2007-2008 AASU Athletics Year in Review

Armstrong State University

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2007-2008 Athletics Year In Review

Men’s Tennis Captures First Ever NCAA National Championship
Women’s Tennis Nabs Fourth NCAA National Championship
Women’s Soccer Hosts First Ever NCAA Postseason Contest
Five Teams Advance To NCAA Championships
11 Student-Athletes Earn All-America Honors

AASU’s 2007-08 All-America Honors

CoSIDA All-America Honors
Volleyball
Senior Ashley Elam (Third Team)
Sophomore Kristin Burton (Third Team)
Tennis
Senior Iuliia Stupak (First Team)

NCBWA All-America Honors
Sophomore Josh Wilson (Honorable Mention)

ITA All-America Honors
Women
Senior Iuliia Stupak (Singles, Doubles)
Senior Johanna Dahlback (Singles)
Sophomore Martina Beckmann (Doubles)
Sophomore Gabriella Kovacs (Singles, Doubles)
Freshman Alida Muller-Wehlau (Singles, Doubles)

ITA All-America Honors
Men
Freshman Tim Johannsen (Singles, Doubles)
Freshman Rafael Array (Doubles)

GCAA All-America Honors
Junior Chris Wolfe (First Team)

Daktronics/CoSIDA Soccer All-American
Sophomore Kristin Burton (Honorable Mention)
2007-2008 AASU Athletics Year In Review

Academics

PBC Presidential Honor Roll Honorees

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<th>School</th>
<th>Baseball</th>
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<td>Iuliia Stupak (3)</td>
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AASU finished second for the third straight year in the 2008 Peach Belt Conference Commissioner’s Cup standings, which is the conference’s all-sports trophy. AASU received 59.5 points out of a possible 84, for a .708 percentage. AASU was boosted in the standings by Peach Belt titles in men’s tennis and women’s tennis, as well as second-place finishes for softball and women’s soccer. Columbus State won the cup, while USC Aiken finished third and Clayton State finished fourth.

Commissioner’s Cup

AASU student-athletes continued to excel in the classroom in the 2007-2008 academic year. 56 percent of the 131 student-athletes carried grade-point averages of 3.0 or better. Sixty-three of the 131 AASU student-athletes were named to the PBC Presidential Honor Roll and four student-athletes - Jasmine Herron, Johanna Dahlback, Robert Jendelund and Davor Zink - earned PBC Presidential Honor Roll honors all four years at AASU. 43 student-athletes were named to the Dean’s List during the 2007-08 academic year.

Six student-athletes carried perfect 4.0 GPAs for 2007-08 – freshman baseball player Josh Heath, junior men’s golfer Von Shenefelt, senior volleyball player Kassi Kixmiller, senior women’s soccer players Ashley Elam and Holly Gruich and senior women’s tennis player Iuliia Stupak, the nation’s top-ranked singles and doubles player in Division II.

Elam and sophomore Kristin Burton each earned ESPN The Magazine/CoSIDA Academic All-America honors, the first time that teammates have been named Academic All-America at AASU, while men’s basketball player Patrick Sanou earned CoSIDA Academic All-District honor for a second straight year.

Stupak and Zink were the 2008 President’s Cup winners, given by the Savannah Exchange Club to the top male and female student-athlete of the year.

2007-2008 Commissioner’s Cup Final Standings

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<tr>
<th>School</th>
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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

On the strength of the school’s two NCAA Championships in tennis, the Armstrong Atlantic State athletic department fashioned another outstanding season in 2007-08, finishing with 284 points in the 2007-08 NACDA Division II Director’s Cup competition. The Pirates finished 53rd overall, second among Peach Belt Conference schools.

The men’s and women’s tennis national championships earned the Pirates 100 points apiece in the standings. Softball earned 50 points for its South Atlantic Region third place finish, while appearances in the NCAA tournament by men’s golf and women’s soccer also contributed points to the standings.
AASU CLAIMS TWO NCAA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Pirates clinched the first men’s tennis national championship in school history with a 5-0 victory over No. 5-ranked Barry at the Memorial Park Tennis Center in Houston, Texas, on Saturday afternoon.

The win also gives Armstrong Atlantic State a rare double, winning the men’s and women’s tennis crowns in the same season for the first time since BYU-Hawaii accomplished the feat in 2003. The AASU women won the school’s fourth NCAA DII tennis title with a 5-2 win over Lynn earlier in the day.

AASU (31-0) started quickly in the match by picking up two doubles wins. The 18th-ranked duo of Christian Bergh and Robert Jendelund notched an 8-3 win at No. 2 doubles over Emmanuel Fraitzl and Jakub Fejfar. The sixth-ranked duo of Rafael Array and Tim Johannsen also won, 8-3, at No. 1 doubles over the fifth-ranked duo of Patrick Rittenauer and Ales Svigelj. The Pirates led at No. 3 doubles, 7-5, but Barry fought off two break points before rain began to fall, halting play.

After a 42-minute delay, Barry’s duo of Andrew Sharnov and Roman Werschel pushed the game to 7-6, but Paul Bishop and Davor Zink closed out on Bishop’s serve with an 8-6 victory, giving the Pirates a commanding 3-0 lead.

Singles started with both teams taking three first sets. The Pirates enjoyed advantages at No. 1, No. 5 and No. 6 singles, with the Bucs taking leads at No. 2, No. 5 and No. 6 singles. Freshman Tim Johannsen, ranked sixth in singles, completed a 6-2, 6-3 win over 15th-ranked Patrick Rittenauer at No. 1 singles. Barely three minutes later, 50th-ranked sophomore Christian Bergh clinched the victory with a 6-2, 6-2 win over Roman Werschel at No. 5 singles.

The first meeting between the two teams was a tight affair, at Barry with Armstrong Atlantic edging out a 5-4 victory. AASU’s men’s tennis title came in its first appearance in the championship match, and is also the Pirates’ first-ever NCAA Championship in a men’s sport.

HOUSTON, Texas (March 17) - Undefeated all-season long, top-ranked for the last three months - the Armstrong Atlantic State men’s tennis team is the 2008 NCAA Division II Champion for now and forever.

The Pirates claimed the first men’s tennis national championship in school history with a 5-0 victory over No. 5-ranked Barry at the Memorial Park Tennis Center in Houston, Texas, on Saturday afternoon.

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Fans Welcome Back Triumphant Pirates After National Championships!

Just before 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 18, chants of “Let’s Go Pirates!” filled the Savannah/Hilton Head International Airport as a crowd of more than 100 people welcomed back the AASU men’s and women’s tennis teams to Savannah with two NCAA National Championship trophies in tow.

Members of the team were greeted by fans, friends and family from AASU and the Savannah community in honoring the Pirates for their championship feat. The players signed autographs, posed for pictures and conducted interviews with the local media. During the week, the Pirates would be guests on WTOC TV-11’s “Mid-Morning Live with Sonny and Jody,” WBMQ’s “Savannah’s First News” with Ray Steele and WTKS’s “Savannah News Now” with Bill Edwards.

HOUSTON, Texas (March 17) - A pivotal tiebreak point at No. 1 doubles provided the momentum to carry the Armstrong Atlantic State women’s tennis team to their fourth NCAA Division II National Championship with Saturday’s 5-2 victory over Lynn University at the Memorial Park Tennis Center in Houston.

With two doubles wins already in hand, the third-ranked duo of Iuliiia Stupak and Gabriella Kovacs played an hour and 30 minutes at No. 1 doubles against the fourth-ranked duo of Victoria Weltz and Alexandra Schunk. The duo had three match points at 8-7, but Lynn’s duo held serve, forcing a tiebreaker. On the fifth match point, Stupak blasted a cross-court overhead smash for a winner, giving AASU the 8-6 tiebreak win, a 9-7 match win and a commanding 3-0 lead.

AASU jumped out to a quick 1-0 lead in doubles with Johanna Dahlback and Alisa Kagukina’s 8-1 win over Alisson Siaci and Eleonora Ionozzi at No. 3 doubles, then the 10th-ranked duo of Martina Beckmann and Alida Muller-Wehlau picked up an 8-6 win over the 17th-ranked duo of Magdalena Ekert and Katerina Jiskrova.

Singles play started quickly in favor of the Pirates with first-set wins at No. 1 singles with Stupak, No. 3 singles with Muller-Wehlau and No. 4 singles with Kovacs. Lynn (27-3) battled back to take two first sets at No. 5 and No. 6 singles. Lynn picked up their first singles point as Eckert finished a 6-3, 6-3 win over Beckmann. Second-ranked Stupak picked up the fourth point for the Lady Pirates (32-1) with a 6-0, 6-1 win over 18th-ranked Weltz at No. 1 singles. Lynn recorded its second point with Ionozzi’s 6-3, 6-1 win over Kagukina.

Two Lady Pirates had Championship Point at the same time as Muller-Wehlau and Kovacs each had a chance to give the Lady Pirates the title. The freshman Muller-Wehlau watched a forehand by Jiskrova go wide, giving Armstrong Atlantic State the title with a 6-2, 6-1 victory.

Armstrong Atlantic State’s title joins the three other Championship trophies won in 1995, 1996 and 2005, and the Lady Pirates were making their ninth appearance in the NCAA Championship match. The title is the second for head coach Simon Earmshaw as well as senior Johanna Dahlback - who had the clinching point in AASU’s 5-3 win over BYU-Hawaii in the 2005 match as a freshman.
Volleyball

The Armstrong Atlantic State volleyball squad compiled a 16-20 overall record and a 5-5 mark in the Peach Belt Conference in 2007, finishing in the top half of the league standings for an eighth straight season.

Head coach Alan Segal, the all-time winningest coach in AASU volleyball history with 273 wins, resigned in March to become the assistant coach at Alabama-Birmingham. In his place, AASU hired USC Aiken head coach Will Condon to take over the program.

Several top performances highlighted the 2007 season for the Pirates. Junior outside hitter Gwen Clarke earned All-PBC honors for the first time in her career for hitting .202 with 298 kills. Junior middle hitter Allyson Ray led the Pirates in hitting with a .256 average, ranking sixth in the Peach Belt, while also collecting .88 blocks per game, ranking 8th in the league.

Junior Nicole Yates set the single-season digs record at AASU with 572, breaking the mark of 440 set by Christina Flores in 2004. Yates’ 4.12 digs per game is also a school record and ranked 5th in the PBC.

The Pirates said goodbye to two seniors in 2007 who wrapped up their playing careers. Senior Kassi Kixmiller put together a career season, setting highs in kills (148) and blocks (74) while ranking 10th in the PBC in blocking at .79 per game. She was also named to the PBC All-Sportsmanship team. Senior Stacia McCoy finished her career 667 digs and 70 service aces in 311 career games played. Senior Rindy Vidovich had her final season cut short just eight matches in during AASU’s trip to Alaska and received a medical redshirt, granting her an extra year of eligibility.

Vidovich will join five other returnees for the Pirates to compete in 2008.

2007-2008 AASU Athletics Year In Review

Final PBC Standings

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<th>School</th>
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PBC Championships (Greenwood, S.C.)
Augusta State def. AASU 3-2
(26-30, 30-26, 30-20, 28-30, 15-13)

PBC All-Conference Honors
Gwendolyn Clarke

PBC All-Sportsmanship Team
Kassi Kixmiller

Christian Brothers Invitational All-Tournament Team
Rindy Vidovich

Montevallo Coca-Cola Classic All-Tournament Team
Gwendolyn Clarke

Individual Leaders

Hitting Percentage
Allyson Ray, .256 (6th PBC)
Gwendolyn Clarke,.202 (14th PBC)

Assists Per Game
Hannah Segebart, 7.12 (7th PBC)
Kara Jerden, 6.11 (8th PBC)

Service Aces Per Game
Kara Jerden, 0.45 (4th PBC)

Blocks Per Game
Allyson Ray, 0.88 (8th PBC)
Kassi Kixmiller, 0.79 (10th PBC)

Digs Per Game
Nicole Yates, 4.12 (5th PBC)

Team Statistics

Hitting Percentage
.145 (6th PBC)
Opponents Hitting Percentage
.169 (4th PBC)

Assists Per Game
12.29 (3rd PBC)

Kills Per Game
13.22 (6th PBC)

Service Aces
1.94 (3rd PBC)

Blocks Per Game
1.94 (4th PBC)

Digs Per Game
18.34 (5th PBC, 78th NCAAn)
The Armstrong Atlantic State women’s soccer program continues to be on the short track to success as the Pirates hosted their first-ever NCAA postseason competition and earned its first-ever NSCAA Top 25 ranking. The Pirates finished the 2007 season with a 14-5-1 record and a second-place finish in the PBC at 6-1-1.

AASU broke into the national rankings in the second week of September after a 3-1 win over No. 4 Carson-Newman and a 2-0 win over Catawba. The Pirates would rise as high as No. 8 in the rankings for two weeks and would spend a total of seven weeks in the national poll.

For a second straight year, the Pirates advanced to the PBC Championship match, facing Columbus State and falling in heartbreaking fashion, 2-1, in overtime. AASU hosted SAC foe Lincoln Memorial in a Southeast Regional match, giving the Pirates back-to-back NCAA appearances in just three seasons.

Sophomore Kristin Burton improved on her record-setting freshman campaign, leading the Pirates and the Peach Belt in goals with 23 and in points with 54. Burton earned honorable mention All-America honors by Daktronics and CoSIDA, while also earning first-team Academic All-America honors as awarded by ESPN: The Magazine and CoSIDA. Burton ranked 6th in the nation in points and 8th in goals per game.

Junior Lyndsi Stricklen earned All-PBC and All-Region honors for a third straight season, tallying nine goals and four assists for 22 points. Freshman defender Alyssa Anderson helped anchor the Pirate defense and earned All-PBC and All-Region honors as well.

AASU said goodbye to three seniors in 2007, including goalkeeper Tarra Kohler, who finished her three-year career with a 1.10 career GAA, fifth all-time in PBC history. Senior Ashley Elam joined Burton in earning ESPN: The Magazine/CoSIDA Academic All-America honors, while senior Holly Grulich played in 53 games in three seasons as an inaugural member of the AASU women’s soccer program. The Pirates return 16 players from the 2007 team for the 2008 campaign.
The AASU men’s basketball team went 17-11 overall and 11-9 in the Peach Belt Conference in 2007-08, remaining in regional competition until the final week of the regular season. A senior-laden squad for head coach Jeff Burkhamer also said goodbye to several talented players for the Pirates.

Senior Jamaal Galloway conducted a season-long assault on the Peach Belt Conference’s three-point record. Already going into the season as AASU’s all-time three-point leader, Galloway hit 80 threes in 2007-08, while averaging a career-high 12.1 points per game, finishing just five threes shy of the PBC record with 277 in his career. Galloway did lead the PBC in free throw percentage at 92.3 percent, a mark that also set a new single-season record at AASU, eclipsing the old mark of 91.7, set by Foy Ballance in 1979-80. Galloway also became the 17th player in AASU history to reach the 1,000 point plateau, finishing his career with 1,145 points.

Senior Williams Kane earned All-PBC honors in his final season by leading the PBC and ranking fourth in NCAA Division II at 7.4 assists per game. He ended his career with 445 assists, fourth-most in AASU history. Senior Patrick Sanou was an ESPN/CoSIDA Academic All-District honoree for a second straight season and set career highs by averaging 10.2 points and 5.4 rebounds per game.

Senior Calvin Johnson, a transfer from Arkansas Little-Rock, led the Pirates in scoring in his only season with AASU, averaging 13.2 points per game. Senior Nick Bloemhof finished his five years at AASU with a career 43.4 percent three-point shooting mark, fourth-best all-time, while senior Franchot Brown averaged 6.3 points and 5.8 rebounds per game, ranking 12th in the PBC and senior Jimmy Fan- ning concluded his career by seeing action in 16 games.
The Armstrong Atlantic State women’s basketball team advanced to the Peach Belt Conference Championship game as a No. 7 seed, fashioning a 20-win season for the third time in head coach Roger Hodge’s tenure and also witnessing the close of one of the most outstanding careers in Lady Pirate history.

AASU went into the PBC Championships as the No. 7 seed despite finishing just two games out of the PBC regular season race. A first-round win over UNC Pembroke matched the Lady Pirates up against co-champion Clayton State in the quarterfinals. Lacey Willis’ baseline jumper with two seconds left gave AASU a thrilling 68-66 victory over the Lady Lakers. AASU knocked off Columbus State, 78-68, to earn the program’s third-ever berth in the PBC Championship game, but Lander edged the Lady Pirates, 68-65.

Senior Kaneetha Gordon wrapped up her outstanding career by becoming AASU’s all-time leader in both points (1,401) and rebounds (1,158), becoming just the fourth player in Peach Belt Conference history to record 1,000+ points and rebounds in a career. She averaged 14.2 points and 10.2 rebounds a game, leading the PBC in rebounding for a second straight year.

Senior Jasmine Herron wrapped up her career as well, averaging 6.6 points and 4.1 assists per game, finishing her four years with 364 assists and 196 steals, both ranking among the top 10.

Willis enjoyed a standout year as well, earning All-PBC Tournament honors while averaging 13.9 points per game. Junior Lindsey Holmes set the single-season three-point record at AASU by canning 90 threes, breaking the record of 87 set by Tana Griffiths just a season ago.

AASU returns eight players from the 2007-08 squad that went 20-11 overall and 11-9 in the PBC.

---

**Individual Leaders**

**Scoring**

Kaneetha Gordon, 14.2 (8th PBC)

Lacey Willis, 13.9 (10th PBC)

**Rebounding**

Kaneetha Gordon, 10.2 (1st PBC, 22nd NCAA)

Alandris Griffin, 6.7 (13th PBC)

**Assists**

Jasmine Herron, 4.13 (6th PBC)

**Assist/Turnover Ratio**

Jasmine Herron, 1.21 (8th PBC)

**3-Point FG Percentage**

Lindsey Holmes, .352 (11th PBC, 68th NCAA)

**3-Point FG Made**

Tana Griffiths, 5.00 (4th PBC, 12th NCAA)

**Blocked Shots**

Kelly Versluis, 1.50 (3rd PBC, 61st NCAA)

**Offensive Rebounds**

Kaneetha Gordon, 3.19 (5th PBC)

Dartayvia Thomas, 2.68 (11th PBC)

**Defensive Rebounds**

Kaneetha Gordon, 7.00 (1st PBC)

Alandris Griffin, 4.65 (11th PBC)

---

**Team Statistics**

**Scoring Offense**

66.2, (9th PBC)

**Scoring Defense**

64.4, (3rd PBC)

**Scoring Margin**

+1.9, (8th PBC)

**Free Throw Percentage**

66.3, (6th PBC)

**FG Percentage**

40.4, (7th PBC)

**FG Percentage Defense**

37.7, (2nd PBC, 64th NCAA)

**3-Point FG**

5.26, (8th PBC)

**3-Point FG Percentage**

31.5, (5th PBC)

**3-Point FG Percentage Defense**

26.3, (1st PBC)

**Rebounding Offense**

43.4, (2nd PBC)

**Rebounding Defense**

38.2, (4th PBC)

**Rebounding Margin**

+5.2, (2nd PBC, 34th NCAA)

**Assists**

12.87, (8th PBC)

**Steals**

6.03, (11th PBC)

**Blocked Shots**

3.32, (3rd PBC, 80th NCAA)

**Assist/Turnover Ratio**

0.64, (10th PBC)

**Fouls Per Game**

14.2, (12th NCAA)
2007-2008 AASU Athletics Year In Review

Baseball

### Final PBC Standings

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

Columbus State def. AASU, 16-6
USC Aiken def. AASU, 10-3

**PBC All-Conference Honors**

Josh Wilson

**PBC Player of the Week**

Derrek Miller (2/12)
Joey Davis (5/5)

**PBC Pitcher of the Week**

Cody Walden (5/5)

**PBC All-Sportsmanship Team**

Joey Davis

**NCBWA All-American**

Josh Wilson (Honorable Mention)

**ABCA All-South Atlantic Region**

Josh Wilson (First Team)

**NCBWA All-South Atlantic Region**

Josh Wilson (First Team)

**Daktronics All-South Atlantic Region**

Chris Smith (First Team)
Josh Wilson (First Team)

**Individual Leaders**

**Batting Average**

Josh Wilson, .408 (2nd PBC, 70th NCAA)

**Slugging Percentage**

Josh Wilson, .592 (8th PBC)

Joey Davis, .582 (10th PBC)

**On-Base Percentage**

Josh Wilson, .460 (10th PBC)

**Runs**

Josh Wilson, 86 (8th PBC, 54th NCAA)

**Home Runs**

Joey Davis, 13 (8th PBC, 58th NCAA)

**Home Runs Per Game**

Joey Davis, 0.26 (49th NCAA)

**Sacrifice Hits**

Juan Dorado, 20 (1st PBC, 2nd NCAA)

**Sacrifice Hits Per Game**

Juan Dorado, 0.40 (1st NCAA)

**Wins**

Ross Partee, 7 (17th PBC)

**Losses**

Cody Walden, 7 (17th PBC)

**Innings Pitched**

Cody Walden, 96.1 (7th PBC)

**Strikeouts**

Jeff Chase, 68 (10th PBC)

The Armstrong Atlantic State baseball squad notched a 29th straight winning season by going 27-23 overall, while going 14-13 in the Peach Belt and advancing to the PBC Tournament. The Pirates have been a part of the league’s six-team field each year since the league brought back the tournament in 2006.

Playing one of the toughest schedules in the nation, the Pirates started off the season by hosting weekend series against three consecutive opponents ranked in the top 10 in the nation. AASU began by sweeping No. 3-ranked Florida Southern in three games, including a thrilling 7-6 win in 11 innings on Feb. 2. The Pirates then took three from No. 6 Southern Indiana, and won two of three from No. 8 GCSU. Along the way, AASU would also defeat ranked squads Francis Marion, California (Pa.), Erskine and USC Aiken.

Sophomore Josh Wilson improved on his stellar debut season by earning NCBWA and ABCA All-South Atlantic Region honors and honorable mention NCBWA All-American honors, hitting .408 with seven home runs and 32 RBI. Wilson’s .408 average is the seventh highest in a single season in AASU baseball history.

Senior catcher Chris Smith earned All-South Atlantic Region honors as a designated hitter, hitting .365 with two home runs and 24 RBI. Senior Derrek Miller and Joey Davis each earned PBC Player of the Week honors during the year, while junior left-hander Cody Walden earned PBC Pitcher of the Week honors. Davis had an outstanding senior season, hitting .332 with team-high 13 home runs and 55 RBI, while also setting a PBC record by blasting three grand slams in one year.

Senior Ross Partee led the starting staff with a 7-4 record and a 4.06 ERA, while senior Nate Herder went 1-1 with a save in his final year as a Pirate. Sophomore Brandon McCreery stabilized the Pirates’ bullpen in his first year with AASU, going 3-2 with seven saves and a 1.45 ERA. Junior Juan Dorado led NCAA Division II in sacrifice hits at .40 per game, AASU’s first individual statistical champion since 1994.

Josh Wilson (right) earned NCBWA Honorable Mention All-America honors, hitting .408 on the year. Ross Partee (far right) went 7-4 with a 4.06 ERA in his senior season, while Juan Dorado (middle right) led the nation in sacrifice hits, AASU’s first individual statistical champion since 1994. Senior Joey Davis (bottom) led the Pirates in home runs with 13, including three grand slams. Two of his grand slams came on consecutive at-bats against North Georgia on April 12 and 13.

**Saves**

Brandon McCreery, 7 (4th PBC, 28th NCAA)

**Runners Picked Off**

Cody Walden, 14 (1st PBC)

**Team Statistics**

**Batting Average**

.317, (4th PBC, 76th NCAA)

**Slugging Percentage**

.441, (7th PBC)

**On Base Percentage**

.382, (7th PBC)

**Runs Scored**

305, (8th PBC)

**Hits**

559, (7th PBC, 67th NCAA)

**Runs Batted In**

272, (8th PBC)

**Doubles**

97, (7th PBC)

**Triples**

9, (8th PBC)

**Home Runs**

35, (7th PBC)

**Sacrifice Hits**

51, (1st PBC, 15th NCAA)

**Earned Run Average**

4.84, (6th PBC, 73rd NCAA)

**Batters Struck Out**

322, (8th PBC)

**Saves**

10, (6th PBC)

**Fielding Percentage**

.957, (7th PBC)
The Armstrong Atlantic State softball squad once again provided late-season excitement, fashioning a third straight season in which the Lady Pirates finished third or better in the NCAA South Atlantic Regional. AASU went 30-23 overall and 13-5 in the Peach Belt Conference, finishing second in the league for the first time since 2004. Buoyed by their performance in the region, the Pirates finished the year ranked in the NFCA's Top 25 poll for the third straight year, checking in at No. 23.

The Pirates advanced to the South Atlantic Regional as the No. 7 seed, but shocked host and PBC champion UNC Pembroke, 5-0, in the opening contest of the regional - AASU had been the only team to defeat the Braves in league play during the regular season. The Pirates sent fourth-seeded GCSU home, 3-0, and eliminated host UNC Pembroke, 9-1 (6 inn.) before falling to eventual region champion Francis Marion in a semifinal game.

Senior Natalie Vogler anchored the Pirate lineup for a second straight season, hitting a team-best .337 with 10 home runs and 39 RBI, earning All-PBC honors for a second straight season. Her .348 career batting average ranks as the fourth-best all-time in AASU history and she also ranks among the top 10 with 18 career home runs and 80 RBI.

Senior Kari Marsico also wrapped up her Pirate career by hitting .268 with three home runs and 17 RBI, earning NCAA South Atlantic Region All-Tournament honors.

Juniors Ashley Bain (.302, 9 HR, 38 RBI) and Sam Floyd (.311, 5 HR, 27 RBI / 11-12, 2.52 ERA, 131 strikeouts) each earned All-PBC honors in 2008 while junior Jacquie Crane (13-8, 2.41 ERA) finished off the season strongly by giving up just four earned runs in her final 32.2 innings pitched while also hurling a school-record 13-inning shutout of Augusta State on April 7. AASU returns 10 players for the 2009 season.
The Armstrong Atlantic State men’s tennis team captured its first-ever NCAA Division II men’s tennis championship by completing a perfect season, going 31-0 and defeating Barry, 5-0, in the national championship match.

The Pirates did not shy away from tough competition as, along the way, they defeated the No. 2-7 ranked teams in the nation, as well as the NAIA champions from Auburn Montgomery.

AASU ascended to the top of the ITA DII rankings in March, earning the program’s first-ever No. 1 ranking, and rode that all the way through the championship. In Houston, the Pirates defeated Abilene Christian, 5-1, in the opening round then gutted out a tough 5-3 win over Lynn in the quarterfinals. A 5-1 win over West Florida gave the Pirates their first-ever berth in the NCAA Championship match, where AASU swept all three doubles matches, then got singles wins from Tim Johannsen and a clinching 6-2, 6-2 win from Christian Bergh for the title.

The team benefited from an excellent mix of youth and experience with freshmen Johannsen and Rafael Array providing outstanding debut seasons in support of seniors Robert Jendelund and Davor Zink. Johannsen and Array each earned All-PBC and ITA All-American honors, while Johannsen was named the PBC’s Freshman of the Year.

Jendelund wrapped up his collegiate career with a 17-9 singles record as a senior, as well as capturing the ITA Mid-Atlantic Region title in the Fall. In his four seasons, Jendelund was an ITA All-American three times and he collected more than 180 wins in his career, while also earning ITA Mid-Atlantic Region Senior Player of the Year honors. Zink also finished an impressive career as well, totalling 104 singles wins in four seasons and ITA All-America honors in 2006, while also earning the AASU President’s Cup as the top male student-athlete in 2008.

Junior Paul Bishop won more than 40 matches in singles and doubles in another solid season, while Bergh went 22-3 in singles during the dual match season, including the championship point. AASU returns three players - Johannsen, Array and Bishop - for their title defense in 2009.

### Men’s Tennis

#### Final PBC Standings

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</table>

#### PBC Championships (Savannah, Ga.)

- AASU def. North Georgia, 5-0
- AASU def. Columbus State, 5-0
- AASU def. GCSU, 5-0

#### NCAA II Mid-Atlantic Regional (Savannah, Ga.)

- AASU def. Shaw, 6-0
- AASU def. GCSU, 5-2

#### NCAA II National Championships (Houston, Texas)

- AASU def. Abilene Christian, 5-1
- AASU def. Lynn, 5-3
- AASU def. West Florida, 5-1
- AASU def. Barry, 5-0

#### PBC All-Conference Honors

- Tim Johannsen (Singles & Doubles) (Freshman of the Year)
- Rafael Array (Doubles)
- Simon Earnshaw (Coach of the Year)

#### PBC Player of the Week

- Tim Johannsen (2/26)
- Christian Bergh (3/3)
- Rafael Array (3/17, 3/31)

#### PBC Tournament MVPs

- Robert Jendelund (Singles)
- Tim Johannsen (Doubles)
- Rafael Array (Doubles)

#### ITA Mid-Atlantic Region Senior Player of the Year

Robert Jendelund

### Individual Statistics

#### Singles

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#### ITA Mid-Atlantic Region Singles Champion

Robert Jendelund

#### ITA All-America Honors

- Tim Johannsen (Singles & Doubles)
- Rafael Array (Doubles)

#### AASU President’s Cup Winner

Davor Zink

#### Final FILA/ITA DII National Rank

No. 1
The Armstrong Atlantic State women’s tennis team captured its fourth NCAA DII National Championship in 2008, knocking off Lynn University, 5-2, in the championship match. The title gives AASU two championships in the last four seasons and, like the 2005 title, it took a streak-winning win to propel the Lady Pirates to the podium.

Ranked No. 2 in Division II for the entire season, the Lady Pirates matched up with two-time defending champion and top-ranked BYU-Hawaii in the national semifinals. AASU won two of three doubles points from the Seasiders, then got singles wins from Gabriella Kovacs, Alisa Kagukina and Martina Beckmann to end BYU-Hawaii’s 88-match win streak and advance to the finals. In the championship match, AASU swept all three doubles matches to take a commanding 3-0 lead. Iuliia Stupak captured her singles match, then freshman Alida Muller-Wehlau clinched the title with her 6-2, 6-1 win over Katerina Jiskrova at No. 3 singles.

Stupak capped an amazing season and career with the title. The ITA's Senior Player of the Year and the top-ranked singles player in the nation, Stupak went 23-0 in singles while also earning ESPN: The Magazine/CoSIDA Academic All-America honors, Honda DII Female Athlete of the Year Finalist honors and PBC Player of the Year honors.

Senior Johanna Dahlback also capped her career by being a part of her second NCAA Championship - as a freshman, Dahlback clinched AASU’s 5-3 title win over BYU-Hawaii in 2005. Dahlback was the Rolex “Super Bowl” singles champion in the Fall, only the second in school history, while earning All-America singles honors for the fourth time.

Muller-Wehlau and Kovacs also earned ITA All-America honors in singles and doubles, while Beckmann added All-America doubles honors. Muller-Wehlau was also honored as the Peach Belt Conference’s Freshman of the Year.

Senior Sofia Haggstrom wrapped up her career by going 12-3 in singles and 15-5 in doubles. The Lady Pirates return four players for a National Championship defense in 2009.
The Armstrong Atlantic State men’s golf team advanced to the NCAA Southeast Regional for a fifth consecutive season. With a lineup that at times featured four underclassmen, the Pirates still finished sixth or better in seven of 11 tournaments competed in during the 2007-08 campaign and featured the program’s second ever-first-team All-American and PBC Player of the Year, Chris Wolfe.

Wolfe set a new school record by becoming the first Pirate golfer to go the entire season with a stroke average under par, finishing at 71.93 in 29 rounds of action. He also captured four individual titles, another school mark, and he will go into his senior season needing just two wins to tie Scott Brown of USC Aiken for the all-time Peach Belt Conference record.

The Warner Robins, Ga., native joined Thomas Whittaker (2004) as recipients of Peach Belt Conference Player of the Year honors and is also the first two-time All-American since AASU reinstated the men’s golf program in 2000-01. In July, Wolfe will represent the U.S. in the 2008 Fuji Xerox USA vs. Japan Collegiate Golf Championship, becoming AASU’s first student-athlete to represent the US in an international golf competition.

Freshman Parker Gordon enjoyed a solid debut season as well, finishing second on the team in stroke average at 76.89 and playing in the second-most rounds with 27. Freshman Tanner Farr and junior Justin Smith also recorded top 10 finishes during the season.

The Pirates’ best finish as a team came in the Kiawah Island Invitational, where AASU finished second in the 16-team field. AASU also finished fifth at the Outback Steakhouse Collegiate and the Larry Nelson Collegiate Invitational- all three finishes were helped out by individual wins by Wolfe.

AASU did not have a senior on the squad in 2007-08.

Individual Statistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Golfer</th>
<th>Rounds</th>
<th>Strokes</th>
<th>Stk. Avg.</th>
<th>Best Finish</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chris Wolfe</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>2086</td>
<td>71.93</td>
<td>1st Kiawah Island Invitational</td>
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<td>Parker Gordon</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>2076</td>
<td>76.89</td>
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<td>Mitch Baxley</td>
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<td>1541</td>
<td>77.05</td>
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<td>Justin Smith</td>
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<td>1624</td>
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<td>Daniel Mobley</td>
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<td>Von Shenefelt</td>
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<td>301.52</td>
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Team Results

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<tr>
<th>School</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>USC Aiken</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clayton State</td>
<td>879 +15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Columbus State</td>
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<td>872 +8</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Newberry</td>
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2007-2008 AASU Athletics Year In Review

Men’s Golf

PBC Championship
(Aiken, S.C.)

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NCAA Southeast Regional
(Mooresville, N.C.)

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PBC All-Conference Honors
Chris Wolfe (Player of the Year)

GCAA All-South Atlantic Region
Chris Wolfe

GCAA All-American
Chris Wolfe (First Team)

Individual Titles
Chris Wolfe, (Kiawah Island Invitation- al, Coker College Invitational, Outback Steakhouse Intercollegiate, Larry Nelson Collegiate Invitational)

GCAA All-Nicklaus Team
Chris Wolfe
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The Lady Pirates placed fourth in the Anderson Intercollegiate to start off the season, then followed it up with another fourth-place finish in the competitive Pfeiffer Falcon Lady Invitational. The spring season featured a pair of impressive showings as well, with AASU finishing fifth at the Mars Hill Collegiate in February and a season-concluding sixth place finish in the J. Ralph Hargett Invitational in March and April.

Senior Katherine Hooks, a transfer from Augusta State, made the most of her only season as a Lady Pirate by leading AASU in stroke average with an 81.75 mark and fashioning two top 10 finishes, including an eighth place finish at the Pfeiffer Lady Falcon Invitational and a ninth place finish at the Kiawah Island Invitational. Freshman Kristen Jelinek finished the year second on the squad in stroke average (87.14) and also notched two top 10 finishes, placing seventh at the Anderson Invitational and eighth at the Mars Hill Collegiate. Freshman Carrie George earned the best individual finish for a Lady Pirate golfer with her third place finish at the Anderson Invitational.

Hooks also carded the lowest single round in the brief history of Lady Pirate golf with a 73 in the first round of the Kiawah Island Invitational on February 9. Head coach Michael Butler loses the services of Hooks and senior Kristen Graham, who played 41 rounds over three years for the Lady Pirates, for the 2008-09 season but returns both Jelinek and George, as well as junior Courtney Sanders.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Katherine Hooks</td>
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<td>981</td>
<td>81.75</td>
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<td>Kristen Jelinek</td>
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<td>1220</td>
<td>87.14</td>
<td>T7th Anderson Invitational</td>
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<td>Carrie George</td>
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<td>87.40</td>
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<td>Kristen Graham</td>
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<td>90.85</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4th Lady Falcon Invitational</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Score</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9/10-11</td>
<td>Anderson Invitational</td>
<td>Anderson, S.C.</td>
<td>4th of 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/1-2</td>
<td>Flagler College Slam</td>
<td>St. Augustine, Fla.</td>
<td>14th of 20</td>
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<td>10/8-9</td>
<td>LRC/Myrtle Beach Intercollegiate</td>
<td>Little River, S.C.</td>
<td>13th of 20</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/9-10</td>
<td>Kiawah Island Intercollegiate</td>
<td>Kiawah Island, S.C.</td>
<td>12th of 18</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/18-19</td>
<td>Mars Hill Collegiate</td>
<td>Mars Hill, N.C.</td>
<td>5th of 12</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/5-6</td>
<td>SCAD Spring Invitational</td>
<td>Savannah, Ga.</td>
<td>10th of 14</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/31-4/1</td>
<td>J. Ralph Hargett Invitational</td>
<td>Charlotte, N.C.</td>
<td>6th of 12</td>
</tr>
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