



Thanksgiving 2011 Loyola Tournament Champions

Loyola Academy's 40th Annual 2011 Thanksgiving Hockey Tournament gathered 20 high school varsity teams, which were divided into 4 divisions that played multiple games over four days with winners in each division advancing to the playoff round on Sunday.

The Lions went undefeated but with some adversity along the way. The game against St. Joseph on Saturday was our 2nd game of the day. We were a bit flat and most of the team had no legs. Goalie Ryan Jamieson had a 2-0 shutout when he got into a scrap with a St. Joe player. Then Rob Schmidt came in and assisted Ryan in getting the shutout. Winning our division with wins over Lake Forest 7-2, Naperville 11-2, and St. Joe 3-0.

Now onto the semi-final game against Loyola Gold, yet, another great game. We scored first on a Robert Renner goal in the first period, and the team did a great job in the corners back checking. We were out playing Loyola when we let them tie it up on a power play goal. Going into the 3rd period, Loyola scored early giving them the lead. Adversity for our team only means that we never say quit! Then, Ryan Santorsola tied it up with 16 seconds left in the game. Off to overtime, we go and 31 seconds into it, Robert Renner scored the winning goal.

Onto the championship game against St. Rita where we took the early lead 1-0 on a Robert Renner goal. But it was short lived when St. Rita tied it up and took the lead 2-1 over Saint Viator. Once again, adversity spurred us on, totally dominating the game and outskating St. Rita, beating them to the puck at every opportunity. But we were still losing 2-1 when Jeremy Linzing scored to tie it up and once again gave us the lead and what turns out to be the game winner. In an attempted comeback, St. Rita pulled their goalie, but Robert Renner scored an empty net goal as St. Rita exhausted any chance to prevail.

Scoring Recap								
No.	Player	Goals	Assists		No.	Player	Goals	Assists
87	Robert Renner	7	6		24	David Kellner	0	6
50	Jeremy Linzing	6	8		22	Jackson Owens	3	2
7	Patrick Gregory	4	7		26	V. Mastrodomenico	3	1
8	John Campanelli	2	7		20	James Murphy	1	3
2	Mike Decker	6	2		28	Jeremy O'Donnell	1	1
37	Michael Haubner	3	4		9	John Ostling	1	1
10	Ryan Santorsola	2	4		18	Sean Thorton	0	2
58	Sam Deihs	0	2		29	Pat Kerstetter	0	2

KEY – With 16 seconds left in the semi-final game, Ryan Santorsola scored to tie the game with an assist from Jeremy Linzing to lead us into overtime and Robert Renner scoring at 31 seconds into overtime for the winning goal.

In the championship game against St. Rita, we had an early lead that got away before Jeremy Linzing tied it up and gave us the game winner with an assist from David Kellner. Then, Robert Renner put the icing on the cake with an empty net goal giving us the championship.

“And bad mistakes, we made a few, had our share of ice kicked in our face but we came through, we are the champions, and we’ll keep fighting until the end. No time for losers, cause we are the champions.”

By: Brett Szostak