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November 12, 2003
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BU Sets Record With Seven Players On All-PL Men's Soccer Team *Regular-Season Champs Also Pick Up Offensive, Defensive & Coach of the Year Trophies*

CENTER VALLEY, Pa. – The Bucknell Bison men's soccer team went undefeated in Patriot League play for the first time in school history. BU also won its third regular-season PL title, but it's just the second time the Bison stood alone atop the standings. The Bison will be the top seed and host of the 2003 PL Tournament this weekend.

So it should be no surprise that Bucknell captured a record seven berths on the 22-player 2003 All-Patriot League Men's Soccer Team, including five of 11 spots on the first team. The Bison tied the PL record for most first-team picks and set a new mark for most all-stars in one season. Colgate (1992), Army (1996) and American (2000) have all had five first-team selections, but the previous high for all-stars in a season was six, accomplished seven times in PL history.

BU also won three of the four major post-season awards as sophomore **Scott Visnic** (Hillsborough, N.J.) was named Offensive Player of the Year, junior **Michael Lookingland** (Fallston, Md.) was named Defensive Player of the Year and mentor **Brendan Nash** was named Coach of the Year for the second time in the last four seasons

Holy Cross freshman midfielder **Josh Trott** (Glen Cove, N.Y.) was tabbed by the League coaches as the Freshman of the Year, just the second Crusader player to win the honor in the 14-year history of the League.

Lehigh, which set team and League records for most ties in a season (7) and consecutive ties (5), placed five players on the All-PL team while Colgate and Lafayette each gained three berths. Trott was one of two Holy Cross players on the team, and Army and Navy were each represented by one player.

Visnic, a first-time All-League choice, led the PL and is ranked 26th in the country in goals this season with 12, half of which were game-winning scores. He also leads the PL in points with 27, averaging 1.5 per game. He is tied for the 10th-highest goal-scoring and point-scoring season in PL history. Possibly his most important tally of the season was on Nov. 4 in College Park, Md., when the Bison upset second-ranked Maryland by a 1-0 count, the biggest win in team history. In two seasons at BU, Visnic has 15 goals and five assists for 35 career points. Visnic joins **Mark Wrigley** (1993) as the only Bison to win the PL Offensive Player of the Year award.

Lookingland moves up from second-team All-League in 2002 to the top defensive position in the PL after leading a Bison defense that allowed just 20 goals in 19 matches, which ranks second in the League and 47th in the country in goals allowed per game (1.05). The Bison defense also shared the League lead with nine shutouts. Lookingland, who also chipped in a goal and two assists on the attack, is the second BU player to win PL Defensive Player of the Year recognition, along with 2000 winner **Bill Epley**.

Nash guided the Bison to an 11-6-2 overall record this season, 5-0-2 in the PL. BU won the first PL regular-season crown in 1990, and shared the top spot with Lafayette in 2000. In his fifth season in Lewisburg, Nash has compiled a 48-39-7 overall record (54.8%), including a 15-15-3 mark in PL play. He is the third multiple winner of the PL Coach of the Year award. Holy Cross coach **Elvis Comrie** has won the honor three times and Lehigh's **Dean Koski** is a two-time winner. Nash joins 1993 winner **Craig Reynolds** as the only Bucknell coaches to win the award.

Joining Visnic and Lookingland on the All-League squad from Bucknell this season are first-team midfielders **Chris Beekman** (Neptune, N.J.), **Ori Adrabi** (West Hills, Calif.) and keeper **Adam Edwards** (Downingtown, Pa.) along with forward **Eric Brunton** (McLean, Va.) and defender **Brian King** (Medford, N.J.) on the second team.

Beekman, who was second on the team with six goals, and Brunton tied for second on the team with 14 points. Brunton found the back of the net four times and tied for the team-lead with six assists.

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American * Army * Bucknell * Colgate * Holy Cross * Lafayette * Lehigh * Navy

Adrabi, who had two goals and six assists, was also a key player on the defensive end with Edwards and King. Edwards, the 2002 PL Rookie of the Year and a second-team All-League honoree, posted a 1.03 goals against average and a .789 save percentage. In just two seasons, Edwards has recorded 18 shutouts, which ranks eighth among PL career leaders.

Trott, a second-team choice, was second on HC's scoring charts with four goals and nine points this season. He was joined on the All-PL team this season by senior teammate **Chris Napolitano** (North Scituate, R.I.), who earned first-team honors for the second-straight season and makes his third PL post-season team appearance. Napolitano tallied a team-best five goals and 11 points, ranking among the Top 12 in the PL in both categories. Trott and Napolitano combined to score nine of HC's 13 goals this season.

Lehigh's All-League contingent is led by senior defender **Doug Cusick** (Marlton, N.J.), who earns his fifth career PL post-season honor and is the only Mountain Hawk to previously earn all-star honors. Cusick is a two-time first-team All-League choice, a two-time second-team selection and was the PL Rookie of the Year in 2000.

Cusick combined with classmate **Wes Roach** (Marlton, N.J.) and junior keeper **Sam Bishop** (Moorestown, N.J.), both second-team all-stars, to lead the Mountain Hawks defense, which surrendered a League-low 12 goals this season. Bishop led the League with nine individual shutouts and paced the PL and ranks 11th nationally with a .602 goals against average.

The LU attack is led by first-team All-League senior forward **Steve Fisher** (Hershey, Pa.) and second-team midfielder **Peter Classi** (Valley Stream, N.Y.). Fisher posted a team-best eight goals, which tied for second in the PL and ranked fourth in points, while Classi added two goals and three assists for seven points.

Lafayette, which will join BU, HC and LU in the 2003 PL Tournament this weekend in Lewisburg, picked up first-team All-League recognition for senior forward **Jamie Mullarkey** (Cramlington, England) and senior defender **Tom Wajda** (East Greenbush, N.Y.) and second-team honors for senior midfielder **Matt Battiste** (Rexford, N.Y.).

Mullarkey, a second-team choice in 2001, led the Leopards with eight goals, five assists and 21 points. He ranks second in the PL in goals and points and is fourth in assists. He also tied for the team lead and ranked second in the PL with three game-winning goals. Wajda, who gained his second-straight first-team All-League nod, and Battiste combined to control the flow of the game for the 'Pards and hold opponents to 25 goals in 17 matches. Battiste also contributed two scores on the offensive end.

Colgate gained the final first-team berth for junior forward **Jon Cook** (Oneonta, N.Y.) and a pair of second-team midfield nods for senior **Jon Gelman** (Eastchester, N.Y.) and junior **Reed Grimes** (Lexington, Ky.).

Despite playing only nine matches due to injury, Cook paced the Raider attack with seven goals and 17 points, including a four-goal, two-assist outburst in the season finale against Army that tied the PL record for goals in a match and broke the mark for points (10). In three seasons in Hamilton, Cook has 18 goals and a pair of All-League awards.

Grimes, who was second on the team in points (13) and tied for second in goals (5), joined Gelman (two assists) to patrol the midfield for the Raiders, who held 13 foes to two goals or less and recorded three shutouts.

Army junior forward **Lloyd Osafo** (Franklin Lakes, N.J.) picked up his third-straight second-team All-League honor while Navy senior **Danny Urbanczyk** (Washington, D.C.) gained his first PL post-season nod as a second-team defender. Osafo contributed a goal and two assists for the Black Knights this season. Urbanczyk led the Mids' defensive unit that held 14 of 16 opponents to two goals or less, recorded five shutouts and went to the final match of the season before being eliminated from contention for a PL post-season berth.

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 six 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.

More information may be obtained by contacting Tom Byrnes (tbyrnes@patriotleague.com) at the Patriot League Office at (610) 289-1957 or the League website at www.patriotleague.com.

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2003 Patriot League Men's Soccer All-League Team

FIRST TEAM

<u>Name. School</u>	<u>Yr.</u>	<u>Pos.</u>	<u>Hometown</u>	<u>Previous PL Honors</u>
Scott Visnic, Bucknell	So.	M	Hillsborough, N.J.	
Jonathan Cook, Colgate	Jr.	F	Oneonta, N.Y.	2nd in '02
Jamie Mullarkey, Lafayette	Sr.	F	Cramlington, England	2nd in '01
Steve Fisher, Lehigh	Sr.	F	Hershey, Pa.	
Chris Beekman, Bucknell	Sr.	M	Neptune, N.J.	
Ori Adrabi, Bucknell	Jr.	M	West Hills, Calif.	
Chris Napolitano, Holy Cross	Sr.	M	North Scituate, R.I.	1st in '02; 2nd in '01
Michael Lookingland, Bucknell	Jr.	D	Fallston, Md.	2nd in '02
Tom Wajda, Lafayette	Sr.	D	East Greenbush, N.Y.	1st in '02
Doug Cusick, Lehigh	Sr.	D	Marlton, N.J.	2nd in '02; 1st in '01; ROY & 2nd in '00
Adam Edwards, Bucknell	So.	GK	Downingtown, Pa.	2nd & ROY in '02

SECOND TEAM

<u>Name. School</u>	<u>Yr.</u>	<u>Pos.</u>	<u>Hometown</u>	<u>Previous PL Honors</u>
Lloyd Osafo, Army	Jr.	F	Franklin Lakes, N.J.	2nd in '02; 2nd in '01
Eric Brunton, Bucknell	So.	F	McLean, Va.	
Josh Trott, Holy Cross	Fr.	M	Glen Cove, N.Y.	
Reed Grimes, Colgate	Jr.	M	Lexington, Ky.	
Jon Gelman, Colgate	Sr.	M	Eastchester, N.Y.	
Matt Battiste, Lafayette	Sr.	M	Rexford, N.Y.	
Peter Classi, Lehigh	So.	M	Valley Stream, N.Y.	
Brian King, Bucknell	Sr.	D	Medford, N.J.	
Wes Roach, Lehigh	Sr.	D	Marlton, N.J.	
Danny Urbanczyk, Navy	Sr.	D	Washington, D.C.	
Sam Bishop, Lehigh	Jr.	GK	Moorestown, N.J.	

OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR:

Scott Visnic, Bucknell, sophomore, forward

DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR:

Michael Lookingland, Bucknell, junior, defense

FRESHMAN OF THE YEAR:

Josh Trott, Holy Cross, freshman, forward

COACH OF THE YEAR:

Brendan Nash, Bucknell (2nd time, also in 2000)