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Scheffter makes it a Bison sweep for swimming & diving Scholar-Athletes

CENTER VALLEY, Pa. – Patriot League Executive Director **Carolyn Schlie Femovich** announced Thursday that Bucknell University sophomore swimmer **Rebecca Scheffter** (Mount Airy, Md./Linganore) has been named the 2005 Scholar-Athlete of the Year for women's swimming & diving. Scheffter joins **Adam Freeman** of the men's team at BU as Patriot League swimming & diving scholar-athletes this season.

Scheffter owns a 3.80 grade-point average at Bucknell. She majors in English with a minor in linguistics, and has been named to the Dean's List. In addition to swimming, Scheffter is a member of the Voices of Praise Gospel Choir and the Intervarsity Christian Fellowship at Bucknell.

In the pool, Scheffter was placed on the All-Patriot League first team following an impressive showing at the 2005 Patriot League Championship. She earned individual gold medals in the 50-free and 100-free, and was also a part of three gold medal winning relay teams – the 200-free, 200-medley and 400-medley. All three relays set new League, meet, school and pool records. Scheffter's 53 points at the event represented the third-highest total in the League. At Bucknell, she currently holds the third-best times ever in the 50- and 100-free.

American's **Kaitlin Moughty**, Army's **Sarah Gerstein**, Holy Cross' **Abby Lemieux**, Lafayette's **Jenny Moerschbacher**, Lehigh's **Amanda Warrick** and Navy's **Kate D'Epagnier** were also in contention for the award.

To be eligible for this award, a student-athlete must have at least a 3.20 grade-point average and be a starter or key reserve on his or her team. Freshmen are not eligible. Following a nomination process, the sports information directors at each of the eight institutions along with the Patriot League Media Relations staff vote to determine the winner.

The Patriot League will announce its winter and spring academic honor rolls following the conclusion of the spring semester. At that time, scholar-athletes for baseball, softball, men's & women's lacrosse, men's & women's tennis, men's golf, women's rowing and men's & women's outdoor track & field will be announced. The League's fall academic honor roll contained 501 student-athletes.

The Patriot League, an NCAA Division I athletics conference founded on the principle of admitting athletes who are academically representative of their class, is in its second decade of academic and athletic excellence. Participation in intercollegiate athletics at Patriot League institutions is viewed as an important component of the undergraduate experience. A successful Division I-AA football conference since 1986 and an all-sport conference since 1990, membership includes American, Army, Bucknell, Colgate, Holy Cross, Lafayette, Lehigh and Navy, while seven additional institutions hold associate membership. Patriot League member institutions are among the oldest and most prestigious in the nation, graduating alumni who are well prepared for life with the ability to make meaningful contributions to their community and society in general. In the most recent NCAA Graduation Rate Report of student-athletes, the Patriot League ranked FIRST among NCAA Division I conferences.