Bison Factoids

• Bucknell competes in the Division I Patriot League, along with American, Army, Colgate, Holy Cross, Lafayette, Lehigh and Navy. The Bison return all five starters and 12 of 13 lettermen from last year’s squad that finished 23-10, won the Patriot League championship and advanced to the second round of the NCAA Tournament.

• Bucknell stunned third-seeded Kansas 64-63 in the opening round of the NCAA Tournament last season. It was the first NCAA Tournament victory in Bucknell and Patriot League history. The win would later earn an ESPY Award in the “Best Upset” category.

• The victory over Kansas was hardly the only significant win of the season for the Bison, who punctuated an 11-game winning streak with consecutive triumphs over Niagara, St. Joseph’s, Pittsburgh and Holy Cross, all of which went on to play in the postseason. Pitt was ranked No. 7 nationally at the time of Bucknell’s 69-66 win, making the Panthers the highest-ranked team ever defeated by the Orange & Blue.

• Just prior to the 2005 NCAA Tournament a study was released comparing the graduation rates of the 65 men’s basketball teams in the field. Bucknell was one of two schools to achieve a perfect 100% rate.

• Bucknell is located in Lewisburg, Pa., a town of about 6,000 nestled along the Susquehanna River. Lewisburg is approximately an hour’s drive north of Harrisburg, an hour east of State College, and 25 minutes south of Williamsport, home of the Little League World Series.

• Bucknell, Yale and Minnesota are the nation’s oldest Division I college basketball programs, with roots tracing all the way back to 1896. This is Bucknell’s 111th season of basketball.

• Perhaps Bucknell’s most famous alum is baseball Hall of Famer Christy Mathewson. Known as a gentleman and a scholar, Mathewson is buried only about 100 yards behind the school’s athletics facility, and Bucknell’s football stadium is named in his honor.

• The legendary Jim Valvano served as Bucknell’s head coach for three seasons (1972-75). Since he left, the Bison have had only two head coaches, Bucknell Hall of Famer Charlie Woollum and current mentor Pat Flannery.

• Bison head coach Pat Flannery starred as a point guard during his playing days at Bucknell. He was a two-year co-captain, led the team to a 20-win season as a senior in 1979-80, and ranks third on Bucknell’s all-time assists list (505). Flannery is now in his 12th season at Bucknell, making him the longest tenured coach in the Patriot League.

• Bucknell has played in three NCAA Tournaments, in 1987, 1989 and 2005, the first two appearances coming as the champion of the now-defunct East Coast Conference. In 1987, the Bison lost to Georgetown 75-53 at The Omni in Atlanta, and in 1989 they fell to Syracuse 104-81 at Reunion Arena in Dallas.

• Among the Bucknell graduates in the coaching ranks is Villanova head coach Jay Wright, who captained the 1982-83 team to a 17-11 record. The Bison host Villanova on Dec. 6 at Sojka Pavilion.
WELCOME TO BISON BASKETBALL

2004-05 Postseason ........................................... NCAA Tournament Second Round
2004-05 Records ........................................ 23-10 overall, 104 Patriot League (1st Place)
All-Time Record ........................................ 1,163-1,059-1 (.523), 110 seasons
Basketball Facts ........................................ 111th (first season: 1896)
Bucknell Bison Men's Basketball

BASKETBALL FACTS

BASKETBALL COACHING STAFF

BASIC INFORMATION

LOCATION: Lewisburg, PA 17837
Founded: 1846, 100th American college chartered
Enrollment: 3,350
Nickname: Bison
Colors: Orange and Blue
Affiliation: NCAA Division I
Conference: Patriot League
Home Facility: Sojka Pavilion (4,000)

UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION

President ................................................................. Dr. Brian C. Mitchell
Provost ........................................................................ Mary DeCredico
VP for Finance & Administration .................................. David Surgala
VP for Student Services .............................................. Charles Pollock
VP for Development & University Relations .............. Robert Kallin
VP for Enrollment Management & Communications .... Kurt Thiede
Dean of Admissions ..................................................... Mark Davies
Dean of Students ............................................................ Richard Ferraro
Dir. of Communications ............................................... TBA
Dir. of Alumni, Parents & Volunteers ............................ David Flinchbaugh
NCAA Faculty Representative ................................... Dr. Mitch Chernin

ATHLETIC ADMINISTRATION

Director of Athletics & Recreation ............................. John P. Hardt
Senior Associate AD ................................................ Tim Pavlechko
Associate AD/Senior Woman Administrator ................ Amanda Backus
Associate AD/Business & Team Services ...................... Terrie Greb
Associate AD/External Affairs & Bison Club .............. Todd Newcomb
Assistant AD/Athletic Training ..................................... Mark Keplar
Assistant AD/Athletic Communications ....................... Jon Terry
Assistant AD/Manzielts & Event Management .............. Michael McFarland
Assistant AD/Compliance & Student Affairs ................ TBA

TEAM SUPPORT

Team Physician ......................................................... Dr. Donald Stechschulte
Assistant Athletic Trainer (Men's Basketball) ............... Brian Scorsone
Manager of Athletics Fundraising ............................. Tom Harvey
Coordinator of Recreation Services ............................ Joe Santorine
Aquatics/Sojka Pavilion Coordinator ............................ Pam Armold
Radio & Television Coordinator/Marketing Specialist .... Doug Birdsong
Marketing & Promotions Intern .................................. Ryan Burd
Equipment Specialist .................................................. Mike Jolin
Ticketing ........................................................................ Jon Homan
Word Processor ............................................................ Deb Hommel

BASKETBALL COACHING STAFF

Head Coach ................................................................. Pat Flannery (Bucknell '80, 12th season)
Bucknell Record ...................................................... 172-146 (.541), 11 seasons (91-50 in PL regular season play)
Overall Record ...................................................... 267-189 (.586), 16 seasons
Assistant Coaches ..................................................... Nathan Davis (Randolph-Macon '97)
Bryan Goodman (Barat '96)
Mark Prosser (Marist '02)

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GENERAL INFORMATION

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Enrollment: 3,350
Nickname: Bison
Colors: Orange and Blue
Affiliation: NCAA Division I
Conference: Patriot League
Home Facility: Sojka Pavilion (4,000)

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Bucknell University Switchboard ................................ 570-577-2000
Athletic Department .................................................. 570-577-1232
Men's Basketball Office ............................................. 570-577-1267
Ticket Office ............................................................... 570-577-1000
Press Row Phone: ..................................................... 570-577-1519
Bison Sports Hotline: ............................................... 570-577-1919
Web Site: ................................................................... www.BucknellBison.com
THE 2005-06 BISON

2005-06 Bison Outlook
Notebook
2005-06 Roster
Abe Badmus
Kevin Bettencourt
Donald Brown
John Clark
John Griffin
Charles Lee
Holland Mack
Darren Mastropalo
Chris McNaughton
Andrew Morrison
Rob Thomas
Tarik Viera-McClymont
Bison Newcomers

BISON UNIVERSITY

About Bucknell
Bison Athletics: A National Model
Life After Bucknell
University Administrators
Director of Athletics & Recreation
NCAA Faculty Representative
Athletics Administrative Staff
Athletics Mission Statement
Lewisburg, Pennsylvania
Athletic Training
Bison Club

THE 2005-06 SCHEDULE

2004-05 SEASON REVIEW
Basketball History

2004-05 RESULTS

2005-06 BUCKNELL MEN'S BASKETBALL GUIDE

The 2005-06 Bucknell University Men's Basketball Media Guide is a production of the Bucknell University Office of Athletic Communications.

CREDITS:

ON THE COVERS: Front — Bucknell all-stars Abe Badmus, Charles Lee, Chris McNaughton, Kevin Bettencourt; Back (L-R) — Returning lettermen Donald Brown, Darren Mastropalo, John Clark, Tarik Viera-McClymont, Holland Mack, John Griffin.
The 2005 Patriot League Men’s Basketball Tournament featured a brand new format, awarding home games for the first two rounds to the top two regular-season finishers, with the highest remaining seed hosting the championship game. With a 10-4 conference record, Bucknell secured the No. 2 seed (13-1 Holy Cross grabbed the top seed), and for the first time since 1993, conference tournament games were held in Lewisburg.

Large, spirited crowds helped the Bison to victories over Lafayette and American at Sojka Pavilion. Of course, some phenomenal defense helped a bit too. In the opening round Bucknell quickly dispatched the Leopards 70-34, setting tournament records for fewest points and field goals (11) allowed. Charles Lee led the way with 19 points and 11 rebounds, and all but one Bison on the roster entered the scoring column.

That defensive record nearly fell again just 48 hours later in the semifinals, when Bucknell stymied American 53-35 to qualify for the Patriot League championship game for the fifth time. The Bison allowed only 13 field goals this time and held the Eagles to 28.3% shooting. They demolished the tournament record for fewest points allowed in back-to-back games and held consecutive opponents under 40 points for the first time since the 1945-46 season. Chris McNaughton and Chris Niesz topped Bucknell with 11 points each.

In the other semifinal tilt, Holy Cross had to come from behind to defeat Lehigh in overtime, meaning Bucknell would have to travel to Worcester, Mass., to play for the title. The game was a rematch of the 1993 PL championship game, in which the Crusaders came to Bucknell’s Davis Gym and cruised to a 90-73 victory.

This time it was the Bison who appeared poised for a blowout. For nearly 30 minutes the Orange & Blue played near-perfect basketball, sprinting to an early 33-13 lead and keeping the lead at 19 points with 11:32 to play. But Holy Cross stormed back with a frantic full-court press and pulled within a single basket in the final minute. In the closing seconds Kevin Bettencourt grabbed a key rebound on a Kevin Hamilton miss and hit two clinching free throws with eight seconds left, giving the Bison a gratifying 61-57 victory and their first NCAA Tournament berth since 1989.

Among the many championship game heroes for the Bison was McNaughton, who made 7 of 8 shots from the floor and finished with 17 points and seven rebounds. Bettencourt added 13 points, including the two critical charity tosses, and Lee pocketed 10 points, six coming on two monumental second-half 3-pointers that helped stall the Crusaders’ rally.
For the Bison, the postseason fun didn’t end at the Hart Center. The following Sunday evening, fans packed an on-campus auditorium for the NCAA Tournament Selection Show, eagerly awaiting word on Bucknell’s “Big Dance” destination.

Soon they learned that the 14th-seeded Bison would be headed to the Ford Center in Oklahoma City to face the No. 3 seed — the mighty Kansas Jayhawks. The excitement quickly turned to reality, considering Kansas had been ranked No. 1 in the nation for most of the year (and were still ranked first in the RPI), and the Jayhawks had already been to 33 NCAA Tournaments and 12 Final Fours.

Kansas’ hallowed history hardly intimidated the Bison, however, as Kevin Bettencourt’s four-point play in the opening moments got them going, and the contest would soon develop into an “Instant Classic.”

Bucknell led for most of the first half, and by as many as seven points, before Kansas closed the half on a 10-0 run to take a 31-28 lead to the locker room.

There were five lead changes and four ties over the first 12 minutes of the second half, and the Bison seemingly had the game in hand when Abe Badmus stroked two free throws to put Bucknell up 62-57 with 1:22 to play. But Kansas quickly rallied for a 63-62 lead behind six straight free throws, the last two by Keith Langford with 25 seconds left.

The Bison were hardly done, though, as Chris McNaughton spun into the paint and rattled in a short jump-hook over All-American Wayne Simien with 10.5 seconds left. When Simien’s 15-foot jumper at the buzzer drew only iron, a sea of orange jerseys flooded the Ford Center hardwood. Not only did the 64-63 victory snatch the attention of the nation, but it was the historic first NCAA Tournament win for Bucknell and the Patriot League.

A true “Cinderella Story,” the Bison for a few days in March captured the imaginations of the sporting world, both for their inspired play on the floor and their poise, composure and sportsmanship off it.

A fairy tale, indeed.
When the final buzzer sounded in Oklahoma City, it signaled the end of an emotional, thrilling basketball season, but back in Lewisburg the party was just getting started. An exhausted Bison squad returned to campus in the wee hours of a Monday morning, spent the day attending classes and telling tales of their trip to the NCAA Tournament, then gathered downtown for an evening fire truck parade through the streets of Lewisburg.

Several thousand townsfolk lined Market Street to salute their team. The parade ended back at Sojka Pavilion, where thousands more waited inside to honor the Bison with a spirited rally. Numerous guests of honor, including university president Brian Mitchell, spoke their high praises of the team. Lewisburg Mayor Judy Wagner issued an official proclamation, making March 21, 2005 “Bucknell Men’s Basketball Day.”

In turn, each member of the Bucknell team and coaching staff took the microphone and thanked their loyal fans for their support throughout the season.

When the student body filed out of Sojka Pavilion at the end of the night, it would actually be only a few more days before the lights came back on and the basketballs were rolled back out. That’s because the Bison had four more games to prepare for. In late May, the entire squad, including senior Chris Niesz, embarked for Shannon Airport for a 10-day, 4-game tour of Ireland and England.

For the record, the team won all four games — 77-54 over the Limerick Lions, 92-54 over Killester Basketball Club, 64-58 over London Select and 89-80 over London United. While the international basketball exposure was extremely valuable, particularly for the team’s reserves who received increased minutes, a new cultural experience was the primary purpose of the trip, according to head coach Pat Flannery. The team visited ancient castles in the Irish countryside, toured the scenic Ring of Kerry, visited the Waterford Crystal factory and saw all the sights in London, just to name a few of the activities.

The final exclamation point came in late June, when Bucknell was nominated for an ESPY Award in the “Best Upset” category for their NCAA Tournament victory over Kansas. Bucknell’s competition in the category was Vermont’s NCAA Tournament victory over Syracuse; Puerto Rico’s men’s basketball victory over the United States at the 2004 Summer Olympics in Athens; and Giacomo’s Kentucky Derby win against 50-1 odds.

On July 14, with Flannery and co-captains Kevin Bettencourt and Charles Lee in attendance at Hollywood’s Kodak Theatre, the Bison were declared the ESPY winners! Forever in history Bucknell basketball will be linked with stars such as Lance Armstrong and Annika Sorenstam, who won Male and Female Athlete of the Year honors, respectively, and other ESPY winners such as Peyton Manning, Curt Schilling, Michael Phelps, Tiger Woods and Steve Nash.

It was an incredible season, one nearly matched by an action-packed, fun-filled spring.
The following excerpt is from an article that appeared in the Winter 2005 edition of the Bison Roundup, written by Jon Terry.

In a cavernous room deep in the bowels of the Petersen Events Center, Pat Flannery sat behind a microphone, flanked by his co-captains, anxiously fidgeting with a bottle of water. Flannery is in his 15th year as a head coach, has won a Division III national championship and has triumphed in more games than all but one other mentor in the 110-year history of Bucknell basketball, but none of those experiences were any good to him at that moment. As if a coach could possibly offer an adequate account of his feelings just minutes after taking his team to an monumental upset of the nation’s seventh-ranked team.

At the postgame press conference in front of a collection of disbeliefing Pittsburgh media after Bucknell’s eye-popping 69-66 victory over the Panthers, Flannery coasted through a few lines of coachspeak, before finally admitting, “I won’t really be able to put this in perspective until I calm down.”

Thanks to the week-long flurry of media requests that followed, the landmark victory announced to the nation something that fans in Lewisburg already suspected, that a special basketball team has been assembled in their small town. While plenty of basketball lingered on the 2005 schedule, and a Patriot League championship, rather than beating a top-10 team from the Big East, remained the ultimate goal, the win over Pitt served as a bold symbol of the evolution of Bison Basketball over the last decade.

For Flannery, the avenue leading up to the stunner in the Steel City (which followed another quality road victory at St. Joseph’s) has been an ever-changing whirlwind. Flannery’s introduction to Bucknell came in 1976, when a rookie head coach named Charlie Woollum was picked to replace Jim Valvano, who had moved on to North Carolina State and ESPN.

For his very first recruit, Woollum plucked a skinny point guard out of the coal town of Pottsville, Pennsylvania, by the name of Pat Flannery. The shag-haired playmaker went on to become the only player in school history to lead the team in assists for four straight seasons. His 505 career assists were a school record at that moment in school history to lead the team in assists for four straight seasons. His 505 career assists were a school record at that moment.

Flannery’s introduction to Bucknell came in 1976, when a rookie head coach named Charlie Woollum was picked to replace Jim Valvano, who had moved on to North Carolina State and ESPN. Flannery had actually hung around after graduation, but by the late 1990s the landscape of the conference had changed as well, although the average fan might not notice. “I have changed immensely,” says Flannery, who entered the 2004-05 season with 149 Bucknell victories, second in school history only to Woollum’s 318. “Maybe the people who only see us on the 27半夜 games don’t notice, because I will always be competitive on the sidelines. The biggest thing that’s changed for me is that as you get older and as you’ve been in the profession a little bit longer, there are more heart-to-heart talks with the kids. I think that at one time a few years ago we had six players come from single-parent households. These kids come from good backgrounds, but at the same time they have a lot of baggage. I just become singular in that you are just a basketball coach, then it’s no longer something that I want to do.”

Pat Flannery transforms Bison basketball into a winning family
www.BucknellBison.com 7
A major element in ensuring Bucknell’s commitment to athletics excellence is the Kenneth G. Langone Athletics & Recreation Center, which opened fully in 2003. One of the finest collegiate athletics facilities of its kind, the center includes the 4,000-seat Sojka Pavilion, the Olympic class Kinney Natatorium, the Krebs Family Fitness Center and the Berger Family Weight Room. A new Hall of Fame area, a display of Bucknell’s Medal of Honor recipients, a sports medicine suite, modern offices for coaches and staff, and new locker room and classroom space are also included in the facility’s layout.

Bucknell has captured the Patriot League Presidents’ Cup, signifying the league’s all-sports champion, 11 times in the 15-year history of the affiliation, including seven straight titles from 1998-2004. Bucknell finished second in the overall Cup standings in 2004-05 and tied for the women’s all-sports title. It was the eighth straight year, and 11th time overall, that the Bison captured the women’s title. In 2004-05, Bucknell won titles in men’s basketball, women’s swimming & diving and women’s indoor and outdoor track & field.

Bucknell has won 11 Patriot League Presidents’ Cups in 15 years.
Bucknell Student-Athletes Among Nation’s Best

Bucknell takes great pride in its commitment to excellence on and off the playing fields. From Presidents’ Cups to Academic All-Americans to graduation rates that are ranked annually the national top-10, Bucknell is clearly at the head of the class when it comes to upholding the scholar-athlete ideal.

• Bucknell LED THE NATION in graduation rates in the 2003 survey conducted by the NCAA and the U.S. Department of Education. Bucknell graduated 100% of the student-athletes who entered school in 1996. It was the third time Bucknell has led the nation in graduation rates, and the Bison have never finished out of the top 10.

• Bucknell claimed its 100th Patriot League Scholar-Athlete of the Year in the spring of 2005. That is more than twice the next-highest total.

• Bucknell student-athletes comprised nearly one-fourth of the Patriot League Academic Honor Roll in 2004-05. A total of 300 Bison recorded a GPA of 3.2 or better during their sport’s competition season. Among all BU student-athletes, 227 made the Dean’s List with GPAs of 3.5 or better in the spring of 2005.

• Twenty-two of Bucknell's 26 varsity squads posted team GPAs of 3.0 or better in the spring of 2005, including all 14 women’s programs.

• In addition to the 110 ESPN the Magazine Academic All-Americans produced since 1970, Bucknell has also claimed 213 Academic All-District honorees over the same span, including nine last year.

• With four more Patriot League championships in 2004-05, Bucknell has now earned 50 crowns in 15 years in the league. In addition, Bucknell has had 68 conference players of the year, 65 PL coaches of the year and a whopping 391 individual league champions from sports such as cross country, track & field, swimming & diving, tennis and golf.

• Bucknell’s men’s basketball team made history in 2005, writing national headlines with a stirring 64-63 upset of Kansas at the NCAA Tournament. It was the first NCAA men’s basketball win in school and Patriot League history. The victory earned Bucknell an ESPY Award in the “Best Upset” category.
The Bucknell University Department of Athletics and Recreation prides itself on setting the standard of excellence when it comes to success both on the playing fields and in the classroom. With 11 Patriot League Presidents’ Cups in 15 years, national leadership in graduation rate of student-athletes, 110 Verizon Academic All-Americans in 35 years and 100 Patriot League Scholar-Athletes in 15 years, Bucknell is clearly at the head of the class in terms of upholding the scholar-athlete ideal.

The addition of the Kenneth G. Langone Athletics and Recreation Center, one of the finest collegiate athletics and recreation facilities of its kind in the nation, goes a long way toward ensuring the continuation of that success. The facility enhances each of Bucknell’s 27 varsity athletics programs and greatly expands the scope of its growing intramural and recreational sports offerings. A visually appealing structure located along Moore Avenue on the “downhill” side of campus, the Langone Athletics and Recreation Center was designed to reach out to all members of the campus community — the student body, varsity student-athletes, faculty, staff and alumni.

Three primary venues lie within the facility: the Arthur D. Kinney Jr. Natatorium, the 4,000-seat Gary A. Sojka Pavilion and the Krebs Family Fitness Center. Other features include a new location for Bucknell Athletics Hall of Fame, a display of Bucknell’s Congressional Medal of Honor recipients, a sports medicine and athletic training suite, classrooms, modern offices for coaches and staff and increased locker room space for varsity and recreational athletes.

The facility is named in honor of Ken Langone, a 1957 Bucknell graduate who, along with his wife Elaine, pledged $11 million toward the center’s construction. Langone was a member of the university Board of Trustees from 1980 to 1996.

One of the special qualities of the Langone Athletics and Recreation Center is the manner in which it supplements the pre-existing facilities. The brand new construction surrounds Gerhard Fieldhouse and historic Davis Gymnasium, which has been restored as a competition venue for the Bison volleyball and wrestling teams, as well as intramural, recreational and other varsity practice activities.

As Bucknell continues to strive toward its mission of setting the standard of excellence in college athletics, the Langone Athletics and Recreation Center becomes the centerpiece in an already impressive cache of athletics facilities that includes the 13,100-seat Christy Mathewson-Memorial Stadium and its recently installed FieldTurf and 8-lane track surfaces; the scenic Bucknell Golf Club; Depew Field, the home of the Bison baseball team; a brand new grass playing surface at the Varsity Soccer Field; spacious West Fields for softball, club and intramural activities; and, new in 2004, the Graham Field artificial turf playing surface for the Bison field hockey and women’s lacrosse teams.

Here is a closer look behind the walls of the Langone Athletics and Recreation Center.

KENNETH G. LANGONE
ATHLETICS AND RECREATION CENTER

RAMER SCHAFFNER MEMORIAL HALL

Ramer Schaffner Memorial Hall greets guests as they enter the Langone Athletics and Recreation Center. The entry hall features the busts of 2nd Lt. George H. Ramer and 1st Lt. Dwte H. Schaffner, Bucknell’s Congressional Medal of Honor recipients, and provides access to Gerhard Fieldhouse and the Krebs Family Fitness Center on the ground level. Guests may proceed to the second level to enter Davis Gym, administrative offices and the Hall of Fame, which celebrates Bucknell’s Patriot League championships and other athletics accomplishments.

KREBS FITNESS CENTER

Promoting lifetime wellness, the Krebs Family Fitness Center contains state-of-the-art cardiovascular and strength conditioning equipment. The 16,000-square-foot center includes over 175 positions for equipment within three distinct areas. The first level cardiovascular and pin-select equipment is open for student, faculty and staff use at all times. Directly above the mezzanine also contains cardio equipment, with scenic views of the campus and natatorium.

The third area, the Berger Family Weight Room, sits on the former site of Freas-Rooke Pool, and is used for instructional free-weight training and varsity workouts.

SOJKA PAVILION

Sojka Pavilion provides the Bison men’s and women’s basketball programs with one of the finest arenas in the East. A “first-class” venue capable of seating 4,000 spectators for sporting and other campus events, the pavilion has walk-down access to all seats and unobstructed views of the playing surface or concert stage for all spectators. The seating bowl features approximately 1,500 fixed seats and 2,500 retractable seats, enabling an “expandable” open floor area with sufficient space for three basketball courts for recreational activities and varsity practices. The spacious upper concourse includes two concession areas, restrooms, handicapped seating and several suites that overlook the floor.

Named in honor of former university president and current faculty member Gary A. Sojka, the facility provides a green room for performance acts and other functions, a catering kitchen for special events, ticket windows, locker room space for home and visiting teams and officials, and a loading dock capable of accommodating team buses and production trucks for televised events.

KENNETH G. LANGONE
ATHLETICS AND RECREATION CENTER

The facility has proven to be quite a home pool advantage for Bucknell, which became the first institution in league history to capture both the men’s and women’s swimming and diving championships in the same season in 2003. The Bison women won their third straight PL title at home in 2005, with numerous school, meet and league records falling.

Kinney Natatorium

The Kinney Natatorium features a 50-meter by 25-yard Olympic class pool, which accommodates four varsity programs — men’s and women’s swimming and diving and men’s and women’s water polo — while enhancing the recreational aquatics opportunities for the Bucknell community. The pool itself features two moveable bulkheads, allowing for multiple team practices and recreational swimming to occur simultaneously.

Natatorium amenities include seating for 500 spectators, restrooms, separated varsity and visiting team locker rooms, a poolside classroom, sauna, steam room and concession stands.

Already Kinney Natatorium has played host to several major events — the 2003 and 2005 Patriot League Swimming and Diving Championships; the Eastern water polo championships for both men and women; an exhibition game pitting Bucknell against the U.S. women’s water polo national team; and the Pennsylvania state high school swimming championships — drawing rave reviews at each. On Dec. 3-4, 2005, the NCAA Men’s Water Polo Championship comes to Kinney Natatorium, making Bucknell only the fifth non-California school to host the event.

The facility has proven to be quite a home pool advantage for Bucknell, which became the first institution in league history to capture both the men’s and women’s swimming and diving championships in the same season in 2003. The Bison women won their third straight PL title at home in 2005, with numerous school, meet and league records falling.
SCENES FROM SOJKA PAVILION
COVERING THE BISON

The Bucknell University Office of Athletic Communications looks forward to working with members of the media during the 2005-06 basketball season. This guide has been published to assist media members in their coverage of Bison basketball. Additional information, including press releases, photographs, etc. is available upon request. To receive press notes and releases via e-mail throughout the season, please contact Jon Terry in the Office of Athletic Communications. If at any time during the season you have any questions regarding Bucknell’s media policies, please do not hesitate to contact the Office of Athletic Communications.

CREDENTIALS

Media credentials are required for Bucknell home games and are issued to working members of the press only. Requests for credentials must be made in writing on company letterhead.

Season credentials will be granted to members of the media that cover Bucknell basketball on a regular basis. Requests for season credentials should arrive by November 15, 2005. Requests for single-game credentials should arrive no later than 24 hours prior to the game. All single-game credentials will be left at the media call table in Sojka Pavilion.

All requests for credentials should be made to:

Office of Athletic Communications
Bucknell University
Lewisburg, PA 17837
Phone: (570) 577-1227
Fax: (570) 577-1660

MEDIA SERVICES

Working media at Sojka Pavilion will receive:

• Game program, pregame notes, media guides
• Complete halftime statistics (“live” stats available throughout the game on display monitors at press row)
• Complete final statistics
• Complete play-by-play
• Out of town scores

TELEPHONES

Telephones are available in the Sojka Pavilion media room, located just off the playing floor on the south side of the building, and may be used on a first-come-first-served basis. A fax machine is also available for use by members of the working media. Newspapers and radio stations desiring their own private lines to be installed on press row should contact the Office of Athletic Communications for further assistance.

VISITING RADIO

There are two courtside locations for electronic media in Sojka Pavilion, one of which is reserved for the Bison Sports Network. The remaining spot will be reserved for the “official” station of the visiting team, as designated by that institution’s director of athletic communications. If there are more than two electronic media organizations broadcasting the game, then at least one broadcast crew may have to work from an auxiliary position, space permitting.

Permission to broadcast games is granted through the Bucknell Office of Athletic Communications, and arrangements for use of a phone line should be made at least one week prior to a game. Bucknell reserves the right to deny any access to organizations giving less than one week’s notice of intent to broadcast.

Bucknell provides regular phone lines at a cost of $100 per line. ALL long distance calls must be made using a credit card, or placed to a toll-free number.
PHOTOGRAPHY POLICY
Photo credentials are issued only to accredited photographers on assignment. Per NCAA rules, photographers are not permitted behind the team bench areas.

PHOTO LIBRARY
The Bucknell Office of Athletic Communications maintains a digital photo library for its student-athletes, and head shots and action photos are available on request. For more information, contact Jon Terry at (570) 577-3121.

POSTGAME INTERVIEW AREA
Postgame interviews will take place in the Sojka Pavilion media room, located just off the court under the south grandstand.

POSTGAME INTERVIEW POLICY
Approximately 10 minutes after the teams have arrived in their locker rooms, following the NCAA-mandated “cooling-off period,” the visiting team’s press conference will be conducted, followed by Bucknell head coach Pat Flannery and select Bison student-athletes. Requests for players will be taken by a member of the Athletic Communications staff with five minutes remaining on the game clock. Following the press conferences, additional players may be made available for interview upon request. The Bucknell locker room is closed to all members of the media.

BACKCOURT CLUB LUNCHEONS
On the first Wednesday of each month during the season, head coach Pat Flannery, members of his staff, and select players will attend the Backcourt Club Luncheon. The luncheon, which is held at the Lewisburg Hotel, is open to members of the media. If you wish to attend, please contact the Office of Athletic Communications for further details.

PATRIOT LEAGUE BASKETBALL SERVICE BUREAU
The Patriot League office, located in Center Valley, Pa., provides the media with a weekly basketball release complete with standings, players of the week and statistics. Chris Graziano, director of media relations, can be reached at 610-289-1950, or log on to the league’s official web site at www.patriotleague.com.

KEEP UP WITH THE BISON ONLINE
Bucknell’s fun and informative Web site — BucknellBison.com — is the fastest and easiest way to locate up-to-the-minute information on all 27 Bison athletic programs, including men’s basketball. Updated daily and available 24 hours a day, BucknellBison.com is designed to provide fans and media alike user-friendly access to Bison Athletics. Some of the many features of the basketball page include:

- Bison roster and schedule
- Latest press releases
- Game recaps and boxscores
- Player and coach bios
- Complete statistics
- Live radio broadcasts
- Game notes for each contest
- Feature stories
- Information on Sojka Pavilion
- Online ticket office
- Online donations to the Bison Club
- Much, much more!

BISON ON THE ROAD

Trip 1: Bucknell at Rider
Hotel: Westin Princeton (609-452-7900)
Night: Nov. 17
Travel: Bus

Trip 2: Bucknell at Syracuse
Hotel: Wyndham Syracuse (315-432-0200)
Night: Nov. 21
Travel: Bus

Trip 3: Bucknell at Niagara
Hotel: Buffalo Marriott (716-689-6900)
Night: Nov. 29
Travel: Bus

Trip 4: Bucknell at DePaul
Hotel: Courtyard Marriott O’Hare (846-824-2737)
Night: Dec. 2
Travel: Air

Trip 5: Bucknell at Cable Car Classic and Duke
Hotel: Hilton San Jose (408-947-4454)
Nights: Dec. 26-30
Travel: Air
Hotel: Marriott Triangle Park (919-941-6200)
Nights: Dec. 31-Jan. 1
Travel: Air

Trip 6: Bucknell at Navy
Hotel: Loews Annapolis (410-263-7777)
Night: Jan. 6
Travel: Bus

Trip 7: Bucknell at American
Hotel: Key Bridge Marriott (703-524-6400)
Night: Jan. 10
Travel: Bus

Trip 8: Bucknell at Lehigh
Hotel: Hotel Bethlehem (610-867-2200)
Night: Jan. 14
Travel: Bus

Trip 9: Bucknell at Army
Hotel: Hotel Thayer (845-446-4731)
Night: Jan. 31
Travel: Bus

Trip 10: Bucknell at Colgate
Hotel: Colgate Inn (315-824-2300)
Night: Feb. 3
Travel: Bus

Trip 11: Bucknell at Holy Cross
Hotel: Crowne Plaza (508-791-1600)
Night: Feb. 10
Travel: Bus

Trip 12: Bucknell at Lafayette
Hotel: Hotel Bethlehem (610-867-2200)
Night: Feb. 14
Travel: Bus

Trip 13: Bucknell at ESPN Bracket Buster
Hotel: TBA
Night: Feb. 17
Travel: TBA

BucknellBison.com
MEDIA OUTLETs

PRINT MEDIA

THE DAILY ITEM
PO Box 607
200 Market Street
Sunbury, PA 17801

Tom Housenick, Harold Raker
P: 800-635-1996
F: 570-286-7695
EM: hraker@dailymet.com,
thousenick@dailymet.com

LEWISBURG DAILY JOURNAL
21 Arch Street
Milton, PA 17847

Chris Brady
P: 570-742-9671
F: 570-742-9876
EM: sportsdesk@standard-journal.com

WILLIAMSPORT SUN-GAZETTE
PO Box 728
252 W. Fourth Street
Williamsport, PA 17701

Ben Brigandi
P: 570-326-1551
F: 570-326-0314
EM: sports@sungazette.com

SHAMOKIN NEWS-ITEM
PO Box 587
707 N. Rock Street
Shamokin, PA 17872

Chris Nagy
P: 570-644-0891
F: 570-648-7581
EM: chris_n@newsitem.com

DANVILLE NEWS
PO Box 200
14 E. Mahoning Street
Danville PA 17821

William Bowman
P: 570-275-3235
F: 570-275-7624
EM: dnwsedit@mail.microserve.net

HARRISBURG PATRIOT-NEWS
P.O. Box 2265
812 Market Street
Harrisburg, PA 17105

Dave Jones
P: 717-255-8187
F: 717-257-4747
EM: djoness681@aol.com

ELECTRONIC MEDIA

BISON SPORTS NETWORK
Davis Gymnasium
Bucknell University
Lewisburg, PA 17837

Doug Birdsong, Play-By-Play
P: 570-577-3062
F: 570-577-1660
EM: dbirdsong@bucknell.edu

WKOK/EAGLE 107 RADIO
PO Box 1070
Sunbury, PA 17801

Kevin Herr
P: 570-286-5838
F: 570-743-7837

WVLW/WMLP RADIO
PO Box 334
Milton, PA 17847

Don Steese
P: 570-568-1380
F: 570-568-1300

WGRC RADIO
101 Armory Blvd.
Lewisburg, PA 17837

Don Casteline
P: 570-523-1190
F: 570-523-1114

WYOU-TV
62 S. Franklin Street
Wilkes Barre, PA 18701-1201

Sid Michaels
P: 570-208-1194, ext. 366
F: 570-829-0440
EM: smichaels@nbga.net

WBRE-TV
62 S. Franklin Street
Wilkes Barre, PA 18701-1201

Jason Knapp
P: 570-823-2828, ext. 253
F: 570-829-0440
EM: 28sports@wbretv.com

WNEP-TV
16 Montage Mountain Road
Moosic, PA 18507

Jim Coles
P: 570-346-7475
F: 570-207-1380
EM: sports@wnep.com

CCN-CABLE CHANNEL 8
115 Mill Street
Danville PA 17821

Chris O’Rourke
P: 570-275-3101
F: 570-275-8882

OTHER

CSTV ONLINE
2035 Corte del Nogal, Suite 250
Carlsbad, CA 92011

Dorth Raphaely
P: 831-685-1783
EM: draphaely@collegesports.com

PATRIOT LEAGUE
3773 Corporate Parkway
Suite 190
Center Valley, PA 18034

Chris Graziano
P: 610-289-1950
F: 610-289-1952
EM: cgraziano@patriotleague.com
Once again this winter the Bison Sports Network is your home for every minute of Bucknell Basketball action. Radio broadcasts of all 27 Bucknell regular season games, as well as the Patriot League Tournament in March, will be carried live on the Bison Sports Network.

The network's new flagship station this season is Eagle 107 (WEGH 107.3 FM). The pregame show begins 30 minutes prior to tipoff.

The broadcasts also have a worldwide audience over the internet, in partnership with SportsJuice.com, on the Bucknell athletics & recreation Web site — www.BucknellBison.com. Fans can also hear the games over the phone through Teamline at 800-846-4700 ext. 1668.

Doug Birdsong is in his sixth season as the "Voice of the Bison." A 1987 Marshall University graduate who called play-by-play for college and high school athletics for 17 years before coming to Lewisburg, Birdsong was named Radio/TV Coordinator and Marketing Specialist at the University in July of 2000.

In addition to calling the action for the Bison men's basketball team, Birdsong is also the play-by-play voice of the Bucknell football team, and he also broadcasts numerous events from nearly all of the university's varsity sports programs.

Birdsong became just the second full-time "Voice of the Bison," replacing Bob Behler, who held the position for more than 13 years before leaving to go to the University of Massachusetts.

"When we reevaluated this position, we realized that it is much more than a play-by-play job," stated Bucknell's director of athletics, John Hardt. "We need someone who will become involved in both the campus and Lewisburg communities, and who can help deliver the message about Bucknell athletics. In a pool of candidates that was extremely talented, Doug jumped right off the page. In his former position he displayed the ability to spread a message with an outstanding record of sales and advertising."

Birdsong helped initiate and serves as host of Bison Live!, an hourlong radio show performed before a live audience at the Lewisburg Hotel each Monday evening.

Birdsong came to Bucknell from AVC Communications in Cambridge, Ohio, where, as the Sports Director, he managed the play-by-play crews on five radio stations for the past 12 years. He called play-by-play for Muskingum College football, men's and women's basketball, softball and volleyball, and also handled the same duties plus baseball for area high schools. Birdsong was also responsible for writing and producing 11 daily sportscasts focusing on the six area high schools and Muskingum College.

For his last five years at AVC, Birdsong coordinated advertising and posted an outstanding record, increasing sales by at least ten percent each year.

Prior to his experience at AVC, Birdsong worked at WTCR in Huntington, W.Va., after graduating from Marshall. While he was a student at Marshall, he worked for WMUL as its Sports Director and called football, basketball and baseball for the Thundering Herd. In addition, Birdsong produced and hosted a weekly one-hour sports talk show.

He has won numerous awards, including citations from the Pennsylvania Association of Broadcasters for "Best Local Sporting Event Coverage" two years in a row. Birdsong has also won four Outstanding Sports Operation for Play-by-Play citations from the Associated Press in Ohio, and two from the Associated Press in West Virginia. In 1999, he was chosen as the Eastern Ohio Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association Media Person of the Year.

Back for his second year with the Bison basketball broadcast team this season will be color analyst Doug Byerly. The director of camps and conferences at Lock Haven University, Byerly has also served as color analyst on high school football broadcasts for a local radio station.

For the second straight year the Bucknell women's broadcasts will air on the school's student run radio station, WVBU-FM (90.5). Trevor Rutledge-Leverenz, a 2001 Bucknell graduate who currently works at Sirius Satellite Radio in New York City, will handle play-by-play.

Bucknell could play a record number of games on national television in 2005-06, with at least one firm date on ESPN and two on CSTV as the season begins. Additional television opportunities could occur on ESPN Brack- et Buster Saturday, as well as during the postseason.

Bucknell's Jan. 2 game at Duke will be aired live on ESPN, marking the first time the Bison have appeared on that network in the regular season.

The Patriot League will produce men's and women's basketball games for television once again in 2006. Eleven games will be broadcast in total, with eight regular season men's and women's games and three tournament contests on the schedule.

The men's basketball schedule begins with the much-anticipated rematch of the 2005 Patriot League championship game, between Holy Cross and Bucknell, on Satur- day, Jan. 14. The Bison will also appear on CSTV on Wednesday, Feb. 15 at Lafayette.

On Sunday, Mar. 5, a men's tournament semifinal game will round out the men's portion of the package. One women's semifinal game and the women's championship game will also be televised on CSTV. ESPN2 has the men's title game on March 10.

Returning for his fourth season as the play-by-play commentator will be Bob Socci. John Feinstein, author of The Last Amateurs and numerous other best-sellers, will handle the color commentary duties for the men's games for the fifth year.
Sojka Pavilion is both located on Moore Avenue about 1/4 mile from the entrance to the Bucknell campus on U.S. Route 15, about seven miles south of Interstate 80. From New York City or Ohio, simply take I-80 to Route 15 South (Exit 210).

Turn left into campus at the seventh traffic light (first light after PA Rt. 45).

From additional locations:
- From Philadelphia — Take the Northeast Extension of the Pennsylvania Turnpike (I-476) North to Interstate 80 (Exit 35), and follow the directions above.
- From Baltimore — Take Interstate 83 North and pick up Route 15 North just south of Harrisburg. Follow Route 15 for approximately 60 miles. Approximately seven miles after passing through Selinsgrove you will crest a hill with a flashing traffic light warning signal, and the stadium will appear on your right. At the traffic light at the bottom of the hill turn right into campus.
- From Pittsburgh — Take US Route 22 East to 220 North (I-99). Continue until reaching Interstate 80 East, and then take that to Route 15 South (Exit 210). At the seventh traffic light make a left into campus.
- From Washington D.C. and South — Take I-495 to I-270 North and pick up Route 15 North near Frederick. Follow Route 15 all the way to Bucknell.

GETTING TO BUCKNELL

WELCOME TO BISON COUNTRY

WHERE TO STAY

- Country Cupboard
  Rt. 15 North
  Lewisburg, PA
  570-524-5500

- Country Inn & Suites
  Rt. 15 & Walter Drive
  Lewisburg, PA
  570-524-6600

- Days Inn Lewisburg
  Rt. 15 N.
  Lewisburg, PA
  570-523-1171

- The Lewisburg Hotel
  136 Market Street
  Lewisburg, PA
  570-523-7800

- Pineapple Inn (B&B)
  439 Market St.
  Lewisburg, PA
  570-524-6200

- The Comfort Inn
  I-80 & Rt. 15
  New Columbia, PA
  570-568-8000

- Holiday Inn Express
  I-80 & Rt. 15
  New Columbia, PA
  570-568-1100

- Days Inn Danville
  I-80 & Rt. 54
  Danville, PA
  570-275-5510

- Hampton Inn
  I-80 & Rt. 54
  Danville, PA
  570-271-2500

- Pine Barn Inn
  1 Pine Barn Pl.
  Danville, PA
  800-627-2276

WHERE TO EAT

FAST FOOD

- KFC/Taco Bell
  Rts. 11 & 15
  Lewisburg, PA
  570-524-2465

- McDonalds
  Rt. 15
  Lewisburg, PA
  570-524-7022

- Wendy's
  Rt. 15
  Lewisburg, PA
  570-524-7040

- Burger King
  Rt. 15
  Lewisburg, PA
  570-524-4838

- Dunkin' Donuts
  Rt. 15
  Lewisburg, PA
  570-524-7495

- Subway
  Market Street
  Lewisburg, PA
  570-523-7827

- Italian Terrace
  Market Street
  Lewisburg, PA
  570-524-0069

For more, visit the Susquehanna Valley Visitors Bureau at www.visitcentralpa.org.

SIT DOWN SERVICE

- Applebees
  300 International Dr.
  Lewisburg, PA
  570-522-6513

- Bechtel's Dairy
  Rt. 15
  Lewisburg, PA
  570-524-2229

- BJ's Steak & Ribs
  17 N. Market Street
  Selinsgrove, PA
  570-374-9841

- Bull Run Inn/Rusty's
  Market & 6th Streets
  Lewisburg, PA
  570-524-2572

- Damon's
  Rt. 15 & Walter Dr.
  Lewisburg, PA
  570-523-3266

- Elizabeth's
  412 Market Street
  Lewisburg, PA
  570-525-3088

- Front Street Station
  2 Front Street
  Northumberland, PA
  570-473-3626

- Towne Tavern
  600 Market Street
  Lewisburg, PA
  570-524-0821

- Temperence House
  50 North 2nd St.
  Lewisburg, PA
  570-524-2558

GETTING TO BUCKNELL