Field hockey wins PL, drops play-in game

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CRUSADER SPORTS STAFF

Holy Cross field hockey finished its season on top this week, winning the Patriot League Championship here at home and participating in an NCAA tournament play-in game in which, despite their loss, it was an accomplishment to have played. The team finished its season with an overall record of 14-7, 8-0 in the Patriot League.

The P.L. Tournament began on Nov. 3 when the Lady Saders faced Lafayette in the first round, defeating them 2-0. After a scoreless first half, senior forward Colleen Schmitt scored on a pass from sophomore midfielder Jes Gulino with 23:15 remaining. Then, with 3:52 left in the game, junior forward Mary Beth Clark sealed the win with 23:15 remaining. Then, with 3:52 left in the game, junior forward Mary Beth Clark sealed the game with the Cross’ second goal of the day. Freshman goalie Jennifer Corcelli had four saves in goal for her ninth shutout of the year, while Amy Cohen had seven stops for the Leopards.

Having advanced to the finals, Holy Cross next took on third ranked Bucknell on November 4, defeating them 4-1. This was the team’s third Patriot League title in four years. Colleen Schmitt scored the first goal of the game on a pass from sophomore forward Liz Tutella with 20:05 remaining. Then added to the lead five minutes later off an assist from Mary Beth Clark. Liz Tutella scored the third goal of the game off a pass from Jes Gulino to give the Cross a 3-0 lead at the half. With 4:35 left in the second half, Mary Beth Clark sealed the victory with another goal. Bucknell put up very little of an offensive threat, taking only three shots and scoring once, as Dena Ebert had an unassisted goal with 2:25 left in the game. The Crusaders dominated the entire game, taking 27 shots and defending the goal well, as Jennifer Corcelli only needed to make one save.

After their success in the Patriot League, Holy Cross was given the opportunity to participate in the NCAA tournament through a play-in game against west coast power Stanford. Stanford junior time in her sixteen years with the Cross; the other two years were 1992 and 1997. She has led the team to three League Championships throughout her time here. Also, seven Crusaders were named All League Honors. Seniors Colleen Schmitt and Annie Lavigne were named the Offensive and Defensive Players of the Patriot League Tournament.

Patriot League Champs in action.

We have come to that point in the semester when the well of ideas inside my incredibly huge noggin has run dry. So I have decided to provide various thoughts and commentary on sports issues facing us today. Here she goes...

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