



"We'll have many opportunities the rest of the season, and we've got to go out there and come out with more energy next time."
NICK TOWNSEND, BASKETBALL

MEN'S HOCKEY: Bulldogs to face Brown in Providence, New Haven

BY LIZA KAUFMAN
STAFF REPORTER

The men's hockey team (2-3-0, 2-2-0 ECAC) will seek to add two tallies to its win column when it faces Brown (2-5-0, 1-3-0 ECAC) this weekend.

The Bulldogs will travel to Providence, R.I. for a 7 p.m. Friday night matchup at Brown's Meehan Auditorium. The two teams will then play again the following night at 7 p.m. at Ingalls Rink in New Haven after the 141st playing of The Game.

Yale enters the weekend slate ranked No. 6 in the ECAC, while Brown trails behind at No. 8.

Following a disappointing New York trip, in which the Elis fell to Colgate (4-7-1, 2-2-0 ECAC) 3-4 in an overtime nail-biter and dropped their game to Cornell (4-2-0, 3-1-0 ECAC) 2-5, Yale will seek to rebound by claiming an away victory on Friday night and maintaining an undefeated streak at home on Saturday at The Whale.

Brown enters the weekend having played the same two teams as Yale last weekend. While the Bulldogs were neck and neck with the Raiders on Friday in Hamilton, the Bears took on the Big Red in Ithaca. Brown suffered a devastating

1-4 loss at Cornell. The Bears' offense was no match for the Big Red's defense, struggling to find the back of the net. The team's only goal came in the third period. Following Friday's loss, Brown then traveled to Hamilton while the Elis went to Ithaca. At Colgate, the Bears could not tally even one goal on the Raiders' goalkeeper Reid Dyck, concluding in a shutout 4-0 victory for Colgate.

The Bears have struggled to find their rhythm on the ice this season, with a 2-5 overall record. Brown opened its season with two losses at the Air Force Academy (5-6-1, 2-4-0 AHA). The team bounced back in its home opener against Ivy rival Princeton (3-2-0, 0-2-0 ECAC), downing the Tigers 2-1. The team then suffered three straight losses to Quinnipiac (7-3-2, 1-1-0 ECAC), followed by Cornell and Colgate. However, in their mid-week matchup on Wednesday night, the Bears took down Alaska Anchorage (3-7-0, 0-0-0 Independent) 5-2, following a three-goal third-period surge.

In the history of the matchups between the two teams, Yale leads the all-time series 27-15 and holds an 18-5 record at home.

When the two teams faced off last February, Brown claimed both victories. However, with Brown's early struggles this season, the upcoming weekend offers the Bulldogs a chance to turn things around and advance their standing in the conference.

On the Yale side, forward Ronan O'Donnell '28 has powered the offense, scoring four goals, three of which came last weekend. Captain David Chen '26 and Donovan Frias '28 have each tallied two. Iisai Pesonen '27 leads the team with three assists, and Noah Pak '28 has excelled in the net with 99 saves and just 7 goals, leading to a 93.4 save percentage that earned him ECAC goalie of the week following the team's two major upsets over Quinnipiac and Princeton.

Charlie Gollob is the Bears' top scorer with three goals, followed closely by Ben Poitras, Brian Nicholas and Ryan St. Louis, who have each tallied two goals this season. Ivan Zadvernyuk has notched five assists, while Brown's starting goalie Tyler Shea has a 91.9 save percentage from 159 saves and 14 goals.

With Yale's offense beginning to click and Brown still searching



Liza Kaufman, Photography Editor

With two games against Brown scheduled for the weekend, the men's hockey team will attempt to rebound from its disappointing weekend in New York.

for consistent production, the individual battles between each team's leading scorers and goalies will shape the tone of the series.

Puckdrop is slated for 7 p.m.

on Friday in Providence and 7 p.m. on Saturday in New Haven.

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WOMEN'S HOCKEY: Yale to play five away games over Thanksgiving break

BY AUDREY KIM
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Yale's No. 14 ranked women's ice hockey team (6-3, 3-3 ECAC) will face the St. Lawrence Saints (5-8-2, 4-2 ECAC) and the Clarkson Golden Knights (7-5-1, 3-2-1 ECAC) this weekend in upstate New York.

The Bulldogs will begin the weekend by facing off against the Saints on Friday at 6 p.m. in Canton, N.Y. While St. Lawrence is unranked in the national poll, they have five wins this season, including one

over No. 12 Colgate (6-7-1, 2-3-1 ECAC), a team Yale also beat in an overtime game.

The following afternoon, Yale will take on No. 11 Clarkson, a team that has fallen to both Dartmouth (2-7-1, 2-5-1 ECAC) and Princeton this month. Yale defeated Princeton in a 4-3 overtime match in October, and the Bulldogs beat the Dartmouth Big Green 5-0 last week.

Three days later, the Bulldogs will travel to New Jersey on Tuesday as they attempt to secure a second victory this season over the Princeton Tigers

(6-2, 4-2 ECAC), a team they beat in a 4-3 overtime win last month. Carina DiAntonio '26 scored her fourth goal of the game to seal that game for Yale.

To close out Thanksgiving week, the Elis will stay close to home as they partake in the Nutmeg Classic hosted at UConn. The Nutmeg Classic features four elite collegiate hockey teams, all of them from Connecticut. Yale, UConn, Quinnipiac and Sacred Heart compete in the tournament each year and rotate hosting the event.

The Bulldogs will take on

Sacred Heart University (4-7, 3-6 NEWHA) on Friday. If Yale wins that game, the Bulldogs will take on the winner of the game between No. 7 Quinnipiac and No. 9 UConn.

While the Nutmeg Conference games are considered non-conference and will therefore not affect Yale's standing in the ECAC, a victory over any of these top teams would give the Bulldogs momentum needed to climb the national rankings.

In a recent women's college hockey poll, the Bulldogs still rank inside of the top 15,

although they have moved back from the No. 10 spot to the No. 14 spot after their loss to Harvard (5-4-1, 3-4-1 ECAC) last week. Yale will be looking to improve not only their national ranking in the coming week, but also their conference ranking.

St. Lawrence, Clarkson and Princeton all play in the ECAC, in which six of the conference's 12 teams are ranked in the nation's top 15.

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VOLLEYBALL: First year Poinsett stands out at Yale, in Ivy League

BY RACHEL MAK
STAFF REPORTER

Three months into her collegiate career, freshman star Ava Poinsett '29 has already made a name for herself in the Yale volleyball record books.

After earning her sixth Ivy League rookie of the week award,

Poinsett was unanimously named Ivy League rookie of the year. She was the only first year in the conference to be named to the all-Ivy first team and the only Yale first year to receive an all-Ivy team honor.

Since coming to New Haven, Poinsett has proven herself as a force to be reckoned with on the court. She is an all-around

player that helps the Bulldogs with passing, blocking, serving and more.

"As a setter, it is so nice to have someone as reliable as Ava," captain Halle Sherlock '26 wrote to the News. "She's just a steady rock on our team, and she knows how to find a way to score, which is really valuable."

Poinsett concluded the regular season leading the Ivy League in multiple statistical categories tracked over conference play. She is first in the conference in kills per set, with 291 total kills on the season. She is also first in aces per set, with 36 total, and posted a conference-wide, season-high six aces against Northeastern in September. She is third overall in points scored, with 4.12 points per set, and first when going up against Ivy League opponents, with 4.36 points per set.

Poinsett grew up in San Diego — a hot spot for youth volleyball — where she began playing volleyball at the age of 10, following in her sister's footsteps. She joined Coast Volleyball Club and helped her team to the national championship in her senior year of high school. Playing for a competitive team in such a com-

petitive state helped Poinsett in her transition to playing at the collegiate level.

When Poinsett began thinking about playing collegiate volleyball, she wanted to play at a school where she could balance high-level academics and volleyball.

"I didn't want to go to a school that just prioritized volleyball because I know that my education will shape my future far beyond the court," Poinsett said.

On her official visit to Yale's campus, when she met the team, Poinsett knew she would want to spend her collegiate career with teammates who were driven both on and off the court. Just as Poinsett thought Yale was a great fit for her, head coach Erin Appleman thought Poinsett was likewise a perfect fit for the program.

"I thought she was a great all-around player. She could hit, block, pass at a high level," Appleman wrote to the News. "The recruiting process was very fun, getting to know the person behind the great volleyball."

Appleman also praised Poinsett's adjustment to the fast pace of collegiate volleyball, as she developed her shot selection and became more assertive in serve receiving throughout the season.

"I think she has gotten more comfortable with more responsibility, and with trusting her instincts," Appleman wrote.

On the court, Poinsett is humble about her skill, attributing her success to her team and the bond they have built through the competitive nature of their practices. She is able to rely on her teammates both on and off the court and said that the older players had a significant role in helping all of the team's first years transition to life as student-athletes at Yale.

"They're really supportive, and I know I can trust them in high-pressure situations to give me great advice and just calm me down," Poinsett said.

The continuous competitive effort of the team has paid off in recent years. They have won the Ivy League title the past three years and are looking to repeat this season.

Poinsett and the team will face Cornell on Nov. 21 in the first round of the Ivy League Volleyball Tournament.

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YALE ATHLETICS

Ava Poinsett '29 has had a historic freshman season, and she is just getting started.

STAT OF THE WEEK

AVA POINSETT '29 IS FIRST IN ACES PER SET, WITH 36 TOTAL, AND POSTED A CONFERENCE-WIDE, SEASON-HIGH SIX ACES AGAINST NORTHEASTERN IN SEPTEMBER.