



# THIEL SOFTBALL 2026 GAME NOTES

Thiel Sports Information | Beeghly Gymnasium | 75 College Ave. | Greenville, PA 16125  
Softball Contact: Abby Katrinak | akatrinak@thiel.edu | c: (440) 915-9424

## GAME LINKS



Watch



Live Stats

## SCHEDULE & RESULTS

Date	Opponent	Time / Result
<b>Fastpitch Dreams Spring Classic</b>		
3/8	Penn State Du Bois	W 11-3 (5 inn.)
3/8	Keystone	W 11-8 (5 inn.)
3/9	Hilbert	W 3-2
3/9	King's	L 3-1
3/11	Gwynedd Mercy	W 2-1
3/11	Cairn	W 15-7 (6 inn.)
3/12	Penn	L 5-0
3/12	Bridgewater State	L 5-3
3/13	Albion	L 5-4
3/13	Immaculata	L 11-3 (5 inn.)
3/20	at Kent State Tuscarawas	L 10-6
3/20	at Kent State Tuscarawas	W 12-4
3/23	at John Carroll	Postponed
3/23	at John Carroll	Postponed
3/25	at Franciscan *	L 5-3
3/25	at Franciscan *	W 8-4
3/26	GROVE CITY * ^	L 7-2
3/26	GROVE CITY * ^	Suspended
<b>3/28</b>	<b>GENEVA *</b>	<b>1 p.m.</b>
<b>3/28</b>	<b>GENEVA *</b>	<b>3 p.m.</b>
3/31	at Bethany *	3:30 p.m.
3/31	at Bethany *	5:30 p.m.
4/1	PENN STATE BEHREND	3 p.m.
4/1	PENN STATE BEHREND	5 p.m.
4/3	at Allegheny *	3 p.m.
4/3	at Allegheny *	5 p.m.
4/8	SAINT VINCENT *	3 p.m.
4/8	SAINT VINCENT *	5 p.m.
4/11	HIRAM * !	1 p.m.
4/11	HIRAM * !	3 p.m.
4/15	at Waynesburg *	3:30 p.m.
4/15	at Waynesburg *	5:30 p.m.
4/18	W&J * \$	1 p.m.
4/18	W&J * \$	3 p.m.
4/20	at Pitt Greensburg	3 p.m.
4/20	at Pitt Greensburg	5 p.m.
4/23	WESTMINSTER *	3 p.m.
4/23	WESTMINSTER *	5 p.m.
4/26	at Chatham *	1 p.m.
4/26	at Chatham *	3 p.m.

\* PAC Game | ALL CAPS - Home Game | ^ MyBella Game  
! Strikeout Cancer Game | \$ Senior Day



Thiel Athletics @ThielAthletics  
Softball @Thiel\_SB



Thiel Athletics @thielathletics  
Softball @thiel\_soft



Thiel Athletics /ThielAthletics



Thiel Athletics @ThielAthletics

## Thiel (7-8, 1-2 PAC) vs. Geneva (13-5, 2-2 PAC)

Saturday, March 28, 2026 | 1 p.m.

Softball Field at Tomcat Park | Greenville, Pa. | The Bella Project

### THIEL TOMCATS



<b>Record (PAC)</b>	7-8 (1-2)
<b>Last Game</b>	3rd inn. Suspended vs. GCC (3/26)
<b>Head Coach</b>	Michael Kernan
<b>Thiel Record</b>	7-8 (First Season)
<b>Overall Record</b>	Same

### GENEVA GOLDEN TORNADOES



<b>Record (PAC)</b>	13-5 (2-2)
<b>Last Game</b>	W 9-1 vs STV (3/25)
<b>Head Coach</b>	Van Zanich
<b>Grove City Record</b>	577-389 (24th Season)
<b>Overall Record</b>	Same

### SERIES HISTORY

<b>First Meeting</b>	1997	<b>Neutral</b>	1-1
<b>All-Time Series</b>	Geneva leads 28-21		
<b>Home</b>	10-10		
<b>Away</b>	Geneva leads 16-10		
<b>Last Meeting</b>	Geneva W 9-7 (4/19/97)		
<b>Current Streak</b>	Thiel L1		

### GAME NOTES

**GETTIN' BACK ON TRACK** -- Thiel opened up Presidents' athletic Conference (PAC) play at Franciscan where they split 1-1 ... The Tomcats hosted Grove City on March 26, where they dropped their first contest 7-2 and had to suspend the second in the third inning due to weather.

**SERIES SUMMARY** -- Thiel is 21-28 all time versus Geneva ... The Tomcats are 10-10 at home and 10-16 on the road in the series.

### LAST 15 IN SERIES RESULTS

DATE	H/A	W/L	SCORE
5/3/2025	N	L	6 - 10
5/1/2025	N	W	3 - 2
3/29/2025	A	W	8 - 2
3/29/2025	A	L	0 - 4
4/16/2024	H	L	3 - 7
4/16/2024	H	L	4 - 6
4/19/2023	A	W	4 - 2
4/19/2023	A	L	1 - 5
4/27/2022	A	L	3 - 11
4/27/2022	A	W	6 - 2
4/30/2021	H	(5 inn.)L	0 - 8
4/30/2021	H	(5 inn.)	L 0 - 8
3/27/2021	A	L	3 - 9
3/27/2021	A	(5 inn.)L	0 - 11
4/24/2019	H	W	2 - 0

**THE RAKE LEADER** -- Sophomore **Kayley Risser** leads the lead with a batting avg. of .442, slugging % of .767, and on base % of .520 ... Risser has hit one home run, four triples, three doubles, and has brought in 17 RBIs ... She has a good eye in the box as she has seven walks.

**TRIPLE THREAT** -- Senior **Kylie Heid** follows Risser with a .407 batting avg. and slugging % of .667 ... Heid has one home run, 10 doubles, three triples and 10 RBIs in the 2026 season.

**FEDDER THE FIREARM** -- On the mound, junior **Alaina Fedder** is 2-4 with an ERA of 3.92 and 18 strikeouts on the season ... In the batters box, Fedder has hit five doubles and has a BA of .333.

**MACK ATTACK** -- Senior **Mackenzie Herman** is a key aspect to both sides of the field ... She has 19 hits off 52 at bats (.373) and in the circle has a record of 3-0 and has an ERA of 4.32 with 13 strikeouts ... Herman recorded her second home run of the year in their win against Franciscan.

**FRESH IMPACT** -- Freshman **Lily Merolillo** has become important to the Thiel starting line up ... Merolillo has nine hits off 30 at bats, including one triple and a double ... On the mound, Lily has pitched the second most with 24.1 innings and has had six strikeouts.

**ON-BASE MACHINE** -- Sophomore **Sheila Despenes** leads the team in walks with eight and has an OB% of .410.

**G-FORCE** -- Sophomore **Ava Gilmore** has risen in the lineup and currently holds the third-best batting average on the team at .382 ... She recorded the first home run of her career at Franciscan and has also tallied one double, one triple, and seven RBIs.

**LOOKING AHEAD** -- Thiel will head to Bethany, W. Va. to take on the Bison on Tuesday, March 31 ... The double header will begin at 3:30 p.m.

## AROUND THE PAC

### PAC STANDINGS

TEAM	PAC	OVR	H	A	N
Grove City	3-0	11-2	2-0	3-0	6-2
Westminster	4-0	9-5	2-0	2-0	5-5
Hiram	4-0	5-9	2-0	2-0	5-9
Waynesburg	3-1	15-5	6-2	3-1	6-2
Bethany	2-2	12-3	0-2	3-0	9-1
<b>Geneva</b>	<b>2-2</b>	<b>13-5</b>	<b>4-2</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>9-3</b>
<b>Thiel</b>	<b>1-2</b>	<b>7-8</b>	<b>0-1</b>	<b>2-2</b>	<b>5-5</b>
W&J	1-3	5-9	1-1	0-2	4-6
Allegheny	1-3	4-10	1-3	0-0	3-7
Chatham	1-3	5-13	2-0	2-4	1-9
Franciscan	1-3	3-11	2-4	0-0	1-7
Saint Vincent	0-4	6-10	2-0	2-4	2-6

### PAC PRESEASON POLL

No.	TEAM	PTS (1ST PLACE)	2025
1.	Westminster	117 (9)	28-13 (14-6)
2.	Geneva	108 (2)	31-15 (13-7)
3.	Grove City	102	26-13 (15-5)
4.	Allegheny	93 (1)	23-16 (13-7)
5.	Waynesburg	70	23-16 (9-11)
6.	Bethany	69	26-13-1 (12-8)
7.	Hiram	58	21-17 (9-5)
8.	W&J	51	13-18 (8-12)
9.	Saint Vincent	43	21-17 (9-11)
<b>10.</b>	<b>Thiel</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>18-18 (10-10)</b>
11.	Chatham	28	14-26 (6-14)
12.	Franciscan	12	4-26 (1-19)

### THIEL VS. CURRENT PAC TEAMS

(As of 1991)

OPP	REC	GP	H	A
Allegheny	3-15	18	2-8	1-7
Bethany	13-65	78	8-25	4-39
Chatham	31-9	40	19-2	12-7
Franciscan	17-4	21	7-1	5-3
Geneva	21-28	49	10-10	10-16
Grove City	33-42	75	18-18	13-22
Hiram	14-10	24	8-4	6-6
Saint Vincent	12-29	41	5-11	6-18
W&J	26-50	76	13-27	11-22
Waynesburg	34-39	73	16-17	17-20
Westminster	14-59-1	64	6-24-1	6-30
<b>OVERALL</b>	<b>218-350</b>	<b>556</b>	<b>112-146</b>	<b>91-190</b>

## ROSTER

Num	Player	Yr.	Pos.	B/T	Ht.	Hometown / H.S.
1	Lily Merolillo	Fr.	P/UTIL	R/R	5-3	Mineral Ridge, Ohio / Mineral Ridge
2	Mahalia Campbell	So.	UTIL	R/R	5-2	Titusville, Pa. / Titusville Senior
6	Ava Gilmore	So.	OF/2B	R/R	5-4	West Middlesex, Pa. / West Middlesex Area
7	Alaina Fedder	Jr.	P/2B	R/R	5-2	Clearfield, Pa. / Clearfield Area
8	Julia Schimizzi	Fr.	OF/1B	L/L	5-4	Willowick, Ohio / Willoughby South
9	Makenna Oswalt	Sr.	OF/1B	R/R	5-9	Johnstown, Pa. / Westmont Hilltop
11	Kalina Moreno	Fr.	UTIL	R/R	5-1	San Antonio, Texas / Clark
12	Kayley Risser	So.	OF	R/R	5-8	Reynoldsville, Pa. / Dubois Central Catholic
13	Jensen Stehlik	Jr.	OF	L/L	5-5	Sagamore Hills, Ohio / Nordonia
14	Sheila Despenes	So.	UTIL	R/R	5-6	Townville, Pa. / Maplewood
15	Alayzha McCray	Jr.	3B	R/R	5-2	Erie, Pa. / Iroquois
17	Marsha Foreman	Jr.	C	R/R	5-4	Bonita Springs, Fla. / Bonita Springs
18	Kylie Heid	Sr.	SS	L/R	5-4	Monaca, Pa. / Central Valley
19	Mekiyah Stevens	Fr.	1B/3B	R/R	5-8	Edgewood, Md. / Edgewood
20	Rylie Fordyce	So.	C	R/R	5-8	Greensburg, Pa. / Hempfield Area
23	Madison Hufford	Fr.	C/3B	R/R	5-2	Cortland, Ohio / Mathews
24	Mackenzie Herman	Gr.	P/UTIL	R/R	5-9	Greenville, Pa. / Reynolds
29	Audrey Aguilar	Jr.	1B	R/R	5-9	South El Monte, Cali. / Alta Loma

### Coaching Staff

Head Coach: Michael Kernan (First Season)

Assistant Coaches: Destiny Goodnight | Kara Buente | Barb Balestrino

### Pronunciation Guide

- 1: Lily Merolillo - Lilly MAIR-oh-lil-oh
- 2: Mahalia Campbell - MUH-hail-ee-uu Campbell
- 8: Julia Schimizzi - Julia SCUH-mitz
- 11: Kalina Moreno - KUH-lean-uh More-ee-no
- 13: Jensen Stehlik - Jensen STAY-lick
- 14: Sheila Despenes - SHE-luh Despenes
- 15: Alayzha McCray - UH-layz-uh McCray
- 19: Mekiyah Stevens - MUH-ki-uh Stevens
- 20: Rylie Fordyce - Rylie FOR-dice
- 29: Audrey Aguilar - Audrey AG-wi-lar

### Coaching Staff

- Michael Kernan - Michael Ker-NAN (rhymes with man)
- Kara Buente - Car-uh Bwen-tay

### General

Thiel Tomcats: Teal (like the color) Tomcats

**MEDIA ROSTER**



**#1 LILY MEROLILLO**  
Fr. | P/UTIL | R/R | 5-3



**#2 MAHALIA CAMPBELL**  
So. | UTIL | R/R | 5-2



**#6 AVA GILMORE**  
So. | OF/2B | R/R | 5-4



**#7 ALAINA FEDDER**  
Jr. | P/2B | R/R | 5-2



**#8 JULIA SCHIMIZZI**  
Fr. | OF/1B | L/L | 5-4



**#9 MAKENNA OSWALT**  
Sr. | OF/1B | R/R | 5-9



**#11 KALINA MORENO**  
Fr. | UTIL | R/R | 5-1



**#12 KAYLEY RISSER**  
So. | OF | R/R | 5-8



**#13 JENSEN STEHLIK**  
Jr. | OF | L/L | 5-5



**#14 SHEILA DESPENES**  
So. | UTIL | R/R | 5-6



**#15 ALAYZHA MCCRAY**  
Jr. | 3B | R/R | 5-2



**#16 MADISON HUFFORD**  
Fr. | C/3B | R/R | 5-2



**#17 MARSHA FOREMAN**  
Jr. | C | R/R | 5-4



**#18 KYLIE HEID**  
Sr. | SS | L/R | 5-4



**#19 MEKIYAH STEVENS**  
Fr. | 1B/3B | R/R | 5-8



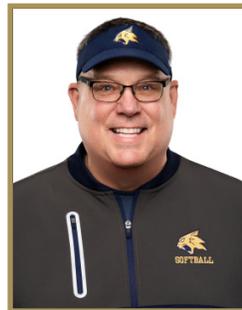
**#20 RYLIE FORDYCE**  
So. | C | R/R | 5-8



**#24 MACKENZIE HERMAN**  
Gr. | P/UTIL | R/R | 5-9



**#29 AUDREY AGUILAR**  
Jr. | 1B | R/R | 5-9



**HC MICHAEL KERNAN**  
First Season



**AC DESTINY GOODNIGHT**  
First Season



**AC KARA BUENTE**  
First Season



**AC BARB BALESTRINO**  
First Season

## PLAYER STATISTICS

### 2026 Thiel College Softball Overall Statistics (as of Mar 26, 2026)

Overall Record: 7-8 Conf: 1-2 Home: 0-1 Away: 2-2 Neutral: 5-5

#### All games Sorted by Batting Avg

#	Player	AVG	GP-GS	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	TB	SLG%	BB	HBP	SO	GDP	OB%	SF	SH	SB-ATT	PO	A	E	FLD%
12	Risser, Kayley	.442	14-13	43	13	19	3	4	1	17	33	.767	7	0	2	0	.520	0	1	2-3	32	2	2	.944
18	Heid, Kylie	.407	15-15	54	17	22	8	3	1	10	39	.722	6	0	6	0	.459	1	0	6-7	29	33	6	.912
6	Gilmore, Ava	.382	15-13	34	10	13	1	1	1	7	19	.559	3	2	5	0	.450	1	1	6-6	18	1	2	.905
24	Herman, Mackenzie	.373	15-15	51	9	19	3	1	2	10	30	.588	4	0	9	0	.418	0	0	1-1	11	16	4	.871
7	Fedder, Alaina	.333	15-15	39	3	13	5	0	0	7	18	.462	4	0	2	0	.395	0	2	0-0	12	28	6	.870
1	Merolillo, Lily	.300	15-12	30	6	9	1	1	0	3	12	.400	3	1	5	0	.382	0	3	1-1	17	23	1	.976
14	Despenes, Sheila	.214	13-12	28	11	6	1	0	0	2	7	.250	8	2	7	0	.410	1	0	0-0	7	0	2	.778
16	16	.320	9-8	25	2	8	3	0	0	5	11	.440	0	1	4	0	.333	1	0	0-0	18	2	2	.909
20	Fordyce, Rylie	.263	8-7	19	1	5	1	0	0	2	6	.316	3	0	1	0	.364	0	0	1-2	7	0	1	.875
8	Schimizzi, Julia	.250	8-4	8	3	2	0	0	0	1	2	.250	3	0	4	0	.455	0	0	0-0	10	0	2	.833
29	Aguilar, Audrey	.235	9-7	17	1	4	0	0	0	4	4	.235	2	1	1	1	.333	1	0	0-0	30	0	2	.938
23	Hufford, Madison	.176	5-5	17	0	3	0	0	0	1	3	.176	0	1	0	0	.222	0	0	0-0	14	3	0	1.000
9	Oswalt, Makenna	.167	12-10	18	2	3	1	0	0	2	4	.222	1	1	4	0	.250	0	2	0-0	66	0	0	1.000
19	Stevens, Mekiyah	.125	4-2	8	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	.125	0	0	2	0	.125	0	0	1-1	0	0	0	.000
11	Moreno, Kalina	.000	6-3	7	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	2	0	1	0	.222	0	0	1-1	1	3	0	1.000
17	Foreman, Marsha	.000	4-3	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	2	0	0	0	.250	0	0	1-1	8	0	0	1.000
2	Campbell, Mahalia	.000	5-2	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0-0	1	0	0	1.000
<b>Totals</b>		<b>.312</b>	<b>15-15</b>	<b>407</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>.464</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>.392</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>20-23</b>	<b>281</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>.929</b>
<b>Opponents</b>		<b>.326</b>	<b>15-15</b>	<b>438</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>.427</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>.365</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>15-19</b>	<b>286</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>.941</b>

**LOB:** Team (107), Opp (106) **DPs Turned:** Team (4), Opp (8) **IBB:** Team (0), Opp (0) **Picked Off:** Merolillo (1)

#### All games Sorted by Earned Run Avg

#	Player	ERA	W-L	APP	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	2B	3B	HR	B/AVG	WP	HP	BK	SFA	SHA
6	Gilmore, Ava	2.90	0-1	3	1	0	0-0	0	9.2	19	9	4	1	2	2	1	0	.388	0	1	0	0	0
7	Fedder, Alaina	3.92	2-4	8	7	3	0-0	0	39.1	61	32	22	5	18	6	4	3	.328	1	0	0	0	1
1	Merolillo, Lily	4.13	2-3	9	3	0	0-0	0	20.1	29	18	12	6	6	4	2	0	.305	2	0	0	1	0
24	Herman, Mackenzie	4.32	3-0	6	4	2	0-0	1	24.1	34	21	15	13	13	6	0	1	.315	10	2	0	2	0
<b>Totals</b>		<b>3.96</b>	<b>7-8</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>93.2</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>.326</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Opponents</b>		<b>5.21</b>	<b>8-7</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>95.1</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>.312</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>9</b>

**PB:** Team (6), Totals (6), Fordyce (3), Hufford (2), 16 (1), Opp (3) **Pickoffs:** Team (0), Totals , Opp (1) **SBA/ATT:** Totals (30-38), Merolillo (7-8), 16 (5-7), Hufford (5-7), Fedder (4-5), Fordyce (4-4), Herman (3-3), Foreman (1-1), Gilmore (1-3)

## TEAM STATISTICS

GAMES	RUNS	BATTING AVERAGE	ON BASE PERCENTAGE	SLUGGING PERCENTAGE	HOME RUNS
15	84	.312	.392	.464	5

SCHEDULE SUMMARY		
Overall (Pct.)	7-8 (.467)	
Conference (Pct.)	1-2 (.333)	
Streak	Lost 1	
Home	0-1	
Away	2-2	
Neutral	5-5	
RECENT GAMES		
Mar 13	vs. Immaculata	L, 11-3
Mar 20	at Kent St. Tuscarawas	L, 10-6
Mar 20	at Kent St. Tuscarawas	W, 12-4
Mar 25	at Franciscan	L, 5-3
Mar 25	at Franciscan	W, 8-4
Mar 26	Grove City	L, 7-2

STATISTICS CATEGORY	OVERALL	CONF
Games	15	3
At Bats	407	86
Runs	84	13
Hits	127	26
Doubles	27	6
Triples	10	2
Home Runs	5	3
Runs Batted In	71	12
Extra Base Hits	42	11
Total Bases	189	45
Walks	48	9
Hit by pitch	9	2
Strikeouts	53	6
Sacrifice Flies	5	0
Sacrifice Hits	9	0
Hit into double play	8	4
Stolen Bases	20	2
Caught Stealing	3	1
Batting Average	.312	.302
On Base Percentage	.392	.381
Slugging Percentage	.464	.523
Earned Run Average	3.96	5.25
WHIP	1.79	1.90
Shutouts	0	0
At Bats Against	438	93
Batting Average Against	.326	.333
Home Games Played	1	1
Home Attendance	69	69
Home Attendance average	69	69

## STARTING LINEUPS BY POSITION

Date	OPP	RES	SP	C	1B	2B	3B	SS	LF	CF	RF	DP
3/8	Penn State DuBois	W 11-3 (5 Inn.)	Fedder	Hufford	Oswalt	Merolillo	Herman	Heid	Gilmore	Risser	Despenes	-
3/8	Keystone	W 11-8 (5 Inn.)	Herman	Fordyce	Schimizzi	Fedder	Hufford	Heid	Moreno	Risser	Despenes	Aguilar
3/9	Hilbert	W 3-2	Herman	Foreman	Oswalt	Fedder	Merolillo	Heid	Gilmore	Risser	Despenes	Hufford
3/9	King's	L 3-1	Fedder	Foreman	Aguilar	Moreno	Herman	Heid	Fordyce	Schimizzi	Campbell	Stevens
3/11	Gwynedd Mercy	W 2-1	Fedder	Hufford	Oswalt	Merolillo	Herman	Heid	Gilmore	Risser	Despenes	-
3/11	Cairn	W 15-7 (6 Inn.)	Herman	Fordyce	Aguilar	Fedder	Merolillo	Heid	Gilmore	Risser	Despenes	-
3/12	Penn	L 5-0	Merolillo	Hufford	Oswalt	Fedder	Herman	Heid	Gilmore	Risser	Despenes	Aguilar
3/12	Bridgewater State	L 5-3	Gilmore	Hufford	Oswalt	Moreno	Herman	Heid	Schimizzi	Risser	Fordyce	Fedder
3/13	Albion	L 5-4	Fedder	Hufford	Oswalt	Merolillo	Herman	Heid	Gilmore	Risser	Campbell	Despenes
3/13	Immaculata	L 11-3 (5 Inn.)	Merolillo	Hufford	Aguilar	Fedder	Herman	Heid	Schimizzi	Gilmore	Fordyce	Stevens
3/19	Kent St. Tuscarawas	L 10-6	Fedder	Hufford	Oswalt	Merolillo	Herman	Heid	Gilmore	Risser	Despenes	-
3/19	Kent St. Tuscarawas	W 12-4	Merolillo	Hufford	Oswalt	Fedder	Herman	Heid	Gilmore	Risser	Despenes	-
3/23	John Carroll	Postponed										
3/23	John Carroll	Postponed										
3/25	Franciscan	L 5-3	Fedder	Hufford	Oswalt	Merolillo	Herman	Heid	Gilmore	Risser	Despenes	-
3/25	Franciscan	W 8-4	Herman	Fordyce	Aguilar	Fedder	Merolillo	Heid	Gilmore	Risser	Despenes	Hufford
3/26	Grove City	L 7-2	Fedder	Hufford	Oswalt	Merolillo	Herman	Heid	Gilmore	Risser	Despenes	Horeman
3/26	Grove City	Suspended	Herman	Foreman	Oswalt	Fedder	Merlillo	Heid	Gilmore	Risser	Schimizzi	Hufford
3/28	Geneva											
3/28	Geneva											
3/31	Bethany											
3/31	Bethany											
4/1	Penn State Behrend											
4/1	Penn State Behrend											
4/3	Allegheny											
4/3	Allegheny											
4/8	Saint Vincent											
4/8	Saint Vincent											
4/11	Hiram											
4/11	Hiram											
4/15	Waynesburg											
4/15	Waynesburg											
4/18	W&J											
4/18	W&J											
4/20	Pitt Greensburg											
4/20	Pitt Greensburg											
4/23	Westminster											
4/23	Westminster											
4/26	Chatham											
4/26	Chatham											

# THE INVINCIBLE FOUNDATION

## HEAD COACH MICHAEL KERNAN



**Michael Kernan** enters his first season at Thiel in 2026 after being hired in Nov. 2025.

Kernan collected his first victory as leader of the Tomcats on opening day with an 11-3 run-rule trouncing of Penn State Du-Bois in five innings.

Kernan joined Thiel with more than two decades of successful coaching experience at both the high school and colle-

giate levels. Most recently, he led Canfield High School to back-to-back Ohio Division II State Championship appearances, winning the crown in 2024 and finishing as runners-up in 2023. During his tenure, Canfield compiled an impressive 72-11-3 record, produced multiple All-State selections and earned consecutive conference titles.

Before his success at Canfield, Kernan served as an assistant coach at fellow Presidents' Athletic Conference (PAC) school Hiram College. During the 2022 season, he helped guide Hiram to the North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) Tournament Championship and a runner-up finish at the NCAA DePauw Regional, marking one of the most successful campaigns in program history.

Kernan started his coaching journey at Ursuline High School in Ohio. He compiled 373 wins in his nearly 20 years with the program. Under his leadership, Ursuline won eight district championships, was a state

championship finalist and claimed 17 sectional championships.

In addition to his collegiate and high school coaching accomplishments, Kernan has extensive experience in player instruction and program development. He previously founded and operated Softball U Academy in Youngstown, Ohio, training hundreds of athletes who went on to collegiate careers.

His career accolades include inductions into four different hall of fame's, including the Hiram Athletic Hall of Fame in 2005 and Ohio High School Fastpitch Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

A Hiram alumnus, Kernan earned a Bachelor of Arts in Business Management with a minor in Computer Science. A decorated multi-sport athlete during his collegiate career, he was a Pizza Hut All-American and three-time All-PAC honoree in football.

