2007

2006-2007 AASU Athletics Year in Review

Armstrong State University

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Recommended Citation
AASU Wins Second Straight PBC Presidents Academic Award
Seven of 10 Teams Advance To NCAA Championships
Six of 10 Teams Earn Final NCAA National Rankings
Women’s Tennis Finishes Third In NCAA Championships
Men’s Tennis, Women’s Tennis and Volleyball Earn PBC Titles
10 Student-Athletes Earn All-America Honors

NSCAA All-America Honors
Freshman Kristin Burton (First Team)

WBCA All-America Honors
Junior Kaneetha Gordon (Honorable Mention)

ITA All-America Honors
Women
Senior Dziyana Nazaruk (Singles, Doubles)
Junior Iuliia Stupak (Singles, Doubles)
Junior Johanna Dahlback (Singles)
Men
Freshman Christian Bergh (Doubles)
Junior Robert Jendelund (Doubles)

CoSIDA Academic All-America
Volleyball
Senior Traci Knuth (Third Team)

GCAA All-America Honors
Sophomore Chris Wolfe (Third Team)

NCBWA All-America Honors
Senior Truman Marek (Honorable Mention)
AASU finished second for the second straight year in the 2007 Peach Belt Conference Commissioner's Cup standings, which is the conference's all-sports trophy. AASU received 71 points out of a possible 93, for a .763 percentage. AASU was boosted in the standings by three Peach Belt titles earned its 13th league crown. Columbus State won the cup, while Clayton State finished third. USC - volleyball captured its second straight, while men's tennis captured its third straight and women's tennis also contributed points to the "commissioner's Cup standings.

PBC Presidential Honor Roll Honorees

Baseball          Basketball          Soccer          Tennis          Volleyball
Kenney Cail      Jimmy Fanning      Jennifer Brian (2)       Christian Bergh         Nikki Ciapponi (2)
Jeff Chase       Parker Hayden (2)     Kristin Burton            Paul Bishop (2)          Gwendolyn Clarke
Josh Dallas (2)  William Kane (2)     Jamie Craine (2)        Cristian Easton (2)     Rachel Falco (2)
Joey Davis (2)   Darly Massamba (3)   Ashley Elam              Robert Jendelund (3)    Christina Flores (2)
Tyler Evans (2)  Patrick Sanou (3)    Hollie Grulich (2)       Henrik Lilja             Laureen Good (3)
Jeremy Horst (2) Sarah Brown (2)       Samantha Held            Taavo Roos (3)            Kassi Kimiller (2)
Sean Hotzak (4)  Kaneetha Gordon     Maggie Kennedy           Kevin Sijmons (2)        Traci Knuth (4)
Derrek Miller    Tana Griffiths (2)      Erin Lariscy (2)         Davor Zink (3)           Stacia McCoy (2)
Marc Noble (2)   Jasmine Herron (3)    Emily Latner             Martina Beckmann         Adriana Miller
Ross Parrett     Averi Palmquist (2)     Shana Neves              Johanna Dahlback (3)    Joanna Stucka
Vyt Rivers (2)   Amanda Baxter (2)     Amaka Ofuani             Alisa Kagukina           sm Nick Stucka
David Roessler (2) Pam Bykowski (2)    Kristen Savoy            Dzilyana Nazarak (2)     Stacy Yates (2)
Chris Smith      Kari Marsico          Danielle Davis          Women's Golf
              Sara Morris            Kristen Graham (2)
              Jessica Strong
              Courtney Tucker (2)     Brantie Lockard
              Amanda Vickers

Academics

2006-2007 AASU Athletics Year In Review

Commissioner’s Cup

AASU finished second for the second straight year in the 2007 Peach Belt Conference Commissioner’s Cup standings, which is the conference’s all-sports trophy. AASU received 71 points out of a possible 93, for a .763 percentage. AASU was boosted in the standings by three Peach Belt titles - volleyball captured its second straight, while men’s tennis captured its third straight and women’s tennis earned its 13th league crown. Columbus State won the cup, while Clayton State finished third. USC Upstate, who finished fourth, will depart the Peach Belt in July, bringing membership for the upcoming season to 11 schools.

2006-2007 Commissioner’s Cup Final Standings

School                MXCWXC         MSO         WSO VB       MBB         WBB BB       SB         MT         WT         GF         Maximum Total Possible*E* Earned Rating
CSU                   6            10           --          10           7.5          9           10          11          3           10          8           102          84.5          .828
AASU                  --           --           9           6           10.5         5           6           6.5         10           12          6           93           71           .763
Clayton               1            9            7.5         8           --           9           12          --           --           --           8           2           78           56.5          .724
Upstate               --           5            6           4           7.5          3           6           10          8           11          7           101          67.5          .668
GC&SU                 5            6            --           3           --           6           9           11          9           6           9           4           102          68           .667
Augusta St.           --           8            --           7           --           1           12          6.5         4           4.5         6           6           --           85           48           .565
USC Aiken             --           2            6           7           6           2           11          6           4.5         6           5           5           111          60.5          .545
Lander                --           3            7.5         1.5         2           10.5         6.5         3           3           9           4           3           111          53           .477
Francis Marion        2            4            2           --           6           3.5         2           9           6.5         4           7           --           99           46          .465
North Georgia         4            5            3           4.5         --           2           4           8           8           1           2           --           102          41.5         .407
UNC Pembroke          3            7            4           4.5         3           3           5           9           2           2           --           3           1           107          42          .393
Ga. S’western         --           1            1           1.5         --           5           1           1           1           2           1           2           --           96           14.5         .151

*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

On the strength of the school’s seven NCAA championship appearances, the Armstrong Atlantic State athletic department fashioned another outstanding season in 2006-07, finishing with 313 points in the 2006-07 NACDA Division II Director’s Cup competition. The Pirates finished 53rd overall, second among Peach Belt Conference schools.

Men’s and women’s tennis led the way as the Lady Pirates’ third-place finish netted 83 points, while the Pirates’ quarterfinals appearance earned 73 points. Softball earned 64 points for its South Atlantic Region finals appearance, while appearances in the NCAA tournament by baseball, men’s basketball, men’s golf and women’s soccer also contributed points to the standings.
Armstrong Atlantic State University has captured the 2007 Peach Belt Conference Presidents’ Academic Award, announced by the league at its annual meeting in Hilton Head, S.C. The award recognizes excellence in academics concerning all of an institution’s student-athletes and goes to the Pirates for the second straight year.

This spring, the Peach Belt asked each of the league’s 12 members to submit an undergraduate student body average GPA and a student-athlete average GPA for the academic year. These two numbers were then used to create a ratio for each school. The award is given to the school with the highest ratio, which in its first year went to Armstrong Atlantic State with a ratio of 1.1441. As a whole, Armstrong Atlantic State student-athletes carried a 2.97 GPA for the 2006-07 academic year, including a spring semester in which the entire athletic department’s GPA was above a 3.00 (3.012).

“I am extremely proud of our student athletes for their academic accomplishments,” said University President Dr. Thomas Z. Jones, who also served as the President of the PBC Executive Committee for the 2006-07 academic year. “To be recognized by the Peach Belt Conference for the second consecutive year for outstanding academic achievement is a tribute to our student athletes, their coaches and the entire athletic department staff.”

We continue to be extremely proud of the hard work on the part of our student-athletes,” Athletic Director Dr. Eddie Aenchbacher said. “These men and women demonstrate every day how to succeed in both the classroom and on the field of play. Our coaching staff continues to do a tremendous job of recruiting these academic athletes and supporting their efforts in a number of ways.”

Armstrong Atlantic State University, part of the University System of Georgia, was founded in 1935. The university offers more than 75 undergraduate and graduate academic programs in the College of Arts and Sciences, the College of Education, the College of Health Professions, and the School of Computing. Armstrong Atlantic today serves more than 6,700 students. While 43 percent are from the Savannah-Chatham County area, the diverse student population comes from nearly all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and more than 70 countries.

2006-07 PBC Champions

*2006 Volleyball Regular Season Champs*

*2007 Men’s Tennis Regular Season and Tournament Champs*

*2007 Women’s Tennis Regular Season and Tournament Champs*

*2007 Baseball Tournament Champs*
The Armstrong Atlantic State volleyball squad successfully defended its Peach Belt Conference regular season crown, earning the 2006 championship and advancing to the PBC Tournament championship game for the eighth straight year.

A senior-laden team for head coach Alan Segal won 20 matches for the eighth straight season as well, paced by two-time Peach Belt Conference Player of the Year Traci Knuth. Knuth finished her AASU career as the Pirates’ all-time leader in kills (1,409) and blocks (536) while also earning ESPN: The Magazine/CoSIDA Academic All-America honors, the first female student-athlete in AASU history to be named a CoSIDA Academic All-American.

Senior Christina Flores set the AASU all-time digs record with 1,541 before suffering a season-ending injury in October, while senior Leah Schmiedge again ranked as one of the league’s top blockers, ranking third in the PBC with 1.14 per game. Her two-year career blocking average of 1.17 ranks as the second best in AASU history.

Along with Knuth and Flores, senior Lauren Good completed a four-year career in which she collected 522 kills and 252 blocks. Seniors Nikki Ciapponi, Rachel Falco and Stacy Yates also completed their two-year careers as Pirates - Yates teamed again ably with Margaret Thornton to average 12.48 assists per game, third-best in the league. Representing the underclassmen, junior Rindy Vidovich enjoyed a strong season, earning All-PBC and All-PBC Tournament honors.

As a team, the Pirates ranked second in the league and 29th in NCAA DII in blocking, averaging 2.60 per game, while also ranking second in the league and 56th nationally in digs per game with 18.64.

### Individual Leaders

- **Hitting Percentage**
  - Traci Knuth, .254 (8th PBC)
  - Margaret Thornton, .248 (16th PBC)

- **Kills Per Game**
  - Traci Knuth, 3.06 (8th PBC)
  - Stacy Yates, 3.10 (7th PBC)

- **Assists Per Game**
  - Margaret Thornton, 6.56 (6th PBC)
  - Stacy Yates, 5.10 (9th PBC)

- **Blocks Per Game**
  - Leah Schmiedge, 1.15 (3rd PBC, 62nd NCAA)

- **Digs Per Game**
  - Christina Flores, 2.72 (13th PBC, 89th NCAA)
  - Margaret Thornton, 3.20 (5th PBC)
  - Stacy Yates, 3.10 (7th PBC)
  - Leah Schmiedge, 3.10 (7th PBC)

- **Service Aces**
  - Christina Flores, 1.15 (3rd PBC, 29th NCAA)

- **Match W-L Percentage**
  - Traci Knuth, .254 (8th PBC)

Senior Traci Knuth (top left) finished her four-year AASU career as the Pirates’ all-time leader in kills (1,409) and blocks (536), as well as earning ESPN/CoSIDA Academic All-America honors. Senior Christina Flores (right) set the AASU all-time digs record before suffering a season-ending knee injury in October with 1,541 digs. Junior Rindy Vidovich (top right) earned All-PBC and All-PBC Tournament honors in 2007.
**Soccer**

The second season of competition for the AASU women’s soccer program brought unprecedented success as the Pirates advanced to the Peach Belt Conference championship game and earned a berth into the NCAA Women’s Soccer Championships. Head coach Eric Faulconer’s squad also directed one of the best single-season improvements in the nation, taking a squad that won 11 matches in its inaugural season into an 18-match winner - with all four losses coming against nationally-ranked squads.

AASU continued its high-octane offensive output, leading the Peach Belt in scoring for the second straight year and ranking 21st in the NCAA by averaging 2.78 goals per game.

The offense was keyed by freshman forward Kristin Burton, the Peach Belt’s Freshman and Player of the Year as well as a NSCAA First-Team All-American selection. Burton led the PBC in goals scored with 19 and ranked among the top 30 in NCAA DII in that category. Sophomore Lyndsi Stricklen led the league in assists with 12, while also tallying five goals, while freshman Amaka Ofuani notched 10 goals. Joining those three on the All-PBC squad were seniors Donna Cheyne and Jessica Chipple.

Cheyne earned All-Region honors for the second straight season in her final year playing for coach Faulconer and tallying 11 goals and 19 assists in two seasons. Chipple and Candice Modlinski each played strong defense as seniors, helping AASU lower its GAA by two goals from its inaugural season, dropping to an even 1.00 - second-best in the PBC.

Coach Faulconer was named the NSCAA's Southeast Region Coach of the Year as the Pirates advanced to the PBC Tournament title match, losing to Columbus State in penalty kicks, then earned the program’s first NCAA regionals berths. With only three seniors, the Pirates will return the bulk of its squad in 2007, including nine starters.

**Individual Leaders**

- **Points Per Game**
  - Kristin Burton, 1.96 (1st PBC, 32nd NCAA)
  - Amaka Ofuani, 1.00 (8th PBC)

- **Goals Per Game**
  - Kristin Burton, 0.96 (9th PBC)
  - Shana Neves, 0.95 (10th PBC)

- **Goals**
  - Kristin Burton, 19 (1st PBC)
  - Amaka Ofuani, 10 (4th PBC)
  - Shana Neves, 8 (6th PBC)

- **Assists**
  - Lyndsi Stricklen, 12, (1st PBC)
  - Kristin Burton, 7 (2nd PBC)

- **Shots Per Game**
  - Kristin Burton, 4.65 (1st PBC)
  - Lyndsi Stricklen, 2.87 (2nd PBC)

- **Shutouts**
  - Tarra Kohler, 0.94 (3rd PBC)

**Team Statistics**

- **Goals**
  - 64, (1st PBC)

- **Goals Allowed**
  - 23, (3rd PBC)

- **Goals Per Game**
  - 2.78, (1st PBC, 21st NCAA)

- **Goals Allowed Per Game**
  - 1.00, (2nd PBC)

- **Assists**
  - 52, (1st PBC)

- **Assists Per Game**
  - 2.26, (1st PBC)

- **Points**
  - 180, (1st PBC)

- **Points Per Game**
  - 7.83, (1st Place)

- **Points Allowed Per Game**
  - 2.74, (2nd PBC)

- **Shots**
  - 481, (1st PBC)

- **Shutouts**
  - 11, (2nd PBC, 30th NCAA)

- **W-L Percentage**
  - .804, (1st PBC, 14th NCAA)
**Final PBC Standings**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>PBC</th>
<th>All</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North Division</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lander</td>
<td>11-5</td>
<td>20-11</td>
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<tr>
<td>USC Upstate</td>
<td>9-7</td>
<td>17-11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Francis Marion</td>
<td>5-11</td>
<td>9-19</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNC Pembroke</td>
<td>5-11</td>
<td>6-22</td>
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<tr>
<td>North Georgia</td>
<td>4-12</td>
<td>9-21</td>
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<tr>
<td>USC Aiken</td>
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<td>9-22</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Division</td>
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<tr>
<td>Augusta St.</td>
<td>14-2</td>
<td>24-7</td>
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<tr>
<td>AASU</td>
<td>11-5</td>
<td>21-9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clayton State</td>
<td>10-6</td>
<td>24-8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Columbus St.</td>
<td>9-7</td>
<td>17-12</td>
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<tr>
<td>GC&amp;SU</td>
<td>8-8</td>
<td>19-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ga. Southwestern</td>
<td>7-9</td>
<td>16-13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

- AASU def. Francis Marion, 78-68
- Lander def. AASU, 60-56
- NCAA South Atlantic Regional (Augusta, Ga.)
  - Wingate def. AASU, 72-68

**PBC All-Conference Honors**

- Tory Harris
- Bryan Taylor

**PBC All-Tournament Team**

- Bryan Taylor

**PBC Player of the Week**

- Tory Harris (12/18, 2/19)

**NABC All-South Atlantic Region**

- Bryan Taylor (Second Team)

**ESPN/CoSIDA Academic All-District III**

- Patrick Sanou (First Team)

**Ashley Dearing Award Winner**

- Tory Harris

**PBC All-Sportsmanship Team**

- Patrick Sanou

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The AASU men’s basketball team enjoyed another outstanding season, winning 20 games and advancing to the NCAA South Atlantic Regional for the third time in the last four years. It was also the first time in school history that the Pirates have advanced to the NCAA postseason in back-to-back years and for the 13th straight year, AASU won its opening game in the PBC Tournament.

Seniors Bryan Taylor and Tory Harris shouldered the load for the Pirates en route to a 21-win season. Taylor became the first Pirate to lead the Peach Belt in rebounding (8.3 per game) while also averaging 14.1 points per game. During the season, Taylor became AASU’s all-time games played leader (121) while also finishing his four-year career with 1,402 points scored and 851 rebounds, ranking fourth and third, respectively, on the AASU charts. Taylor earned All-PBC and NABC All-South Atlantic Region honors.

Harris also scored a team-leading 14.1 points per game while ranking fifth in the league in free throw percentage. A two-time PBC Player of the Week honoree, Harris also earned All-PBC honors and finished his two-year career as an 80 percent free throw shooter, sixth-best in AASU history.

The Pirates’ other senior, Darly Massamba, averaged a career-best 6.3 points and 4.4 rebounds per game during the year, while junior Jamaal Galloway became AASU’s all-time three-point basket leader and now has 197 in his three seasons. As a team, the Pirates led the Peach Belt in free throw percentage with a school-record 74.4% and also pulled off its biggest upset in the Peach Belt era, knocking off then No. 2-ranked Clayton State, 63-58, on January 24 at Alumni Arena.

**PBC Individual Leaders**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>First</th>
<th>Second</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scoring</td>
<td>Bryan</td>
<td>Tory</td>
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<tr>
<td>rebound Margin</td>
<td>Taylor</td>
<td>Harris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rebounding</td>
<td>Bryan</td>
<td>Taylor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Block Shots</td>
<td>Patrick Sanou</td>
<td>Jamaal Galloway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assist/Turnover Ratio</td>
<td>William Kane</td>
<td>William Kane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free Throw Percentage</td>
<td>Tory Harris</td>
<td>Bryan Taylor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-Point FG Made</td>
<td>William Galloway</td>
<td>Bryan Taylor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blocked Shots</td>
<td>Bryan Taylor</td>
<td>Patrick Sanou</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Win-Lost Percentage</td>
<td>Bryan Taylor</td>
<td>Bryan Taylor</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**2006-2007 AASU Athletics Year In Review**

**Team Statistics**

- Scoring Offense: 68.5, (8th PBC)
- Scoring Defense: 65.3, (3rd PBC, 34th NCAA)
- Free Throw Percentage: .744 (1st PBC, 24th NCAA)
- FG Percentage: .429, (8th PBC)
- Field Goal Pct Defense: .416, (3rd PBC, 38th NCAA)
- 3-Point FG Pct: .357, (4th PBC)
- 3-Point FG Pct Defense: .314, (1st PBC)
- Offensive Rebounds: 11.97, (5th PBC)
- Defensive Rebounds: 23.67, (5th PBC)
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Women’s Basketball

Head coach Roger Hodge and the Armstrong Atlantic State women’s basketball team put together its fifth straight winning season in 2006-07, an impressive task given the youth of the Lady Pirate squad this season - the top seven scorers for coach Hodge were all either sophomores or juniors.

The Lady Pirates also continued its tendency of playing big against big competition, knocking off a nationally-ranked squad for the seventh consecutive year as the Lady Pirates defeated No. 18-ranked Shaw, 74-59, on November 25 in Savannah.

A big key to the Lady Pirates’ success was the play of junior Kaneetha Gordon. Gordon earned honorable mention WBCA DII All-America honors by averaging 15.6 points and a PBC-leading 11.6 rebounds per game, including setting a PBC Tournament record with 23 rebounds in AASU’s 76-63 win over USC Upstate. Gordon is the third AASU player to lead the league in rebounding and she ranked seventh in NCAA DII in that category.

Another record that fell, this one a little further away from the basket, was at the hands of sophomore Tana Griffiths. The Aussie connected on a school-record 87 three-point baskets during the year and ranked seventh in NCAA DII by hitting 3.00 threes per game, also a school record.

Senior Sarah Brown had an outstanding year from beyond the arc, connecting on 37 percent of her three-pointers, ranking fifth in the PBC. Seniors Ashley Mason, Jennifer Anderson and Emily Perpich also wrapped up their AASU careers in 2006-07.

As a team, the Pirates ranked second in the Peach Belt in three-point baskets made and rebounding offense, while also smashing the single-season team three-point basket record, connecting on 203 during the year.

Individual Leaders

Scoring
Kaneetha Gordon, 15.6 (6th PBC)
Tana Griffiths, 11.6 (15th PBC)
Rebounding
Kaneetha Gordon, 11.6 (1st PBC, 7th NCAA)
FG Percentage
Lacey Willis, .468 (9th PBC)
Assists
Jasmine Herron, 3.72 (11th PBC)
Steals
Jasmine Herron, 1.93 (13th PBC)
3-Point FG Percentage
Sarah Brown, .371 (5th PBC)
Tana Griffiths, .355 (9th PBC, 70th NCAA)
3-Point FG Made
Tana Griffiths, 3.00 (1st PBC, 7th NCAA)
Blocked Shots
Kaneetha Gordon, 1.07 (8th PBC)
Offensive Rebounds
Kaneetha Gordon, 4.28 (1st PBC)
Defensive Rebounds
Kaneetha Gordon, 7.28 (3rd PBC)

PBC All-Conference Honors
Kaneetha Gordon

PBC All-Tournament Honors
Kaneetha Gordon

PBC Player of the Week
Tana Griffiths (11/27)
Kaneetha Gordon (12/11, 2/26)

Daktronics All-South Atlantic Region
Kaneetha Gordon (Second Team)

WBCA All-South Atlantic Region
Kaneetha Gordon

WBCA DII All-America Honors
Kaneetha Gordon (Honorable Mention)

Chatham Orthopaedics Holiday Classic All-Tournament Team
Kaneetha Gordon

Jasmine Herron

Team Statistics

Scoring Offense
70.1, (5th PBC, 66th NCAA)
Scoring Defense
70.4, (9th PBC)
Free Throw Percentage
.622, (11th PBC)
FG Percentage
.391, (7th PBC)
FG Percentage Defense
.397, (9th PBC)
3-Point FG
7.00, (2nd PBC, 25th NCAA)
3-Point FG Percentage
.313, (5th PBC)
3-Point FG Percentage Defense
.312, (7th PBC)
Rebounding Offense
44.4, (2nd PBC)
Rebounding Defense
41.3, (7th PBC)
Rebounding Margin
+3.0, (4th PBC, 76th NCAA)
Assists
15.10, (7th PBC, 66th NCAA)
Steals
7.97, (10th PBC)
Assist/Turnover Ratio
0.72, (9th PBC)
2006-2007 AASU Athletics Year In Review

Baseball

The Armstrong Atlantic State baseball squad accomplished a program first in 2007 - noteworthy for a program that has been at or near the top of the region for the last 20 seasons. But on a scorching Sunday in Spartanburg, S.C., the Pirates played 27 innings of baseball to capture the school’s first-ever Peach Belt Conference tournament title. Josh Wilson’s ninth-inning game-winning single gave the Pirates a 7-6 win over Columbus State, then freshman Blake Culberson’s 5-2 complete-game win over USC Aiken handed an automatic bid to the NCAA Championships for the Pirates - the 12th NCAA postseason appearance for AASU in those last 20 seasons.

Senior Truman Marek, who earned second-team NCBWA All-America honors as an outfielder by hitting .372 with 54 RBI, also pulled double duty as he saved nine games with a 1.72 ERA as AASU’s closer. Marek earned All-PBC honors as well, as did senior first baseman Tyler Evans, who became the Pirates’ first .400 hitter since David Harriman in 2002 with a .402 average, third-best in the Peach Belt.

Senior catcher Sean Hotzak, AASU’s only four year senior, also earned All-PBC honors by hitting .327 with seven home runs and team-high 57 RBI. Hotzak also set the AASU and PBC career sacrifice hit record with 49. Senior outfielder Marc Noble hit .368 on the season and finished his two-year AASU career with a .380 average, fifth-best in AASU history. On the pitching side, junior Austin Ducey went 9-0 with a 3.78 ERA, earning second-team All-Region honors.

One other highlight of the season came on April 15 as the Pirates met league foe August State for a doubleheader - in game one, the Pirates launched an NCAA Division II record three grand slams, including two in one inning, in a 27-9 win over the Jaguars. Hotzak, sophomore Kenny Cail and senior Brad Bohannon each delivered a slam, with Cail’s and Bohannon’s coming in a 13-run eighth inning.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Final PBC Standings</th>
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<td>Augusta St.</td>
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<td>Lander</td>
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<td>UNC Pembroke</td>
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<td>Ga. Southern</td>
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<tr>
<th>PBC Championships (Spartanburg, S.C.)</th>
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<tr>
<td>AASU def. Columbus State, 3-1</td>
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<td>AASU def. Francis Marion, 11-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USC Aiken def. AASU, 11-10 (12 inn.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AASU def. Columbus State, 7-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AASU def. USC Aiken, 5-2 (Championship)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

South Atlantic Regional (Kinston, N.C.)

GC&SU def. AASU, 6-3
Mount Olive def. AASU, 4-2 (10 inn.)

PBC All-Conference Honors
Tyler Evans
Sean Hotzak
Truman Marek

PBC All-Tournament Team
Josh Wilson (MVP)
Blake Culberson
Truman Marek

PBC Player of the Week
Truman Marek (2/13)

PBC Pitcher of the Week
Nate Herder (2/6)
Truman Marek (2/13)

NCBWA All-South Atlantic Region
Truman Marek (First Team)
Austin Ducey (Second Team)

Daktronics All-South Atlantic Region
Sean Hotzak (First Team)
Josh Wilson (Second Team)
Truman Marek (Second Team)

ASU President’s Cup Winner
Marc Noble

MLB First-Year Player Draft
Jeremy Horst, Cincinnati (Round 21, Pick 649)

Individual Leaders

Batting Average
Tyler Evans, .402 (3rd PBC, 77th NCAA)
Marc Noble, .368 (7th PBC)
Truman Marek, .358 (8th PBC)
Josh Wilson, .360 (10th PBC)

Hits
Tyler Evans, 98 (1st PBC)
Truman Marek, 96 (2nd PBC)
Josh Wilson, 90 (5th PBC)

Home Runs
Josh Wilson, 56 (8th PBC)
Kenny Cail, 54 (9th PBC)
Truman Marek, 54 (9th PBC)

Stolen Bases
Truman Marek, 20 (5th PBC)

On Base Percentage
Tyler Evans, .479 (2nd PBC)

Slugging Percentage
Josh Wilson, .576 (6th PBC)

Wins
Austin Ducey, 9 (3rd PBC, 32nd NCAA)

Innings Pitched
Austin Ducey, 100.0 (4th PBC)

Strikeouts
Austin Ducey, 83 (6th PBC, 46th NCAA)

Saves
Truman Marek, 9 (2nd PBC, 17th NCAA)

Team Statistics

Batting Average
.336, (1st PBC, 24th NCAA)
.457, (2nd PBC, 73rd NCAA)

Slugging Percentage
.410, (2nd PBC)

Earned Run Average
4.60, (8th PBC, 62nd NCAA)

Stolen Bases
105, (1st PBC, 32nd NCAA)

Earned Run Average
4.60, (8th PBC, 62nd NCAA)

Stolen Bases
105, (1st PBC, 32nd NCAA)

Earned Run Average
4.60, (8th PBC, 62nd NCAA)

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Stolen Bases
105, (1st PBC, 32nd NCAA)
For the second straight season, the Armstrong Atlantic State softball squad entered the NCAA South Atlantic Regional without much fanfare, a No. 6 seed that should have been content with just making the field.

Once play began, however, the Pirates shocked the tournament, reeling off three straight wins to earn a berth in the school’s third region championship game, including an impressive 4-0 blanking of then-No. 2 ranked Columbus State, handing the Cougars its only shutout loss in Columbus this year. The run to the region championship again placed the Pirates in the final NFCA Division II national rankings at No. 15.

The Pirates again rode a strong hitting club to postseason success, ranking among the league’s and nation’s leaders in batting average (.321) and slugging percentage (.475). AASU also put together a solid fielding club, ranking second in the league and 10th in NCAA Division II with a .969 percentage.

Junior Natalie Vogler led a solid lineup in which all nine starters hit .270 or better. Vogler earned second-team All-NFCA honors, hitting .361 with eight home runs and a team-high 41 RBI. Vogler also earned All-PBC and NCAA region all-tournament honors, as did sophomore Ashley Bain, who hit .355 with six home runs and 32 RBI. Freshman Tori Richter, a Savannah native, earned All-PBC honors by hitting .367 with a team-best 16 stolen bases.

Freshman Jessica Waters led the pitchers by winning 18 games and earning region all-tournament honors with her three wins - including two shutouts.

Senior Vanessa Becerra, who played just one season for the Pirates, hit .311 and provided sparkling defense behind the plate all year long. Senior Amanda Baxter also wrapped up her AASU career as the only other senior on the Pirates this season.

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Senior Vanessa Becerra, who played just one season for the Pirates, hit .311 and provided sparkling defense behind the plate all year long. Senior Amanda Baxter also wrapped up her AASU career as the only other senior on the Pirates this season.
The Armstrong Atlantic State men’s tennis team set a new school record with 27 wins in 2007, ascending to as high as No. 2 in the ITA Division II national rankings and advancing to the quarterfinals of the 2007 NCAA Division II Men’s Tennis Championships. The Pirates also picked up their third straight Peach Belt Conference regular season and tournament title, extending its unbeaten streak in league matches to 16 over the last three seasons.

The Pirates finished the season ranked No. 4, with its only three losses against Division II foes during the year coming to team ranked in the top five. During the course of the season, the Pirates defeated several top-ranked teams, including eventual national champion Lynn, 5-3, in the season opener. AASU also knocked off USC Upstate twice, UC San Diego, Lander and NAIA power Auburn Montgomery.

Junior Davor Zink earned All-PBC honors and was a two-time PBC Player of the Week honoree in helping the Pirates defend their league titles. Zink finished the year ranked No. 21 in the nation in singles. Junior Robert Jendelund teamed with PBC Freshman of the Year and ITA Mid-Atlantic Region Rookie of the Year Christian Bergh to earn ITA All-America doubles honors, finishing the season ranked No. 7 in the nation. It is the third straight doubles All-America honor for Jendelund - with a different doubles partner each year.

Sophomore Paul Bishop followed up on his debut season by earning a No. 24 national ranking in singles. Bishop was also named the PBC Player of the Week for February 20.

Senior Taavo Roos, the only senior on the squad in 2007, wrapped up his career by leading the Pirates in singles wins during the dual match season, going 24-3. The Savannah native won 161 overall matches during his four-year career and was the PBC Player of the Week on April 17.

Head coach Simon Earnshaw earned his first Peach Belt Conference Coach of the Year honor for the men in 2007. Overall, the Pirates return six players from this past season’s squad for 2008.
**Women’s Tennis**

The Armstrong Atlantic State women’s tennis team once again enjoyed a great season, finishing the regular season undefeated for the fourth straight season and advancing to the NCAA Division II Women’s Tennis semifinals. In the semis, the Lady Pirates fought through some adversity, coming from behind to defeat Valdosta State in a match spanning two days, but succumbed to eventual national champion BYU-Hawaii later that second day. AASU finished the season with a No. 2 ranking and a 29-1 overall mark.

The Lady Pirates marched through the regular season, capturing their PBC-best 13th league title as well as the PBC tournament title. Along the way they knocked off the top-ranked NAIA squad, Auburn-Montgomery, and defeated a pair of Division I teams in Charlotte and Winthrop while also picking up six wins against the top 10 ranked teams in Division II - West Florida, VSU, Lynn, USC Upstate and Columbus State twice. As a team, AASU compiled an amazing 138-13 singles record and 77-13 doubles record in the spring.

Junior Iuliia Stupak capped an unbeaten spring singles season by being named the PBC’s Player of the Year while finishing the year ranked No. 1 in the ITA’s final singles rankings. She teamed with senior Dziyana Nazaruk to finish ranked No. 1 in the nation in doubles.

Nazaruk finished her four-year AASU career by also earning ITA All-America singles and doubles honors, ranking No. 9 in singles, and winning 241 overall matches as a Lady Pirate. She was the only senior on this season’s squad for head coach Simon Earnshaw and earned ITA Mid-Atlantic Region Senior of the Year honors.

Junior Johanna Dahlback also earned ITA All-America honors in singles, finishing the year ranked No. 7, while being named the Mid-Atlantic Region’s “Player to Watch” for 2008.

All three players won 30 or more singles matches this season, as well as two other Lady Pirates - freshman Gabriella Kovacs and junior Sofia Haggstrom. Haggstrom finished the spring season undefeated in singles as well with a 22-0 mark.

Coach Earnshaw and the Lady Pirates return six of seven players for the 2008 season.

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**Individual Statistics**

**Singles**

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<thead>
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<th>Player</th>
<th>#1</th>
<th>#2</th>
<th>#3</th>
<th>#4</th>
<th>#5</th>
<th>#6</th>
<th>Dual</th>
<th>PBC</th>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Overall</th>
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<tr>
<td>Iuliia Stupak #1</td>
<td>18-0</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>--</td>
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<td>--</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>18-3</td>
<td>7-0</td>
<td>13-2</td>
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<td>Johanna Dahlback #7</td>
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<td>10-2</td>
<td>7-0</td>
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<td>20-3</td>
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<td>12-1</td>
<td>5-2</td>
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<td>19-3</td>
<td>8-0</td>
<td>12-2</td>
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<td>20-4</td>
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<td>Sofia Haggstrom #49</td>
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<td>22-0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Martina Beckmann</td>
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<td>7-1</td>
<td>10-0</td>
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<td><strong>65-1</strong></td>
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**Doubles**

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<td>Beckmann/Kovacs</td>
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</table>
| **Totals** | **28-2** | **23-7** | **26-4** | **77-13** | **31-2** | **26-7** | **103-20**

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**ITA DII National Singles Title**

Iuliia Stupak

**ITA Mid-Atlantic Region Senior of the Year**

Dziyana Nazaruk

**ITA DII Mid-Atlantic Region “Player to Watch”**

Johanna Dahlback

**ITA Division II All-America Honors**

Iuliia Stupak (Singles/Doubles)
Dziyana Nazaruk (Singles/Doubles)
Johanna Dhalback (Singles)

---

**Final PBC/ITA DII Ranking**

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<td>Dziyana Nazaruk</td>
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<td>Johanna Dahlback</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Johanna Dhalback (Singles)</td>
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</table>
The Armstrong Atlantic State men’s golf team enjoyed another solid season, capturing two team titles and advancing to the NCAA Southeast Regional for the fourth consecutive season.

The Pirates opened the season with an impressive victory, winning the Kiawah Island Invitational in September and handing three-time defending DI national champion USC Aiken its first tournament loss in two years. In the spring, the Pirates would pick up an even more impressive win, coming from five strokes down with a blistering final round of 281 to capture the Liberty University Spring Invitational by 14 strokes as the only Division II school in the DI field. AASU also fashioned three other top five finishes during the season, including a third-place showing at the Peach Belt Conference tournament.

AASU hosted the NCAA Atlantic/Southeast Regional at Savannah Quarters, but tropical storm-like conditions kept scores high and the Pirates missed qualifying for nationals by finishing sixth.

Individually, sophomore Chris Wolfe followed up on his strong freshman year by earning third-team GCAA All-America honors. Wolfe captured two individual titles this year - winning the AFLAC/Cougar Invitational in Columbus in the fall by taking a playoff from GCSU’s Johan Cronvall, and the Outback Steakhouse Intercollegiate in Panama City, Fla., in the spring in which Wolfe was the only player in the field under par, winning by six strokes with a four-under-par 138 total. Wolfe led the team and finished third in the PBC with a 73.56 stroke average.

Sophomore Andrew Workman joined Wolfe in earning All-Peach Belt Conference honors, finishing the season with a 74.11 stroke average, seventh-best in the league.

Sophomore Wills Smith (76.05), junior Ryan Wilson (76.50) and freshman Josh Burt (77.79) rounded out the Pirates lineup for 2006-07.

### Individual Statistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Golfer</th>
<th>Rounds</th>
<th>Strokes</th>
<th>Stk. Avg.</th>
<th>Best Finish</th>
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<tr>
<td>Chris Wolfe</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>1986</td>
<td>73.56</td>
<td>1st AFLAC/Cougar Invitational</td>
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<tr>
<td>Andrew Workman</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>2001</td>
<td>74.11</td>
<td>1st Outback Steakhouse Intercollegiate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wills Smith</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>1673</td>
<td>76.05</td>
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<td>Ryan Wilson</td>
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<td>2058</td>
<td>76.22</td>
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<td>Justin Smith</td>
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<td>306</td>
<td>76.50</td>
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<td>Josh Burt</td>
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<td>1867</td>
<td>77.79</td>
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<td>Matt Morris</td>
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<td>392</td>
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<td>Von Shenefelt</td>
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### Team Results

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<tr>
<td>9/11-12</td>
<td>Kiawah Island Invitational</td>
<td>Kiawah Island Invitational</td>
<td>Coker College Invitational</td>
<td>AFLAC/Cougar Invitational</td>
<td>UNICCO Fall Invitational</td>
<td>Outback Intercollegiate</td>
<td>AASU Pirate Invitational</td>
<td>Spring Invite</td>
<td>Southeastern Invitational</td>
<td>4/16-17 PBC Championships</td>
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<td>9/25-26</td>
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<td>Orlando, Fla.</td>
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<td>584 (+8)</td>
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<td>UNICCO Fall Invitational</td>
<td>W. Palm Beach, Fla.</td>
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<td>2/5-6</td>
<td>Outback Intercollegiate</td>
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<td>595 (+27)</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/12-13</td>
<td>Spring Invite</td>
<td>Savannah, Ga.</td>
<td>1st of 11</td>
<td>574 (+2)</td>
<td>574 (+2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/19-20</td>
<td>Southeastern Invitational</td>
<td>Valdosta, Ga.</td>
<td>6th of 18</td>
<td>893 (+29)</td>
<td>893 (+29)</td>
<td>893 (+29)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/2-3</td>
<td>Buccaneer Invitational</td>
<td>Miami, Fla.</td>
<td>9th of 15</td>
<td>884 (+20)</td>
<td>884 (+20)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/16-17</td>
<td>PBC Championships</td>
<td>Greensboro, Ga.</td>
<td>3rd of 8</td>
<td>912 (+48)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/7-9</td>
<td>NCAA Regional</td>
<td>Savannah, Ga.</td>
<td>6th of 8</td>
<td>947 (+83)</td>
<td>947 (+83)</td>
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Armstrong Atlantic State’s second season of competition in women’s golf saw head coach Michael Butler’s team make strides, improving on its stroke average and compiling some outstanding rounds during the year.

The Lady Pirates placed third in the Newberry Mid-Carolina Golf Invitational, then saw extremely tough competition at the Myrtle Beach Invitational and the Nova Southeastern Fall Invitational - a field that featured national champion Florida Southern and runner-up Rollins. AASU closed out the season at the Flagler College Slam, finishing eighth in the 16-team field and firing a program-best round of 327 on the second day.

In the spring, the Lady Pirates bettered on that round in the SCAD Spring Invitational, shooting a 325 and going into the final day of the tournament in the lead group. Junior Danielle Davis and freshman Sandra Norstrom each recorded Top 10 finishes in that tournament as AASU finished fourth with an 84.31 stroke average.

Davis led the Lady Pirates individually for the second straight year compiling a 78.00 stroke average, while Norstrom enjoyed a fine debut season, finishing second on the squad with an 84.31 stroke average and a top 10 finish at the SCAD Invitational.

AASU’s second season concluded in mid-March with the Peach Belt Shootout, featuring the three league schools who sponsor women’s golf - the Lady Pirates, USC Upstate and Lander. Davis and Norstrom were named to the All-Shootout Team in a vote of the coaches as the Lady Pirates finished third.