



# Fairfield University Field Hockey

## Weekly Media Notes

Week Of September 2, 2008



### 2008 Schedule & Results

8/29	VCU	L, 1-2 ot
8/30	Holy Cross	W, 3-0
9/6	vs. St. Joseph's^	Noon
9/7	at Villanova	1 pm
9/12	at Sacred Heart	4 pm
9/14	at Hofstra	1 pm
9/17	at Quinnipiac	3:30 pm
9/19	Siena	4 pm
9/24	Columbia	4 pm
9/27	Lock Haven	Noon
9/28	Cornell	1 pm
10/1	at Brown	4 pm
10/4	Vermont*	1 pm
10/11	at Boston Univ.*	4 pm
10/18	Albany*	1 pm
10/25	New Hampshire*	1 pm
10/26	Yale	3 pm
11/1	at Maine*	11:30 am

^ - at Drexel University

\* - America East Game

### America East Standings

Team	Overall		AE	
	W-L	Pct.	W-L	Pct.
Boston U.	1-0	1.000	0-0	.000
Albany	1-1	.500	0-0	.000
Fairfield	1-1	.500	0-0	.000
Maine	1-1	.500	0-0	.000
UNH	1-1	.500	0-0	.000
Vermont	0-1	.000	0-0	.000

**Overseas Connection:** Anne Nieuwenhuis (Leidschendam, Holland) and Marit Westernberg (The Hague, The Netherlands) combined for five points in the Holy Cross win (August 30). Nieuwenhuis tallied the game-winning goal and assisted on the final score, giving her three points in the first two games. The three points surpasses her 2007 total of two points, and raises her career point total to five points (two goals, one assist). Westernberg tallied her first career points with a second-half goal, one of four goal scorers this season.

**Breaking Out:** The Fairfield field hockey offense seems to be coming together early this year with four goals in two games. The Stags tallied a goal in an overtime loss to Virginia Union and three more goals in a shutout win over Holy Cross. Last season, Fairfield scored 12 goals in 20 games, and posted just one multi-goal game (3-2 win at Saint Francis). Molly Byrnes scored two of those three goals against Saitn Francis.

**Foursome:** Fairfield scored four times in two games, with four different players scoring a goal. Anne Nieuwenhuis, Emily Janis, Marit Westernberg, and Molly Byrnes found the back of the cage for Fairfield. All but freshman Westernberg scored a goal last season, led by Molly Byrnes' three goals. The Stags did not score in three consecutive games last season, but have a chance to do that this weekend when the team travels for a Saturday match up with Saint Joseph's.

**All About Defense:** Fairfield showed its defensive capability over the weekend by allowing just 13 shots in two games. More importantly, only two of the opponent's 13 attempts found the goal as sophomore goalkeeper Jennifer Utz played well in the 24-hour period which covered the two games. Utz made six saves for her first career shutout in the Holy Cross game, after making a pair of saves against Virginia Commonwealth. Fairfield's offense recorded 33 shots in the two games, outshooting the opposition by a near three-to-one margin.

**A New Trend:** Fairfield started its 2008 campaign with an overtime game against Virginia Commonwealth. It marked the first time that the team played extra time since the 2006 season finale, a 2-1 win at Robert Morris. The Stags played six overtime games that season, posting an impressive 4-2 mark. Since 2000, Fairfield has averaged a little over four overtime games per season and posted a 16-19 record in 35 overtime contests. The team played to extremes since 2000 with a school record nine overtime games in 2000 (4-5 record) and no overtime games in 2007.

**Opponents In The National Rankings:** Fairfield will play four teams that appeared in the NFHCA national pre-season poll this year. The Stags host the University at Albany (19th) and travel to Boston University (14th), both America East opponents. Fairfield will also play two teams that received votes in the pre-season coaches poll, namely Hofstra University and Villanova.

## Roster By Position

### Forwards

Molly Byrnes	Sr.	Greenwich, Conn.
Kaitlyn Devlin	Fr.	Nesonset, N.Y.
Emily Janis	Sr.	East Hampton, N.Y.
Amanda Love	Sr.	Mamaroneck, N.Y.
Katie Phillips	Fr.	Longmeadow, Mass.
Jill Piacquadio	Jr.	Brewster, N.Y.
Marit Westenberg	Fr.	The Hague, Netherlands

### Midfielders

Taylor Callahan	Fr.	Marblehead, Mass.
Julianne Bosse	So.	South Plainfield, N.J.
Hilary Burns	Fr.	North Falmouth, Mass.
Leah Furey	Fr.	Mt. Laurel, N.J.
Brittany Gavin	Fr.	North Wales, Pa.
Alexandria Hein	So.	Massapequa, N.Y.
Amy Hosking	Sr.	Kunkletown, Pa.
Justine LeBlanc	So.	Londonderry, N.H.
Carly McCullough	Jr.	Queensbury, N.Y.
Anne Nieuwenhuis	So.	Leidschendam, Holland
Amanda Sullivan	So.	Mahopac, N.Y.

### Defenders

Sarah Borton	Jr.	Forty Fort, Pa.
Katherine Donovan	Jr.	Branford, Conn.
Melaine Leo	So.	Mountaintop, Pa.
Kristen McManus	Sr.	Havertown, Pa.
Michelle Onofrio	So.	Newtown Square, Pa.

### Goalkeepers

Megan Ambrose	Fr.	St. Louis, Mo.
Caitlin O'Donnell	Fr.	Flourtown, Pa.
Jennifer Utz	So.	Marlton, N.J.

**Road Trip:** The Stags will begin a five-game road trip this weekend with the first two coming in Philadelphia. Fairfield starts the swing on September 6 against Saint Joseph's University, but the game will be played at Drexel University. The next day, the Stags will take on Villanova University at 1 pm. The road trip continues over the next two weeks with games at Sacred Heart on September 12, at Hofstra on September 14, and at Quinnipiac on September 17. After this road trip, Fairfield will have only three more road games left on the schedule, all of which come in October.

**Scouting The Hawks:** The Saint Joseph's Hawks bring a 1-1 record into this Saturday's game against the Stags as the Hawks will finish up a three-game home stand that day. Saint Joseph's defeated Bryant in the season opener by a 6-0 score, but came up short against Indiana by a 3-1 margin. Kellie Walter gave Saint Joseph's a 1-0 lead in the first half against the Hoosiers, but the visitors responded with three straight goals. In the opener, Walter and Marisa Pizzi each tallied a pair of goals en route to the rout. Walter leads the team in scoring with seven points (three goals, one assist), followed by Pizzi's four points.

**Scouting The Wildcats:** The Villanova Wildcats opened their season with a 2-0 win over Bucknell on the road as Lauren Wussardo and Dana Ramsden scored a goal in the victory. Maura McCormick registered her fourth career shutout in the win against Bucknell, making five saves in the effort. The Wildcats have two games to play before taking on the Stags, hosting Rider University on September 3 and La Salle on September 5. The Rider game will start a six-game home stand that runs through September 14.

**Doubting Thomas:** For the first time this century, Fairfield will not have a goalkeeper named Thomas in the starting lineup. Lauren Thomas started the 21st century in goal for the Stags, playing from 2000 to 2003. Liz Thomas took over in 2004 and did not leave the position until her graduation in the spring. Fairfield has three goaltenders on the roster this year, namely sophomore Jennifer Utz and freshmen Caitlin O'Donnell and Megan Ambrose. Both Lauren (565 saves) and Liz (399 saves), who are not related, finished their career ranked second and third in career saves at Fairfield.

**Let The Countdown Begin:** Senior Emily Janis scored a goal against Holy Cross which pushed her into the top ten for scoring (35 points). The forward surpassed Jeannine Harp's 34 markers from 1998-2001. On her next assist, Janis will also move into the top 10 at Fairfield for career assists. She currently has 11 assists, which trails Harp and Carrie Flammia (1997-2000) with 12 assists..

**Top Three:** Fairfield returns its top three scorers from a year ago in Molly Byrnes (eight points), Emily Janis (seven points), and Amy Hosking (five points). The trio combined for seven of the team's 12 goals last season with Byrnes registering a team-high three goals. Janis paced the team with three assists, nearly half of the team's total in 2007.

