The past few days at Holy Cross have been trying, to say the least, and it is hard for me to sit down and write a sports column given the seemingly insignificant nature of sports at a time like this. As I began to write this column I intended on either writing a rambling column (similar to the one that I wrote for the first issue of The Crusader last semester) or writing a piece about Josh Sankes and Dave Poluca (two members of the class of 2001 who went on to play basketball and football at the professional level this summer). As much as I tried to focus on one of these two subjects, I couldn’t get my mind off another issue that is related to sports and the great tragedy that our country experienced. Should sports take time off given what has happened in NYC and DC? And if so how much time? On Tuesday afternoon when I was home watching TV following the tragedy, sports were the farthest thing from my mind. Then all of a sudden, on the bottom of the screen, an announcement came scrolling across saying that Major League Baseball had canceled all of Tuesday’s games. I was shocked. It was the first time that I had ever heard of Baseball canceling their games. I fully agreed with the decision, but it was just shocking. Then the news came that the MLS canceled the games slated for Wednesday. This decision again I think was very appropriate. Now however, I was very curious about what else was going on in the sporting world. So I went to ESPN.com and I read about what the NCAA, MLB, MLS and NFL were doing, and I was starting thinking about the history of sports being canceled due to major United States Events. The first thing that I thought of was the assassination of JFK. This event was arguably one of the greatest tragedies in the history of the United States. The weekend after the dreadful date in American history all college football games were canceled but the NFL played on. As a result the NFL was the recipient of much criticism, and still today people believe that the NFL acted with little respect when they played the weekend after the President was killed. Given the extreme nature of the events that have occurred I think that all sports, on any level, should be canceled through Friday. However this weekend is kind of a gray area. On one hand, as a measure of respect to the victims and the family members of the victims, I feel like sports should not go on for a long time. On the other hand, however, in our country sports have become an integral part of our community, and sports could act as a way to bring our country together. With this in mind, part of me thinks that it is important for sports to continue this weekend. On Tuesday afternoon at 2:30pm the United States’ Secretary of Defense Colin Powell held a press conference in which he said that our nation is strong and we will get through this difficult time, but it must go on now. I think that this is a great message. It can help people come together to support each other and feel safe in a community of people. As Colin Powell said on that day, we are all here for each other. As people, as a community, we are stronger now than at any other time in our history. With that said, I think that we should continue sports this weekend. The communities created through teams are the winners. With that said, I think that this is a great message. It can help people come together to support each other and feel safe in a community of people. As Colin Powell said on that day, we are all here for each other. As people, as a community, we are stronger now than at any other time in our history. With that said, I think that we should continue sports this weekend. The communities created through teams are the winners. With that said, I think that this is a great message. It can help people come together to support each other and feel safe in a community of people. As Colin Powell said on that day, we are all here for each other. As people, as a community, we are stronger now than at any other time in our history.