

# “DOWN THE LINE”

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF  
THE BUCKNELL TENNIS PROGRAM



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## A NOTE FROM HEAD COACH REBECCA HELT



Dear Bison Alumni & Friends:

As I sit here writing this early in the year 2009, I cannot help but shake my head at how fast time passes. It seems like

only yesterday that I was greeting our seniors for the first time as they arrived at Bucknell as freshmen. But you know what they say... "Time flies when you're having fun!"

When all is said and done, my only wish is that our seniors will leave Bucknell with a wealth of great memories and strong friendships; that they will have learned what it means to be a "team-player". As our players enter their winter break, the coaches will already be preparing for their return in January. The early part of our spring season is a true test of how good this team can be. Not necessarily because of how they are playing or where they are playing, but because we have to work so hard to find the space and time to get all the quality work and practice we need to reach our goal of a Patriot League Championship. I grow more proud of the camaraderie of our teams and the way they step up to the challenges that we face each winter.

After another successful fall with several notable tournament wins and personal achievements, both our teams were recognized in a very notable fashion. Although neither team was selected to participate in the very elite ECAC TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP, both received bids as alternate selections. The women received a bid as the first alternate and the men received a bid as the second alternate. This is quite an accomplishment since the selected teams consisted of mostly

Ivy League programs, all of which are ranked in the top 16 in the North Region. It speaks volumes about the respect our teams are earning among the top teams in the North Region.

Looking ahead to the spring, we of course have some very ambitious goals: 1.) A winning record that exceeds the previous years' record. 2.) A trip to the Patriot League Championship for both teams. 3.) A peak performance in the final match.

Our winter season will start off rather slow with some weekend match-ups and an emphasis on maintaining our strength, building our speed and agility and determining our best line-up. Each year, it becomes more and more difficult for our programs to fund a spring training trip, however, that trip has always been the real "starting point" of our spring. It is where we get outside for the first time and really start putting our games together. This year, we are all set to travel to Florida Gulf Coast University in Fort Myers, FL where each team will train daily and play three solid matches during the week. Once we return, it will be a about reaching that peak performance for the big Patriot League match-ups. We hope to see many of you at our matches!

As always, please check our Men's and Women's Tennis websites for match updates and highlights. Beginning in January there will be a special "Coaches Link" where you will be able to get updated information about upcoming matches and interesting pre and post match tid-bits.

Thank you, to all our alumni, family and friends who continue to support our current players each year. Your support has helped the current players realize that this is a program worth supporting. Thank you!!

*Rebecca Helt*  
Head Tennis Coach

## A GREETING FROM ASST. COACH STEVE SCHRAM



I would like to take this time to introduce myself and to provide you with pertinent and exciting information thus far in the Bucknell

tennis scene. My name is Stephen Schram and I am the assistant tennis coach and I began my duties at Bucknell on August 18, 2008. I feel honored to be working with Coach Rebecca Helt and I am extremely excited to be working with such fine student athletes and to watch them grow and mature on and off the tennis court.

I entered the college coaching scene in the fall of 2006 where I spent my first year as the assistant tennis coach at Wofford College for one season followed by a one year stint at Radford University. I am a 2006 graduate of Florida Gulf Coast University which is located in beautiful southwest Florida in the city of Fort Myers. Well known for its perfect climate and everyday sunshine, Fort Myers, Florida will serve as our destination for this year's spring break trip.

## Tennis Office

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## 2009 SCHEDULE

**1/17/09** .....**Women at Penn State**  
 University Park, Pa. .... 3:00 p.m.  
**2/01/09** .....**M & W vs. Quinnipiac**  
 Williamsport, Pa. ....TBA  
**2/06/09** ..... **Woman at Pittsburgh**  
 Pittsburgh, Pa. .... 6:30 p.m.  
**2/07/09** ..... **M & W at Duquesne**  
 Pittsburgh, Pa. .... 1:00 p.m.  
**2/08/09** ..... **M & W at Robert Morris**  
 Moon Township, Pa. ....TBA  
**2/21/09** .....**M & W vs. Hofstra**  
 Williamsport, Pa. .... 12:00 p.m.  
**2/28/09** .. **M & W at St. Bonaventure**  
 Olean, N.Y. .... 7:30 p.m.  
**3/1/09** ..... **Women vs. Binghamton**  
 Olean, N.Y. .... 10:00 a.m.  
**3/5/09** ..... **Women vs. Towson**  
 Lewisburg, Pa. ....TBA  
**3/10/09** ..... **M&W at Fla. Gulf Coast**  
 Fort Myers, Fla. .... 2:00 p.m.  
**3/11/09** ..... **M & W at Barry**  
 Miami Shores, Fla. .... 2:00 p.m.  
**3/12/09** ..... **W at Nova Southeastern**  
 Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. .... 1:00 p.m.  
**3/21/09** ..... **M & W vs. Villanova**  
 Lewisburg, Pa. ....TBA  
**3/24/09** .... **M & W at Mt. St. Mary's**  
 Emmitsburg, Md. .... 3:00 p.m.  
**3/28/09** ..... **M & W vs. NJIT**  
 Lewisburg, Pa. .... 12:00 p.m.  
**3/29/09** ..... **Men at Navy \***  
 Annapolis, Md. .... 12:00 p.m.  
**4/01/09** ..... **Women vs. FDU**  
 Lewisburg, Pa. .... 3:00 p.m.  
**4/04/09** ..... **M & W at Colgate \***  
 Hamilton, N.Y. ....TBA  
**4/07/09** ..... **Men vs. Lehigh \***  
 Lewisburg, Pa. .... 3:30 p.m.  
**4/11/09** ..... **M & W vs. Army \***  
 Lewisburg, Pa. ....TBA  
**4/12/09** ..... **M & W vs. Lafayette \***  
 Lewisburg, Pa. ....TBA  
**4/15/09** ..... **Men at Penn State**  
 University Park, Pa. ....TBA  
**4/15/09** ..... **Women at Lehigh**  
 Bethlehem, Pa. .... 3:30 p.m.  
**4/17-19** .... **M at Patriot League Trn.**  
 West Point, N.Y. ....TBA  
**4/22/09** ..... **M & W vs. Bloomsburg**  
 Lewisburg, Pa. ....TBA  
**4/24-26** .... **W at Patriot League Trn.**  
 Lewisburg, Pa. ....TBA

## FRESHMEN CLASS MAKING AN IMPACT

The Bucknell Bison tennis teams have seen the immediate impact of the freshman class this year. All have been working extremely hard on and off the tennis court and their work ethic and potential stands out noticeably. The Bison newcomers, three women and three men, will all be competing very hard for a spot in the lineup. Expectations are high for both teams and our goals can be achieved through hard work, dedication,

impact in our singles lineup this spring.

The two other Bison newcomers are Courtney Casey (Rockville, MD/Georgetown Visitation) and Elizabeth Larkin (Blue Bell, PA/Germantown Academy). They are two very hard workers and have competed well this fall. They bring great depth to our lineup and will definitely contribute to the team in the upcoming season. The three Bison newcomers are very well rounded individuals and have much potential and it will be a pleasure working with them for the next four years.

The three newcomers to the men's Bison tennis team have already proven themselves this fall. Gregg Cohenca (Purchase, N.Y./Rye Country Day School), Greg Maxson (Mt. Pleasant, S.C./Hotchkiss), and Clark Bogle (Hingham, MA/Thayer Academy) are the rookies and they possess much talent and most important a relentless work ethic. Cohenca, a very athletic and nimble player will make an immediate impact in the spring in both singles and doubles, while Maxson and Bogle will also make a huge impact in our line-up as they battle for a starting spot. Maxson spent his high school years away from home at the prestigious Hotchkiss School and dominated his league by going undefeated his senior year. Bogle has



*Freshman Demi Iuperas was undefeated in her first fall season as a collegiate tennis player.*

and perseverance.

Highlighting this year's freshman class is one of a kind and superb tennis player, Dumitrita Iuperas (Chisinau, Moldova/Germantown Friends), also known as "Demi" for short. Born and raised in the country of Moldova, Demi spent her high school years in Philadelphia and trained at the Arthur Ashe tennis complex. Her solid and consistent ground strokes helped her produce a remarkable undefeated fall campaign. She competes very hard and finds ways to win. Demi will make an immediate

been a surprise to the Bucknell Tennis program and he has proven that he has the all around game to be an outstanding player over the next four years. The fall tournaments proved to be an asset and indicator for the freshman because they were able to see the level of competition and where they stand. We have high expectations for the newcomers and the next four years will be very exciting and it will be more than a pleasure working with such fine student athletes.



# ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF BUCKNELL TENNIS

## NCAA RECRUITING

This particular page is addressed to all family, friends and alumni of Bucknell Men's & Women's Tennis and Bucknell Athletics in general. The NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association) has strict rules that we, as coaches, must adhere to in the recruiting process. What you will find below are the dos and don'ts allowed under NCAA Guidelines. After reading this, should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to phone me immediately!

### What is a "Representative of Athletics Interests?"

Most likely, if you are reading this, it's you! According to the NCAA definition (13.02.12): "A 'representative of the institution's athletics interests' is an individual who is known (or who should have been known) by a member of the institution's executive or athletics administration to: (a) have participated in or to be a member of an agency or organization (i.e., Bison Club) promoting the institution's intercollegiate athletics program; (b) have made financial contributions to the athletics program (i.e., goal-a-thon) or to an athletics booster organization (i.e., Bison Club) of that institution.

### Are there activities that a "Representative of Athletics Interests" cannot do?

Emphatically, yes! Representatives may not contact recruits for the purpose of "selling" Bucknell or encouraging them to attend Bucknell for athletic purposes; a representative may not call a prospect (recruit) for recruiting purposes; nor, may a representative make a telephone call to any of the prospect's relatives or legal guardians. In addition, representatives may not have written correspondence with a prospect or the prospect's relatives or legal guardians; a representative may not contact a prospect's coach, principal or counselor in an attempt to evaluate the prospect; a representative may not visit a prospect's educational institution to pick up film/videotape or transcripts pertaining to the evaluation of the prospect's academic eligibility or athletic ability; and a representative is prohibited from making in-person, on- or off-campus recruiting contacts.

### What is a "Prospect?"

In our terms, a "prospect" is a recruit. The NCAA defines a "prospect" this way: a prospective student-athlete (prospect) is a student who has started classes for the ninth grade. In addition, a student who has not started classes for the ninth grade becomes a prospective student-athlete if the institution provides such an individual (or the individual's relatives or friends) any financial assistance or other 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 institutional staff member for the purpose of securing the prospect's enrollment and ultimate participation in the institution's intercollegiate athletics program. Solicitations can be phone calls, written correspondence, home visits, official visits on campus, evaluations or off-campus contacts.

### What can I do to help in recruiting?

As a family member, friend, or alumnus, there are restrictions as to just what you can do. If you come across a talented prospect or an individual with significant interest in our lacrosse program, we ask that you forward his/her name, address and phone number to our attention. While we recognize you may want to promote this particular program and university, we ask that you leave the recruiting work to us. . . to avoid any conflict with NCAA rules. Should a prospect or family member contact you regarding an individual's interest or ability, please direct them to contact us immediately. We appreciate your interest and willingness to help out, but we caution you that some activities may be in violation of NCAA rules.

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## EMPLOYMENT OF STUDENT-ATHLETES

1. Prior to the commencement of employment, the student-athlete and employer must sign a written statement to be kept on file in the athletics department, which specifies the following:
  - (a) The student-athlete's compensation may not include any remuneration for value or utility that the student-athlete may have for the employer because of the publicity, reputation, fame or personal following that he or she has obtained because of athletics ability;
  - (b) The student-athlete is to be compensated only for work actually performed; and
  - (c) The student-athlete is to be compensated at a rate commensurate with the going rate in that locality for similar services.
2. It is not permissible for a student-athlete to receive compensation related to his or her speaking/lecturing at an institutional athletics booster club function.
3. An institution or its representatives shall not provide a prospect free transportation to and from a summer job unless it is the employer's established policy to transport all employees to and from the job site.

# A LOOK BACK AT THE FALL TENNIS SEASON

The fall tennis season was a very exciting one for both the men's and women's tennis programs. Each team participated in a variety of tournaments including two events hosted by Bucknell. The two teams immediately began practice as soon as the fall semester started in early September. Each member of the squad participated in at least one tournament.

On the women's side, Demi Iuperas was a standout in her first collegiate action on the court. She went undefeated in singles play, while topping off opponents from regional universities such as the University of Connecticut. Lauren Lucido captured the Bucknell Invitational by defeating teammate and senior captain Paulina Gamboa in three hard fought sets. Both Lucido and Gamboa competed in the annual ITA Fall Tournament at the University of Pennsylvania. Lucido participated in singles and was match. More-Lucido participated in the doubles event and lost a hard fought match to Boston College's top tandem. In the month of October, sophomore Lucido garnered Patriot League Player of the Month for her outstanding performances on the tennis court. Additionally, Gamboa has a total of 107 wins in combined singles and doubles competition placing her fifth on Bucknell's all-time combined wins list.



Paulina Gamboa (top) and Lauren Lucido (left)

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For the men it was a very exciting showing for the Bison team this fall with great leadership from senior captains Ryan Sandburg, Jonathan Brenner and Daniel Bednarek. All three captains immediately hit the courts as soon as September came around and motivated all of the members of the team.



Daniel Bednarek

All of the men participated in the fall and traveled to different tournaments while hosting the Bucknell Invitational. They posted impressive results along with the freshmen who will contribute greatly in their four years as members of the Bison tennis team. The first tournament took place at neighboring Bloomsburg University and it was an impressive showing by all of the Bison. They all competed hard and were victorious in both singles and doubles action. It was a great start to the fall season and gave confidence to each of the guys.

At the Brown University Invitational, sophomore Mark Malloy competed at a very high level and won his bracket in both singles and doubles with junior teammate Zach Hascoe. They defeated a strong duo from Fairleigh Dickinson, a team that has won its conference tournament the past few years. At the Quinnipiac Invitational, freshman Gregory Maxson captured his flight in singles action while defeating opponents from Bryant University, Boston University, and the University of Connecticut.

Lastly, the fall season concluded at the ITA Regional Men's Tournament at Yale University. Sandburg competed in the main draw of singles before losing a hard fought three set match. He and sophomore sensation Anton Kovic competed in the doubles event and took out the top duo from St. Johns University before falling to Penn's double's team in the second round. In Sandburg's career



Jonathan Brenner

thus far, he ranks second on Bucknell's combined wins list with 133, and is the all-time leader with 76 wins in doubles action. He had passed several great players who have played at Bucknell. Additionally, senior captain Jon Brenner has earned a total of 63 doubles wins which places him third on Bucknell's list, while senior co-captain Daniel Bednarek is on the list with 44. Moreover, Brenner is currently tied for third place with a total of 108 combined wins in his standout career.

# Q&A WITH CURRENT AND FORMER BISON TENNIS PLAYERS



Ashley Globerman is the senior co-captain on this year's talented squad. She has contributed greatly to the Bucknell Tennis Program on and off the tennis court. In the spring of 2008, Globerman studied abroad in various European countries. It was a true pleasure to sit down and interview this fine young lady and to listen to her educational experiences.

## **Where did you go to study and why did you choose that particular country or countries?**

I spent my junior fall semester in Brussels, Belgium,

and my spring semester in Washington, DC and China.

Brussels offered me an opportunity to improve my French, pursue my Business Administration major, and travel to neighboring countries each weekend. I traveled throughout Belgium, Luxembourg, France, Holland, Germany, Italy, and specifically London, Vienna, and Prague.

## **What was the purpose of studying abroad?**

I followed an International Business and Trade program, which was divided between Washington, DC and China. While in China, I visited Beijing, Shanghai, Hangzhou, Hong Kong, and a rural village called Gubeikou.

## **What did you learn and any notable or memorable experiences that stand out?**

Both semesters were incredible and irreplaceable learning experiences on several levels. Not only did I mature as an individual, but I met my best friends, all while traveling the world and immersing myself in cultures entirely unique from our own.

The most unforgettable experience was the time spent in Gubeikou. The rural village was a shocking 6-hour train ride from Beijing. My friends and I were the only Westerners on the train surrounded by underprivileged and uneducated Chinese who had never seen features outside of their homogenous culture. Gubeikou is a poverty-stricken village that lacks running water and electricity. Additionally, my friends and I climbed the Great Wall of China from this unpopulated location. This allowed us to climb and explore parts of the Wall that had not been restored by modern-day technology.

## **Would you recommend that others visit your places of study?**

Yes, I encourage studying and/or traveling abroad to the countries and cities in which I studied, as well as any other country of interest! After spending a year separated from American culture, I now look at the United States with a new appreciation, as well as a critical eye. Globalization has had and will continue to have a critical impact on every facet of our society. Personally witnessing and understanding the world's unique cultures is crucial to the successful development and progression of the United States and the international community. I am grateful to have had these experiences and be welcomed back to Bucknell and the tennis team for my senior year.

TK Kelly '00 was a former Bucknell tennis standout and is an active member of the Bison Club Advisory Board. Here are a few responses to questions that were asked to TK regarding his experience at Bucknell and current status.



## **What were the deciding factors in selecting Bucknell as your undergraduate institution?**

I knew I wanted to go to a Division I program but didn't want to go to a program where my life would be 100% tennis. I missed a lot in high school from traveling from tournament to tournament and Bucknell offered a strong balance between academics/athletics/social. When I visited Bucknell in the fall of my senior year in high school, I fell in love with the campus and the feel of the school. I enjoyed meeting Coach Hammerlee and knew that I would enjoy playing for him. After the visit, I knew that's where I wanted to be.

## **Share some of your most memorable times at Bucknell.**

I've played tennis all my life and the four years spent playing tennis at Bucknell are my fondest tennis memories. Tennis is an individual sport and you miss out on the comradery of a team. However during my four years at Bucknell, tennis was a team sport and I really appreciated the feeling of having your teammates play on the courts next to you. However, most of memories of my team were off the court, either in the van on our road trips or tennis socials that we would organize with the girls team. Even though we live all over the country, many of the guys on the team are still some of my best friends 10 years later.

## **Where do you currently reside and do you still play tennis?**

I lived in New York City and Colorado and played very little tennis for the first 5 years after leaving Bucknell. After playing nonstop in high school and college I took some time off from playing. With a wife and daughter, I don't play tournaments these days as they take too much time away from my family. But now that we have returned to our hometown of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, and I am surrounded by former college players, and play on a weekly basis. I enjoy and appreciate the competitive and social aspects that tennis has to offer even a decade after my last match at Bucknell.



Bucknell University  
Tennis Office  
Lewisburg, PA 17837

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## BUCKNELL TENNIS NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT

Dear Friend of Bison Tennis:

Energy, passion, and togetherness have been the hallmarks of the Bucknell Tennis Program for many years. This has been true not only for the players on the court, but for the group of supporters who have helped our program each year. As most of you know, the University budget covers only a fraction of the operating expenses to run a competitive Division I tennis program.

This year, we have been given a fundraising goal of \$30,000 to meet our program's budgetary needs. This money is spent in the three main areas of student-athlete recruitment, purchasing equipment to help train our team members, and covering the travel, lodging, and food costs for our team's travel. As you know, student-athlete recruitment is a year-round and highly competitive and intensive process that is of essential importance in fielding successful teams. In addition, we feel it is important to be able to travel safely, stay in quality hotels, and feed our players appropriately when we travel.

I am well aware that we are in a difficult time economically. At the same time, our program needs your financial support to continue in our quest for excellence. Your earmarked contribution for tennis to the Bison Club will help make this a reality. We hope we can count on 100% participation from everyone on our support team.

Thanks in advance for your assistance!

Rebecca Helt --- Head Tennis Coach



### **Methods of Giving**

**Check or Cash:** This is the most common way to give. When writing a check, make it out to Bucknell University and in the memo section note "Men's and/or Women's Tennis."

**By Credit Card:** The university accepts most major credit cards.

**Gifts of Stock/Securities:** To arrange a stock transfer, call the Office of Development & Alumni Relations at 570-577-3200.

**Pledges:** You can set up a payment schedule when you make a pledge, and payment reminders will be sent to you.

**Corporate matching gifts:** Many corporations match their employees' charitable donations to nonprofit institutions. Check with your benefits department for matching gift information and to see if they will match gifts to athletics.

**You can give on-line:** [www.BucknellBison.com](http://www.BucknellBison.com).