



Salve Regina UNIVERSITY

SEAHAWK SPORTS INFORMATION

phone 401.341.2271

fax 401.341.2907

email habershe@salve.edu

Contact: Ed Habershaw
401-341-2271
habershe@salve.edu

For immediate release
Saturday, September 1, 2007

Soccer (m)

Banti's goal lifts Salve Regina over WPI

(Courtesy of Chris Buck, Babson SID)

BABSON PARK, Mass. -- Senior Brian Banti (North Branford, Conn.) scored on a 2-on-1 break with 2:29 remaining in regulation to lift the Salve Regina University Seahawks to a thrilling 2-1 victory over the WPI Engineers in the consolation game of the 2007 Babson Invitational Tournament at Hartwell-Rogers Field on Saturday. With the win, the Seahawks evened their record at 1-1, while WPI slipped to 0-2.

Salve Regina took a 1-0 lead in the 24th minute, as senior Alex Clark (Ridgefield, Conn.) took a throw-in from classmate Drew Isleib (Killingworth, Conn.) 30 yards out and blasted a perfect shot into the far right corner of the net for the game's first goal.

Things stayed that way until the 79-minute mark, when first-year Thomas Cucinotta (Easton, Mass.) scored on a diving header off a cross from senior David Zuniga (Cromwell, Conn.) to tie the game at 1-1. However, Salve Regina regained the lead less than 10 minutes later, as first-year Ken Johnson (Colonia, N.J.) fed Banti on a 2-on-1 break for the game-winner at 87:31.

"It's tough when you're protecting a one-goal lead like that and you give up a late goal to level the score," commented Seahawk head coach Craig L. O'Rourke II. "But our guys did not quit and found the resolve within themselves to succeed today. And when you consider the fact that it's our second match in less than 24 hours and that we lost three starters to injury during the course of the match... I'm just so proud of the way our guys played today."

Seahawks' junior keeper Cabot Barnett (Sunapee, N.H.) played brilliantly after replacing injured starter Seth Nagle (Acton, Mass.) early in the first half. Barnett stopped a total of 14 shots in just over 80 minutes of play, including eight saves in the second half. First-year Paul Moan (Watertown, Mass.) finished with three saves in his collegiate debut for WPI.