Crusader Football

**Grutt’s gutsy effort not enough for Crusader Football**

**BY ERIC TOSI**
**CRUSADER SPORTS STAFF**

“I’m very proud of the way our team played today,” Head Coach Dan Allen lauded his performance, after witnessing his team’s performance this past weekend at Christy Mathewson Stadium in Lewisburg, possession, Bucknell buckled.

The Holy Cross defense had staged into this must-win divisional match-up, as they had surrendered 100 points and over 800 yards of total offense in the last two weeks. They were faced this Saturday with a formidable Bucknell offense that boasted potent weapons at each of the skill positions. Bucknell led by the talented Wenrich and Horan, the Crusaders were forced to keep their defense in check, holding him to under 100 yards on 30 carries. Nevertheless, the Bucknell managed to come out on top.

Things looking promising from the get go for the Crusaders as Chinua Melton recovered a fumble on the opening kickoff on the Bucknell 24 yard line. However, the Crusader offense only managed 5 yards on their first possession and was held to a Ryan Rolfert field goal. This gave the Bucknell 3-0 lead.

Junior safety Mike Blake shined this past weekend, notching only 3 tackles. Blake’s sophomore year has not panned out, as Mike would have liked however. Why? Simply because opposing teams are too scared to throw at him.

In his rookie season wearing the purple and white, Mike played in three games for the Crusaders notching only three tackles. Blake’s sophomore year has not panned out, as Mike would have liked however. Why? Simply because opposing teams are too scared to throw at him.

Mike Blake and Paul O’Neill...What do these two have in common? Well, lets start with the obvious. They are both great athletes. In addition, they are both the leaders of their teams. They are both extremely intense as one possesses, and through this he makes the entire defense better.

The loss dropped the Crusaders’ record to 4-4 (3-2 in Patriot League) while Bucknell moved to 6-3. Holy Cross returns home tomorrow as they tackle the Colgate Raiders at 11:30 a.m. It is one of the most anticipated games of the year.

Grutt finished the day completing 15 of 33 for 171 yards, a touchdown and an interception. Dan Allen lauded his performance and was “proud of the way the team responded to him (Grutt).”

His weapon of choice for the day was the aforementioned David Thompson, who hauled in 10 catches for 105 yards. These ten receptions gave Thompson 90 for his career, just ten shy of the 100 reception mark, a plateau two other Crusaders- Steve Green and Michael Coleman- reached this season.

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This is the first Patriot League Championship in four years that the Crusaders will not participate in.

**Women’s Soccer loss leads to end of season, no PL tournament**

**BY SUSAN MACWILLIAMS**
**CRUSADER SPORTS STAFF**

All the women’s soccer team needed past Saturday was a little luck. Not one four leaf clover must have covered the entire span of Fitton Field as the Lafayette Leopards defeated the Crusaders 2-1 in the final game of the season.

The loss knocked the Crusaders out of the Patriot League Championships as well. The game was at a scoreless standstill the entire first half, both teams having pulled off just one each.

The Crusaders got on the board first in the second half when junior Brandy Ault knocked in a rebound off a Sarah Comeaux shot in the 84th minute to put the Crusaders up 1-0. But the Leopards answered twice within the next twenty minutes to take a 2-1 lead which they held onto during the remainder of the game.

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