ATHLETICS

A Year of Milestones for Women’s Soccer

For the first time in its 27-year history, the Red Storm Women’s Soccer team won a game in the big dance. After posting an impressive 11-5-3 regular-season record — including an undefeated mark at home — the squad earned an at-large bid to the NCAA Tournament, where it beat the University of Central Florida in the First Round.

“I’m so, so happy that we’ve managed to get into the NCAA Tournament,” said Head Coach Ian Stone. “It’s a dream. We have 11 wins [this season], and I think one of the things that factored into our selection is that we’ve done well recently, including making the BIG EAST semifinals.”

Although the Red Storm ultimately fell to Arkansas in the Second Round, the season proved historic. Forward Rachel Daly ’16CPS set the all-time program records for single-season points (47) and goals (22) and was the nation’s leading scorer as of November 7, 2013. In recognition of her monster year, Daly was named both BIG EAST Offensive Player of the Year and Newcomer of the Year by a vote of the league’s head coaches, a unanimous selection for both major accolades.

Perhaps the season’s most exciting moment came in the regular-season finale. In a crucial game to clinch its entry into the BIG EAST Tournament, St. John’s pulled off an upset by claiming a 3-0 victory over DePaul University in front of a season-high 1,759 fans at Belson Stadium.

“It’s a very talented group that really had to come together as a team,” Stone explained. “We had our backs against the wall a number of times this season, and that’s when you really find out what that character is all about, when they really had no other choice but to come together. That’s what makes this so exciting for me.”

More than Just a Game for Athletics Alumni

Red Storm pride was on full display during the Fall semester, as former student-athletes came back to campus for a number of athletics gatherings.

At Athletics Alumni Reunion Weekend, former members from all of the University’s past and present sports programs — as well as alumni from the Pep Band, Cheerleading Squad and Dance team — reminisced and relived their glory days by participating in alumni games. And during the “Legends of St. John’s Basketball Alumni Game,” held as part of the annual Red Storm Tip-Off event, Men’s and Women’s Basketball alumni suited up for an alumni scrimmage. They also attended a St. John’s Basketball Alumni Memorial Mass and watched the current Men’s team practice.

Meanwhile, during the Second Annual Olympic Night, St. John’s Track and Field alumni were honored for their achievements and for their participation in world games like the Olympics. “Our sports tradition wouldn’t be what it is without our amazing athletic alumni,” said Paul Sclafani ’08CPS, ’10MBA, Assistant Director of Athletic Development. “Their SJU pride is off the charts, so it’s always fun to bring them back to campus and watch them reminisce.”
Hoops Season
Tips off in Style

It's showtime! A packed house of 5,308 fans came out to Carnesecca Arena for the Red Storm Tip-Off, celebrating the start of the college basketball season. The crowd got an early look at both the Men's and Women's teams, as the players competed in a friendly scrimmage, a slam-dunk contest and three-point-shooting exhibition. Additionally, the night featured a star-studded alumni game and even a performance from Grammy-nominated hip-hop artist Lupe Fiasco.
Men’s Basketball Takes Europe by Storm

Team-building and camaraderie took center stage this summer when the Men’s Basketball team embarked on a two-week trip to Europe. With stops in France, Italy and Spain, the whirlwind tour allowed the team to build chemistry, participate in exhibition games against some of Europe’s top professional clubs and serve local communities.

“Our team understood from the start that this European tour would provide us with an early report card and checklist of specific areas we need to improve on as we move toward the 2013-14 campaign,” said Head Coach Steve Lavin. “Our team clearly enjoyed this globetrotting experience on all fronts. It was an ideal opportunity to see and learn about a different part of the world while gelling as a basketball team.”

Among the trip’s highlights: exhibition victories over France’s Rouen Basket, Italy’s Stella Azzurra and Spain’s CB Prat Joventut; tours of Holy Rome, St. Peter’s Basilica and The Louvre; and participation in a Midnight Run while visiting St. John's Rome, Italy campus.

The Midnight Run proved to be a particularly rewarding experience, as the Johnnies made sandwiches and distributed them to those in need.

“Back home in New York, we often go to the Bread and Life soup kitchen in Brooklyn,” said Chris Obekpa ’16C. “I love giving back to the community like that, any way that I can….I feel blessed when I see them smile.”

Our Athletes Reach the Highest Levels—Your Support Helps Them Get There.

Join the Red White Club today and become a part of St. John’s proud athletics tradition!

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RED WHITE CLUB

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