



On Trump, McInnis denies credit

BY ASHER BOISKIN, ARIA LYNN-SKOV AND RISHI GURUDEVAN
STAFF REPORTERS

As Yale has avoided the targeted federal funding cuts that have battered other schools since President Donald Trump returned to office last year, faculty members have expressed mixed evaluations of how University President Maurie McInnis has handled the Trump administration. McInnis herself, though, rejects the premise that she is responsible for Yale's avoiding the government's punitive threats to funding. "I don't believe I deserve either credit or blame," McInnis said in a Wednesday interview. "I believe it is the work of this community — and again, there is no explanation to why

we have not been targeted — but it is the work of every member of this community that makes the Yale community so special." In the last year, the federal government has enacted widespread cuts to research funding, and Trump signed a bill that will increase the tax on Yale's endowment investment returns from 1.4 to 8 percent — an increase that is set to cost the University about \$300 million per year. Some Yale faculty have said they feel uncertain about how those changes will affect Yale in the long run. In 2025, the University more than doubled its spending on lobbying the federal government compared to what it spent in 2024, while McInnis

SEE **McINNIS** PAGE 4



Christina Lee, Senior Photographer

No Yale deal yet for New Haven's budget

BY ELIJAH HUREWTIZ-RAVITCH AND EVELYN RONAN
STAFF REPORTERS

As negotiations between Yale and New Haven over the University's voluntary financial contribution to the city continue, Mayor Justin Elicker's March 1 deadline to propose a municipal budget is fast approaching. In December, University President Maurie McInnis told the News that she thought it was "possible" to reach a deal on Yale's payments to the city by that date — a goal Elicker set. But in a Wednesday interview, McInnis said she was "not sure if we're going to make the March 1 deadline that I had hoped for." Yale's annual contribution to the city budget is set to decrease by \$8 million to around \$16 million in the final year of a town-gown deal reached in 2021.

Elicker declined on Wednesday to discuss the timeline of ongoing negotiations over the future payments but said "obviously the budget is a significant issue for us, and we'll have a significant gap if we can't come to an agreement." **When?** The mayor does not handle the day-to-day negotiations with Yale on the city's behalf. That task falls to Henry Fernandez LAW '94, a CEO and nonprofit director who headed the city's negotiating delegation in 2021 and is again representing the city in a volunteer capacity. Fernandez said that he most recently met with the University's lead negotiators — Jack Callahan '80, Yale's former senior vice president for operations, and Alexandra Daum, the associate vice president for operations. **SEE CONTRIBUTION** PAGE 4

Zara Larsson to headline concert



Baala Shakya

BY GEMARD GUERY
STAFF REPORTER

Shortly after midnight Thursday, a crowd at Toad's Place watched a video reveal of the 2026 Spring Fling lineup — Zara Larsson, Sheck Wes and Aluna — who will perform on Old Campus on April 25. Larsson, a Grammy-nominated Swedish artist with more than 61 million monthly listens on Spotify, will be the first woman to headline Spring Fling since 2014. Spring Fling Committee members told the News they were excited that the lineup spanned pop, rap and

SEE **SPRING FLING** PAGE 5



Elijah Hurewitz-Ravitch, Staff Photographer

Midday class times will soon be capped



Ellie Park, Senior Photographer

BY OLIVIA CYRUS, OLIVIA WOO AND JAEHA JANG
STAFF REPORTERS

Fewer courses will be offered between 10:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. next school year as part of an effort to improve the efficiency of class scheduling and classroom usage, according to an email that was sent from University administrators to faculty and obtained by the News. Courses that meet on consecutive days, such as language classes, must be scheduled outside the hours of 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., the email says. Under the new standard meeting times, the number of weekly class meeting blocks, or the slots in which classes can be scheduled, will

SEE **SCHEDULE** PAGE 5

City has history with police theft

BY NELLIE KENNEY
STAFF REPORTER

Last Thursday, city officials announced plans to hire an external organization to review the New Haven Police Department's confidential informant program, after former police chief Karl Jacobson allegedly embezzled \$81,500 from its fund in the two years before he abruptly retired last month. Nearly 20 years ago, the city hired the same organization — the Police Executive Research Forum — to review its narcotics program after three New Haven officers were accused of bribery and theft. The officers ultimately pleaded guilty to the charges. The city's confidential informant fund, part of the narcotics program, is used to pay informants who assist the police in investigating drug-related crime. Jacobson was arrested by state police last Friday and charged with two counts of first-degree larceny

for his alleged theft from the informants fund and a separate youth programming organization, state prosecutors said. In a statement to the New Haven Independent, Jacobson's lawyer, Gregory Cerritelli, wrote that "an arrest is not evidence of guilt and allegations are not proof." In 2007, the department's former lieutenant William "Billy" White

and Detectives Jose Silva and Justen Kasperzyk were caught by the FBI after White stole cash from a paper bag planted by the federal agency in the back seat of a car, according to the News' coverage at the time. A "culture" had developed in the narcotics unit at the time that was

SEE **POLICE** PAGE 5



Yale Review cancels festival due to endowment tax

BY KIVA BANK
STAFF REPORTER

In a joint Instagram post on Wednesday afternoon, The Yale Review and its executive editor Meghan O'Rourke '97 announced that the literary journal will not be hosting its annual spring festival this year. The Yale Review Festival usually features four days of panels, readings and workshops with writers and editors, but O'Rourke cited budget tightening caused by the upcoming

endowment tax hike as the reason for the "difficult decision." In the fall, administrators announced that schools and divisions across Yale would have to reduce their budget targets as the University prepares for a tax increase that will cost it about \$300 million per year. "The festival is one of the most meaningful parts of what we do — a chance to bring extraordinary writers to Yale and gather a community around literature and ideas," O'Rourke wrote. "But in this moment of financial uncertainty,

we need to be thoughtful about how we use our resources." A similar message was sent via email to subscribers of The Yale Review, mentioning the publication's "steady growth of readership" to over one million people each year, alongside some additional statements. "We are committed to staying in print and remaining excellent, and this is how we can best do it," O'Rourke wrote to subscribers. "In the meantime, we're grateful — as always — for your readership."

O'Rourke, who also teaches editing and writing at Yale, wrote in an email to the News that the annual festival was cancelled to ensure the magazine could make necessary alterations to its current operations. "The decision was both about our reduced budget for this year and about our need to free up time to build out a new publishing model and a revised student program," she wrote. "We can't redesign how we operate while also running at full capacity." Last year, The Yale Review Festival took place from April 8 to 11 and featured

novelists Catherine Lacey and Raven Leilani, as well as poet Ocean Vuong. Originally founded by a group of Yale faculty members in 1819 as the Christian Spectator, the journal claims to be the oldest literary quarterly in the United States. The Yale Review won the National Magazine Award for general excellence in the category of literature, science and politics in 2024. The journal publishes essays, fiction, poetry and criticism. **SEE FESTIVAL** PAGE 4

INSIDE THE NEWS

A pink model of the Taj Mahal will be on display at the Yale Center of British Art until September.

PAGE 9



PAGE 3 **OPINION**
PAGE 6 **NEWS**
PAGE 8 **SCITECH**
PAGE 9 **ARTS**
PAGE 12 **SPORTS**

DIVESTMENT The Endowment Justice Collective held a teach-in on Tuesday evening calling for Yale to divest from companies connected to Immigration and Customs Enforcement. **PAGE 6 NEWS**
PRIDE CENTER The New Haven Pride Center announced that a debt of more than \$200,000 would force it to "cease normal operations" starting Thursday. **PAGE 10 NEWS**