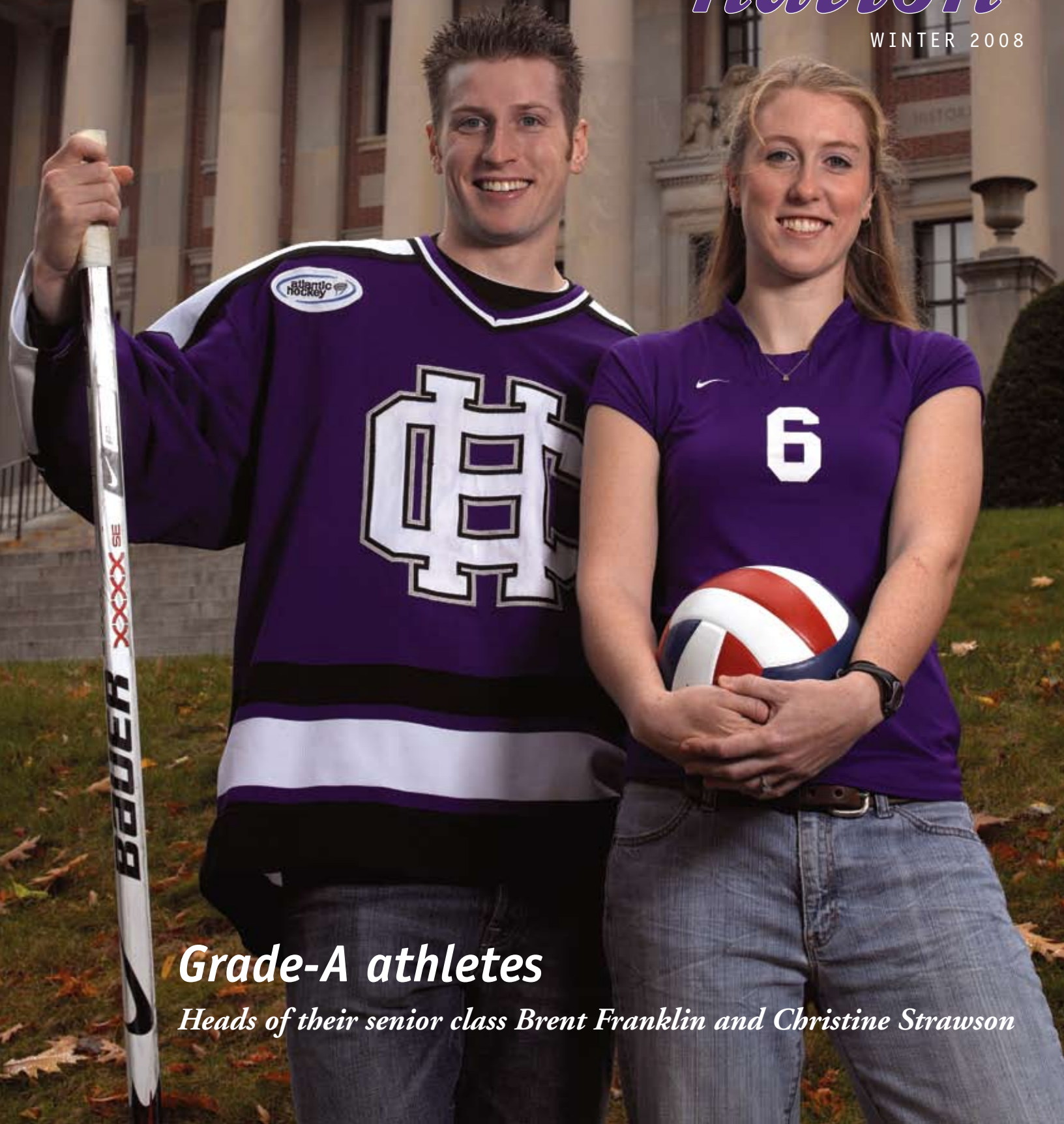


# CRUSADE<sup>R</sup> *nation*

WINTER 2008



***Grade-A athletes***

*Heads of their senior class Brent Franklin and Christine Strawson*

# To Our Readers

Dear Friends of Crusader Athletics,

I am excited to share with you our third issue of *Crusader Nation* magazine. I hope you are enjoying the publication so far. It is very encouraging to see the level of interest and enthusiasm for our athletic teams. Thank you to all those who have become a part of "Sader Nation" in support of our 27 varsity sports.

On the fields this fall, Men's Soccer had an excellent season going undefeated in the Patriot League and winning their fifth regular season title. Our Football team also had a very good year. The program continues to improve under Tom Gilmore's guidance, finishing with a record of 7-4. The winter season is underway and I hope you will attend many events at the Hart Center in support of our teams.

Our student-athletes continue to excel in the classroom. In October the NCAA released its latest Graduation Success Rates (GSR) and I am pleased to report that 20 out of 27 Holy Cross varsity teams reported a 100-percent GSR, the most of any institution in the Patriot League. This is quite an accomplishment considering that the Patriot League schools are among the best in the country.

I hope you enjoy this issue's features on seniors Brent Franklin and Christine Strawson, who exemplify the high caliber student-athletes we have here on Mount St. James. We are very proud of them. Also inside this issue are bios of the head coaches and support staff of our varsity programs. These men and women are wonderful recruiters, teachers and leaders for our student-athletes. You will recognize some old friends and you will see some new faces as well.

The Crusader Athletics Fund is now in its second year. We had a good first year raising more than \$630,000 from over 1,400 donors. The money raised through this annual fund is entirely budget enhancing and is applied to important varsity programming costs such as recruiting, team travel, equipment upgrades and coaching needs. This effort is beginning to level the playing field with our Patriot League and other peer institutions, but we still have some catching up to do. An envelope is enclosed with this issue should you wish to contribute. Your support is making a difference.

I look forward to seeing many of you on campus and at various alumni events throughout the country this year. We are most appreciative of the many of you who volunteer, donate, sponsor and attend athletic contests in support of your Crusaders. Our continued success in each sport will be directly related to our ability to recruit top student-athletes, attract new athletic donors and significantly increase attendance at games. On behalf of our student-athletes, coaches and staff, thank you for all you do. We look forward to your continued support in helping to shape the exciting future of Holy Cross Athletics.



Richard M. Regan, Jr. '76

*Director of Athletics*



# CRUSADER nation

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For the most recent updates on Crusader Athletics, please visit our official Web site at <http://goholycross.cstv.com/>



CRUSADER ATHLETICS FUND

# A different game plan

*Men's Soccer proves prognosticators wrong*

by Michelle Bradley

**B**ack in August, the Holy Cross Men's Soccer team was far from achieving its many 2007 successes. The Crusaders were picked to finish last in the Patriot League Pre-Season Poll, having graduated their top scorer, Josh Trott '07, and was entering the season with 11 freshmen. Clearly expectations for the team were not high.

The players had a different plan. "We were expecting a lot of the freshmen to do well and we set the tone early that we wanted a complete turn around from last year," said sophomore goalkeeper Thomas Booth. To create a team bond between the returning players and the new faces, mentoring and constant contact between seasoned and new recruits through e-mail and telephone calls created a close-knit group prepared to play successful Crusader soccer.

"Heading into preseason, everything just seemed to be clicking for us," said junior defender and co-captain Jerry Dickinson. "All the upperclassmen took leadership roles and positions, helping the freshmen become acclimated to Division I soccer." The Crusaders' young talent tied to its experienced roots proved to be the right combination for Holy Cross to make waves in its non-conference play and Patriot League competition this season.

"When you come into Division I soccer, the speed of the game is much faster than

high school," said Dickinson. "Luckily, the freshmen picked up on the game in three to four weeks. It was good for them to learn the game quickly."

While not all of its best games were victories, the Men's Soccer team proved to be stiff competition against some of the nation's best teams. The Crusaders hosted nationally ranked No. 12 Boston College on Oct. 31 but came up just short with a 2-1 overtime loss to the Eagles.

"The depth on our team is so deep that we didn't have four of our starters and we still competed with one of the best teams in the country," said freshman forward Kyle Miller.

Holy Cross also visited Cambridge and tied No. 11 Harvard, 1-1, in double overtime on Oct. 17. Alejandro Melean recorded his second goal of the season with 3:41 left in the first half. "We just went out knowing if we played our game, then we'd be able to compete with them and the results would come," said Miller.

The Crusaders' aggressive play carried the team through Patriot League action as Holy Cross posted a 4-0-3 conference record, winning the regular season title and hosting the tournament as the top seed. During the season, the team defeated Lehigh, Navy, American, and Army. Particularly impressive was the 3-2 comeback victory against American in overtime despite

being down to 10 men on the field due to a red card penalty just 20 minutes into the game. Defying the odds, the Crusaders continued to be successful. "Coming back from two goals down [with only 10 men] proved that we are a really good team," said Miller.

The team posted all its league ties against the three other teams that



competed in the Patriot League tournament: Colgate, Bucknell and Lafayette. This season marked the fourth time that Holy Cross hosted the Patriot League tournament. On a blustery cold day in November, the Crusaders fell to Lafayette, 2-1, in the tournament semifinals, ending their season.

The 2007 squad also made Holy Cross Men's Soccer history. This season marked the fourth time that the team went undefeated in Patriot League play. Head Coach Elvis Comrie was named the Patriot League Coach of the Year for the fourth time in his career, while Miller was named the Patriot League Rookie of the Year, making him the third player in school history to achieve that honor. Goalkeeper Booth ranked second all-time in fewest goals allowed in a single-season with 16, and second in goals-against average for a season at 0.81.

Though the Men's Soccer season came to an end too soon, the future looks bright. "We proved we are a top-notch team in terms of athletic and technical ability," said Dickinson. "Now we've constructed that identity as a team to beat in the Patriot League." 🌟



# A quick study

*Christine Strawson sets mark on court and in classroom*

*By Christopher Edmonds '04*

Christine Strawson '08 can't be blamed for not remembering, instant by instant, her record-setting kill for the Crusaders women's volleyball team on Sept. 8, 2007—she'd repeated the action more than 1,000 times previously.

The senior biology/premed major from Torrington, Conn., entered the fall within reach of the program's all-time kills record of 1,063, then held by former teammate Caitlin Agostinacchio '05, but said she didn't pay much attention until the record-setting moment had come and gone.

"I realized what had happened afterward when everyone was celebrating," said Strawson, the Crusaders captain for 2006 and 2007. "Going into the season, I knew that I was really close to it, but it's not something I focused on from game one."

Her coach was equally focused on the match, which at the time Strawson set her record looked a rather bleak 2-0 advantage for the visiting Loyola [Md.] Greyhounds. The Crusaders eventually lost 3-2 on the day.

"All I know is in the match we were down 0-2 to Loyola, and we were fighting our way back," said Holy Cross women's volleyball coach Chris Ridolfi.

Strawson and the program to which she's devoted so much of her college career may not be overly concerned with statistics, but Strawson's numbers, athletically and scholastically, are nothing if not remarkable.

Aided by double-digit kills in 19 matches this fall, Strawson finished her career with a record 1,246 kills. In 2005 and 2006, Strawson's on-court displays earned her a place in the all-Patriot League second team.

With six of her eight semesters at Holy Cross accounted for, her GPA sat just shy of perfect at 3.93. In November, Strawson was named to *ESPN The Magazine's* academic

all-district team for the third straight season. In 2005 and again in 2006, she was named Patriot League volleyball scholar athlete of the year.

As she inherited the kills record from Agostinacchio, so too did Strawson, her high school class' valedictorian, take the scholar athlete mantle from Agostinacchio, who won the award in 2004.

"That's my greatest accomplishment," Strawson said. I can tell people that I'm not just an athlete; I'm a scholar athlete. It's really important that the league and the coaches recognize my accomplishments on the court and off."

Even with the volleyball season having ended in November, Strawson won't have lazy afternoons and even lazier weekends to look forward to as she completes her final semester on Mount St. James. Strawson, whose parents are both teachers, decided during her sophomore year that her future wouldn't include medical school—though she still finished her pre-med requirements—and that her heart lies in education.

She'll spend much of the spring semester at Burncoat High School in Worcester student-teaching as she checks off the last requirement for the college's teacher certification program.

"I come from a family of educators and deep down I've known it's what I've always wanted to do," she said. "I'm really excited about next semester and the upcoming



year. I think education is so important and teachers are vitally important."

She's served as a substitute teacher at her alma mater, Torrington High School, during breaks in the college calendar, and has already logged a significant amount of time at Burncoat in preparation for her student-teaching. Time spent in front of a high school class has helped ease the stresses of attending her own classes at Holy Cross, she said.

"I can get so stressed out for tests and exams, and I go to Burncoat and that puts everything in perspective," Strawson said. "It de-stresses me. It's why I take these classes and these tests."

*continued on page 4*

**CRUSADER** nation

# Team chemistry

*Brent Franklin is part hockey player, part Fenwick Scholar*

*By Christopher Edmonds '04*

**B**rent Franklin '08 has gotten used to speaking in layman's terms. It's a necessary skill considering that this defenseman on the hockey team has been spending his senior year in the chemistry lab researching inorganic synthesis.

"Ninety-nine percent of everyone else doesn't understand what I'm doing," Franklin said.

The project—"Using Organometallic Chemistry to Develop Imaging Agents"—earned Franklin the distinction as this year's Fenwick Scholar, the college's highest academic honor. Apart from the time he spends on the ice, Franklin is devoting his entire senior year to the project in lieu of taking a regular course load. At the end of the year, he will make a presentation of his findings.

"This isn't even really just the story of a student-athlete, it's a story of a great student," said Holy Cross Men's Ice Hockey Coach Paul Pearl. "[Brent is] off the charts academically compared with anyone at Holy Cross. For him to be able to compete at the Division I level in addition to that, he's just a remarkable kid."

Franklin and his advisor Prof. Richard Herrick of the chemistry department are, as Franklin said, using a non-radioactive metal called rhenium that has the same reactive properties as a radioactive metal called technetium in order to develop a new compound to be used for imaging purposes, specifically for targeting cancer cells.

"I'm dealing with a docile form of a radioactive substance," Franklin said. "They're one in the same, except one's radioactive and the other's not."

Technetium, which can't be used on campus on account of its radioactive properties, is cheaper and more readily available than other radioactive isotopes currently available.

"[The currently available compounds] are big and bulky, they're not target-specific, and their half-lives aren't really what you're looking for because they will decay within two hours," Franklin said.

Technetium, on the other hand, has "a great combination of half-life and energy emission," Franklin said. A nine-hour half-life would provide doctors with, what Franklin called, "a huge window of preparation and administration" of treatments.

Franklin, a three-time member of Atlantic Hockey's all-academic team, has already published a paper with Herrick in the *European Journal of Inorganic Chemistry*. Franklin and Herrick have submitted a paper to *Dalton Communications*, a member of England's Royal Society of Chemistry, and are in the process of preparing two more papers for publication.

It's all a rather ambitious project for this hockey player-cum-chemistry whiz from Grosse Pointe Farms, Mich., who only changed his major to chemistry when he found his biology grades weren't quite where he wanted them to be.

"I came to Holy Cross as a bio major," he said. "I thought that was my calling, but the next thing I knew, I wasn't doing that well in biology and

I was acing chemistry. It made life easier to switch to being a chemistry major. I'm so happy I did."

Herrick, Franklin's professor for general chemistry, made the switch easier, even if the future Fenwick was hesitant at first.

"He was a very good student and clearly had a strong understanding of the material and an interest in more than just doing well in the course," Herrick said. "For some reason, he didn't think he'd be appropriate for research. I hoped he'd asked me about working with me, but eventually I had to go and ask him."

*continued on next page*



*Christine Strawson continued from page 2*

That Strawson has taken those classes and sat for those exams owes in part to a conversation Strawson, then a rising senior in high school, and Ridolfi had at Springfield College's volleyball camp in the summer of 2004.

"Through high school, I played three sports and my intention was to play basketball in college," Strawson said. "But by the time I was a junior or senior, I'd grown tired of basketball, so I started looking at other options."



Other options opened the door for Ridolfi, a coach at the camp, who took notice of both Strawson's playing ability and her demeanor.

"We saw something special in her, especially the way she acted with her teammates," said Ridolfi. "She brought her whole high school team with her to that. She was hands down the best player at that high school, but just the way she interacted with the other kids drew me to her."

Player and coach use the same word to describe Strawson's level of refinement that summer—"raw"—but with her talent evident, Ridolfi asked the obvious.

"It started with a simple conversation. I wanted to know why she wasn't considering volleyball," he said.

A simple conversation turned into a campus visit and later turned into an application, an acceptance, an enrollment and an accelerated getting-up-to-speed for Strawson on the volleyball court. Her new teammates provided considerable support in that final element, Strawson said.

"When I was a freshman, the older girls on the team were a great group of people and that made the adjustment easier," she said.

"They were willing to be there for me on and off the court. They helped me develop into a better player. They challenged me, and I'm a very competitive person, each day trying to get better. You gradually improve with that kind of effort."

The changeover from high school to college volleyball may not have been straightforward, but Strawson soon established herself as one of the team's top assets.

"She's our top serve receiver, our most tenacious defender and probably our most talented player," Ridolfi said. "I think she's probably one of the top players this program has ever seen."

But for Strawson, who's chasing her third straight scholar athlete of the year honor and a place in the all-Patriot League first team, she'd prefer the program's annals remember her effort and leadership before skipping to her arresting statistics.

"The legacy I want to leave for the team goes beyond the statistical or records part of the game," Strawson said. "I want to be known for being a hard worker and a good leader, that day in and day out I was there and I was reliable. It's not only about the numbers for me." 🌟

*Brent Franklin continued from page 3*

When Herrick approached Franklin in the spring of his sophomore year about staying on campus to conduct research that summer, Franklin was again unsure. He said he wanted to go home to Michigan, but changed his mind when he learned his brother, with whom he intended to pass the summer months in Grosse Point Farms, had moved to California.

"My brother moving was the catalyst to keep me here for the summer in Worcester," Franklin said.

His brother's moving was just one of a number of "fluke incidents," as Franklin called them, that turned the reluctant researcher into his class' academic standard-bearer—not unlike a fluke injury that brought Franklin to Holy Cross in the first place.

Determined to play Division I college hockey, Franklin left Grosse Point High School before the start of his senior year and



moved to Aurora, Ontario to finish high school and play in the Ontario Provincial

Junior Hockey League, a training ground for would-be college hockey players.

*Brent Franklin continued*

Franklin broke his ankle in his first season and opted to stay on for a second season. The coaching staff at Holy Cross, which had noticed Franklin in year one, came calling again in Franklin's second year of juniors.

"The whole goal of playing juniors was to be able to play at a Division I school, but not just any school, an academically elite school," Franklin said. "Whether that meant playing one year of juniors or a couple, I was open to everything."

Though he had fielded overtures from Division III schools, Franklin opted for the purple and white of Holy Cross because it fits the scholastic profile he sought.

"It wasn't only a Division I name, but it has an academic prowess," he said.

Franklin has made the most of his decision. Peerless academically, he's been an integral team player for Pearl and the Crusaders on the ice. Franklin collected his first point of the season, an assist on Dale Reinhardt's third-period goal, on Nov. 3 against Army.

"He's a good, solid defenseman, which every good team needs," Pearl said. "He's not necessarily a point-producer, but he's a point-preventer and every team needs that, too." The same summer that Franklin refined his work in the laboratory, he turned himself into a "more viable player," according to his coach.

"He's a fabulously conditioned athlete, but he's really turned himself into a top-notch physical guy," Pearl said.

Strong on the ice and even stronger in the classroom, Franklin, as might be expected, has his sights set even higher. Medical school beckons, as does a specialization in neurosurgery—for the moment at least.

"Those are my tendencies," he said. "They could change tomorrow or they could change next year, who knows."

As he awaits word back from the 16 medical schools to which he's applied, Franklin said he's certain of one thing: his earlier disinclination toward research is gone for good.

"I've learned the value of what research plays," he said. "If you want things to get better, there's got to be someone to make them better." 🌟



# DONATIONS at Work

**Gideon Akande '06**  
*Football*

• *What inspired you to give to the football program through the Crusader Athletics Fund?*

• It was through the generous giving of others that I was blessed enough to attend the College of the Holy Cross. A good portion of my Holy Cross journey was spent with my teammates on historic Fitton Field. As any athletic director will tell you, football is not an inexpensive sport. The football program needs the support of alumni and others in order to make it work.

• *How would you encourage others to give to the Crusader Athletics Fund?*

• I encourage all young alumni to give any amount they can. Just keep in mind that one small amount, coupled with the contributions of others, can grant a student-athlete the opportunities and experiences we alumni now look fondly upon. My humble donation is nothing more than a thank you to those who made it all happen for me, and a God Bless to those who will benefit from it.

• *How would you describe your experience as a Holy Cross student-athlete?*

• I would describe my experience as a microcosm of things yet unseen. There was adversity, failure, growth, and triumph. Looking back, there are memories, friendships, and reflections that are as vivid as yesterday. The same emotions and feelings I encountered as a student-athlete will more than likely resurface throughout my lifetime. I will embrace them as they come through the foundation that my student-athlete experience has granted me.

• During my junior year, I heard a phrase from a football alumnus that I will never forget: "It's what you do when you don't have to that will determine where you will be when you can't help it." I often find myself reinterpreting that phrase. I feel it means to work hard as though you are always being evaluated; never gain at the unethical expense of others; and carry yourself with an unmatched level of character. Humility and respect for others goes a long way as most bridges must be crossed time and time again.



CRUSADER ATHLETICS FUND

## Thank You!

Thanks to the more than 500 alumni, parents, and friends who have already contributed to the 2007-2008 Crusader Athletics Fund in its second year (beginning July 2007). In total, more than \$225,000 has been raised for HC varsity athletics over the past seven months—real dollars that are having 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, associate director of Annual Athletics Fundraising, at (508) 793-2415 or e-mail: [crusaderathletics@holycross.edu](mailto:crusaderathletics@holycross.edu).

The deadline to make a gift and have it count in the 2007-2008 total is June 30. Please consider making your contribution today.

# The Coaches and staff of Holy Cross

*Bios of our Athletics program leaders*



## Dick Regan

### *Director of Athletics, 10th year*

(first row, middle)

Regan is in his 10th year guiding the Crusader athletic programs. During this period of time, 18 Holy Cross teams have advanced to NCAA tournament play—including at least one team in each of his first nine years. The Women's Basketball team has been to the postseason in seven of the last nine years (six NCAA appearances and a WNIT berth in 2002), while the Field Hockey (1998 and 2000) and Women's Soccer (2000) programs have also made NCAA appearances. Regan's tenure has also seen the first-ever NCAA appearances for the Men's Ice Hockey (2004 and 2006), Men's Soccer (2002) and Women's Lacrosse (2006 and 2007) teams. In 1999, Regan hired Ralph Willard as the Men's Basketball coach, a move which revitalized the program. The Crusaders have advanced to postseason play in five of the last seven years, and became the first Patriot League team ever to advance to the NCAA tournament in three consecutive seasons (2001, 2002 and 2003). Success is not measured only by wins and losses, but by other gains as well. In an effort to further increase the number of Crusader teams coached by full-time staff members, Regan announced the appointment of full-time coaching positions in Track, Volleyball, Women's Lacrosse and Softball. Gender equity has been a major focus of Regan's administration and he introduced the college's first two new varsity sports in more than 15 years—Women's Ice Hockey and Women's Golf. Improvements to the athletics facilities have also been part of Regan's focus. The new Linda Johnson Smith Stadium is home to not only the Men's and Women's Soccer teams, but its unique two-sided stands and press facilities provide an additional benefit to home events for Field Hockey, Men's Lacrosse, Women's Lacrosse and Outdoor Track and Field. The Baseball team opened a new on-campus stadium beginning in the fall of 2005. And there have been improvements to other facilities as well, such as the softball field, the Men's Ice Hockey locker room, and a video room for the Men's and Women's Basketball teams.

In addition to his duties on campus, Regan has become involved in college athletic policy on a national scale. From

1999-2004, he served a four-year term as a Division I-AA representative on the NCAA Division I Management Council. The Management Council, comprised of 49 athletic administrators and faculty athletic representatives from around the nation, reports directly to the NCAA's Division I Board of Directors. The council is responsible for adopting operating bylaws and rules to govern Division I, interpreting Division I bylaws, reviewing recommendations from the Division I conferences and universities, and developing and implementing the Division I budget. Regan is a 1976 graduate of Holy Cross.

## Egetta Alfonso

### *Women's Track & Field, 6th year*

(first row, fourth from left)

Last season, Alfonso led the Crusaders to a sixth place finish at the Patriot League track and field championships. The Crusaders also placed 17th overall in the New England Championships. An outstanding performer for the Crusaders from 1988-1992, Alfonso was a four-year letterwinner at Holy Cross. She served as the team's co-captain during the 1991-1992 season and was a member of the school's 4 x 100 meter relay team which held HC's all-time record in that event. Alfonso was an All-Patriot League performer in the shot put and the 400 meter race. Alfonso began her coaching career at South High School in Worcester where she served as the assistant coach for both the boys and girls teams before taking over the head coaching position one year later. She served as South High's head coach for boy's and girl's track and field for three years before moving on to take her current position at Holy Cross.

## Jim Kavanagh

### *Cross Country & Men's Track & Field, 31st year*

(first row, far right)

Kavanagh joined the Holy Cross staff in 1971 as Harold "Skip" O'Connor's assistant and was appointed Head Coach in 1977. Coach Kavanagh taught math and coached part-time at Holy Cross for 28 years before accepting the position of Director of Men's and Women's Track and Cross Country on a full time basis in the summer of 1999.

Kavanagh excelled in track and football at Boston College from 1965-1968. In

track he was a three time New England Champion, twice in the discus and once in the shot put. In each of his last three years he journeyed to the NCAA's as a hammer thrower finishing second in his senior year. He qualified for the 1968 Olympic Trials and finished 10th with a career best of 199'11". He was a four time All-American in the hammer and weight throw, a NCAA qualifier in the discus and 3rd place finisher in the East Coast AAU Decathlon Championship. In football he enjoyed a fine two-year career which saw him drafted by the Kansas City Chiefs. A serious ankle injury forced him to leave both Kansas City and later Buffalo.

## Stephanie Ridolfi

### *Women's Lacrosse, 6th year*

(second row, far left)

Ridolfi is the program's all-time winningest coach. In her first five seasons at Holy Cross she owns an overall record of 52-40 and 19-10 in the Patriot League, including a 15-2 record in the Patriot League the last three seasons. In 2007, the Crusaders won their second straight Patriot League regular season and tournament titles, while they also qualified for the NCAA Tournament for the second straight season and second time in school history. Holy Cross went 13-6 overall and a perfect 5-0 in Patriot League regular season games. Ridolfi was selected the Patriot League Coach of the Year in 2006 after leading Holy Cross to an undefeated record in the league (6-0) and a number one seed in the conference tournament. The Women's Lacrosse team had another first when they went on to the NCAA Tournament. Holy Cross had the most successful record in school history with a 14-7 overall mark. As a player, she led the University of Massachusetts to the 2000 Atlantic 10 Conference Championship, the school's first lacrosse title, and was the team's leading scorer and earned Atlantic 10 All-Conference honors. Ridolfi was also named to the Atlantic 10 All-Academic team.

## Elvis Comrie

### *Men's Soccer, 17th year*

(second row, second from left)

In 2007, Comrie was named the Patriot League Coach of the Year for the fourth time. He has the most career wins (116) of

any men's soccer coach in the history of the program and he is the most tenured coach in the history of Holy Cross soccer. In the past 14 seasons, Comrie has guided the Crusaders to 10 Patriot League Tournaments, including a string of seven straight appearances from 1997-2003. This year, Comrie led the Crusaders to the Patriot League regular season title with a record of 4-0-3. Comrie also led Holy Cross to a 13-5-1 overall record in 2002 and the Patriot League Regular Season and Tournament Championships for the first time in school history. The 13 wins marked the most victories in the 38-year history of the men's soccer program at Holy Cross. That season, Comrie led the Crusaders to their first NCAA Tournament appearance. The Crusaders finished third in the NSCAA/Adidas Division I poll for the New England region, after earning the school's first national Top 25 ranking on October 14, 2002. Comrie was a four-year starter for the University of Connecticut, leading the Huskies to a national championship in 1981 and was inducted into the Connecticut Hall of Fame in 2005.

### Deb Flaherty

**Women's Soccer, 4th year**

(second row, third from left)

Flaherty came to Holy Cross after spending three years as the head women's soccer coach at West Chester University in West Chester, Pa. She led West Chester to a record of 31-20-7 from 2001-2003 and a sweet 16 appearance in the NCAA tournament. Also an outstanding player, Flaherty was a three year captain at the University of Michigan. She was a first team All-Big Ten selection in 1995 and a second team All-Big Ten pick in both 1994 and 1996. Flaherty was also an Academic All-Big Ten all-star in 1996 and 1997.

### Paul Pearl

**Men's Ice Hockey, 13th year**

(second row, fourth from left)

Coming into this season, Pearl has a record of 191-168-36 at Holy Cross over 12 years. He has guided the Crusaders to seven of the nine most successful seasons in Holy Cross history, including three teams posting 20-plus win seasons. Along with 11 post-season appearances in 12 years, Pearl



led the Crusaders to their first two NCAA Tournament appearances in 2003-04 and 2005-06, and coached the Crusaders to their first ever NCAA Tournament win with a 4-3 overtime victory over Minnesota in Grand Forks, N.D., which some have called the greatest upset in college hockey history. Pearl also served Holy Cross in the capacity of baseball coach from 1998-2001. He coached the only two teams to ever reach the Patriot League baseball playoffs at Holy Cross and was twice named Patriot League Coach of the Year. Pearl is a 1989 graduate of Holy Cross where he was a member of the hockey and baseball teams.

### Bill Gibbons

**Women's Basketball, 23rd year**

(second row, far right)



Gibbons has led the Crusaders to 11 Patriot League Championships in the last 17 years. He has also made 12 postseason appearances (11 NCAA Tournaments and one WNIT) in his 22 years as head coach. With 16 20-win seasons under his belt, Gibbons has cemented himself and the women's basketball program as one of the best in the East. The sixth coach of the women's program at Holy Cross, Gibbons has enjoyed the longest tenure in this position. He has led the Women's Basketball program to more victories than any other coach, and is the winningest coach in Holy Cross basketball history. Now with more than 400 wins, Gibbons

is the second-winningest coach in Holy Cross Athletics history, behind legendary baseball coach Jack Barry, who totaled 616 wins from 1921-1960. In 2003, he was inducted into the New England College Basketball Hall of Fame at the University of Rhode Island. Gibbons is a six-time Patriot League Coach of the Year.

### Barry Parenteau

**Men's & Women's Swimming & Diving, 32nd year**

(third row, left)

Parenteau has been with the women's team since its inception in 1975 and assumed a full-time role at Holy Cross in 1983 when he was named Aquatics Director of the newly-built swimming and diving facility at the Hart Recreation Center. The only coach the women's program has ever known, Parenteau also served as an assistant coach with the men since his arrival at Holy Cross. He was named Coach of the Year in the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference after the 1984-85, 1987-88, and 1989-90 campaigns. In 1986-87, the Holy Cross women had their finest season ever, finishing with a 9-1 dual meet slate and a sixth place finish at the New England Championships. In addition to his coaching duties, he assists with management of the Hart Center.

### Jack Moriarty

**Head Equipment Manager, 37th year**

(third row, right)

Moriarty currently serves as the head equipment manager for all Crusader varsity athletic teams. He originally came to Holy Cross as both an athletic trainer and equipment manager in 1971. He was promoted to head athletic trainer in 1991, before devoting his full time to serving as the head equipment manager in 1994. In recognition of his excellent service, Moriarty was inducted into the Holy Cross Varsity Club Hall of Fame in 2004.

### Ralph Willard

**Men's Basketball, 9th year**

(fourth row, far left)

In his first eight years at Holy Cross, Willard has directed his squad to 159 wins, averaging over 19 wins per season. The 159 victories are the second highest total for



## Pat Diggins

### *Women's Rowing, 21st year*

(fourth row, second from left)

In the 2001-2002 season, Diggins' team enjoyed the best results posted by any women's squad since the inception at Holy Cross. The varsity eight won the Avaya Collegiate Championship after winning the Patriot League Regatta, the Worcester City Championship, and finishing third at the New England Rowing Championship. The varsity eight also finished the regular racing season undefeated. The fall season included gold medals at the Textile Regatta and the New Hampshire Championships and a third place finish at the Head of the Schuylkill. Diggins was voted New England Women's Coach of the Year in 1999 and 2002 and was awarded the irow.com coaching award along with Coach Tom Sullivan in 2002. Diggins' teams have won 10 consecutive Worcester City Championships, and have won six conference titles since 1987. The 1994 varsity eight won the prestigious Head of the Charles. Diggins also serves on the Board of Directors and as Treasurer of the Quinsigamond Rowing Association, Inc., the local organization which hosts the Big East Championships, the New England Rowing Championships, the Eastern Sprints, the Avaya Collegiate Regatta, and the New England Interscholastic Regatta. He was also a co-founder of the Avaya Collegiate Regatta.

## Jeff Oliver

### *Head Strength & Conditioning Coach, 12th year*

(fourth row, third from left)

Oliver oversees the strength and conditioning program for all 27 varsity sports at HC. Oliver is responsible for improving all parameters of sport performance for all student-athletes including strength, speed, power, agility, flexibility, nutrition and team building. He also works with the athletic training staff to treat injured athletes and to prevent the likelihood of future injuries. Oliver also maintains and updates the athlete/coach interactive Web site.

## Anthony Cerundolo

### *Head Athletic Trainer, 10th year*

(fourth row, fourth from left)

Cerundolo is the director of sports medicine for all 27 varsity sports, working on a day-to-day basis with the Football and Men's Basketball teams. He is in charge of the coordination of medical coverage for all student-athletes and oversees a staff of five certified athletic trainers. Prior to his time at Holy Cross, Cerundolo spent four years as an assistant athletic trainer at Harvard University. While at Harvard, he worked with the Crimson's football, basketball, lacrosse, baseball, soccer and swimming teams. Cerundolo also spent time as a graduate assistant athletic trainer at Boston University, where he worked with the football, baseball, hockey, track and field, field hockey and rowing teams. In addition, Cerundolo has served as a volunteer athletic trainer at the Bay State Games since 1989, and at the Boston Marathon since 1992. He has also spent time with the Pawtucket Red Sox and the Boston Blazers (indoor lacrosse), while working the NBA's pre-draft camp in 1999. Cerundolo is a member of the National Athletic Trainers' Association and the National Academy of Sports Medicine.

## Tom Gilmore

### *Football, 4th year*

(fourth row, far right)



Gilmore has rebuilt the Crusader football team into a consistent Patriot League contender. His energy, enthusiasm and

a Crusader head coach in school history, trailing only George Blaney (357-276 from 1972-1994). Willard led the Crusaders to three straight Patriot League tournament titles in 2001, 2002 and 2003, marking the first time in conference history that a team has accomplished that feat. He has posted a 79-29 mark in regular season conference play, and a 15-4 mark in conference tournament action. In 2005, he led Holy Cross to the Patriot League's first-ever postseason victory, a 78-73 win at Notre Dame in the first round of the National Invitation Tournament. Holy Cross has won at least 20 games in five of the last seven seasons, including a current streak of three straight years with 20 victories. The Crusaders have also advanced to postseason play five times in the last seven seasons, taking part in the NCAA tournament four times (2001, 2002, 2003 and 2007) and the National Invitation Tournament once (2005). During that time, Holy Cross has twice been eliminated from the NCAA Tournament by teams that went on to the Final Four (Kansas in 2002 and Marquette in 2003). In the 2006-2007 season, Willard guided the Crusaders to an overall record of 25-9, with a 13-1 mark in the Patriot League. Holy Cross won the conference regular season and tournament titles, while making its fourth NCAA Tournament appearance under Willard. Following the conclusion of the season, Willard was honored as the Patriot League Coach of the Year for the third time in his career.

work ethic have energized the alumni and fan base of Holy Cross football. He has a 23-21 record at Holy Cross with his teams going 7-4 the past two seasons. Gilmore was named the 2006 Patriot League Coach of the Year. In 2001, Gilmore was also named the American Football Coaches Association Assistant Coach of the Year as defensive coordinator at Lehigh. An Academic All-American at the University of Pennsylvania, he helped lead the Quakers to four consecutive Ivy League titles, while earning All-America honors during his junior and senior years. As a senior in 1985, Gilmore received the Asa S. Bushnell Cup as the Ivy League Player of the Year, and he remains one of only two linemen to have ever claimed the award. He also earned the George A. Munger Award as the team's Most Valuable Player, and the Class of 1917 Award as Penn's top scholar athlete.

### **Bob Molt**

#### ***Men's & Women's Golf, 31st year***

(fifth row, far left)

Molt was the captain of the golf team at the University of Arizona and turned professional in 1973. He took over the Crusader program in the fall of 1976 and has led the teams to a great deal of success. The men's squad made back-to-back appearances in the NCAA Tournament in 1982 and 1983, in addition to claiming a number of Worcester City championships. In October of 2006, Molt received the Gordon McCullough Coaching Award from the New England Intercollegiate Golf Association. The McCullough Award is presented annually to a coach for outstanding dedication to college golf, and for contributions to players, fellow coaches and golf committees at local and regional levels. Molt is currently owner and operator of the Solomon Pond Golf Center in Berlin, Mass. and is a member of the PGA of America.

### **Peter Van Buskirk**

#### ***Women's Ice Hockey, 8th year***

(fifth row, second from left)

Coming into this year, Van Buskirk has accumulated a 84-84-10 record over seven seasons, including a 15-10-2 mark last season. During the 2002-03 season

he helped the Crusaders compile a 17-7-1 overall record and win the ECAC Championship title in only their fourth season as a varsity team. Van Buskirk has been affiliated with the Holy Cross ice hockey program for 26 years. From 1979-88 he served as the men's head coach before returning to the bench as an assistant from 1991-96 and head coach again for the 1996-97 season. Van Buskirk is second all time in career wins at Holy Cross as Men's Ice Hockey coach with a record of 167-146-8 in 10 seasons. Van Buskirk is a member of both the Hudson High School and University of New Hampshire Athletic Hall of Fame.

### **Adam Pascal**

#### ***Men's Lacrosse, 4th year***

(fifth row, third from left)



Pascal was named the 2007 New England Intercollegiate Lacrosse Association Coach of the Year as he led the Crusaders to a 6-8 record, the best overall mark at Holy Cross since 1988. Holy Cross improved during the season and came on strong as it won four of its last six games competing in one of the toughest men's lacrosse leagues in the country. In 2006, Pascal was honored as one of 50 "Mentors that Matter" in a ceremony at the Great Hall of the Massachusetts State House in Boston. Pascal was honored for his role as a Big Brother, and for encouraging the entire Men's Lacrosse team to be Big Brothers at Canterbury School in Worcester.

### **Brian Claypool, Softball, 1st year**

(fifth row, fourth from left)

Claypool served as a volunteer assistant coach for Holy Cross during the 2007 campaign. He was previously the head coach at Hartwick College in Oneonta, N.Y., during the 2005 and 2006 seasons. Prior to that, Claypool spent two years as the head coach at the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts in North Adams, Mass. He had an overall record of 27-38 with the Trailblazers, including a second place finish in the Massachusetts State College Athletic Conference in 2003. Following that season, Claypool was honored as the MASCAC Coach of the Year.

### **Greg DiCenzo**

#### ***Baseball, 1st year***

(fifth row, far right)

DiCenzo came to Holy Cross from Northeastern, where he served as the pitching coach and recruiting coordinator for the last five seasons. During his time at Northeastern, the Huskies won the America East Tournament and advanced to the NCAA Tournament in 2003, while they won the America East Regular Season Championship in 2004 and 2005. His pitching staff set the school record for strikeouts in four straight seasons, while he had two pitchers earn America East Pitcher of the Year honors and three of his pitchers were selected in the Major League Baseball Draft, including Adam Ottavino who was drafted in the first round by the St. Louis Cardinals in 2006. DiCenzo was also an assistant coach for the Falmouth Commodores of the Cape Cod League for four seasons where he coached current Boston Red Sox Jacoby Ellsbury.

### **Tom Sullivan**

#### ***Men's Rowing, 33rd year***



Sullivan has been an integral part of the Holy Cross crew program for more than three decades. He graduated from Holy Cross in 1970 after rowing for four years and

servicing as co-captain his senior year. He began coaching the Crusaders in 1974 as the men's junior varsity coach and assumed head coaching duties in 1975 and has served in various coaching positions for both the men's and the women's squads. In recognition of his service to the school and to the team, he was inducted into the Holy Cross Varsity Club Hall of Fame in 1996. Sullivan coaches the varsity men's squad which, under his leadership, had the most successful season ever at Holy Cross in 2002. The varsity eight won the 2002 New England Rowing Championships and led the team in capturing the Men's Team Trophy. Sullivan has also been involved in rowing at the national level, serving as a guest speaker at both the U.S. Rowing National Convention and at the U.S. Olympic Training Center as well as serving on the U.S. Rowing Grievance Committee. He is also the Regatta Director of the Eastern Sprints, a co-founder of the Avaya Collegiate Championships and an honorary steward of the New England Interscholastic Rowing Association. Sullivan was an Olympic torch bearer for the 2002 winter Olympics in honor of his service to the sport of rowing.

### Mike Lucas

*Men's & Women's Tennis, 9th year*



Both programs have experienced a re-birth under Lucas' leadership. In 2003, the Women's team had their best season yet, finishing

with a record of 18-2, and capturing the Division I New England Championships for the first time in school history. In 2005, the Men's team posted their first winning season in more than 20 years. Lucas is also the founder/director of the Tennis Camp at Holy Cross and the Tantasqua Tennis Camp in Sturbridge. In addition to his coaching duties, Lucas has been a History teacher at Tantasqua Regional High School since 1992.

### Laura Turner

*Cheerleading, 5th year*



The HC cheerleading team went to Nationals in 2005 and got a bid for 2006 but did not compete. The cheerleading team supports all Crusader athletic teams, games

and special events. Turner was captain of the 1990 Northeastern cheerleading team which finished 7th at Nationals. She is also a physical therapist in Northborough.

### Chris Ridolfi

*Volleyball, 6th year*

(first row, far left)

Ridolfi's teams have exemplified what it means to be a great student-athlete. In the past five seasons, the Crusaders have earned 36 selections to the Patriot League Academic Honor Roll by maintaining a 3.2 GPA during the fall season. In addition three of the past four Patriot League Volleyball Scholar Athletes of the Year have been from Holy Cross: Caitlin Agostinacchio in 2004 and Christine Strawson in 2005 and 2006. Ridolfi came to Holy Cross after serving as the assistant women's volleyball coach at Harvard University from 1998-2001. A 1989 Graduate of Milford High School, he pioneered the boys volleyball program at the school. Ridolfi later returned to coach the program he helped begin, leading the team to an undefeated season in 1999 and a trip to the Massachusetts state finals. He was named the Boston Globe and Boston Herald 1999 Coach of the Year. Ridolfi recently resigned his position following the season. He is married to Holy Cross women's lacrosse coach Stephanie Ridolfi.

### Meg Galligan

*Field Hockey, 23rd year*

(first row, second from left)

Galligan is the winningest coach in the history of Holy Cross field hockey. She inherited a Division I program in its infancy

in 1985 and has transformed the program into a perennial winner. The three-time Patriot League Coach of the Year has guided Holy Cross to seven appearances in the Patriot League Championship game in the past 11 years, while capturing three Patriot League Tournament Championships and two Patriot League regular season titles. She has posted a 59-36 cumulative record against Patriot League competition over the last 17 seasons. The 2006 season was a tremendous success as coach Galligan earned her 200th win. 2006 was the 10th straight year Galligan's team earned a berth into the Patriot League Tournament and it was the seventh time in 10 years the team made it to the Championship game. The season's 14-6 overall record is tied for the second best Division I record in Holy Cross field hockey history. In 1998, Galligan led her squad to its second-consecutive Patriot League Tournament title, while posting the most wins (16 wins) in school history. In addition, her team finished the season with a national RPI ranking of 18 out of 73 teams. Galligan also served as head coach of the Holy Cross women's lacrosse team for 10 years (1986-95). She was honored as the 1992 Patriot League Lacrosse Coach of the Year after guiding the Crusaders to an 8-5 record, the program's most successful finish in over a decade. Following the completion of the 1995 lacrosse season, she gave up the reins to devote her full attention to the field hockey program. Galligan was inducted into the Newton Country Day School of the Sacred Heart Athletics Hall of Fame in 2004 in her high school's first ever induction. She recently retired from coaching following the season. 🌐



# SPORTS RECAP

## FOOTBALL



Peter Cooke

The 2007 Football team finished with a record of 7-4 overall, including 4-2 in the conference, good for second place in the Patriot League.

Seven Crusaders were recognized for their outstanding performance this season and were selected to the 2007 All-Patriot League teams. Junior quarterback **Dominic Randolph (Amelia, Ohio)**, senior cornerback **Casey Gough (Hinsdale, Ill.)**, senior wide receiver **Ryan Maher (Boca Raton, Fla.)**, senior tight end **Ryan McGuire (Woburn, Mass.)**, senior offensive tackle **Dan Nolan (Pittsfield, Mass.)** and junior placekicker **Matt Partain (Libertyville, Ill.)** were all on the all-conference first team, while junior tailback **Terrance Gass (Sicklerville, N.J.)** was a second team selection. Randolph, Maher and Nolan were also selected to the 2007 New England FCS All-Star team as announced by the New England Football Writers.

Gough ranked third on the team with 62 total tackles this year, including 55 solo stops and six tackles for loss. He tied for the team lead with four interceptions on the season, in addition to posting five pass breakups, a forced fumble and a fumble recovery. Gough was also the Crusaders' top kickoff returner this season, bringing back 15 kicks for 372 yards. A first

team All-Patriot League selection in 2006, after earning second team honors in 2005, Gough finished his Holy Cross career with 209 total tackles (184 solo), 11 interceptions and 26 pass breakups, while returning 69 career kickoffs for 1,742 yards. He ranks second all-time at Holy Cross in career kickoff return yards and career kickoff return average (25.2 yards per return), while placing eighth in career interceptions.

Maher ranked second on the team in both all-purpose yards (998 yards) and scoring (66 points). Maher easily led the Patriot League in both receptions (6.82 catches per game) and receiving yards (82.5 yards per game), while ranking 11th in the nation in catches and 21st in receiving yards. A first team All-Patriot League selection in 2006, Maher also placed third on the school single season lists for receptions and touchdown catches, while placing sixth for receiving yards. He finishes his collegiate career with 148 catches for 1,842 yards and 16 touchdowns, to rank fifth all-time at Holy Cross in receptions, and sixth in both touchdown catches and receiving yards.

McGuire played in all 11 games as Holy Cross' top tight end this season, starting six times. He totaled 12 receptions for 113 yards and a touchdown, to rank seventh on the team in receiving. McGuire was also a key blocker for a potent Crusader passing offense. Over the course of his collegiate career, McGuire played in 21 games for Holy Cross, while missing two full seasons due to injury.

Nolan started all 11 games for the Crusaders at right tackle this season, as the leader of an offensive line which paved the way for Holy Cross to lead the Patriot League in scoring (35.9 points per game), total offense (463.4 yards per game) and passing offense (335.2 yards per game). He also helped the Crusaders to al-

low just 14 sacks all season, while the team attempted 497 passes (just one sack for every 36.5 times the team dropped back to pass). Nolan started the final 22 games of his Holy Cross career on the offensive line, while playing in 33 contests as a Crusader.

Partain led the team in scoring this season with 86 points, while making 12 out of 16 field goals and all 50 of his extra point attempts. He tied the school single season record for field goals made, while becoming the first kicker in Holy Cross history to make all of his extra points with at least 30 attempts. During the Dartmouth game, Partain kicked the longest field goal in school history, when he connected on a 49-yard attempt. Partain will enter his senior season with a string of 50 straight extra points made, the second-longest streak in Holy Cross history.

Gass led the team in rushing this year with 563 yards and six touchdowns on 101 carries. He was also a key part of the passing game, finishing with 27 receptions for 318 yards and four scores, and placed third on the team with 881 all-purpose yards. Gass finished the year ranked fourth in the Patriot League in rushing and fifth in scoring (60 points). Over the course of his collegiate career, Gass has now rushed for 1,112 yards and 11 touchdowns on 230 carries, while catching 42 passes for 455 yards and six scores.

Other Crusaders who enjoyed fine seasons were senior wide receiver **Thomas Harrison (Wilmington, N.C.)** and junior **Brett McDermott (Mansfield, Mass.)**. Harrison (pictured) had 56 catches for 795 yards and six touchdowns including the game winning score in the final minute of the Harvard game. McDermott pulled in 56 receptions for 727 yards and five touchdowns. He also led the team with 1,031 all-purpose yards this year.

Holy Cross junior quarterback **Dominic Randolph (Amelia, Ohio)** was named the 2007 Patriot League Offensive Player of the Year, as voted by the conference's head coaches. He was also named National Offensive Player of the Week by the Sports Network, for his performance in a 27-20 victory over Colgate in the season finale. Randolph set new career-highs with 441 passing yards and 473 yards of total offense against the Raiders. He was named one of 16 finalists for the 2007 Walter Payton Award, given annually to the top player in the Division I football championship subdivision. For the season, Randolph completed 297 of 482 passes for 3,604 yards and 30 touchdowns with just eight interceptions. He set Holy Cross single season records for total offense (3,741 yards), completions and passing attempts, while placing second on the single season lists for touchdown passes and passing yards. Randolph led the Patriot League in total offense, passing yards and pass efficiency (141.6 rating), while ranking second in the nation in total offense, passing yards and completions. Over the course of his career as a Crusader, he has now completed 481 of 781 passes for 5,841 yards and 49 touchdowns. Randolph currently ranks fourth all-time at Holy Cross in touchdown passes and passing yards, while standing fifth in total offense, completions and pass attempts.



Peter Cooke

## FIELD HOCKEY



The Field Hockey team finished its season at 6-13 and 2-3 in the Patriot League. Senior **Sara O'Coin (Worcester, Mass.)** recorded her 25th career assist, placing her second on the Crusaders' career list. O'Coin also finished up her career with 69 points, good for 10th in Holy Cross history.

Senior **Kim Powell (Chapel Hill, N.C.)** recorded a career-high seven defensive saves, bringing her career total to 13. The defender also had a productive year on offense, recording her first collegiate goal, assist, and game-winning goal this season.

Junior goalkeeper **Erin Singleton (Amesbury, Mass.)** was named this year's Patriot League Goalkeeper of the Year for the second year in a row. Singleton recorded a 2.72 goals against average and a .752 save percentage. She had one shutout this season, giving her six for her career. The first time this award was presented in the league was 2004 and Singleton is the only student-athlete to receive the award multiple times.

Freshman **Kara Gonnerman (St. Louis, Mo.)** made a huge impact during her debut season, starting in all 19 games and leading the team in goals with five, points with 13, and ranked third in assists with three. Gonnerman also tallied three game-winning goals for the Crusaders. Gonnerman was also named the Patriot League Rookie of the Week.

Singleton and Powell were both named to the All-League First Team while O'Coin was named to the second team.

## MEN'S SOCCER

The Men's Soccer team had an impressive regular season with an overall record of 8-5-4 including 4-0-3 in the Patriot League. The Crusaders clinched their fifth regular season title and the opportunity to host this year's tournament. Head coach Elvis Comrie was also named the Patriot League Coach of the Year.

Junior **Andreas Andrews (Los Angeles, Calif.)** was named to the 2007 *ESPN The Magazine* All-District I second team and the 2007 All-Patriot League first team. He contributed to the success

of the Crusaders this year with five goals and one assist for 11 points. Andrews recorded his first collegiate game-winning goal, lifting the Crusaders over Lehigh, 2-1. Junior **Alejandro Melean (Miami, Fla.)** was also named to the 2007 All-Patriot League first team. He scored four goals and tallied an assist for nine total points. Junior co-captain **Jerry Dickinson (Pittsburgh, Pa.)** was named to the 2007 All-Patriot League second team. Dickinson led a Crusader defense which allowed just 14 goals, second fewest in school history. Junior co-captain **Felipe Castrillon (Weston, Fla.)** was also named to the 2007 *ESPN The Magazine* All-District I second team chipping in with two assists this season.

Freshman **Kyle Miller (Woodbury, N.J.)** was named the 2007 Patriot League Rookie of the Year. Miller led the team in goals (seven) and points (16). He also had two assists on the season. Miller recorded two game-winning goals during his debut season and was also named the Patriot League Offensive Player of the Week (Oct. 29). Miller scored his first collegiate goal and recorded his first career assist during a 4-0 victory against Manhattan in the Crusaders' season-opener.

Freshman **Jon Werth (University Park, Md.)** tallied three goals and four assists for 10 points. For his efforts, Werth was named the Patriot League Rookie of the Week (Oct. 9).

Senior **Marsalis Beckford (Brantford, Ontario)** scored two goals and had four assists, bringing his season total to eight points. Both Beckford's goals were game-winners, lifting his career total to five.

Sophomore goalkeeper **Thomas Booth (Patchogue, N.Y.)** played his first season as the Crusaders' starting goalkeeper, appearing in all 16 games. Booth recorded a 7-4-4 record and five shutouts on the season. Booth made 46 saves and maintained a .81 goals against average.



## WOMEN'S SOCCER

The Women's Soccer team finished the season 4-14 overall and 2-5 in the Patriot League. The Crusaders had two outstanding offensive performances by freshmen this season as **Lauren**

**Wright (Biglerville, Pa.)** led the team with five goals and one assist for 11 points, while **Caitlin Belanger (Fall River, Mass.)** ranked second with four goals for eight points. Wright was named the Patriot League Offensive Player of the Week for scoring both goals in the 2-1 win over Lehigh, while she received Rookie of the Week accolades for netting both goals in the 2-1 victory over Sacred Heart.

Senior goalie **Jessica Pietrowicz (Worcester, Mass.)** made 71 saves on the season giving her 337 for her career which is good enough for fifth all-time at Holy Cross. Sophomore **Jessica Stone (Rockville, Md.)** earned Patriot League Goalie of the Week honors for her seven save performance in the first half of the 3-0 season-opening win at Albany.

Pietrowicz, and senior co-captains **Meighan Kelly (Colts Neck, N.J.)** and **Alison Peters (Bolton, Mass.)** were honored before the Fairfield game on Oct. 22 for their hard work and dedication to the team on and off the field over the past four years.



## MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

The Men's Cross Country team finished in sixth place out of 35 schools at the National Catholic Championship at Notre Dame. Sophomore **Kyle Rougeot (Torrington, Conn.)** led the men's



team with an 8K time of 26:02 while junior **Brad Mish (Hadley, Mass.)** finished second for the Crusaders with a time of 26:13. Sophomore **Tim Richard (Attleboro, Mass.)** was next at 26:15.

At the New England Cross Country Championship, Rougeot was the first Crusader to finish with a time of 26:20 followed by Richard crossing the line in 26:35. Rounding out the top five for Holy Cross was Mish, junior **Kevin Lucid (New Providence, N.J.)** and sophomore **Garrett Huddy (Columbus, Ohio)**. The team also fared well at the Fordham Invitational taking 6th place out of 26 teams. Richard, Rougeot and Mish again led the way for the Crusaders. Freshman **Chris Bergan (Shrewsbury, Mass.)** also had a strong first year. He was the fourth Crusader to finish at the 2007 NCAA Northeast Regional finishing with a 10K time of 34:11. The men's team returns its entire roster next season.

## WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY



The Women's Cross Country team placed 10th at the New England Cross Country Championship, their highest finish at the race since 2001. Junior **Caitlin Paluilis (Pittsfield, Mass.)** led the way for the Crusaders with a 5K time of 18:55, good for 21st place out of 300 runners. The top five for the race consisted of Paluilis, freshman **Rose Calvo (Rocky Hill, Conn.)**, junior **Elizabeth Alizzi (Syosset, N.Y.)**, junior **Colleen Spilka (Hamden, Conn.)** and freshman **Margaret Molloy (West Hartford, Conn.)**. For their efforts in the race, Paluilis earned the Patriot League women's cross country Runner of the Week and Calvo was named the Rookie of the Week.

The team also fared well at the Leopard Invitational, placing 5th. Paluilis led the team finishing in fifth place with a 6K time of 21:21. She was followed by Alizzi with a time of 22:01 and junior **Alexandra Swiatocha (Mahopac, N.Y.)** crossing in 22:07. At the Patriot League Championship in Easton, Pa. the team finished in 7th place. Paluilis again was the first Crusader to finish followed by Alizzi and Calvo. The women's team returns its top 12 runners next year.

## MEN'S & WOMEN'S ROWING



The Men's and Women's Rowing teams competed in the annual Head of the Charles Regatta in Boston, Mass. with sunny skies, low winds and a temperature hovering around 70 degrees on October 20th and 21st. The Head of the Charles is the largest two-day regatta and attracts top teams from around the world. The teams were honored to compete in five events.

Holy Cross finished 17th out of 68 boats in the Men's Club Eight Race with a time of 16:02.913. The Crusaders beat several impressive teams in this race including Wesleyan, Brown, and Boston University. The Men's Club Eight is composed of freshman coxswain **Mary Carol Madigan (Kenilworth, Ill.)**, sophomore **Gaven Ehrlich (Rochester, N.Y.)**, sophomore **DJ Estes (Falmouth, Mass.)**, sophomore **Terry Therrien (Columbia, Conn.)**, sophomore **Garrett Pearce (Haworth, N.J.)**, freshman **Grant O'Connell (Cold Spring Harbor, N.Y.)**, junior **Kevin Cummings (Summit, N.J.)**, senior **Will Bogdanowicz (Chesapeake, Va.)**, and junior **Christian Bratton (Philadelphia, Pa.)**. The finish guaranteed the team an entry in next year's race.

In the Women's Club Eight Race, the Crusaders placed 20th out of 51 boats with a time of 18:23.417, beating MIT, Colgate, Sacred Heart, and Trinity. The Women's Club Eight included junior coxswain **Katie Donnelly (Marstons Mills, Mass.)**, senior captain **Allison Kaufman (Northport, N.Y.)**, freshman **Katherine Byrns (Manhassat, N.Y.)**, senior **Alex Dempsey (Winter Park, Fla.)**,



junior **Ashley Fish (Hingham, Mass.)**, junior **Lindsey Donovan (Milton, Mass.)**, senior captain **Erika Furtado (Dayton, Maine)**, junior **Meridith Malysz (Wilbraham, Mass.)** and sophomore **Jessica Ripp (Amherst, N.Y.)**. The finish also guaranteed the women's team a spot in the race next year.

## VOLLEYBALL



The 2007 Volleyball team finished 4-24 with a 1-13 mark in the Patriot League. Senior **Christine Strawson (Torrington, Conn.)** had yet another outstanding season as her 4.00 kills per game led the team and ranked fourth all-time at Holy Cross for a single-season. She finished fourth in the Patriot League in kills per game, while her 2.95 digs per game were ninth in the conference. Strawson will graduate as one of the greatest players in the history of Holy Cross volleyball as she holds the Holy Cross all-time record for career kills with 1,246. The two-time Patriot League Volleyball Scholar Athlete of the Year was also named to the *ESPN The Magazine* Academic All-District I first team for the second straight season. She was named to the All-Patriot League second team for the third straight year.

Freshman setter **Chelsey O'Donnell (Pittsburgh, Pa.)** had a tremendous start to her collegiate career as she had the most assists ever by a freshman at Holy Cross. Her 891 assists ranked second all-time in a single-season in school history and her 9.48 assists per game are third. She also led all Patriot League freshmen in assists. Junior **Molly Anderson (Weston, Conn.)** had a great year defensively with 3.72 digs per game which were fifth in the conference and third all-time in a single-season at Holy Cross.

Senior **Katie Fitzpatrick (Queensbury, N.Y.)** was also recognized for her achievements on the court and in the classroom as she was named to the *ESPN The Magazine* Academic All-District I second team. Fitzpatrick, **Meagan Merinder (Andover, Mass.)** and Strawson were honored on Senior Day on Nov. 11 before the Bucknell game. 🏐

# Crusaders in the Crowd



## Caitlin Paluilis

Junior, Women's Cross Country (Pittsfield, Mass.)

Paluilis led the team to an impressive 10th place finish out of 44 schools at the New England Cross Country Championship with a time of 18:55 on the 5K course. She also finished in 10th place overall at the Patriot League Championship with a 6K time of 21:54.10 and was named second team all-Patriot League.



## Laura Aloisi

Senior, Women's Basketball (Nashua, N.H.)

Aloisi is a four year starter and team co-captain this season. She has been on the Patriot League All-Rookie team and the Patriot League All-Tournament team. Aloisi averaged 11 points, 5.3 rebounds and 5.1 assists per game last year.



## Tim Richard

Sophomore, Men's Cross Country (Attleboro, Mass.)

Richard led the team at the Fordham Invitational crossing the finish line with a time of 27:26. He also had the second best time for the Crusaders in the New England Cross Country Championship with a time of 26:35 on the 8K course.



## Tim Clifford

Senior, Men's Basketball (Walpole, Mass.)

The co-captain was named the 2007-2008 preseason Patriot League Player of the Year. Last season, Clifford averaged 11.7 points, 4.6 rebounds and a Patriot League-best 1.9 blocks shots per game while shooting a team best 82 percent at the foul line.



## Lauren Wright

Freshman, Women's Soccer (Biglerville, Pa.)

Wright finished third in goals and total points by first-year players in the Patriot League and added two game-winning goals which tied for first in the league by freshmen.



## Kim Powell

Senior, Field Hockey (Chapel Hill, N.C.)

The senior defender was named to the All-Patriot League first team. Powell ranked second in interceptions (60) and tackles (55) on the team and led the Crusaders with seven defensive saves.



## Kyle Miller

Freshman, Men's Soccer (Woodbury, N.J.)

The first year forward led the team in goals (7) and total points (16), helping the Crusaders to the Patriot League regular season title. He added two game winning goals as the team finished with an unbeaten 4-0-3 record in league play.



## Ryan Maher

Senior, Football (Boca Raton, Fla.)

Maher was named a first team All-American by the American Football Coaches Association in the Football Championship Subdivision. He led the team in catches (75), yards (907) and touchdowns (10). Maher also placed third on the all-time single season list for receptions and touchdowns while placing sixth in receiving yards.

# Alumni Athletes Reunite



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## Women's Lacrosse Alumnae Game

The Women's Lacrosse team held their annual alumnae day on Sunday, Sept. 16 over Homecoming weekend. The game featured the current sophomore class playing on a team with the alumnae facing the freshmen, juniors and seniors. Three, 20-minute periods were played. After a tough match, the alumni, parents and players enjoyed a wonderful tailgate. A list of those alumnae present for the day included:

Kerry Daly '04  
 Melissa Conley '06  
 Virginia Dowd '06  
 Kate Flanagan '06  
 Carolyn Smirti '06  
 Katie Brown '07  
 Jenna Constantino '07  
 Megan Orr '07  
 Patricia Sutton '07  
 Darcy Wolcott '07

## Baseball Alumni Game

Thirty former Crusader baseball players attended the 2007 Holy Cross alumni game and parents day on Sunday, Sept. 30. The alumni took batting practice then played a game with the current HC team at Fitton Field. The purple team pulled out a 9-7 victory over the white team on the strength of a mammoth home run by Joe Manfredi '99. A cookout organized by the current parents was held immediately following the game at the field. Alumni present for the day included:

Rick DeAngelis '70	Jeff Miller '00
Michael Greeley '77	Jay Yacavone '00
Steve Senior '77	Mike Macholz '01
Ron Perry '80	D.J. Lucey '03
Mike Hallisey '82	Dan Powers '03
Doug DeMeo '89	Steve Buckley '05
Brendan Grady '89	Mike Marron '05
Mike Cunningham '95	Tucker Frawley '06
Brian Merrick '95	Kevin Beglane '07
Dave Abdou '97	Scott Hampe '07
Andy Nolan '97	Mike Miller '07
Steve Roberts '98	Rob Oteri '07
John Sheehy '98	Matt Perron '07
Rob McGann '99	Pat Rutherford '07
Joe Manfredi '99	Andrew Tenaglia '07

## 20th Anniversary Football Event

The 20th reunion of the '87 Holy Cross Football team was held on Saturday, Sept. 15 at Fitton Field. A pre-game tailgate and halftime recognition ceremony highlighted events at Homecoming weekend on the Hill to honor the achievements of a perfect 11-0 season. Alumni from the team present for the day included:

Jim Andreoli '88	A.J. Nieman '89
Craig Clarkin '88	Jack Phelps '89
Wally Dembowski '88	Tim Downing '90
Ian Dowe '88	Joseph Dulac '90
Tom Estep '88	Chris Maruca '90
Mike Jednak '88	Joe McLaughlin '90
Tom Kelleher '88	David Murphy '90
Jim Kelly '88	Rob Pedlow '90
Rick Lane '88	Craig Callahan '91
Gordie Lockbaum '88	Jim Grady '91
Jim Miller '88	Jack Lavalette '91
Dave Mitchell '88	Mike Tighe '91

## Softball Alumnae Game

A steady rain could not dampen the spirit of the 20 players back for the softball alumnae game which was held on the morning of Saturday, Sept. 15. The current team took on the past Crusaders coached by former head softball coach Bob Neville. The players and families back for the day enjoyed a cookout after the game as the skies cleared. Alumnae present for the day included:

Karen Norton Gregorczyk '97	Alyssa Hayden '03
Allison Egbert '98	Jean Connolly '04
Amy Falite '98	Nicole Vitti '04
Jen Jenkins Powers '99	Alycia FitzPatrick '05
Briana Crane '00	Akemi Topel '05
Alexis Lyon '00	Nicole Dessingue '06
Stephanie Marcucci '00	Heather Johnson '06
Tiffany DeCoff '01	Lindsey MacNeil '07
Jamie Olenoski Fiatarone '01	Beth Richard '07
Shelly Richard '01	Sheena Stangler '07





## Alumni Swimming & Diving Meet

Swimmers & divers past and present jumped into the Hart Center pool for the 3rd Annual Holy Cross Alumni Swim Meet on Saturday, Oct. 20. Four decades of alumni were represented as the “veterans” battled the current HC swimming & diving teams in freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke, butterfly, and individual medley races. A wet t-shirt relay and a balloon relay were added this year which was a lot of fun for everyone.

Following the meet, alumni and their families gathered for dinner in the Bud Ryan '41 Room with coach Barry Parenteau and his staff. Special thanks to Kate Reilly '04 and Mike Toner '63 for organizing this annual event.

The following is a list of alumni swimmers and divers who participated:

- |                     |                         |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Mike Toner '63      | Mike Emmons '03         |
| Jeff Bandrowski '64 | Ian Hennessey '03       |
| Tom Monahan '64     | Melanie Bartkiewicz '04 |
| Ted Rippert '64     | Carrie Pucko '04        |
| Dan Bradley '72     | Kate Reilly '04         |
| Sean McCue '81      | Erin Smith '04          |
| Joe Corsetti '01    | Noreen Faughnan '05     |
| Pat Cronan '01      | Jason Gintert '05       |
| Cara Curtis '01     | Emily Ferris '06        |
| Jen Gibbons '01     | Matt Talucci '06        |
| Liz Dean '02        | Brian Jackson '07       |
|                     | Kevin Mullaney '07      |

## Men's Ice Hockey Varsity Club Hall of Fame Night

On Saturday, Dec. 1, the eight members of the Holy Cross Varsity Club Hall of Fame from the Men's Ice Hockey program were honored with a pre-game reception and on ice recognition before the men's game vs. Connecticut. A banner was also hung in the Hart Center Rink bearing the names of those players and future hall of fame members. The eight players back for the gathering were, left to right, Matt Muniz '87, Bill Bellerose '77, Glenn Graves '77, Joe Lunny '86, Jim Stewart '79, Gerry Curley '81, Larry Murphy '70, and Dean Casagrande '83.

## Soccer Alumni Games

Temperatures hovering around 90 degrees greeted former HC men's and women's soccer players as they took the field at the beautiful Linda Johnson Smith Soccer Stadium for alumni games held on Saturday, Sept. 8. After the games, everyone enjoyed refreshments near the Greene Family Plaza. All alumni present were given a Holy Cross Alumni Soccer Game t-shirt to commemorate the event. Alumni present for the day included:

- |                      |                          |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Mike Siclari '73     | Erica Robbins Cronan '97 |
| Roger Young '73      | Jen Cavanaugh '99        |
| Frank Barresi '82    | Michelle Espey '99       |
| Dean Casagrande '83  | Tiffany DeCoff '01       |
| Arthur Barrett '84   | Erica Backstrom '04      |
| Kevin Casey '84      | Danielle Carvalho '05    |
| Mike Greene '84      | Elisabeth Charnley '05   |
| Tom Flynn '85        | Allison O'Donnell '05    |
| Matt McCusker '93    | Cara Farrington Shea '05 |
| Kevin Baker '04      | Meredith Davis '07       |
| Paul Kitson '04      | Lisa DeMari '07          |
| R. Mike Mills '04    | Natalie Gebo '07         |
| Chris Napolitano '04 | Lauren Pereira '07       |
| Chris Ruggi '04      |                          |
| William Stewart '04  |                          |
| Brian Weeks '04      |                          |
| Kevin Leonard '06    |                          |
| Josh Trott '07       |                          |



# Crusader Replay



**1997**  
10 years ago

The Holy Cross field hockey team captured its first ever Patriot League championship with a 2-1 victory over Lafayette. Freshman Colleen Schmidt scored both goals including the game winner with 20 seconds to play. Sophomore goalkeeper Maquel Salley was named the MVP of the Patriot League tournament. Team captains were Marian Lemos, Erin O'Hara and Alyssa Williams. For the season, junior forward Ali Roberts was named to the Northeast Regional All-American First Team, senior Lemos was selected as a Division I North/South Senior All-Star, freshman Jes Gulino was honored as the Patriot League Rookie of the Year and Meg Galligan was selected as the Patriot League Coach of the Year.



**1987**  
20 years ago

The Crusader football team capped its first 11-0 season by receiving the ECAC Division I-AA Team of the Year trophy as well as the Lambert Cup, awarded to the top Division I-AA team in the East. The team was ranked #1 in the final NCAA Division I-AA poll. Holy Cross and Miami (Fla.) were the only unbeaten, untied teams that year among the 522 that played NCAA football. HC also led all 191 Division I teams in scoring at 46.4 points per game. Team captains were Ron George, Jim Kelly, Gordie Lockbaum and Andy Martin. Senior running back/defensive back Lockbaum finished third in the Heisman Trophy voting, senior quarterback Jeff Wiley led the nation in total offense and touchdown passes, and Mark Duffner was named the Kodak AFCA I-AA National Coach of the Year.



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