Club Hockey ready for their second chance

BY DAVE RIES
CRUSADER SPORTS STAFF

After an up and down first season in which the Holy Cross Club Hockey Team narrowly missed the playoffs, the team and new head coach Dave White looked to open the season on a positive note. On Saturday night, they did just that, routing Springfield College 9-4 at the Hart Center.

The team took the play to Springfield right off the opening faceoff, jumping out to a 4-0 lead at the end of the first period. Although the referees whistled penalty after penalty against the Crusaders, they were able to maintain their pace and were ahead 8-2 after the second. HC scored once and Springfield twice on the power play in the third for the 9-4 score.

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Eight different players scored for Holy Cross - sophomore JP Lannon scored two, with juniors Bill Johnson and Dave Murphy and seniors Dave Ries and Greg Dadekian each adding one. Junior Rich Orsen and freshmen Tom Florino and Dan Murphy and seniors Dave Ries and Greg Dadekian each netted their first career goals. Junior Ray Reiner chipped in with three assists.

Although Springfield was able to convert on a couple power plays (there were 26 penalties called in the game), the defensive group played very effectively, and senior Dan Bennett and junior Pat McCullion were both impressive in net, splitting the game in half. Holy Cross next faces Bryant College, the junior Pat McCullion were both impressive in net, splitting the game in half. Holy Cross next faces Bryant College, the junior Pat McCullion were both impressive in net, splitting the game in half.

Men’s Soccer continues success in Patriot League

BY CRISTINA DE LA CIERVA
CRUSADER SPORTS STAFF

By far, the most exciting and biggest win for the men's soccer team this season occurred on Sunday, Oct. 14, when the Crusaders played Patriot League newcomer American University.

The unpleasant weather did not stop Crusader fans from making their way up to Hart field to support the team. Many were aware of the importance of the game, as American was ranked number one coming into the match.

The Crusaders ended the first half with a 1-0 advantage. Sophomore Billy Stewart scored the team's first goal. Later in the second half, American forward Adam Rosen tied the game in the 87th minute of play, forcing the match into overtime.

11 minutes into overtime, Junior Captain Rusty Giudici headed in the game-winning goal, leading the team to a 2-1 victory. The impressive and well-deserved win allowed the Crusaders to take over American's title as the number one ranked team in the Patriot League.

Giudici remarked on the game by stating, 'I think it showed great character to come back in overtime and win the game after losing the lead with only three minutes remaining in the second half. This team has the potential to do great things this year.'

Two days later, the Crusaders traveled to Cambridge, MA to take on Harvard University. Unfortunately, Holy Cross was defeated 6-1, but luckily, the match was a non-league game. "We were flat during the first half but we picked up our game in the second half and had three or four scoring opportunities but had trouble capitalizing our shots. We need to work on finishing," commented Christ Napolitano.

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The Crusaders turned things around in their following game against Lafayette. On Oct. 20, the team enjoyed a home field advantage and the support of their biggest crowd this season, due to the fact that it was parents' weekend. Holy Cross gave the fans plenty to cheer about in this match as they soundly defeated the Leopards, 2-0.

After a scoreless first half, the Crusaders got on the board in the 58th minute of play when Junior Matt Ney centered the ball to Napolitano, who was able to put the ball in the back of the net. 20 minutes later, Ney scored the game winner against the league rivals.

Sophomore goalie Kevin Baker made five saves for the Crusaders and picked up his third shutout of the season. The win improved the team's season record to 6-4-1, 4-0-1 Patriot League.

For the week ending Oct. 21, two members from the squad were selected as Patriot League players of the week. Matt Ney was acknowledged offensively and Kevin Baker was recognized for his defensive efforts in net. Ney currently leads the Crusaders in assists and New this year with four. Baker has recorded a total of 62 saves this season, and allowed only 10 goals to go by him.

On Oct. 23, Holy Cross played against Hartford and won with a score 2-1. The first goal came from Napolitano with an assist by Ney. This was Napolitano's seventh goal of the season. Later in the game, defender Mike Mills scored the game winner.

Holy Cross' next two games will be away on Friday, Oct. 26, against Army, and Sunday, Oct. 28, against Bucknell. Both of these matches are against rival Patriot League teams.