthly Spotify listeners.

Hannah Peck, the associate dean of students, wrote in an email to the News that tickets have never been distributed for Spring Fling through a registration process before.

"Once Zara Larsson was announced as the headliner, the committee and the YCDO staff were flooded with requests for tickets," Peck wrote, referring to the Yale College dean's office. According to Peck, the registration process was implemented to ensure all undergraduate students would be able to attend.

In an email to the News, Freeman said that administrators cited security as the primary reason for limiting attendance, noting that surpassing capacity limits requires additional "permits,

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Baala Shakya

McMahon, McInnis meet at Yale

BY CORINNE COWAN
STAFF REPORTER

Linda McMahon, the United States' secretary of education, spoke with University President Maurie McInnis about grade inflation on Thursday, McMahon said at a Thursday evening Buckley Institute event that attracted a crowd of around 300 people.

McMahon's conversation with McInnis came the day after the president released a report drawn up by the Committee on Trust in Higher Education, which diagnosed campus issues causing declining public trust in universities and recommended 20 reforms. The report called for Yale to take responsibility for dwindling public trust in higher education, which McInnis did in

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William Qian / Staff Photographer

Trustees give to Democrats

BY LEO NYBERG
STAFF REPORTER

Members of the Yale Corporation donate almost exclusively to Democrats. The composition of the board of trustees has drawn scrutiny from student activists and campus organizations on both the left and the right.

The sitting trustees, who were chosen by either alumni election or appointment by the board, skewed toward Democrats in their political donations. Newly released Federal Election Commission filings show that, between January 2024 and April 2026, the trustees donated just over $950,000 to committees and campaigns affiliated with the Democratic party, around $150,000 to committees not affiliated with either party and no donations to Republican or third-party candidates or committees.

The conservative Buckley Institute noted "political bias" towards Democrats on the Corporation in a February report, while cardboard signs calling for the Corporation to divest from Palantir and ICE are staples at campus protests. At a divestment protest last week, organizers said the trustees manage Yale like a hedge fund and do not reflect students' values.

"Yale does not track or comment on the political affiliations of members of the Yale Corporation," University spokesperson Karen Peart wrote in an email to the News. She added that Yale is committed to "fostering open debate, preserving freedom of expression, and creating an environment in which a wide range of ideas can be expressed and heard civilly."

Corporation members donated to campaigns across the country

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Inside The News

Berkeley College Orchestra celebrated 50 years with Tchaikovsky's "1812 Overture" — substituting drums for cannons.

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AIRPORT A long-running plan to expand Tweed-New Haven Airport's runway seems one step closer to implementation.

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MEN'S LACROSSE The No. 12 Yale men's lacrosse team clobbered the UAlbany Great Danes in a 15-2 Senior Day victory.

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