



# Sports LETTER

## Hockey takes speed, talent indoors for 2007-08

The Hobart hockey team begins the 2007-08 season in the newly-enclosed Geneva Recreation Complex, a.k.a. The Cooler. Head Coach Mark Taylor returns for his eighth season at the helm, and, along with assistant coach Tom Mariano, welcomes back 18 veteran Statesmen and 12 newcomers to the ice.

Last winter, Hobart posted a 13-8-5 overall record, its fifth consecutive winning season, and established a program-record 13-game unbeaten streak along the way. The Statesmen were nationally ranked all season long by USCHO.com, climbing as



Shawn Houde is the top returning scorer after recording 16 goals and 10 assists in 2006-07.

high as eighth.

The Class of 2007 left holes in the Statesmen lineup, including captain Mike Polsonetti '07, who closed out his career as the fifth-ranked defensive scorer in the nation, unsung defensive leader Jonathan Swift '07, and leading scorer Conor Bradley '07 (14 goals-20 assists-34 points).

On the up side, the team's top scorer, senior center Shawn Houde, is back after leading the team in goals (16) and ranking second in points (26). He earned a spot on the 2006-07 All-ECAC West second team for his efforts.

Seniors Brian Cibelli and  
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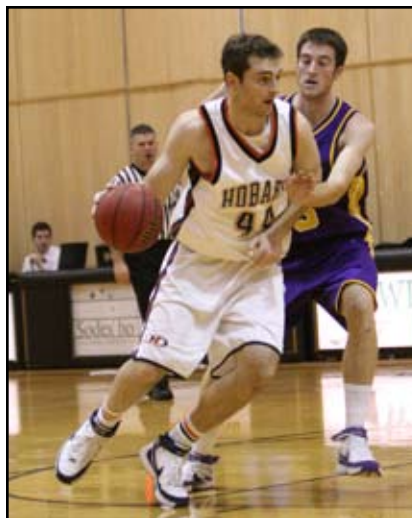
## Young Statesmen look to build on season-ending momentum

The Hobart basketball team will sport a youthful look, dressing just six returning lettermen and 10 first-year players.

Second-year Head Coach Izzi Metz is excited about the potential of this year's squad. Hobart ended the 2006-07 season with a great deal of momentum. After a 2-5 start, the Statesmen rallied for a 9-9 record in the second semester, including a four-game winning streak to end the season.

Senior forward John Grazioli will be the cornerstone of this year's team. He led the Liberty League in scoring a year ago (17.6 ppg) and ranked in the top 10 in free throw shooting (3rd, .770), blocked shots (5th, 36), and field goal percentage (10th, .498). At 6-foot-7, 220-pounds, Grazioli is a monster on the low block offensively with a shooter's touch to the three-point line. He needs 289 points to become the 21st member of Hobart's 1,000-point club.

Serving as a co-captain with Grazioli will be senior swingman Rob Genovese. A strong shooter



John Grazioli is on pace to become the 21st Statesmen to record 1,000 career points.

on the perimeter, he has the quickness and athleticism to attack the basket. Genovese was a steady producer last season (4.8 ppg, 3.6 rpg) and should see those numbers climb as he moves into the starting lineup full time.

Senior centers Dan O'Grady and Dan Birney give the front-court depth. O'Grady's (6-6, 230) progress has been hampered by injuries, but he's shown flashes of brilliance as evidenced by his 12-point performance at South Region powerhouse Roanoke in 2004 and 10-point performance at St. John Fisher in 2005. He's worked hard this offseason to get into the best shape of his career. Birney (6-7, 230) has a great work ethic and good shooting

range for a big man.

Sophomore shooting guard Sean McHugh was Hobart's top rookie last season, starting 21 games and contributing 6.4 points and 2.1 rebounds. He ranked sixth in the conference in three-pointers made (45) and 12th in three-point shooting (.388). McHugh

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## Alexander tabbed All-American

Hobart cornerback James Alexander became the sixth Statesman to earn a spot on the D3football.com All-America teams.



James Alexander

The senior garnered third team honors when the annual teams on Dec. 15.

Alexander enjoyed a phenomenal senior season that saw him finish seventh in the nation in both interceptions (0.7/g) and passes defended (1.9/g). The Liberty League Defensive Player of the Year was a unanimous first team All-Liberty League selection. Alexander led the conference's top pass defense. The Statesmen limited opponents to just 158.6 passing yards per game and a 46.8 percent completion rate.

Alexander led the conference with eight interceptions, including three in the regular season finale at Rochester. He also led the League with 13 pass break ups. Alexander was third on the team with 57 tackles, posting a career-high 11 stops in Hobart's 27-26 upset of 22nd-ranked Carnegie Mellon.

The two-year starter finished his career with 142 tackles, 30 pass break ups, 10 interceptions, five fumble recoveries, and three forced fumbles.

Alexander joins Hobart's previous D3football.com All-Americans: defensive end Rob Gould '01, linebacker Tim Booth '03, offensive guard Alex Bell '05, running back Doug Blakowski '07, and punter Dominick Ancona '08. Booth and Bell were both two-time honorees, while Bell remains Hobart's only first-team selection.

### 5 earn All-Region honors

Five Statesmen earned All-Region honors in their respective sports. Alexander, senior wide receiver James Wright, and junior linebacker Justin Hager all earned second team All-East recognition from D3football.com, while senior midfielder Brad Weinberg and junior midfielder Philipp Schoeniger both received third team recognition from the National Soccer Coaches Association of America.

A first team All-Liberty League selection, Wright completed a stellar career with 60 receptions for 923 yards and 12 touchdowns this season. Wright caught at least one pass in 18 consecutive games to finish his career. He registered 134 career recep-

## Colleges ranked 17th in Directors' Cup standings

With the fall sports seasons complete, the Hobart and William Smith Colleges athletics programs moved up seven spots in the latest U.S. Sports Academy Directors' Cup Standings to 17th. HWS has 153 points and is the top-ranked Liberty League institution.

The Hobart football and soccer and the William Smith field hockey and soccer teams all earned NCAA Tournament bids. It is the first time all four teams have represented HWS in the NCAA playoffs in the same year.

The Sports Academy Directors' Cup points are awarded based on each institution's finish in up to 18 NCAA Championships, nine women's and nine men's. The fall standings include seven sports, men's and women's cross country, field hockey, football, men's and women's soccer, and volleyball. The previous standings, which placed HWS No. 24, did not include football, which completed its postseason on Dec. 15 with the Amos Alonzo Stagg Bowl.

The Statesmen football team completed its 11th straight winning season with an 8-3 record. Hobart earned a share of its second consecutive (seventh overall) Liberty League title with a 6-1 mark. The Statesmen made their fourth straight (sixth overall) NCAA Playoff appearance, falling in the first round to fifth-ranked St. John Fisher.

The Hobart soccer team, which was ranked as high as fifth, logged a 12-4-3 overall record. The Statesmen received an at-large bid to the NCAA Tournament for the second year in a row, earning the program's first tournament victory by defeating Fredonia State 3-0.

The Heron field hockey team, which was ranked as high as seventh in the nation, finished its 23rd consecutive winning season with a 16-5 record. William Smith won its fourth consecutive Liberty

League regular season title and tournament championship. The Herons reached the regional semifinal round of the NCAA Tournament with a 2-1 win over Keene State.

The Heron soccer team ran through its regular season unbeaten, posting a 17-0-1 record. They too won the Liberty League's regular season and tournament championships. William Smith, which was ranked sixth in the final coaches poll, finished the campaign with a 17-1-1 record, the program's 24th consecutive winning season.

### 2007-08 Standings Final Fall Standings

| INSTITUTION          | PTS        |
|----------------------|------------|
| 1. Washington (MO)   | 322        |
| 2. Amherst           | 291        |
| 3. Williams          | 286        |
| 4. Calvin            | 285        |
| 5. New Jersey        | 254        |
| 6. Emory             | 237        |
| 7. Trinity (TX)      | 236        |
| 8. Middlebury        | 235        |
| 9. Messiah           | 226        |
| 10. UW-Whitewater    | 215        |
| 11. Salisbury        | 208        |
| 12. Cortland State   | 188        |
| 13. Bowdoin          | 179        |
| 14. Haverford        | 176        |
| 15. Puget Sound      | 173        |
| 16. UW-Eau Claire    | 169        |
| <b>17. HWS</b>       | <b>153</b> |
| 17. Juniata          | 153        |
| 19. Wheaton (Ill.)   | 150        |
| 20. Wartburg         | 149        |
| 21. Wittenberg       | 147        |
| 22. Carthage         | 139        |
| 23. UW-La Crosse     | 138        |
| 24. York             | 137        |
| 25. UW-Platteville   | 136        |
| 25. UW-Stevens Point | 136        |

tions for 2,012 yards and 20 touchdowns.

Also a first team All-Liberty League pick, Hager led the Statesmen with a Liberty League high 114 tackles, the most by a Hobart player since 1995. Hager counted a season record 67 solo stops among his tackles this year.

A three-time All-Liberty League selection, Weinberg scored a pair of goals and doled out an assist. Both of Weinberg's goals, at Utica and vs. St. John Fisher, were game-winners. The four-year starter completed his career with five goals and eight assists for 18 points.

A two-time All-Liberty League pick, Schoeniger recorded a goal and five assists. The three-year starter has seven goals and four assists for 18 points.

### Get Statesmen news online: [www.hws.edu/athletics](http://www.hws.edu/athletics)

The only place to get up to the minute information on your favorite Hobart Statesmen teams is online at [www.hws.edu/athletics](http://www.hws.edu/athletics).

- Watch games live
- Get real-time statistics
- Sign up for e-mail alerts
- Subscribe to text message final scores alerts

And much, much more...

## Hoops Outlook (from p. 1)

hit the weight room during the offseason, adding 10 pounds of muscle to his 6-foot-3 frame that the coaching staff expects will make him a more consistent contributor as the Statesmen work their way through the grind of a tough Liberty League slate.

Sophomore Tim Ivory is expected to battle for playing time at the point. He played in 23 games as a first-year averaging 11.3 minutes, experience that will be invaluable to this young team. Classmate Philip Copulsky will provide depth at the two and three.

Nine members of the Class of 2011 join the roster this season. All are expected to make significant contributions on the court at some point, most notably guard Tim Llewellyn and forward Adam Salzmann, who are expected to be in the starting lineup on opening day.

Hobart will face a tough schedule that includes four games against 2007 NCAA Tournament teams (at St. John Fisher, vs. Rochester, and a home-home series with league rival St. Lawrence).

## Squash team has mix of old, young for 2007-08 season

The Hobart squash team returns 12 veterans from last year's squad that ended the season by winning the College Squash Association's Conroy Trophy, and welcomes 12 newcomers to the team.

Leading off for the Statesmen in the No. 1 spot will be junior Cale Forgues. He has already played five matches in the top slot this season, and is the most experienced Statesman on the team with 47 career matches under his belt.

Following Forgues will be first-year Grant Palermo at the No. 2 spot. Palermo earned a place near the top of the depth chart right away.

Sophomore Craig Chircop, first-year Luke Esselen, and senior Ned Lanphier will take on foes in the upper half of the lineup. Chircop has played in 27 career matches entering the year. With 36 career matches played, Lanphier is another veteran Statesman.

First-year Dan Sills, senior Graham Gardiner, and junior Kenny O'Connor are expected to play positions six through eight.

Three newcomers are in contention to earn the start at No. 9. Junior Mook Lawrence, when healthy, has the edge. If he can't go, first-years Carl Ranieri or Cooper Hopkins will take his place.



Cale Forgues will be Hobart's top player this season.

## HOCKEY (from p. 1)

Ted Brzek, and juniors Kirk Golden and Jason Merritt all return to the forward position. Cibelli ranked fifth on the team in scoring with 20 points, while Merritt and Brzek combined for 27 points.

A strong sophomore class comes back after making an impact on the Statesmen as rookies. Consisting of forwards Gregory Alberti and Aleksey Koval, and centers Blake Bonham and Bobby Cahill, this group is poised to make an even bigger impact on the ice this winter. Bonham will use his size and strength to lead one of Hobart's top lines, while Alberti, Koval, and Cahill will make use of their collective speed and skill as they work together on another top Statesmen line.

Defensively, a core group of juniors, Ryan Adler, Andrew Brennan, Bryant Harris, and Michael Steiner, return to the fold. They helped a strong 2006-07 unit that posted 2.97 goals against average and ranked 17th in the country in penalty kills. The Statesmen killed their opponents' power play opportunities 85.4 percent of the time.

Three veteran goalkeepers return to battle it out between the pipes. Junior Keith Longo ended last season ranked ninth in Division III in save percentage (.917) and 18th in goals against average (2.59). Seniors Dimitri Papaevagelou and Trevor Pieri also return in net. Papaevagelou enters the season with a career record of 20-8-3, while Pieri remains unbeaten, sporting a 7-0-0 career mark.

Look for Division I transfers Nick DeCroo and Jordan Zitoun to make immediate impacts this year. A forward, DeCroo spent a year at Bentley after playing for one of the top junior teams in the Northeast, the Junior Bruins, while Zitoun comes to Hobart after playing a year at Quinnipiac. Zitoun is an offensive-minded defenseman that Taylor will look to to help fill the shoes of Polsonetti and Mike Manos '07.

In addition to two transfer students, Taylor added a solid group of junior hockey and prep school players to his 2007-08 roster. First-years and former N.Y. Bobcats teammates Patrick Moriarty and Thomas Capalbo bring experience, speed, and leadership to the team, as does former Syracuse Stars standout Matthew Wallace, who has the ability to be a key point producer. Add to the mix 6-foot-5 forward Christopher Bower from the Junior Falcons, and Taylor has even more depth to call upon.

First-years Daniel Organ, Alex Contis, and Jeremy Dwyer were all go-to players at their respective prep schools. Organ and Contis played under Mariano last year at Tilton School, while Dwyer was a prominent player at the Taft School.

Taylor is optimistic on what the season will bring. He is excited to watch this new group of Statesmen create its own identity, and has great expectations for not only his upperclassmen, but for the talented group of newcomers as well.

Hobart plays in the extremely competitive ECAC West, a league that has sent six teams to the NCAA Tournament over the past four seasons, including Hobart's 2006 trip to the semifinals and 2004 quarterfinal appearance. The Statesmen's schedule also features tough non-league teams, including defending national champion Oswego, as well as Geneseo and Curry.



Keith Longo



Dimitri Papaevagelou

**SAA**

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## 4 Statesmen honored by ESPN The Magazine

Four Statesmen were named to fall *ESPN The Magazine* Academic All-District Teams. From the gridiron, sophomore offensive lineman Brian Monaco and junior running back Anthony Hobaica earned first and second team honors, respectively, while on the soccer pitch, senior midfielder Brad Weinberg and junior back Keenan Simons garnered second and third team praise, respectively.

A biology major, Monaco started every games at right guard this season. The Dean's List student earned the 2007 Druid Society Award for Character and was inducted into the Orange Key Society.

A history major, Hobaica rushed for a team-high 605 yards and seven touchdowns. The two-time Liberty League All-Academic selection serves as the junior class president and is a member of the Chimera Society. He was also a member of the Orange Key Society.

An economics major, Weinberg is a four-year starter for the Statesmen who



Brian Monaco

recorded two goals and an assist this season. The three-time Liberty League All-Academic selection is a member of the Chimera Honor Society and a Dean's List student.

A computer science major, Simons is a defensive starter for the Statesmen who added a goal and an assist to the offense this season. He is a two-time Liberty

League All-Academic honoree. The Dean's List student earned the Bentsen Prize for excellence in mathematics or computer science.

To earn a place on the Academic All-District teams, a student-athlete must maintain a minimum 3.2 cumulative grade point average, be a starter or significant reserve, and be at least a sophomore academically. College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) select eight Academic All-District teams and choose the Academic All-America teams from the eight District first-teams.

## Liberty League Fall All-Academic Teams

### Cross Country

Joe Bochynski '08, Mathematics/Studio Art  
 Alex Bryce '09, Mathematics  
 Andrew Ockenden '10, Undeclared

### Football

Evan Amato '10, Undeclared  
 Denis Avdic '10, Undeclared  
 Lance Boyington '09, Economics  
 Angelo Catalano '10, Undeclared  
 Mike Condon '09, Media & Society  
 Scott Ghiraldi '10, Undeclared  
 Anthony Hobaica '09, History  
 Mike Kaplun '08, Media & Society/English  
 Brian Monaco '10, Undeclared  
 P.J. Overdorf '10, Undeclared

### Golf

Dan Miller '10, Undeclared

### Soccer

Matt Geswell '10, Undeclared  
 Keenan Simons '09, Computer Science/Mathematics  
 Pete Van Dellon '09, Political Science  
 Brad Weinberg '09, Economics