

SAA

# Sports LETTER

## Hockey team streaks into break; Climbs to No. 7 in DIII poll

Under the guidance of Head Coach **MARK TAYLOR**, the seventh-ranked Hobart hockey team is enjoying its longest winning streak in the program's 28 varsity seasons, garnering national attention with its Division III ranking. The Statesmen have won eight in a row heading into the semester break. With an overall record of 9-2-0, the 2005-06 squad is on pace to break the record for wins in a season (15).

On Dec. 12, Hobart moved up a spot from eighth to seventh in the USCHO.com poll to earn its highest ranking ever. The 2003-04 squad climbed as high as No. 9, the previous high-water mark.

The recipe for Hobart's success has been an explosive offense combined with a stingy defense. The Statesmen have scored four or more goals nine times (all wins), while allowing two or fewer goals seven times (again, all wins).

Offensively, Hobart has featured balanced scoring, with five players logging at least 10 points. Junior forward **CONOR BRADLEY** has paced the attack with 17 points, on a team-leading 10 goals and seven assists. The MVP of the 2005 Babson Tournament registered his first career hat trick against Williams. Bradley is tied for second in the nation with seven power-play goals.

Senior forward **ED POIRIER** has distributed a team-leading 14 assists (9th in the nation) and scored a pair of goals. On Dec. 2, during a 7-1 ECAC West win over Neumann, he tied the record for assists in a game, handing out four helpers. Poirier, senior **LEE CARRIER**, **ANDY BOSCIETTO '03**, and **GREG REYNOLDS '01** also have recorded four assists in a game.

Senior forward **COLBY McVEY** and junior forward **MIKE MCCARTHY** are tied for third on the team at 14 points. McVey ranks second in goals with nine,



KEVIN COLTON

Conor Bradley leads the Statesmen in scoring and is among the national leaders in goals per game and power-play goals.

including a hat trick against SUNY Cortland, while McCarthy is second in assists (10).

Senior **GREG GALLAGHER** has added a scoring punch from the blue line. His 10 points (2-8) are the second most by a defenseman in the conference. Gallagher was named the ECAC West Player of the Week for his four-point effort during a 7-5 win over Elmira.

Gallagher and classmate **WESLEY SCOTT** have anchored the top defensive pair, while junior **MIKE MANOS** and first-year **ANDREW BRENNAN** have played sound fundamental hockey on the second line.

On special teams, Hobart features the second best penalty-killing unit in the conference, eliminating 73 of 85 (.850) of its opponents' opportunities.

First-year netminder **KEITH LONGO** has been spectacular between the pipes. He sits atop the conference and second in the nation in goals

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### Statesmen in the national rankings Several hockey players ranked in top 20

- Goals per game: Conor Bradley, 11th, 0.91
- Assists per game: Ed Poirier, 9th, 1.27
- Power-play goals: Conor Bradley, t-2nd, 7
- Short-handed goals: Colby McVey, t-2nd, 2
- Game-winning goals: Shawn Houde, t-12th, 2
- Goals against average: Keith Longo, 2nd, 1.23
- Save percentage: Keith Longo, 2nd, .952
- Winning percentage: Keith Longo, t-4th, .857

## Basketball hopes to build strength from tough non-conference slate

The Hobart basketball team is hoping for a repeat of last season. The 2005-06 Statesmen are 2-5 heading into the semester break, following a killer non-conference schedule. Playing against a similarly brutal early season schedule last season made Hobart battle-tested and ready for a first place finish in the Liberty League.

This year's slate, which included 19th-ranked Rochester, No. 20 St. John Fisher, and Division I Colgate, has shown the team the areas that need improvement, while also giving the Statesmen some positive feedback as well.

Hobart learned resiliency in its season-opening win over Hilbert. The Statesmen built a big second half lead, but the Hawks came all the way back to tie the contest and force overtime. In the extra session, senior guard **JOE VIRGILIO** scored six of his team-high 25 points to lead his team to victory.

Virgilio netted 21 two nights later in a loss to Keuka, the first of a three-game slide. During that stretch, the Statesmen saw a need for a more intense perimeter defense. The Storm and the Cardinals

shot a combined 14-of-31 (.452) from beyond the arc. Hobart tightened up its D against RIT, but the Tigers shot well inside the arc and brought their own tough defense.

The Statesmen got back in the win column when Ithaca visited Bristol Gym. Hobart blocked 12 shots during the game, second only to the program record 15 rejected against Utica in 1978. Senior forward **TIM APUZZO** led the block party with a career-high five.

Junior guard **MIKE MANNING** led the scoring charge against  
See HOOPS, p. 4



Senior guard Joe Virgilio leads Hobart in scoring (11.9), free throw percentage (.935, 29-31), and assists (17).



Tim Apuzzo is off to a fast start. He leads Hobart in blocked shots and steals.

## Squash team rebuilding after roster undergoes 'extreme makeover'

The Hobart squash team has struggled to a 2-6 record heading into the semester break, following a roster makeover that would be classified as extreme, even by today's reality television standards.

Eleventh-year Head Coach **CAROL WEYMULLER** welcomed back just two players who appeared in 10 or more matches during the 2004-05 season, juniors **PRATEEK PATNI** and **BEN SHIVER**.

As can be expected with a largely untested lineup, the Statesmen dropped their first three matches of the campaign. It didn't help matters any that Navy (#13), Franklin & Marshall (#15), and Denison (#19) are all ranked in the top-20.

Despite its inexperience, Hobart seemed poised to defend its back-to-back Liberty League Championships in late November. The Statesmen dispatched Rochester 9-0 and Vassar 8-1 on the first day of competition in Canton, N.Y. Unfortunately on the second day, Hamilton eked out a 5-4 victory and eventual conference champion, No. 18 St. Lawrence topped Hobart 9-0.

Patni is 2-6 in his first year as the Statesmen's No. 1, while Shiver is 3-5 at No. 3.

The Class of 2009 is contributing in the No. 2 and No. 8 spots in the lineup. **CALE FOGUES** (Kemptville, Ontario) and **PETER HANSEN** (Middleburg, Va.) are a combined 6-7 overall in their young collegiate careers.

It won't get any easier for Hobart after the break. Eight of the 10 matches remaining on the schedule are against top-20 teams, including No. 7 Cornell, No. 8 Dartmouth, and No. 10 Williams.



Prateek Patni is in his first year as Hobart's No. 1 player. He began the season with a 19-26 record, mostly at No. 2.



Only classmate Prateek Patni has played more matches than Ben Shiver (14-12) on the youthful Statesmen roster.



## 2006 REMAINING HOBART WINTER SCHEDULES

### BASKETBALL (2-5)

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Jan 6	#vs N.C. Wesleyan	3 p.m.
7	#Consolation/Championship	3 p.m./8 p.m.
13	*VASSAR	8 p.m.
14	*RENSSELAER	4 p.m.
17	*at Hamilton	8 p.m.
20	*at Skidmore	8 p.m.
21	*at Union	4 p.m.
24	at Utica	7 p.m.
27	*ST. LAWRENCE	8 p.m.
28	*CLARKSON	4 p.m.
31	*HAMILTON	7 p.m.
Feb 3	*UNION	8 p.m.
4	*SKIDMORE	4 p.m.
10	*at Rensselaer	8 p.m.
11	*at Vassar	4 p.m.
17	*at Clarkson	8 p.m.
18	*at St. Lawrence	4 p.m.

Feb 24-25 Liberty League Tournament

#Marymount Tournament  
\*Liberty League game

### HOCKEY (9-2-0, 3-2-0 ECAC West)

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Jan 7	at Oswego	7 p.m.
10	at Brockport	7 p.m.
13	vs Wentworth at Northeastern	2:30 p.m.
14	at Curry	4:35 p.m.
20	*MANHATTANVILLE	7 p.m.
21	*MANHATTANVILLE	4 p.m.
28	*at Elmira	7 p.m.
Feb 3	*at Lebanon Valley	7 p.m.
4	*at Lebanon Valley	3 p.m.
10	*UTICA	7 p.m.
11	*UTICA	4 p.m.
18	*ELMIRA	4 p.m.
24	*at Neumann	7 p.m.
25	*at Neumann	7 p.m.

March 3-4 ECAC West Tournament

\*ECAC West game

### SQUASH (2-6)

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Jan 21	vs Colby at Yale	Noon
	vs Bowdoin at Yale	3:30 p.m.
22	vs Bates at Yale	10 a.m.
	vs Wesleyan at Yale	Noon
28	at Amherst	10 a.m.
	at Williams	4:30 p.m.
29	at Dartmouth	Noon
Feb 4	NAVY	10 a.m.
9	at Rochester	6 p.m.
11	at Cornell	2 p.m.

Feb 17-19 CSA Team Championships at Princeton  
Mar 3-5 CSA Individual Championships at Amherst

Schedules are subject to change

## Statesmen in the community

### Red Ribbon Week

Hobart and William Smith student-athletes visited elementary school kids in the Geneva City School District during Red Ribbon Week. The nationwide program gets children to commit themselves to living drug-free lives.

The Statesmen and Herons talked to local kids, teaching them about making healthy decisions and saying no to drugs.



### Santa Train

Hobart student-athletes once again volunteered their time in support of the annual Santa Train Ride, a Rotary Club charity fund-raiser. Statesmen park cars and assist passengers during the two-day event. The proceeds benefit numerous Rotary projects including the Boys & Girls Clubs and Camp Onseyawa.



### Skate for Happiness House

In conjunction with the sixth annual Hike for Happiness House, the Hobart hockey team donated the gate receipts from its home opener to the fund-raiser. Hike for Happiness House is a walk-a-thon to benefit the organization. All proceeds from the event benefit children and adults with disabilities who attend programs or receive services at Happiness House. The Statesmen presented Happiness House with a check for more than \$500.



### Hot at The Cooler (from p. 1)



Keith Longo

against average (1.23) and save percentage (.952). In 391 minutes and 44 seconds of action, Longo has stopped 160 of 168 shots. He is just the second Statesman to earn back-to-back

shutouts (Wentworth 7-0, Williams 6-0), posting a record-breaking shutout streak of 180 minutes, 24 seconds.

Although Hobart has been bitten by the injury bug in the first half of the season—seniors **WILL BODINE** (knee) and **WILL BRAME** (shoulder), and junior **MICHAEL POLSONETTI** (knee) all have missed significant ice time—the Statesmen are expected

to be at full strength for the start of the stretch run.

When the Statesmen return from break, they'll be tested right away, traveling to No. 4 SUNY Oswego on Jan. 7. Hobart, tied for second in the ECAC West, will host No. 2 Manhattanville for a pair of games on Jan. 20-21 and Utica on Feb. 10-11 in crucial conference contests.

SAA

HOBART COLLEGE  
Department of Athletics  
Bristol Gymnasium  
Geneva, NY 14456

## 8 Statesmen named Liberty League All-Academics

Senior **ERIC BARNES**, sophomore **JOSEPH BOCHYNSKI**, senior **COLBY FEANE**, senior **RYAN McWALTER**, junior **NOLAN ROBINSON**, senior **DREW SLOCUM**, senior **JAMIE SMITH**, senior **RYAN SMITH**, and junior **CHRIS WHIPPLE** earned a place on the Liberty League All-Academic teams this fall.

A history major, Barnes crossed the finish line first for the cross country team in all five races he ran.

With Barnes missing five meets due to injury, Bochynski stepped into his leadership role, leading the Statesmen across the line in four of the final five races of the year.

An economics major, Feane averaged 14.4 yards per reception at wide receiver for the football team.

McWalter, who is majoring in history, averaged 13.0 yards per reception at tight end on the gridiron.

An outside linebacker for the football team, Robinson made 49 tackles, including 2.5 sacks, and returned an interception 67



yards for a touchdown. He is majoring in chemistry.

At the conference golf championships, Slocum shot an even par-144 during the two-day

tournament to finish third and earn a place on the All-Liberty League first team. He is an economics and political science major.

On the soccer pitch, Jamie Smith served as a team captain, starting all 17 games this year on defense. He is majoring in political science and public policy.

A psychology major, Ryan Smith led the football team with four interceptions, while recording 37 tackles at free safety.

A fullback on the football team, Whipple averaged 4.3 yards per carry and helped create gaping holes for Hobart's potent ground game. He is a history major.

Student-athletes from the Liberty League earn a place on the team based on the following criteria: at least a sophomore academic standing and a minimum 3.2 cumulative grade point average.

## HOOPS (from p. 2)

the Bombers with 20 points and 12 rebounds.

Hobart ended the first semester with games against Rochester and Colgate.

The Statesmen played better defense against the Yellowjackets, holding the visitors to just 39 percent from the floor and 26 percent from beyond the arc. However, Rochester has earned its national ranking on the strength of a smothering defense and left with a 64-45 win.

At Colgate, a 13-1 Raider run put the game out of reach early, but Hobart can take solace in the fact that the shorter Statesmen controlled the boards (31-30) and Virgilio was the game's leading scorer with 11 points.

Virgilio and classmate **ADAM FREDERIC** have shared playmaker duties this season, handing out 17 assists apiece.

In addition to the team's pursuit of back-to-back first place finishes in the Liberty League standings, Hobart fans can look forward to senior guard **COLBY FEANE's** quest to become the 19th Statesman to record 1,000 career points. He begins the second semester 133 points shy of the career milestone.