

# BUCKNELL BISON ATHLETICS:

## Setting the Standard of Excellence



A major element in ensuring Bucknell's commitment to athletics excellence is the Kenneth G. Langone Athletics & Recreation Center, which opened fully in 2003. One of the finest collegiate athletics facilities of its kind, the center includes the 4,000-seat Sojka Pavilion, the Olympic class Kinney Natatorium, the Krebs Family Fitness Center and the Berger Family Weight Room. A new Hall of Fame area, a display of Bucknell's Medal of Honor recipients, a sports medicine suite, modern offices for coaches and staff, and new locker room and classroom space are also included in the facility's layout.

### *The Kenneth G. Langone Athletics & Recreation Center*

Bucknell in 2003-04 captured the Patriot League Presidents' Cup, signifying the league's all-sports champion, for the 11th time in the 14-year history of the affiliation. On the strength of PL championships in women's swimming & diving and women's indoor and outdoor track & field, Bucknell captured the Cup for a record seventh-straight year. In addition the Bison also swept the men's and women's all-sports trophies for the fourth time.



### *Bucknell wins 11th Patriot League Presidents' Cup*

BUCKNELL RANKS **THIRD** IN THE NATION (TO NEBRASKA AND NOTRE DAME) IN TOTAL NUMBER OF VERIZON ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICA SELECTIONS. A TOTAL OF **107** BISON STUDENT ATHLETES HAVE RECEIVED NATIONAL ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICA RECOGNITION SINCE 1970.

## *Bucknell Student-Athletes Among Nation's Best*

Bucknell takes great pride in its commitment to excellence on and off the playing fields. From Presidents' Cups to Academic All-Americans to graduation rates that are ranked annually the national top-10, Bucknell is clearly at the head of the class when it comes to upholding the scholar-athlete model.

- Bucknell LED THE NATION in graduation rates in the 2003 survey conducted by the NCAA and the U.S. Department of Education. Bucknell graduated 100% of the student-athletes who entered school in 1996. It is the third time Bucknell has led the nation in graduation rates.

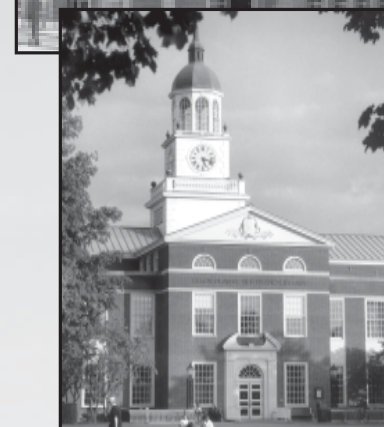
- Bucknell has claimed 94 Patriot League Scholar-Athletes of the Year through the spring 2004 season. No other school has produced more than 40.

- Bucknell student-athletes comprised nearly **one-fourth** of the Patriot League Academic Honor Roll in 2003-04. A total of 313 Bison recorded a GPA of 3.2 or better during their sport's competition season. Among all BU student-athletes, 219 made the Dean's List with GPAs of 3.5 or better in the spring of 2004.

- Twenty-three of Bucknell's 26 varsity squads posted team GPAs of 3.0 or better.

- In addition to the 107 Verizon Academic All-Americans produced since 1970, Bucknell has also claimed 204 Academic All-District honorees over the same span.

- With three more Patriot League championships in 2003-04, Bucknell has now earned 46 crowns in 14 years in the league. In addition, Bucknell has had 61 conference players of the year, 60 PL coaches of the year and a whopping 364 individual league champions from sports such as cross country, track & field, swimming & diving, tennis and golf.





## 2004 CREW ROSTER

## VARSITY

Name	Cl.	Hometown/High School
Meredith Cutting	So.	Lansing, N.Y./Lansing
Allison DeKnight	So.	Chevy Chase, Md./Bethesda Chevy Chase
Julie Engel	Sr.	Niskayuna, N.Y./Niskayuna
Lauren Ewald	Jr.	West Chester, Pa./Bishop Shanahan
Allison Gasbarra	Jr.	Evanston, Ill./Evanston Township
Jill Harrington	Sr.	Niskayuna, N.Y./Niskayuna
Kyra Harris	Jr.	Norwich, Vt./Hanover
Mary Kellam	Fr.	Freeland, Md./Hareford
Lisa Kim	So.	Ramsey, N.J./Northern Highlands Regional
Courtney Luzzi	So.	New Providence, N.J./New Providence
Elizabeth Marut	Jr.	Langhorne, Pa./Neshaminy
Rebecca Newman	Sr.	Hope Valley, R.I./Chariho Regional
Vi Ngo	Sr.	Erie, Pa./McDowell
Jessica Noonan	Fr.	Orchard Park, N.Y./Orchard Park
Lauren Olsen	Fr.	Redmond, Wash./Lakeside School
Jennifer Prunoske	Jr.	Hornell, N.Y./Hornell
Amanda Roof	So.	Harriston City, Pa./Penn-Trafford
Kara Schroeffer	Jr.	Bakersfield, Calif./North
Caitlin Scudder	So.	Trumbull, Conn./Trumbull
Rachel Trusheim	Jr.	West Milford, N.J./West Milford
Joan Wendler	Sr.	Burlington, N.J./Burlington Township
Ashley White	So.	Pottsville, Pa./Pottsville Area
Alexis Will	So.	Sitka, Alaska/Sitka
Teal Zeisler	So.	Coatesville, Pa./Coatesville

## NOVICE

Name	Cl.	Hometown/High School
Megan Chapin	Fr.	Hingham, Mass./Hingham
Christine Drasba	So.	Lake Grove, N.Y./Sachem
Caitlin Feigenbaum	Fr.	Norwalk, Conn./King & Low-Heywood Thomas
Jenna Goldstein	Fr.	Greenwich, Conn./Ramapo
Rachel Goldstein	Fr.	Pomona, N.Y./Greewich
Meredith Henry	Fr.	Milford, Pa./Delaware Valley
Ashley Kalinske	Fr.	Atherton, Calif./Castilleja School
Julia Keyser	Fr.	Little Falls, N.Y./Little Falls
Rebecca Michaud	Fr.	Nutley, N.J./Nutley
Danielle Monteverde	Fr.	Riegelsville, Pa./Easton
Marianne Prabhu	Fr.	Staten Island, N.Y./St. Joseph Hill Academy
Laura Roberts	Fr.	Canonsburg, Pa./Peters Township
Susan Shadle	Fr.	Bethlehem, Pa./Freedom
Tabitha Smith	Fr.	Lebanon, Pa./Cedar Crest
Kathryn Wood	Fr.	Berea, Ohio/Berea

## GETTING TO BUCKNELL

Bucknell is within a 3-4 hour drive of several major cities, including New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Pittsburgh. Airports are located in Williamsport, 25 miles north of Lewisburg, and in Harrisburg, 65 miles south. The Susquehanna Trailways bus line serves the area.

Bucknell is located on U.S. Route 15, about seven miles south of Interstate 80.

**From the New York metropolitan area**-simply take I-80 West to U.S. Route 15 and follow the directions above.

**From Philadelphia**-Take the Northeast Extension of the Pennsylvania Turnpike north to I-80; then I-80 West to U.S. Route 15.

**From Pittsburgh**-Take U.S. Route 22 East to PA Route 45 East. PA Route 45 intersects with U.S. Route 15 in Lewisburg. Take Route 15 South, and turn left at the next light to enter campus.

**From Baltimore**-Take I-83 North and pick up Route 15 North just south of Harrisburg. Bucknell is located approximately 60 miles north of Harrisburg.

**From Connecticut**-Take I-84 East into Pennsylvania, then pick up I-81 South near Scranton. Follow I-81 South to I-80 West, and take I-80 West to U.S. Route 15 South.

## QUICK FACTS

## University Information

**Location:** Lewisburg, Pennsylvania, 17837  
**Founded:** 1846 as the University at Lewisburg  
**Enrollment:** 3,350  
**Nickname:** Bison  
**Colors:** Orange and Blue  
**Affiliation:** NCAA (Div. I), ECAC  
**Conference:** Patriot League (American, Army, Bucknell, Colgate, Holy Cross, Lafayette, Lehigh and Navy)  
**President:** Brian C. Mitchell  
**Director of Athletics:** John P. Hardt  
**Associate Athletic Director:** Tim Pavlechko  
**Senior Women's Administrator:** Amanda Backus  
**Dir. of Athletic Communications:** Jon Terry  
**Crew Contact:** Todd Merriett  
**Phone:** (570) 577-3488  
**Email:** tmerriet@bucknell.edu  
**Head Athletic Trainer:** Mark Keppler

## Crew Information

**Head Coach:** Stephen Kish  
**Alma Mater:** Bucknell '92  
**Assistant Coach:** Katie Davis  
**Volunteer Coach:** Michael Brooks-Williams '04  
**Student Manager:** Elena Keates '05  
**Crew Phone:** (570) 577-1770  
**Crew Address:** Stephen Kish, Athletic Department, Bucknell University, Lewisburg, PA 17837  
**Crew E-mail Address:** kish@bucknell.edu  
**Athletic Department FAX Phone:** (570) 577-1660  
**Web Page:** www.BucknellBison.com

## Application Information

**Admissions Phone:** (570) 577-1101  
**Application Deadline:** Regular Decision — January 1, 2005; Early Decision I — November 15, 2004; Early Decision II — January 1, 2005; Financial Aid — Nov. 15 (ED)/Jan. 1 (Reg)



The squad practices in Miami, Fla., on a winter training trip.

**Credits:** This book was written and edited by Bucknell's Office of Athletic Communications. Photography by Stephen Kish, Katie Davis and Art Foxall. Printing by Harmony Press, Inc., Easton, Pa.



# ABOUT BUCKNELL UNIVERSITY

NUMBER ONE NATIONALLY IN GRADUATION RATES

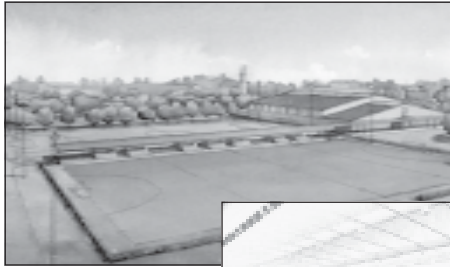


146 PATRIOT LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Bucknell University, ranked among the top national liberal arts colleges in the nation, is a privately owned, co-educational institution with an undergraduate enrollment of approximately 3,350 students and a faculty of some 270 teachers, of which over 97 percent hold doctoral degrees.

The 100th college chartered in the United States, Bucknell was founded by Philadelphia Baptists in 1846 as the University at Lewisburg. The first class of seven men graduated in 1851 with the first woman receiving her degree in 1885. In 1886, the institution was renamed Bucknell University in honor of William Bucknell, a former trustee and benefactor.

A comprehensive university, Bucknell allows students to choose from many academic options, including 52 majors and 72 minors. In learning from



and collaborating with experienced faculty, students will have access to state-of-the-art resources within the library, laboratory, computer center, multi-media room, and recreational facility.

Enrolling at Bucknell allows one to acquire global connections through the International Focus Semester Program, Semester of Studying Abroad Program, and interaction with students and faculty from various countries and continents. Through the University's commitment to diversity, students of all ethnic, racial, geographical, intellectual, and political backgrounds converge on one campus to foster a community of acceptance and exploration in diversity. As a member of the Bucknell and Lewisburg communities, students are able to find their own niche while learning the importance of values.

The University's physical plant, located on a 400-acre campus overlooking the Susquehanna River, includes more than 80 buildings. Recent additions include a \$1 million computer center constructed as a wing of Dana Engineering Building; an \$8.2 million addition to the Ellen Clarke Bertrand Library; the \$9.7 million Weis Performing Arts Center; and the \$10.9 million Robert L. Rooke Chemistry Building and adjoining biology building.

In addition, construction of the Sigfried Weis Music Building was completed in the summer of 2001 in time for its doors to open for the fall semester. The new \$7 million music instruction building was one facet of *The Bucknell Campaign*, the most ambitious in Bucknell's 154-year history. A new residence hall facility opened in 2001 and houses 300 students within "neighborhoods" — a contemporary design intended to promote a sense of community.

And finally, the sparkling Kenneth G. Langone Athletics and Recreation Center opened in 2003, providing a state-of-the-art facility for varsity athletes and students, staff and faculty alike.

Bucknell is easily accessible, located on U.S. Route 15 approximately 60 miles north of Harrisburg and 25 miles south of Williamsport. The campus is seven miles south of Interstate 80 on Route 15.



## THE KENNETH G. LANGONE ATHLETICS & RECREATION CENTER

The Bucknell University Department of Athletics and Recreation prides itself on setting the standard of excellence when it comes to success both on the playing fields and in the classroom. With 11 Patriot League Presidents' Cups in 14 years, annual top-10 national rankings in graduation rates, 107 Verizon Academic All-Americans in 32 years and 92 Patriot League Scholar-Athletes in 14 years, Bucknell is clearly at the head of the class in terms of upholding the scholar-athlete model.

The addition of the Kenneth G. Langone Athletics and Recreation Center, one of the finest collegiate athletics and recreation facilities of its kind in the nation, will help ensure the continuation of that success.

The facility enhances each of Bucknell's 26 varsity athletics programs and greatly expands the scope of its growing intramural and recreational sports offerings. A visually appealing structure located along Moore Avenue on the "downhill" side of campus, the Langone Athletics and Recreation Center was designed to reach out to all members of the campus community, including the student body, varsity student-athletes, faculty, staff and alumni.

Three primary venues lie within the facility: the Arthur D. Kinney Jr. Natatorium, the 4,000-seat Gary A. Sojka Pavilion and the Krebs Family Fitness Center, which includes the Berger Family Weight Room. Other features include a new location for the Bucknell Athletics Hall of Fame, a display of Bucknell's Congressional Medal of Honor recipients, a sports medicine and athletic training suite, classrooms, modern offices for coaches and staff and increased locker room space for varsity and recreational athletes.

The building was formally dedicated on Apr. 25, 2003, in honor of noted entrepreneur and philanthropist Ken Langone, a 1957 Bucknell graduate who, along with his wife Elaine, pledged \$11 million toward the center's construction. Langone was a member of the university Board of Trustees from 1980 to 1996.

One of the special qualities of the Langone Athletics and Recreation Center is the manner in which it supplements the pre-existing facilities. The brand new construction surrounds Gerhard Fieldhouse and historic Davis Gymnasium, which has been restored as a competition venue for the Bison volleyball team, as well as intramural, recreation and other varsity practice activities.

## MAJOR FIELDS OF STUDY

**ARTS & SCIENCES DEPARTMENTS:** Accounting, Animal Behavior, Anthropology, Art, Biology, Business Administration, Cell Biology & Biochemistry, Chemistry, Classics, Comparative Western Humanities, East Asian Studies (Chinese, Japanese), Economics, Education (Early Childhood Development, Elementary, Secondary, and Educational Research), English, Environmental Studies, French, Geography, Geology, German, History, International Relations, Latin American Studies, Mathematics, Music (Music Education, Music History, Music Theory & Composition, Performance), Philosophy, Physics, Political Science, Psychology, Religion, Russian, Sociology, Theater, and Women's Studies. **ENGINEERING DEPARTMENTS:** Chemical, Civil & Environmental, Computer Science, Electrical, and Mechanical.

WWW.BUCKNELLBISON.COM





## LIFE AFTER BUCKNELL

According to a Bucknell Career Development Center survey of the Class of 2003, six months after graduating, 94% of the respondents were either employed or admitted to graduate and/or professional schools. Of the 847 graduates, 811 (96%) responded to a survey administered by the Career Development Center. Among those responding, 65% were employed, 24% were pursuing graduate studies, 4% were working while attending school and 6% were still seeking employment.

Of those attending graduate school, 21% are in law school, 24% are pursuing degrees in social sciences and the humanities, 9% are pursuing advanced degrees in education, and 10% are pursuing advanced degrees in engineering.

*U.S. News and World Report* noted in 1988 that Bucknell ranked among the top 10 private liberal arts colleges in the number of alumni who had received doctorate degrees in the most recent decade surveyed.

The mean salary for the 2003 graduates responding to the survey was \$38,914 and was highest for engineers. The median salary for a graduate with a bachelor of science degree in engineering was \$47,072, and the median salary for a graduate with a bachelor of science degree in business administration was \$39,332. Graduates from the College of Arts and Sciences had a median salary of \$36,549.

Most 2002 graduates (76%) were employed in the Northeast, with Pennsylvania (26%), New Jersey (11%), New York City (11%), and Washington, D.C. (4%) leading the way.

### Leaders on the Field and in the Classroom

Two-hundred and nineteen Bucknell University student-athletes earned Dean's List honors for the 2004 spring semester. Students must earn at least a 3.50 grade point average for selection to the Dean's List. After placing 14 student-athletes on the fall honor roll, women's crew accounted for 14 more during the spring semester:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>YR.</u>	<u>MAJOR(s)</u>
Alexis Will	'06	Environmental Studies
Caitlin Scudder	'06	Elementary Education
Joan Wendler	'04	Economics
<b>Rachel Trusheim</b>	<b>'05</b>	<b>English</b>
<b>Julie Engel</b>	<b>'04</b>	<b>Mechanical Engineering</b>
<b>Jill Harrington</b>	<b>'04</b>	<b>Biology</b>
Susan Shadle	'07	Biology
<b>Laura Roberts</b>	<b>'07</b>	<b>Mechanical Engineering</b>
Vi Ngo	'07	Biology
Elizabeth Marut	'05	Geography
Meredith Cutting	'06	Secondary Education
Meredith Henry	'07	Undecided
Lauren Ewald	'05	Economics
Rebecca Newman	'04	Management

Students earning a 4.0 GPA in **bold**

## Faculty Join Coaching Ranks Bucknell's Unique Sideline Coaching Program

One of the special programs that Bucknell offers in order to enhance the student-athlete's overall experience at the university is the Sideline Coaches Program. The program is a truly unique initiative in Division I college athletics, and it includes the invitation of a member of the faculty, administration, staff or community by one of the 26 varsity teams.

The participant has the opportunity to discuss the overall program with the respective coaching staff, including practice preparation and strategy for the upcoming contest. The sideline coach will attend a practice session where he/she will be introduced to the team and gain a truly unique insight into the relationships that exist between player-coach and player-player. In addition, the practice session allows the

### *Did You Know?*

- \* Half of the classes at Bucknell have 16 students or fewer.
- \* All classes are taught by professors, not graduate assistants.
- \* Student-Faculty ratio is 12-to-1.
- \* Bucknell's retention rate is 95%.

participant to learn coaching techniques, strategy, terminology and the athletes' true enthusiasm for the sport.

The participant will then attend the actual intercollegiate contest itself and be a part of the total event from pre-contest to post-contest, through timeout discussions and half-time teaching-learning methodology.

The purpose of the Sideline Coaches Program is to foster a better understanding by the faculty and administration of the roles played by coaches and athletes in the university's competitive intercollegiate athletic arena.

## Student-Athlete Advisory Committee

"The mission of the NCAA Student-Athlete Advisory Committee is to enhance total student-athlete experience by promoting opportunity, protecting student-athlete welfare, and fostering a positive student-athlete image."

The SAAC provides insight on the student-athlete experience and to offer input on the rules, regulations, and policies that affect student-athletes' lives on NCAA member institution campuses.

The SAAC has been involved in various projects including: visits to local elementary schools, hospitals, and housing authorities; promotion of B.A.A.D. (Bucknell Athletes Against Drugs and Alcohol); and helping to hire a part-time trainer for the Athletic Training Office.





## Bucknell Captures 11th Patriot League Presidents' Cup in 14 Years!



The Presidents' Cup was created in 1991 to signify overall excellence in the 22 sports sponsored by the Patriot League, and Bucknell has captured the trophy 11 out of the 14 years it's been in existence. In 2004, the Bison won the Cup for an unprecedented seventh straight year, continuing their league record.

The Presidents' Cup is awarded annually to the institution which accumulates the highest point total over the entire academic year, with points awarded on the basis of finish in the standings of each of the 22 Patriot League sports.

In addition to winning the Presidents' Cup for a record-setting 11th time, Bucknell also secured its seventh consecutive and tenth overall Women's Championship. Bucknell has won the women's side of the Presidents' Cup in 1993, 1995, 1996, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003 and 2004. In 2004, the women won the trophy on the strength of Patriot League championships in swimming and diving, indoor track & field and outdoor track & field, while 2003 featured titles in swimming and diving and indoor track & field. In 1999 and 2000, the Bison managed to beat Colgate by a mere half point; in 1998, Bucknell women defeated Colgate by four points; in 1996, the Bison women defeated Colgate by two points en route to their third women's trophy. The 1995 finish saw Bucknell edge Army by a half point to capture the women's championship, and in 1993 the Bison women won by a staggering ten points.

Their male counterparts captured the men's trophy for the fifth time in 2004 when they shared the award with Navy led by a regular-season soccer championship. The Bison men in 2003 were led by championships in baseball and lacrosse, using the big spring to pull away from Army by just 1.75 points. Bucknell captured its first men's championship in 1991, shared the title with Lehigh in 1999, and won it outright in 2001.

### PRESIDENTS' CUP RESULTS

<u>Year</u>	<u>Overall</u>	<u>Men's</u>	<u>Women's</u>
1990-91	<b>Bucknell</b>	<b>Bucknell</b>	Lafayette
1991-92	<b>Bucknell</b>	Lehigh	Lafayette
1992-93	<b>Bucknell</b>	Army	<b>Bucknell</b>
1993-94	Army*	Army	Army
1994-95	Army#	Army	<b>Bucknell</b>
1995-96	<b>Bucknell</b>	Army	<b>Bucknell</b>
1996-97	Army#	Army	Colgate
1997-98	<b>Bucknell</b>	Army	<b>Bucknell</b>
1998-99	<b>Bucknell</b>	<b>Bucknell</b> & Lehigh	<b>Bucknell</b>
1999-00	<b>Bucknell</b>	Army#	<b>Bucknell</b>
2000-01	<b>Bucknell</b>	<b>Bucknell</b>	<b>Bucknell</b>
2001-02	<b>Bucknell</b>	Army#	<b>Bucknell</b>
2002-03	<b>Bucknell</b>	<b>Bucknell</b>	<b>Bucknell</b>
2003-04	<b>Bucknell</b>	<b>Bucknell</b> & Navy	<b>Bucknell</b>

\* Bucknell finished third  
# Bucknell finished second

The Patriot League is proud of its mission of promoting opportunities for "Today's Scholar-Athletes, Tomorrow's Leaders." The League led NCAA Division I conferences in graduation rates for the fifth-straight year in 2003.



Patriot League graduates consistently excel as professionals in their chosen fields and are contributors to the betterment of society.

Patriot League teams and scholar-athletes are also achieving triumphs and accolades on the intercollegiate fields of competition:

Consider some recent team successes:

- Two PL teams advanced to their respective NCAA Championship game in 2003-04 (Colgate football and Navy men's lacrosse);
  - The Patriot League advanced three teams to an NCAA Championship Tournament twice in the last two years (2002 men's soccer and 2004 men's lacrosse);
  - The Patriot League has advanced a team to the quarterfinal round of the NCAA Division I-AA Football Championship five of the last six years, including three wins each by Colgate and Lehigh.
- Individual achievements have been similarly impressive:
- Colgate junior Jamaal Branch won the 2003 Walter Payton Award as the outstanding Division I-AA football player;
  - Three-time PL Volleyball Player of the Year Karla Kucerkova of American won her second-straight CoSIDA Academic All-American of the Year award in 2003;
  - Bucknell's Molly Creamer was a first-round draft pick, No. 10 overall, by the New York Liberty in the 2003 WNBA draft. She was one of a handful of former PL standouts playing professional basketball overseas in 2003-04;
  - Navy's Richie Meade was named the national Coach of the Year in men's lacrosse;
  - Kevin Miller of Bucknell and Drew Bigna of Holy Cross were selected in the 2004 Major League Baseball June free-agent draft. It marks the sixth-straight year at least one Patriot League player was picked.
  - A handful of men's soccer and men's lacrosse players also were drafted or began professional playing careers this year.

The Patriot League's athletic success is achieved while remaining committed to its founding principle that student-athletes are academically representative of their class. Participation in athletics at league institutions is viewed as an important component of a well-rounded education.

The origins of Patriot League excellence date back to 1986 with the inception of a successful Division I-AA football conference. In 1990, the Patriot League expanded to an all-sports conference, now featuring 23 championship sports.

Full League members include American, Army, Bucknell, Colgate, Holy Cross, Lafayette, Lehigh and Navy. Associate members include Fordham and Georgetown for football and Villanova in women's lacrosse.

These member institutions are among the oldest and most prestigious in the nation. Alumni from Patriot League institutions have played a leadership role in the shaping of our country.

"The Patriot League — Today's Scholar-Athletes, Tomorrow's Leaders" is still the League's primary vision. However, the League is demonstrating annually that our student-athletes really can play.

### WOMEN'S CREW TO JOIN PATRIOT LEAGUE IN 2004-05

The Patriot League announced women's crew will become its 23rd championship sport in 2005. Lake Quinsigimond in Worcester, Mass., near the campus of the College of the Holy Cross, will serve as the host site each spring. Bucknell, Colgate, Holy Cross, Lehigh and Navy are expected to compete in the first championship race on April 24, 2005.

"It is special for Bucknell's rowers to have the opportunity to contribute in the President's Cup standings," said Bucknell head coach Stephen Kish. "The women on the team have been looking forward to and anticipating this change for a long time and are excited it is finalized. The venue in Worcester is an excellent site and it will be fun competing there with a Patriot League title at stake."



### HISTORY OF BUCKNELL CREW

The Bucknell University crew program was firmly established in the 1980's, yet BU's crew history dates to 1873 when the first crew club was founded by David Jane Hill. Hill would later become the University's president. The first venture in rowing was unsuccessful as the team was forced to dissolve after two years because of the conditions of the Susquehanna River near Bucknell. Revived by Randy Leavitt '85 in 1982, the Bucknell crew program found a suitable spot for rowing down the river from campus, near Sunbury. The opportunity to row in this area was due to the support of the Skotedis family, owners of Tedd's Landing Restaurant. Not only did the Skotedis family allow the program to use its waterfront property, John Skotedis became the head coach of the program in 1986.

Led by Skotedis, men's and women's crew began as a club program and developed into a competitive and successful varsity team. During Skotedis' tenure at Bucknell, the program competed at the San Diego Crew Classic for the first time and produced the first U.S. Olympian in the school's history. Cindy Ryan '88 made the 1992 U.S. Olympic Team one year after winning a gold medal at the 1991 Pan-Am Games. Finally, and most importantly, Skotedis led the men's and women's programs in their successful quest for varsity status in 1990.

Jimmy King '90 became the program's first full-time rowing coach in 1992. During his four-year tenure, the women's crew won their first national-level medal, a bronze at the 1995 Champion Regatta, now known as the ECAC Championship Regatta. King also led the men's lightweight eight to its first gold medal at the same regatta.

In 1996, Stephen Kish '92 took over the reigns and the program has continued to grow and prosper. Over the last five years, the women's crew program has enjoyed unprecedented success. The Bison won their first medals at the Dad Vail Regatta in 2000 and have not stopped. Since 2000, eight of Bucknell's 11 varsity entries have won medals (three golds, four silvers, one bronze). In 2000, the women's varsity four traveled to the Henley Women's Regatta and placed second while the women's lightweight eight reached the semifinal in the openweight division in 2004.

The program has continued to grow in other areas as well. Bucknell's first-ever boathouse was completed in 1998. The inventory of equipment has been completely updated and doubled in the past five years. Additionally, all varsity student-athletes are now provided with an abundance of rowing specific practice gear.

Bucknell has also become a yearly racing destination for numerous east coast crews in both the fall and spring. On land, Bucknell is in its ninth year of hosting the Bucknell Erg Armageddon indoor rowing championships, attended by more than 300 rowers from the Mid-Atlantic region every winter.

### BUCKNELL BOATHOUSE

Our crews row out of the Bucknell boathouse, which was established in 1998. Located on the scenic Susquehanna River, it is less than 10 minutes from campus on the junction of routes 11&15. The Susquehanna is the longest unnavigable river in the country, which means there are no barges or shipping traffic for the team to contend with. The lack of commercial development along the shores provides athletes with a beautiful rowing venue, and the largest inflatable dam in North America, located downstream from the boathouse, allows for many miles of rowable water upstream.

### TRADITION OF GREATNESS

**Cindy Ryder Matthes '88** joined the crew team as a sophomore walk-on, after competing on the cross-country team her freshman year. She continued to row competitively following graduation, switching from sweep to scull to row in smaller club boats. In 1991 Cindy won the US Trials and the Pan-Am games in her single, and in 1992, she switched her energies to the double and became the first Bucknellian ever to represent the United States at the Olympics.

**Sara Den Besten '96** used her successful rowing career at Bucknell to launch herself onto the international rowing scene. After graduation, Sara earned a seat in the lightweight four, and went on to win US Nationals. For the next two years, she stroked the women's lightweight eight and quad to the gold at Nationals, and in 1998, she extended her season to earn a silver at the World Championships. Refusing to be bested, she returned in the quad the following year for the gold, and became a World Champion. Sara is the first Bucknell graduate ever to win a medal (let alone two) at the World Championships.

**Sara Bloom '97** was a Top-10 finalist for the prestigious NCAA National Woman of the Year Award. A two-time team captain and three-time USRowing Academic All-American, Bloom was nominated to represent the state of Pennsylvania for her excellence in academics, athletics, and community leadership. Bloom was the first-ever rower to make it to the pool of 10 for the national award, and the second Bucknellian. She graduated from Bucknell with 3.7 GPA in Biology and went on that summer to win gold medals at both the American Rowing Championships and the Royal Canadian Henley. She attended Tufts University Medical School and is now a medical resident at Georgetown Medical School.



*Sara Bloom with ESPN Commentators Ann Meyers and Robin Roberts at the 1997 NCAA National Woman of the Year Award Presentation*

