



BUCKNELL UNIVERSITY

2002 MEN'S SOCCER NEWS



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NOTE FROM COACH NASH



It is with great anticipation that I begin my fourth year as the head coach here at Bucknell University. The end of year three led everyone to believe we finally have the program close to where we want it to be. This means in all aspects of our program; Academics, athletics, fundraising and community involvement. Academics are always the priority here at Bucknell and the team raised the bar once again. We had a 3.3 Team GPA and my first Academic All-American in **Ryan Weber** ('02). The team had a disappointing year at 6-11-1 but we finished with a new confidence at the end of the season. This confidence rolled over through the spring and into our current fall season. Right now we feel we have just a good a chance as anyone to win the Patriot League Championship. As for fundraising, we once again set a record for 2001-2002 and met our goal of \$20,000. This year our goal is \$23,000 and we are already half way towards reaching this goal.

Community relations is another area we focused on, and the program has really improved in this area. During the spring we had various clinics set up and each student-athlete coached a youth team one day a week. Throughout the spring over 500 local soccer players interacted with the men's soccer program. Our community involvement continued through the summer as we sold out both weeks of our Bison Soccer Camp, with 500 more campers working with our program. The community has started to come support the Bison and it is great to see the kids asking for autographs after our home games.

Overall I am very satisfied with where the program has gone and where we are headed. I honestly feel with our 24 student-athletes I have the best group of young men to work with of any college program in the country. They truly show what a team is all about, through hard work in practice, training a youth team, helping with a recruit or any one of the numerous things we ask of them through the year. They handle any situation with professionalism and pride. I could not be happier to see our players' efforts being rewarded with our great start this season. It is what the staff prepared for and the student-athletes trained for, but more importantly it is what our student-athletes deserve.

Bucknell Opens the Season Strong Winning Eight of First Eleven

The Bucknell University Men's Soccer Team is off to a great 8-2-1 start this season. The year began with the first five games on the road. In the season opener, the team opened up with a 3-2 overtime victory against defending NEC regular season champion Robert Morris. **Ori Adrabi** opened the scoring for the season with a left footed shot in the opening half. Freshmen **Eric Brunton** netted his first career goal later in the contest. Freshman **Scott Visnic** secured the win for the Bison with his first career goal in the overtime period. Said Coach Nash, "Getting our first win in our first game this year is a great way to start. It was a great team effort, and that game was the springboard to our fast start."

The Bison followed up the win with three consecutive 2-0 shutout victories over Binghamton, Buffalo, and Canisius. Seniors **Elliott Maruffi-Cowley** and **Nick Taylor** had the goals in the victory over Binghamton. **Eric Brunton** and **Chris Beekman** netted the two goals over Buffalo, and **Maruffi-Cowley** and **Dennis DeLuca** scored in the victory over Canisius. Said Nash, "Our balanced scoring is one of our keys to success. We feel we have a large number of players who are going to get the job done for us this entire season." Bucknell fell in their final game of their opening road trip, 1-0 in overtime to Holy Cross. Senior **Nick Taylor's** goal in the final minute was called back due to a foul, and HC went on to score in the overtime period.

The next game and home opener of the season was a memorable one as the Bison handed then-nationally ranked Pittsburgh (#18) their first loss of the season, 1-0. Sophomore **Jon Hemmert** scored on a penalty kick early in the second half to secure the victory. It was the Bison's first victory over a top-20 program since a 2-1 OT victory two years ago over South Carolina. The team carried this momentum into their next match, defeating league rival Colgate 1-0. Senior captain **Nick Taylor** again got the job done, scoring in a heavy rain during the second half. This victory evened the Bison's league record at 1-1. Non-league opponents then came to West Fields and were sent away disappointed. Niagara was defeated 5-1 with senior captain **Tom Ryan** recording his first career goal. Junior **Pat Glennon** also recorded two goals in the victory. In the next game sophomore **Jon Hemmert** recorded his team-leading seventh and eighth assists in the Bison's 2-0 defeat of Monmouth. The final game of the five-game homestand was a scoreless draw against Philadelphia University. The undefeated homestand (4-0-1) was good enough to put the Bison into third in the regional rankings. The team's next game was a tough one, losing a 3-0 decision to nationally-ranked (#11) American. This brings the team record to 8-2-1 overall. With the season at the midway point, the team is hoping to keep the momentum going, especially in league play as they plan on returning to the Patriot League tournament in search of the conference title.

Bucknell Wins Bulls Fall Invitational



The Men's Soccer program won the Bulls Fall Invitational hosted by the University of Buffalo and held the second weekend of the season. The Bison had a pair of 2-0 victories over Buffalo and Canisius, earning them the title. Goals were scored by **Eric Brunton** and **Chris Beekman** in the win over Buffalo, and **Elliott Maruffi-Cowley** and **Dennis DeLuca** scored in the second match over Canisius. Freshman goalkeeper **Adam Edwards** (left) was named the Defensive Player of the Tournament after recording the two shutouts. It was Bucknell's first tournament victory under Coach Nash. "Obviously I am very pleased with the way that the team played. We had two tough games in two days, and we needed a good effort from every member of our team to come away with the two victories."

Bison Defeat 18th-Ranked Pittsburgh, 1-0

The Bucknell men's soccer team opened its 2002 home ledger in style, handing nationally ranked (#18) Pittsburgh its first loss of the season, 1-0. Sophomore **Jon Hemmert** (right) converted a penalty kick in the 47th minute to lift the Bison to victory. It was only the third time in the program's history since 1974 that the men's soccer program defeated a nationally ranked program. The last win came in 2000 when the Orange and Blue upset South Carolina, 2-1 in overtime. Bucknell and Pittsburgh played a scoreless first half, despite scoring opportunities for both teams. Just two minutes into the second half, BU was awarded a corner kick. Hemmert served the ball, which was heading on target by **Scott Visnic**. As the ball was about to cross the goal line, a Pittsburgh defender stopped the ball with his hand. The ensuing penalty kick was taken by Hemmert and placed into the back left corner of the net for the victory. The defense maintained their strong efforts, preserving the shutout.



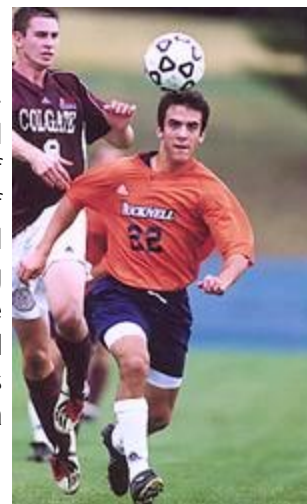
Homecoming Weekend Information

The Bucknell Men's Soccer Alumni and Team will have a full schedule of events for this year's homecoming weekend. The Annual Alumni Game will be held on Saturday, November 9th at 10:30 a.m. on West Fields. A large turn-out of alums is expected to make this a fun morning. There will also be opportunities to meet with the coaches during the weekend. The festivities close with this year's team hosting Army on Sunday, November 10th at 2:00 p.m. We hope everyone will be able to attend and cheer the team to victory.

Bison Garner Patriot League Attention



So far this season, three different individuals have garnered Patriot League Player of the Week Honors. **Michael Lookingland** (left) was named the Defensive Player of the Week for the week of September 23, 2002 following the teams consecutive 1-0 shutouts of Pittsburgh and Colgate. Freshmen GK **Adam Edwards** (above) and forward **Scott Visnic** (right) have also gained recognition earning Patriot League Rookie of the Week honors. Edwards was named the Rookie of the Week twice on September 9th and September 23rd after recording five shutouts during those two weeks. Visnic was named the Rookie of the Week after his two-goal, one assist week in wins over Niagara and Monmouth for the week of September 30th.



Bucknell Among National Leaders

The Bucknell Men's Soccer Team is among the national leaders in several categories after the first half of the season. The team is ranked third in the nation in shutout percentage after recording seven shutouts in its first eleven games. The team also ranks eleventh in goals against average with a 0.61 average. Freshmen goalkeeper **Adam Edwards** has been in net for all eleven games and is thirteenth in the nation for goals against average. Sophomore midfielder **Jon Hemmert** has also made his way into the rankings with eight assists in his first eleven games. His assist per game average stands at 0.73 and is tied for ninth in the nation. The team and individuals are happy with the current recognition but are far from satisfied. The team is gearing up for the remainder of the season and hopefully a birth into the conference tournament followed by a Patriot League title.

Bucknell Men's Soccer Welcomes Five New Freshmen

The BU Men's Soccer Family is proud to have the addition of five new freshmen to this year's team. The five hail from three different states and have been great additions both on and off the field. All five have contributed this season on the field during games as well as during practice. "Our five freshmen have come in and helped out the program with their attitudes, their work ethic, and their skill. They are doing a wonderful job adjusting to the college lifestyle and fitting in to this program. We hope that they continue their hard work and improvement as well as their contributions on the field.



Eric Brunton, Carmel, IN - Eric was a NSCAA Regional All-America forward from the Midwest Region. He was nominated for Indiana High School Player of the Year last season. Eric has come in and contributed this season, playing in all eleven contests and scoring two goals with one assist while playing as a forward. He scored in his first match ever, a 3-2 OT victory over Robert Morris. He also had the game winning goal against Buffalo, helping the Bison to win that tournament. Eric is expected to continue to be a contributor as this season and his career progresses.



Adam Edwards, Downingtown, PA - Adam was an NSCAA Regional All-America goalkeeper and was also the winner of the Golden Glove Award as the EPYSA ODP team captured the ODP National Championship. He has started all eleven games this season, and has a GAA of 0.61. He also has seven shutouts so far this season, ranking among the nations NCAA Division 1 leaders in both categories. In the Bulls Falls Invitational, Edwards was named the Defensive Player of the Tournament after his two-shutout performance. He has been named the PL Rookie of the Week for the weeks of September 9th and 23rd. He is expected to continue his strong play throughout the season.



Tim Faneck, Shavertown, PA - Tim was an all-state defender in PA during his high school days. He helped to lead his high school team to one of its best records ever. His athleticism, size, and ability to play with either foot has helped him to start in six of the ten games he has played. He has helped to strengthen a defense that has seven shutouts in its first eleven games, and is one of the NCAA's leaders in this category. He is expected to continue to be a strong contributor as the season progresses.



Tim O'Neill, Point Pleasant, NJ - Tim was the Ocean County (NJ) Player of the Year during his high school season. He was also named to the New Jersey All-State Top-51 team from his midfield position. He is a tireless worker with size in the midfield. He saw his first action in a Bucknell uniform during a victory over Niagara, registering one shot on goal. Tim is expected to improve during the season and see more action throughout his career.



Scott Visnic, Hillsborough, NJ - Scott was also named to the New Jersey All-State Top-51 team during his senior year in high school. His speed has made him an instant asset in the midfield and as a forward. He has played in all eleven games so far this season, registering three goals and two assists. His game-winning goal in overtime over Robert Morris helped set the stage for the remainder of the season for the Bison. He was named the Patriot League Rookie of the Week for the week of September 30th. He is expected to continue to contribute to the Bison attack for the rest of his career.



NCAA RECRUITING

This page is addressed to all family, friends and alumni of the Bucknell Men's Soccer Team and Bucknell Athletics in general. The NCAA has strict rules that we, as coaches, must adhere to the recruiting process. What you will find below are the dos and don'ts under the NCAA guidelines. If, after reading this, you have any questions, please contact the men's soccer office. We are obligated to print this material once a year.

What is a "Representative of Athletics (RAI)?"

According to NCAA definition: An RAI is an individual who is known by a member of the institution's executive or athletics administration to: a) Have participated in or be a member of an agency or organization promoting the institution's intercollegiate athletics program; b) Have made financial contributions to the athletics program or to an athletics booster organization of the institution.

Are there activities that an RAI cannot do?

YES. RAI may not contact recruits for the purpose of "selling" Bucknell or encouraging them to attend Bucknell for athletic purposes. An RAI may not place phone calls to any prospects (recruits) for recruiting purposes; nor may RAIs make a telephone call to any of the prospect's relatives or legal guardians. In addition, RAIs may not have written correspondence with a prospect or the prospect's relative or legal guardians. An RAI may not contact a prospect's coach, principal or guidance counselor in an attempt to evaluate the prospect. An RAI may not visit a prospect's educational institution to pick up film/videotape or transcripts pertaining to the evaluations of the prospect's academic eligibility or athletic ability. An RAI is prohibited from making in-person, on or off campus recruiting contacts.

What is a "prospect?"

A prospect is a recruit. The NCAA defines a "prospect" as a prospective student-athlete (PSA) who has started classes in the 9th grade. In addition, a student who has not started classes for the 9th grade becomes a PSA if the institution provides such an individual (or the individual's friends or relatives) any financial assistance or benefits that the institution does not provide to prospective students generally.

What is recruiting?

Recruiting is any solicitation of a prospect or a prospect's relatives or legal guardians by an institution's staff member for the purpose of securing the prospect's enrollment and future participation in the institution's intercollegiate athletics program. Solicitations can be phone calls, written correspondence, home visits, official visits on campus, evaluation or off campus contacts.

What can you do to help in recruiting?

As a family member, friend or alumnus, if you come across a PSA whom you feel would add to the men's soccer program, please forward his name, address and phone number to the men's soccer office. Should a PSA or a family member contact you regarding an individual's interest or ability, please direct them to the men's soccer office; (570) 577-3083.

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