



RITUALS ON THE DARTMOUTH MEN'S LACROSSE TEAM

By: Parker Joyce and T. McLaughlin



BACKGROUND

- Dartmouth men's Lacrosse dates back to 1926. It is now in its 92nd season here at Dartmouth.
- Fields 39 players and five coaches.
- Follows the athletic mantra: "We develop teams of comprehensive excellence in order to build a championship culture and Dartmouth leaders for life."

CUSTOMARY EXAMPLE “LAST MAN STANDING”

- OFFSITE TEAM BUILDING IS CENTRAL TO BEING A MEMBER OF DARTMOUTH MEN’S LACROSSE.
- THIS RITUAL OF TOUGHNESS, RUGGED FUN AND CAMARADERIE SETS TONE FOR SEASON.
- UPPER CLASSMEN LEAD THE WAY FOR NEW RECRUITS LETTING THEM KNOW THERE IS NO WHERE TO HIDE “IN THE WOODS”
- “LAST MAN STANDING”- LETS PLAYERS KNOW ON & OFF FIELD- IT IS TEAM RITUAL TO FIGHT UNTIL THE END until there is THE LAST MAN STANDING.

CUSTOMARY EXAMPLE: “INTO THE WOODS”



- OFFSITE TEAM BUILDING IS CENTRAL TO BEING A MEMBER OF DARTMOUTH MEN'S LACROSSE □
- □
- THIS RITUAL OF TOUGHNESS, RUGGED FUN AND CAMARADERIE SETS TONE FOR SEASON □
□
- UPPER CLASSMEN LEAD THE WAY FOR NEW RECRUITS LETTING THEM KNOW THERE IS NO WHERE TO HIDE “IN THE WOODS” □
□
- “LAST MAN STANDING”- LETS PLAYERS KNOW ON & OFF FIELD- IT IS TEAM RITUAL TO FIGHT UNTIL THE END EVEN IF THERE FOR THE LAST MAN STANDING

VERBAL EXAMPLE: AS A TEAM



- Every practice before we start we chant: “Always Fight, Always finish, Always attack.”
- This quote is passed down from the Coaches and they chant it to us.
- The chant is our method of the game and how we are taught to carry ourselves out on the field.

MATERIAL FOLKLORE

The Giant D for Dartmouth painted on the floor in the center of our locker room is regarded as sacred.

Nobody can step on the D and if you do you must get down and kiss it to show a sign of respect.



MIKEY CONNOLLY



- Freshman midfielder from Wellesley, Massachusetts.
- Has two older brothers who graduated and played sports at Dartmouth.
- At a young age his brothers taught him a song that helped them focus before games.
- The song was Eye of the Tiger.
- Ever since Freshman year, Mike puts his headphones in and sings the song to himself before every game.
- Verbal Folklore being shown.

TUCKER BROWN

- Junior midfielder from Greenwich , Connecticut.
- His third grade lacrosse Coach addresses his team years ago about the idea of sleeping with your stick the night of a game.
- Ever since third grade, he sleeps with his stick the night before every game.
- Also said he has two friends who were on his third grade team who still also to this day sleep with their sticks.
- If A then B. If he sleeps with his stick, he plays well in the game.
- Ritual and superstition.



HARRISON LANE



- Junior Attackman from Hingham, Massachusetts.
- Puts on his right elbow pad before his left one every single day.
- Had shoulder surgery on his right shoulder and ever since then puts his right pad on first.
- He believes that his right arm/shoulder stays protected if he puts it on first.
- If A then B, If he puts his right pad on first then his right shoulder stays protected for the day.
- Magic Superstition

RICHIE LOFTUS

- Senior Attackman from Dallas, Texas.
- Tapes his entire shaft with white tape every morning on game days.
- Starts from the top of his shaft and works his way down.
- Started doing it his freshman year in high school because his Coach told him his hands were slipping.
- If A then B, if Richie tapes his stick his hands won't slip.
- Ritual: Does it every morning on game days.
- Superstition that if he doesn't do it his hands will slip.



FINAL RECAP

- Into the woods is an annual tradition in the month of November where our team spends two days in the woods learning about leadership and toughness.
- The Dartmouth D in the locker room is sacred and a part of material folklore because its not just something painted on our locker room floor. It serves as a deeper message.
- Our short attack chant we all say in the huddle of every practice and game is verbal folklore because it shows our mentality leading into competing.