



*Today's Scholar-Athletes ~ Tomorrow's Leaders*

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## **Bucknell's McNaughton Tabbed Patriot League Men's Basketball Scholar-Athlete of the Year**

*Senior Bison wins award for the third-straight year.*

**Center Valley, Pa.** – Bucknell senior Chris McNaughton made Patriot League men's basketball history by becoming the only student-athlete to win the Patriot League Men's Basketball Scholar-Athlete of the Year award three times in his career it was announced Friday by Patriot League Executive Director Carolyn Schlie Femovich.

McNaughton, an electrical engineering major, owns a 3.34 cumulative grade-point average and is a three-time Patriot League Academic Honor Roll member. He was named the Patriot League Men's Basketball Scholar-Athlete of the Year in 2005 and 2006.

The senior center from Germany led the Patriot League in field goal percentage at a .567 clip and ranked third in rebounds (5.9), sixth in blocks (0.74) and 10<sup>th</sup> in scoring (12.0). The three-time First-Team All-Patriot League honoree averaged 14.3 points, 7.9 rebounds and shot 60.9% over Bucknell's last 15 contests including the Patriot League Tournament Championship Game. McNaughton was named to the Patriot League All-Tournament Team for the third-straight year.

Before McNaughton's record-setting three Patriot League Men's Basketball Scholar-Athlete of the Year awards, only two other student-athletes had earned multiple honors, coincidentally both from Bucknell – Valter Karavanic (1999 and 2000) and Dan Blankenship (2002 and 2003). Other Bucknell winners of the Patriot League Men's Basketball Scholar-Athlete of the Year award were Paul Olkowski (1993) and Tom Welch (1997), giving the Bison a Patriot League-best nine selections all-time.

McNaughton is the ninth student-athlete in Patriot League history to win the Scholar-Athlete of the Year award three times in a single sport. The others are; Bucknell's Matt Kodak (men's cross country), Bucknell's Julie Sweitzer, Bucknell's Becki Marshall and American's Keira Carlstrom (women's cross country), Colgate's Eli Zackheim (golf), Lehigh's Ryan Gelrod (men's tennis), Bucknell's Ron Hess (men's indoor track and field) and American's Karla Kucerkova (volleyball).

To be eligible for the Patriot League Scholar-Athlete of the Year award, a student-athlete must have at least a 3.20 cumulative grade point average and be a starter or key player in his/her sport. Freshmen are not eligible for this honor.

The Patriot League Scholar-Athlete of the Year for each individual sport comprises the pool of nominees for the Patriot League Male and Female Scholar-Athlete of the Year award given out over the summer. One male and one female are selected for this honor.

*"Today's Scholar-Athletes, Tomorrow's Leaders" – The Patriot League continually demonstrates that student-athletes can excel at both academics and athletics without sacrificing its high standards. The Patriot League's athletic success is achieved while its member institutions remain committed to its founding principle of admitting and graduating student-athletes that are academically representative of their class. Participation in athletics at Patriot League institutions is viewed as an important component of a well-rounded education.*

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