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"It's always fun playing Harvard, and the rivalry makes it especially exciting."

ANDIE MILLER '27

Yale to face rival Harvard in push for Ivy Tournament qualification

WOMEN'S SOCCER

BY GIAN LOMBEYDA
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

The Yale women's soccer team (5–7–0, 0–3–0 Ivy) will travel north to face the Harvard Crimson (8–3–1, 2–1–0 Ivy) this Saturday.

The 51st iteration of the historic rivalry may be the biggest match of the season for the Bulldogs, who lost against their last three Ivy opponents and have four games left this season. Yale is in need of a win to remain in the hunt for top-four seeding in the conference, which would grant them their first-ever Ivy League Tournament berth. The Crimson have won eight matches this season and the last seven matchups against Yale.

"It's always fun playing Harvard, and the rivalry makes it especially exciting," defender Andie Miller '27 wrote in an email to the News. "It'll be a big game, and it'll be important for us to show up, work for each other, and play our style."

The Bulldogs have already shown proof of concept for their high-intensity style of play this season. Last Saturday against Brown, Yale scored two breathtaking goals, from Anita Thorvaldsdottir '27 — whose skillful cross-overs and rapid dribbling have aided in her six goals on the season — and Alex Chang '27, who was due for her first goal of the season after multiple skillful shots from outside the box in previous matches.

Consistent pressure on the opposition's backline and disciplined defense have also been core to Yale's tactics in its twelve matches to date. The Bulldogs have just five wins on the season, though six out of their seven losses came by a margin of only one goal, and many of those were due to early or late winning goals from their opponents.

A good result against Harvard could give the Bulldogs the momentum and confidence they need to make the most of their home field advantage in two of their following three games. Yale boasts a winning 3–2 record at Reece Stadium, with games lost to Princeton (5–5–1, 1–2–0 Ivy) and Hofstra University (4–6–4, 3–1–2 CAA) decided by slim margins.

However, Harvard is equally strong at home and will be tough to beat. A goalless match for the Crimson last Saturday at Dartmouth was a rare blemish in a string of strong performances. Harvard won its previous seven consecutive matches and scored four goals or more in four of those games.

"Harvard is a very good team with a ton of attacking threat," head coach Sarah Martinez wrote to the News by email. "They are deep in the ways they can score and have found a ton of success this season."

A highlight of Harvard's season thus far was a thrilling 6-4 win against No. 8 University of Alabama in September. Last weekend, however, the Crimson showed vulnerabilities in their disappointing performance against Dartmouth. They will certainly be eager to restart their win streak on Saturday.

A talented Yale side looks to stand in their way. If the Bulldogs can attack as a unit and stay disciplined defensively, they will have the opportunity to pull out a point or more against their rivals to the north.

"I'm excited to show what we can do and hopefully see all the hard work we've put in over the past few weeks pay off," Miller wrote.

The Bulldogs will face the Harvard Crimson this Saturday at 1 p.m. at Jordan Field.



ALYSSA CHANG / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The 51st edition of the rivalry comes at a crucial time for the Bulldogs, who need a win to challenge for a top four playoff spot.

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Yale to host Harvard over alumni weekend, seeking conference win

MEN'S SOCCER

BY ELI RATNER
STAFF REPORTER

The Yale men's soccer team (2–6–2, 0–1–2 Ivy) will take on the Harvard Crimson (3–5–2, 2–1–1 Ivy) on Saturday in search of its first Ivy League win.

Yale will return to home turf and welcome alumni back to Reese Stadium after traveling north to Hanover last weekend to face the Dartmouth Big Green (3–4–4, 1–1–1 Ivy). The Bulldogs, which were coming off of a narrow 2-1 loss to Princeton (6–2–4, 1–1–1 Ivy) from the previous week, took the Big Green to the wire in a game that finished in a 0-0 draw.

"We feel good about our overall performance from last game and know that we are improving," head coach Kylie Stannard wrote in an email to the News. "We have been generating enough quality chances to score more goals but we are all trying to figure out ways to improve the final product and put some of those good chances in the back of the net."

Yale dominated the first half of the game against Dartmouth. The Elis recorded five shots, with two on goal, while the Big Green had no shots on goal. In the second half, the Bulldogs kept their paws on the gas with 10 shots, while the Big Green only had seven. As the buzzer sounded after 90 minutes, neither team made it onto the board.

In the scoreless draw, goalkeeper Josh Linebaugh '29 recorded his third clean sheet of the season with a save in the second half.

This weekend, Yale will return home and welcome back generations of the program's alumni as the team looks to secure its first conference victory.

"Our mentality is to stay composed, keep raising our standards, and focus on the next opportunity. We approach every game the same way: prepare to play our best and go after three points, regardless of the opponent," Andrew Myerson '27 wrote in an email to the News. "We make small tactical adjustments based on who we're playing, but our identity and standards remain the same."

Stannard wrote that the upcoming game will give Yale an opportunity to bounce back from last week's draw in Hanover.

"This is a great opportunity to build even more momentum and on top of some really quality performances we have had over the last few weeks," Stannard wrote. "It's always great to have alumni back and really appreciate the extra boost they give us from the stands."

Yale's facing off against the Crimson, which will touch down in New Haven fresh off of a 2-1 win over Brown (5–4–2, 0–2–1 Ivy), will reprise a rivalry that may bring intensified energy to the locker room.

"Harvard is always a special game, especially at home during Alumni Weekend, and we know the importance of representing Yale well," Myerson wrote.

Kickoff is slated for 6 p.m. at Reese Stadium.



LIZA KAUFMAN / PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

The Bulldogs will take on Harvard this weekend, as former players return to Yale, following a scoreless draw against Dartmouth last week. Yale dominated the first half of the match in Hanover but did not find the back of the net.support.win

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Club curling team, near best in nation, offers access and community

CURLING

BY ALI YARALI
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

The Yale club curling program, which has been on the rise for the past two years, ranked second in the nation last year.

Collegiate curling is not an NCAA-recognized sport, so the highest level of collegiate competition is club. Last year, the team competed at the 2026 USA College Curling National Championship, going into the competition as the second best curling team in the nation. While the team did not leave with a trophy, they have high expectations for this year.

"We were happy with our performance, but not yet satisfied, which two years ago we would have been thrilled to have even sniff the finals," former co-president and current co-vice president Timothy Lee '27 said. "We have a new standard, I think, at Yale curling, compared to what we were in my freshman year, which I think is really exciting."

Despite their strong performance on the highest stage, the team insists on having no barriers to entry — there are no tryouts, applications or cuts.

Former co-president and current co-vice president Bryce Sauvie '27 emphasized that the team gives members an opportunity to get off campus.

"I think that it's so cool how that allows Yale students to get off campus, explore the Northeast, and then also the community, even with other teams as well," he said.

The team hosts learn-to-curl sessions to introduce prospective new members to curling and give them the necessary resources for every teammate to succeed.

"We recognize that many people come into these sessions without much prior knowledge at all about what the sport is like," current co-president Marco Opeña '28 said. "And so we teach the basics of how the game works, the strategy behind it."

While ice time, travel and equipment costs are not zero, access to the sport is not constrained by the finances of the club's participants.

"Curling is one of the few clubs where you actually need zero experience and you need zero financial means," secretary Sophie Sarazin '29 said. "The majority of our team are low-income students. Most of us are on full aid, and we're very fortunate that we have a lot of Yale funding or donor support that lets us go and compete."

The curling team will host "Learn-to-Curl" sessions on Oct. 18 and Oct. 25.



COURTESY OF GRAND NATIONAL CURLING CLUB

Yale's club curling team has been on the rise in recent years, but its leaders said they are most proud of the spirit and community they've built along the way. The team offers training for newcomers and funds equipment with school and donor support.

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STAT OF THE DAY

THE MEN'S SOCCER TEAM WILL TAKE ON HARVARD THIS WEEKEND IN SEARCH OF ITS FIRST IVY LEAGUE WIN.