

1952 NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

In the late spring of 1952, under the direction of the legendary John J. Barry, the Holy Cross baseball team staged a magical march to the NCAA Championship. Led by fleet-footed outfielder **Johnny Turco** and pitching sensations **Jim O'Neill** and **Ron Perry**, the Crusaders advanced to their first-ever post-season tournament with a 15-2 regular-season record.

At the sixth-annual double-elimination tournament in Omaha, Neb., the small eastern college quickly proved it belonged with a 5-1 opening round win over Western Michigan. But on day two, Holy Cross was forced to fight its way out of the loser's bracket after suffering a heartbreaking 1-0 loss to Missouri. **Jackie Lonergan** pitched perfect ball against Missouri, but after one error and a bad throw in the seventh, **Jack Concannon** made his first error in 80 chances and the winning run scored without a hit. With one out in the eighth, Lonergan was touched up for his first and only hit of the game.

Facing elimination, sophomore hurler **Ron Perry** held a powerful Texas team in check until the Crusaders could push the winning run across in the bottom of the eighth inning. Holy Cross then defeated Western Michigan 15-3 and Penn State 15-4 on Sunday, June 15 to earn the right to meet Missouri in the finals.

Needing a pair of wins to capture the title, Holy Cross scored five runs in the top of the sixth inning and received a complete game from Ron Perry en route to a 7-3 win in the first game. On Tuesday evening, June 17, the Crusaders erased a 4-3 Missouri lead with three runs in the seventh and two in the ninth to capture the College World Series title. **Jim O'Neill**, who earned MVP honors, became the first pitcher in NCAA history to win three games in the tournament.



1952 NCAA College World Series Holy Cross Linescores

June 12, 1952
Holy Cross 5, Western Michigan 1

Western Michigan	000	000	010	—	1-5-3
Holy Cross	023	000	00x	—	5-8-0

WP—O'Neill; LP—Cole.

June 13, 1952
Missouri 1, Holy Cross 0

Holy Cross	000	000	000	—	0-7-2
Missouri	000	000	10x	—	1-1-1

WP—Atkinson; LP—Lonergan.

June 14, 1952
Holy Cross 2, Texas 1

Texas	010	000	000	—	1-9-1
Holy Cross	000	010	01x	—	2-5-0

WP—Perry; LP—Verdine.

June 15, 1952
Holy Cross 15, Western Michigan 3

Western Michigan	201	000	010	—	3-9-2
Holy Cross	100	421	34x	—	15-17-0

WP—O'Neill; LP—Urda.

June 15, 1952
Holy Cross 15, Penn State 4

Holy Cross	023	040	312	—	15-19-2
Penn State	000	003	010	—	4-7-7

WP—Lonergan; LP—Moore.

June 16, 1952
Holy Cross 7, Missouri 3

Holy Cross	000	105	010	—	7-8-0
Missouri	000	011	010	—	3-7-2

WP—Perry; LP—Boenker.

Championship Game
June 17, 1952
Holy Cross 8, Missouri 4

Holy Cross	120	000	302	—	8-8-2
Missouri	000	022	00x	—	4-9-3

WP—O'Neill; LP—Atkinson.

1952 NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

1952 Holy Cross Baseball

Name	Cl.	B-T	Ht.	Wt.	Hometown/High School
PITCHERS					
Dick Bogdan	Jr.	R-L	6-1	187	St. Louis, Mo. / St. Louis
Leo Cadrin	Sr.	R-R	6-1	205	Farnumsville, Mass. / St. John's
Mike Cariglia	Sr.	L-L	5-10	180	Warren, R.I. / LaSalle Academy
Dick Gormley	Fr.	R-R	6-0	170	Des Moines, Iowa / Champion
Jim Kelly	So.	R-R	6-2	172	Rumford, R.I. / Admiral Billard
Jack Lonergan	Jr.	R-L	5-10	170	Webster, Mass. / St. Louis
Jim O'Neill	Sr.	R-R	6-5	190	Columbus, Ohio / St. Charles
Ronnie Perry	So.	R-R	5-11	175	Somerville, Mass. / Somerville
Don Slattery	Jr.	R-R	6-0	185	Chicago, Ill. / St. Ignatius
Bill Richford	Fr.	L-R	5-10	180	Brasher Falls, N.Y. / St. Lawrence Central

CATCHERS

John Carroll	So.	R-R	6-4	195	Albany, N.Y. / Christian Brothers
Pete Naton	Jr.	R-R	6-1	190	Flushing, N.Y. / Bishop Loughlin
Tony Parisi	So.	R-R	5-10	205	Schenectady, N.Y. / Mount Pleasant

INFIELDERS

Paul Brissette	So.	R-R	6-0	180	Springfield, Mass. / Cathedral
Jack Concannon	Sr.	R-R	5-10	165	Milton, Mass. / Boston College
Fran Dyson	Jr.	L-L	5-10	170	Auburn, Mass. / South
Hugh French	So.	L-R	6-0	185	Brooklyn, Conn. / Killingly
Bob Johnson	Fr.	R-R	5-11	175	Peabody, Mass. / Peabody
Jack Keenan	So.	R-R	6-1	185	Woodhaven, N.Y. / St. John's Prep
Bob Manning	Sr.	R-R	5-10	170	Melrose, Mass. / Boston College
Frank Matrango	Sr.	R-R	5-10	165	Springfield, Mass. / Cathedral

OUTFIELDERS

Jack Hetherton	Jr.	R-R	5-11	165	Framingham, Mass. / Framingham
Dick Hogan	Jr.	R-R	6-0	170	Worcester, Mass. / South
Art Moossmann	Jr.	R-R	5-11	180	Glendale, N.Y. / Grover Cleveland
John Summa	So.	R-R	6-2	180	Waterbury, Conn. / Sacred Heart
Johnny Turco	Sr.	R-R	5-10	175	Walpole, Mass. / Walpole

Head Coach: John Barry; **Assistant Coach:** Hop Riopel; **Manager:** William H. Brine

1952 Holy Cross Schedule (21-3)

April 14	Boston Braves	Rain
April 19	Dartmouth	W, 4-2
April 22	Brown	W, 8-6
April 26	Colgate	W, 7-3
May 1	at Springfield	W, 9-8
May 3	Seton Hall	W, 9-2
May 8	at Brown	W, 9-0
May 10	at Harvard	W, 3-1
May 12	Boston Braves	Rain
May 15	at Tufts	Rain
May 17	Providence	W, 5-4
May 22	at Dartmouth	L, 1-2 (15)
May 24	Harvard	W, 13-3
May 27	Trinity	W, 12-7
May 30	Boston College	W, 5-4 (16)
May 31	at Providence	W, 16-14
June 4	Yale	W, 8-4
June 7	at Amherst	L, 7-10
June 9	at Boston College	W, 6-4
June 10	Boston College	W, 13-3

College World Series, Omaha, Nebraska

June 12	Western Michigan	W, 5-1
June 13	Missouri	L, 0-1
June 14	Texas	W, 2-1
June 15	Western Michigan	W, 15-3
June 15	Penn State	W, 15-4
June 16	Missouri	W, 7-3
June 17	Missouri	W, 8-4

1952 Holy Cross Final Statistics

Player	AVG	GP	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB	PO	A	E
Johnny Turco	.385	23	96	29	37	2	2	1	19	23	7	9	45	2	1
Pete Naton	.340	24	94	22	32	4	4	2	27	12	6	0	146	16	4
Frank Matrango	.302	24	96	18	29	1	1	0	17	19	6	1	21	40	3
Fran Dyson	.300	19	60	17	18	1	1	0	10	17	2	0	175	7	2
Paul Brissette	.275	24	104	23	29	3	0	0	16	16	14	1	68	69	11
Art Moossmann	.267	24	116	18	31	3	2	1	22	5	5	0	57	2	0
Jack Concannon	.260	24	100	16	26	3	1	0	12	14	4	3	49	86	8
Dick Hogan	.255	24	98	22	25	5	4	0	13	11	7	0	42	3	1
Jack Lonergan	.250	8	20	3	5	0	0	0	1	3	1	0	3	10	2
Jim O'Neil	.222	14	36	6	8	1	0	0	4	7	5	0	1	30	0
Mike Cariglia	.214	8	28	6	6	1	1	0	6	3	3	0	61	5	2
Ronnie Perry	.208	9	24	3	5	0	1	0	3	4	4	0	2	13	1
Jack Hetherton	.125	2	8	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	3	0	2	0	0
Dick Bogdan	.000	4	5	1	0	0	0	0	2	2	3	0	1	2	0
Gene Schiller	.000	1	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0
Tony Parisi	.000	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Don Slattery	.000	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Holy Cross	.285	24	886	189	254	24	18	4	152	137	71	14	579	286	35
Opponents	.217	24	845	92	184	15	7	13	82	113	121	11	650	314	67
Pitcher	ERA	W	L	IP	H	ER	BB	SO	2B	3B	HR	HB	WP	BK	
Ronnie Perry	2.44	7	0	66.1	52	22	31	38	2	3	6	3	0	0	
Dick Bogdan	2.75	2	0	15.2	11	11	15	6	2	1	1	1	1	1	
Jim O'Neill	1.64	9	1	103.1	82	23	40	61	9	2	4	1	2	0	
Jack Lonergan	4.80	3	2	41	39	24	26	16	2	1	2	2	0	0	
Don Slattery	1.00	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	