Kentucky’s Prince takes crown from Holy Cross

By Katherine Barker
Crusader Sports Editor

The Holy Cross Men’s Basketball team was seconds away from pulling off one of the greatest upsets in the history of Crusader athletics. They battled hard, made the school proud, but were defeated, 72-68, by the Kentucky Wildcats last Thursday, March 15, afternoon.

After senior center Josh Sankes hit a pair of game-tying free throws with 6:28 left in the game, it appeared as though the fifteenth-seeded Crusaders were in a position to let Tasmania shoot three-pointers, but after Sankes hit his foul shot, with the game on the line, he was asked to speak about how credible basketball player he is by his teammates and the title of Mr. Holy Cross Pageant on Tuesday night.

The crowd responded to the competitors with bunts and holsters, seemingly louder and louder the more outrageous the antics became.

First annual Mr. Holy Cross pageant deemed a success

By Bryan Abramoske
Crusader News Staff

A standing room only crowd in the Hogan Ballroom was treated to the best Holy Cross men had to offer in the first ever Mr. Holy Cross Pageant on Tuesday night. Eighteen Crusader seniors put their best talents forward, and any bashfulness aside, in an effort to win the cheers of their classmates and the title of Mr. Holy Cross. When it was over, Andrew Simons ’03 was crowned the winner.

Andrew Simons’ road to victory was not an easy one as there was a strong effort by all of the contest participants to win the affection of the judges and crowd. The competition began with the 18 contestants vying for their way through the thick crowd and up to the stage where each got a chance to show off their dance moves. The men then went backstage to change for the “formal wear” portion of the show.

Formal wear included a wide range of personal interpretations, from Dave Thompson ’02, elegant look and strut to Paul Lashaway’s ‘01 condoms, much too tight dress. However, this part of the evening was only the tip of the iceberg with regard to contestant debauchery.

The swimsuit competition gave the contestants a chance to showcase their physiques as many of them took the opportunity to strip down to the smallest amount of clothing possible. The contestants showed they were not shy as they danced around the stage and gestured suggestively at the audience. The crowd responded to the competitors with bunts and holsters, seemingly louder and louder the more outrageous the antics became.

The talent portion of the competition started slowly as technical difficulties came into play, but the contestants were unfazed as they sang, danced, played, and joked their way through the event. Vernell Shaw ’02, impressed many in attendance with his rapping ability and Scott Peterson ’02, stunned the crowd with his ability to eat a wide assortment of food products.

Andrew Simons really got the audience into the event with his act. He played and sang Billy Gibbons’ ‘72-68, by the Kentucky Wildcats last Thursday, March 15, afternoon.

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The University of Florida Women’s Basketball team finished the season in a slump. They had not played a game in two weeks thanks to a loss to Arkansas in the quarterfinals of the Southeastern Conference Tournament. However, none of that mattered when the Florida Gators took on the Holy Cross Crusaders last Friday night at the O’Connell Center in Gainesville, Florida. Backed by a large home crowd, the Gators beat up on the Holy Cross women’s basketball team, 94-52, in an NCAA Tournament opening-round game.

“We wanted to take the next step up the ladder,” Gibbons said referring to an NCAA win. “We didn’t, but I think at the beginning of the season, people were saying we wouldn’t take any steps up the ladder at all.”

The Crusaders were led by center Katie O’Keefe. She finished the night with 13 points, four rebounds, and two blocked shots. “We kept at [the Gators], never let down, and I am proud of us,” said the 6’2” sophomore.

Junior Amanda Abraham and Jeannette Paukert added seven points.