

Coach Schafer's Notes for January 29, 2018

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We couldn't have asked for better results on the road than what the team achieved this past weekend. Really proud of the guys with illness and injuries going through our team. A lot of guys were out with flu or cold and congestion. Preparation was tough last week, and guys fought through it all weekend. With the two victories, we capture our 22nd Ivy League title, and vaulted into first place in the ECAC.

On Friday night, the game was billed as the nation's No. 1 defensive team (us) against the top scorer in the country, Harvard's Ryan Donato, who was kept off the scoreboard for the first time this season. Our fans showed up on Friday night too, for a game in a rink better known as "Lynah East". Donato did get eight shots on goal, but our defense was solid, and freshman Matt Galajda was excellent turning away 35 shots. It was his third consecutive shutout. He's very calm in the net and doesn't run or slide around!

We jumped out in front at 7:19 of the first period, as junior forward Anthony Angello continued his hot hand. The team's leading goal scorer tallied off a rush started by sophomore defenseman Yanni Kaldis. Harvard really put pressure on us in the last 5 minutes and five of their seven shots came during that time.

The fire got hotter in the second period for Galajda, who was called upon for 13 saves, including a highlight-reel glove save with 3:56 before the intermission. We doubled up on the lead with another Angello goal at 6:33 of the third period. Junior forward Mitch Vanderlaan had an assist on the play, pushing his points streak to a team-best five games.

Angello recorded his first collegiate hat trick with 1 second remaining. With the goalie gone in favor of an extra-attacker, Angello picked up a blocked Harvard shot by freshman forward Kyle Betts and skated to the red line where he tallied our second empty-net goal of the year.

The Harvard goalie had 25 saves to Matt's 35 and both teams were 0-for-3 on the power play. It was a hard-fought game and so typical of the rivalry that has developed. It was a "guttty" game, not a pretty one, but a tough battle between two storied rivals.

The next night at Dartmouth we were prepared for another battle, against a team that had defeated both Clarkson and Denver this season. We got off to a great start, as freshman forward Cam Donaldson opened the scoring just 2:01 into the first period. The play started with senior forward Trevor Yates feeding Kaldis rolling off the right point toward the middle. As the

defenders started to clog the middle, Kaldis picked up Donaldson coming out of the opposite corner and he scored on an easy tap-in.

Dartmouth didn't lay down, answering with a goal of their own at 6:41 so we went into the first intermission tied 1-all. Dartmouth lead on shots, 10-9. The Big Green goal halted Galajda's shutout streak at 227 minutes, 11 seconds—the second-longest in program history and 13th-longest in NCAA Division I history.

Halfway through the second period, playing 4-on-4 hockey, Angello won a faceoff back to Kaldis on the point. As he drifted towards the middle, he slipped a pass back to junior defenseman Matt Nuttle near the right post. Two defenders converged on Nuttle and he sent a pass to Angello who fired the puck past the goalie's left pad. That gave Angello seven goals in the last five games.

We played sound defense in the third period and sophomore forward Noah Bauld put the icing on the championship cake with an empty-net goal at 18:41. That extended our nation's best unbeaten streak to 10 games, giving us our longest unbeaten streak since Nov. 29, 2008, to Jan. 17, 2009.

Galajda made 27 saves and the Dartmouth netminder stopped 16 shots. We were 0-for-2 on the power play and the home team was 0-for-4. For the first time in a while we had to kill off four consecutive power plays in a game and the guys did a great job. We have killed 19 consecutive penalties since a 5-on-3 goal Jan. 5 by Princeton.

We bring our overall 18-2-1, 12-1-1 ECAC, 7-0-1 Ivy records back to Lynah this weekend for challenges from the Capitol District. Union is in town on Friday night followed by RPI on Saturday evening.

Thanks for all your support last weekend at Harvard. It's almost like playing at home, but not quite. We are into the last month of the season and looking forward to all the challenges ahead.