

## **Coach Schafer's Notes for January 15, 2018**

CORNELL 3, @Yale 3 OT

CORNELL 3. @Brown 1

Normally, when you take three points on the road, you say, good. It is good, but we let the fourth point get away on Friday night at Yale. We were leading 3-2 with less than a minute to play when Yale pulled their goaltender for an extra skater and tied with 51 seconds remaining. It was a frustrating goal. Our guys were in position to block the shot but the Yale shooter misfired and the puck landed on a teammate's stick wide open on the back door for the goal.

We had more scoring chances in the first period but Yale took a 1-0 lead at 14:24. Then, they extended the lead to 2-0 at 13:38 of the second. Down 0-2, we started to carry the game but the Yale goaltender was the difference in the game with the saves made in the second period.

Pressure by our guys in the Yale zone in the second period kept them from making a line change and they looked tired. Junior forward Mitch Vanderlaan worked the puck into the right corner and he slid a pass to junior defenseman Matt Nuttle on the left point. A one-timer was blocked, but junior defenseman Brendan Smith knocked in the rebound for his fourth goal of the season with 34 seconds remaining in the second period.

The momentum was definitely with us as senior forward Alex Rauter tallied his sixth goal of the season just 1:09 into third period to tie the game at 2-2. I was happy with the guys, as they stuck with the process, and were able to come back from a two-goal deficit to go up 3-2. The third goal came at 10:46. Junior forward Anthony Angello shot a one-timer from the slot that went just wide of the far post. Freshman defenseman Alex Green collected the puck behind the net, came around the far side, and shoveled a backhand over the goaltender's blocker.

We dodged the bullet midway through the third period when Yale was awarded a penalty shot. Lucky for us, the shot hit the post. The overtime period, the first of the season for both teams, provided no offensive; Yale had one shot on goal and we had none.

Freshman Matt Galajda made 26 saves and the Yale goaltender stopped 34 shots. We were 0-for-3 on the power play and Yale was 0-for-1.

At Brown on Saturday night, we blocked shots and played good team defense. We pressured Brown from the opening whistle; Vanderlaan hit the crossbar just 12 seconds into the contest. We had a 2-on-1 in the game's fourth minute and a 3-on-2 about 30 seconds later. Finally, at 16:36, Vanderlaan banged home a rebound for his fourth goal of the year. Brown persisted and made it 1-1 at 19:26.

We kept the pressure on, out-shooting the home team 22-12 in the first 40 minutes. Just 4:43 into the second period, Green fired a shot from the center point that caromed off Angello's skate, while he was standing at the top of the crease and into the net.

Matt Nuttle put us up 3-1 with 12 minutes to play, giving the junior defenseman points in four straight games. Vanderlaan led us in scoring for the weekend with four points on a goal and three assists.

Galajda stopped 18 shots and the Brown goalie made 24 saves. We were 0-for-4 on the power play and Brown was 0-for-2.

It was good road hockey. We were disciplined. We still have some things to work on but responding each weekend to what happened the night before is what we focus on.

With the win at Brown, we extended our lead in the Ivy League standings (8-1-1) and we are now in sole possession of second place (8-1-1) in the ECAC. Friday night we're back at Lynah Rink vs. Colgate and Saturday evening we play the Raiders in Hamilton.