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"It was great to get two wins this last weekend and I think the team is confident going into the tournament,"
BETSY GOODENOW '27 IVY LEAGUE PLAYER OF THE WEEK

No. 2 Yale to face No. 3 Harvard in Ivy League tournament semifinals

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

BY TANNER BATTLE
STAFF REPORTER



TANNER BATTLE / CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

In the first match of the Ivy League tournament this Friday, the Bulldogs will face the Crimson, which is the only team that has beat them twice this season. The Elis will look to redeem themselves when it counts.

Yale women's volleyball (17–5, 11–3 Ivy) will face Harvard (18–5, 9–5 Ivy) for the third time this season on Friday in the first round of the Ivy League tournament.

At No. 2, the Bulldogs will come into the game as the higher seed despite losing both regular season matches to the Crimson. Last season, Yale made the finals as the No. 3 seed before taking No. 1 seed Princeton down to the wire in an eventual loss. This year, the Elis look to improve on last season's result.

"I feel great; the team is in a positive headspace, and we're ready to take on the weekend!" Arya Jue '27 wrote in a text message to the News.

During the regular season, Yale lost 2-3 to Harvard at John J. Lee Amphitheater and on the road in Cambridge, although the Elis entered both matches ranked higher than the Crimson.

In the first game, the Bulldogs took the first two sets against Harvard, 25-23 and 25-16, before dropping the last three sets, 19-25, 13-25 and 8-15. On the road, Yale dropped the first set 18-25 then won the next two 25-11 before losing the last two sets 23-25 and 7-15.

The Elis will come into the match ranked number two, with Harvard one play behind at number three in the Ivy League. The Bulldogs will come into the match with a chip on their shoulder, hoping the third time is the charm.

Yale won its final two games of the season against the University of Pennsylvania (13–11, 5–9 Ivy) and Princeton (10–12, 8–6 Ivy) over the weekend. Additionally, Betsy Goodenow '27 was named Ivy League Player of the Week for her contributions on both offense and defense in the matches. She will look to lead the team to victory over the Crimson.

"It was great to get two wins this last weekend and I think the team is confident going into the tournament," Goodenow wrote in a text message to the News. "We've had great practices this week and cannot wait to play Friday."

The Elis will head into their Ivy League tournament match on a three-game win streak, while Harvard will enter the tournament after losing to Columbia (10–13, 4–10 Ivy) in its final regular-season match.

Yale will play Harvard in the Ivy League tournament semi-finals on Friday at 7 p.m. in Ithaca.

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Fresh off Cornell upset, Bulldogs set sights on two road matchups

MEN'S HOCKEY

BY LUCY BENJAMIN
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER



TANNER BATTLE / CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

In the first match of the Ivy League tournament this Friday, the Bulldogs will face the Crimson, which is the only team that has beat them twice this season. The Elis will look to redeem themselves when it counts.

As the rest of Yale's student body flocks to Boston to see Team 153 face the school up north at Fenway Park this Saturday, the men's hockey team has a different destination in mind.

Fresh off an upset victory over No. 16 Cornell (2–4–0, 1–3–0 ECAC), Yale men's hockey (3–2–0, 3–2–0 ECAC) will head to upstate New York for a two-game road trip, facing Union (6–5–0, 2–2–0 ECAC) on Friday and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (4–7–1, 0–3–1 ECAC) on Saturday.

The Bulldogs will head to the Capital District this weekend following a dramatic turnaround at Ingalls Rink. After a 6-1 loss to Colgate (3–9–0, 2–2–0 ECAC) on Friday night, the Bulldogs stunned the nationally-ranked Cornell 3-1 the following evening. The victory snapped a 13-game winless streak against the Big Red, marking Yale's first win over the program since 2019.

The Saturday night upset followed another significant victory over Harvard (4–3–0, 2–2–0 ECAC) earlier this month, where Yale defeated Harvard in Cambridge for the first time since 2017.

Having defeated both Cornell and Harvard, the Bulldogs have demonstrated their ability to compete with some of the ECAC's strongest programs.

"We can beat anybody in this league when we play our best, and I feel like we haven't even reached that yet," captain Rhys Bentham '27 wrote in an email to the News.

In just five games, first-year forward Kyle O'Leary '30 has emerged as a key offensive contributor for the Bulldogs, leading the team with five goals and seven points. O'Leary scored the game-winning goal against Cornell, extending his goal-scoring streak to five consecutive games.

The Bulldogs will look to ride the momentum of Saturday's win as they hit the road.

Yale will start out the road trip in Schenectady, New York, on Friday. The Union Garnet Chargers will host the Bulldogs following a 4-1 victory over New Hampshire (6–5–1, 2–2–1 Hockey East) last weekend. Against a team that boasts one of the nation's most effective power plays, having converted 42.1 percent of their opportunities this season, Yale's defense will be put to the test.

On Saturday, the Bulldogs will head to Troy, New York, to face RPI. The Engineers have struggled in conference play, coming in on a three-game losing streak. But the Bulldog defense will need to focus on gap control to prevent Rainers Rullers, who leads the Engineers' offense and has eight goals and eight assists this season, from getting a clean look on the net.

As they prepare to hit the road, the Bulldogs are also continuing to emphasize offensive development and consistency.

"We've been focused on scoring and continuing to build our offense, so that when we play teams, games aren't as close and we can put up more goals," Bentham wrote. "We've also just been continuing with our habits and being consistent every day."

Puck drop is at 7 p.m. both nights, and the games will be livestreamed on ESPN+.

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STAT OF THE DAY

THE BULLDOGS TOOK THE FIRST TWO SETS AGAINST HARVARD, 25-23 AND 25-16.