BULLETIN

This Day in Yale History, 2000

April 17, 2000 / Smiley, Wilkins qualify for presidential run-off

By Bret Ladine

It's not over yet. Close vote tallies in last week's YCC elections have forced runoffs for the offices of president and treasurer. The race has also seen a formal public reprimand of a presidential candidate by the YCC Election Committee.

Libby Smiley '02 will face Robbie Wilkins '03 in the race for president, and Alyssa Greewnwald'03 will contend against Vidhya Prabhakaran'03 for treasurer. The runoff election begins today at 9 a.m. and will end tomorrow at 9 p.m.

Wilkins received a formal reprimand Sunday night for failing to remove approximately 15 to 20 campaign signs from various locations on campus, including some in his own dormitory.



Page 4

Smiley, Wilkins in YCC run-off

YCC, *from page 1*

votes. Both candidates received about 19 percent of the total vote, with the remaining portion split by the other seven contenders. Seven percent abstained.

The treasurer's race was also close, with the top two candidates were separated by 98 votes. Greenwald's 745 votes and 34.3 percent was not enough to avoid the runoff with her opponent. Prabhakaran received 29.8 percent of the vote.

Concern has arisen that turnout for the runoff will be significantly lower than in the general election.

Much of the high vote count last week has been attributed by some to the referendum on Yale's licensing policy. With no such propositions on the ballot this time around, candidates may struggle to motivate their support base to vote a second time. The four contenders realize their options are limited.

"It's going to be really hard to get people to vote," Smiley said. "The dynamics have certainly changed, but I'm happy with the way things have gone so far."

Campaigning was prohibited over the weekend, and the remaining candidates were given clear guidelines for the 36-hour campaign in an e-mail message. The message stated that "posters and table tents shall be the only forms of material publicity (i.e. nonverbal or electronic) allowed during the runoff."

Demissie has pledged to hold candidates accountable for any rule violations.

"There's going to be a very strict enforcement of the rules," Demissie said. "If candidates are found guilty of any two violations, they will be kicked out of the race."

Runoff: President

Libby Smiley

Robbie Wilkins

Runoff: Treasurer

Alyssa Greenwald

Vidhya Prabhakaran

Winner: Vice President

Leah Zimmerman

Winner: Secretary

Paige Herwig

Winner: UOFC Chair

Mukul Bakhshi



CLARIS SHIN

JULIAN RAYMOND



Behind the Headline

By Tyler Matukonis

The Yale College Council spring 2026 election candidate statements document is long — spanning 56 pages. Not only are there statements for the president, vice president and events director positions, but also statements from candidates running for class presidents and residential college senators. While the candidates have varying goals, I worked to determine what topics were most frequently mentioned.

In a similar way that U.S. News analyzed President Trump's address to congress in early March, I performed a term frequency analysis of candidate statements using a Python program. After cutting out common words like "a" and "the", the number of unique words, in addition to two and three word phrases, were tallied. When looking at the results in a word bubble, where size represents frequency, terms like "dining" and "funding" were some of the most prominent. While these themes may not be reflected in each candidate's statement, this analysis was helpful in highlighting broad trends.

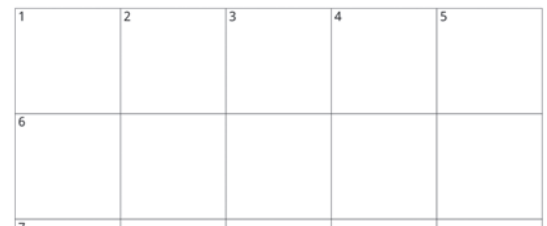
Read "What words appear most in YCC candidate statements?" on page 7.

Puzzles

Puzzle by Ariana Borut '27

ACROSS
1 Davenport's mascot
6 Rush toward
7 Tony winner Menzel
8 Many humanitarian grps.
9 Cozy room

DOWN
1 Glaze | ___ (New Haven coffee shop)
2 Gentle push
3 Caramelized burger addition
4 Operates
5 GPS approximation





SEBASTIAN WOODS

