

# Bison Touchline

October 2007

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- SAAC Recess Play Date 2
- Weekly Recognition 3
- 2007 Fall Game Schedule 4

## Bucknell Receives National Sportsmanship Award

### *Bison Good Sports! Program, Other Initiatives Lauded*

Bucknell is one of four Division I institutions in the nation to be named an "All-American Sportsmanship School", the Institute for International Sport announced on October 10, 2007. The award was established to honor schools that have implemented exceptional sportsmanship programs, such as the "Bison Good Sports!" initiative that was launched at Bucknell in October 2006.

Bucknell, Auburn, Clemson and Indiana are the four Division I honorees for 2007-08. The Empire 8 Conference, two junior colleges, three high schools and three elementary/middle schools were also selected.

"I would like to offer special thanks to the Institute for International Sport for considering Bucknell for this important award, and for their role in promoting positive sporting conduct at all age levels," said director of athletics and recreation John Hardt. "At Bucknell we strive to set a national example of winning the 'right way,' with true student-athletes who aim to compete successfully at the highest level of college athletics. To that end, fostering good sporting environments at all of our athletics venues continues to be a primary point of emphasis. This honor is a true reflection of the hard work that has been put forth by our Bison student-athletes, coaches and staff." (Please see NATIONAL AWARD, continued on page 2).

## Coach's Corner



What ended up being a roller coaster ride during preseason and September is now starting to settle in for us as we have begun Patriot League play and are hitting the heart of our league schedule. With so much youth, some unfortunate injuries and illnesses, and the consistent challenge of forging new players in new roles to make a team, it was a challenging first half of the fall. However, we've come through it all for the better, we are healthier than we've been all year, and we've found ourselves playing a new system in an attempt to consistently perform to our potential while earning all-important points in league play. On Friday, Oct. 5th, we opened the league schedule with a sound 1-0 win at home over last year's tournament champion Navy. An early goal by Molly Linhart '11 with the assists coming from Krista Lee Gentile '08 and Jen Dervarics '09, though quite a few players were involved in such a beautiful build-up and strike, stood as the lone goal and made for an exciting night. Our entire

team defended with pride as we limited Navy to 11 shots with just three of those finding the frame. It was a very good start to the demanding October schedule and was that much more sweet coming at home and in front of 18 alumni and former assistants who came back to campus for our Women's Soccer Alumni Weekend.

Next up, we defeated Holy Cross 6-0 and Army 2-1, both on the road on. We followed that with another road win, this time at Colgate 3-1 on October 20th. This was the program's first win at Colgate and just the fourth win over the Raiders overall.

One thing is for sure, it will be a very tight and competitive race as the eight teams battle for four tournament spots. This year's Patriot League Tournament will take place at the top seed's site on Nov. 9-11. We'll take one game at a time with our first goal to qualify for this year's tournament; it has been a good start but we have much more to accomplish.

# National Award (cont. from page 1):

Bucknell participated in the Institute for International Sport's "National Sportsmanship Day" last March at a men's lacrosse home game against Penn. Fans attending the lacrosse game received free Bison Good Sports Posters, and tee shirts were given away as well. Bucknell will also participate in next year's event, which will be celebrated nationally on March 4, 2008.

"Bison Good Sports!" is a sportsmanship awareness program intended to promote appropriate fan conduct at all Bucknell sporting events. According to Hardt, the objective of the campaign "is to thank our fans for the tremendous energy and enthusiasm that they bring to each of our Bucknell athletics contests, while also empowering them as caretakers of the collegiate gameday experience."

In the weeks surrounding the launch of "Bison Good Sports!," Bucknell took several actions to promote positive fan behavior, including the development of a new "Bison Good Sports!" logo, the purchase of radio advertising and the placement of signage at all Bucknell competition venues.

"The 2007-08 honorees are made up of a group of schools -- ranging from elementary school to university - that have all clearly demonstrated a well thought-out sportsmanship program in their respective schools, which has resulted in an admirable commitment to and practice of sportsmanship," said Chris Shea, coordinator of the 2008 National Sportsmanship Day program. "We look for schools whose administration fosters a strong atmosphere of sportsmanship among its coaching staff and student-athletes."

Bucknell sponsors 27 intercollegiate sports, including 14 for women, at the Division I level. It is a charter member of the Patriot League and has won the league's all-sports championship in 13 of the 17 years it has been contested, including 2006-07. Bucknell annually ranks among the national leaders in graduation rates and ranks fifth in Division I in producing Academic All-Americans.

## Athletes Pay Visit to Local Elementary School



Above: Rosie Walker, Erin Lavery and Leslie Schulze bring it in for a cheer at the end of recess with local elementary students.

While the main focus during the fall semester for our student-athletes is success in the classroom followed by success on the field, three student-athletes from the women's soccer team took time out of their very busy schedules and paid a visit to the local elementary students at Kelly Elementary school in Lewisburg. Senior Leslie Schulze '08 (Brookeville, MD), sophomore Erin Lavery '10 (Huntington, WV) and freshman Rosie Walker '11 (Oakland, CA) all took a morning off from studying and instead spent recess with the local students playing various games as well as talking to the children about soccer. The trip, which was conducted by Bucknell's student-athlete advisory committee (SAAC), was one of several made by the Bison so far this fall.

Members of the soccer program participate in many different community service events either as a team or individually throughout the year including Bucknell's Relay for Life which takes place every year in the spring semester.

# Five Bison Players Earn Weekly Recognition

Awards handed out by the Patriot League and Bucknell University

With three weeks remaining in Patriot League play, five members of the Bison Women's soccer team have earned player of the week awards from the Patriot League and the Bison Athlete of the Week from Bucknell.



**Jennifer Dervarics '09 (Emmaus, PA): Bison Athlete of the Week: 10/15, 10/22; Offensive Player of the Week: 10/22**

Dervarics was selected as the Bison Athlete of the Week following her seven-point performance in League play against Holy Cross. On the day, Dervarics scored her first career hat trick and dished out an assist as well. Her seven points, which is a new career high for Dervarics, was also just two shy of Bucknell's single game record of nine points. The following week Dervarics was again selected as the Bison Athlete of the Week as well as the Patriot League Offensive Player after her two goal performance against Colgate helping Bucknell to its first ever win in Hamilton, NY.



**Kelliann Doherty '11 (Voorhees, N.J.): Rookie of the Week: 9/24, 10/15**

Doherty has earned two Rookie of the Week awards after scoring the game winning goals against Cornell on September 23rd, and then again against Army on October 14th. Doherty's goal against Cornell came with just 21 seconds remaining in the first overtime period, while her goal against Army put the Bison up 2-1 in the 31st min. of the game. She now has five goals and an assist on the season for a total of 11 points which is good for second in freshmen Patriot League standings behind classmate Christa Matlack and fourth on the team.



**Krista Lee Gentile '08 (North Haledon, N.J.): Offensive Player of the Week: 10/15**

Gentile had an offensive explosion against conference foes Holy Cross and Army as she amassed a total of eight points on the weekend. In the 5-0 victory over the Crusaders on Friday evening, she notched the game-winning goal and finished the contest with a season-high five points (2G, 1A). Then on Sunday, she had a hand in both tallies for the Bison helping the squad to a come-from-behind 2-1 victory over the Black Knights with a goal and an assist on the game winner.



**Christa Matlack '11 (South Williamsport, PA): Rookie of the Week: 9/10, 10/22**

Matlack earned the first Rookie of the Week award for the Bison after scoring the Bison's lone goal in a 2-1 loss against nationally ranked Rutgers and then by recording two goals in a 5-1 rout over UMBC. Matlack earned her next weekly award after her performance at Colgate where she added an insurance goal in the 72nd minute. Matlack currently leads all Patriot League freshmen with 14 points on six goals and two assists which also ranks her second on the team. Just like classmate Kelliann Doherty, two of Matlack's goals were game winners against UMBC and St. Francis (PA).



**Kathryn Sutton '10 (Coatesville, PA): Goalkeeper of the Week: 9/10, 10/8, 10/15, 10/22**

Sutton has been a mainstay in goal this year and has already recorded four shutouts while also maintaining a 1.45 goals against average so far through thirteen games. She earned her first weekly honor after her career high 10 saves in a 2-1 loss against then ranked No. 12 Rutgers before recording a 5-1 win over UMBC. Her next three weekly honors came in back-to-back-to-back weeks all in Patriot League play. First Sutton earned a shutout in Bucknell's 1-0 victory over Navy, the preseason favorite league. The following week, Sutton boasted a 90.9% save percentage and a goals against average of 0.50 in the shutout victory over Holy Cross and the 2-1 win over Army. Her latest award came after her five save performance at Colgate helping Bucknell win in Hamilton, NY for the first time in program history.

# 2007 Fall Game Schedule

Day	Date	Opponent	Time / Result
FRI.	Aug. 31	Yale	L 1-3
SUN.	Sept. 2	Sacred Heart	W 1-0
WED.	Sept. 5	@ Rutgers	L 1-2
SUN.	Sept. 9	UMBC	W 5-1
WED.	Sept. 12	ST. FRANCIS (PA)	W 5-0
SAT.	Sept. 15	@ Robert Morris	L 1-2
WED.	Sept. 19	PENN STATE	L 1-5
SUN.	Sept. 23	CORNELL	W 1-0 OT
FRI.	Sept. 28	MARIST	L 0-2
SUN.	Sept. 30	@Loyola	L 1-2
<b>FRI.</b>	<b>Oct. 5</b>	<b>NAVY</b>	<b>W 1-0</b>
<b>FRI.</b>	<b>Oct. 12</b>	<b>@ Holy Cross</b>	<b>W 6-0</b>
<b>SUN.</b>	<b>Oct. 14</b>	<b>@ Army</b>	<b>W 2-1</b>
<b>SAT.</b>	<b>Oct. 20</b>	<b>@ Colgate</b>	<b>W 3-1</b>
<b>FRI.</b>	<b>Oct. 26</b>	<b>LEHIGH</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>
<b>SUN.</b>	<b>Oct. 28</b>	<b>LAFAYETTE</b>	<b>1:00 PM</b>
WED.	Oct. 31	PRINCETON	7:00 PM
<b>SAT.</b>	<b>Nov. 3</b>	<b>@ American</b>	<b>12:00 PM</b>
<b>FRI.</b>	<b>Nov. 9</b>	<b>Patriot League Tournament - Semis</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>SUN.</b>	<b>Nov. 11</b>	<b>Patriot League Tournament - Final</b>	<b>TBD</b>

HOME GAMES in Caps and played on the Varsity Soccer Field on campus in Lewisburg, PA

ALL Game Times listed are local times.

**Patriot League Matches are in bold.**

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