



SEPTEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER



WELCOME TO THE SEPTEMBER EDITION!

Thank you for being part of the Bonnie's family and for your generous support of the Bonnie's Athletic Fund (BAF). The new year is already off and running, and your commitment is fueling exciting new opportunities for our student-athletes. From the first practices of the season to the energy on campus as classes begin, it's clear that Bona Nation is ready for another year of excellence—on the field, in the classroom, and in the community. Here's what's happening across Bona Nation this month:





A STRONG START TO THE YEAR

The new academic and athletic year is underway, and thanks to your continued support, the Bonnies Athletic Fund is off to a strong start. Your generosity is already making an impact with over \$150,000 raised. This will fuel training, facility improvements, and team travel as our student-athletes prepare for a competitive year ahead. Let's keep the momentum going—together, we're building something special!



HELP US REACH OUR GOALS!

We still have a long way to go to reach our \$1.3 million goal this year! Help us continue with our strong start.

 **Goal for September: Reach \$200,000**





COACH'S CORNER: **PATRICK DAMORE, NEW** **DIRECTOR OF GOLF**

The PGA Director of Instruction at Cable Hollow Golf Club in Warren, Pa. since 2022, he has also operated his own golf instruction business for the past eight years, reaching over 1.5 million views on his instruction YouTube page. Prior to his current role at Cable Hollow, he also previously served as head pro at Conewango Valley Country Club in Warren for nine years while also acting as the PGA Director of Instruction at Lakewood (N.Y.) Golf Center from 2017-22.

A decorated player in his own right, Damore has captured 14 pro individual titles. A native of Erie, he played collegiately at UNC Wilmington and has been a PGA professional member since 2004. He received the Titleist PGAPGM Level 1 Apprentice scholar award and the Titleist PGAPGM level 3 Apprentice Scholar award.



Peets Picked As Atlantic 10 Men's Cross Country Performer of the Week

Bonnies redshirt senior Clay Peets has captured Atlantic 10 Men's Cross Country Performer of the Week honors after a record-setting start to the fall season.

Peets won the Little Three Championship on campus at Bona's this past Saturday, dominating the race from start to finish. He ran his home course 5K layout in a time of 14:28.0, easily vaulting to the top of the program record books as he shattered his old record of 15:02.

He won Saturday's race by over 16 seconds.

For the Akron, Ohio native, it marks his second Little Three race victory as he also won the meet the last time he ran it back in 2023 at Buffalo's Delaware Park. Peets did not run during the cross country season last fall but now owns each of the program's distance records.

Peets adds to his career resume with his third A-10 Performer of the Week award and first since September 2023.

The Bonnies are back in action Saturday, Sept. 27 in the Lock Haven Invitational.

STUDENT-ATHLETES SPOTLIGHT:

MICHAEL BUCKO- MEN'S GOLF



- **What made you choose St. Bonaventure (or your school) and your sport?**

"I chose St. Bonaventure because it felt like home when I first took my recruiting visit. The atmosphere and the golf team showed me why I made the right choice. I chose golf because it was always fun to go out and play till it was dark without a care in the world and going out to play was always relaxing for me."

- **Who has been the biggest influence in your athletic career?**

"My family has been the biggest influence in my career with non-stop support and finding ways to help me better my skills. They always push me to be the best version of myself on and off the course."

- **What's your major and why did you choose it?**

"I chose Business Management because I wanted to learn how the operations of a business run and how I could input my own ideas to help a business thrive."

- **What do you hope to do after graduation?**

"After I graduate, I want to work in the golf industry by giving lessons because golf is the one thing I know the best, and I want to find ways to better other people's skills."

- **What's your pregame routine or superstition?**

"My biggest superstition is marking my golf ball the exact same way because if I have a good round, I want everything to go the same or even better in my next round."

- **What advice would you give to younger athletes?**

"Enjoy every moment in whatever sport you play, whether you win or lose, because you never know when your last game will be."

STUDENT-ATHLETES SPOTLIGHT:

SETH HAMMOND- MEN'S SOCCER



- **What made you choose St. Bonaventure (or your school) and your sport?**

“I chose soccer from a very young age as that was the sport that my dad was in love with, and that love got passed down to me. I chose to be a Bonnie because I cherished my relationship with Coach Mick and wanted to continue that. St. Bonaventure is also a step up in level and conference prestige and I wanted to challenge myself.”

- **Who has been the biggest influence in your athletic career?**

“My biggest influence in my athletic career has been my father. As said previously he instilled in me a love for soccer that I couldn’t have gotten anywhere else, and he always pushed and supported me to chase my goals. Honorable mention to my childhood best friend who made me the competitive person I am today. .”

- **What’s your major and why did you choose it?**

“I am getting my MBA and chose this because I wanted to get a degree in business as my bachelors was in health sciences.”

- **What do you hope to do after graduation?**

“After graduation if I cannot continue playing soccer I want to work in the accounting field and one day open my own business.”

- **What’s your pregame routine or superstition?**

“Pregame routine includes a long walk the night before and visualization of moments in the game starting several days before the match.”

- **What advice would you give to younger athletes?**

“My advice to younger athletes would be to not worry about things out of your control, and stop comparing yourself to people as comparison is the thief of joy.”



TWO NEW BAF INITIATIVES LAUNCHING!

VARSITY B CLUB

What is the Varsity B Club?

- A newly established alumni engagement and support group exclusively for former St. Bonaventure student-athletes.

Purpose:

- To foster lifelong connections among athletic alumni while strengthening support for current and future Bonnies student-athletes.

Membership Eligibility:

- Open to all former varsity student-athletes, team managers, and coaches of St. Bonaventure University.

Key Benefits:

- Exclusive Varsity B Club gear or welcome item
- Special recognition at select home games and events
- Invitations to Varsity B socials and alumni weekends
- Access to behind-the-scenes athletics updates and newsletters
- Networking opportunities with fellow athletic alumni

Why Join?

- Stay connected to your team, support the next generation of Bonnies, and continue the legacy of excellence in St. Bonaventure Athletics.

Support the Mission:

- Optional giving opportunities will be available to help enhance the student-athlete experience and support sport-specific needs.

BACK A BONNIE

What is Back a Bonnie?

- A giving initiative that allows donors to directly support the sport(s) or program(s) of their choice within St. Bonaventure Athletics.

Purpose:

- To enhance the student-athlete experience by providing targeted resources for team needs, scholarships, travel, equipment, and more.

How it Works:

- Donors choose the team(s) or area(s) they want to support.
- Contributions go directly to those programs.
- Funds can be made as one-time or recurring monthly gifts.

Support Levels:

- Different recognition levels (e.g., Brown & White Circle, Wolf Pack, etc.) with increasing benefits, like discounts, exclusive gear, and event access.

Impact:

- Every gift—large or small—makes a difference in helping Bonnies compete at their highest level in the classroom, in competition, and in the community.

Why Give?


- To stay connected, give back, and directly impact the success and development of SBU student-athletes.



STAY CONNECTED

Follow us on social media and be part of the action year-round:

 X / Facebook / Instagram:
@GoBonniesBAF OR @GoBonnies

 Questions or want to learn more?
Email Athletic Fund Coordinator CJ
Pierce at cjpierce@sbu.edu

Want to be featured in a future newsletter for our “Donor Spotlight”? Email CJ and share your story!



THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE BROWN AND WHITE!

Together, we are building champions in competition, in the classroom, and in the community. Let's keep the momentum going
— ***Go Bonnie's!***

