2004

2003-2004 AASU Athletics Year in Review

Armstrong State University

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Seven Of Eight Teams Advance To NCAAs For Second Year
13 AASU Athletes Earn All-America Honors
Women’s Tennis Wins PBC, Finishes Third In NCAA
Golf Finishes Eighth In NCAA Championships Debut
Katya Eronina, Zsofi Golopencza and Thomas Whittaker Named
Peach Belt Conference Players of the Year

AASU’s 2003-04 All-America Honors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Women’s Division II Bulletin</th>
<th>CoSIDA Academic All-America Squad</th>
<th>ITA All-America Honors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All-America Team</td>
<td>Baseball, College Division</td>
<td>Women</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Tasha Washington</td>
<td>Senior Michael Pelley</td>
<td>Senior Zsofi Golopencza</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NFCA DII All-America Team</td>
<td>PING/GCAA All-America Team</td>
<td>Junior Laura Peaty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Katya Eronina</td>
<td>Senior Thomas Whittaker</td>
<td>Sophomore Luisa Cowper</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior Stacey Richardson</td>
<td>Cleveland Golf All-America Scholar</td>
<td>Freshman Dziyana Nazaruk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Kissy Stepanova</td>
<td>Junior Ashley Loyd</td>
<td>Men</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior Stacey Oliver</td>
<td></td>
<td>Junior Achim Roth</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2003-2004 AASU Athletics Year In Review

Academics

AASU student-athletes continued to excel in the classroom in the 2003-2004 academic year. 52% of all AASU student-athletes carried GPAs of 3.0 or better during the 2003-04 year and the overall GPA of AASU student-athletes, as a group, was 2.90.

Forty-six AASU student-athletes earned PBC Presidential Honor Roll honors and three student-athletes were named CoSIDA Academic All-District - softball players Kissy Stepanova and Stacy Oliver and baseball player Michael Pelley, who became AASU’s third CoSIDA Academic All-America honoree as a first-team catcher. He joins Chris Milisits (1993) and David Harriman (2002) as AASU’s only other Academic All-America honorees.

Two AASU student-athletes earned perfect 4.0 grade point averages for the year - Oliver and women’s tennis player Manuela Emmrich.

Pelley and Stepanova were the 2004 President’s Cup winners, given by the Savannah Exchange Club to the top male and female student-athlete of the year.

PBC Presidential Honor Roll Honorees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Baseball</th>
<th>Golf</th>
<th>Tennis</th>
<th>Volleyball</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kyle Craven</td>
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<td>Jonas Askeland</td>
<td>Lauren Good</td>
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<td>Brian Dice</td>
<td>Jonathan Cox</td>
<td>Peter Dedik</td>
<td>Cindy Haynes</td>
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<td>Chad Grass</td>
<td>Chris Epperson</td>
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<td>Gillian Johnson</td>
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<td>Taavo Roos</td>
<td>Traci Knuth</td>
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<td>Steven Kinney</td>
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<td>Achim Roth</td>
<td>Ashley Lavender</td>
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<td>Brandon McKinnon</td>
<td></td>
<td>Roger Thiele</td>
<td>Caitlin Smyth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Pelley</td>
<td></td>
<td>David Secker</td>
<td>Shannon Tracey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jonathan Troop</td>
<td></td>
<td>Dale White</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Basketball

Nick Bloehmof  Scott Mattingly  Justin Wood  Sarah Brown  Meghan Jones  Aiste Slenyte

AASU finished third in the 2004 Peach Belt Conference Commissioner’s Cup standings, which is the conference’s all-sports trophy. AASU received 59 points out of a possible 82, for a .720 percentage, ranking behind only North Florida and Kennesaw State. AASU was boosted in the standings by women’s tennis capturing its 10th PBC title, a second-place finish for AASU softball and a second-place tie by the women’s basketball team, as well as a third-place finish by men’s golf.

2003-2004 Commissioner’s Cup Final Standings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>MFC (9)</th>
<th>WXC (11)</th>
<th>MSO (7)</th>
<th>WSO (7)</th>
<th>VB (8)</th>
<th>MBB (12)</th>
<th>WBB (12)</th>
<th>BB (11)</th>
<th>SB (11)</th>
<th>MT (9)</th>
<th>WT (11)</th>
<th>GF (8)</th>
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<td>107</td>
<td>29.5</td>
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*Numbers in parentheses indicate maximum number of points that can be awarded for each sport. Ratings are determined by taking the maximum number of points available to each school, depending on how many sports each has, and dividing by the number of points won, based on conference finish through the regular season (except golf and cross country).

NACDA Director’s Cup

AASU accumulated the most points ever in the 2003-04 United States Sports Academy/NACDA Division II Director’s Cup all-sports competition. AASU sent seven of its eight intercollegiate varsity sports to NCAA Championships for the second straight year, collected 328.5 points in the standings, the third most points per sport among DII institutions.

AASU finished 34th in the aggregate standings, its best finish since 1998-99 (T22nd), but collected 41.1 points per sport, third-best behind only Director’s Cup champion Grand Valley State (47.6) and Cal State Chico (44.1).

2003-04 USSA/NACDA Director’s Cup Point Standings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Total Points</th>
<th>Sports</th>
<th>PPS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GVSU</td>
<td>810</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>47.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>CS Chico</td>
<td>574</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>44.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AASU</td>
<td>328.5</td>
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<td>41.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Western St.</td>
<td>431.75</td>
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<td>39.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>KSU</td>
<td>430.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adams St.</td>
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<td>Northern Ky.</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACU</td>
<td>438.5</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>33.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drury</td>
<td>432</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>33.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2003-2004 AASU Athletics Year In Review

Volleyball

With a team consisting of no seniors, five juniors, two sophomores and seven freshman, the Pirates overcame a 1-5 start to finish with a 22-14 record and earn the program’s fourth straight NCAA Championships appearance.

AASU finished tied for second in the Peach Belt Conference regular season standings, but knocked off USC Spartanburg in the PBC Tournament semifinals to not only reach the PBC Tournament final for the fifth straight year, but also wrap up an NCAA at-large berth. AASU has now made the NCAA Tournament each year since 2000, the third longest current streak among Pirate sports.

A big part of the Pirates’ success in 2003 was the play of middle hitter and AVCA South Region Freshman of the Year Traci Knuth. Knuth hit .253 with 304 kills and 127 blocks, becoming the first freshman since Lindsay Ehlers in 1999 to earn All-PBC honors and becoming AASU’s first-ever AVCA Region Freshman of the Year.

Juniors Candice Modlinski and Darcey Krug also turned in outstanding seasons, earning All-PBC and honorable mention AVCA All-Region honors as they, along with Knuth, helped the Pirates lead the league in blocks (2.96/gm) and rank 14th in NCAA DII. Modlinski led the team in hitting for the third straight year with a .264 percentage and also led the PBC in blocks with 1.26/gm, while Krug ranked second in the league in blocks (1.16/gm).

Freshman Christina Flores also had an outstanding debut season, leading the Pirates in digs and earning PBC Player of the Week honors on Nov. 11.

AASU will return eight players for the 2004 season, including all three All-PBC honorees, and over the summer the team will take a two-week jaunt to China to play against club teams that will help prepare the Pirates for the upcoming campaign.

**Final PBC Standings**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCHOOL</th>
<th>PBC</th>
<th>ALL</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North Florida</td>
<td>14-0</td>
<td>31-4</td>
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<tr>
<td>USC Spartanburg</td>
<td>11-3</td>
<td>25-8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AASU</td>
<td>11-3</td>
<td>22-14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Augusta State</td>
<td>6-8</td>
<td>15-17</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lander</td>
<td>5-9</td>
<td>14-18</td>
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<tr>
<td>USC Aiken</td>
<td>5-9</td>
<td>13-21</td>
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<td>Francis Marion</td>
<td>4-10</td>
<td>11-24</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNC Pembroke</td>
<td>0-14</td>
<td>6-30</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**PBC Championships (Aiken, S.C.)**

No. 3 AASU def. No. 6 USCA (30-19, 30-23, 26-30, 30-26)
No. 3 AASU def. No. 2 USCS 3-1 (30-20, 30-20, 25-30, 31-29)
No. 1 UNF def. No. 3 AASU 3-0 (30-12, 30-17, 30-21)

**South Regional (Miami Shores, Fla.)**

No. 4 FSC def. No. 5 AASU 3-1 (31-33, 30-25, 30-16, 30-26)

**Individual Leaders**

**Hitting Percentage**

- Candice Modlinski, .264 (7th PBC)
- Traci Knuth, .253 (11th PBC)

**Kills per game**

- Candice Modlinski, 1.26 (1st PBC)
- Darcey Krug, 1.16 (3rd PBC)
- Traci Knuth, 1.05 (5th PBC)

**Blocks per game**

- Candice Modlinski, 1.26 (1st PBC)
- Darcey Krug, 1.16 (3rd PBC)
- Traci Knuth, 1.05 (5th PBC)

**Assists per game**

- Kelly Asbury, 9.55 (3rd PBC)
- Shannon Tracey, 9.50 (4th PBC)

**Digs per game**

- Christina Flores, 3.10 (11th PBC)

**Team Statistics**

**Hitting Percentage**

- .193 (4th PBC)

**Kills per game**

- 13.72 (3rd PBC)

**Service Aces per game**

- 1.77 (6th PBC)

**Blocks per game**

- 2.96 (1st PBC, 14th NCAA)

**Assists per game**

- 12.73 (3rd PBC)

**Digs per game**

- 16.64 (4th PBC)
2003-2004 AASU Athletics Year In Review

Men’s Basketball

The AASU men’s basketball team returned to the NCAA Championships for the third time in the Peach Belt Conference era and the fifth time overall with a 21-10 record and a fourth place showing in the PBC standings. AASU capped the season with a thrilling upset set of No. 5-ranked and North Division-champion Francis Marion in the PBC Quarterfinals, but came two points short of repeating the upset in the NCAA Regionals just a week later.

An experienced squad, the Pirates were led by seven seniors in 2003-04, including guard Justin Wood, who had his best season ever by shooting 39 percent from three-point range and finishing his AASU career ranked fourth all-time in games played (113) and ninth in three-point field goals made (88).

Senior Brian Bain impressed many with his athletic play, earning first-team All-PBC honors and averaging 17.2 points per game, fourth-best in the Peach Belt. Senior Daryl Williams averaged 21.8 points per game in his 19 contests and came back to earn All-PBC Tournament honors late in the season to help AASU’s push to the tournament.

The most memorable senior moment, however, came from guard Jason Sanders, who hit a fall-away three-point shot as time expired in the PBC Quarterfinals to beat FMU, 72-69. Sanders led the PBC in three-point field goal shooting (47.1%) as well.

As a team, the Pirates ranked nationally in field goal percentage and three-point field goal percentage and AASU returns six players for 2004-05.

AASU PBC All-Conference Honors
Brian Bain (First Team)

AASU PBC All-Tournament
Daryl Williams

PBC Player of the Week
Brian Bain (Nov. 24, 2003)
Daryl Williams (Dec. 8, 2003)

Ashley Dearing Cup Winner
Jason Sanders

Other Tournament Honors
2003 R.L. Vaughan Invitational
Daryl Williams (MVP)
Brian Bain

Individual Leaders

| Scoring | Brian Bain, 17.2 (4th PBC) |
| Field Goal Percentage | Tim Black, .524 (11th PBC) |
| Assists | Jason Sanders, 3.50 (9th PBC) |
| 3-Point FG Percentage | Jason Sanders, .471 (1st PBC) |
| Free Throw Percentage | Brian Bain, .348 (10th PBC) |
| Rebounds | Bryan Taylor, 20.3 (15th PBC) |
| Blocked Shots | Bryan Taylor, 0.97 (9th PBC) |

Team Statistics

| Scoring Offense | 70.0 ppg (7th PBC) |
| Scoring Defense | 66.4 ppg (5th PBC, 42nd NCAA) |
| Free Throw % | .692 (3rd PBC) |
| Field Goal % | .478 (1st PBC, 41st NCAA) |
| FG % Defense | .421 (4th PBC) |
| 3-Point FG % | .390 (1st PBC, 38th NCAA) |
| Assist/TO Ratio | .410 (8th PBC) |
| Offensive Rebounds | Bryan Taylor, 2.03 (15th PBC) |
| Rebounding Margin | 3.6 (5th PBC) |
| Steals | 7.23 spg (10th PBC) |
| Turnover Margin | -0.71 (7th PBC) |
| Turnover Ratio | 0.92 (6th PBC) |
| 3-Point FG Made | 5.58 (8th PBC) |

Just in Wood (top left) played in 113 games in his AASU career, fourth-best as a Pirate. Brian Bain (above) earned first-team All-PBC honors, while Daryl Williams (above right) earned All-PBC Tournament honors.


2003-2004 AASU Athletics Year In Review
Women’s Basketball

It would have been hard to top the season - individual and team - that the Lady Pirates experienced in 2002-03, but head coach Roger Hodge and the AASU women’s basketball program did just that in 2003-04, winning the school’s first-ever NCAA postseason game and riding the hot hand of senior guard Tasha Washington, who put in one of the best seasons ever for an AASU player.

Washington led the Peach Belt Conference in scoring, averaging 21.3 points per game, as well as steals, with 3.53 per game. She set a school record with 106 thefts and became the first AASU player to record 100+ steals and assists in the same season. In just two seasons with AASU, she scored her 1,000th career point and became AASU’s second-ever All-America honoree in women’s hoops.

AASU’s drive to a second straight postseason berth didn’t just depend on Washington. Senior Vandy Noldon earned second-team All-PBC honors as she continued to be one of the best three-point shooters in the league, averaging 12.1 points per game. Freshman Kaneetha Gordon averaged 7.7 points and 7.6 rebounds per game to be named the PBC Freshman of the Year, only the second AASU women’s basketball player to earn that honor. Gordon and Washington also helped AASU lead the Peach Belt in rebounding in 2003-04, averaging 42.8 rebounds per game.

The Lady Pirates entered the NCAA Regional as the No. 5 seed, but exacted a little revenge as they defeated No. 4 seed defending region champion North Florida, 73-68. Even though the Lady Pirates fell to eventual region champion Augusta State in the semifinals, AASU proved it had taken the next step towards national prominence.

AASU will have a tough early test in 2004-05 as they travel to Disney’s Wide World of Sports Complex to take part in the Disney’s DII Women’s Basketball Tip-Off Classic in November.

Team Statistics

| Scoring Offense | 69.6 ppg (5th PBC) |
| Scoring Defense | 64.0 ppg (3rd PBC) |
| Scoring Margin | +5.5 (5th PBC) |
| Field Goal % | .381 (10th PBC) |
| Free Throw % | .684 (8th PBC) |
| FG % Defense | .375 (3rd PBC) |
| 3-Point FG % | .298 (10th PBC) |
| 3-Point FG % Defense | .296 (5th PBC) |
| Rebounding Offense | 42.8 rpg (1st PBC) |
| Rebounding Defense | 43.4 rpg (12th PBC) |
| Rebounding Margin | -0.6 (9th PBC) |
| Blocked Shots | 2.74 bpg (8th PBC) |
| Assists | 14.03 apg (6th PBC) |
| Steals | 12.61 spg (3rd PBC) |
| Turnover Margin | +2.97 (3rd PBC) |
| Assist/TO Ratio | 0.65 (10th PBC) |
| Offensive Rebounds | 15.71 (4th PBC) |
| Defensive Rebounds | 27.06 (2nd PBC) |
| 3-Point FG Made | 4.81 (7th PBC) |
| Winning Percentage | 23-8, .742 (39th NCAA) |

Final PBC Standings

NORTH DIVISION

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<th>School</th>
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<td>UNC Pembroke</td>
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SOUTH DIVISION

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<th>School</th>
<th>PBC</th>
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<td>North Florida</td>
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<td>GC&amp;SU</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clayton State</td>
<td>2-14</td>
<td>10-18</td>
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PBC Championships (Augusta, Ga)
AASU def. FMU 63-52
Lander def. AASU 67-64

South Atl. Regional (Raleigh, NC)
AASU def. UNF 75-68
ASU def. AASU 79-74

Tournament Honors

ASU def. AASU 79-74

All-Classic
Tasha Washington, 0.71 (12th PBC)
Assist/T
Ramona Wright, 0.58 (14th PBC)

Individual Leaders

Scoring
Tasha Washington, 21.4 (1st PBC, 6th NCAA)
Vandy Noldon, 12.1 (16th PBC)

Rebounding
Kaneetha Gordon, 7.6 (7th PBC)
Tasha Washington, 6.3 (20th PBC)

Assists
Tasha Washington, 5.03 (8th PBC)

Free Throw Percentage
Tasha Washington, .76 (1st PBC)

Team Statistics

| Scoring Offense | 69.6 ppg (5th PBC) |
| Scoring Defense | 64.0 ppg (3rd PBC) |
| Scoring Margin | +5.5 (5th PBC) |
| Field Goal % | .381 (10th PBC) |
| Free Throw % | .684 (8th PBC) |
| FG % Defense | .375 (3rd PBC) |
| 3-Point FG % | .298 (10th PBC) |
| 3-Point FG % Defense | .296 (5th PBC) |
| Rebounding Offense | 42.8 rpg (1st PBC) |
| Rebounding Defense | 43.4 rpg (12th PBC) |
| Rebounding Margin | -0.6 (9th PBC) |
| Blocked Shots | 2.74 bpg (8th PBC) |
| Assists | 14.03 apg (6th PBC) |
| Steals | 12.61 spg (3rd PBC) |
| Turnover Margin | +2.97 (3rd PBC) |
| Assist/TO Ratio | 0.65 (10th PBC) |
| Offensive Rebounds | 15.71 (4th PBC) |
| Defensive Rebounds | 27.06 (2nd PBC) |
| 3-Point FG Made | 4.81 (7th PBC) |
| Winning Percentage | 23-8, .742 (39th NCAA) |
The AASU baseball squad experienced a season of highs and lows, ascending to the No. 2 ranking in the Collegiate Baseball Division II Top 25 poll in February and finishing with a 29-27 overall record with a grueling schedule.

Playing a slate that featured 33 of 56 games against teams ranked in Collegiate Baseball’s national rankings, the Pirates went 14-19 against those clubs but picked up wins over then-No. 3 Kennesaw State, then-No. 9 Missouri-St. Louis and then-No. 15 Florida Southern, as well as playing five games against three 2004 College World Series teams - Central Missouri State, Kutztown and Columbus State. AASU also played 16 games against teams that advanced to the NCAA Regionals.

One of those wins over a ranked team, a 3-0 shutout of then-No. 24 Southern Connecticut State, gave head coach Joe Roberts his 1,000th win, joining only two other active DII coaches at that level.

Senior team captain Michael Pelley completed an outstanding two-year career for AASU, earning All-Conference honors and becoming AASU’s third CoSIDA Academic All-America honoree in school history. Pelley hit .335 with two home runs and 49 RBI and joins David Harriman (2002) as the only first-team Academic All-America honorees to ever play for the Pirates.

Senior George Fletcher ended his two-year career with a bang as well, clubbing four home runs in a doubleheader against USC Aiken to finish the year with the team lead in homers (11) and RBI (50). Senior Zach Shelnutt finished his four-year career at AASU as the Pirates’ all-time saves leader and the Peach Belt Conference’s all-time leader in appearances. Outfielders Brandon McKinnon and Brian Dice, as well as 2003 All-America hurler Jon Dobyns and designated hitter Kyle Maddux also finished out their AASU careers.

The MLB First-Year Player Draft claimed righthander Marcus Barriger as Tampa Bay made him their 17th round selection with the 495th pick overall. He is the seventh draftee for AASU in the last three years and the 23rd draftee in school history.
Final PBC Standings

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PBC Championships (Spartanburg, SC)
AASU 10, Columbus State 0
AASU 2, USC Spartanburg 1
AASU 8, Francis Marion 0
Kennesaw State 4, AASU 1
Kennesaw State 3, AASU 2 (11 inn.)

NCAA II South Atlantic Regional
AASU 2, North Florida 1
Kennesaw State 2, AASU 1 (9 inn.)
Presbyterian 1, AASU 0

AASU PBC All-Conference Honors
Katya Eronina (Pitcher of the Year)
Stacey Richardson (Designated Player)
Kissy Stepanova (Catcher)
Valeria Silvestrini (At-Large)
Stacy Oliver (At-Large)

PBC Pitcher of the Week
Katya Eronina (March 16, March 22, March 29, & April 12, 2004)

All-PBC Tournament Team
Katya Eronina
Kissy Stepanova
Chelce Culberson

All-South Atl. Region Tmt Team
Katya Eronina
Stacey Richardson
Valeria Silvestrini

NFCA DII All-American
Katya Eronina (First Team - Pitcher)
Stacey Richardson (Second Team - DP)
Kissy Stepanova (Second Team - Catcher)
Stacy Oliver (Third Team - At-Large)

NFCA DII Player of the Week
Katya Eronina (April 14, 2004)

NFCA All-South Atlantic Region
Katya Eronina (First Team - Pitcher)
Stacey Richardson (First Team - DP)
Kissy Stepanova (First Team - Catcher)
Stacy Oliver (Third Team - At-Large)
Valeria Silvestrini (Second Team - Outfield)
Amanda Kort (Second Team - First Base)

CoSIDA Academic All-District III
Kissy Stepanova (First Team - Catcher)
Stacy Oliver (Second Team - Infielder)

2004 AASU President’s Cup
Kissy Stepanova

Final NFCA Division II Rank
No. 11

The 2004 AASU softball squad finished another outstanding season with a 42-9 record and a No. 11 ranking in the final NFCA Division II Top 25 poll. The Lady Pirates made their fourth NCAA Championships appearance in seven seasons and featured four NFCA All-America honorees, tying for the most in the nation.

Senior pitcher Katya Eronina picked up where she left off in 2003, winning her first 31 games of the season to stretch her consecutive win streak to 34, the third-best streak in NCAA Division II history. The PBC Pitcher of the Year for the second straight year, Eronina also earned NFCA First-Team All-America honors for the second year as she compiled a 32-3 record with an 0.38 ERA. She broke her own school and PBC record with 341 strikeouts and hurled her first career perfect game, an 8-0 win over FMU in the PBC Championships.

Earning All-America honors for the third year in a row, senior Stacey Richardson hit .377 with 11 home runs and 45 RBI, again leading the Pirates offensively. The Dalton, Ga., product finished her AASU career as the second-leading home run hitter in school history.

Senior Kissy Stepanova and junior Stacy Oliver each earned All-America honors as well. Stepanova limited opposing basestealers to just seven steals in 19 attempts while she committed just one error in 438 chances. Oliver hit a career-high .386 and set a new PBC record with 26 sacrifice hits.

Five other seniors - shortstop Lindsay Phillips, third baseman Jenny Alfirov and outfielders Jocelyn Lavender, Carrie Thompson and Valeria Silvestrini - also wrapped up their AASU careers. Silvestrini, who led AASU with a .410 average and earned All-PBC and All-Region honors, will return next year as head coach Marty McDaniel’s graduate assistant.

Individual Leaders

Batting Average
Valeria Silvestrini, .410 (12nd PBC)
Stacy Oliver, .386 (7th PBC)

Slugging Percentage
Richardson, .708
(5th PBC, 30th NCAA)
Culberson, .617 (7th PBC)

On-Base Percentage
Richardson, .737 (9th PBC)

Home Runs
Richardson, 11 (3rd PBC, 18th NCAA)
Culberson, 10 (6th PBC, 28th NCAA)

Sacrifice Hits
Oliver, 26 (PBC Record, 2nd NCAA)

Earned Run Average
Katya Eronina, 0.38
(1st PBC, 3rd NCAA)

Opponent’s Batting Average
Eronina, .131 (1st PBC)

Wins
Eronina, 32 (1st PBC, 4th NCAA)

Strikeouts
Eronina, 341 (PBC Record)

Singles
Eronina, 109 (1st PBC, 4th NCAA)

Doubles
Eronina, 42 (1st PBC, 2nd NCAA)

Triples
Eronina, 10 (1st PBC, 3rd NCAA)

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The AASU men’s tennis team made its 10th straight trip to the NCAA Championships in 2004, finishing the season with a 15-11 overall record and a No. 14 overall ranking in the ITA Division II National Rankings.

The Pirates played yet another tough schedule as they played 21 matches out of 26 against nationally-ranked schools, including their last 19 straight against ranked teams.

AASU entered the Peach Belt Conference championships as the No. 5 seed, but knocked off No. 18-ranked Columbus State, 5-2, then defeated No. 7-ranked Lander, 5-3, to capture third place in the 2004 PBC Tournament. It was AASU’s second-ever win against the Bearcats and propelled the Pirates into the NCAA Regionals.

Achim Roth, who graduated in the spring from AASU, earned All-PBC and ITA All-America singles honors for the Pirates in his final year. Roth, who will finish his collegiate career as a graduate student next season at the University of Tulsa, was also named the ITA South Atlantic Region Senior of the Year and finished the season ranked No. 19 in singles.

Junior Dale White, who teamed with Roth to make up the No. 12-ranked doubles team in the nation, finished the year with a team-best 26-7 singles record and was named the ITA South region Player to Watch. Newcomer Peter Dedik, who fashioned a 14-7 singles record at No. 2 singles, finished the year ranked No. 37 in the nation.

Senior Roger Thiele also finished his AASU career in 2004. The Dormagen, Germany, native won 89 career matches in four seasons and was a four-time PBC Presidential Honor Roll honoree.
The AASU women’s tennis team returned its elite status in 2004, fashioning a school-record 28 wins and advancing to the NCAA DII Women’s Tennis semifinals while capturing its 10th Peach Belt Conference championship and PBC Tournament title.

The only blemish in the Lady Pirates’ record, a loss to eventual national champion BYU-Hawaii in the semifinals, did not dampen an otherwise outstanding season that saw four players earn ITA All-America honors, led by senior Zsofia Golopencza, who wrapped up perhaps the finest women’s tennis career ever at the Division II level.

Golopencza dropped just one singles match all year - in the ITA Division I Indoor Championships in November - as she went 35-1 in singles and 33-2 in doubles. She was named the PBC’s Player of the Year for the fourth straight year, the only student-athlete in league history to earn that honor four years in a row, regardless of sport. She captured the ITA “Super Bowl” of Small College Tennis in the fall, was named the ITA National Senior of the Year and finished the season ranked No. 1 in singles and No. 2 in doubles while winning 287 overall matches as a Lady Pirate, a record that may never be equaled.

The success of the Lady Pirates in 2004 came from outstanding depth in the lineup after Golopencza. Sophomore Luisa Cowper was named the ITA National “Player To Watch” after finishing 19-1 in singles and 26-3 in doubles in her first year on the court at AASU, also earning ITA All-America honors in both singles and doubles. Freshman Dziyana Nazaruk went 23-6 in singles and was named the PBC Freshman of the Year, as well as the ITA Mid-Atlantic Region Rookie of the Year, en route to ITA All-America doubles honors. Sophomore Alejandra Aguilar - who won 175 matches in her career as well - are the only two players the Lady Pirates lose from the 2004 squad. As a final tribute, Golopencza was named to the 2004 American Express Collegiate All-Star team that will travel to China in June 21-23 to represent the U.S. in exhibition matches against the Chinese.

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Golopencza and four-year senior Alejandra Aguilar - who won 175 matches in her career as well - are the only two players the Lady Pirates lose from the 2004 squad. As a final tribute, Golopencza was named to the 2004 American Express Collegiate All-Star team that will travel to China in June 13-21 to represent the U.S. in exhibition matches against the Chinese.
The Armstrong Atlantic State men’s golf team had a breakout season in 2003-04, fashioning five tournament titles and earning the program’s first berth into the NCAA Division II National Championships, giving the Pirates some momentum as they head into 2004-05, when they will host the nation’s best DII golfers at the Westin Savannah Harbor Resort and Spa at the 2005 NCAA Championships.

Head coach Michael Butler’s squad captured their third tournament title in October with a one-stroke win at the North Shore/Pfieffer Intercollegiate, then in the spring, AASU reeled off four straight wins, starting with the AASU/Southbridge Pirate Invitational and carrying on through two primarily-Division I fields at the GEICO Direct Invitational and the Amoco Oil/Young Intercollegiate. A dominating 12-stroke win at the Bobcat Invitational capped off the spring run that resulted in a regionals berth and a No. 2 ranking in the nation in Golfstat’s DII head-to-head standings.

That head-to-head ranking would be key as AASU used it to snare an at-large berth to the NCAA Championships after a third-place finish at the Southeast Regional. In Deland, Fla., the Pirates finished eighth in the 18-team championship field in its first experience at that level.

Senior Thomas Whittaker saved his best season for last as the four-year senior led the PBC in stroke average (73.42) and earned first-team Ping/GCAA DII All-America honors, as well as being named the PBC Player of the Year. Junior Chris Epperson captured the PBC Championship individual title and earned honorable mention All-America honors with a 74.45 stroke average. Head coach Michael Butler was named the PBC’s Coach of the Year for the first time as well.

AASU’s other fourth-year senior, Andrew Suggs, made the most of his opportunity to play at the end of the season and finished tied for 27th at the NCAA Championships.

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<th>Golfer</th>
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**Individual Statistics**

**Team Results**