Men's soccer ties Molloy



PHOTO | MATEUSZ GAZDZICKI

The university men's soccer team stand along the sideline at Jess Dow Field before their match against Molloy University on Oct. 13.

By Valentina Toro
Managing Editor

The university men's soccer team tied Molloy University 1–1 on Oct. 13, after midfielder Gísli Ágústsson, a freshman, scored a penalty kick in the 82nd minute to even the match.

The Owls entered the game looking to improve their record but found themselves trailing after Molloy took the lead in the first half.

"I think we underrated them, and they came out fighting from the very jump," Head Coach Reuben Ayarna, said.

Molloy opened the scoring in the 37th minute when forward Jack Hynes found the back of the net off an assist from defense Diego Cadena.

The university responded by pushing forward and creating opportunities, but the Owls entered halftime trailing 1–0.

The university finished with 10 shots compared with Molloy's six, holding a 5–2 advantage in shots on goal.

Midfielder Kasper Murzinski, forward Jimmy Choi, winger Pau Cano and forward Giancarlo Ciotoli each recorded two shots as the Owls searched for an equalizer.

Despite the university's statistical advantage, Ayarna expressed disappointment with the result and also acknowledged that the team still had areas to improve before their next match.

"I mean, we battled in the second half. We had chances to win the game, but overall, I think they play better than us," Ayarna said.

The university continued pressing offensively throughout the second half. With less than 10 minutes remaining, the Owls received a penalty kick opportunity that gave them a chance to avoid their fourth loss of the season.

Ágústsson stepped up and converted the penalty kick, bringing the score to 1–1. The goal gave the Owls momentum heading into the final minutes, but neither team managed to break the tie.

Ágústsson, who entered the game as a substitute, said the university showed improvement in possession after making adjustments during the match.

"It's just on us, you know, to finish our chances and not be sloppy at the backs," Ágústsson said.

The Owls also faced challenges maintaining consistency throughout the match.

Although the university generated offensive opportunities, their ability to move the ball effectively depended on players working together rather than attempting individual plays.

"When they're all on the same page, there's a lot of beautiful stuff that happens on the field," Ayarna said.

The draw moved the university to 3–3–6 on the season, while Molloy stood at 4–2–6. The result left the Owls searching for improvements as they prepared to return to conference competition.

With the regular season nearing its end, the university faced increasing pressure to improve their performance. The draw exposed areas that needed attention, particularly the team's consistency and ability to maintain their intensity throughout a match.

Ayarna emphasized the importance of making changes before those struggles affected the team's remaining games.

"We in trouble, if we don't wake up." Ayarna said.

Owls struggle against Bentley



PHOTO | WILLIAM GAGNÉ

The women's volleyball team gather on the court in Pelz Gymnasium during their match against Bentley University on Friday, Oct.16.

By Noah Nunez
General Reporter

The women's volleyball team faced defeat in the hands of Bentley University on Friday, Oct. 16 after a long struggle to try and fight them off.

The skill of Bentley was not lost on Head Coach Lisa Barbaro, but she and the Owls were still confident going into the game, hoping to come out the other side of a difficult match on top.

"We've been trying to work hard all this week to just prepare. Bentley's a really great team. We're a good team too, and we knew it was going to be a tough matchup, but we were feeling pretty good, feeling ready for it," Barbaro said.

The game kicked off with a rather tight back-and-forth from both teams, leaving very little space for the Owls to take a lead. This eventually led to Bentley taking the set 25–27.

To right side hitter Sydney Bennett, a graduate, moments like these can lead to the spiraling out of the team as they get in their own heads and lose their confidence.

"As soon as we get down a couple points, we tend to get in our heads, and then we go down even more points, and we're trying to dig ourselves out of a hole." Bennett said.

Even with the Owls picking up the third set during the game, it was not enough to stave off the eventual loss the team faced.

But, throughout the game, the Owls never gave in or backed down.

Even if the sets ended up sided in Bentley's favor, they would get back up due to what middle blocker Sarah Stark, a senior, believed to be a pure drive to win.

"We just all really want to win. We all play it really hard every game, and we just try to make the next step better than the last one," Stark said. "We're just gonna use this as motivation for our next game."

Each loss is a lesson, and the lesson learned by the Owls tonight is that they have room not only to improve but to change as they plan to take whatever steps are needed to win.

"Listen there's still a lot of growth opportunities for us as a team. We mixed the lineups a little bit; we had some different contributions from some different people, so I think it's just for us getting back in the gym and getting back to our preparations and just figuring out areas that we can get stronger at," Barbaro said.

Even though losses seen on a stat sheet may tick up one after another, that does not mean nothing was gained. The Owls learned and they will hopefully bring it forward.

Historic win highlights tough week



By Draven Dabrowski
Sports Columnist

As the fall season moves closer to its conclusion, the Owls continue to battle through conference competition, with one program reaching a historic milestone during an otherwise challenging week.

The university's field hockey team provided the week's biggest highlight with a 5–2 victory, giving Head Coach Kelley Frassinelli her 200th career win. The milestone adds to Frassinelli's accomplishments as the winningest coach in program history.

Midfielder Ruby Webb, a senior, played a major role in the victory, finishing with one goal and three assists. Webb opened the scoring just over three minutes into the game before assisting on two more goals to help the university establish a 3–0 first quarter lead.

Midfielder Lindsey Onofrio, a junior, and midfielder Avery Vaccaro, a sophomore, each recorded a goal and an assist, while forward Kate Salvador, a senior, and forward Keana Criscuolo, a junior, also found the back of the net.

Criscuolo scored her team leading 14th goal of the season, and goalkeeper Rachel Miller, a senior, finished with eight saves.

The victory improved the Owls to 7–8 overall and 3–3 in NE10 Conference play, keeping them in contention for a postseason appearance with three regular-season games remaining.

While field hockey celebrated, the football team experienced a difficult afternoon at Jess Dow Field, falling 25–14 and suffering its first conference loss of the season.

Quarterback Brandon Jorgensen, a graduate, completed 12 of 24 passes for 148 yards, one touchdown and one interception. Wide receiver Andres Perez, a sophomore, led the receiving group with four catches for 41 yards and a touchdown.

The Owls struggled to establish its rushing attack, with running back John Amaning, a graduate, finishing with 32 yards on 15 carries.

However, the defense created opportunities throughout the game.

Alex Perez, a graduate, and Emeka Yearwood, a freshman, each recorded an interception, while Jordan Eli, a junior, led the defense with 10 tackles.

Trailing 25–7 in the fourth quarter, the Owls put together an eight- play, 70-yard drive that ended with an 18-yard touchdown pass from Jorgensen to Perez.

Despite the late effort, the Owls fell to 4–2 overall and 2–1 in conference play.

Women's volleyball also faced a setback, losing 3–1 despite showing resilience in the third set. Outside hitter, Kerrigan Habing, a junior, led the team with 14 kills and 10 digs, recording a double-double.

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