

# ALL-TIME HEAD COACHES / COACHING RECORDS

## J. FRED POWERS

1901-1906, 1907-1909 • 7 Seasons • 54-33

Powers became the college's first basketball coach after stops at Vanderbilt and Worcester Academy. Powers graduated from Notre Dame, where he was track captain and voted the school's "best all-around athlete." He was a player-coach in 1898-1899 at Notre Dame, with the Irish going 2-0 in their second official basketball season. Powers left Holy Cross for his alma mater and then began a 15-year coaching stint at Brown. He left the Bruin program in 1938 to become director of the Works Progress Administration's recreational activities in Worcester.

## WILLIAM J. CASEY

1920-1924 • 4 Seasons • 28-25

Casey captained Holy Cross in 1908-1909 as a junior. The sport was discontinued for the next decade, but when it returned in 1920-1921, Casey was the coach. His first team was 2-0, the lone Holy Cross team ever to go unbeaten. Casey later was principal at Worcester's Commerce High and was inducted into the Varsity Club Hall of Fame in 1961, three years before his death.

## KEN SIMENDINGER

1924-1925 • 1 Season • 10-5

A 1924 Holy Cross graduate, Simendinger came to Mount St. James as a transfer from Lehigh. He played three years of football and baseball, cracking two home runs and a double in his diamond debut against Dartmouth, earning him the nickname as the "Babe Ruth of the Eastern Intercollegiates." Simendinger is the only Crusader coach to have served for just one season, as he became football coach at Gonzaga High in Washington D.C., where his 1926 squad was unbeaten and unscored upon. He was inducted into the Varsity Club Hall of Fame in 1958.

## ALL-TIME HOLY CROSS HEAD COACHING VICTORIES

Name	Seasons as Coach	Yrs	G	W-L	Pct.
1. George Blaney	1972-1994	22	633	357-276	.564
2. Ralph Willard	1999-2009	10	309	192-117	.615
3. Lester Sheary	1948-1955	7	191	155-36	.811
4. Roy Leenig	1955-1961	6	154	106-48	.688
Jack Donohue	1965-1972	7	172	106-66	.616
6. Milan Brown	2010-2015	5	152	69-83	.454
7. Alvin Julian	1945-1948	3	75	65-10	.866
8. Frank Oftring	1961-1965	4	97	64-33	.659
9. John M. Read	1925-1931	6	101	60-41	.594
10. J. Fred Powers	1901-1905, 1907-1909	7	87	54-33	.620
E. William Raynor	1995-1999	5	137	54-83	.394
12. William J. Casey	1920-1924	4	53	28-25	.528
13. <b>Bill Carmody</b>	<b>2015-present</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>42-56</b>	<b>.429</b>
14. Albert Riopel	1934-1935, 1942-1945	4	48	14-34	.292
15. Edward Krause	1939-1942	3	25	11-14	.440
16. Ken Simendinger	1924-1925	1	15	10-5	.667
17. Sean Kearney	2009-2010	1	31	9-22	.290
No Coach	1900-1901	1	12	6-6	.500
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1900-2017</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>2359</b>	<b>1390-969</b>	<b>.589</b>

## JOHN M. REED

1925-1931 • 6 Seasons • 60-41

Born in Middletown, Conn., Reed came to Mount St. James in 1900 as a student in the old preparatory school. He was one of Holy Cross' most colorful players and was an excellent kicker, booting 40- and 45-yard field goals against Yale in 1903. The following year against Dartmouth, he drop-kicked a field goal from the 47-yard line. After graduation in 1905, Reed played professional football and coached at Niagara, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and Clarkson, before returning to Holy Cross. He was a member of the college's coaching staff when he died in 1934.

## ALBERT D. RIOPEL

1934-1935, 1942-1945 • 4 Seasons • 14-34

"Hop" Riopel will forever be known as "Mr. Holy Cross" for his years of dedicated service to the college. He was a three-sport standout at Commerce High and continued to excel at Holy Cross, becoming the only athlete in the college's history to earn 11 letters. The baseball team won 100 games during his four years, while the football team posted a 25-10-1 mark. His game-saving catch helped snap Boston College's 23-game winning streak in 1923. After graduating in 1924, Riopel turned down professional baseball offers to accept a teacher/coaching position at Milford High. He served as basketball coach at Assumption College from 1928-1932 and returned to his alma mater in 1933 as freshman baseball, basketball and football coach. Riopel was later named athletic director at the college and was inducted in the Varsity Club Hall of Fame in 1957. Riopel retired as athletic director on June 30, 1966, and died less than three months later.

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## EDWARD KRAUSE

1939-1942 • 3 Seasons • 11-14

An All-American in football and basketball at Notre Dame, "Moose" Krause was a dominant center at 6-3 for the Irish, leading them to a 54-12 mark. After graduating cum laude with a degree in journalism in 1934, he coached at St. Mary's (Minn.) College. Krause then moved to Holy Cross, serving as a Crusader football coach from 1939-1941, in addition to his basketball duties. He left the college for his alma mater in 1942 and posted a 98-48 mark during six years as basketball coach. Krause was appointed assistant athletic director in 1948, and a year later he was named athletic director, a title he would hold until his retirement in 1980. He is a former Walter Camp Hall of Fame Man of the Year recipient and was inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in 1976. Krause passed away on Dec. 11, 1992.

## ALVIN JULIAN

1945-1948 • 3 Seasons • 65-10

The man who was primarily responsible for the rise in popularity of basketball in New England became the college's seventh coach after achieving great success at Muhlenberg College. "Doggie" Julian played football at Bucknell and after graduating in 1923, played professional baseball until an injury forced him to the sidelines. He coached in his hometown of Reading, Pa., and at Albright College before starting a nine-year stint at Muhlenberg. His teams were 129-69 and earned two National Invitation Tournament berths, with the 1944-1945 squad going 24-4. Holy Cross reached the pinnacle in Julian's second year, defeating Oklahoma at Madison Square Garden for the 1947 NCAA Championship. The team won a record 27 games that year and went 26-4 in 1947-1948, giving Julian a 65-10 mark in three seasons. He then took the reins of the Boston Celtics from 1948-1950 and concluded his career at Dartmouth, compiling a 386-342 mark from 1950-1967. A former president of the National Association of Basketball Coaches, Julian was inducted into the Helms Foundation College Coaches Hall of Fame (1963), the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame (1967) and the Varsity Club Hall of Fame (1986). He passed away on July 28, 1967.

## COACHING HONORS

### PATRIOT LEAGUE COACH OF THE YEAR

2001 Ralph Willard

2005 Ralph Willard

2007 Ralph Willard

### MAAC COACH OF THE YEAR

1990 George Blaney

### EASTERN COACH OF THE YEAR

1977 George Blaney

### HUGH GREER AWARD

(New England Coach of the Year)

1976 George Blaney

### WALTER BROWN AWARD

(Contributions to

New England Basketball)

1963 Alvin "Doggie" Julian

1971 Lester "Buster" Sheary

## LESTER SHEARY

1948-1955 • 7 Seasons • 155-36

This Worcester native compiled an outstanding .811 winning percentage in his seven years. "Buster" Sheary gained All-South fullback honors at Catholic University, where he also played basketball. He returned to Worcester and coached in the high school ranks for 10 years, leading St. Peter's to the 1936 New England Championship. Sheary became associated with the college during World War II, serving as a specialist in the Naval ROTC. His coaching career started with scouting duties for the football and basketball squads, and he was unanimously elected coach by the 1947-1948 basketball team. In 1953-1954, he led the Crusaders to a 26-2 mark and the NIT Championship. A year later Sheary left the college, but retained his duties as assistant director of athletics for the Worcester Public Schools. He passed away on Nov. 30, 2001.

## ROY LEENIG

1955-1961 • 6 Seasons • 106-48

A native of Guttenberg, N.J., Leenig found great success as a player and coach in the schoolboy ranks prior to arriving at Holy Cross. He played for a West New York, N.J., squad which was unbeaten and won two state titles. Leenig played professionally with the Union City Reds, the Cap Smith Celtics and Baltimore, but an injury forced him into coaching ranks. He coached at Holy Family High in Union City, N.J., for two years, but made his mark at St. Peter's Prep (N.J.) from 1949-1955, as his teams won 24 city, county, state and tournament championships, while posting a 166-22 record. St. Peter's won five straight state titles and Leenig was named New Jersey Coach of the Year five times. The team also won two Eastern States crowns and Leenig was voted the outstanding coach in the Newport, R.I., event on three occasions. Leenig led the 1960-1961 Crusaders to a 22-5 mark and a third-place NIT finish. He is one of five Holy Cross mentors to win more than 100 games and his .688 winning percentage is third-best. Leenig left the college in 1961 to pursue business interests, and passed away in 1982.

## FRANK OFTRING

1961-1965 • 4 Seasons • 64-33

After two seasons as freshman and assistant coach, Oftring was named Leenig's successor in 1961. A native of Brooklyn, N.Y., Oftring played at Brooklyn Tech High and then began a 3 1/2-year stint in the Navy. He had an opportunity to play service basketball and it was while stationed at Quonset (R.I.) Naval Station that Oftring caught the eye of then Crusader coach Alvin Julian, who brought him to Mount St. James. A defensive wizard and an aggressive rebounder, Oftring and classmate Bob Cousy were the keys to Holy Cross' march to the NCAA crown as freshmen in 1947. The Crusaders were 99-19 during their four years and Oftring gained additional distinction as a four-year Dean's List student in business administration, graduating cum laude. The president of the Class of 1950 also was awarded the John C. Lawlor Gold Medal, given to the outstanding student-athlete in the graduating class. In the early 1950s Oftring and Cousy went into business together, with Oftring also coaching at St. Peter's High for six years. He joined the Holy Cross staff in 1959 and posted four straight winning seasons as head coach before resigning to spend his time as president of a local investment firm. He was inducted into the Varsity Club Hall of Fame in 1978, four years before his death.

# ALL-TIME HEAD COACHES / COACHING RECORDS

## JACK DONOHUE

1965-1972 • 7 Seasons • 106-66

Several Crusader coaches have had an opportunity to coach against global competition, but none more so than Donohue, the college's 11th coach. A 1952 graduate of Fordham, Donohue began his coaching career in 1954 at St. Nicholas Tolentine High in the Bronx, going 87-16 in four years. He and a dominating youngster named Lew Alcindor then grabbed the basketball world's attention at Power Memorial Academy, as Alcindor-led squads won 71 straight games and helped Donohue compile a 163-30 mark. Donohue's last six Holy Cross teams posted winning marks and during the 1967-1968 campaign, his Crusaders faced the Alcindor-led UCLA Bruins at Madison Square Garden, with John Wooden's national champions winning 90-67. In 1972, Donohue was named coach of the Canadian National Team, a post he held through 1988. Four years after becoming coach, he took a team which had not qualified for the 1968 Olympics to a fourth-place finish in the Montreal Olympiad. Canada continued to improve under Donohue, placing fifth in the 1981 World University Games, losing only to the Soviet Union. Canada was sixth at the 1982 World Championship and strengthened its spot as a world power the following year by winning the gold medal at the World University Games, defeating the United States and Yugoslavia in the medal round. Donohue guided the Canadians to a fourth-place finish in the 1984 Olympics and announced his retirement following the 1988 Seoul Olympics. He passed away on April 16, 2003, and was later inducted into the International Basketball Federation Hall of Fame in 2013.

## GEORGE BLANEY

1972-1994 • 22 Seasons • 357-276

Blaney was the sixth Holy Cross graduate to return as head basketball coach. He served the college longer than any other mentor and coached the Crusaders in 633 contests — more than double the games coached by any of his 11 predecessors. As a player, Blaney was reunited with his coach at St. Peter's (N.J.) Prep, Roy

## FORMER CRUSADERS AS HEAD COACHES

### NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

Bob Cousy Cincinnati Royals (1969-1972); Kansas City-Omaha Kings (1972-1974)  
 Tom Heinsohn Boston Celtics (1969-1978)  
 Joe Mullaney Los Angeles Lakers (1969-1971); Buffalo Braves (1976-1977)

### AMERICAN BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

Joe Mullaney Kentucky Colonels (1971-1973); Utah Stars (1973-1974);  
 Memphis Sounds (1974-1975); Spirits of St. Louis (1975-1976)

### COLLEGE

George Blaney Stonehill (1967-1969); Dartmouth (1969-1972);  
 Holy Cross (1972-1994); Seton Hall (1995-1997)  
 Rod Baker California-Irvine (1991-1998)  
 William Casey Holy Cross (1920-1924)  
 Bob Cousy Boston College (1963-1969)  
 Bob Curran Massachusetts (1952-1959)  
 George Kaftan C.W. Post (1958-1972)  
 Andy Laska Assumption (1951-1967)  
 Joe Mullaney Brown (1978-1981); Providence (1954-1969; 1981-1985)  
 Frank Oftring Holy Cross (1961-1965)  
 Togo Palazzi Holy Cross (women, 1980-1985); Framingham State (1991-1997)  
 John Reed Holy Cross (1925-1931)  
 Ed Reilly Bryant (1989-2001)  
 Albert Riopel Assumption (1928-1933); Holy Cross (1934-1935; 1942-1945)  
 Ken Simendinger Holy Cross (1924-1925)  
 Ralph Willard Western Kentucky (1990-1994); Pittsburgh (1995-1999);  
 Holy Cross (1999-2009)

Leenig, for three seasons. In Blaney's final two campaigns as a player, the Crusaders won more than 20 games and placed third in the 1961 NIT after compiling a 22-5 record. Blaney scored 1,012 points in his career and was an All-New England selection as a senior. He played professionally with the New York Knicks before returning to New Jersey as coach at Hudson Catholic High. Blaney then took the coaching and athletic director reins at Stonehill College for two seasons, compiling a 27-18 mark and winning a league championship. Dartmouth College beckoned his services in 1969 and Blaney was 37-40 with the Big Green before replacing Donohue in 1972. Some of the finest players

and teams in the storied history of Crusader basketball were part of the Blaney era. Holy Cross posted nine consecutive winning seasons starting in 1974-1975, with five of the squads winning 20 games or better. Blaney was named Eastern Coach of the Year in 1976-1977, as the Crusaders went 23-6 and played in the NCAA Tournament for the first time in 21 years. The Purple made return trips to the NAAs in 1980 and 1993, and played in five NITs as well under Blaney. In the summer of 1994, he returned to his native New Jersey to take the head coaching reigns at Seton Hall. Blaney retired from coaching in 2013.

# ALL-TIME HEAD COACHES / COACHING RECORDS

## E. WILLIAM RAYNOR, JR.

1994-1999 • 5 Seasons • 54-83

On August 3, 1994, Raynor was named the 13th coach in Crusader history, replacing George Blaney. Raynor's ties to then-athletic director Ron Perry and Blaney were strong. Raynor was a standout guard for Perry's Catholic Memorial High teams, as they compiled an 80-3 mark during Raynor's years as the point guard. Raynor went on to excel at Dartmouth, where he remains one of the school's all-time leading scorers. During two of his seasons with the Big Green he was coached by Blaney. Prior to taking the head coaching reigns at Holy Cross, Raynor served six seasons as an assistant to Blaney. During his five years at Holy Cross, Raynor led the team to two winning seasons, including a trip to the Patriot League championship game in 1996.

## RALPH WILLARD

1999-2009 • 10 Seasons • 192-117

Willard was the 14th head coach of the Crusader men's basketball team, and was the seventh Holy Cross graduate to hold the position. A 1967 graduate of the college, Willard was a three-year letterwinner and served as the 1966-1967 team captain. In his senior season the Crusaders posted a 16-9 mark. This was Willard's third collegiate head coaching position. He previously served as the head coach of Western Kentucky from 1991-1994 where he posted an 81-42 mark in four seasons, leading the Hilltoppers to three postseason tournaments. Willard left Western Kentucky to take the head coaching reigns at Pittsburgh in 1995. He led the Panthers to a 63-82 mark and one NIT berth in five years. In his 10 seasons as the head coach at Holy Cross, Willard guided the team to an overall record of

193-117, with the Crusaders winning four Patriot League championships, while advancing to the NCAA Tournament four times and the NIT once. He was named the Patriot League Coach of the Year three times.

## SEAN KEARNEY

2009-2010 • 1 Season • 9-22

Kearney served as the Crusaders' head coach for just one season, posting an overall record of 9-22 and a 5-9 mark in the Patriot League. His team did earn a 67-64 upset victory at Bucknell in the quarterfinals of the Patriot League Tournament, and his nine victories came by an average margin of 13.8 points. Prior to his time at Holy Cross, Kearney was an assistant coach at Notre Dame for nine seasons, and at Delaware for nine years. He currently serves as the director of player development at Colorado.

## MILAN BROWN

2010-2015 • 5 Seasons • 69-83

Brown spent five years as the Crusaders' head coach, leading the team to a pair of winning seasons. During the 2013-2014 campaign, Holy Cross went 20-14 overall and defeated Brown in the first round of the College Insider Tournament. Brown also guided the team to a 58-57 victory over No. 25 Harvard on Nov. 16, 2014, good for the program's first win over a ranked opponent since 1977. Prior to his time with the Crusaders, Brown served as the head coach at Mount St. Mary's for seven years, posting an overall record of 95-120 and making one NCAA Tournament appearance. He currently serves as an assistant coach at the College of Charleston.

## ALL-TIME HOLY CROSS ASSISTANT COACHES

Roger Breslin (1995-2000)  
Kevin Clark (1982-1983)  
Bob Curran (1948-1952; 1961-1965)  
Mark Daigneault (2007-2010)  
Sean Doherty (1999-2002)  
Jim Dougher (1974-1982)  
Roy Dow (1994-1997)  
Kevin Driscoll (2013-2016)  
Brion Dunlap (2010-2015)  
Eric Eaton (2000-2004)  
Dan Engelstad (2010-2013)  
Bill Gibbons (1981-1985)  
Tom Gibbons (1992-1995)  
Mark Giovino (2002-2004)  
Greg Herenda (1989-1994)  
Jim Herrion (1965-1968)  
Darryl Hilliard (2004-2006)  
Mark Jerz (2004-2007)  
Rick Kaufman (1980-1981)  
**Joe Kennedy (2015-present)**  
Frank McArdle (1968-1974)  
Steve McMahon (1972-1973)  
**David Metzendorf (2018-present)**  
Adam Nelson (1998-1999)  
Tony Newsom (2001-2004)  
Kevin Nickelberry (1999-2001)  
Chad O'Donnell (1996-1999)  
Mark O'Neil (1980-1981)  
Frank Oftring (1959-1961)  
**Freddie Owens (2015-present)**  
Togo Palazzi (1972-1980; 1985-1987)  
Mike Palma (1983-1988)  
Fred Quartlebaum (1997-1998)  
Bill Raynor (1988-1994)  
Eddie Reilly (1982-1989)  
Albert Riopel (1946-1960)  
Kevin Robinson (2010-2015)  
Sean Ryan (2009-2010)  
Andrew Sachs (2004-2009)  
Guillermo Sanchez (2006-2010)  
Joe Scott (2016-2018)  
Glenn Senecal (1989-1992)  
Walter Townes (1994-1995)  
Jack Whalen (1950-1955)  
Kevin Whitmore (1995-1996)

*Since 1946-1947 season*