

SPORTS NEWS



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Volleyball

For Immediate Release: November 17, 2003 • Contact: David Berman

Bearcats lose final two conference matches

Binghamton started the week by sweeping Siena in the home finale on Senior Night at East Gymnasium. Over the weekend, the team dropped its final two conference matches to Hartford (3-2) and Stony Brook (3-1).

"The match with Stony Brook was a good match on both sides," head coach Glenn Kiriya said. "We struggled with our execution at times, but our middles did a good job when we were able to run our offense and they gave the other team a hard time. We weren't consistent enough with our passing and ball control and the other team did a good job of executing. Stony Brook is the hottest team heading into the conference tournament. It will be interesting to see how they do."

Bearcats post first winning season in three years

Binghamton finished the season with a 16-15 record, its first winning season since going 20-11 during the 2000 campaign, the squad's final year in Division II. In addition, the Bearcats also showed a two-game improvement in conference play and won seven matches against in-state teams.

Meffert and Crocus set new school records

Freshman setter **Ashley Meffert (Louisville, Ky./Fern Creek)** wound up her first season of collegiate play with 11.25 assists per game, a new school record. Meffert, the first freshman at Binghamton since 1992 to be the full-time setter, dished out 1316 total assists and was named the America East Rookie of the Week on two occasions. Far from being one-dimensional, she also ranked fourth on the team in blocking (0.51/gm.) and digs (2.10/gm.) and posted eight double-doubles (assists-digs).

Junior middle blocker **Anne Crocus (Bethlehem, Pa./Freedom)** set a new school mark with her sterling .360 attack percentage, which ranked second in America East. She has now recorded back-to-back seasons with an attack percentage better than .300. Only one other person in school history has accomplished the feat even once. Through three seasons, Crocus is the program's all-time leader in attack percentage (.306). Crocus also ranked among the nation's best blockers for the second straight season, averaging 1.50 per game. She led the team and the conference with that mark, and through matches of November 16 ranked 15th in the nation.

Heck leaps into third place with over 1,000 kills

Junior outside hitter **Michele Heck (Chicago, Ill./Resurrection)** totaled 410 kills this season, the fifth-highest season total ever at Binghamton. That brought her career total after three collegiate seasons to 1,039, which ranks third in school history. With 12 kills against Siena on November 11, Heck became the fourth person ever at Binghamton with 1,000 career kills.

Four seniors conclude stellar careers at Binghamton

Senior outside hitters **Allison Beard (Elkland, Pa.)** and **Morgan Jimerson (Grandview, N.Y./Nyack)** and defensive specialists **Shannon Kelly (Ridge, N.Y./Longwood)** and **Nicole Savin (Port Jefferson Station, N.Y./Comsewogue)** each concluded four-year careers at Binghamton with the close of the season. This season Beard ranked second on the team with 0.82 blocks per game and had a .213 attack percentage, while Savin averaged a team-high 3.40 digs per game. Kelly, who was the team's libero last season, served up 30 aces, while Jimerson returned from a red-shirt season to rank fourth on the team with 2.15 kills per game.

2003 Schedule/Results (16-15, 5-9 AE)

SEPTEMBER

Sept. 5-6: at Syracuse Big Orange Tournament

| | | | |
|--------|-------------|---|-----|
| 5 Fri. | vs. Colgate | W | 3-0 |
| 6 Sat. | @ Syracuse | L | 1-3 |
| 6 Sat. | vs. Siena | W | 3-0 |
| 9 Tue. | @ Colgate | W | 3-0 |

Sept. 12-13: BINGHAMTON INVITATIONAL

| | | | |
|---------|------------------|---|-----|
| 12 Fri. | QUINNIPIAC | W | 3-0 |
| 13 Sat. | YOUNGSTOWN STATE | L | 1-3 |
| 13 Sat. | CANISIUS | L | 1-3 |

Sept. 20: at CCSU Invitational

| | | | |
|---------|-----------------------|---|-----|
| 20 Sat. | vs. Iona | L | 0-3 |
| 20 Sat. | @ Central Connecticut | L | 2-3 |

Sept. 26-27: at Columbia Classic

| | | | |
|---------|--------------|---|-----|
| 26 Fri. | @ Columbia | W | 3-1 |
| 27 Sat. | vs. Winthrop | W | 3-1 |
| 27 Sat. | vs. Rider | W | 3-0 |

OCTOBER

Oct. 3-4: at Canisius Tournament

| | | | |
|---------|-------------------|---|-----|
| 3 Fri. | @ Canisius | L | 1-3 |
| 4 Sat. | St. Francis (Pa.) | W | 3-1 |
| 4 Sat. | vs. Niagara | W | 3-2 |
| 7 Tue. | *@ UMBC | L | 2-3 |
| 10 Fri. | *STONY BROOK | W | 3-1 |
| 11 Sat. | *HARTFORD | W | 3-0 |
| 17 Fri. | *@ Northeastern | L | 0-3 |
| 18 Sat. | *@ Albany | L | 0-3 |
| 22 Wed. | @ Marist | W | 3-1 |
| 24 Fri. | *@ Maine | W | 3-1 |
| 25 Sat. | *@ New Hampshire | L | 0-3 |
| 28 Tue. | *UMBC | W | 3-0 |
| 31 Fri. | *ALBANY | L | 1-3 |

NOVEMBER

| | | | |
|---------|----------------|---|-----|
| 1 Sat. | *NORTHEASTERN | L | 2-3 |
| 7 Fri. | *NEW HAMPSHIRE | L | 2-3 |
| 8 Sat. | *MAINE | W | 3-0 |
| 11 Tue. | SIENA | W | 3-0 |
| 14 Fri. | *@ Hartford | L | 2-3 |
| 15 Sat. | *@ Stony Brook | L | 1-3 |

* America East Conference match

Home games in **BOLD CAPS**

All games played at East Gym except on Sept. 12, Sept. 13 and Oct. 11