

SPORTS NEWS



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Volleyball

For Immediate Release: October 27, 2003 • Contact: David Berman

Binghamton wins two of three matches on the road

The Bearcats finished off a five-match road stretch with a non-conference contest against Marist preceding conference matchups with Maine and New Hampshire. Binghamton topped Marist 3-1 and then beat Maine 3-1, but fell to New Hampshire 3-0. With three conference wins, the Bearcats have matched their total from last season, with half of the conference schedule still remaining. Binghamton is currently sitting in a tie for fifth place in the eight-team conference.

Meffert named America East Rookie of the Week

Freshman setter **Ashley Meffert (Louisville, Ky./Fern Creek)** earned her first America East Rookie of the Week honors after dishing out 114 assists (10.36/game) during last week's matches. She also contributed 28 digs, six blocks and five service aces to go along with 10 kills. Meffert is the first Binghamton freshman since 1992 (Marina Khvatyuk) to hold down full-time duties as the team's setter. She is tied for second in America East with 11.18 assists per game this season.

Aces are wild in win over Maine

In a 3-1 win over Maine on Friday evening, the Bearcats tallied 15 service aces, one off the team's season high. Junior outside hitter **Michele Heck (Chicago, Ill./Resurrection)** matched a career-high with five aces and senior outside hitter **Allison Beard (Elkland, Pa./Elkland)** had four. It was the eighth time this season that Binghamton had at least 10 service aces in a match, compared to just five times all of last season.

Heck slides into fourth place on career list

After producing 24 digs in the week's matches, Michele Heck has moved into fourth place on the school's all-time list with exactly 900 career kills. She surpassed Leigh Houghton (1995-98), who had 889 kills. Heck ranks ninth in America East and second on the team with 3.19 kills per game this season. She entered her junior year with a career average of 3.16 kills per game, which ranked second in school history behind teammate **Morgan Jimerson (Grandview, N.Y./Nyack)**.

Crocus on cusp of breaking into national rankings

Junior middle blocker **Anne Crocus (Bethlehem, Pa./Freedom)** was nearly flawless from the field during the week, racking up 38 kills while maintaining a .433 attack percentage. She boosted her attack percentage for the season to .370, which continues to lead America East. The cutoff for breaking into the national top-30 is .380. Crocus is also leading the conference in blocks for the second straight year, averaging 1.32 per game. The cutoff for the national top-30 is 1.40. Last season Crocus averaged 1.55 blocks per game and ranked eighth in the nation.

Start of six-match homestand on tap for this week

Binghamton will play its next six matches in the friendly confines of East Gymnasium, where the team has played just once this season (the squad's other home matches have been played at West Gymnasium). The Bearcats will take on UMBC in a pivotal conference rematch on Tuesday at 7 p.m. Earlier this month the Retrievers defeated Binghamton 3-2 after rallying from a 26-20 deficit in the fourth game to prevent a BU victory. Over the weekend, the Bearcats will host Albany on Friday at 6 p.m. and Northeastern on Saturday at 5 p.m.

2003 Schedule/Results (13-10, 3-4 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.	YOUNGSTOWNSTATE	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	1-3

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	7 p.m.	

31 Fri.	*ALBANY	6 p.m.	
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NOVEMBER

1 Sat.	*NORTHEASTERN	5 p.m.	
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7 Fri.	*NEW HAMPSHIRE	7 p.m.	
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8 Sat.	*MAINE	5 p.m.	
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11 Tue.	SIENA	7 p.m.	
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14 Fri.	*@ Hartford	7 p.m.	
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15 Sat.	*@ Stony Brook	4 p.m.	
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Nov. 21-23: at America East Championship (TBA)

* America East Conference match

Home games in **BOLD CAPS**

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