FIELD HOCKEY

BY VINCENT HUANG
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

The No. 17 Yale Bulldogs (4–0,
0–0 Ivy), the only undefeated team
remaining in the Ivy League, are
beginning their quest to make a
second-ever appearance in the Ivy
League tournament as they face
Brown on Friday.
Yale is o! to its second 4-0 start
in two seasons, recording a goal
di!erential of +15. The Bulldogs, who
defeated the Bears 3-1 in Providence
last season, are ranked third of the
conference in the National Field
Hockey Coaches Association poll,
trailing No. 3 Princeton (3-1, 0-0 Ivy)
and No. 7 Harvard (3-1, 0-0 Ivy).
“It's been a great start to the
season going into Friday’s Ivy opener
against Brown — a 4-0 record and
17 goals already is a great place to be,
and we want to carry that momentum
into conference play,” Issy Baile! ’28
wrote in a statement reviewed by Yale

Athletics spokesperson Sam Rubin.
“For me personally, I put the hours in
over summer to ensure I came back
in the best position possible and it is
paying o!.”
Her e!ort is clearly bearing fruit,
as Baileff has already topped her
previous record for seasonal goals.
Baile! is one of several Bulldogs
who are already on track to have
record-setting seasons. Chiara
Picciafuoco ’28 has in four games
recorded career highs in both goals (7)
and assists (5), an attacking explosion
enabled in part by a positional change
from midfielder to forward.
Maddie Leathem ’30 and Gigi
Caldero ’28 have also both found the
back of the net for the first time in their
collegiate careers.
Yale’s midfield playmakers have
also stood out. Senior Emma Ramsey
’27’s current assist total (4) is a
career high, while sophomore Carys
Isherwood ’29 has already tied her
total (2) from 2025.
The Bulldogs’ defense has been
similarly strong, having allowed just
two goals across their four opening

contests. At the same point in 2025,
they had allowed six. The save
percentage of Amelie Schwarzkopf
’29, at 0.900, ranks second in the
Ivy League, and she has posted two
clean sheets in four games.
For captain Hettie Whittington
’27 and the Bulldogs’ two other
seniors, the 2026 campaign is
particularly meaningful.
“My approach to senior season
has been to soak in every second,”
Whittington wrote in a statement
to the News reviewed by Rubin.
“Our season is so short, and I
only really have two more months
playing this sport with this team,
so my mindset has been to quickly
forget the mistakes and celebrate
every win.”
But as dusk approaches for
the collegiate careers of Yale field
hockey’s class of 2027, the first
years have made an immediate
impact for the fast-starting
Bulldogs, with Sophie Buchowski
’30 and Angelina Che ’30 both
seeing significant minutes on the
field.

Yale will host Brown at
Johnson Field on Friday at 6
p.m.

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WOMEN'S

SOCCER

BY GIAN LOMBEYDA
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

The Yale women’s soccer team
(4–4–0, 0–0 Ivy) will finish non-con-

ference play against Sacred Heart Uni-
versity (6–1–0, 1–1 MAAC) at home on
Sunday.
“Sacred Heart is a strong opponent
and will be a good way for us to grow as
a team and try to build on our momen-
tum before Ivy League conference
play begins,” defender Alex Chang ’27
wrote in an email to the News.
Despite their attacking prowess and

resolute defending, the Bulldogs’ start
to the season has been back-and-
forth. The team had no consecutive
wins in their first eight matches of the
season.

After their dominant 5-1 win
against Fordham University (3–3–1,
0–0 A-10) last Sunday, the Bulldogs
will look to take another step forward
into a challenging start to conference
play, highlighted by heavyweight
matchups with perennial title con-
tenders Princeton (4–3–0, 0–0 Ivy)
and Brown (5–2–1, 0–0 Ivy).
“A season is inevitably filled
with ups and downs,” Chang said,
“but when we do experience an up,
it’s important to carry any sort of
momentum you can get into the next
games.”
Yale’s inconsistency could be due
in part to its busy schedule. The team
has played eight games in just three
and a half weeks. A majority of those
contests have been on the road — the
Bulldogs have traveled to places like
Charlottesville, Virginia and Durham,
New Hampshire.
In total, the Bulldogs have traveled
over 1,500 miles in less than a month.
“After nearly a month of two-game
weeks, it’ll be great for everyone to
finally be able to take a week to prepare
by fully recovering and training again
in between games,” Chang said.

Preparation will be crucial ahead
of perhaps the team’s biggest test yet.
The Sacred Heart Pioneers have been
strong all season, tallying 10 or more
shots in every match and winning
their first six matches with just two
goals conceded.
Notably, star forward Shea Kelleher
already has five goals this season for
the Pioneers.
The last three contests between
Yale and Sacred Heart were decided
by teams bouncing back to score soon
after conceding a goal. With Sacred
Heart eager for goals after their unex-
pected 2-3 loss to Marist University
(2–5–0, 2–0 MAAC) last Saturday, Yale
will have to limit the Pioneers’ tena-
cious attack if they want to deal Sacred
Heart their second loss of the season.
Fortunately, the Bulldogs have the
defensive personnel to do so, starting
with leaders like Chang, who has played
every minute of the season so far.
“In terms of the backline, it’s been
such a pleasure to work with my team-
mates,” said Chang. “Personally, I try
to train as much as I can, but I really
just take it game by game and have as
much fun as I can.”
The defenders have also been e"-
cient in springing the attack, with
Chang and Tana Sands ’29 already tal-
lying assists. Look for speedy attackers
Anita Thorvaldsdottir ’27 and Abigail

Solomon ’26 to receive their team-
mates’ crosses and continue their
good form in front of goal on Sunday.
Jojo DeNegri ’29 will also look to
build on her standout performance
against Fordham, where she scored
her first collegiate double.
History is on the Bulldogs’ side, as
they have won 10 of the last 15 matches
against the Pioneers.
The team is also trending in the
right direction after a shaky midsea-
son stretch last year. Underclassmen
like DeNegri, Sands and Cindy Yang
’30 have led the charge, and celebra-
tion wasn’t in short supply after Selma
Larbi ’29 and Kyleigh Carr ’30 scored
their first collegiate goals against
Fordham.
Overall, the team has continued to
grow with every game.
“All I can hope for moving forward,”
Chang said, “is that everyone on the
team will take it game by game, give
it their all every minute, and just have
some fun playing with each other!”
Yale will host Sacred Heart Univer-
sity at 1 p.m. on Sunday before return-
ing to conference play against Cornell
University (3–3–2, 0–0 Ivy) the fol-
lowing Saturday.

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MLS
AUSTIN 2
VANCOUVER 1

MLS

Philadelphia 5
SAN DIEGO 0

MLB
ASTROS 6
ROYALS 2

MLB
PADRES 9
ROCKIES 2

Yale to face Sacred Heart in final match before conference play

“A season is inevitably filled with ups and downs, but when we do experience an up, it’s important to carry any sort of
momentum you can get into the next games.”

ALEX CHANG '27

Facing Brown, Bulldogs look to carry undefeated record into Ivy play

ALYSSA CHANG / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Yale will battle a familiar foe in Sacred Heart University in the 16th all-time matchup
between the two Connecticut adversaries..

Bulldogs head to Lone Star State to face highly-ranked opponents
VOLLEYBALL

BY TANNER BATTLE
STAFF REPORTER

The Bulldogs (6–0, 0–0 Ivy)
will head south to the Lone Star
State this weekend, seeking to
maintain their undefeated streak
against two highly-ranked teams.
Yale will face the No. 13 Texas
Christian University Horned
Frogs (7–2, 0–0 Big 12) on Friday,
followed by the No. 5 Southern
Methodist University Mustangs
(6–2, 0–0 ACC) on Saturday.
Although the Elis remain
undefeated, they are set to be at
a significant disadvantage since
they have not yet faced this level
of competition this season.
The Horned Frogs will enter
Friday’s game on a hot streak, after
winning five consecutive games

over the past two weeks. Although
they sit at No. 13 nationally, TCU
has shown its ability to pull o! an
upset, beating the higher-seeded
SMU Mustangs 3-2 earlier this
month.
After the Elis face a hot TCU
team, they will match up with
the top-10 SMU team, which has
already beaten several highly-
ranked teams this season,
including No. 4 Kentucky (7–2,
0–0 SEC) and No. 7 Texas (4–4,
0–0 SEC).
While SMU comes into the
game at No. 5, they will meet
the Bulldogs on the heels of
a devastating 0-3 loss to No.
11 Purdue (5–2, 0–0 BIG) last
Sunday.
Yale will need some key players
to step up in order to overcome the
star power of these Texas teams.
Captain Laurece Abraham ’27, the
Ivy League Player of the Week,

will need to continue her o!ensive
dominance, and the Bulldogs
will look to Ava Poinsett ’29 to
continue her hard work on both
offense and defense. First-year
setter Kalyssa Taggart ’30 will
need to stay focused in what may
be the most di"cult environment
she will play in this season.
This weekend will offer the
team a chance to put their skills
to the test against the highest
level of competition they will face
before beginning conference play
at Brown on Sept. 26.
Yale will take on TCU this
Friday at 1 p.m. in Fort Worth
and SMU at 3 p.m. on Saturday
in Dallas. The games will
be available on ESPN+ and
ACCNX.

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LIZA KAUFMAN / PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

The No. 17 Yale Bulldogs, now the only undefeated team remaining in the Ivy, look to stay perfect as they host the Brown Bears at home this Friday. Last season, the Bull-dogs defeated the Bears 3-1.

TANNER BATTLE / CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

Seeking to maintain their undefeated streak, Yale volleyball will go head-to-head this
weekend with two top-25 teams, No. 13 TCU and No. 5 SMU.

STAT OF THE DAY THE SAVE PERCENTAGE OF FIELD HOCKEY PLAYERAMELIE SCHWARZKOPF ’29, AT

0.900, RANKS SECOND IN THE IVY LEAGUE.

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