



Baala Shakya / Photography Editor

## Talks on YPD oversight progress

BY ADELE HAEG  
STAFF REPORTER

A New Haven police oversight body is moving toward a long-awaited agreement with Yale about civilian review of police misconduct complaints, after Yale chartered a new Public Safety Advisory Board without explicitly granting it that role.

The New Haven Civilian Review Board is required by city ordinance to have a memorandum of understanding, or MOU, with Yale, to fulfill its role of investigating civilian complaints against all New Haven police departments, including the Yale Police Department.

In the six years since it was established, the board and Yale have never had such an MOU, which

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Madelyn Kumar

## Professors warned of grad enrollment cuts

BY ISOBEL MCCLURE AND JAEHA JANG  
STAFF REPORTERS

The Graduate School of Arts and Sciences is considering a plan to reduce graduate enrollment in the humanities and social sciences by 12 percent over the next three years as Yale navigates an increased tax on its endowment returns.

Stephen Murphy, the University's vice president of finance and chief financial officer, presented a slideshow on the endowment tax and the proposed plan to directors of graduate studies across departments during a meeting on Aug. 25, according to professors who attended the meeting.

Jonathan Kramnick, the director of graduate studies for the English language and literature department, recalled the directors were informed about a constriction in cohort size for incoming classes starting in the 2026-27 academic year.

"We were told that there will be an across-the-board 12 percent reduction in the total number of students in the humanities and social sciences division of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences that will be implemented over a three-year term," Kramnick said in a phone interview with the News.

An emailed statement from Yale's Office of Public Affairs and

Communications noted that the plan to reduce GSAS admissions was not finalized. The statement was attributed to Lynn Cooley, the dean of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences who was present at the August meeting.

The statement did not confirm or deny the plan's details, nor did it respond to questions about how reduced enrollment would be implemented and impact Yale.

"Conversations are taking place between GSAS leadership and the GSAS community to discuss ways we will adjust and adapt considering the tax on endowment income, ensuring that the school can continue to provide outstanding education to

all graduate students who come to Yale," the statement reads.

Murphy did not answer questions from the News about the reported plan to reduce graduate class sizes.

The University is facing an 8 percent tax on its endowment returns following President Donald Trump's July signing of a tax-and-spending bill that raised taxes on certain universities' endowment gains. Under an earlier version of the bill, Yale's endowment would have faced a 21 percent tax.

In late June, Yale announced to faculty and staff that it would be

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## Football season to open Saturday

BY BRODY GILKISON  
STAFF REPORTER

For the seventh consecutive season, the Yale football team will open its season by hosting the Holy Cross Crusaders on Saturday.

Dating back to 2018, not including the canceled 2020 season, the Bulldogs and Crusaders have had a longstanding home-and-home agreement for a series of games in which they trade hosting privileges.

In the previous six matchups, Yale has gone 2-4, including a thrilling victory last year when running back Nate Denney '25 scored a last minute touchdown to propel the Bulldogs to a 38-31 win.

This season, the Crusaders have already played three games. However, they are 0-3 after losing against Northern Illinois, New Hampshire and Rhode Island.

The Holy Cross passing attack is led by Cal Swanson, who, in three games, has passed for 407 yards with a mediocre 53.4 percent completion rate. He has thrown for one touchdown with two interceptions. On the ground, Swanson also leads the team in yards with 111 yards and no scores.

Running back Jayden Clerveaux is right behind Swanson in rush-

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Kelly Kong / Contributing Photographer

## Claire's celebrates 50th anniversary

BY KELLY KONG  
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

Claire's Corner Copia marked its 50th anniversary on Wednesday with a special celebration at the vegetarian restaurant's iconic Chapel Street location in the heart of downtown New Haven.

Claire Criscuolo and her late husband, Frank Criscuolo, opened Claire's in 1975. The couple aimed to serve fresh, nutritious food to its customers and support the New Haven community through various philanthropic projects. Over the last 50 years, the restaurant has also grown into a city staple and beloved gathering place for students and residents.

"What began as a dream on this corner of Chapel Street has grown

into something so much bigger: a family, a community, a home for so many," Criscuolo said at Wednesday's event.

The celebration drew New Haven Mayor Justin Elicker, Connecticut Lt. Gov. Susan Bysiewicz and a range of loyal friends, supporters and customers of Claire's.

In his speech, Elicker recognized Criscuolo for her healthy food, heartfelt care for customers and philanthropic work and presented Claire's with a plaque honoring its contribution to New Haven. He commended Criscuolo for her foresight in creating "third places" — places outside work and home — before they became mainstream.

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## Political union tightens security after Kirk killing

BY ORION KIM  
STAFF REPORTER

The Yale Political Union heightened security for its Tuesday debate following the assassination of right-wing political activist Charlie Kirk last week.

The Tuesday evening event featured prominent pro-life activist Lila Rose and former president of Catholics for Free Choice Frances Kissling. Rose gained prominence in 2011 for her involvement in undercover videos of abortion clinics, which intensified scrutiny of federal funds designated for Planned Parenthood.

Rose was escorted into 53 Wall St., the debate's venue, by several security guards, and students were instructed to wait outside the building before entering through a security checkpoint. Attendees

were scanned with a hand-held metal detector, were told to empty their pockets and could not bring bags into the event.

In his opening remarks, YPU President Brennan Columbia-Walsh '26 reflected on the slaying of Kirk.

"What happened last week is the antithesis of this organization's sacred enterprise," he said.

Columbia-Walsh also said that after the shooting last week, he contacted the YPU's security liaison to find out whether they "would have to reconsider the semester ahead."

"We will not allow this to stop the free exchange of ideas, no matter the fact that new precautions and protections will be required," Columbia-Walsh

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Orion Kim / Contributing Photographer

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**SHAKESPEARE** Followers of Delia Bacon, who claimed that William Shakespeare had not really written his plays, gathered at the Omni New Haven Hotel on Thursday.

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**CRITIC'S TAKE** The News' theater critic shares his first thoughts on the upcoming theater season.

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