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1999-2000 AASU Athletics Year in Review

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Armstrong Atlantic State University 1999-2000 Athletics Year In Review

**Pirates Capture PBAC Titles In Tennis and Softball
Four AASU Athletes Named PBAC Player of the Year
Seven AASU Athletes Earn All-America Honors
Pirates Finish Third In Commissioner's Cup Race**

Volleyball

Final PBAC Standings

SCHOOL	PBAC	ALL
North Florida	14-0	22-10
AASU	11-3	36-5
Francis Marion	11-3	24-11
USC Spartanburg	7-7	19-15
Augusta State	7-7	20-17
Lander	3-11	17-12
USC Aiken	3-11	11-18
UNC Pembroke	0-14	9-27

PBAC Tournament Champ. Game

North Fla. def. AASU 3-1
(15-12, 15-8, 10-15, 15-8)

Under first-year head coach Alan Segal, the AASU volleyball squad began the season with 29 straight victories, instantly placing the Pirate program on the collegiate volleyball map. AASU finished the season with a 36-5 overall mark, tying the NCAA Division II record for the best single-season turnaround. AASU improved 23.5 games over last season's 8-24 mark, tying them with Presbyterian, who also improved by 23.5 games in 1987. The Pirates finished tied for second in the PBAC regular season and advanced to the PBAC Tournament Championship game, where they fell to North Florida. AASU finished the year ranked No. 6 in the South Region, narrowly missing an invitation to the NCAA Championships.

Kris Bringewatt was named the PBAC's Player of the Year, while Lindsay Ehlers earned PBAC Freshman of the Year honors and Segal earned PBAC Coach of the Year honors. Colleen Fitzsimmons and Micah Roman were also named to the All-PBAC squad and several of the Pirate players earned All-Tournament honors throughout the season.

AASU PBAC All-Conference Honors Other Tournament Honors

Kris Bringewatt (Player of the Year)
Lindsay Ehlers (Freshman of the Year)
Colleen Fitzsimmons
Micah Roman
Alan Segal (Coach of the Year)

All-PBAC Tournament Honors

Erin Melius
Lindsay Ehlers

PBAC Player of the Week

Lindsay Ehlers (Oct. 19, 1999)

California (Pa.) All-Tournament Team

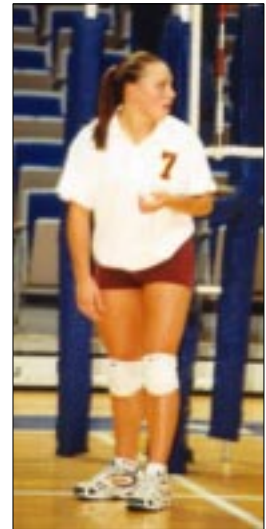
Erin Melius
Colleen Fitzsimmons
Sarah Haynes

VSU Days Invitational All-Tournament Team

Colleen Fitzsimmons

Fayetteville St. Invitational All-Tournament Team

Kris Bringewatt (MVP)
Colleen Fitzsimmons



Individual Statistical Leaders

Hitting Percentage

Kris Bringewatt, .337 (3rd PBAC)
Sarah Haynes, .296 (5th PBAC)
Lindsay Ehlers, .288 (8th PBAC)

Kills per game

Lindsay Ehlers, 3.58 (3rd PBAC)
Kris Bringewatt, 2.75 (10th PBAC)

Service Aces per game

Sofie Hakansson, 0.47 (3rd PBAC)
Erin Melius, 0.42 (6th PBAC)
Kris Bringewatt, 0.39 (9th PBAC)
Micah Roman, 0.39 (9th PBAC)

Blocks per game

Kris Bringewatt, 0.90 (3rd PBAC)
Sarah Haynes, 0.90 (3rd PBAC)

Assists per game

Erin Melius, 10.71 (3rd PBAC)
Colleen Fitzsimmons, 4.96 (8th PBAC)

Digs per game

Micah Roman, 3.08 (9th PBAC)

Team Statistical Rankings

Hitting Percentage

.255 (1st PBAC, 27th NCAA)

Kills per game

14.48 (2nd PBAC)

Service Aces per game

2.47 (1st PBAC, 13th NCAA)

Blocks per game

2.34 (2nd PBAC)

Assists per game

13.21 (1st PBAC)

Digs per game

16.84 (3rd PBAC)

Winning Percentage

36-5, .878 (10th NCAA)

1999–2000 AASU Athletics Year In Review

Men's Cross Country

PBAC Championships

SCHOOL	SCORE
Kennesaw State	35
Columbus State	79
North Florida	83
AASU	116
UNC Pembroke	131
USC Spartanburg	150
Lander	166
Francis Marion	171
Clayton State	203
Georgia C&SU	267
Augusta State	419

AASU All-PBAC Honors

Paul McRae (Freshman of the Year)
Gary Ginn

All-Southeast Region Honors

Paul McRae

Individual Titles

Paul McRae - GSU Twilight (19:45)
Pre-PBAC Championships (25:11.9) **
Winthrop Invitational (25:18)
GSU Invitational (25:36.29)

** Course record

AASU's men's cross country squad turned in a successful 1999 campaign, capturing two event titles - the Georgia Southern Opener and the Winthrop Invitational - and finishing fourth at the Peach Belt Athletic Conference Championships and ninth at the NCAA Division II Southeast Regional.

Senior Gary Ginn capped off a fine Pirate career by earning All-PBAC honors for the third consecutive year. Ginn finished 16th at the PBAC Championships and turned in four other Top 10 finishes during the season, including a third-place finish at the Winthrop Invitational.

No runner in the Peach Belt, or the Southeast Region, enjoyed a better debut than freshman **Paul McRae**. The New Zealander won his first three collegiate races and captured four individual titles during the season, including setting a course record at the Pre-PBAC Championships in Lumberton, N.C. McRae earned All-PBAC honors with a sixth-place finish at the PBAC Championships and also earned All-Region honors with a 13th-place finish at the NCAA Division II Southeast Regional. McRae was also honored by the conference as the Peach Belt's Freshman of the Year.

The season began on a high note as the Pirates took the Georgia Southern Opener on Sept. 3, defeating PBAC rivals North Florida and Clayton College & State. AASU would finish third at the Pre-PBAC Championships in Lumberton, N.C., then capture its second title of the season at the Winthrop Invitational. The Pirates would then turn in a sixth-place finish at the USC Spartanburg Invitational and a seventh-place finish at the prestigious Disney Cross Country Classic before tuning up for the postseason with a second-place finish at the Georgia Southern Invitational.

At the PBAC Championships, McRae, Ginn and Crenshaw would lead the Pirates to a fourth-place finish, each finishing in the top 20. AASU accumulated 116 points, finishing behind team champion Kennesaw State, Columbus State and North Florida. The Pirates then wrapped up the season with a ninth-place finish at the NCAA Division II Southeast Regional, finishing the meet with 258 points. AASU finished the 1999 season ranked seventh in the Southeast Region, according to the NCAA Division II Coaches' Poll.



Women's Cross Country

PBAC Championship

SCHOOL	SCORE
Kennesaw State	55
North Florida	64
AASU	81
Clayton State	105
Francis Marion	163
Lander	168
USC Spartanburg	168
UNC Pembroke	170
Columbus State	202
Augusta State	223
Georgia C&SU	292
USC Aiken	305

AASU All-PBAC Honors

Nikki Garland
Melanie Clarke
Jillian Charles (Freshman of the Year)

All-Southeast Region Honors

Nikki Garland
Melanie Clarke

Individual Titles

Nikki Garland - GSU Twilight (13:50)
Pre-PBAC Championships (17:54.3) **
Winthrop Invitational (17:43)
GSU Invitational (17:28.00)

** Course record

The AASU women's cross country squad enjoyed a fine 1999 season, capturing two event titles and achieving a national ranking in the NCAA Division II Top 25 for the first time in school history, helped by the addition of assistant cross country coach **Bridget Cobb**, who joined the Pirate coaching staff this season after a four-year stint at Northwestern State (La.) and a stellar collegiate career at Texas A&M Commerce. AASU capped off the season with a strong third-place finish at the PBAC Championships and a sixth-place finish at the NCAA Division II Southeast Regional.

A big part of the success of the women's team starts up front with junior **Nikki Garland**. A two-time All-PBAC and All-Region runner, Garland added each of those honors again in 1999 with a runner-up finish at the PBAC Championships and a fifth-place finish at the Southeast Regional. Garland enjoyed a stellar regular season, winning individual titles in four of six events, including setting a course record in Lumberton, N.C., at the Pre-PBAC meet.

Sophomore Melanie Clarke followed up her outstanding freshman year with a solid second year on the courses, earning All-PBAC honors for the second year in a row and also adding All-Region honors for the first time with a sixth-place finish at the Southeast Regional. Clarke also notched three third-place overall finishes this season.

Bursting onto the scene for the Lady Pirate runners, freshman Jillian Charles enjoyed a standout first campaign for AASU, earning Peach Belt Athletic Conference Freshman of the Year honors for her 10th-place finish at the conference championships.

The 1999 season began with a fourth-place finish at the Georgia Southern Opener, but the following week, the Lady Pirates captured the Pre-PBAC Championship title in Lumberton, N.C. Second place finishes at the Winthrop Invitational and USC Spartanburg Invitational followed, then the Lady Pirates finished seventh in the prestigious Disney Cross Country Classic in Orlando, Fla. AASU would capture the Georgia Southern Invitational title and the win would push AASU to 25th in the NCAA Division II Coaches' Top 25 poll, the first-ever national ranking for the Lady Pirates.

At the PBAC Championships, Garland, Clarke and Charles all finished in the Top 10 as the Lady Pirates accumulated 81 points, good for third place. Garland and Clarke continued their strong running in the NCAA Division II Southeast Regional, finishing fifth and sixth, respectively.



1999-2000 AASU Athletics Year In Review

Men's Basketball

Final PBAC Standings

NORTH DIVISION

School	PBAC	All
Augusta State	12-4	17-11
Lander	12-4	21-9
UNC Pembroke	6-10	16-11
USC Spartanburg	6-10	12-16
USC Aiken	5-11	13-12
Francis Marion	5-11	9-17

SOUTH DIVISION

School	PBAC	All
Georgia C&SU	13-3	25-6
AASU	11-5	16-13
Columbus State	8-8	22-10
Clayton State	7-9	11-15
Kennesaw State	7-9	14-11
North Florida	4-12	9-17

AASU PBAC All-Conference Honors

Robert Campbell (Player of the Year)

All-PBAC Tournament Honors

Robert Campbell

Tavares Brown

PBAC Player of the Week

Greg Favors (Dec. 13, 1999)

Robert Campbell (Feb. 7, 2000)

Georgia DII Player of the Year

(Presented by the Atlanta Tipoff Club)

Robert Campbell

Division II Bulletin All-America

Robert Campbell (Fourth Team)

NABC All-South Atlantic District

Robert Campbell (Second Team)

Daktronics All-South Atlantic Region

Robert Campbell

Ashley Dearing Cup Winner

David Koncul

Other Tournament Honors

Dixie Rotary Classic All-Tournament Team

Robert Campbell

Mick Jordan

The AASU men's basketball team completed a successful season with a torrid run through the PBAC Tournament, culminating in their second berth in the championship game in the past three seasons. Even though the Pirates fell to Columbus State in the championship game and missed out on a berth to the NCAA Championships, the season showed the university and the Savannah community a taste of what the future holds for AASU men's basketball.

Struggling along at 4--9, head coach Griff Mills installed a starting lineup of juniors Robert Campbell, Tavares Brown, Greg Favors and Cyrille Mainnemarre and sophomore David Koncul against preseason PBAC favorite Lander on January 8. The Pirates shocked the Senators, 76-65, on that Saturday evening and proceeded to roll off 10 wins in their next 13 games to clinch second place in the PBAC with an 11-5 mark in the conference. Overall, AASU finished with a 16-13 record.

Sparking the successful play was the move of Campbell, a Hinesville native, to point guard. Campbell finished the season leading the Pirates in scoring, averaging 15.0 points per game, and leading the PBAC in assists and steals. For the second straight year, Campbell ranked nationally in steals and earned several honors, including becoming the Pirates' first-ever PBAC Player of the Year.

Overall, the Pirates finished the season shooting 49.6 percent from the field, good enough for eighth in NCAA Division II. In 2000-2001, the Pirates will compete in the prestigious Disney Tip-Off Classic with a team that loses only one player from the 1999-2000 squad.

The future is bright for the Pirate basketball program !

Individual Statistical Leaders

Scoring

Robert Campbell, 15.0 ppg (7th PBAC)

David Koncul, 12.3 ppg (22nd PBAC)

Rebounding

Greg Favors, 8.7 rpg (4th PBAC)

Field Goal Percentage

Cyrille Mainnemarre, .620 (1st PBAC)

Greg Favors, .595 (4th PBAC)

Assists

Robert Campbell, 5.76 apg (1st PBAC, 31st NCAA)



Free Throw Percentage

David Koncul, .824 (6th PBAC)

Robert Campbell, .734 (15th PBAC)

Steals

Robert Campbell, 3.17 spg (1st PBAC, 10th NCAA)

3-Point FG Percentage

David Koncul, .455 (3rd PBAC, 26th NCAA)

Mick Jordan, .417 (5th PBAC)

3-Point FG Made Per Game

David Koncul, 2.45 (3rd PBAC)

Mick Jordan, 1.83 (12th PBAC)

Blocked Shots

Cyrille Mainnemarre, 1.17 (7th PBAC)

Assist/Turnover Ratio

Robert Campbell, 1.16 (10th PBAC)



Team Statistical Rankings

Scoring Offense

71.8 ppg (5th PBAC)

Scoring Defense

68.2 ppg (5th PBAC)

Scoring Margin

+3.6 (4th PBAC)

Field Goal Percentage

.496 (1st PBAC, 8th NCAA)

Free Throw Percentage

.696 (5th PBAC)

Field Goal Percentage Defense

.405 (2nd PBAC, 23rd NCAA)

3-Point FG Percentage

.395 (1st PBAC, 31st NCAA)

Rebounding Offense

36.4 rpg (5th PBAC)

Rebounding Margin

+3.9 (1st PBAC)

Blocked Shots

3.10 bpg (6th PBAC)

Assists

13.52 apg (6th PBAC)

Steals

8.90 spg (4th PBAC)

Turnover Margin

-4.17 (12th PBAC)



1999-2000 AASU Athletics Year In Review

Women's Basketball

Final PBAC Standings

NORTH DIVISION

School	PBAC	All
Francis Marion	13-3	25-8
Lander	12-4	22-8
USC Aiken	7-9	15-12
Augusta State	5-11	10-15
UNC Pembroke	3-13	11-15
USC Spartanburg	2-14	5-21

SOUTH DIVISION

School	PBAC	All
Kennesaw State	14-2	25-5
Columbus State	12-4	28-8
North Florida	10-6	16-11
Georgia C&SU	10-6	17-10
Clayton State	4-12	8-18
AASU	4-12	7-19

Tournament Honors

Lady Pirate Classic All-Tournament Team

Duanda Ball
Shawnte Craig

Mount Olive Classic All-Tournament Team

Lexie Martin

Individual Statistical Leaders

Scoring

Duanda Ball, 13.4 ppg (13th PBAC)
Lexie Martin, 11.0 (23rd PBAC)

Rebounding

Dorthell Little, 5.8 rpg (18th PBAC)
Sonya Mintz, 5.7 rpg (19th PBAC)

Field Goal Percentage

Sonya Mintz, .532 (4th PBAC)

Assists

Lexie Martin, 3.25 apg (13th PBAC)

Free Throw Percentage

Duanda Ball, .724 (15th PBAC)

Steals

Lexie Martin, 2.00 spg (12th PBAC)

3-Point FG Percentage

Duanda Ball, .384 (4th PBAC)
Lexie Martin, .346 (13th PBAC)

3-Point FG Made Per Game

Duanda Ball, 2.15 (3rd PBAC)
Lexie Martin, 1.96 (5th PBAC)

Blocked Shots

Dorthell Little, 1.04 bpg (7th PBAC)

Assist/Turnover Ratio

Lexie Martin, 1.04 (13th PBAC)

Sporting a roster of no seniors, one junior, four sophomores and five freshman, the AASU women's basketball team struggled to a 7-19 overall record and a 4-12 mark in the PBAC.

The Lady Pirates had their share of big wins on the season, however. AASU defeated Valdosta State, 58-56, on Nov. 23, the first win ever for the Lady Pirates over the Lady Blazers.

Sophomore guard Lexie Martin hit a jump shot in the closing seconds to give the Lady Pirates a 77-75 win over Columbus State on Feb. 5 - snapping a six-game losing streak to the Cougars. The loss would be the last for a Cougar squad that advanced to the NCAA Division II Elite Eight.

AASU also received some momentum heading into the 2000-2001 season with a season-ending 74-65 win over Clayton College & State on Feb. 26, giving the young Lady Pirates some confidence for the offseason and for next year.

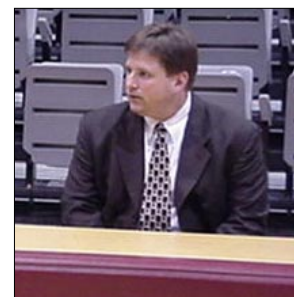
Freshman Duanda Ball made an immediate impact for the Lady Pirates, leading the team in scoring, averaging 13.4 points per game, and shooting 56 of 146 three-pointers (38.4 percent). Sophomore Lexie Martin averaged 11.0 points per game and led the Lady Pirates in assists with 78.

The 1999-2000 season also marked the last for head coach Lynn Jarrett, as she announced her resignation following the year. Jarrett compiled a 46-63 record in four seasons at AASU.

At the helm of the Lady Pirate basketball program in 2000-2001 will be **Roger Hodge**, who helped lead Liberty University to three Big South Conference Championships and three NCAA Women's Tournament appearances. Hodge was introduced as the Lady Pirates' new coach at a press conference on May 22 in Alumni Arena.



Lori Green



Team Statistical Rankings

Scoring Offense

63.2 ppg (11th PBAC)

Scoring Defense

67.3 ppg (7th PBAC)

Scoring Margin

-4.1 (10th PBAC)

Field Goal Percentage

.400 (8th PBAC)

Free Throw Percentage

.642 (10th PBAC)

Field Goal Percentage Defense

.396 (7th PBAC)

3-Point FG Percentage

.337 (4th PBAC)

Rebounding Offense

38.5 rpg (10th PBAC)

Rebounding Margin

-2.3 (11th PBAC)

Blocked Shots

2.12 bpg (8th PBAC)

Assists

12.08 apg (11th PBAC)

Steals

8.15 spg (12th PBAC)

Turnover Margin

-3.73 (11th PBAC)

Shawnte Craig



1999-2000 AASU Athletics Year In Review

Baseball

Final PBAC Standings

School	PBAC	All
North Florida	26-4	47-12
Georgia C&SU	19-11	39-20
Columbus State	19-11	32-24
Kennesaw State	18-12	38-20
Francis Marion	15-13	23-20
AASU	15-15	37-17
USC Aiken	15-15	29-27
Lander	13-17	27-25
Augusta State	12-18	25-29
USC Spartanburg	6-24	13-40
UNC Pembroke	5-23	17-36

PBAC Player of the Week

Kevin Bullard (May 2, 2000)

PBAC Pitcher of the Week

Joey Williams (Feb. 15, 2000)

Final NCAA DII National Rank

No. 25

AASU Players In MLB Draft

Dustin McGowan (signee) - 1st round (33 overall) Toronto Blue Jays

RHP Jason Olson - 17th round (507 overall) Los Angeles Dodgers

Other AASU Players Who Signed Professionally

C Kevin Bullard - Arizona Diamondbacks

OF Jimmy LaRose - River City Rascals (Frontier League)

SS Ray Castillo - River City Rascals (Frontier League)

Individual Statistical Leaders

Runs Batted In

Kevin Bullard, 47, 1.00 rbi/gm (6th PBAC)

Home Runs

Kevin Bullard, 8, 0.17 hr/gm (9th PBAC)

Doubles

Kevin Bullard, 17, 0.36 dbl/gm (4th PBAC)

Haydn Chinn, 17, 0.32 dbl/gm (8th PBAC)

Triples

Haydn Chinn, 5, 0.09 tpl/gm (1st PBAC)

Bryan Beckmann, 4, 0.08 tpl/gm (2nd PBAC)

Stolen Bases

Bryan Beckmann, 25-27, 0.49 sb/gm (3rd PBAC)

Jimmy LaRose, 21-27, 0.39 sb/gm (6th PBAC)

Brian Chester, 13-15, 0.31 sb/gm (8th PBAC)

Wins

Jason Ackley, 10-2 (T2nd PBAC)

Joey Williams, 8-5 (T6th PBAC)

Saves

Shane Shelton, 3, (T9th PBAC)

ERA

B.J. Brinkmeier, 3.25 (5th PBAC)

Joey Williams, 3.30 (6th PBAC)

Head coach Joe Roberts' baseball squad finished the 2000 season with a 37-17 overall record, 15-15 in the PBAC and ranked No. 25 in the final *Collegiate Baseball* Division II Top 25 Coaches' Poll. The record marked the 17th time the Pirates have won 35 or more games in a season in the last 20 years. AASU has also been ranked in the final NCAA Division II Top 25 in 10 of the last 13 seasons.

AASU compiled a 28-9 home record and went 14-1 in the Savannah Invitational, where the Pirates hosted top-quality Division II teams from across the nation in a three-week long tournament at Pirate Field.

The Pirates again finished in the Top 20 in the nation in pitching (3.85 ERA) and fielding (.960) and had a 10-game winner in junior Jason Ackley, just the 15th Pirate to reach double digits in wins in one season.

Several Pirates finished their careers with stellar years. Catcher Kevin Bullard led the Pirates in home runs (8) and ranked second in RBI (47) and finished his four-year Pirate career in the top 10 of seven different AASU offensive categories. He was also named PBAC Player of the Week for May 2. Pitcher Joey Williams went 8-5 with a 3.30 ERA and his 23 career wins ranks fourth all-time and his 219 strikeouts ranks second all-time. He was also the PBAC's Pitcher of the Week for February 15.

Shane Shelton finished his AASU career by pitching in 64 games, the second most all-time. Brian Chester, who played three years for the Pirates, ranks ninth in total at-bats. Three two-year players finished their careers - Ray Castillo (AASU's all-time leader in hit by pitch, 32), Jimmy LaRose (.345 career BA) and Mike Cadwallader (.280 average, 23 stolen bases).

During the season, coach Roberts recorded his 850th career win with a 13-2 victory over Queens on March 4. Roberts ranks seventh all-time in NCAA Division II in coaching victories.

Kevin Bullard



Team Statistical Rankings

Batting Average

.307 (3rd PBAC)

ERA

3.85 (3rd PBAC, 17th NCAA)

Fielding

.960 (1st PBAC, 19th NCAA)

Scoring

7.43 runs/gm (4th PBAC)

Home Runs

39, 0.72 hr/gm (5th PBAC)

Stolen Bases

110-138, 2.04 sb/gm (2nd PBAC, 25th NCAA)

Doubles

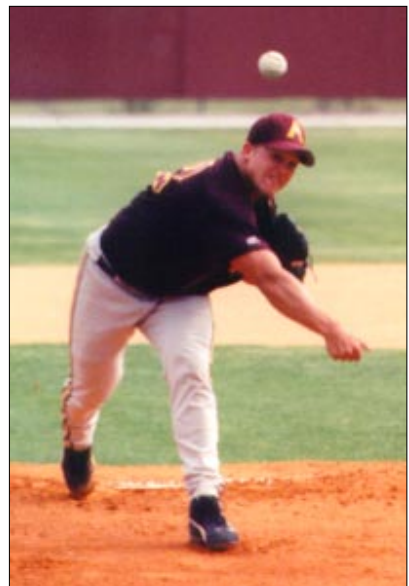
115, 2.13 dbl/gm (t30th NCAA)

Double Plays

48, 0.89 dblplay/gm (28th NCAA)

Winning Percentage

37-17, .685 (31st NCAA)



1999-2000 AASU Athletics Year In Review

Softball

Final PBAC Standings

SCHOOL	PBAC	ALL
AASU	18-2	51-7
Kennesaw State	18-2	56-8
North Florida	12-6	47-11
Columbus State	12-7	39-19
USC Spartanburg	10-6	38-11
Georgia C&SU	10-8	32-22
Lander	9-11	32-21
Francis Marion	7-13	35-23
USC Aiken	5-15	31-29
UNC Pembroke	2-17	12-21
Augusta State	2-18	15-37



Individual Statistical Leaders

Batting Average

Tesh Wiewel, .394 (6th PBAC)

Annie Sells, .364 (10th PBAC)

Runs Batted In

Annie Sells, 44, 0.86 rbi/gm (5th PBAC)

Maria Lopez, 36, 0.80 rbi/gm (6th PBAC)

Crystal McCracken, 45, 0.78 rbi/gm (7th PBAC)

Home Runs

Annie Sells, 13, 0.25 hr/gm (3rd PBAC, 11th NCAA)

Crystal McCracken, 13, 0.22 (5th PBAC, 15th NCAA)

Tesh Wiewel, 6, 0.10 hr/gm (9th PBAC)

Crystal Saccomanno, 5, 0.09 hr/gm (10th PBAC)

Triples

Tesh Wiewel, 4, 0.10 trp/gm (4th PBAC)

Stolen Bases

Holly Schilling, 14, 0.27 sb/gm (7th PBAC)

Wins

Annie Sells, 23-3 (5th PBAC)

Julie King, 15-1 (10th PBAC)

Saves

Julie King, 2 (2nd PBAC)

ERA

Annie Sells, 0.75 (2nd PBAC, 7th NCAA)

Julie King, 0.78 (3rd PBAC, 10th NCAA)

Maria Lopez, 1.51 (10th PBAC)

Strikeouts

Annie Sells, 264, 10.48/7 inn. (2nd PBAC, 3rd NCAA)

Maria Lopez, 108, 7.74/7 inn. (5th PBAC, 17th NCAA)

Julie King, 115, 7.43/7 inn. (6th PBAC, 23rd NCAA)

Head coach Marty McDaniel's AASU softball squad completed a remarkable season of firsts in just the Pirates' third year of competition. McDaniel led the Pirates to a 51-7 record, a No. 1 ranking during the year in the NFCA Top 25 and a first-ever NCAA Regional berth.

One of the biggest reasons for the Pirates' success in 2000 was the play of sophomore Annie Sells. Sells was named the Peach Belt Athletic Conference's Player of the Year and earned second-team All-America honors by the NFCA, the first All-America honors ever for a Pirate softball player. Sells went 23-3 with an 0.75 ERA in the circle and also hit .364 with 13 home runs and 44 RBI.

The Pirates began the season by winning their first 21 games and followed up its early success with doubleheader sweeps of Top 5 teams Kennesaw State and North Florida to take the driver's seat in the conference race. Two more wins over KSU in the Peach Belt Blast tournament on April 22-23 propelled the Pirates to the top spot in the NFCA Division II Top 25 poll on April 26.

The Pirates' 1-0 win over Columbus State in their final doubleheader of the season clinched a share of the PBAC Softball championship for the Pirates, the first-ever for AASU, and McDaniel was honored as the PBAC Coach of the Year. Three other players - juniors Tesh Wiewel, Crystal McCracken and Crystal Saccomanno - joined Annie Sells as All-PBAC honorees.

The PBAC championship and No. 1 national ranking assured the Pirates of their first-ever NCAA Tournament appearance as AASU traveled to Kennesaw State for the South Atlantic Regional. AASU went 2-2 in the region tournament, losing to Kennesaw State in the final. Wiewel and McCracken added All-Region and All-Region Tournament honors to their mantles along with Sells. Two other players - sophomore Brea Smith and junior Maria Lopez - also earned All-Region honors.

AASU PBAC All-Conference Honors

Annie Sells (Player of the Year)

Crystal McCracken

Tesh Wiewel

Crystal Saccomanno

Marty McDaniel (Coach of the Year)

PBAC Player of the Week

Annie Sells (Mar. 8, 2000)

Crystal McCracken (Apr. 12 & Apr. 26, 2000)

Nicole Weirauch (Apr. 19, 2000)

PBAC Player of the Week

Annie Sells (Mar. 22, Apr. 12,

Apr. 26 & May 2, 2000)

Final NFCA Division II National Rank

No. 8

NFCA Division II All-America Honors

Annie Sells (Second Team)

NFCA All-South Atlantic Region Honors

Annie Sells (First Team)

Maria Lopez (First Team)

Crystal McCracken (First Team)

Tesh Wiewel (First Team)

Brea Smith (Second Team)

Crystal Saccomanno (Second Team)

Marty McDaniel (Coach of the Year)

GTE Academic All-District III Honors

Julie King (Second Team)

South Atlantic Regional All-Tmt Team

Annie Sells

Crystal McCracken

Tesh Wiewel



Team Statistical Rankings

Batting Average

.336 (1st PBAC, 8th NCAA)

ERA

0.94 (2nd PBAC, 4th NCAA)

Fielding

.975 (1st PBAC, 5th NCAA)

Scoring

6.28 runs/gm (1st PBAC, 11th NCAA)

Home Runs

44, 0.76 hr/gm (1st PBAC, 16th NCAA)

Stolen Bases

31, 0.53 sb/gm (9th PBAC)

Slugging Percentage

.486 (10th NCAA)

Doubles

83, 1.43 dbl/gm (22nd NCAA)

Won-Lost Percentage

51-7, .879 (2nd NCAA)

1999-2000 AASU Athletics Year In Review

Men's Tennis

Final PBAC Standings

SCHOOL	PBAC	ALL
AASU	8-0	20-7
Francis Marion	6-1	18-4
Lander	5-1	17-5
North Florida	5-3	16-13
Columbus State	4-3	9-7
USC Aiken	2-6	17-9
Augusta State	2-6	13-13
Georgia C&SU	2-6	9-14
USC Spartanburg	0-8	5-10

The AASU men's tennis team enjoyed another stellar year on the courts in 2000, finishing the regular season undefeated in PBAC play and advancing to the NCAA Quarterfinals in Pensacola, Fla.

The AASU men, playing a schedule featuring matches against 15 of the top 25 teams in the nation, knocked off No. 1-ranked Lander University during the season en route to a perfect 11-0 mark in PBAC play. The Pirates ended the year with a 20-7 mark and a No. 6 national ranking, finishing runner-up to Lander in the PBAC Tournament, then lost to Lander in the NCAA Quarterfinals as Lander went on to its eighth straight NCAA Division II title. Of AASU's 27 matches, 19 were against Top 25 competition and the Pirates compiled a 14-5 mark against those top teams.

Juniors Stefan Wirtz and Christopher Petersen and sophomore Blaise Tribolet earned All-PBAC honors and Petersen was named the ITA South Region Player to Watch. Wirtz and Petersen added ITA Division II All-America honors in singles as well.

AASU PBAC All-Conference Honors

Stefan Wirtz (Singles)
Christopher Petersen (Singles)
Blaise Tribolet (Singles)

Final ITA/NCAA Division II National Rank

No. 6

GTE Academic All-District III

Christopher Petersen
Blaise Tribolet

ITA/NCAA DII All-America Honors

Stefan Wirtz (Singles)
Christopher Petersen (Singles)

ITA/ DII South Region Player to Watch

Christopher Petersen

ITA National Scholar-Athlete

Christopher Petersen
Blaise Tribolet

Individual Statistics

Singles

Player	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	Fall	Record
Stefan Wirtz	12-10						7-3	19-13
Antony Xayphengsy	1-0	3-3						4-3
Blaise Tribolet		1-1	13-3	3-0			6-3	23-7
Christopher Petersen	1-0	10-3	4-0	1-0	1-0		7-3	24-6
Frederic Heitz	1-0	1-0	3-0	10-3	5-1		4-3	24-7
Aref Jallali			1-1	3-1	7-4	3-2		14-8
Dave Webley				1-1	2-1	5-5	3-2	11-9
John Stone					0-1	0-3	2-2	2-6
Nickolay Nesterov						0-2		0-2
James Nichols					0-1	1-1	0-1	1-3

Doubles

Player	#1	#2	#3	Fall	Record
Blaise Tribolet	10-11		3-2	5-3	18-16
Christopher Petersen	11-15			5-3	16-18
Stefan Wirtz	1-5	4-2	11-3	8-2	24-12
Antony Xayphengsy		4-2	1-0		5-2
Frederic Heitz		11-9	5-1	8-2	24-12
Aref Jallali		11-10	5-1		16-10
Dave Webley	0-1		10-6	0-2	10-9
John Stone			3-3	0-2	3-5

Final ITA National / Regional Rankings

National - Singles

Stefan Wirtz - No. 17
Christopher Petersen - No. 19
Blaise Tribolet - No. 38

National - Doubles

Christopher Petersen - No. 13
Blaise Tribolet - No. 13

Regional - Singles

Stefan Wirtz - No. 9
Christopher Petersen - No. 11
Blaise Tribolet - No. 21

Regional - Doubles

Christopher Petersen - No. 7
Blaise Tribolet - No. 7



1999-2000 AASU Athletics Year In Review

Women's Tennis

Final PBAC Standings

SCHOOL	PBAC	ALL
AASU	11-0	17-7
North Florida	10-1	23-8
Columbus State	9-2	14-5
Georgia C&SU	8-3	12-13
Kennesaw State	7-4	14-7
USC Aiken	5-6	17-10
Francis Marion	4-7	9-10
Augusta State	3-8	13-12
Clayton State	3-8	9-15
Lander	3-8	4-13
USC Spartanburg	2-9	9-16
UNC Pembroke	1-10	5-15

The AASU women's tennis team enjoyed yet another spectacular season in 2000, advancing to the NCAA Quarterfinals and finishing the year with a No. 5 national ranking and a 17-7 record.

The Lady Pirates breezed through the PBAC schedule, finishing 8-0 in the regular season and advancing to the PBAC tournament final, where North Florida took advantage of a short-handed Pirates squad to win the tournament title. AASU defeated UNF, however, in South Regional action to advance to its sixth straight NCAA tournament, where the Pirates would lose to eventual national champion BYU-Hawaii in the quarterfinals.

Freshman Stephanie Kovacic, the PBAC's Player of the Year, was named the ITA National Rookie of the Year and earned ITA All-America honors. Sophomore Michaela Kratochvilova also earned All-PBAC and ITA All-America honors, while seniors Petra Schemm and Marie-Claude Ostiguy were All-PBAC honorees. Head coach Simon Earnshaw, in his first year at the helm of the Pirate tennis program, was named the PBAC women's Coach of the Year.

AASU is the only school to have both its men's and women's teams qualify for the NCAA Championships each of the past six seasons.

AASU PBAC All-Conference Honors

Stephanie Kovacic (Singles & Doubles, Player of the Year)
 Michaela Kratochvilova (Singles & Doubles)
 Petra Schemm (Singles & Doubles)
 Marie-Claude Ostiguy (At-Large Singles & Doubles)
 Simon Earnshaw (Coach of the Year)

Final ITA/NCAA Division II National Rank

No. 5

ITA Academic All-America Team Honors

3.51 GPA

ITA/NCAA DII All-America Honors

Stephanie Kovacic (Singles & Doubles)
 Michaela Kratochvilova (Singles & Doubles)

ITA/DII National Rookie of the Year

Stephanie Kovacic

ITA/DII South Region Rookie of the Year

Stephanie Kovacic

ITA National Scholar-Athlete

Marie-Claude Ostiguy

GTE Academic All-District III Honors

Marie-Claude Ostiguy (First Team)

Individual Statistics

Singles

Player	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	Fall	Record
Stephanie Kovacic	19-1						1-1	20-2
Michaela Kratochvilova		15-1					7-3	22-4
Petra Schemm			13-4			1-0	4-2	18-6
Marie-Claude Ostiguy			2-0	16-3			8-2	26-5
Aitana Vargas				2-0	2-12	1-0	1-2	6-14
Josephine Grube					3-2	4-10		7-12
Colleen Fitzsimmons						2-1		2-1

Doubles

Player	#1	#2	#3	Fall	Record
Stephanie Kovacic	18-3				18-3
Michaela Kratochvilova	19-3	1-1		6-1	26-5
Petra Schemm	0-2	19-3		5-1	25-6
Marie-Claude Ostiguy	1-2	18-3		5-1	24-6
Aitana Vargas		2-1	6-14		8-15
Josephine Grube			8-15		8-15
Colleen Fitzsimmons			2-1		2-1

Final ITA National / Regional Rankings

National - Singles

Stephanie Kovacic - No. 3

Michaela Kratochvilova - No. 9

Petra Schemm - No. 37

National - Doubles

Stephanie Kovacic - No. 2

Michaela Kratochvilova - No. 2

Regional - Singles

Stephanie Kovacic - No. 2

Michaela Kratochvilova - No. 7

Petra Schemm - No. 20

Regional - Doubles

Stephanie Kovacic - No. 1

Michaela Kratochvilova - No. 1



1999–2000 AASU Athletics Year In Review

Track and Field



Freshman Rebekah Mackie became AASU's second track All-America with a fourth-place finish in the 5,000 meters at the NCAA Division II Outdoor Track and Field Championships in Raleigh, N.C.

The Auckland, New Zealand, native finished fourth with a time of 17:16.09, earning five points for the Pirates in the team standings and earning All-America honors. Mackie's finish gave the Pirates a 41st place finish at the championships.

Mackie joined junior teammate **Nikki Garland**, AASU's first track All-America, at the championships. Garland, who earned All-America honors as a freshman in the 800 meters, competed in both the 800 and the 1,500 meters at the championships this year, finishing 12th in the 1,500 meters with a time of 4:42.75 and 13th in the 800 meters with a time of 2:13.98.

AASU Track All-America Honors

Rebekah Mackie, 5000 Meters

Golf



On March 22, 2000, AASU athletic director Dr. Eddie Aenchbacher announced plans for the revival of the Pirates' men's golf program for the 2000-2001 season.

The men's golf program was dropped as a varsity sport when AASU left its status as an NCAA Division I program in the 1987-88 athletic year. The revitalization of the golf program brings back a sport that earned several regional and national accolades, including berths in the NAIA Championships in the early 1970s, and boasts many former Pirate standouts, including 1996 AASU Athletic Hall of Fame inductee Toby Browne.

In a press conference at Southbridge Golf Club on May 24, 2000, Dr. Aenchbacher introduced **Michael Butler** as AASU's new head golf coach of the Pirate men's golf program.

Butler, a Savannah native and former NCAA Division II All-America golfer, graduated from Benedictine Military School in 1989 and went on to enjoy a successful collegiate golf career, earning NJCAA All-America honors at Florida Community College at Jacksonville and competing for the U.S. in the 1990 World University Games in Montpelier, France. Continuing his career at Jacksonville State University, Butler was a two-time NCAA Division II All-America honoree for the Gamecocks.

"I feel very excited to be starting the men's golf program from the ground level," Butler said. "I look forward to the challenge of creating a strong team at Armstrong Atlantic State."

Academics

PBAC Presidential Honor Roll Honorees

Baseball

Bryan Beckmann
B.J. Brinkmeier
Kevin Bullard
Ray Castillo
Brian Chester
Pat Daly
Bill Keifer
Jimmy LaRose
Damon Moore
Andrew Moss
Jason Olson
Nick Snow
Jeff Thomas
Shane Valigora
Joey Williams

Basketball

Mick Jordan
Bart Westgeest
Duanda Ball
Shawnte Craig
Becca Hubbard
Lexie Martin

Cross Country

Robert Crenshaw
Paul McRae
Nikki Garland
Katie Graham
Amanda Lagesse
Laura Pell

Softball

Julie King
Stacey Rout
Crystal Saccomanno
Brea Smith
Isa Tillery

Tennis

Aref Jallali
Christopher Petersen
John Stone
Blaise Tribolet
Dave Webley
Stefan Wirtz
Josephine Grube
Michaela Kratochvilova
Marie-Claude Ostiguy
Petra Schemm
Aitana Vargas

Volleyball

Julia Baker
Kelly Barbee
Kris Bringewatt
Lindsay Ehlers
Ashley Helmick
Micah Roman
Shelley Weekes



AASU student-athletes continued to excel in the classroom in the 1999-2000 academic year. 54% of all AASU student-athletes carried GPAs of 3.0 or better and the overall GPA of AASU student-athletes, as a group, was 2.91. 50 AASU student-athletes earned PBAC Presidential Honor Roll honors and four student-athletes were named GTE Academic All-District - softball pitcher Julie King, women's tennis player Marie-Claude Ostiguy and men's tennis players Christopher Petersen and Blaise Tribolet.

AASU student-athletes earned 31 Dean's List honors in 1999-2000 and two AASU student-athletes - Ostiguy and volleyball player Lindsay Ehlers - carried perfect 4.0 GPAs for the entire year.

Ostiguy and Tribolet were honored with the AASU President's Cup, given by the Savannah Exchange Club to the top AASU male and female student-athlete of the year academically.