Men’s soccer ready to get defensive

By SHANNON O’MALLEY

This year the men’s soccer team starts the season with 13 letter winners returning. Some of the returnees are goalkeeper Brian Gill, midfielders Ryan Gallagher and Jake Trainer, and back Chris Trump. The team will be young and defense oriented. They plan to return to Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) playoffs for the fifth time in its six years in the conference.

Head Coach Russ Fager said, “Hosting the tournament adds a little pressure to the regular season, but once we make the playoffs it is a great advantage to play at home, one we must take advantage of.”

Goalkeeper Brian Gill started 15 games last season and made 88 saves. According to Fager, Gill “eats, drinks and sleeps soccer,” making him an incredible asset to the team.

Ryan Gallagher has started 51 games for the Broncs, and is returning to play outside midfielder. Fager calls Ryan the “engine that keeps the train going.”

Trainer is the leading returning scorer and will be the offensive midfielder. “Jake’s quickness off the ball is a great asset; he always seems to find people open. He’ll be the attacking midfielder,” says Fager.

Chris Trump, although he is a sophomore, will be the co-captain. Chris played an excellent season last year, and according to Fager, “He was overlooked because as a team we did not excel.”

All of the team members have a very positive outlook for the season and are confident it will be a success.

The newcomers to the team are very excited as well. They are Sandro DeCristofaro, Brian Laurinaitis, Brian Larkin, Joe Rados, Brad Davis and Kyle Pilliteri.

Veterans, as well as rookies, each have their own abilities and their own personal skills to bring the Broncs to the top. They all are very optimistic and are ready to take on the obstacles that they will face during this season.

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