



# St. Francis College Athletics

Fall Sports Review 2009

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# INTRODUCTION

After a stellar 2008-2009 athletic season, the St. Francis College Athletics Departments goal is to have our teams excel athletically, and academically while displaying outstanding sportsmanship.

By doing so, our teams will continue to build upon our past success, which has played an important role in making St. Francis known beyond our community.





## Men's Water Polo

- The 2009 St. Francis College Men's Water Polo team has a new head coach in Igor Samardzija, but so far this season, the results have been the same.

- The Terriers are 10-3 overall this season and are ranked # 19 in the latest CWPA (Collegiate Water Polo Association) poll.

- The Terriers swept the season series with local rival Queens College this season, defeating the Knights 18-11 on September 17<sup>th</sup> and again on October 10<sup>th</sup> by the score of 22-8. This past weekend, the Terriers defeated Harvard 18-10.



## Men's Soccer

- The 2009 Men's Soccer team, off to an 11-4-3 season a year ago, have high expectations to compete for a Northeast Conference championship this season.

- The Terriers captured the inaugural Jay Sculley Memorial Tournament, hosted by the VMI Keydets the weekend of September 11<sup>th</sup>. St. Francis defeated VMI 2-0 and Liberty in the championship game 1-0

- The Terriers are currently 5<sup>th</sup> in the latest NSCAA North Atlantic region poll with a record of 7-5, 4-1 in the Northeast Conference. This currently places them in 3<sup>rd</sup> place.

- Jeverton De Lorenzi received the Northeast Conference Player of the Week award after a two goal, one assist performance this past weekend vs. St. Francis PA and Robert Morris.

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## Men's Cross Country

- The 2009 Men's Cross Country squad is enjoying a stellar fall season this year.

- The team has had 3 Top 10 finishes.

- Freshman Paul Gilhuley set a new St. Francis freshman record with a time of 25:52 at the Fairfield Invite in which he finished 9<sup>th</sup>. In doing so, he received the Road Runner Sports Northeast Conference Rookie of the week award. This weekend, he earned a Top 20 finish at the UAlbany Invite out of over 180 runners.

- His twin brother, Joseph, finished that race in 16<sup>th</sup> place, finishing with a time that would have been a record if his brother didn't set the mark first.

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Paul  
Gilhuley



Joseph  
Gilhuley

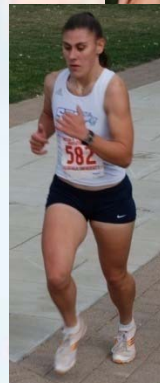


## Women's Cross Country

- The St. Francis College women's cross country team is competing with a new focus and determination to make a run for the Northeast Conference Championships, which will be held on October 31<sup>st</sup> in Hamden, Connecticut

- The Terriers have been putting up solid finishes. The best finish, so far this season was a 6<sup>th</sup> place finish at the Fairfield Invite.

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## Men's Golf

- Returning this season is sophomore David Smith (Chesapeake, VA/Hickory), who in his freshman year, finished a school best fourth in the FDU Invite last season. Seniors Alan Stuto and Charles McMenaman provide the senior leadership that this year's team will look for.

- Head Coach Jeff Clarke brought in Zachary Chyz, a native of Las Vegas, Nevada, who gives the Terriers a trio of young players that will be hungry and determined to re-shape the golf program. In high school, Chyz won the 2008 Regionals in Nevada, while his team was conference champions for the past four years.

- The Terriers best finish this fall came with an 11<sup>th</sup> place showing at the Mulekicker Fall Classic, hosted by Army on September 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>.

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## Women's Golf

- The St. Francis College women's golf team kicked off the 2009-2010 season with a 10<sup>th</sup> place finish at the ECAC Division Women's Championships that was held at the Kiskiack Golf Course in Williamsburg, Virginia.

- Head Coach Julio Campuzano has an experienced and much improved team this year, and his group of young ladies are determined and eager to compete for a Northeast Conference championship.

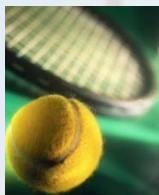


## Men's Tennis

- The St. Francis Men's Tennis team is in their fall season and are showing progress for their upcoming, grueling spring schedule.

- St. Francis has had back-to-back matchups in which they have rallied to tie the match against Hartford and Delaware State.

- The Terriers have two potential Northeast Conference Rookie of the Year candidates in Tita Mba and Alex Tokarz. Both have compiled a 1-1 record so far, and are looking to improve on their initial performance.



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Alex Tokarz



Tita Mba

## Women's Tennis

•Head Coach Christopher Mitchell and the Terriers remain positive. *"These are a great bunch of young ladies, who are focused and determined to compete at a high level."* Coach Mitchell offered.

•The nucleus of the team remains the same, with two seniors in **Colene Alexis** and **Ashley Del Orbe**. Juniors **Shimiere Douglas**, **Angle Lawrence**, **Shakaya Slay** and **Rene Warner** have the experience to see the development of the program succeed once the seniors have graduated. Sophomore **Arianna VanSluytman** has shown that she can take the reigns of the team in the number 1 position, but it will take a team effort to compete for a Northeast Conference crown, later in the year.

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## Women's Volleyball

- The St. Francis College women's volleyball team hosted the 2009 Terrier Invitational Tournament to kick off the season.

- With a 3-0 victory against Coppin State in the Providence Tournament on September 26<sup>th</sup>, the Terriers snapped a 41 game losing streak, that stretched from last season.

- Recently defeated Fairleigh Dickinson 3-2 at home on October 11<sup>th</sup>.

- Junior Liliana Rodriguez recorded her 1,000 career dig against the Quinnipiac Bobcats on October 9<sup>th</sup>, recording a match-high 30 digs in the process.

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## Spring Preview Men's Basketball

•Five newcomers are expected to make an immediate impact for the Terriers. 6'9" forward/center **Alexander Harrington** will give the Terriers another key piece up front, and could start in the middle alongside Ayeni and Perunicic. Harrington is regarded as an excellent rebounder and shot blocker who averaged 9.8 points, 8.3 rebounds, and 1.7 blocks at Brown Mackie Junior College last season.

•Local product **Akeem Johnson** will also compete for minutes up front. The 6'6" Johnson averaged 25.1 points and 11.4 rebounds per game as a senior at Susan S. McKinney High School.

•Chicago, Illinois native **Brandon Fisher** will be given every opportunity to claim the starting point guard role. Fisher poured in 1,040 points (127 treys) over the past two seasons at Los Angeles City College and was a First Team All State pick last year. The backcourt will also get a boost from versatile 6'3" combo guard **Akeem Bennett**. Bennett, a lefty, averaged 10.6 points, 5.1 rebounds, and 2.1 steals per game at Western Oklahoma State College. He brings a high level of toughness on both ends of the floor and is not afraid to take pressure shots.

•The schedule will see the Terriers play 13 home contests in Brooklyn Heights and an additional 16 tilts on the road. Home highlights include non-conference games against Brown (Nov. 13), Canisius (Nov. 21), Hartford (Dec. 8), and Lafayette (Dec. 22). St. Francis will travel to Boston College (Nov. 17), UMASS (Nov. 24), Colgate (Nov. 28), Syracuse (Dec. 13), Fairfield (Dec. 29) and Columbia (January 11).

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Akeem Bennett, Akeem Johnson,  
Alexander Harrington



Brandon Fisher and Ricky Williams



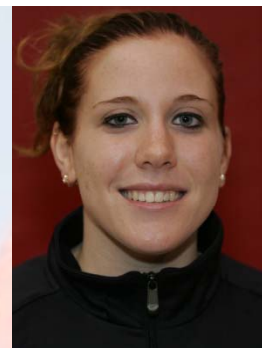
## Spring Preview Women's Basketball

•Seven newcomers are expected to make an instant impact on the Terriers' fortunes. Twin sisters Amber and Autumn Lau, as well as freshmen Stefanie Bingham and Kayla Williams, all come to St. Francis with impressive high school credentials and will provide much of the team's perimeter offense. Tiara Dunson is a transfer from Merced College, while Jacinda Williams practiced with the Terriers last season after transferring from the University of New Hampshire; these two will solidify the point guard position and key the team both offensively and defensively. The Terrier frontcourt will receive an immediate boost from newcomer Kim Snauwaert, who has played for the junior national team in her native Belgium before coming to Brooklyn Heights.

•Looking to the future, the Terriers will have two impact transfers sitting out this season in preparation for their debuts in 2010-2011. Guard Vitalija Vasciunaite is an instant offense shooting guard who comes to the Terriers from the University of Miami, while Ashley Wilcots is a dominant inside presence who joins the Terriers after spending two seasons at Hofstra University. Both will make significant contributions to the team in practice this season.

•The schedule includes a total of 15 home games and 14 on the road. In addition to the 18 Northeast Conference games (nine at home and nine away), the Terriers will welcome Hofstra University (Nov. 18), Fairfield University (Nov. 25), the U.S. Military Academy (Nov. 30), Colgate University (Dec. 12), Troy University (Dec. 22), and Columbia University (Jan. 11) to Peter Aquilone Court this season. The Terriers will travel for games against Manhattan College (Nov. 13), the University of Albany (Nov. 23), Stony Brook University (Dec. 6), Iona College (Dec. 28), and the University of Pennsylvania (Dec. 31).

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Amber Lau, Ashley Wilcots, Autumn Lau



Kayla Williams, Kim Snauwaert, Tiara Dunson



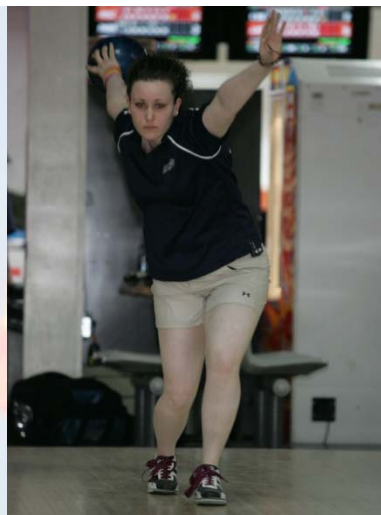
## Spring Preview Women's Bowling

- The St. Francis College women's bowling team were ranked 18<sup>th</sup> by the NTCA (National Tenpins Coaches Association) preseason poll, as it was released on Saturday, October 17<sup>th</sup>.

- Since their sophomore season, the women's bowling program has remained in the rankings of the Top 20 NCAA Women's Bowling teams in the country.

- Head Coach Dawn Gugliaro has a balanced mix of veterans and six newcomers that will make the Terriers a force in the Northeast Conference and add to their success on the lanes.

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## Spring Preview Men's & Women's Track & Field

- Head Coach Kyle Brown has both the men's and women's Track and Field squads working in preparation for an exciting indoor and outdoor season!
- Dean Brown (Men's High Jump), Matt Megerdichian (Men's Javelin), and Dominique Burrus (Women's Hurdles) are expected to defend their Northeast Conference individual championships.
- With many new athletes on the roster, St. Francis will look for the season veterans to take the new class under their wings and propel the Terriers towards their ultimate goal; a conference championship.

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## Spring Preview: Men's and Women's Swimming/Women's Water Polo

- The Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving team have a new, fresh outlook and are eager to begin their season with a revamped roster and new swimmers, the Terriers will be looking for a big splash in the pool this spring.

- Fresh off their first MAAC Tournament appearance, the St. Francis College women's water polo team will improve on last season's success. With a talent group of new comers, the team is expected to contend for the MAAC Championship.

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## Community Service

•The St. Francis (NY) women's basketball team helped celebrated entertainer Bette Midler open Brooklyn's redesigned Bedford-Stuyvesant Community Garden to the public on Thursday, September 17. The Terriers participated in the project for the past two years, clearing out the park and planting flowers.

•On Sunday, September 27<sup>th</sup>, the St. Francis College women's bowling team participated in the Firefighter Stephen Siller-Tunnel to Towers Run/Walk. The Terriers ran in honor of former FDNY Officer Lt. Dan O'Callaghan from Ladder 4 Engine 54, as well as those who gave their lives on that day.

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## Community Service

- On October 4<sup>th</sup>, St. Francis student-athletes, faculty, staff ran/walked in the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual, 5K Eileen Dugan Memorial Run or Walk that benefited the Circle of Hope Cancer Foundation.

- On October 10<sup>th</sup>, St. Francis women's volleyball took on Sacred Heart on "Dig Pink" Day. In collaboration with October being "Breast Cancer Awareness Month," members of the Student Advisory Athletic Board raised money to help find a cure for breast cancer.





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