



Students, locals pack 850-seat history lecture

BY OLIVIA CYRUS
STAFF REPORTER

Students and locals packed Battell Chapel on Thursday for the first meeting of the one-time-only course “America at 250: A History,” with an introductory lecture taught by history professors Beverly Gage ‘94, Joanne Freeman and David Blight.

The course had roughly 480 registered students, according to course demand statistics. The lecture was also open to the New Haven area community as part of the DeVane lecture series. It filled Battell Chapel — which seats 850 people, according to the chaplain’s office.

“This is a different kind of course,” Freeman said. “There are many things that I find particularly fascinating about this country’s history. One of them is the sheer sense of big propositions — breaking away in revolution is a huge risk in and of itself.”

When the course was announced last semester, it was supposed to have eight discussion sections to accommodate 144 students.

“We are hoping not to have to cap the class,” Gage said in an April interview with the News. “My understanding is that it’s opening with eight sections available, but if

those fill up we will be able to add new sections. The expectation is we’ll just keep adding as much as we need to.”

However, the course is currently full, and students not enrolled in the course were not allowed to attend the first lecture, according to the course’s Canvas page. The course has 27 sections listed on Yale Course Search.

Each lecture will be posted on Yale’s YouTube channel two weeks after it takes place, Gage said during Thursday’s lecture.

During the lecture, the professors stressed that American history wasn’t just about golden ages or praising the Founding Fathers. Rather, they said, the semester would teach attendees about the country’s debates, struggles, experiments and triumphs.

The course’s invention took shape in anticipation of America’s semiquincentennial anniversary in 2026 — 250 years since the adoption of the Declaration of Independence by the Second Continental Congress.

Judy Buzzell, a former professor at Southern Connecticut State University from Branford, attended Thursday’s lecture. She said the open nature of the course will benefit both Yale and the local community.

SEE AMERICA AT 250 PAGE 4



Baala Shakya, Photography Editor

Officials mum on contractor death

BY ADELE HAEG AND JAKE ROBBINS
STAFF REPORTERS

No information has emerged in the past week about a man who was killed by electrocution last Thursday while working on a Yale Golf Course renovation project.

Neither Yale nor the Connecticut medical examiner’s office have released the man’s name despite repeated requests to identify him.

Spokespeople for Yale’s Office of Public Affairs and Communication declined two requests from the News for the man’s name and other information about the incident.

University spokespeople have not clarified why they have remained silent, and they declined to explain the protocol for releasing information about deaths on Yale property.

SEE CONTRACTOR PAGE 4

Yale continues to avoid Trump’s crosshairs



Ximena Solorzano, Head Photography Editor

BY BAALA SHAKYA
STAFF REPORTER

Since President Donald Trump began his second term in January, his administration has waged an aggressive campaign to exert influence over elite universities, freezing billions of dollars in federal research funding, threatening accreditations and pressuring institutions into settlements that reshape campus policy.

Through it all, Yale has remained an exception.

Yale and Dartmouth are the only two Ivy League institutions from which the government has not punitively withheld federal funds. The other six schools have each faced punitive cuts to their federal grants from the Trump administration.

Since the beginning of July, Penn, Columbia and Brown agreed to concessions on policies relating to admissions, athletics, antisemitism and academics to restore their federal funds.

To students back on campus, relief about Yale’s relative stabil-

ity is tempered by unease about whether Trump’s targeted measures against universities will come to New Haven.

“I feel sort of lucky that we haven’t been directly publicly attacked yet, but I guess I feel a little uncertain about what’s to come next because I’m not sure if the administration would change course and decide that we’re the next target,” William Mahoney ’27 said in an interview.

“When you think of the big three names of Harvard, Yale and Princeton, these are the bastions of liberal education that the current administration doesn’t have good feelings towards, and so part of me is fearful that we’ll be next,” Mahoney added.

In early spring, the Trump administration froze more than \$400 million in funding to Columbia and \$175 million to Penn. In April, the White House followed with a \$2.2 billion cut to Harvard. Federal officials cited antisemitism, failures to maintain campus order and lack of “viewpoint

SEE TRUMP PAGE 4

Fenway Park to host The Game next year

BY KAITLYN POHLY
STAFF REPORTER

The annual Yale-Harvard game will look quite different next year.

The storied rivalry, approaching its 141st showdown this November, will leave the familiar confines of New Haven and Boston in 2026 for a different venue: Boston’s Fenway Park, home of the Red Sox, according to similar Wednesday afternoon news releases from Harvard Athletics and Major League Baseball.

There was no announcement from Yale Athletics on Wednesday.

The 2026 game will be just the second time in history that the matchup

is played under the shadow of the park’s signature Green Monster wall. The first came in 2018, when Harvard Stadium was under renovation. That year, the move drew curiosity and excitement as the oldest college football rivalry played out in one of Major League Baseball’s most renowned ballparks.

For players on the field, it’s a unique experience that may turn into a highlight of their athletic careers.

“It’s a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to play a historic game at a historic field,” Robby Tattersall ’27 wrote to the News. He will be a

SEE FENWAY PAGE 5

Data shows steep climb in Ward 1 voter registration

BY HENRY LIU AND AIDEN ZHOU
STAFF REPORTER AND DATA EDITOR

Voter registration in New Haven’s downtown district has spiked since the beginning of August, increasing by nearly 28 percent.

Three Yalies are running to represent Ward 1, the New Haven district mostly comprising Yale buildings, on the Board of Alders, and the candidates have been courting voters online all month and in-person since students arrived on campus. A Yale undergraduate has historically represented Ward

SEE REGISTRATION PAGE 5



Baala Shakya, Photography Editor

INSIDE THE NEWS

Undergraduates with IDs issued before July must pick up new IDs by early September.

PAGE 6 NEWS

The men’s basketball team announced its new schedule, which includes a high-stakes game against a the University of Alabama.

PAGE 12 SPORTS



PAGE 3 OPINION

PAGE 6 NEWS

PAGE 9 SCI-TECH

PAGE 12 SPORTS

PAGE B1 WKND

LePATNER Friends described Wesley Mittman LePatner ’03 — who was killed in a late July shooting in Manhattan — as compassionate and high-achieving.

PAGE 6 NEWS

COMMONS Commons and the Bow Wow will now only accept dining points.

PAGE 10 NEWS