

BUCKNELL VOLLEYBALL

2008 PATRIOT LEAGUE TOURNAMENT NOTES



Bucknell Bison (13-17, 8-6) at American (22-8, 13-1)
 Army Black Knights (26-3, 13-1) vs. Colgate Raiders (14-13, 9-5)
 Nov. 21-22, 2008 • Washington, D.C. • Bender Arena (4,500)

SCHEDULE/RESULTS

August

29 at Central Connecticut State #.....L, 3-0
 30 vs. Iona #L, 3-0
 vs. Stony Brook #L, 3-0

September

5 at Loyola-Chicago \$L, 3-0
 vs. Evansville \$L, 3-0
 6 vs. UT Martin \$W, 3-2
 vs. Sam Houston State \$W, 3-1
 12 MONTREAL ^ (exhibition)L, 3-2
 SAINT FRANCIS (Pa.) ^L, 3-2
 13 CANISIUS ^L, 3-2
 FAIRLEIGH DICKINSON^W, 3-1
 19 at Villanova %L, 3-0
 20 vs. Penn %L, 3-0
 vs. La Salle %W, 3-0
 26 at Navy *W, 3-0
 27 AMERICAN *L, 3-0
 30 ST. FRANCIS (N.Y.)W, 3-0

October

3 at Army *L, 3-0
 4 at Holy Cross *W, 3-0
 10 COLGATEW, 3-0
 12 at Cal State FullertonL, 3-0
 13 at Cal State BakersfieldL, 3-0
 17 AMERICAN *L, 3-0
 18 NAVY *W, 3-0
 24 at Lafayette *L, 3-0
 25 at Lehigh *W, 3-1
 31 at Colgate *L, 3-0

November

7 HOLY CROSS *W, 3-1
 8 ARMY *L, 3-0
 14 LEHIGH *W, 3-0
 15 LAFAYETTE *W, 3-1
 21 at American (PL Tournament)6 p.m.
 22 vs. Army/Colgate (PL Championship) ..7 p.m.

- Central Connecticut State Invitational (New Britain, Conn.)
 \$ - Loyola-Chicago Invitational (Chicago, Ill.)
 ^ - Bucknell Invitational (Lewisburg, Pa.)
 % - Villanova Invitational (Villanova, Pa.)
 * - Denotes Patriot League Match
 Home Matches listed in CAPS in Davis Gym

ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS

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2008 BISON ROSTER

No.	Name	Cl.	Pos.	Ht.	Hometown/High School
1	Sheena Czipri	Sr.	L	5-7	Aurora, Ill./West Aurora
2	Liz Hazuka	Sr.	RS/MH	5-11	Colorado Springs, Colo./Cheyenne Mtn.
3	Rachel Rodriguez	So.	S	5-9	Sagamore Hills, Ohio/Walsh Jesuit
4	Emily Sawanobori	Fr.	L	5-3	Warren, N.J./Watchung Hills
5	Lindsay Regruto	Fr.	DS	5-4	Atlanta, Ga./Marist School
6	Shannon Pitsch	Sr.	S	5-9	Oak Brook, Ill./Fenwick
7	Lindsay Smith	Jr.	RS/MH	6-0	Lafayette, Colo./Monarch
8	Taylor Willis	Fr.	RS/MH	6-0	Darien, Conn./Darien
9	Allison Gittings	Jr.	S	5-9	Dayton, Md./Glenelg
10	Kyleigh McAhren	Fr.	MH	6-0	Napa, Calif./Justin-Siena
11	Kaitlin Segal	So.	OH	5-11	Pacific Palisades, Calif./Harvard-Westlake
12	Kelsey Guardia	Fr.	DS	5-4	Upland, Calif./Vivian Webb School
13	Katie Baumgarten	Fr.	OH	6-0	South Pasadena, Calif./South Pasadena
14	Anne Ellenberger	Fr.	MB	6-4	Phoenix, Ariz./Horizon Honors
15	Heidi Kamp	So.	MB	6-1	Springfield, Ore./Henry D. Sheldon

Head Coach: Cindy Opalski (Southern Connecticut '77), 19th season
 Assistant Coach: Anna Allison (Oral Roberts '04), Fourth season
 Graduate Assistant Coach: Inga Kurgonaite (Lock Haven '08), First season

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

CzipriSIP-ree
 SawanoboriSwan-ah-BORE-ee
 PitschPitch
 McAhrenMic-AIR-en
 SegalSEE-gul
 GuardiaGw-ar-dee-ah
 BaumgartenBomb-garden
 AnnaAh-na
 KurgonaiteKer-gun-NAY-tah

TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

Friday, Nov. 21
 #4 Bucknell at #1 American, 6 p.m.
 #3 Colgate vs. #2 Army, 8 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 22
 Bucknell/American vs. Colgate/Army, 7 p.m.

TEAM INFORMATION

Bucknell Bison:

Record 13-17
 Patriot League 8-6
 Head Coach Cindy Opalski
 At Bucknell 279-274 (19th season)
 Overall 371-320 (23rd season)
 Location Lewisburg, Pa.
 Enrollment 3,583
 Colors Orange & Blue
 President Dr. Brian C. Mitchell
 AD John P. Hardt
 Web Site BucknellBison.com

Army Black Knights:

Record 26-3
 Patriot League 13-1
 Head Coach Alma Kovaci
 At Army 50-8 (second season)
 Overall 50-8 (second season)
 Location West Point, N.Y.
 Enrollment 4,400
 Colors Black, Gold and Gray
 Superintendent .. Lt. Gen. Franklin L. Hagenbeck
 AD Kevin Anderson
 Web Site www.goARMYsports.com

American Eagles:

Record 21-8
 Patriot League 13-1
 Head Coach Barry Goldberg
 At American 495-186 (20th season)
 Overall 495-186 (20th season)
 Location Washington, D.C.
 Enrollment 5,818
 Colors Red, White and Blue
 President Dr. Neil Kerwin
 AD Keith Gill
 Web Site www.AUEagles.com

Colgate Raiders:

Record 14-13
 Patriot League 9-5
 Head Coach Ryan Baker
 At Colgate 45-41 (third season)
 Overall 67-52 (fourth season)
 Location Hamilton, N.Y.
 Enrollment 2,800
 Colors Maroon, White and Gray
 President Rebecca S. Chopp
 AD David Roach
 Web Site www.GoColgateRaiders.com

ABOUT THE MATCHES

- ▶ Bucknell will try to redeem itself when it faces the No. 1 seed, American University, on Friday. The Bison lost 3-0 in both regular-season matches, although the teams' second meeting was more closely contested than the first.
- ▶ No. 3 seeded Colgate will face No. 2 Army in the second match on Friday. Army is 2-0 against Colgate in 2008. If Bucknell defeats American earlier in the evening, it will face the winner of this match in the Championship on Saturday. The winner of the Patriot League Tournament earns an automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament in December.
- ▶ With a 13-1 Patriot League record and having lost just five sets all season, American earned the right to host the 2008 Patriot League Tournament at their home court, Bender Arena, in Washington, D.C.

ABOUT THE BISON

- ▶ Senior Shannon Pitsch and sophomore Kaitlin Segal were each honored for their strong play in 2008. The pair was voted to the All-Patriot League Second Team by the league's coaches earlier this week.
- ▶ Bucknell has earned the Patriot League Tournament title twice. The Bison brought home the trophy in 1998 and repeated in 2000, making them the last team other than American to win a championship.
- ▶ The Bison ended the regular-season on a high note, earning wins in each of their last two matches. Bucknell swept Lehigh on Friday before defeating Lafayette 3-1 on Saturday. Both victories came at Davis Gym.
- ▶ Sophomore Heidi Kamp had the match of the season against Lehigh. The middle blocker hit a career-high .722 (13-0-18), and tallied two service aces, two digs and three block assists. Freshman Kyleigh McAhren also set a new career-best hitting percentage with .636 (8-1-11).
- ▶ Two Bison completed double-digit kills against Lafayette. Segal registered 20, while senior Liz Hazuka added 11. Segal completed the double-double with 15 digs, leading the team in the defensive category. Pitsch rounded out the strong offensive contest with 49 assists. She also had five kills on five attempts and did not commit an attack error.

ABOUT THE EAGLES

- ▶ American enters the tournament with seven consecutive Patriot League Tournament Championships under their belts, starting in 2001. The defending champions had won 74 consecutive Patriot League contests, but that streak ended in their last regular-season match on Nov. 15 when they played Army in West Point, N.Y. In that match, the Eagles fell 3-1. American boasts an overall Patriot League record of 190-3 since joining the league in 2001 and has accumulated 12 consecutive 20-win seasons. The Eagles will be a difficult foe to face on their home court as they have won 35 straight matches in Bender Arena, dating back to September 2006.
- ▶ The two-time Patriot League Player of the Year, Rubena Sukaj, will likely be out in full force as she concludes her senior season. After being selected as the league's Player of the Week four times in 2008, she was recently named to the All-Patriot League First Team. Sukaj has amassed 436 kills (4.23/set) this season, helping her to become the all-time kills leader in league history with 2,045.
- ▶ Joining Sukaj on the All-Patriot League First Team are teammates Christina Nash and Ivana Cebakova. With 1,076 assists (10.15/set) this year, Nash has moved into sixth place for career assists (3,704) in the Patriot League. Cebakova is the defending Patriot League Defensive Player of the Year and has added 345 digs to her career total this season. Also a player to watch, Rebecca Heath has won six Patriot League Baden Rookie of the Week honors, with five of them coming consecutively in September and October. The freshman has registered 296 kills (2.87/set) this year.

ABOUT THE BLACK KNIGHTS

- ▶ Army has also had its share of winning Patriot League titles. The Black Knights earned the championship in 1991, 1992 and 1994.
- ▶ Among Army's All-Patriot League selections were Maureen Bannon and Jamie Clark on the First Team, and Rachael Breinling, Elizabeth Lazzari and Briana Stremick on the Second Team. Bannon is a two-time league Player of the Week, and Lazzari and Stremick have each earned one Player of the Week accolade as well.
- ▶ The Black Knights achieved something no other Patriot League team had been able to do since 2001 when they defeated American 3-1 on Nov. 15. The three sets needed to upset the Eagles were the dropped by American to a league foe this season.
- ▶ Army has been strong at the net throughout the season and has four players with more than 200 kills - Stremick, Clark, Breinling and Lazzari. At right side, Stremick leads with 286 kills (3.04/set). Clark is a close second with 280 (3.01/set). Breinling and Lazzari have 257 and 246 kills, respectively. Helping the four attackers is Bannon. The setter has 935 assists (10.87/set) on the year, good enough for the best average in the Patriot League.

ABOUT THE RAIDERS

- ▶ Colgate has taken four Patriot League Tournament championships back to New York.

PATRIOT LEAGUE STANDINGS

	League		Overall	
	W-L	Pct.	W-L	Pct.
American*	13-1	.929	22-8	.733
Army*	13-1	.929	26-3	.897
Colgate*	9-5	.643	14-13	.519
Bucknell*	8-6	.571	13-17	.433
Navy	5-9	.357	17-13	.567
Lafayette	5-9	.357	12-18	.400
Lehigh	3-11	.214	8-20	.286
Holy Cross	0-14	.000	1-25	.038

* Qualified for Patriot League Tournament

Friday, Nov. 21

- #4 Bucknell at #1 American, 6 p.m.
- #3 Colgate vs. #2 Army, 8 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 22

- Bucknell/American vs. Colgate/Army, 7 p.m.

BISON AMONG PL LEADERS

INDIVIDUAL:

Heidi Kamp

- Blocks5th (0.76/set)
- Hitting Percentage 10th (.275)

Shannon Pitsch

- Assists5th (7.42/set)

Kaitlin Segal

- Kills3rd (3.31/set)
- Service Aces7th (0.40/set)

Emily Sawanobori

- Digs9th (2.72/set)

TEAM:

- Opponent Hitting Percentage 4th (.200)
- Service Aces4th (1.70/set)

BISON 2008 HONORS & AWARDS

All-Patriot League

- Shannon Pitsch (Second Team)
- Kaitlin Segal (Second Team)

Patriot League Rookie of the Week

- Kyleigh McAhren (11/10/08)

Damon's Bison Athlete of the Week

- Shannon Pitsch (9/22/08)

ESPN The Magazine Academic All-District

- Shannon Pitsch (First Team)

All-Tournament Teams

- Kaitlin Segal (Loyola-Chicago Invitational)
- Kaitlin Segal (Bucknell Invitational)
- Shannon Pitsch (Villanova Invitational)

The Raiders' titles came in 1990, 1995, 1996 and 1999.

► The Raiders wrapped up their season by defeated Lafayette and Lehigh last weekend. Colgate swept its opponent in both contests.
 ► Colgate earned three All-Patriot League First Team selections in Casey Ritt, Katrina Zawojski and Jackie Adlam. Zawojski leads the team with 361 kills (3.76/set) this season adding to her all-time league total of 1,609, which ranks her third. Ritt is also among the Raiders' kills leaders with 221 (2.35/set). Adlam, who is first on the Patriot League's list for career digs with 1,950, has 368 (3.87/set) in 2008. Also contributing to the Raiders' success are Meghan Fanta with 829 (9.21/set) assists and Kaylee Dougherty with 141 kills (1.99/set) this year. Fanta was named the Patriot League Player of the Week nearly two weeks ago, and Dougherty has two league Rookie of the Week selections on her resume.

IN THEIR PREVIOUS MEETINGS...

► American twice swept the Bison. The Eagles took the first meeting, 25-21, 25-15 and 25-9. The second contested ended with a score of 32-30, 25-17 and 25-21. Bucknell's Kaitlin Segal posted a combined 18 kills and 12 digs in the two matches, and Shannon Pitsch tallied 47 total assists. Rubena Sukaj led with 28 kills, and Rebecca Heath was close behind with 20. Christina Nash also had 61 assists over the course of the two matches.

► Army swept Bucknell on both occasions. The Black Knights closed out the first match easily with a score of 25-14, 25-17 and 25-16. Similar to the matchups with American, the second meeting with Army was more closely contested. Army still came out on top, however, 25-21, 25-20 and 25-20. Segal totaled 20 kills against the Black Knights this season, and Heidi Kamp combined for 16. Taylor Willis earned four blocks in the second contest. The Black Knights' Briana Stremick connected for 20 kills and Elizabeth Lazzari and Jamie Clark each had a combined 18.

► Bucknell won the first meeting, 3-0, but lost the second 0-3. The score of the meeting in Lewisburg, where the Bison earned the victory, was 25-22, 25-23 and 25-17. When the Raiders took the second meeting, the score was 25-13, 25-15 and 25-23. Kamp totaled 23 kills, Segal had 18 and Kyleigh McAhren added 14 kills and five blocks over two contests. Pitsch also chipped in 60 assists. The Raiders' Casey Ritt led with 19 total kills, followed closely by Katrina Zawojski with 17. Colgate's setter, Meghan Fanta, contributed 57 total assists.

2008 Bucknell Statistics

##	Name	ATTACK							SET		SERVE		
		SP	MP/MS	K	K/Set	E	TA	Pct	A	A/Set	SA	SA/Set	SE
11	Segal, Kaitlin	101	30/30	334	3.31	175	868	.183	12	0.12	40	0.40	57
15	Kamp, Heidi	101	30/30	234	2.32	84	545	.275	4	0.04	11	0.11	25
10	McAhren, Kyleigh	101	30/30	212	2.10	104	572	.189	4	0.04	31	0.31	44
2	Hazuka, Liz	72	24/20	122	1.69	74	399	.120	2	0.03	17	0.24	14
13	Baumgarten, Katie	56	26/9	59	1.05	58	231	.004	1	0.02	1	0.02	10
14	Ellenberger, Anne	81	29/12	49	0.60	12	165	.224	9	0.11	0	0.00	2
6	Pitsch, Shannon	101	30/30	41	0.41	9	111	.288	749	7.42	26	0.26	18
7	Smith, Lindsay	50	23/5	21	0.42	24	97	-.031	4	0.08	0	0.00	0
8	Willis, Taylor	30	15/3	17	0.57	6	41	.268	3	0.10	0	0.00	0
9	Gittings, Allison	65	27/1	8	0.12	5	26	.115	165	2.54	8	0.12	14
3	Rodriguez, Rachel	89	30/9	3	0.03	2	14	.071	26	0.29	15	0.17	8
1	Czipri, Sheena	72	26/0	2	0.03	4	15	-.133	14	0.19	12	0.17	18
5	Regruto, Lindsay	27	20/1	1	0.04	0	3	.333	1	0.04	1	0.04	5
4	Sawanobori, Emily	82	28/0	1	0.01	1	5	.000	13	0.16	10	0.12	16
12	Guardia, Kelsey	3	3/0	0	0.00	0	1	.000	0	0.00	0	0.00	0
Bucknell		101	30/30	1104	10.9	559	3093	.177	1007	9.97	172	1.70	231
Opponents		101	30/30	1189	11.7	563	3129	.200	1073	10.6	169	1.67	249

##	Name	SP	RE	DIG			BLOCKING				
				DIG	Dig/S	BS	BA	Total	B/Set	BE	BHE
11	Segal, Kaitlin	101	30	249	2.47	0	26	26	0.26	1	2
15	Kamp, Heidi	101	0	28	0.28	7	70	77	0.76	9	2
10	McAhren, Kyleigh	101	7	54	0.53	7	49	56	0.55	6	3
2	Hazuka, Liz	72	15	71	0.99	4	12	16	0.22	3	2
13	Baumgarten, Katie	56	13	30	0.54	3	9	12	0.21	1	1
14	Ellenberger, Anne	81	0	12	0.15	3	44	47	0.58	8	3
6	Pitsch, Shannon	101	2	134	1.33	0	14	14	0.14	1	14
7	Smith, Lindsay	50	0	3	0.06	0	10	10	0.20	2	0
8	Willis, Taylor	30	0	4	0.13	2	8	10	0.33	1	0
9	Gittings, Allison	65	2	34	0.52	0	8	8	0.12	0	3
3	Rodriguez, Rachel	89	17	134	1.51	0	0	0	0.00	0	2
1	Czipri, Sheena	72	11	144	2.00	0	0	0	0.00	0	0
4	Sawanobori, Emily	82	36	223	2.72	0	0	0	0.00	0	2
5	Regruto, Lindsay	27	5	27	1.00	0	0	0	0.00	0	0
12	Guardia, Kelsey	3	0	1	0.33	0	0	0	0.00	0	0
TEAM		-	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bucknell		101	168	1148	11.37	26	250	151.0	1.50	32	34
Opponents		101	171	1207	11.95	39	224	151.0	1.50	31	26