

SPORTS

Seven-goal third quarter powers Yale past Marist in home opener

MEN’S LACROSSE

BY LIZA KAUFMAN
STAFF REPORTER

Led by four first years, the Yale men’s lacrosse team (1–1, 0–0 Ivy) delivered a statement performance in its Tuesday night home opener, slaughtering the Marist Red Foxes (0–2, 0–0 MAAC) 15–9.

In the Tuesday night lights showdown at Reese Stadium, the Bulldogs and Red Foxes took to the field, playing in a foggy mist on a field surrounded by huge piles of snow.

“Definitely felt great to win the home opener. After the strong first half at Army we knew we could be great,” long stick midfielder Francis Keneally ’28 wrote to the News. “We just needed to become a full 60 minute team and not become stagnant at any point in the game. We did a good job taking the game minute by minute and play by play.”

Nine different players contributed to Yale’s 15 goals, seven of which came from the new first year class. Sean Grogan ’29 was on fire, powering the offense with four goals, one assist, three turnovers and three ground balls. Fellow first years Dylan Blekicki ’29 and Asher Ziv ’29 also had multi-point performances: Blekicki notched two goals and two assists, while Ziv tallied one goal and one assist.

Sophomore attackman Connor Gately ’28 was crucial to the offense throughout the night with four assists and one goal. Upperclassmen Peter Moynihan ’27 and William Sheehan ’26 each found the back of

the net twice to tie and reach career highs, respectively.

The Bulldogs set the tone early and never looked back. Moynihan opened the scoring 32 seconds into the game. Although Marist’s leading scorer, Sean Mullan, responded immediately, netting two back to back to give the Red Foxes a one-goal lead, first year attackman Grogan swiftly equalized the score with his first of four goals of the night. Senior midfielder Sheehan, assisted by Gately, gave Yale a 3–2 lead at 3:44 to close the first quarter.

In the second quarter, the Yale offense continued to apply pressure. In the span of two minutes, the Elis notched four consecutive goals to take a five-goal lead. At 7:33, the Sheehan-Gately duo struck again, and Grogan followed up with his second unassisted goal of the night. Gately beat Marist’s goalie and then found Nicolas Boudreau ’26 for his third assist. The Red Foxes answered with two goals on extra-man opportunities, cutting the deficit to 7–4.

The game tightened early in the third quarter when Marist cut the deficit to one, but the Bulldogs’ offense surged in a seven-goal campaign, including four from first years, and quickly proved that Marist would not pull out the win on Yale’s home turf. With the score at 7–6, Blekicki found Luke Pascal ’28. On defense, Yale converted 20 of 22 clearing attempts, maintaining possession and preventing Marist from capitalizing on momentum.

“We settled in by chopping the game into smaller portions. Only worried about the next 2–3 mins and this mindset allowed us to shift our

focus from the outcome of the game,” captain Patrick Pisano ’26 wrote in a text to the News. “Huge credit to our offense and face off guys for racking up 7 in a row.”

A minute later, first year Ziv connected with Cole Jackson ’27, and then Moynihan netted his second unassisted goal of the game. Flynn Leonard ’29 recorded his first collegiate assist on Grogan’s third goal. Ziv followed up with his first collegiate goal on an assist from Grogan. With only 20 seconds remaining in the quarter, Gately made his fourth assist of the night to Blekicki. Blekicki wasn’t done yet though, netting another with five seconds left on the clock on an assist from long stick midfielder Gaetano Cicotello ’29 to close out the quarter 14–6.

“It was electric being out there with all the energy from the team in the third,” Cicotello wrote in a text to the News. “Coach Fossner set a goal for us to make Reese Stadium the hardest place to play in the country, and I think it’s safe to say that we did that in the third.”

Cicotello, who recorded his first collegiate assist in the run, added that the team’s seniors have been critical to his development and have made him feel at home sporting the blue and white.

“I’m honored to play for a team with such a rich history of success and I hope to carry that on,” Cicotello wrote. “I’ve got to give a lot of credit to our 3 starting senior defensemen for helping me out every day in practice and filling the gaps in my knowledge. Those guys have been instrumental in my development.”



LIZA KAUFMAN, PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Yale beat Marist 15-9 in its home opener at Reese Stadium.

In the final quarter, Marist struck first, finding the back of the net twice. However, Yale’s seven-goal explosion proved insurmountable. Grogan cushioned the lead with his fourth goal at 4:21. Marist closed out the scoring a minute later. Yale triumphed 15–9.

“Everyone, whether it was the sideline or in the locker room, was hype. Always good feeling when we get a home win,” Keneally wrote. “It was great to see a lot of freshman score today.”

With the victory under their belts, the Bulldogs will return to Reese Stadium to host No. 18 Boston University (2–1, 0–0 Patriot) on Saturday.

The Terriers had a difficult start to the season at No. 1 Syracuse (3–0, 0–0 ACC). Despite being down by only three goals at halftime, a six-goal campaign from the Orange and a tight defensive unit put the game out of reach for the Terriers.

However, the Terriers then pulled out two victories at home and will enter Saturday’s matchup on the heels of a 13–5 victory over Dartmouth (0–1, 0–0 Ivy) last weekend and a 23–7 victory over Siena (2–1, 0–0 MAAC).

Against Siena, 13 Terriers scored, including sophomore Timothy Shannehan who made BU history with his 11 points, including five goals and six assists. Facing Dartmouth, the Terriers held the Big Green scoreless throughout the first half, ending it 7–0. Although Dartmouth mounted a four-goal comeback in the third, BU exceeded it with five goals to put the game out of reach.

In the dog-on-dog showdown, the Bulldogs will look to defend their home turf.

Faceoff is slated for 12 p.m. on Saturday at Reese Stadium.

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Men’s team to face Penn in semifinals of Ivy League tournament



YALE ATHLETICS

This weekend, the Yale men’s squash team will compete in the inaugural Ivy League Squash Tournament.

SQUASH

BY RACHEL MAK
STAFF REPORTER

The Yale men’s squash team (6–4, 4–2 Ivy) will head to Princeton on Saturday to compete in the inaugural Ivy League Squash Tournament.

The Bulldogs enter the tournament as the No. 4 seed and will face No. 1 Penn (12–2, 5–1 Ivy) in the semifinals. No. 2 Harvard and No. 3 Princeton will also be competing for a spot in the finals.

Penn goes into the tournament as the No. 1 seed after winning its third straight Ivy League regular-season title. They are currently ranked second nationally, with only two losses this season. One of those losses came at the hands of the Bulldogs. Since then, the Quakers have won every match.

In Yale’s last matchup against Penn, the Bulldogs prevailed 5–4. It

was a hard-fought win, with multiple players securing important victories in their respective positions.

Tad Carney ’26 will face off against Penn’s Omar Hafez, who won the College Squash Association National Individual Championships in January. In the two teams’ last meeting, Carney defeated Hafez 3–0. The Bulldog captain will look to repeat that performance on the road this go around.

Rohan Arya Gondi ’28, Rishi Srivastava ’28, Oliver Velasco ’29 and Jack O’Flynn ’27 also secured wins against their Quaker opponents in the last matchup. The Bulldogs will look to finish the season on a strong note, but Penn will be a challenge.

The Bulldogs will play Penn at 10 a.m. on Saturday.

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Elis to take on Penn, fresh off Dartmouth win, as season winds down

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

BY TANNER BATTLE
STAFF REPORTER

The Yale women’s basketball team (6–17, 2–8) will look to replicate its fiery offensive performance of last week when they take on the Penn Quakers (14–9, 4–6) on the road this Saturday.

Last Saturday, the Bulldogs stormed to a 82–54 win over Dartmouth (10–13, 1–9). A week later, Yale will look to extend its winning ways.

“We are really excited to get some momentum in the conference,” captain Kiley Capstraw ’26 wrote to the News.

In their last faceoff against Penn, the Bulldogs fell 37–64, suffering from an uncharacteristically low-scoring night. Recently, the Elis have shown their offensive potential.

Over Valentine’s Day weekend, Yale played two competitive games against Harvard (14–9, 7–3) and Dartmouth. After losing a nail-biter to the Crimson 62–70, the Bulldogs came back strong, beating the Big Green by 28 points.

In each game, Yale scored over 60 points.

Ciniya Moore ’28 scored 58 points total over the two games and accounted for more than half

of Yale’s points against Harvard. She consistently drew contact on her drives, which helped her earn 14 shots from the charity stripe against Harvard.

Moore has consistently contributed on offense all season and currently averages 17.7 points per game.

“It starts mentally,” Moore wrote to the News. “Going into the weekend, I was just really locked in on staying present and calm. In-game, I just focused on making the right read every possession and letting the game come to me. A lot of credit goes to my teammates. Our spacing was great, we moved the ball well, and they trusted me in big moments.”

Against Dartmouth, Yale’s offense was firing on all cylinders. Four players scored in double digits and Moore shot a cool 50 percent from the three point arc. On the boards, Mary Meng ’27 came away with 14 rebounds, preventing Dartmouth from getting many second-chance points.

If the Bulldogs hope to pull out a win against the Quakers, Moore and Meng will need to play big roles once more.

Yale will face Penn at The Palestra on Saturday at 2 p.m.

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YALE ATHLETICS

The women’s basketball team will look to ride winning momentum to victory in Philadelphia.