

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Squad Winless in Weekend Games

By REBECCA VELEZ
Sun Staff Writer

It was a disappointing weekend for the Cornell women (9-12, 3-4 Ivy League), who began the road trip with hopes of putting themselves atop the league. The team now stands at fifth in the Ivy League, after losing to Yale (14-8, 6-2), 86-73, on Friday night and Brown (14-8, 5-3), 60-49, on Saturday.

"This weekend was a little disappointing," said sophomore guard Allyson DiMagno. "A lot of us are upset with the way we played and the results this weekend."

Yale came out on Friday night ready to play, according to head coach Dayna Smith. In the first seven minutes of the game the Bulldogs were able to gain a double-figure lead, finishing the half 16 points ahead of the Red.

"The first half had put us in a hole that we couldn't recover from."

Clare Fitzpatrick

"Yale came out on fire," Smith said. "Our defense let us down in a few possessions, but we really have to tip our hats to Yale. When they came out scoring, it was almost like a shock. We needed to regroup, get our focus, make some adjustments."

At halftime Cornell made a few changes to its style of play and was able to out-shoot the Bulldogs in the second half, according to junior forward Clare Fitzpatrick. Yet the lost ground gained from the first few minutes proved to be too much to overcome.

"The second half we played Cornell basketball," Fitzpatrick said. "But the first half had put us in a hole that we



TINA CHOU / SUN STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Down the lane | Junior guard Spencer Lane recorded a career-high 18 points in the game against Yale on Friday night.

couldn't recover from. It was a good comeback, but basketball is forty minutes long ... You can't get back that first half."

The Red returned to the drawing board, trying to brainstorm a new plan of attack for the second half.

"We were able to make a couple runs," DiMagno said. "We switched the way we were playing zone, made more shots and shot better, but they made 16 3-pointers [in the game]."

Junior guard Spencer Lane tallied a career-high 18 points in Cornell's effort, while Fitzpatrick added 14. Yet Yale was able to create a 23-point lead in the final minutes to secure the game, 86-73.

"I liked our response in the second half," Smith said. "But when you play a good team and create that gap, it's too much to close out."

The Red had little time to dwell on the loss, as the team traveled to Providence, R.I. to face Brown the following night. The team hoped to recreate the energy it had found in the second half against Yale, but between the travel and an illness that affected some of the team's starting line, things were not meant to be, according to Smith.

"It was a game where other people earned some time, but unfortunately because of the illness, we weren't able to do some things we would have liked to do," she said.

The game started slowly for both teams, but ended with Cornell up 20-14 at half time. Junior guard Taylor Flynn

See **W. B-BALL** page 14

SQUASH

Men Finish Strong on Sunday

By OLIVIA WITTELS
Sun Staff Writer

The men's squash team finished its regular season with back-to-back 9-0 wins against Penn (5-7, 2-5 Ivy League) and Hobart (10-18). The weekend began with a 6-3 loss to Princeton (12-1, 7-0) on Friday, but on Sunday the Red (12-5, 4-3) rallied to secure its sixth-seed ranking for the upcoming national tournament.



OLIVER KLIEWE / SUN SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER

Ballin' | Junior Rishi Jalan bested all three opponents over the weekend, improving to 11-0 for the season.

"It was a good final tune-up that everyone had," said senior co-captain Dave Hilton. "I guess squash is different in that basically everything in the regular season ... is to determine your seed for nationals, so it was good for everyone just to get a few more matches under their belt."

This Friday, the men will face Yale — a team the Red needs to beat in order to place in the Top-4 of the national tournament. The men's performance over the weekend will be preparation for what is to come, according to Hilton.

"Everyone has their eyes set on Friday's match and beating Yale," he said. "We're definitely taking it one step at a time. I like to feel that we really do match up well with anyone we come up against — it's just getting over this hump that we've had in years past of not getting past that first round quarterfinal match. This year hopefully things will be different and we can move on into the semifinals."

As for the women, the Red (11-6, 3-4) won only one of its three matches this weekend. On Friday, Cornell fell, 8-1, to Princeton (10-3, 4-3) and went on to suffer a 7-2 loss at the hands of Penn (5-7, 2-5) on Sunday morning. However, the squad rallied and came back with a dominating 9-0 performance against William Smith (6-11) later in the afternoon.

Sophomore Jesse Pacheco noted that a lack of confidence against higher-seeded Princeton played a major role in Friday's defeat.

"The reason why we lost so badly against Princeton was not only because they're on paper a better team, but because we also lost a lot of confidence," she said. "That proved to bring us down a bit more than it should have."

Pacheco attributed the improved result against Penn to the women feeling more secure in their chances.

"Penn is just as strong a team as Princeton, but because we went out there with more fight and more determination to win, we took a lot more points and a

See **SQUASH** page 14

The Rise (and Fall?) Of the Lin Dynasty

Being a Chinese person, it makes sense that I'm contemplating naming my first son after Jeremy Lin, but being a Cornell student, it also makes sense that I hate anyone remotely connected to Harvard. This puts me in quite a unique situation in the middle of this Lin-sanity/the Lin Dynasty/[insert bad Lin pun]. I've had so many voices in my head trying to make me pick a side that

coach Mike D'Antoni — who, by the way, should feel like a lottery winner after being all but fired before this stretch — tossed in the last guy on the bench for a few minutes at the end of the first to buy some rest for Shumpert.

Lin played decently enough, playing smart and making good decisions — nothing spectacular — all while building up some confidence. D'Antoni thought,

**Albert Liao***Playing the Field*

I've started to wonder about my own sanity. As a result, I feel I am in a perfect position to analyze Lin's past week objectively and determine how good he really is.

In the first game of his incredible run, everything appeared normal for the Knicks; Carmelo Anthony and Amare Stoudemire were both playing, the offense looked lethargic and Lin was super-glued to the bench. However, the Knicks were playing on the last game of a back-to-back-to-back against the Nets and Iman Shumpert was playing like the rookie that he is. Knicks head

"Hey, what the heck, everyone else sucks," and kept playing him in the second, when he started to excel, making tough, twisting lay-ups and finding open cutters to the basket. A big reason for his success was the terrible defense the Nets played. For most pick-and-rolls, they would go under screens and play several feet off of Lin, even at the free throw line, allowing him to shoot open free throw jumpers. When the Nets adjusted, they completely left Chandler open on the roll, lead-

See **LIAO** page 15