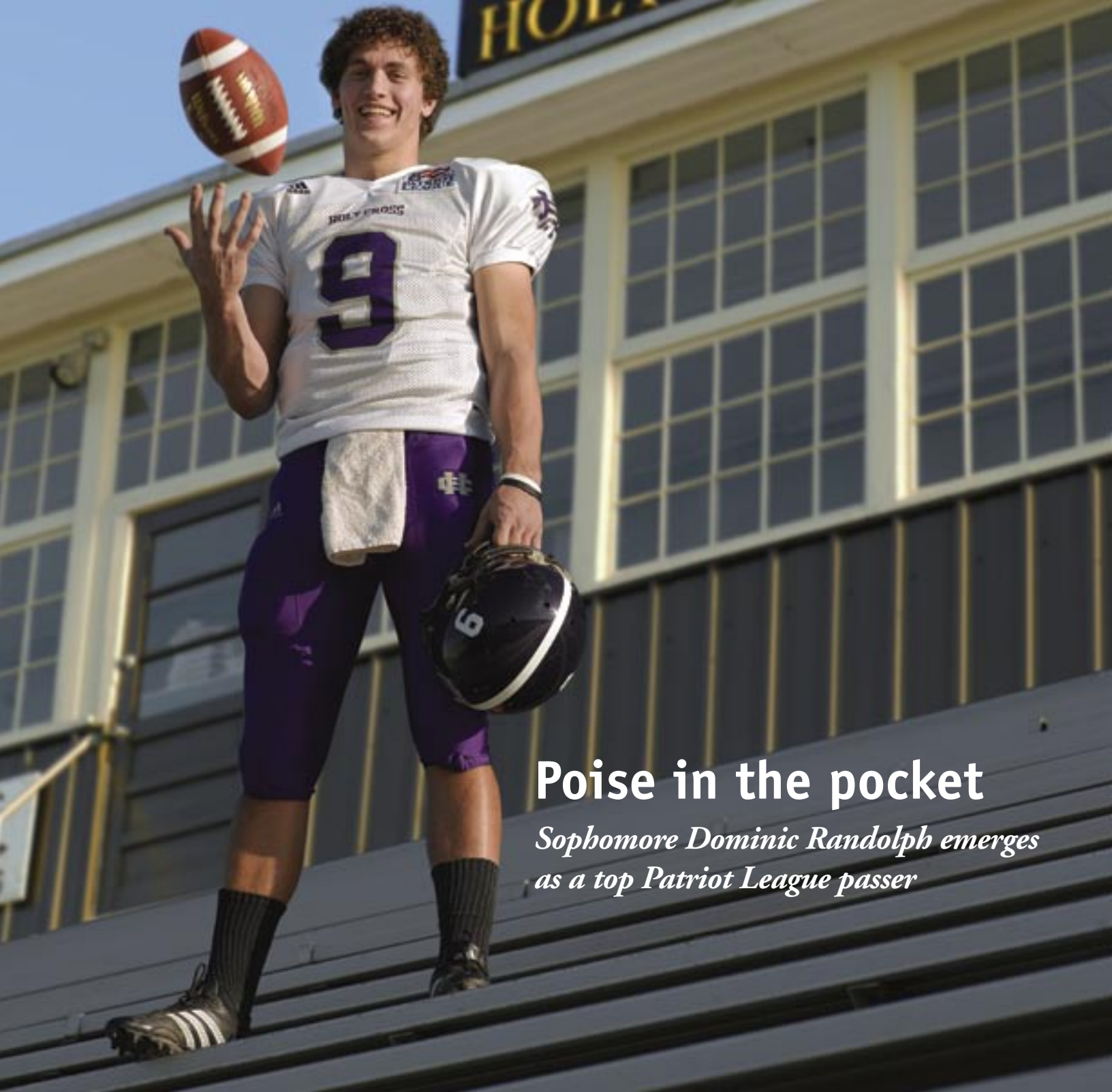


CRUSADER *nation*

WINTER 2007



Poise in the pocket

*Sophomore Dominic Randolph emerges
as a top Patriot League passer*

To Our Readers

Dear Friends of Crusader Athletics,

It is with great excitement that we officially kick off our athletics newsletter, *CrusaderNation*. We hope to share information and news stories with you about Holy Cross Athletics that are both unique and interesting.

This fall was a busy and productive one here on Mount St. James. We kicked off the year by dedicating the beautiful Linda Johnson Smith Soccer Stadium in September. We are confident that this new facility will help our soccer coaches elevate their programs.

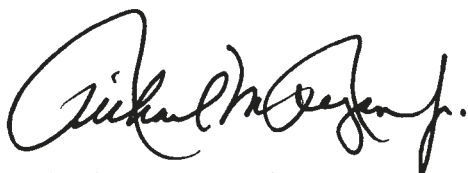
Our football program continues to make strides under Tom Gilmore's direction and had a very good season finishing with a record of 7-4. With many underclassmen returning next year, the future looks bright. The field hockey team also enjoyed an excellent season going 14-6 including a 10-game winning streak, and made it to the Patriot League Championship game.

Our student-athletes have also excelled in the classroom. We are very proud of our Graduation Success Rate released by the NCAA in the fall of 2006. We were among the best schools nationally with 18 of our 21 Patriot League sports reporting a perfect score. Further, we were number one in the conference in the number of League sports with a 100-percent graduation rate.

The winter season is now well underway and I urge you to come out to the Hart Center and cheer on our basketball and hockey teams as well as our other athletic programs. Our student-athletes are a fine representation of the College and they deserve our support.

And finally, our biggest new initiative this year is the launching of the annual fundraising program for athletics. So far, the Crusader Athletics Fund is off to a good start in its inaugural year. The money raised will be entirely budget enhancing (over and above what is already budgeted by the College) and will be applied to vital varsity programming needs such as coaching, recruitment, equipment upgrades, and team competition travel. We have a long way to go to catch up with our peer institutions, but with your help I am confident we can achieve our goals. An envelope is included in this issue should you wish to make a gift.

Your contributions and attendance at games are invaluable to the continued success of the Crusaders. As always, we appreciate your generous support and hope to see you on campus this spring. Go Crusaders!



Richard M. Regan, Jr. '76

Director of Athletics



CRUSADER

nation

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CRUSADER ATHLETICS FUND

Poise in the pocket

Sophomore Dominic Randolph emerges as a top Patriot League passer

The road less traveled was the one that brought sophomore quarterback Dominic Randolph to Holy Cross. The Midwest native grew up admiring pro quarterbacks Steve Young and John Elway despite playing wide receiver in high school. The second-year signal caller for the Crusaders, however, was recruited to throw passes instead of catch them.

“I came up here for a camp and liked it a lot and that’s how I ended up getting recruited by Coach (Tom) Gilmore,” recalled Randolph. “It was one of the bigger schools looking at me and academically it was very good. The guy playing in front of me (in high school) was 6’4” and had a cannon for an arm and is a backup quarterback at Ohio State now.”

Many people around the Crusader program sensed that this season would be a rebuilding one with heavy graduation losses, particularly on offense. Randolph, however, could see the potential in the team.

“We put in a new offense and had a great spring and preseason practice. We had a lot of returning starters on defense and I knew we were young on offense but also that we had a lot of talent.”

There was not a clear-cut starting quarterback heading into this year. Both Randolph and junior Brian McSharry were in the running for the job. The competition was open and the player who performed the best would be chosen.

“After spring ball, (Coach Gilmore) told us one of us would have to win it and I won it, I guess.”



Randolph possesses several characteristics that enabled him to win the starting job.

“His ability to go to second, third, and even fourth reads on the same play is an unusual quality to have at any level,” said Gilmore. “There are professional quarterbacks that can only get to their second and sometimes third reads. Dom consistently gets to his third and fourth reads. I think that’s probably his best quality. He understands the offense, he understands the defense, and he’s able to interpret all that information in

those few split seconds after the ball is snapped. Second, he has an unusually high level of poise. He doesn’t get rattled in the pocket and he goes through his progressions without panicking.”

Randolph started nine games for the Crusaders this year completing nearly 62 percent of his passes, good for 2,237 yards and 19 touchdowns with just six interceptions. He was named the Patriot League’s offensive player of the week a record four consecutive times for his efforts. Randolph takes pride in that recognition. “That was a

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Setting and achieving high goals

Senior Josh Trott etches his name in the record books

Senior men's soccer player, Josh Trott, has made his mark here at Holy Cross after four great years as a Crusader, leading the team for the past three years in goals and points, and breaking the school record for most goals in a season his senior year.

The past four years of Trott's life could have been a very different journey considering that he turned down full scholarships to several big Division I schools. But after a few visits to our campus, guidance from his mother, and a personal letter and meeting with head coach Elvis Comrie, the decision

was clear that Holy Cross was the place for him.

"The biggest difference between the schools that I was looking at was that Coach (Elvis) Comrie was more personal and showed that he genuinely cared," Trott said. "Both my mother and I loved the family atmosphere of Holy Cross, and we saw that there was a balance between school and soccer, which was good for me being a premed student. Other schools couldn't give me that balance."

As Trott got to know Coach Comrie better, he saw that his mother was also making a good connection. "I realized that my mother and Coach had the same no-excuses personality and I knew that the transition from home to here as a student athlete was not going to be hard."

Josh's mother, an accomplished athlete herself, served as a great example. A two-sport All-American, she went on to play field hockey at the Olympic level and lacrosse at the national level.

"I respect my mother's opinion more than anyone else because of her accomplishments in two sports," said Trott. "She is and has been the guiding force through my whole life and I attribute everything that I have ever accomplished back to her. She does not accept defeat and that is an important life lesson."

During the four years Trott spent at Holy Cross, the men's soccer team lost more times than it won with a total record of 23-35-8, but Josh always took the opportunity to become a better player and set goals for himself.

"It's disappointing that we have underachieved as a team, but I have developed as a player and learned a lot from Coach Comrie," Trott said.

Trott knew that he was sacrificing the recognition that he might have re-



ceived had he chosen a bigger school, but he came to Holy Cross and compared himself to others in the record books to determine his progress.

“I knew it was attainable to reach my goals when I came here,” Trott said. “Along the way I learned how to continue to compete even if the team was not being successful. This year my goal was to break the single season all-time high in goals.”

He did just that in the second to last game of the season; Trott scored his 15th goal to leave his name in the record books at the top in that category. He also placed in national rankings ending the season sixth in goals per game (0.93) and eighth in points per game (2.00).

The team has supported Trott all the way—leading up to his scoring record, there was talk among the players about who would assist Josh on his record-breaking 15th goal of the season.

“My team has been behind me and I appreciate everyone’s support,” Trott said. “I enjoyed my time here. The chemistry was great among the team this year and I will genuinely miss everyone.”

Trott leaves Holy Cross with many great memories on and off the field. In the classroom, he says he will always remember the hard work and dedication that it took to complete organic chemistry, which he feels was one of the biggest accomplishments in his life.

Looking past graduation Trott is hoping to get into the professional ranks with Major League Soccer. “If the MLS Combine works out and I get drafted, I will give myself two years to break into the pros,” Trott said. “But if it does not work out I will move on and apply to medical school.”

Either way, the future looks bright for Josh Trott, a name that will be remembered for a long time at Holy Cross. 🌍

continued from page 1

big accomplishment, I was really proud when I received those. I honestly didn’t expect them. My wide receiving corps and offensive line helped me get those, obviously, so it was a tribute to them as well.” Notably, three of the top six receivers in the Patriot League last season were Crusaders, all of which are returning next year.

Randolph averaged 248 yards passing per game, which was over 60 more than his closest counterpart in the league. He also led the conference in touchdown passes. Despite these numbers, he was not named to any of the post-season all league teams. Although some felt he was overlooked, Randolph isn’t phased. “It just motivates me to try and get there next year.”

There were many highlights this season for Randolph and the Crusaders. One in particular stands out. “Beating Lafayette. That was definitely our biggest win of the year down there.” Holy Cross was the only Patriot League team to defeat the Leopards who went on to represent the league in the Division I-AA playoffs.

Randolph credits Coach Gilmore with his growth and development since arriving on campus. “He’s kept my nose to the grindstone. He makes us work really hard, pushes us to get the best out of us and expects nothing less than that. I think he does a really good job.”

It was a very good performance for the first-year starter, leading the team to a 7-4 record overall. But there are areas in which he will strive to improve in the off season. “I need to get a little faster and get my arm strength up.” His coach agreed with that assessment. “You have to remember this year was his first year starting football games in two years. There are always physical things that you should be improving on from year to year,” said Gilmore. “He can still get better in a lot of areas.”

Randolph also enjoys life away from football on the Hill. “I love the com-



munity here and the school is excellent.” He and many of his teammates are also active in the community through the Big Brothers program. “About 30 of us are in it and have little brothers that we visit once a week to play games and hang out with. It’s a lot of fun.”

Randolph is a native of Amelia, Ohio, an eastern suburb of Cincinnati where he grew up as the middle of three children playing soccer, baseball and basketball in addition to football. He enjoys getting back to see his friends and family when he can and still holds an allegiance to his hometown team. “Cincinnati Bengals all the way ... although it was a little rough as a fan growing up,” he admitted with a laugh.

As for Holy Cross, the future looks bright for the 2007 squad and Randolph and his teammates are already looking ahead. They open the season against perennial I-AA power UMass in Amherst. “I think it’s going to be a very good challenge for us,” said Randolph. “We’re going to have to make a statement early and this will be an opportunity for us to put ourselves on the map. We’re going to work as hard as we can on the little things to bring a Patriot League Championship back to Holy Cross.” 🌍

Sizing up Sixsmith

Senior forward now top scorer in Division I HC history

Ever since his childhood and at every level along the way, people have been telling James Sixsmith he was too small to play hockey. And, at every stop along the way, he has proven those who doubted him wrong. The captain of the Men's Hockey Team recently became the all-time leading scorer in the history of Division I play at Holy Cross, surpassing current San Jose Shark Patrick Rissmiller's total of 143 career points.

"You never want to set individual goals but at the same time if you achieve a certain amount of individual success, that will help the team achieve their goals," said Sixsmith. "I put pressure on myself to do well offensively because I know the team will benefit. I tried not to think about the career points record. That took care of itself."

As of this writing, Sixsmith has scored 13 goals in 26 games while tallying 26 assists, good for 39 points this season. In his career so far, he has scored 44 goals and tallied 100 assists.

Sixsmith grew up as the middle of three children in a sports-playing family in Alexandria, Va. He credits his parents the most for his success. "It's an expensive sport. They've been so big in my upbringing playing hockey and have bent over backwards for me to play." His parents were both athletes at Longwood University where his father played basketball and his mother played field hockey.

"Nobody in my family played hockey. I just picked it up when I was real young and loved watching it," said Sixsmith.

He completed his final two years of high school at Canterbury Prep in Connecticut and was coached there by



Pete Levine. Not coincidentally, Levine was current Head Coach Paul Pearl's roommate at Holy Cross. "We recruited him pretty hard," said Pearl of Sixsmith following Levine's recommendation. "We let him know that there would be an opportunity to play right away and I think that excited him."

Sixsmith enjoyed a fine senior season at Canterbury but the college offers didn't come in as he thought they would. "I was overlooked by most schools because of my size," said Sixsmith. "I really wasn't recruited heavily out of high school. I just tried to play my way in wherever I went."

Despite standing just 5'9", the senior forward has played a major role in the success of the Crusader program the past four years including two Atlantic Hockey Championships and, of course, last season's thrilling 4-3 win over Minnesota in the NCAA tournament.

"I've gotten asked questions about that game a million times since last year and I still don't know how to answer them," said Sixsmith. "It's one of those things that happened so fast.



Sometimes I think back and still don't understand the magnitude of that win. The thing I'll take most from it was the crowd. Everyone was rooting for us. One day maybe I'll realize how special that day was."

This season, the team has struggled at times and needs to play better in all facets of the game if they are to repeat as Atlantic Hockey Champions.

"We just have to put it together," said Sixsmith. "We've had scoring at times, good defense at times, and solid goaltending at times but it hasn't seemed to all be there together. For us, the most important part is playing great defense for 60 minutes. We haven't done that yet this year but if we do, any team that draws us in the tournament is going to have their hands full."

Sixsmith credits Coach Pearl in his development as a player since he arrived on campus. "I think I owe a lot of my suc-



cess to him for his belief in me," said Sixsmith. "He recruited me because he thought I was skilled and I could make it at this level. My freshman year I got a break and played on the same line with Greg Kealey, our captain, and Jeff Dams. Those guys are both up there on the all-time scoring charts. He (Pearl) gave me a shot to play with those two seniors, which was great."

His coach has high praise for Sixsmith as well. "He's been an outstanding player since the first day he stepped on the ice," said Pearl. "And the best thing about him is how hard he works away from it. He's been a leader here from before that role was expected of him."

Sixsmith plans to take a shot at professional hockey in the U.S. next year. He may also explore his options in Europe, where highly skilled players have done well in the past. "I'm definitely going to give it a shot for two years and see what happens," said Sixsmith. "If hockey doesn't work out, I'd like to follow in the footsteps of someone like (former teammate) Pierre Napert-Frenette, who works in the financial field at J.P. Morgan."

And with any luck, at the end of this season the team will once again be in contention for the league crown, with Sixsmith standing tall atop the record books in Holy Cross hockey history. 🏒

New stadium gives big kick to soccer programs

For years, the Holy Cross men's and women's soccer programs had to contend with the challenges of playing on a baseball field, Freshmen Field or a grass field behind the Hart Center. Years of frustration finally came to an end this fall. On Sept. 8, 2006, the College formally dedicated Holy Cross' newest athletic facility, the Linda Johnson Smith Soccer Stadium.

"A labor of love" is how Director of Athletics Dick Regan '76 characterized the process that went into the planning, fundraising and construction of the beautiful new facility. Regan had little involvement with soccer until moving to London in the early 1990s. His NFL responsibilities brought him into frequent contact with professional soccer clubs such as Arsenal, Tottenham and Chelsea. Reflecting the zealotry of a convert, he identified the need for a soccer stadium at Holy Cross. It was

the beginning of a long journey, as it turned out.

In 1991, Elvis Comrie became the Crusader head men's soccer coach after a distinguished professional career in North America and Europe. Shortly after arriving, Comrie and then Director of Athletics Ron Perry '54 convinced the College to clear and level a soccer space behind the football practice field. It wasn't much—no stands, no lights, no scoreboard, no fence and at 66 yards wide, too narrow by four yards. However, it was a great improvement at the time.

In 1996, an architectural firm was hired to study the feasibility of a proper soccer facility either on Freshmen Field or behind the Hart Center. But the project would have to wait as the College had more acute needs for the upgrade and expansion of student housing and new academic space. However in 2001,

Holy Cross launched the *Lift High the Cross* capital campaign and a soccer facility was identified as one of the athletic priorities.

Upon updating the engineering study, it was agreed that the best location for the stadium would be immediately behind the Hart Center, between the primary football practice field and the artificial turf/track facility. Among other benefits, this location would allow for an international-size field (120 x 70 yards), press box and stands which would serve both the new soccer stadium and the adjoining facility used by the lacrosse, field hockey and track programs. The scope of the project expanded to include seating for 1,320 spectators, lights for night games and practices, a state-of-the-art sound system, and an electronic scoreboard.

The biggest decision centered on the playing surface: grass or synthetic?

The pros and cons of both were studied and debated. Ultimately, grass was chosen with the proviso that it would be sand based, unlike the clay base featured in all other grass fields at Holy Cross. Sand-based fields are more challenging to maintain but drain very quickly and are more playable in volatile climates such as New England's. However,

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Student Athlete Spotlight



Casey Boland

Sophomore, Women's Soccer (Langhorne, Pa.)

Building on a solid freshman season, Boland played in all 20 games for the Crusaders leading the team in goals (7) and points (16). She was named Crusader of the Week in September for scoring two goals and an assist in a victory over Albany.



Dan Adams

Senior, Football (Springfield, Va.)

The captain made a team leading 109 tackles (91 solo) including 13 for losses. Adams also recorded two sacks, two interceptions and two fumble recoveries. He was named Patriot League Defensive Player of the Week for his efforts against Georgetown.



Matt Czarnecki

Junior, Men's Golf (Greenwich, Conn.)

Czarnecki shot a nine-over-par 153 over two rounds to lead the Holy Cross men's golf team to a 19th place finish out of 43 schools at the 72nd annual New England Intercollegiate Golf Association Championship. He shot a 74 in the first round and a 79 in the second round finishing in 22nd place overall.



Colleen Spilka

Sophomore, Women's Cross Country (Hamden, Conn.)

At the Patriot League Championship, the sophomore led the way for the Crusader women running the 6K course in 25:10. All six of the top finishers for the women were underclassmen. Spilka was also named Patriot League Runner of the Week on Oct. 10th.



Valerie Mora

Senior, Volleyball (San Antonio, Texas)

The co-captain ranks 3rd all time in digs (1,182) and has twice been named to the Patriot League honor roll. Mora is a two-time recipient of the Arthur Ashe Jr. Sports Scholar award for her outstanding academic, athletic and community service achievements.



Kyle Rougeot

Freshman, Men's Cross Country (Torrington, Conn.)

Rougeot was named Patriot League Runner of the Week on Oct. 10th for his efforts in the New England Championships. He ran his career best of 26:48 in the five-mile race.



Keith Simmons

Senior, Men's Basketball (Kingston, N.Y.)

The co-captain has been named the Patriot League Player of the Week four times this season including three consecutive weeks. Simmons is currently the all-time Patriot League leader in career three-point field goal percentage and ranks second all-time at Holy Cross in three-point field goals made.



Tara Welch

Senior, Field Hockey (New Boston, N.H.)

Welch was selected as the league's offensive player of the year helping the team to the championship game. The senior set school records for career goals scored (59) and career points scored (136), both of which rank as the second best totals in Patriot League history. She was also selected to the 2006 National Field Hockey Coaches Association Division I All-Region First Team.

2006 Fall Sports Recap

Football



The 2006 Crusader Football season was full of successes. The team finished the season 7-4, their best record since 2000, and finished third in the

Patriot League with a conference record of 4-2. Holy Cross led the Patriot League in several statistical categories, including total offense (384.4 yards per game), passing offense (271.5 yards per game), pass efficiency defense (108.4 rating), first downs (239) and third down conversions (46.3 percent). In the final game of the season, Holy Cross was fighting for a chance to win the Patriot League championship, an opportunity they had not had since 1991. Holy Cross' postseason bid came up just short, falling to Colgate 29-28.

Head coach Tom Gilmore was named Patriot League Coach of the Year for his efforts. Gilmore became the first Holy Cross head coach to win the honor since Mark Duffner in 1991.

In addition, several of the players were recognized for their achievements. Seven Crusaders were named to the All-Patriot Football teams. Senior cornerback **Casey Gough (Hinsdale, Ill.)**, junior wide receiver **Ryan Maher (Boca Raton, Fla.)**, senior offensive tackle **Hall McMillan (Annapolis, Md.)** and senior offensive guard **Andrew Schoepfer (Waterford, Conn.)** were all named to the All-Patriot League first team, while senior linebacker **Dan Adams (Springfield, Va.)**, junior wide receiver **Thomas Harrison (Wilmington, N.C.)** and senior defensive end **John Markus Pi-**

nard (Bellevue, Wash.) were second team selections. Maher and Schoepfer were also selected to the 2006 New England Division I-AA All-Star team, as announced by the New England Football Writers. The two Crusaders were among 28 players from around New England named to the squad.

Field Hockey



The Field Hockey team had a record-breaking year winning the most games (14) since the 2000 season. The squad broke the record for most consecutive wins with their 10th straight victory on Oct. 21st over Bucknell.

Throughout the 2006 season several school records were broken. Senior forward **Tara Welch (New Boston, N.H.)** tied for second place all time for points in a season with 42. Senior **Susie Whelan (Acton, Mass.)** tied the fourth highest career assists mark with 20, and junior **Sara O'Coin (Worcester, Mass.)** ranked fourth with 12 assists and tied for fourth with 38 points in a season.

The Crusaders made their mark in the Patriot League top categories as well. Welch led the league with 41 points and 2.05 points per game, 19 goals and 0.95 goals per game.

O'Coin led the league with 12 assists and 0.60 assists per game and ranked second with 38 points and 1.90 points per game, 13 goals and 0.65 goals per game. She also ranked second with 4 game-winning goals.

Sophomore **Erin Singleton (Amesbury, Mass.)** led the league with a 1.61 goals against average and five shutouts. She ranks second with 0.25 shutouts per game and fourth with a .707 save percentage.

Holy Cross made its way into the national rankings in seven team categories and eight individual categories including Whelan, who ranked third with three penalty strokes and Welch, who finished 10th with 0.95 goals per game.

The team finished the year ranked 32nd overall in Division I field hockey based on Average Computer Rating on FieldHockeyCorner.com.

Men's Cross Country



The Men's Cross Country team took eighth at the 2006 Patriot League Championships held at Colgate University in Hamilton, N.Y. The

team was lead by sophomore **Brad Mish (Hadley, Mass.)** with an 8K time of 27:47. Freshman **Timothy Richard (Enid, Okla.)** also made an impact his first year in a Crusader uniform, as the first Holy Cross entry to finish in four of the team's seven races. Senior **Stephen Kress (Portland, Maine)** was the team leader at the National Catholic Championship finishing in a time of 26:44, a career best. The 2006 team brought Holy Cross a seventh place finish at the National Catholic Championship, which was their best showing in over 10 years.

Women's Cross Country



The Women's Cross Country team finished in eighth place in the 2006 Patriot League Championships at Colgate University in Hamilton, N.Y. Sophomore **Colleen Spilka (Hamden, Conn.)** led the Crusaders across the line and led the women's team in three of the team's seven races. Her time of 19:05 in the 5K at the New England Championships was 23 seconds off of her personal record set one week earlier at the Murray Keatinge Invitational. Sophomore **Elizabeth Alizzi (Syosset, N.Y.)** had another strong season on the course, as the first Holy Cross entry across the line in four of the team's meets.

Men's Tennis



The Men's Tennis team opened up their fall season at the Salve Regina Doubles Tournament in Newport, R.I. The pair of senior **Brian Kelly (Winchester, Mass.)** and sophomore **Angelo Sica (Chester, N.J.)** won the Flight A doubles competition by defeating a pair from the host school. In their first match up with another team, the Crusaders emerged victorious over the Warriors from Merrimack, 5-1. Holy Cross dominated Merrimack on the doubles court, taking all three matches from their opponent. The Crusaders notched singles wins by Kelly, freshman **John Burke (Burlington, Mass.)**, junior **Jay DeSanto (Dalton, Pa.)** and senior **Tom Moran (Concord, N.H.)**. Holy Cross went on to lose tough matches to Hartford (4-3), Assumption (9-0) and Rhode Island (6-1).

Women's Tennis



The Women's Tennis team opened up their fall competitions with a win over the Merrimack Warriors. The Crusaders swept all of the doubles matches and took six of eight singles matches to win the match 7-2. Holy Cross also dominated Hartford, taking the match 5-2. The Crusaders took all of the doubles matches and seven singles matches from the Hawks on their way to the victory. Holy Cross moved on to face tough teams from Providence and Rhode Island, to drop to 2-2 on the fall. Freshman **Ivette Konopka (Shelton, Conn.)** made an impact in her first fall as a Crusader, winning three singles matches and three doubles matches with junior partner **Amy Garrity (Poughkeepsie, N.Y.)**. The duo made it as far as the Championship Match in Flight 2 at the New England Championship.

Men's Rowing



The Men's Rowing team began fall competition at the New Hampshire Championship Regatta. The Crusader varsity eight won the men's open competition at the event with a time of 14:59. The winning boat featured seniors **Jared Bennici (Marlborough, Conn.)**, **Kevin Crowley (Brockton, Mass.)**, **Dan Goulet (Watertown, Conn.)**, **Benjamin Konicki (Foster, R.I.)**, Captain **Albert Monte (Philadelphia, Pa.)**, **Rob Schwab (Athol, Mass.)**, Captain **Mathias Weiden (Yonkers, N.Y.)**, junior **Michael Cutting (Rockville, Md.)** and senior coxswain **Elle Carolan (Wayne, Pa.)**. The varsity eight also finished 38th of 44 boats at the Head of the Charles Regatta in Bos-

ton. Those were the only two competitions for the Crusaders this fall, as severe weather forced the cancellation of the Head of the Schuylkill in Philadelphia.

Women's Rowing



The Women's Rowing team took the water for the first time at the New Hampshire Championship Regatta. The varsity eight tied for first in the race with the team from Vermont. The varsity eight was comprised of senior **Megan Russell (Andover, Mass.)**, juniors **Erika Furtado (Dayton, Maine)**, **Valerie Jackson (East Lyme, Conn.)**, **Meghan Quinn (Philadelphia, Pa.)**, sophomores **Clare Bracikowski (Nashville, Tenn.)**, **Johanna Cubelli (Boonton Township, N.J.)**, **Elisabeth Flaherty (Lincolnton, Ill.)**, **Maura Hogan (Holliston, Mass.)** and junior coxswain **Katie Donnelly (Marston Mills, Mass.)**. Both the Crusaders and Vermont finished the race in 16:22. At the Head of the Charles Regatta, the varsity eight took 39th out of 45 boats. The third event scheduled for the Crusaders was cancelled due to severe weather.



Men's Soccer

The Men's Soccer team finished the season 5-11-1 overall and 1-6 in the conference. There were some great performances turned in by individual players, most notably by senior forward **Josh Trott (Glen Cove, N.Y.)** who led the team with a school record 15 goals. In addition, Trott finished third all-time with 33 career goals and fourth all-time with 73 career points. He was named the Patriot League Of-

fensive Player of the Year as well as named to the All-Patriot League first team. Senior midfielder **Alex Cruz (Conyers, Ga.)** was named to the All-League Second Team. Sophomore **Felipe Castrillon (Weston, Fla.)** was named to the CoSida Academic All-District Second Team. The economics major with a 3.45 grade point average finished the season second on the team with 15 points.

Women's Soccer



The Women's Soccer team finished the season 4-14-2 overall and 1-5-1 in the Patriot League. Freshman **Shelby Stand (Douglas, Mass.)** also had an impressive year, finishing second on the team in scoring with five goals and two assists for 12 points.

Junior goalie **Jessica Pietrowicz (Worcester, Mass.)** led the Patriot League in saves (118) and saves per game (6.56). She was named the Patriot League Goalie of the Week on Oct. 2nd for her performance in games against Army and Hartford. She tied her season high for saves with 15 as she allowed only one goal in Holy Cross' 1-1 tie with Army in the Patriot League opener on Sept. 29th. She also stopped four shots and allowed one goal as she played in the first half of the Crusaders' 3-1 loss at Hartford on Oct. 1st.

The Crusaders had a big Patriot League victory over Lafayette on Senior Day. Boland scored the game-winning goal at the 82:20 mark for the 1-0 win. Before the game seniors **Lisa DeMari (Plymouth, Mass.)**, **Meredith Davis (Worcester, Mass.)**, **Natalie Gebo (Ludlow, Mass.)**, **Kristen Locke (Martinsville, N.J.)**, **Lauren Pereira (Ludlow, Mass.)** and **Danielle Reilly (Madison, Conn.)** were honored for their hard work and dedication to the team on and off the field over the past four years.



Volleyball

Junior **Christine Strawson (Torrington, Conn.)** had another outstanding season as she was selected to the Patriot League Volleyball All-League Second Team for the second straight season, and she was named to the *ESPN The Magazine* Academic All-District I first team. Strawson has a 3.92 grade point average with a major in Biology.

Strawson led the team and ranked second in the Patriot League in kills per game with 4.17 as she tied a school single-season record. Her 363 kills are the second highest in school history, surpassing her 351 kills of a year ago. She was also solid on defense as she was third on the team in digs per game with 2.99. Strawson recorded double-digit kills in 22 of 25 matches and registered 11 double-doubles. For her career, Strawson's 930 kills are currently second all-time in school history, while she has been named to six straight regular season all-tournament teams during the last two seasons, including three this year.

Senior setter **Chrissy Fanning (East Amherst, N.Y.)** had 840 assists on the season which are third all-time in a single season at Holy Cross, while her 9.55 assists per game rank second. For her career Fanning is ranked third all-time with 1,657 assists. She was named the Holiday Inn Express Crusader of the Week for her performance in Holy Cross' thrilling 3-2 win over Navy on Oct. 27th. She registered a team-high 43 assists, to go along with 17 digs, three kills and two blocks, leading the Crusaders to victory. 🏐

Soccer Stadium continued from page 6

the grass option provided an additional obstacle as research by grounds teams at Holy Cross, Gillette Stadium and other facilities determined that while planting grass seed is more effective than installing sod on a sand-based field, it's a much longer process. Thus, although the physical structure was completed in August 2005, the stadium sat idle for a year while the grass took root.

With the physical plan in place, the College now needed to locate funding. In 2002, Regan and then Director of Capital Giving Tom Flynn '85, a former team captain, began discussions with former players about a major fundraising drive for the facility. Feedback from alumni resulted in another change to the scope of the project—the inclusion of indoor meeting space and lockers for the men's and women's teams in the Hart Center.

An alumni fundraising committee was formed in 2004 to help with the project. A reception for all soccer alumni was hosted by Tim Mungovan '91 in Boston to discuss the stadium and the soccer programs. The well-attended event included Cathy '80 and Chris Collins '80, and Betsy and Mike Greene '84 (Chris and Mike are former soccer captains), who made lead gifts to launch the project. Another former captain, Tim Gallivan '90, provided expertise on stands and seating. In 2005, trustee Park B. Smith '54 and his wife Linda Johnson Smith made a substantial gift to name the facility. The stadium soon became a reality as soccer alumni, family members, and friends of the program joined to make the stadium campaign a success.

Coach Comrie and Head Women's Coach Deb Flaherty both believe that the new stadium will serve as a valuable recruiting tool. As Comrie stated, "A stadium is a venue that brings people together and allows for students to take pride in their teams." 🏐



HC ATHLETICS IN THE COMMUNITY

Women's Track at the UMass Walk for Cancer

Women's Basketball at the Mercy Center

Men's Hockey community autograph session

HC Women's Basketball Honored for Scholar-Athlete Excellence

The Holy Cross Women's Basketball Program was honored in October as one of the first two recipients of the New England Basketball Hall of Fame's "Scholar-Athlete Program of Excellence" Award.

"This is the most important award we have ever given at the New England Basketball Hall of Fame," said Daniel E. Doyle, Jr., executive director of the Institute for International Sport, which administers the New England Basketball Hall of Fame. The award, which recognizes classroom and athletic achievement, along with post-graduate career success, was accepted by Coach Bill Gibbons during the 2006 New England Basketball Hall of Fame induction ceremony.

"We are truly humbled by this honor," said Gibbons. "I accept it on behalf of all the outstanding assistant coaches, the terrific support staff, the administration ... and, of course, the dedicated, hard-working student-athletes that I have been blessed with at Holy Cross. It has been a team effort and a consistent credo of everyone in our program ... to strive to emulate Holy Cross' unwavering commitment to academic, athletic, and post-graduate success."

During the 21-year tenure of Head Coach Bill Gibbons, the Holy Cross Women's Basketball program has compiled a record of 429-197, reached 12 post-season tournaments, and maintained a near perfect graduation rate.



Golf Coach Bob Molt named NEIGA Coach of the Year

Long-time Holy Cross golf coach Bob Molt received the Gordon McCullough Coaching Award in October presented by the New England Intercollegiate Golf Association at the 72nd Annual NEIGA Championship. The honor was presented to Molt by Assumption golf coach and former Crusader standout Tim Bibaud '81.

"Bob Molt was an overwhelming choice to receive this honor," said Executive Director of the NEIGA George Jacobson. "He is such a loyal supporter of Holy Cross and has left a positive, lasting impression on his student-athletes throughout his 31-year career."

Molt received this honor due to his outstanding dedication to college golf, and for his many contributions to his players, fellow coaches and golf committees at local and regional levels. He was also recognized for the inspiration he has provided to many of his players through his roles as a PGA professional and college golf coach.

Holy Cross Celebrates Vince Promuto '60 Day

On Saturday, Sept. 30th, Holy Cross Football honored one of its best players in history with Vince Promuto '60 Day at the Homecoming Football game vs. Fordham. Friends, family and former teammates joined Vince (pictured far left) for a celebration at Fitton Field with a pregame reception and halftime recognition ceremony. Promuto attended Holy Cross and was then drafted by the Washington Redskins in the fourth round of the 1960 NFL draft. He played 130 games at guard from 1960-1970, all with Washington, and was a Pro Bowl selection in 1963 and 1964. Promuto is a member of the Washington Redskins' Ring of Fame and was the last captain under legendary coach Vince Lombardi in his only season with the Redskins. The Bronx native currently resides in Ft. Lauderdale, Fl.



Alumni Athletes Reunite

40th Anniversary Hockey Event

A Celebration of Holy Cross Hockey was held on Saturday, Nov. 18th at the Hart Center preceding the Men's Game vs. Army. The 1966-67 team, the College's first varsity hockey team, was honored with a reception before the game. Coaches Bill Kane and Bob Skinner were on hand at the event along with many members of that inaugural varsity team—more than 40 alumni and friends in total. Current Head Coach Paul Pearl '89 thanked all alumni and families for attending and encouraged their support of the program in the future. A list of those present from the 1966-67 era included:

Dick Antoniuc '67	Jay Gibbons '69
Matt Byrne '67	Bob Johnson '69
Paul Doyle '67	Bill Joy '69
Bob Moran '67	Michael Clare '70
Frank Callahan '68	Frank Hartig '70
Herb Minkel '68	Larry Murphy '70
Bill Butler '69	Ed Reutemann '70
Jim Farley '69	Vic Schlitzer '70



Thank You!

Thanks to the more than 400 donors who have already contributed to the new Crusader Athletics Fund over its first three months. In total, more than \$200,000 has been raised for varsity athletics — real dollars that will have a significant impact on today's student-athletes.

For more information on how to contribute to, or volunteer for, the Crusader Athletics Fund, please call Tom Cadigan '02 at (508) 793-2415 or email: crusaderathletics@holycross.edu.



Basketball Alumni Game

The Men's alumni basketball game took place on the morning of Saturday, Nov. 18th at the Hart Center. Thirteen alumni took part in the game and more than 25 former Crusader basketball players, including current Head Coach Ralph Willard '67, were on hand for the day's events. In a very competitive game the Purple team defeated the White 73-72 as the White team was unable to get off a shot attempt at the buzzer. Current Holy Cross Assistant Coaches Guillermo Sanchez '02 and Mark Jerz '03 captained the respective squads. Ernie Floyd '84, called the game action on the floor. A reception followed in the Bud Ryan '41 Room of the Hart Center. The day culminated with the current Holy Cross Men's team defeating Siena 65-57. All alumni present were given a Holy Cross Basketball Alumni Game T-shirt to commemorate the event.

Other alumni present for the day included:

Togo Palazzi '54
Ron Perry '54
Don Prohovich '56
Joseph Dorsey '60
Richard Murphy '66
Rod DeLeaver '74
Mike Vicens '78
Leo Kane '79
John O'Connor '79
Joe Kringdon '80
Ron Perry '80
Lorn Davis '90
Roger Breslin '93
Frank Powell '93
Ted Bettencourt '96
Keith Driscoll '97
John Hightower '99
Brian Wilson '03
Dan Brault '05
John Hurley '05
Greg Kinsey '05



Baseball Alumni Game

Bright sunshine and unseasonably warm temperatures greeted 16 former Crusader baseball players as they took to Fitton Field for an alumni game held Sunday, Oct. 8th. Participants ranged from Len Pepe '75 to Steve Buckley and Pete Pasciucco, both from the class of '05. The game itself was highlighted by homeruns from Matt McEvoy '03 and Brendan Grady '89, which also marked the first time alumni have played on the renovated Fitton Field diamond.

Other alumni who returned for the game included: Robert Heon '51, Ron Cote '56, Michael Greeley '77, Brian Merrick '95, Mike Cunningham '95, Andy Nolan '97, John Sheehy '98, Scott Petersen '02, Pete Summa '02, Bill Andruskevich '03, James Arrante '03, Joe McCabe '03 and Dan Powers '03.

Several other alumni who were not present for the game but contributed to the success of the event included: Art Moossmann '53, Barry Bocklet '61, James Murphy '63, Don Riedl '63, Edward Cooney '69, Nick Rago '75, Ron Perry '80, Mike Hallisey '82 and Anthony Froio '86.

In addition, many former Crusaders brought their parents and families back to Mount St. James for the event, which was followed by refreshments at the field and culminated with the current Crusader team taking on UMass. Head Coach Craig Najarian was very pleased with the turnout and hopes to make it an annual tradition.

Alumni Swimming Event

Swimming is a sport in which you can participate no matter how old you are. This held true when the Holy Cross alumni swimmers swam against the present HC swim team on Saturday, Oct. 21st at the Hart Center pool in the annual alumni swim meet. Twenty-five alumni returned for the event organized by Kate Reilly '04 and hosted by Coach Barry Parenteau. The meet featured individual freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke, butterfly and individual medley races with a few relay races thrown in just for fun.

The divers from the present team also put on a fabulous exhibition of their skills. Hopes are for a similar showing of divers next year. Afterward alumni had dinner in the Bud Ryan '41 Room with Coach Parenteau and his wife. All of the participants had a great time and are looking forward to next year's event.

Following are the alumni swimmers and divers who participated:

Mike Toner '63	Maura Malone '02
Sean McCue '81	Tom Connors '03
Tim Jordan '94	Mike Emmons '03
Josh Wright '95	Carrie Pucko '04
Rob O'Connell '97	Kate Reilly '04
Noreen Coughlin '00	Matt Eucalitto '05
Pat Cronan '01	Noreen Faughnan '05
Cara Curtis '01	Jason Gintert '05
Jen Gibbons '01	Ryan Keating '05
Tyler Burbridge '02	Abby Lemieux '05
Sean Callahan '02	Emily Ferris '06
Liz Dean '02	Matt Talucci '06
Steve Finocchi '02	

Crew Alumni Event

The annual Head of the Charles Regatta was held Saturday, Oct. 22nd and Sunday, Oct. 23rd in Boston. The event is the largest two-day regatta, attracting teams from around the globe. An alumni reception with free admission was held at The Point - Boston in Faneuil Hall on Saturday night. A great crowd of over 75 alumni attended the event from both the men's and women's teams, predominantly from the classes of 2000 through 2006. Women's Coach Pat Diggins and his wife also attended the festivities. Preliminary plans are underway to create a Crew Alumni Association through the College and organize similar events in the future.



BASEBALL

1952 NCAA National Champions

55th Anniversary

Celebrating Anniversaries

BASKETBALL

1947 NCAA National Champions

60th Anniversary



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