teams defeated the Crimson after hitting challenging last-second shots. Still, turnovers (18 in a 73-69 loss at Princeton in the penultimate game of the season), spells of ineffective play (the Crimson fell behind Princeton by nine or more points in both games), and a defense that was good but not great yielded a second-place finish for Harvard.

The conference tournament gave the Crimson another opportunity to compete for a coveted NCAA berth. But many of the same problems that undid the team in the regular season reappeared in a 73-71 loss to Yale in the semifinals. The players struggled to defend the paint; in the second half, the offense was anemic except for Bryce Aiken ’20, who scored 28 points; and although Harvard had just five turnovers, it gave the ball away on the final possession.

Although both teams fell short of this year’s goals, the women return Benzan, a first-team All-Ivy honoree; Boehm, who had seven blocks against St. John’s in the WNIT; and four starters. The men lose Edosomwan and Chambers, who garnered first-team all-conference honors, but bring back four freshmen starters, including their top two scorers, Aiken and Seth Towns ’20. When the refurbished Lavietes Pavilion reopens, fans can look forward not only to more modern amenities but also to two teams, with talented and tested nuclei, looking to make their own improvement to the spiffed-up arena: a pair of championship banners.

~David L. Tannenwald

Sports in Brief

Men’s Hockey

**Blazing through** what a Boston Globe headline deemed a “season of redemption,” the men’s hockey team in late March, for the first time in 23 years, secured its return to the Frozen Four, the NCAA semifinals, with a 3-2 win over Air Force in the tournament’s second round. That triumph, before a sold-out crowd in Providence, Rhode Island, capped a remarkable six weeks that saw the Crimson bring home its first Beanpot trophy since 1993, close out the regular season with an unbroken string of wins and a share of the conference title, and then capture the Eastern College Athletic Conference championship. Four players—forwards Ryan Donato ’19 and Alexander Kerfoot ’17, defenseman Adam Fox ’20, and goalie Merrick Madsen ’18—earned all-conference honors. The team was warming up for its first Frozen Four contest, on April 6, against Minnesota Duluth, at the United Center in Chicago as the magazine went to press.

Fencing

**After a regular season during which both men’s and women’s fencing won Beanpot trophies—the tenth for each (Harvard has won the competition every year since it began)—the program sent 11 athletes to the NCAA tournament in Indianapolis, Indiana, in late March. Sophomore Eli Dershwitz, a 2016 Olympian, won an individual championship in men’s sabre, and Harvard finished fifth overall, one spot behind rival Princeton. Senior Adrian Jarocki, the defending national champion in women’s sabre, took fifth place this year.**

Swimming and Diving

**Led by** freshman standout swimmer Dean Farris, men’s swimming and diving routed its opponents to win the Ivy League championship in mid March, after an unbeaten regular season. Ulen-Brooks head coach Kevin Tyrrell was named Ivy coach of the year. Four swimmers and five relay teams went to the NCAA tournament, where Farris finished fourth behind a trio of former Olympians in the 200 freestyle. Men’s swimming finished twenty-seventh overall.

Women’s swimming and diving sent two athletes to the NCAA tournament: first-year swimmer Mikaela Dahlke, who competed in three events and finished thirty-sixth overall, and junior diver Jing Leung, who came in thirty-second after defending her title as NCAA Zone A platform-dive champ. With strong performances by Dahlke, Leung, and sophomore swimmers Brittany Usinger and Meagan Popp, the women’s team took second place in the Ivy League championship, finishing just behind Yale and crushing third- and fourth-place finishers Penn and Princeton.

~Lydia Y. Gibson

In the momentum-building Beanpot victory: Crimson forward Alexander Kerfoot skates against Boston University.

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