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Trump's chief Ivy adversary quits role

BY LEO NYBERG
STAFF REPORTER

The leader of the Department of Justice's civil rights division, who launched a slew of attacks on elite universities including Yale, resigned on Thursday.

During her tenure, which began last year, Harmeet Dhillon accused institutes of higher education of discriminating against white and Asian applicants and of creating antisemitic campus climates. Under her leadership, the civil rights division brokered multiple settlements with Ivy League universities and began investigating Yale for alleged violations of the Supreme Court's 2023 decision banning race-based affirmative action. The University is currently in negotiations with the department over the investigation's findings.

"Sue Yale. Sue every university that refuses to keep students safe based on their religion. Make them regret their choices. Deplete their endowments. Sue each and every violent protester and organizers. Drain their bank accounts. Sow salt in their career plans," Dhillon wrote in a 2024 post on X, responding to a Jewish student who wrote that she had been stabbed in the eye with a Palestinian flag at a Yale protest.

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Morgan Rice via Wikimedia Commons

Fresh off win, alum slams Trump talks

BY SARAH RIVAS, LEO NYBERG AND ARIA LYNN-SKOV
STAFF REPORTERS

A day after winning election to represent Pennsylvania's 3rd congressional district in the House of Representatives, Chris Rabb '92 appeared in a video on Instagram bashing Yale's negotiations with the Trump administration.

Rabb, a Democrat and member of the Democratic Socialists of America, is one of a host of alumni who have rebuked Yale's decision to pursue a voluntary agreement with the Department of Justice over investigations into its admissions processes. In the Wednesday night video, which was posted from the accounts of several progressive organizations based on college campuses, Rabb noted Yale's billions of dollars in endowment money and posed a question to his alma mater.

"What's the point of having 'f--- you' money if you won't say 'f--- you' to fascists?" Rabb said in the video. "Kneeling to fascists doesn't protect us. It hands them power, and you can't keep saving for a rainy day while ignoring a hurricane."

The video was posted from the Instagram accounts of Democratize Yale, a coalition of students, faculty and alumni opposing Yale's negotiations; More Perfect University, a progressive campus organization that opposes authoritarianism and corporate greed, according to its website; Stand Up for Yale, an alumni anti-Trump advocacy group and the Endowment Justice Collective, a group of students that urges Yale to divest from fossil fuels.

University spokesperson Karen Peart emphasized in an email to the News that Yale will protect academic freedom, independent admissions decisions and free expression, among other principles

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City, state stay blue amid national gains

BY NELLIE KENNEY
STAFF REPORTER

New Haven Democrats glided to victory as a blue wave swept the nation in Tuesday's midterm elections.

Democratic incumbent Gov. Ned Lamont won a third term in office by the widest margin in a Connecticut gubernatorial race in 20 years, and Democratic Rep. Rosa DeLauro handily won a 19th term in Congress. The Democratic candidates in both of the city's contested elections for state legislature are headed to Hartford.

The victories arrived as Democrats retook the Senate and House, claiming seats in historically red states like Kansas, South Carolina and Texas in an election widely perceived as a referendum on President Donald Trump's second term.

"The American people have spoken," DeLauro said in a speech at her election watch party in the Shubert Theatre. "And they have had enough."

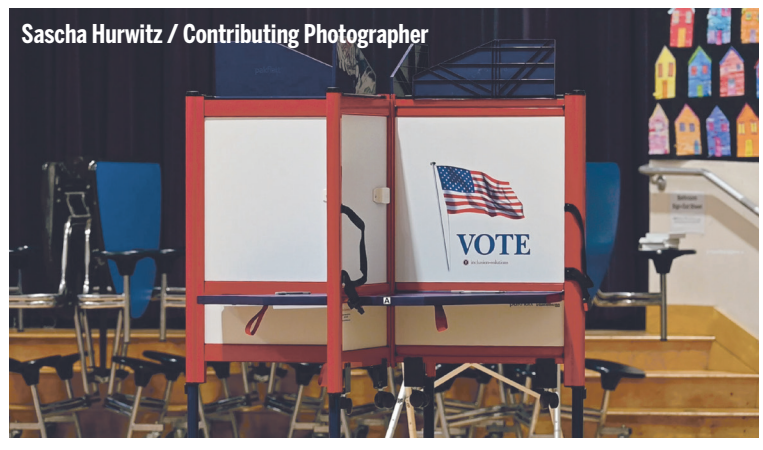
Lamont defeated his Republican challenger, state Sen. Ryan Fazio, by more than 15 points with 85 percent of votes counted, according to the Connecticut Secretary of State's Election Center website. In New Haven, Lamont received 84.8 percent of reported votes to Fazio's 15.2 percent.

DeLauro's victory was called by The Associated Press shortly before midnight on Tuesday. As of 2:41 a.m., when 92 percent of votes were counted, she had won 60 percent of overall votes, including 85 percent of the votes in New Haven.

Current state Rep. Alphonse Paolillo Jr. and Fair Rent Commission executive director Wildaliz Bermúdez won their races to represent New Haven in the state Senate and House, respectively.

"Compared to a lot of the other nonsense you see going around around the rest of the country, I was proud of Connecticut during this

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Sascha Hurwitz / Contributing Photographer


Martin Paralta / Head Photography Editor

Local politician launches mayoral bid

BY NELLIE KENNEY
STAFF REPORTER

A former state legislator and longtime behind-the-scenes operator in city politics is running for mayor with plans to challenge Mayor Justin Elicker and New Haven's political "machine."

Jason Bartlett, an organizer who has led campaigns for candidates across the political spectrum, is seeking the Democratic nomination for mayor in a 2027 election. Although a registered Democrat, Bartlett said his campaign, which he launched Thursday, would span the "GRID" — the Green Party, Republican Party, Independent Party and Democratic Party.

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Most blue Yalies win midterms

BY LEO NYBERG
STAFF REPORTER

As a blue wave swept across the nation Tuesday night, 16 Yale graduates prevailed in their congressional and gubernatorial races — among them, three Republicans and 13 Democrats.

While two races involving alumni remained uncalled, it appeared that the number of Yale alumni in the 120th Congress will remain largely the same as in its current meeting. Currently, 18 Yale alumni serve on Capitol Hill, 11 in the House of Representatives and seven in the U.S. Senate. Democrats are projected to retake both houses in January.

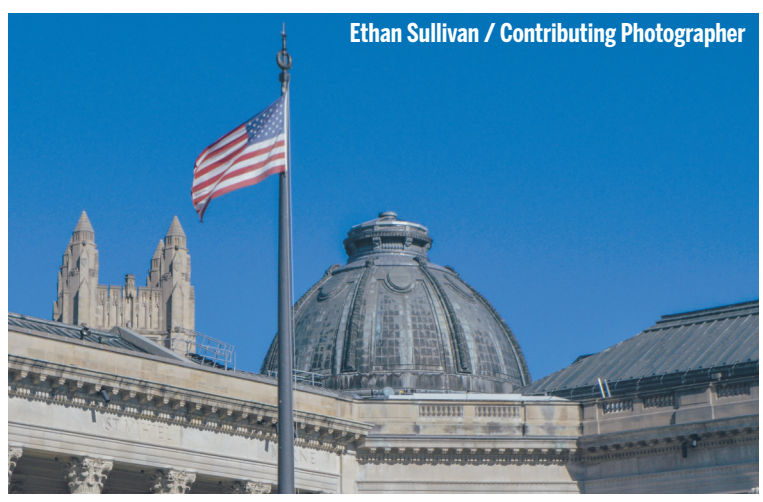
Many Democrats who attended Yale won striking victories on Tuesday night. They included Sherrod Brown '74, who reclaimed a Senate seat in Ohio, where he lost reelection in 2024. Democrat Cory Booker LAW '97 won reelection to his Senate seat in New Jersey, having won 62 percent of votes reported by early Wednesday morning. Incumbent Democratic Sen. Chris Coons LAW '92 DIV '92 won reelection by 27 percentage points in Delaware.

House Democrat Ro Khanna LAW '01 also won reelection in California's 17th house district, amid speculation that he will launch a presidential bid.

Democrats Maggie Goodlander '09 LAW '16, Teresa Leger Fernandez '82, Kelly Morrison '91 and Seth Magaziner SOM '10 all won reelection to the House of Representatives, along with Republicans Brett Guthrie SOM '97, Bruce Westerman ENV '01 and Tom Cole GRD '74.

Republican Vivek Ramaswamy LAW '13 lost the Ohio governor's race to Amy Acton, who will be the state's first female governor. Ramaswamy came under fire last month after he ran a controversial advertisement featuring his opponent's mother accusing Acton of lying about her past. Acton has accused her mother's former husband of sexually abusing her when she was a child.

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Ethan Sullivan / Contributing Photographer


Liza Kaufman / Photography Editor

Bulldogs to face Brown at home

BY BRODY GILKISON
STAFF REPORTER

The Yale Bulldogs (4–3-3, 2–2) are set to take on the Brown Bears (4–3, 2–2 Ivy) on Saturday in their penultimate home game of the regular season.

Last weekend, Team 153 broke a two-game losing streak in New York with a 26-8 road win over Columbia (4–3, 1–3 Ivy), while Brown picked up a 36-17 win over Penn (3–4, 1–3 Ivy). With just three games to go in conference play, the Bulldogs aim to keep their playoff hopes alive.

Dartmouth, a team Yale beat handily 28-7 last month, currently holds the top spot in the Ivy League with a 4–3 record overall and a 3–1 conference record. After picking up a 24-14 win over Harvard (6–1, 3–1 Ivy) last weekend in Hanover, the Big Green hold the tiebreaker over the Crimson and a better record than the next six Ivy League squads.

However, Dartmouth will travel to both Princeton and Cornell in the

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Inside The News

Richard Long, an English artist, used clay to create a site-specific piece at the Yale Center for British Art on Monday.

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BAKERY An uptick in ICE operations has presented a new challenge for a Fair Haven bakery that serves traditional Mexican breads.
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BLUE BOOKS Amid concerns about AI use, the share of humanities courses that administer in-person exams has increased in the past four years.
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