



Yale Rugby Football Club

Please visit us at: www.yale.edu/rugby for more updates, match reports, and photos

Fall—Winter 2006

Fall 2006 Results

Record: 5 W - 3L

- 9/16 Loss: Yale 17, Dartmouth 29
- 9/23 Win: Yale 17, Harvard 16
- 9/30 Loss: Yale 0, Boston College 22
- 10/07 Win: Yale 55, UNH 10
- 10/14 Win: Yale 15, Brown 10
- 10/21 Win: Yale 46, Amherst 14
- 11/11 Loss: Yale 6, UConn 17
- 11/18 Win: Yale 14,

Spring (Tentative)

- 3/3 Home vs. TBA
- 3/10 Bahamas Tour
- 3/31 Home vs. Middlebury
- 4/7 Cherry Blossom Tournament (DC)
- 4/14 Ivy League Tournament (Brown)
- 4/21 Home vs. Princeton
- 4/28 Alumni Weekend

Yale Finishes Strong in Second Year in Division I

By Jack Mahoney

This season has seen many personal and team goals accomplished. Entering the fall, NERFU declared that they would be limiting the twelve teams in Division I down to only eight at the end of the season, and thus, the bottom four teams in the division would be relegated to DII. All were well aware of this possible relegation and were determined to avoid this fate. On October 21st, the Yale squad did just that, beating Amherst convincingly 46-14 on their own pitch and ensuring that they would remain a Division I squad in the years to come. This accomplishment is especially important in that it solidifies the work of past Yale teams, which brought Yale up from DII only two seasons ago.

Moreover, the team accomplished a goal that all Yale clubs, past and present, set at the beginning of the season. They did this with a 17-16 victory over Harvard on their home pitch on September 23rd. The victory marks the first time in six years that an Eli squad has beaten the Crimson (a feat that it would repeat in their traditional game before Thanksgiving). It is also only the third win in the last fifteen meetings between the teams. However, even though the Yale squad defeated Harvard in regular season play, it would be Harvard that advanced to nationals. This happened as a result of the



The 2006-2007 Yale Rugby Club A-Side squad after beating Harvard 17—16 in a home game on September 23rd.

fact that Yale, Harvard, and Dartmouth all finished with an equal record of 3-2 at the end of the regular season. Decision was made based on point margins.

While failing to make the playoffs, the fall season can be marked as a great success for the club, due to many factors. First, the chemistry that comes from retuning a number of starters has allowed the club to elevate its level of play from the past season. The backs, led in the center by leading try scorer Thomas Kidd '08, are running fantastically, linking up and finding space outside on a consistent basis. Evan Edwards '09 has been solid as the new flyhalf. The pack as well is enjoying the benefits of their experience together, performing well in the scrums and masterfully in the line-outs. Flanker and playmaker Sean Walbridge '08 is a factor for the opposition on a weekly basis while solid leadership by the elder statesman Sherman Wang

'07 keeps the ship steady. This year, the club also sought instruction from overseas, when it brought in an Aussie coach for a week during the week of October 9th. This instruction has already elevated the club's play and will only do so more as the team is able to implement the skills and techniques that were taught to them throughout the training.

The club finished strong with a 5-3 record, after a loss against UConn and the second win of the season against a #14 ranked Harvard prior to Thanksgiving. The team, which now has a roster of 50+ players, looks forward to Ivies in the spring, where all are intent on taking home the title. This is a very exciting time for Yale Rugby and all are dedicated to making sure that the atmosphere of camaraderie and winning continues for years to come. **Y**

Yale Defeats Nationally Ranked Harvard



Scrumhalf Matt Finkelstein '07 helped lead the Bulldogs to a 14-12 victory over nationally ranked Harvard.

By Sherman Wang

On November 18th, Yale defeated Harvard for the second time this season, proving Yale's ability to compete with the nation's best.

Harvard, ranked 14th in, demonstrated when Harvard's last minute drop goal was blocked by flyhalf Brian Wayda '07. Yale held onto their 14-12 lead as the ref blew the final whistle.

The Yale victory marks the second time that the Bulldogs defeated the Crimson this year. The first match was played on September 23rd on Yale's home field where the Bulldogs came out victorious with the score of 17-16. For the Yale club, the victories meant more than defeating their rivals; it symbolized the enormous improvement that the team has made over the last several years. If the team continues to move in this direction, Yale has a great chance of coming out on top at the Ivy League Tournament this spring. **Y**

pack as they punched in a try over the course of several phases. Both conversions were completed by center Tom Kidd '08, putting Yale in the lead 14-12. At the end of the second half, Harvard fought back with several chances to

2006-2007 Officers

Jack Mahoney '07
Captain

Sherman Wang '07
President

Ben Swiss '08
Vice President

Scott Proctor '08
Match Secretary

Sean Walbridge '08
Alumni Secretary

Pietro Deserio
Tour Secretary

Devin Ringger '09
David Wheelock '09
Recruiting Chairs

Andy Beck '09
Sam Beutler '07
Social Chairs

Yale Rugby Extends Far Beyond the Pitch

By Sherman Wang

While Yale Rugby proves their on-field progress each weekend, many of the most memorable events happen off the field where lifelong friendships are solidified. On October 29th, the Yale Rugby team participated in a New Haven 5K Halloween Road Race to benefit the Yale-New Haven Children's Hospital. With near 300 participants in the race, three Yale ruggers finished in the top ten

with rookie Andy Detty '09 bringing home 3rd place. The event is just one of several community service events planned for the year. It is the team's way of giving back to Yale and the surrounding community.

Off the field, the Yale Rugby team also plays host to events such as mixers with other campus groups and an end of the season formal for the players to bring their dates.



PHILANTHROPY: The Yale Rugby team getting together for a picture before a Sunday morning charity 5km run benefiting the Yale-New Haven Children's Hospital.

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On rare weekends when Yale Facilities won't allow matches due to heavy rain, the players still enjoy tearing up parts of Old Campus as they slide around the grass playing pick-up rugby games while bewildered freshmen look on from their rooms. Last spring break, the team traveled to Buenos Aires, Argentina to learn a hard-nosed forwards game from their local clubs and coaches. This spring, Yale Rugby will return to the Bahamas where they will enter into a tournament against several Bahamian sides and other US teams traveling to the same area. At the end of the year, the team will be



The Yale Rugby team poses with the "Alumni" team of Argentina during tour last spring break. This year, the team will travel to the Bahamas.

hosting the annual Alumni-Senior tributions that they and the seniors weekend where all Yale Rugby alumni have made for Yale Rugby. Y are invited to celebrate the lasting con-

Yale Rugby: Looking Ahead

By Sherman Wang

The fall season may be over, but many plans are underway before spring season takes off. This year, the recruiting chairs David Wheelock '09 and Devin Ringger '09 have formulated a series of events for winter recruiting. From information sessions to social events, the team hopes to pick up players around campus to add to the pool of upcoming talent.

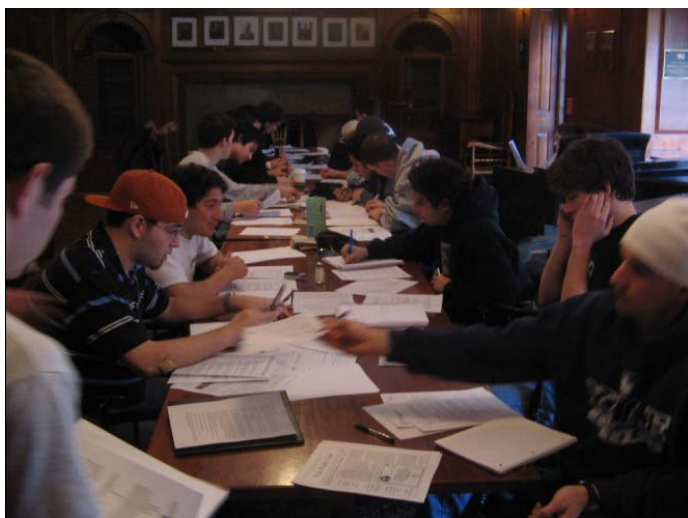
In addition, new officer positions are being created for elections in January.

In order to effectively cover more of the team's operations, the officer structure will be slightly modified and more players will become involved in the management of the team. Vice President Ben Swiss '08 is currently working on getting Yale Rugby merchandise available for purchase as a means for fundraising.

In addition, the team is looking forward to adding outerwear to the on-field uniforms to further promote unity and legitimacy. Treasurer Senthooran Arumugam '09 has been diligently

moving our finances into spreadsheets so that future years will have consistent means of keeping track of finances.

Finally, we look forward to a great spring season competing in several tournaments including the Cherry Blossom in DC and the Ivy League Tournament hosted at Brown this year. The seniors hope to cap the end of their Yale Rugby careers with a strong finish and a memorable Alumni-Senior weekend in April. Y



Yale Rugby players reach out to their alumni, making phone calls and writing letters during the Smile and Dial campaign. With the move to Division I, Yale Rugby now relies more on support from our alumni to build and develop the program.



Flanker Andy Beck '09 enjoys the victory against Harvard on September 23rd. According to Andy, "Yale Rugby has been the best part of my Yale experience thus far. The friendships we build both on and off the field are priceless."

Visit Our Website
Online At:
www.yale.edu/rugby

If you are interested in donating, individual donations* may be sent to:

***Friends of Yale Rugby
P.O. BOX 208216
New Haven, CT 06520***

*All checks may be made out to "Friends of Yale Rugby"

For online donations, please refer to the alumni section of our website.



Bad weather may have forced Yale Rugby to cancel its first match versus UConn, but it didn't stop a day of mud rugby.

Questions, comments, concerns?

Feel free to contact our Alumni Secretary at the following email address: sean.walbridge@yale.edu

Please Visit Us At: www.yale.edu/rugby

TEAM ROSTER: 2006-2007

William Alexander	Jack Mahoney
Richard Anantua	Cameron Maloney
Wariz Anifowoshe	Drew Marticorena
Senthu Arumugam	Andrew Moir
Andy Beck	Leon Noel
Sam Beutler	Nick O'Neill
Teddy Bunzel	James Pollack
Peter Burns	Scott Proctor
Sam Cartmell	Aaron Reiss
Mark Cotter	Chris Rhodes
Terence De Pentheny	Devin Ringger
O'Kelley	Ryan Salinas
Pietro Deserio	Michael Simpson
Andrew Detty	Garrett Spitzer
Matthew Doud	Ben Swiss
Evan Edwards	Randy Tang
Matt Finkelstein	Pablo Touchardpelluz
Aaron Friedman	Sean Walbridge
Garan Geist	Eddie Walsh
Taylor Giffen	Sherman Wang
Jeremy Harp	Brian Wayda
Chris Hathaway	Paul-Harvey Weiner
Michael Horrell	David Wheelock
Thomas Kidd	Sam White
Matt Lacasse	Ervin Yeo
Nathan Laughton	
Patrick Madden	