

1947 NCAA Champions

CRUSADERS RALLY PAST OKLAHOMA TO WIN NCAA TITLE

Holy Cross 55, Navy 47

March 20, 1947

Madison Square Garden

Holy Cross fought off an eight-point Navy lead in the second quarter, edging ahead in the next stanza for good. Coach "Doggie" Julian kept the Crusader quintet fresh by frequently substituting. Joe Mullaney led Holy Cross with 18 points, while George Kaftan added 15 points. The game was the college's first ever in the postseason.

Holy Cross 60, CCNY 45

March 22, 1947

Madison Square Garden

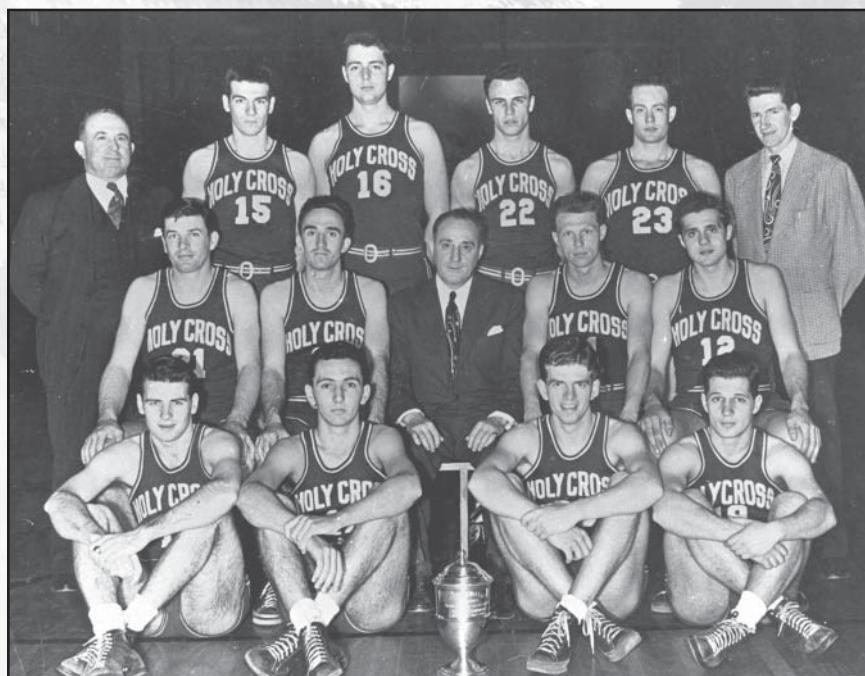
City College of New York raced to a 23-14 lead, but Kaftan led a 13-2 Crusader barrage for a 27-25 Holy Cross advantage at halftime. Kaftan had scored 19 points by half, en route to a game total of 30, second best in NCAA Tournament history at the time. Holy Cross scored eight points in the final minute to widen the margin of what was a tight game.

Holy Cross 58, Oklahoma 47

March 25, 1947

Madison Square Garden

Oklahoma held a 31-28 halftime lead, but a 9-2 run to begin the second half launched Holy Cross to the national championship. Frank Oftring and Bob McMullan triggered the second half run and Dermott O'Connell had his best effort with 16 points. Kaftan tallied 18 and Oftring added 14 as the Crusaders became the first Eastern team to capture the NCAA crown. A sellout crowd of 18,445 was in attendance. An All-Tournament Team was not selected, but George Kaftan was named the Tournament's Outstanding Player, leading all scorers with 63 points in the three games for a 21.0 points per game average.



THE 1947 NCAA CHAMPIONS

Front Row: Dermott O'Connell, Bob Cousy, Frank Oftring, Andy Laska.

Middle Row: Bob Curran, Ken Haggerty, Head Coach Alvin Julian, Joe Mullaney, George Kaftan. Back Row: Assistant Coach Albert Riopel, Jim Riley, Charlie Bolinger, Bob McMullan, Charlie Graver, Manager Frank Dooley.

NCAA Championship Game March 25, 1947

Holy Cross	FG	FT	Pts
George Kaftan	7	4	18
Andy Laska	0	0	0
Dermott O'Connell	7	2	16
Bob Curran	0	0	0
Frank Oftring	6	2	14
Jim Riley	0	0	0
Charlie Bollinger	0	0	0
Joe Mullaney	0	0	0
Bob McMullen	2	4	8
Ken Haggerty	0	0	0
Bob Cousy	0	2	2
Charlie Graver	0	0	0
Totals	22	14	58
Oklahoma	FG	FT	TP
Dick Reich	3	2	8
Bill Waters	0	0	0
Paul County	3	2	8
Ken Pryor	0	1	1
Gerry Tucker	6	10	22
Allie Paine	2	2	6
Jack Landon	1	0	2
Paul Merchant	0	0	0
Harley Day	0	0	0
Totals	15	17	47