



# 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
3/28	GENEVA *	L 1-9 (6 Inn.)
3/28	GENEVA *	L 4-9
3/31	at Bethany *	L 6-10
3/31	at Bethany *	L 1-10
4/1	PENN STATE BEHREND	Postponed
4/1	PENN STATE BEHREND	Postponed
4/8	SAINT VINCENT *	L 0-10 (5 inn.)
4/8	SAINT VINCENT *	L 6-11
4/9	GROVE CITY * ^	W 5-4
4/11	HIRAM * !	L 3-5
4/11	HIRAM * !	L 4-7
4/3	at Allegheny *	W 12-8
4/3	at Allegheny *	L 0-8
4/15	at Waynesburg *	L 3-5
4/15	at Waynesburg *	L 0-8 (5 inn.)
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 (9-19, 3-13 PAC) vs. Wash. & Jeff. (11-17, 4-10 PAC)

Saturday, April 18, 2026 | 1 p.m.

Softball Field at Tomcat Park | Greenville, Pa. | SENIOR DAY

### THIEL TOMCATS



Record (PAC)	9-19 (1-6)
Last Game	L 8-0 at Waynesburg (4/15)
Head Coach	Michael Kernan
Thiel Record	9-19 (First Season)
Overall Record	Same

### WASH. & JEFF. PRESIDENTS



Record (PAC)	11-17 (4-10)
Last Game	W 8-3 vs Pitt Greensburg (4/11)
Head Coach	Marissa Rush
W&J Record	111-154-1 (Ninth Season)
Overall Record	146-189-1 (11th Season)

## SERIES HISTORY

First Meeting	1990
All-Time Series	W&J leads 50-26
Home	W&J leads 27-13
Away	W&J leads 22-11

Neutral	2-1
First Meeting	W&J W 11-0 11 (4/18/90)
Last Meeting	W&J W 12-7 (4/18/25)
Current Streak	Thiel L1

## GAME NOTES

**GETTIN' BACK ON TRACK** -- Thiel has dropped their past three Presidents' Athletic Conference (PAC) match-ups ... Their last win came against Allegheny in comeback fashion.

**SERIES SUMMARY** -- Thiel is 26-50 all time versus W&J ... The Tomcats are 13-27 at home and 11-22 on the road in the series.

### LAST 15 IN SERIES RESULTS

DATE	H/A	W/L	SCORE
4/18/2025	A	L	7 - 12
4/18/2025	A	W	6 - 0
3/29/2024	H	(8 inn.)L	4 - 5
3/29/2024	H	W	4 - 1
4/2/2023	A	L	4 - 6
4/2/2023	A	W	10 - 6
4/20/2022	H	(5 inn.)L	1 - 10
4/20/2022	H	L	3 - 6
4/20/2021	A	(5 inn.)L	0 - 8
4/20/2021	A	(6 inn.)L	0 - 8
3/20/2021	H	(5 inn.)L	0 - 9
3/20/2021	H	L	3 - 10
4/6/2019	A	L	7 - 11
4/6/2019	A	L	4 - 6
4/20/2018	H	(8 inn.)L	3 - 5

**HITTING MACHINE** -- Sophomore **Kayley Risser** leads the team with a batting avg. of .380 and on base % of .462 and has a slugging % of .582, ... Risser has hit one home run, four triples, five doubles, and has brought in 22 RBIs ... She has a good eye in the box as she has 12 walks.

**TRIPLE THREAT** -- Senior **Kylie Heid** follows Risser with a .354 batting avg. and leads with a slugging % of .667 ... Heid has FOUR home runs, 10 doubles, four triples and 16 RBIs in the 2026 season.

**FEDDER THE FIREARM** -- On the mound, junior **Alaina Fedder** is 3-10 with an ERA of 5.56 and 26 strikeouts on the season ... In the batters box, Fedder has hit six doubles and has a BA of .286.

**MACK ATTACK** -- Senior **Mackenzie Herman** is a key aspect to both sides of the field ... She has a BA of .348 and in the circle has a record of 3-3 and has an ERA of 5.84 with 15 strikeouts ... Herman recorded her fourth home run of the year in their win at Allegheny.

**FRESH IMPACT** -- Freshman **Lily Merolillo** has become important to the Thiel starting line up ... Merolillo has a BA of .298, including one triple and a double ... On the mound, Lily has pitched 45.1 innings, has had 13 strikeouts, and a team best 4.63 ERA.

**ON-BASE MACHINE** -- Sophomore **Sheila Despenes** is tied for second in walks with 11 and has an OB% of .394.

**G-FORCE** -- Sophomore **Ava Gilmore** has risen in the lineup and has a batting average of .292 ... She recorded the first home run of her career at Franciscan and has also tallied two double, one triple, and 14 RBIs.

**LOOKING AHEAD** -- Thiel will head to Pitt Greensburg on Monday, Apr. 20 for a non-conference DH at 3 p.m.

## AROUND THE PAC

### PAC STANDINGS

TEAM	PAC	OVR	H	A	N
Westminster	14-2	20-8	8-2	7-1	5-5
Geneva	10-3	21-6	7-3	5-0	9-3
Bethany	8-4	20-7	5-3	6-3	9-1
Waynesburg	11-5	23-9	12-4	5-3	6-2
Hiram	8-4	9-13	3-1	5-3	1-9
Saint Vincent	8-8	16-14	6-4	8-4	2-6
Grove City	7-8	15-10	4-4	5-4	6-2
Allegheny	6-8	9-15	2-4	4-4	3-7
Chatham	6-10	12-22	5-7	6-6	1-9
<b>W&amp;J</b>	<b>4-10</b>	<b>11-17</b>	<b>5-5</b>	<b>2-6</b>	<b>4-6</b>
<b>Thiel</b>	<b>3-13</b>	<b>9-19</b>	<b>0-7</b>	<b>4-7</b>	<b>5-5</b>
Franciscan	2-14	4-22	2-8	1-7	1-7

### 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	4-16	20	2-8	2-8
Bethany	13-67	80	8-25	4-41
Chatham	31-9	40	19-2	12-7
Franciscan	17-4	21	7-1	5-3
Geneva	21-30	51	10-12	10-16
Grove City	34-42	76	18-18	13-23
Hiram	14-12	26	8-6	6-6
Saint Vincent	12-31	43	5-13	6-18
<b>W&amp;J</b>	<b>26-50</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>13-27</b>	<b>11-22</b>
Waynesburg	34-43	77	16-17	17-24
Westminster	14-59-1	64	6-24-1	6-30
<b>OVERALL</b>	<b>220-361</b>	<b>569</b>	<b>112-152</b>	<b>92-198</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
<b>9</b>	<b>Makenna Oswalt</b>	<b>Sr.</b>	<b>OF/1B</b>	<b>R/R</b>	<b>5-9</b>	<b>Johnstown, Pa. / Westmont Hilltop</b>
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
<b>18</b>	<b>Kylie Heid</b>	<b>Sr.</b>	<b>SS</b>	<b>L/R</b>	<b>5-4</b>	<b>Monaca, Pa. / Central Valley</b>
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
<b>24</b>	<b>Mackenzie Herman</b>	<b>Gr.</b>	<b>P/UTIL</b>	<b>R/R</b>	<b>5-9</b>	<b>Greenville, Pa. / Reynolds</b>
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 Apr 15, 2026)

Overall Record: 9-19 Conf: 3-13 Home: 1-7 Away: 3-7 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	.380	27-26	79	19	30	5	4	1	22	46	.582	12	0	5	0	.462	0	2	4-5	65	3	3	.958
18	Heid, Kylie	.354	28-28	96	23	34	10	4	4	16	64	.667	11	0	16	0	.417	1	0	7-9	50	72	13	.904
24	Herman, Mackenzie	.348	28-28	89	17	31	4	2	4	14	51	.573	6	0	12	0	.389	0	0	2-2	23	37	7	.896
23	Hufford, Madison	.325	27-26	83	6	27	6	1	0	10	35	.422	2	2	5	0	.352	1	0	0-0	54	12	7	.904
1	Merolillo, Lily	.298	28-25	57	9	17	1	1	0	5	20	.351	5	2	10	0	.375	0	4	3-3	30	39	5	.932
6	Gilmore, Ava	.292	28-26	72	13	21	2	1	1	14	28	.389	5	2	8	0	.346	2	1	9-9	31	1	3	.914
7	Fedder, Alaina	.286	28-28	77	7	22	6	0	0	11	28	.364	4	0	2	0	.321	0	2	0-0	32	58	8	.918
14	Despenes, Sheila	.255	26-23	51	15	13	3	0	0	4	16	.314	11	2	11	0	.394	2	1	0-0	13	0	2	.867
15	McCray, Alayzha	.500	1-0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	.500	0	0	0	0	.500	0	0	0-0	0	0	0	.000
8	Schimizzi, Julia	.261	20-11	23	5	6	1	0	0	2	7	.304	3	0	7	0	.346	0	1	0-0	11	0	2	.846
29	Aguilar, Audrey	.235	10-7	17	1	4	0	0	0	4	4	.235	2	1	1	1	.333	1	0	0-0	30	0	2	.938
20	Fordyce, Rylie	.217	11-8	23	1	5	1	0	0	2	6	.261	3	0	3	0	.308	0	0	1-2	7	0	1	.875
9	Oswalt, Makenna	.154	25-23	39	6	6	1	0	0	4	7	.179	2	1	5	0	.214	0	7	0-0	161	2	2	.988
19	Stevens, Mekiyah	.100	6-2	10	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	.100	0	0	3	0	.100	0	0	1-1	0	0	0	.000
11	Moreno, Kalina	.000	9-4	11	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	.000	2	0	3	0	.154	0	0	1-1	1	3	0	1.000
17	Foreman, Marsha	.000	5-4	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	2	0	1	0	.222	0	0	1-1	8	0	0	1.000
2	Campbell, Mahalia	.000	13-2	4	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>.295</b>	<b>28-28</b>	<b>740</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>314</b>	<b>.424</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>.360</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>29-33</b>	<b>517</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>.931</b>
<b>Opponents</b>		<b>.355</b>	<b>28-28</b>	<b>822</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>292</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>383</b>	<b>.466</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>.397</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>33-41</b>	<b>534</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>.948</b>

LOB: Team (180), Opp (187) DPs Turned: Team (7), Opp (13) 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
1	Merolillo, Lily	4.63	3-5	18	5	0	0-0	0	45.1	73	43	30	13	13	7	2	2	.338	3	0	0	1	1
6	Gilmore, Ava	5.09	0-1	4	1	0	0-0	0	11.0	24	13	8	2	3	2	2	0	.421	0	1	0	0	0
24	Herman, Mackenzie	5.84	3-3	14	9	2	0-0	1	44.1	66	50	37	29	15	14	1	2	.330	22	2	0	2	2
7	Fedder, Alaina	5.96	3-10	16	13	4	0-0	0	71.2	129	78	61	14	26	19	6	5	.370	4	0	0	3	2
<b>Totals</b>		<b>5.52</b>	<b>9-19</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>172.1</b>	<b>292</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>.355</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Opponents</b>		<b>3.93</b>	<b>19-9</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>178.0</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>.295</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>18</b>

PB: Team (9), Totals (9), Hufford (6), Fordyce (3), Opp (5) Pickoffs: Team (0), Totals , Opp (1) SBA/ATT: Totals (66-82), Hufford (27-35), Merolillo (14-16), Fedder (9-12), Herman (9-10), Fordyce (4-4), Foreman (2-2), Gilmore (1-3)

## TEAM STATISTICS

GAMES	RUNS	BATTING AVERAGE	ON BASE PERCENTAGE	SLUGGING PERCENTAGE	HOME RUNS
28	129	.295	.360	.424	10

SCHEDULE SUMMARY		
Overall (Pct.)	9-19 (.321)	
Conference (Pct.)	3-13 (.188)	
Streak	Lost 3	
Home	1-7	
Away	3-7	
Neutral	5-5	
RECENT GAMES		
Apr 11	Hiram	L, 5-3
Apr 11	Hiram	L, 7-4
Apr 12	at Allegheny	W, 12-8
Apr 12	at Allegheny	L, 8-0
Apr 15	at Waynesburg	L, 5-3
Apr 15	at Waynesburg	L, 8-0

STATISTICS CATEGORY	OVERALL	CONF
Games	28	16
At Bats	740	419
Runs	129	58
Hits	218	117
Doubles	40	19
Triples	13	5
Home Runs	10	8
Runs Batted In	109	50
Extra Base Hits	63	32
Total Bases	314	170
Walks	70	31
Hit by pitch	10	3
Strikeouts	92	45
Sacrifice Flies	7	2
Sacrifice Hits	18	9
Hit into double play	13	9
Stolen Bases	29	11
Caught Stealing	4	2
Batting Average	.295	.279
On Base Percentage	.360	.332
Slugging Percentage	.424	.406
Earned Run Average	5.52	6.95
WHIP	2.03	2.23
Shutouts	0	0
At Bats Against	822	477
Batting Average Against	.355	.377
Home Games Played	8.0	8.0
Home Attendance	591	591
Home Attendance average	74	74

## 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	W 5-4	Herman	Foreman	Oswalt	Fedder	Merlillo	Heid	Gilmore	Risser	Schimizzi	Hufford
3/28	Geneva	L 9-1	Fedder	Hufford	Oswalt	Merolillo	Herman	Heid	Gilmore	Risser	Despenes	-
3/28	Geneva	L 9-4	Herman	Hufford	Oswalt	Fedder	Merollio	Heid	Gilmore	Risser	Despenes	-
3/31	Bethany	L 10-6	Fedder	Hufford	Oswalt	Merollio	Herman	Heid	Gilmore	Risser	Schimizzi	Despenes
3/31	Bethany	L 10-1	Merolillo	Hufford	Oswalt	Fedder	Herman	Heid	Gilmore	Risser	Despenes	-
4/1	Penn State Behrend	Postponed										
4/1	Penn State Behrend	Postponed										
4/8	Saint Vincent	L 10-0 (5 inn.)	Herman	Hufford	Oswalt	Fedder	Merolillo	Heid	Gilmore	Risser	Despenes	Fordyce
4/8	Saint Vincent	L 11-6	Fedder	Hufford	Oswalt	Merolillo	Herman	Heid	Gilmore	Risser	Schimizzi	Moreno
4/11	Hiram	L 5-3	Herman	Hufford	Oswalt	Fedder	Merolillo	Heid	Gilmore	Risser	Despenes	-
4/11	Hiram	L 7-4	Fedder	Hufford	Oswalt	Merolillo	Herman	Heid	Gilmore	Risser	Despenes	Schimizzi
4/13	Allegheny	W 12-8	Herman	Hufford	Oswalt	Fedder	Merolillo	Heid	Gilmore	Risser	Despenes	-
4/13	Allegheny	L 8-0	Fedder	Hufford	Oswalt	Merolillo	Herman	Heid	Gilmore	Risser	Despenes	Schimizzi
4/15	Waynesburg	L 5-3	Fedder	Hufford	Oswalt	Merolillo	Herman	Heid	Gilmore	Risser	Despenes	-
4/15	Waynesburg	L 8-0 (5 inn.)	Merolillo	Hufford	Oswalt	Fedder	Herman	Heid	Gilmore	Risser	Despenes	Schimizzi
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.

