

Saint Mary's Lacrosse Falls To Monmouth

By Kevin D. Shallat



Goal Keeper Hilary Gardner (00), Ciara Breckenridge (10) and Abby Morgan (9)

Photo Tod Fierner

The Saint Mary's women's lacrosse team hosted Monmouth University on Thursday, March 13. The Hawks flew all the way across the country for this match-up, as they were unable to schedule any other local teams during their spring break period. It was a tough assignment for the Gaels going into this game, as Monmouth held a 3-1 record prior to Thursday's game, but Saint Mary's walked away with some great experience that should help them when their league games begin. The Gaels scored a season high 12 points in this game, but eventually lost to the Hawks, 18-12.

The Hawks jumped out to a 5-0 lead as the Gaels seemed to be overwhelmed on defense. Monmouth was able to get to the net with ease, and took most of their shots at point-blank range.

The Gaels were finally able to get on the scoreboard after Lisa Vogeley got an assist from Chloe

Dee to make it a 5-1 lead in favor of the Hawks. Vogeley showed great patience around the goal after receiving the pass, as she made sure she got as close as she could to the goal before attempting the shot. Two and a half minutes later Vogeley struck again, and recorded her second goal of the game on a pass over the net from P.J. Hainley to cut the Hawks lead to three.

Saint Mary's settled down defensively, but still allowed Monmouth to finish out the first half with nine goals, as the Gaels were able to record only one save in the half. Saint Mary's went into half-time trailing the Hawks by only four points, thanks to the gritty, heads up play from Dee. In the closing minutes of the first half, the Gaels trailed 9-4.

Saint Mary's desperately needed a goal to keep it close. Abbie Coleman missed a hard shot that caromed off the crossbar, but Dee was there to pick up the deflection, and hammered it home for

the Gaels with 22 seconds left in the opening period. Saint Mary's trailed the Hawks 9-5 at half, largely from the efforts of Vogeley and Dee, who scored two and three goals respectively in the opening period.

Saint Mary's was able to score seven goals in the second half, but still struggled to stop the Hawks on defense. With 21 minutes left Hainley scored on a free-position goal that occurred on a Monmouth penalty. Despite Hainley's shot, the Gaels were unable to take advantage of their penalty shots, as they converted on only two of their six free-position shots. Conversely, the Hawks made good on three of their five free-position shots.

Despite Dee's incredible six-goal performance, and a season team high of 12 goals, the Gaels had too many lapses on defense that enabled the Hawks to win this game, 18-12.