

SPORTS

"So we beat on, boats against the current, borne back ceaselessly into the past."
THE GREAT GATSBY F. SCOTT FITZGERALD

Bulldogs remain undefeated after dominant win over Boston University

WOMEN'S LACROSSE
BY AZARA MASON
STAFF REPORTER

The Yale women's lacrosse team (3-0) hosted the Boston University Terriers (3-2) on Saturday at Reese Stadium, and the Bulldogs delivered a dominant performance en route to a 17-5 win.

This victory came after a 17-9 victory over cross-town rival Quinnipiac (0-2) on Tuesday.

So far this season, the Yale offense has overpowered teams with the help of impressive play from multiple underclassmen. At the same time, the Elis have been able to shut the door on teams with their stout defense and solid play in goal.

"The defense's communication and toughness set the tone, and the connectedness they're playing with makes my job a lot easier," goalkeeper Niamh Pfaff '28 told the News.

On Saturday, first-year midfielder Kate Gould '29 wasted no time putting Yale on the board for the third straight game. She netted the opening goal, finishing with two goals and a team-high seven assists.

Meanwhile, sophomore attacker Kelly Holmes '28 finished

with a career-high seven goals, which marked the most on the day for the Bulldogs. With seven goals on 10 shots, Holmes demonstrated her deliberate shot selection and shooting accuracy.

The Bulldogs closed the first quarter with a commanding 6-1 lead over BU. Yale added one more goal in the second quarter and entered halftime up 7-3. While BU narrowed the gap to 9-4 heading into the fourth quarter, still within striking distance, Yale crushed any hope of a comeback by outscoring the Terriers 8-1 in the final 15 minutes.

Defensively, the Bulldogs forced 11 turnovers compared to BU's three.

On Saturday, Pfaff and the rest of the defensive unit will look to contain the No. 10 ranked Michigan Wolverines (3-1).

Pfaff expressed confidence heading into the matchup.

"We have a really great foundation as we start preparing for Michigan. It's just about tightening the small details now," she said.

When asked how Yale's transition play might be affected by a top-ranked opponent, midfielder Meg Bohan '29 acknowledged the challenge, saying the game will be "very fast paced." Nevertheless, Bohan expressed assurance in Yale's ability to handle the challenge.



YALE ATHLETICS

The women's lacrosse team recently notched two dominant home wins over Quinnipiac University and Boston University.

"Luckily, our team is so fast," she said. "We move the ball quickly, and everyone on the field is a threat. I think we'll thrive, even against a tougher defense."

"My best friend is actually their starting goalie, so that will be so much fun to play against her," Bohan added.

The faceoff is set for 1 p.m. on

Saturday in Ann Arbor.

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WOMEN'S SWIM & DIVE
BY JUSTIN LEAHY
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Captain Jessey Li '26 stepped up to Ivy League blocks for the last time in her collegiate career at the Ivy League championships.

Li spent four years building one of the most decorated individual careers in recent history for the Yale women's swim and dive program. By the end of the meet, she had added one more gold medal to her collection. Her strong individual performance closed the season on a strong note for this program.

The women's swim and dive team concluded its 2025-26 season at the Ivy League championships, which were hosted by Brown University in Providence. The Bulldogs finished fifth overall after compiling 840 points across four days at the Katherine

Moran Coleman Aquatics Center. This season (5-4, 3-4 Ivy), the team faced many challenges in the competitive gauntlet of Ivy League swimming.

The regular season came with both highs and lows. Yale opened up early meets with strong showings, with a dominant 213-87 victory over Columbia in November and back-to-back wins over Southern Connecticut State and UConn in December. Then, in January, the Bulldogs kept themselves competitive in the Ivy League standings by knocking off Dartmouth and Cornell in some inter-conference action.

As the season wore on, their schedule grew much tougher, filled with more dominant conference rivals. Eventually, the team suffered losses against Ivy opponents Brown, Penn, Harvard and Princeton, which knocked them back fatally in the conference standings. Specifically, Yale's back-to-back losses to Harvard and Princeton in late January, by scores of 207-93 and 209-91

respectively, were the most pivotal moments for the team as they headed into the postseason.

However, through all the setbacks, the Bulldogs continued to focus on what lay ahead for them.

"Our focus has been execution," Li wrote to the News last week. "At this point in the season, the work is done. Now it's about sharpening the details, staying healthy, and competing with confidence in the preparation we've put in since day one."

Li made good on her word regarding that mindset, putting on a star performance for Yale at the championships in Providence.

The senior captain won gold in the 100-yard breaststroke and bronze in the 200-yard breaststroke. She later went on to break the Yale record in the 200-yard individual medley, with a time of 1:58.83 in the preliminary race on the second day of competition.

Li's gold in the 100-yard breaststroke on the third day bookended her remarkable four-year run in

the specific event. After previously winning gold in her first year, then silver in her sophomore and junior years, she ended her career with a gold on Friday.

Devyn Sargent '28 emerged at the meet with a breakout performance. Sargent placed third in the 100-yard breaststroke relay, just behind Li, which was her first time placing in any event at the Ivy championships. Later, on Saturday, Sargent picked up another bronze in the 200-yard backstroke.

Wednesday night, the Bulldogs won bronze in the 200-yard medley relay, led by the quartet of Sargent, Li, Penny Zarczynski '29 and Sara Plunkett '27, finishing tightly behind Harvard and Princeton.

Later on, Lucy Walker '27 had a strong fifth-place finish in the 200-yard individual medley A final with a time of 1:59.82. In the sprint 50-yard freestyle, Yale continued with Julia Ebli '29, Zarczynski and Plunkett sweeping the top C final spots.

On the final day, Caroline Riggs '27 delivered a strong fourth-place finish in the 1650-yard free-style. Other highlights included Angela Wang '29 placing fifth in the 200-yard butterfly and divers Lily Horenkamp '26 and Paige Lai '26 finishing fourth and fifth in the 3-meter dive B final.

The Bulldogs finished the Ivy League championships in fifth place — a step back from their third place finish last year.

Li and several other seniors closed out their Ivy League careers in Providence. Now, they pass the torch forward to the program's younger contributors, including the likes of Sargent, Zarczynski, Ebli and Wang.

The Bulldogs will next compete at the NCAA Diving Zones from Monday, March 9 to Wednesday, March 11 at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

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Elis close out regular-season road slate with two losses

MEN'S HOCKEY
BY LIZA KAUFMAN
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The Yale men's hockey team (8-19-1, 7-12-1 ECAC) closed out their regular-season road schedule this weekend, losing games at Clarkson (14-15-3, 8-9-3 ECAC) and St.

Lawrence (7-22-3, 6-13-1 ECAC).

The Bulldogs made the six-hour trek to Potsdam, New York, to face the Clarkson Golden Knights on Friday night at Cheel Arena, before

traveling to Canton, New York, to play the St. Lawrence Saints on Saturday night at Appleton Arena. Despite generating consistent offensive pressure, the Elis came up short in both contests.

On Friday night, the Bulldogs battled the Golden Knights. Clarkson got on the board first at 15:58 to take a 1-0 lead at the end of the first period.

In the second frame, the Golden Knights struck early, doubling the lead at 3:47. They then added another at 12:35. The Bulldogs answered in the final minutes of the period. At 18:42, Owen Forrester '27 sent the puck to Ronan O'Donnell '28 near the blue line. O'Donnell passed it back to Forrester, who took the shot, but it rebounded. Iisai Pesonen '27 buried the rebound to narrow Clarkson's lead. With 35 seconds remaining in the period, the Golden Knights potted another to retake a three-goal lead.

In the scoreless final frame, the Bulldogs took 10 shots on goal but were unable to get past Clarkson goalie Shane Soderwall. The Yale defense tightened to prevent further damage.

The following night, the Elis sought to replicate their January 8-1 victory over the Saints, but St. Lawrence, who entered the matchup after a 3-1 home victory over Brown (5-21-2, 4-14-2 ECAC) the previous night, put up

a strong fight on home ice.

St. Lawrence opened the scoring at 3:54 with a power-play goal. In the second frame, the Bulldogs answered early with two back-to-back goals. Three minutes in, captain David Chen '26 threaded the puck to Micah Berger '28 at the crease for the equalizer on a power-play. Two minutes later, Will Richter '27 took the shot from the high slot to give the Bulldogs a one-goal lead.

However, the Saints didn't let the Elis celebrate for long. At 14:42, they equalized the score.

In the final 20 minutes, both teams fought to take the lead. Four minutes in, St. Lawrence found its opportunity with two unanswered goals. Despite outshooting the Saints 13-4 in the final frame, the Bulldogs could not get back on the board. At 18:59, the Saints closed the scoring with an empty-netter.

Back in New Haven, the Bulldogs will look to regroup ahead of their final regular-season games at home. Yale will host Union (19-10-3, 9-9-2 ECAC) on Friday night and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (9-22-1, 6-13-1) on Saturday night at Ingalls Rink.

Puck drop is slated for 7 p.m. both nights.

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As the regular season comes to a close, the Bulldogs played their last weekend on the road at Clarkson and St. Lawrence.