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Yale Daily News

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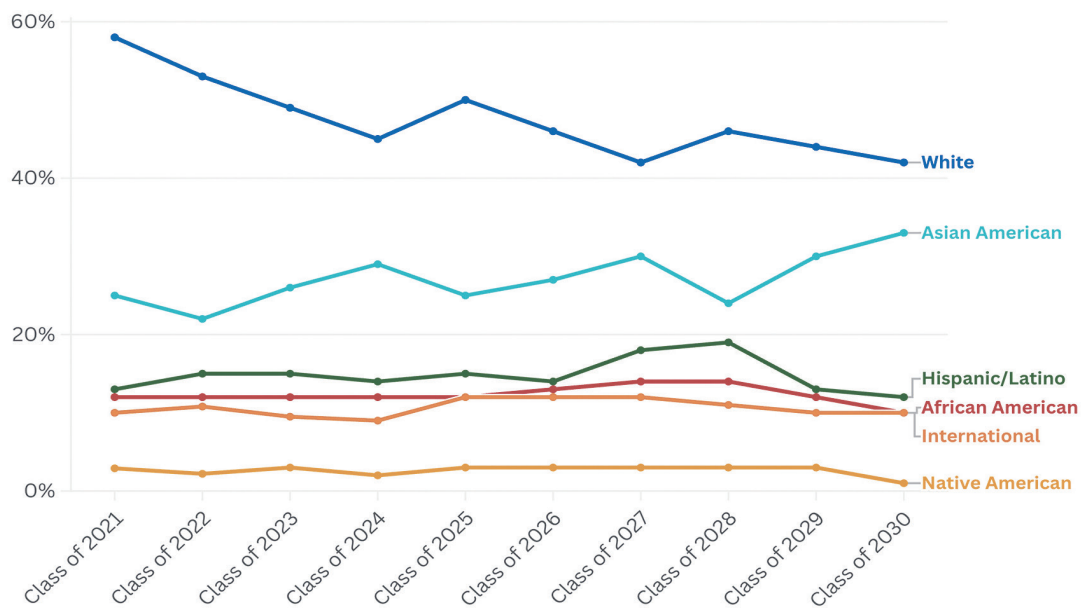
First-year racial data sees shifts



Yale College racial makeup by incoming class at matriculation

Adriana Petrizzo / Data Editor

BY LEO NYBERG AND DAVID LIU
STAFF REPORTERS

The racial breakdown of Yale's class of 2030 reflects the continuation of a slight downward trend in the share of matriculating African American and Hispanic or Latino students.

The small decline in that proportion of first years — 22 percent this academic year versus 25 percent last year — comes three years after the Supreme Court struck down affirmative action, barring the consideration of race in college admissions processes.

Yale College, along with the medical and law schools, is currently under investigation by the Department of Justice for alleged discrimination against white and Asian applicants, which the department says would violate the 2023 decision in Students for Fair Admissions v. Harvard.

Dean of Undergraduate Admissions and Financial Aid Jeremiah Quinlan '03 wrote in a July email to the News that Yale College does not consider race or ethnicity in the admissions process, and that the admissions office does not use any proxy for race or ethnicity.

McInnis said last week that Yale changed its admissions processes to comply with the Supreme Court decision and that she believes Yale is following the law. She said that since courts have not had an opportunity to weigh in on admissions in higher education since the 2023 decision, she is not sure how the change in law will be interpreted.

Of the class of 2027, the last class admitted before the fall of affirmative action, 32 percent of students were Hispanic or Latino or African American upon matriculation. In that class, 18 percent of first years were Hispanic or Latino and 14 percent were African American.

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Football kicks off with comeback win

BY BRODY GILKINSON
STAFF REPORTER

In Head Coach Kevin Cahill's debut and the Yale football team's (1–0, 0–0 Ivy) first game of the season, the Bulldogs pulled out a 38–28 comeback victory against Holy Cross (0–4, 0–2 Patriot) on Saturday.

In Worcester, Mass., Yale got on the board early in the first quarter to give themselves an early 7–0 lead. On a play that would be ranked #3 on Sportscenter's Top 10 Plays of the Day, Dante Reno '28 connected with Jaxton Santiago '28 near the sideline, where Santiago made a miraculous one-handed grab and then turned on the afterburners to beat the defenders to the end zone.

Five minutes later, the Crusaders responded with a touchdown of their own, evening the score at 7-7 with five minutes to go in the first quarter.

The two teams found themselves in a stalemate for the rest of the half, as neither was able to put another point on the board.

After Cahill gave the team his first halftime speech as the head coach of the Bulldogs, Yale came out firing on all cylinders.

A five-play, sixty-yard drive that took less than two minutes ended with a Reno-to-Lucius Anderson '29 22-yard touchdown pass, putting the Bulldogs back ahead of the Crusaders. However, Holy Cross fired right back, putting together a touchdown drive of their own to tie the game.

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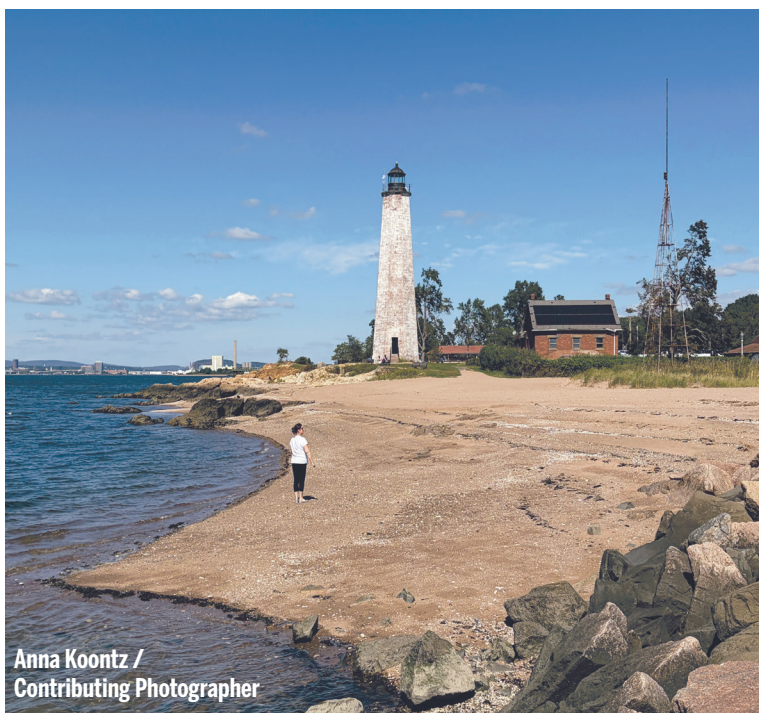
Liza Kaufman / Photography Editor



Anna Koontz / Contributing Photographer

Donors celebrate $7 billion raise

BY LEO NYBERG AND ARIA LYNN-SKOV
STAFF REPORTERS

Donors flocked to New Haven this weekend to celebrate the conclusion of the University's "For Humanity" fundraising campaign, which raised over $7 billion in ten years.

Campaign contributors joined Yale's top administrators and development officers for lunch, dinner and cocktails across campus. Yale President Maurie McInnis, University Provost Scott Strobel, Yale College Dean Pericles Lewis, megadonor Ed Bass '67 and former presidents Peter Salovey and Richard Levin attended the weekend's events. The campaign, publicly launched

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Aria Lynn-Skov / Contributing Photographer

Iconic seaside park reopens after storm

BY ANNA KOONTZ
STAFF REPORTER

Lighthouse Point Park reopened Sept. 18 after a monthlong closure to repair severe storm damage.

Despite an ongoing reconstruction process, hundreds of visitors returned to the park, which overlooks the Long Island Sound, to hold cookouts, fish along the rocky coast and walk the length of the shore. As the park reopens, city officials highlighted their plan to redesign the park and its iconic carousel building.

"Any kind of incident like this is an opportunity to rethink and maybe take action to improve what was there," Andrei Harwell, the executive director of the Yale Urban Design Workshop. "So I really do think what is built back is going to be built back better than what was there before."

On Aug. 13, an unforecasted overnight storm had struck Lighthouse Point Park. Winds blew over 100 miles per hour, said Max Webster ENV '17, director of the New Haven Parks Department.

The storm uprooted and downed 95 trees and destroyed picnic tables and benches, Mayor Justin Elicker said in a press conference last week. The carousel building "almost looked like a bomb went off," he said. Glass from windows was strewn across the lawn and playground area.

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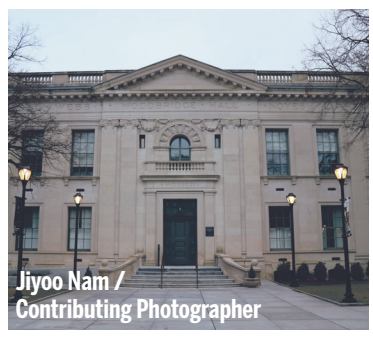
Endowment tax off lobbying list

BY LEO NYBERG AND ARIA LYNN-SKOV
STAFF REPORTERS

Yale President Maurie McInnis and the University's lobbyists will not try to persuade Congress to lower or reform current endowment tax rates in the near future, McInnis said.



Jiyoo Nam / Contributing Photographer

Congress passed an 8 percent endowment tax on Yale and other elite universities in 2025 as part of the One Big Beautiful Bill, an increase from the 1.4 percent rate that the University was formerly subject to. While the tax, which administrators estimated would cost Yale $300 million annually, took effect in July 2026, Yale began preparing for cuts last year, implementing budget cut measures across schools.

"Obviously, we were previously working on tax policy, and there may come a day again where we could revisit the tax on university investment income," McInnis said in a Tuesday interview with the News. "But at the moment, that is off the table."

Instead, Yale is focusing on Treasury Department regulations for how the endowment tax will be implemented, the University's chief lobbyist Richard Jacob said in a statement provided by Yale's central communications office.

As the bill moved through Congress last year, the top-rate tax for university endowments fell from the initially proposed 35 percent as Yale and other universities warned the tax could cripple financial aid.

In anticipation of the endowment tax last year, Yale College reduced staff by 7.5 percent and implemented a University-wide 5 percent reduction in non-salary

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Inside The News

The Bulldogs fended off a late comeback from the Sacred Heart Pioneers to earn a 2-1 victory amid the rain.

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SHABBAT The second iteration of the annual "Lux et Shabbat" boasted around 700 attendees, becoming the largest ever Jewish gathering on Old Campus.
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PLANTS In a Saturday dig in West Rock, Yale students and other volunteers stationed 1,000 plants around a Montessori school.
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