

Johns Hopkins Women's Soccer NCAA Tournament Notes



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In The Dance

Johns Hopkins is making its seventh all-time appearance in the NCAA tournament. The Blue Jays earned their first NCAA berth in 1997 following their second Centennial Conference Championship. Hopkins has been awarded an automatic bid in each of the last four seasons after winning the Centennial Conference title.

Johns Hopkins will host the first and second rounds of the tournament this weekend at Homewood Field. The Blue Jays will play Meredith in the first round. Virginia Wesleyan and Richard Stockton will meet in the other first round game at JHU on November 15. The winners meet on Sunday with a trip to the Sweet 16 on the line.

In 2005 and 2006, the Blue Jays reached the second round of the tournament. Virginia Wesleyan defeated Hopkins in 2006 and 2007. The Marlins advanced on penalty kicks in 2006 and downed the Blue Jays, 2-0 in 2007. Hopkins has a 1-5-2 all-time NCAA Tournament record.

Inside The Series

Hopkins leads the all-time series against Meredith 2-0. The Blue Jays notched a 1-0 victory in 2003 at home. Meredith had an early season run-in with Hopkins this year as the Blue Jays downed the Avenging Angels, 3-0 in the second round of the Roanoke Invitational to win the tournament.

Scouting The Avenging Angels

Meredith received an automatic NCAA bid after winning the USA South Tournament crown with a 3-1 victory over Christopher Newport, handing the Captains their first loss to a USA South squad all season.

The Avenging Angels come to Baltimore with a five-game win streak extending back to October 29. The team won its first ever USA South Tournament to gain its second NCAA bid in the last three seasons.

Meredith (17-4) has outscored its opponents 75-25 this season and are 9-1-0 on the road. Junior **Maggie Hart** and sophomore **Alex Calvert**, who each have recorded 17 goals on the year, lead the Avenging Angels. The underclassmen lead the team with 40 points this season. Between the posts, sophomore **Sarah Chadwick** has made 80 saves on the season and tallied four shutouts.

Path To The Big Show

With the top record in the Centennial Conference (10-0-0), Hopkins earned the right to host its third consecutive conference tournament. The Blue Jays defeated Muhlenberg, 1-0, in the tournament semifinals in double overtime to advance into the title match. Hopkins won its fourth consecutive conference championship after a penalty kick shootout following two scoreless overtime periods. Earning their fourth straight NCAA bid, the 16-0-4 Blue Jays were picked to host an NCAA first and second round regional. Saturday's match will mark the first NCAA Women's Soccer Tournament game in program history

to be hosted by Johns Hopkins.

Climbing The Charts

With an early exit from the NCAA Tournament in 2007, Hopkins was not a preseason NSCAA top 25 pick. It didn't take long to change that, as the Blue Jays earned the No. 15 spot on September 9 after posting four shutouts to open the season. Hopkins was rated No. 9 the very next week (9/16/08) after playing No. 2 Messiah to a

scoreless draw. The Blue Jays continued their surge, earning a program-best No. 5 ranking and moved into the No. 1 position in the Middle Atlantic region on September 30. Hopkins spent one week at No. 9 before improving to the No. 7 slot where it has remained since October 21.

Top Performers

Sophomore **Jenn Paulucci (Manalapan, NJ/Freehold Boro)** and freshman **Erica Suter (Ellicott City, MD/River Hill)** were each awarded Centennial Conference Player of the Week honors for the second time this season after leading JHU to the Centennial Conference title. Suter scored the game-winner for Hopkins in the Centennial Conference semifinals and was named Offensive Player of the Week. The freshman headed in the goal off of a corner kick in the 103rd minute to advance the Blue Jays to their fifth straight Centennial title match. Suter has recorded 11 goals on the season and is tied for sixth in single-season goals in the JHU record books. Paulucci led a stingy defense that did not allow a goal through 213 minutes of playoff action through the Centennial Conference Tournament. The sophomore earned the second Defensive Player of the Week selection of the season as she received the honor on September 2 for her role in the Blue Jays' three shutouts to open the season.

2008 Schedule/Results

August		
29	vs. Oneonta State ^	W, 1-0
30	vs. Meredith ^	W, 3-0
September		
1	Hamline	W, 5-0
3	@ Misericordia	W, 2-0
10	No. 2 Messiah	T, 0-0
16	@ St. Mary's (MD)	T, 2-2
20	Washington *	W, 4-0
27	Swarthmore *	W, 1-0
30	@ Dickinson *	W, 1-0
October		
1	Frostburg St.	T, 2-2
3	Haverford *	W, 2-0
11	@ Gettysburg *	W, 1-0
15	Franklin & Marshall *	W, 2-1
18	@ Muhlenberg *	W, 3-0
22	@ College of New Jersey	W, 1-0
25	@ Bryn Mawr *	W, 5-3
28	@ McDaniel *	W, 8-0
November		
1	Ursinus *	W, 4-0
8	Muhlenberg \$	W, 1-0
9	Dickinson %	T, 0-0 (JHU, 4-2 PK)
15	Meredith #	5:00 p.m.

Home games in **bold**

* Centennial Conference game

\$ Centennial Conference Tournament Semifinal

% Centennial Conference Tournament Final

NCAA Tournament, First Round

