

Hobart Athletics Department Update— From the desk of Athletics Director Mike Hanna '68

This is an exciting time of year on campus with winter sports coming to a close and spring sports well underway. Our terrific support staffs—athletic trainers, equipment coordinators, sports information, secretaries, and event managers—put in long hours during this overlap period.

Those of us not on the fields, the courts, or the lake are making arrangements for various spring events, especially the weekend of April 25-27, when the celebration of 100 Seasons of Hobart Lacrosse culminates with the Lacrosse Lettermen Dinner and the induction of the Hobart Hall of Fame Class of 2003:

Rev. Joseph Leighton, LL.D. '13

John Snape '54

Jim Calder '79

Ed Howard '79

Mark Darcangelo '82

Shawn Trell '89

Bobby Wynne '94

I am taking this opportunity to update our members on two other important topics that are commanding attention in Bristol Gym these days—future changes in the schedules and conferences for both Hobart Football and Hobart Lacrosse.

FIRST FOR FOOTBALL

Our primary league—the Upstate Collegiate Athletic Association (UCAA)—is currently not eligible for automatic qualification (AQ) to the NCAA Division III Football Championship. To qualify for an automatic bid, seven members of a league must play the sport in question—the UCAA has only five playing football at this time (Hobart, Rochester, St. Lawrence, Union and RPI). The other UCAA members—Clarkson, Skidmore, and Vassar—do not sponsor football.

To remedy this, the UCAA and several other Division III leagues are realigning themselves or taking on “associ-



ate members” for specific sports. The UCAA has reached an agreement with the U.S. Coast Guard Academy, Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI), and the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy (Kings Point) to join the UCAA as associate members for football only (effective the 2004 season). This will bring the UCAA football membership to eight teams. The UCAA will then be guaranteed a spot for its champion in the 28-team field of the NCAA Division III football playoffs. To make room for the new UCAA members, Ithaca, Alfred and St. John Fisher will go off the Hobart football schedule after 2003. Those three schools are also involved with similar league shifts—it is not a unilateral move on our part. We do expect to have Alfred back on our schedule in the near future as one of the two or three non-league games that we will play.

In addition to securing a playoff spot for the league champion, games with Kings Point (Long Island), Coast Guard (Conn.), and WPI (Mass.) will take our team to areas in which our coaches recruit heavily and to regions in which we have large alumni populations.

NOW FOR LACROSSE

While the UCAA is taking on associate members, the presidents of the Patriot League schools decided in June of 2002 to discontinue that same category of membership (except in football). The decision was made as part of their strategic plan to enhance the league's identity by moving toward full-fledged members, a model followed by leagues such as the Ivy Group and the Atlantic Coast Conference. We elevated our lacrosse program to Division I in 1995 under the NCAA's provision for “multidivision classification.” Hobart Lacrosse began competing in the Patriot League in 2000 and will continue to play in the Patriot League as an associate member through the 2004 lacrosse season.

Our options beyond 2004 are to either compete as an independent (which we did from 1995-99) or to join another Division I conference. In concert with Matt Kerwick '90 and the appropriate campus administrators, we are carefully considering both options. It is likely we will join another conference, and we are focusing on the ones which offer an affiliation with schools that enjoy a strong academic reputation. The conference option also offers the excitement that comes with a title chase and provides the opportunity for our athletes and coaches to earn postseason honors. Along with the above considerations, it will be important that the travel associated with our new schedule be affordable, and that our revised schedule take our team into areas where we have large alumni/ae populations, rich in high school lacrosse talent. To provide us with ample time to arrange the 2005 schedule, our goal is to reach a decision before the start of the 2003-04 school year.

As with football, league membership in lacrosse offers the chance for an automatic bid to the NCAA tournament. Starting with the 2003 season, the Division

I tournament field expands from 12 to 16 teams, and only the top four will be seeded. Seven of the berths are reserved for conference champions, the remaining nine bids will be extended on an at-large basis to independents and to those conference teams that do not win their respective conference titles. Conferences qualifying for the seven automatic bids include: the Colonial Athletic Association, America East, the ECAC, Great Western, the Ivies, the Metro Atlantic Conference, and the Patriot League (see Division I league listings at right).

Hobart Lacrosse takes the field each season supported by a strong foundation built by decades of dedication and success. Along with our tradition, the following factors are critical to our program's ability to compete at the Division I level:

- First is leadership. Matt Kerwick and his assistants are working from this established platform of decades of success, and under Coach Kerwick's leadership Hobart Lacrosse is re-energized and refocused.
- Next is recruiting. This year's first-year class is very talented and nearly all were admitted during the Early Decision (ED) rounds. This recruiting momentum continues as the current recruiting class looks even more promising; this year most of the top recruits were also admitted during the ED process. The Division I lacrosse recruiting process has been compressed into the summer and fall of a player's senior year, and our admissions and coaching staffs have adjusted nicely to keep us on pace with our competition. We have ample funding for an aggressive, national recruiting program that covers all lacrosse-playing regions in our quest to identify and evaluate the ever-growing pool of high school talent. This effort is buoyed by the Colleges' proactive and generous need-based financial aid program.
- Facilities and financial resources are key components. Hobart Lacrosse enjoys facilities that rank among the best in the sport. The program is supported by an appropriate operating budget with additional support from the SAA, alumni fund raisers, and partnerships with equipment companies such as Brine and Cascade Helmets.
- As always, the program enjoys excellent

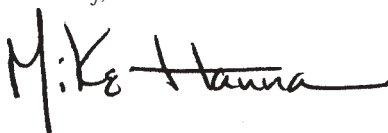
day-to-day support from our sports medicine, equipment, and sports information staffs. We have hired the maximum number of lacrosse coaches permitted by Division I rules and our salaries are competitive. The Hobart Lacrosse Camp provides a convenient recruiting opportunity and additional income for our coaches.

- As good as the academic reputation of the Colleges has always been, I tell parents there has never been a better time than now to drop off a son or daughter at HWS. The leadership of President Mark Gearan and our Trustees, the quality of our faculty, an applicant pool that is rising annually in quality and quantity, and the sustained development of campus facilities are putting HWS in an even brighter light nationally—we are being talked of as a "hot school."
- And, finally, lacrosse is a "big deal" on our campus. We are one of just a few Division I programs that doesn't exist in the shadow of big time football or basketball programs, and for most recruits that's appealing. We all know of and take pride in the rich tradition of Hobart Lacrosse...the legendary enthusiasm of our fans is only surpassed by the determination of our players and coaches.

All of this creates the synergy to be an exciting, competitive Division I lacrosse program, and along with Coach Matt Kerwick and the 2003 team, I thank you for your loyalty to the SAA and to Hobart Lacrosse.

For the added information of our members, page three of this special SAA Sportsletter provides a summary of the NCAA's provision for "multidivision" membership. Over the coming months we will keep you informed as our future football and lacrosse schedules are finalized. Should you have any questions or suggestions, please telephone me at (315) 781-3574 or e-mail me at hanna@hws.edu.

Sincerely,



Mike Hanna '68
Director of Athletics

Division I Lacrosse Leagues & Independent Teams

PATRIOT LEAGUE

Army
Bucknell
Colgate
Holy Cross
Lafayette
Lehigh

AMERICA EAST

Albany
Binghamton
Hartford
Quinnipiac
Stony Brook
Vermont

COLONIAL ATHLETIC

Delaware
Drexel
Hofstra
Sacred Heart
Towson
Villanova

ECAC

Georgetown
UMBC
UMass
Navy
Penn State
Rutgers

GREAT WESTERN

Air Force
Butler
Denver
Fairfield
Ohio State
Notre Dame

METRO ATLANTIC

Canisius
Manhattan
Marist
Mount St. Mary's
Providence
St. Joseph's
Siena
Wagner

IVY GROUP

Brown
Cornell
Dartmouth
Harvard
Pennsylvania
Princeton
Yale

INDEPENDENTS

Johns Hopkins
VMI
Syracuse
Loyola
Duke
Maryland
North Carolina
Virginia

NCAA Multidivision Classification

Recognizing that some Division II and Division III member institutions sponsor a sport with an especially strong tradition of success, the NCAA has extended a courtesy to such schools allowing them to compete in that sport at a higher division. NCAA Bylaw 20.4 stipulates that Division III and Division II members may elevate one men's and/or women's team (other than football or basketball) to a higher division.

Currently, 11 Division III institutions are classified as "multidivision" members. Together they sponsor a total of 16 sports at the Division I level. It is interesting that of the 11 Division III multidivision schools, five of them are UCAA members—Hobart plays in Division I lacrosse while RPI, Union, Clarkson, and St. Lawrence sponsor Division I ice hockey. As a multidivision school we are not permitted, by NCAA regulations, to sponsor Division I legislation, vote on Division I matters, or have representatives serve on NCAA Division I sport committees—those opportunities are accorded only to "full fledged" Division I members.

NCAA Bylaw 20.7.1.2 stipulates that a Division III member that has a sport classified in Division I must apply the rules of both divisions, or the more stringent rule of the two divisions when both divisions have differing rules on the same topic. The rationale for the "more stringent rule" is to minimize lower division schools jumping to a higher division in an effort to "put themselves on the map" by concentrating an inordinate amount of funds on their one elevated sport.

When Bylaw 20.7.1.2 was voted in during the 1980s, Division III schools who conducted a sport at the Division I level in 1982-83 (or earlier) were "grandfathered in" and thus granted a waiver (Bylaw 20.7.1.2.1) to the "more stringent rule" stipulation. Therefore, multidivision schools such as RPI, St. Lawrence, Clarkson, and Colorado College (ice hockey) and Johns Hopkins (lacrosse) can and do offer athletic scholarships in their respective Division I programs.

Here are examples of how the "more stringent rule" is applied:

- **Staff size:** Division III rules place no maximum on the number of coaches on a staff. In Division I lacrosse, there is a maximum of three paid coaches and one volunteer. Hobart Lacrosse must comply with the Division I rule which is the more stringent of the two.

- **Recruiting:** Division III regulations allow alumni to have in-person contact with prospective student-athletes to assist in the recruiting process. That in-person contact is prohibited by Division I rules, therefore we must comply with the Division I version of that rule for Hobart Lacrosse.
- **Financial aid:** Division III schools award financial aid based on a family's need. Merit scholarships are permitted for special talents other than athletic ability—typically these are awarded for art, music, or leadership. Athletic scholarships are permitted by Division I rules. Hobart Lacrosse must comply with the need-based Division III rule which is the more stringent of the two divisions.

Division I men's lacrosse is allowed a maximum of 12.6 full scholarships per team. On average Division I lacrosse teams number about 40 players, so most lacrosse scholarship athletes are receiving "partial scholarships." Division I hockey programs are permitted a maximum of 18 full scholarships (for a typical squad size of 30). Like ourselves, Union College's Division I hockey program must apply the Division III financial aid rules, and clearly the ratio in lacrosse is more favorable than the hockey ratio for a non-scholarship program competing at the Division I level. A Division I athlete who is not on an athletic scholarship may receive need-based aid if his family qualifies. However, NCAA rules prohibit a school from combing athletic scholarship money and need-based assistance for an athlete—it's either one form of financial aid or the other.

As a point of information, currently about 72 percent of HWS applicants receive financial aid. The average grant (not including loans and campus employment) is about \$16,000. The financial aid extended to any of our athletic teams would closely approximate these numbers.

Finally, the two-sport athlete is another area of multidivision classification that warrants special attention. For example, a lacrosse player at Hopkins who receives any amount of athletic scholarship aid is, by NCAA rules, a scholarship athlete and therefore not eligible to compete on any of the school's Division III teams. The 2003 Hobart Lacrosse Team has three athletes who are also members of the football, soccer, and hockey teams.

Future Schedules

2003 FOOTBALL

| DATE | OPPONENT |
|--------------|---------------------|
| September 13 | at Dickinson |
| September 27 | *UNION |
| October 4 | *at St. Lawrence |
| October 11 | *ROCHESTER |
| October 18 | FRANKLIN & MARSHALL |
| October 25 | at Alfred |
| November 1 | at Ithaca |
| November 8 | ST. JOHN FISHER |
| November 15 | *at Rensselaer |
| | *UCAA game |

2004 FOOTBALL

| | |
|--------------|--|
| September 11 | DICKINSON |
| September 18 | at Franklin & Marshall |
| September 25 | *at Rensselaer |
| October 2 | *Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) |
| October 9 | *COAST GUARD |
| October 16 | *at Kings Point (USMMA) |
| October 23 | *at St. Lawrence |
| November 6 | *UNION |
| November 13 | *ROCHESTER |
| | *UCAA game |

2004 LACROSSE

| | |
|----------------|----------------------|
| March 6 | *at Holy Cross |
| March 13 | *Lehigh (site TBD) |
| March 20 | at Georgetown |
| March 27 | *LAFAYETTE |
| March 30 | at Syracuse |
| April 3 | *BUCKNELL |
| April 7 | *COLGATE |
| April 10 | PENN STATE |
| April 17 | Navy (site TBD) |
| April 24 | *at Army |
| April 30-May 2 | PL Tournament |
| May 7 | CORNELL |
| | *Patriot League game |

Beginning in 2004, the Patriot League will sponsor a tournament to decide the league champion and the winner of the automatic berth in the NCAA Tournament.

All dates and locations are tentative and subject to change.

2003 Spring Schedules

| SAILING | | |
|---------|--------------------------|------------------|
| DATE | OPPONENT | LOCATION |
| Mar 1-2 | Georgetown Invitational | 3rd of 10 |
| 8-9 | St. Mary's Invitational | St. Mary's |
| 15-16 | Truxton Umsted | Navy |
| 22-23 | Aaron Szambecki Regatta | ODU |
| 22-23 | Owen Trophy | USMMA |
| 22-23 | Atlantic Coast Mono's | USMMA |
| 29-30 | Boston Dinghy Cup | Harvard |
| 29-30 | Kings Point Spring Open | USMMA |
| Apr 5-6 | Capt. Prosser Trophy | NY Maritime |
| 12-13 | Admiral's Cup | USMMA |
| 12-13 | Moody Trophy | Rhode Island |
| 12-13 | NY Maritime Open | NY Maritime |
| 12-13 | Navy J-24 Regatta | Navy |
| 19-20 | MAISA OPEN | HWS |
| 19-20 | Thompson Trophy | USCGA |
| 26-27 | America Trophy | St. Mary's |
| Jun 5-7 | ICSA Team Championship | Crescent Sail YC |
| 8-10 | ICSA Dinghy Championship | Bayview YC |

| LACROSSE (2-0, 1-0 PL) | | |
|------------------------|---|-----------|
| DATE | OPPONENT | TIME |
| Feb 23 | ¹ vs. Butler | W, 13-3 |
| Mar 1 | *HOLY CROSS | W, 15-4 |
| 11 | ² vs. Georgetown | 4:30 p.m. |
| 15 | *at Lafayette | 1 p.m. |
| 22 | *LEHIGH | 1 p.m. |
| 25 | SYRACUSE | 7 p.m. |
| 29 | *at Bucknell | 3:30 p.m. |
| Apr 2 | *at Colgate | 7 p.m. |
| 5 | at Penn State | 2 p.m. |
| 12 | at Denver | 1 p.m. |
| 19 | *ARMY | 1 p.m. |
| 26 | LOYOLA | 1 p.m. |
| | <i>Hall of Fame Weekend</i> | |
| May 2 | at Cornell | 7 p.m. |
| | ¹ at Homewood Field, Baltimore, Md. | |
| | ² at Texas Military Institute, San Antonio | |
| | *Patriot League game | |

| GOLF | | |
|--------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| DATE | EVENT | TIME |
| Apr 10 | at Susquehanna Invitational | 1 p.m. |
| 12-13 | at Le Moyne Inv. | 1 p.m./8 a.m. |
| 21 | at Elmira Invitational | 10 a.m. |

| CREW | | |
|---------|------------------------|---------------------|
| DATE | EVENT | LOCATION |
| Mar 29 | vs. Ithaca, UMass | Ithaca, N.Y. |
| 30 | vs. Michigan, UMass | Ithaca, N.Y. |
| Apr 5 | San Diego Crew Classic | San Diego |
| 12 | vs. RIT | Rochester, N.Y. |
| 19 | vs. Colgate | Hamilton, N.Y. |
| May 3-4 | NYS Champs. | Whitney Point, N.Y. |
| 10-11 | ECAC Championships | Mercer, N.J. |
| 30-31 | IRA Championships | Camden, N.J. |

| TENNIS | | |
|--------|------------------------|---------|
| DATE | EVENT | TIME |
| Mar 9 | *vs. Salve Regina | 4 p.m. |
| 10 | *vs. Edinboro | 11 a.m. |
| 11 | *vs. Wooster | Noon |
| 13 | *vs. Green Mountain | Noon |
| 14 | *vs. Wittenberg | Noon |
| 22 | at Rochester | 1 p.m. |
| 25 | RIT | 4 p.m. |
| 28 | ST. LAWRENCE | 4 p.m. |
| 29 | ST. JOHN FISHER | 1 p.m. |
| Apr 2 | at Nazareth | 4 p.m. |
| 5 | at Skidmore | 1 p.m. |
| 6 | at Trinity (Conn.) | 10 a.m. |
| 10 | CLARKSON | 4 p.m. |
| 12 | at Ithaca | Noon |
| 17 | HAMILTON | 4 p.m. |

April 26-27, UCAA Championships, at Vassar
 *played in Hilton Head, S.C.