

## Coach Schafer's Notes for November 20, 2018

Quinnipiac 4, @CORNELL 2  
@CORNELL 5, Princeton 1

This was a satisfying weekend for many reasons, though we would like to have that one back on Friday night. Our roster has been decimated by injury with four top players out and every fit man on the roster playing. And Friday night, we lost another player when senior center Beau Starrett was ejected in the second period for a major penalty. I watched the collision on tape and it wasn't malicious. Their player didn't see Beau and Beau didn't see him. They ran into each other and there was no intent. It is what it is; there wasn't much of an explanation.

We scored first for the fifth game in a row! It happened at 2:08 into the game when sophomore forward Morgan Barron scored his team-leading fifth goal of the season on a power play. Barron had a one-timer that was stopped by the goaltender, but the rebound was picked up by Morgan who passed to junior defenseman Yanni Kaldis who then set up Barron from nearly the same spot and this time his shot went in just below the bar. At the end of the first period we led 1-0 with the shots nearly even ... 9-8.

Quinnipiac scored a power-play goal at 6:05 of the second period but it didn't take us long to regain the lead, 2-1. Playing 4-on-4, Kaldis scored his fourth goal of the season from the slot over the goaltender's glove. Again, we had the lead going into the third period. At 4:50 of the third period, we turned the puck over, and Quinnipiac had the advantage of a player coming off the bench with a head start on our defenseman. His shot beat sophomore Matt Galajda high to the near post.

The winning goal, at 10:18 of the third period, was bizarre and something I have never seen at Lynah Rink. Quinnipiac won the faceoff just outside our blue line. The puck went back to a player at center ice. He fired a shot that sailed over the crossbar, but it took a hard bounce off the glass on the end wall and caromed off Galajda's back and into the net! This was the first time we trailed in a game during November.

Quinnipiac's fourth goal came on a 150-foot shot into an open net with 27 seconds remaining in the game. Even though we suffered a tough loss, I was proud of the team. We had guys playing center for the first time and they filled in and did a good job.

Galajda made 17 saves and the Quinnipiac goaltender stopped 21 shots. We were 1-for-2 on the power play and they were 1-for-6.

Saturday night's game was like Friday except we finished it this time. Quickly, we were on the scoreboard first as senior forward Mitch Vanderlaan scored just 1:47 into the game for his first long-over-due tally of the year, collecting a rebound and converting. It was the fifth time in our eight games this year that we opened the scoring inside the first 7 minutes. Starrett tipped in a shot by sophomore defenseman Cody Haiskanen, to make it 2-0 at the 11:02 mark to give us a 2-0 lead over a tough Princeton team. The

period ended with shots-on-goal even at nine apiece.

The Tigers narrowed the margin to 2-1 at 1:32 of the second during a 4-on-4 with the only goal of the period.

The third period was all Cornell and we scored three goals in the final 8 minutes of the game. So, it was an excellent start and a great finish. Sophomore forward Tristan Mullin recorded his first goal of the season at the 12-minute mark and 2 minutes later sophomore forward Cam Donaldson scored his fourth goal of the year. The final goal was an empty-netter by freshman forward Max Andreev. Donaldson and Andreev also picked up assists in the game. The third goal was huge because finally we got some breathing room on the bench. Associate Head Coach Ben Syer did a great job juggling the bench and keeping the "D" ready to go all night long.

Galajda was called upon for 19 saves and Princeton's goalie made 20. We were 0-for-5 on the power play and they were 0-for-3. Holding Princeton to no extra-man goals was noteworthy because they rank No. 2 in the country in power-play percentage.

We are now 5-3 overall, 3-1 ECAC and 3-0 Ivy League play. We have only one game this week, but it's the Frozen Apple at Madison Square Garden against arch-rival Harvard. Looking forward to seeing all the alumni at this one and we hope to pack the Garden with Big Red fans!