

DIAMOND DUST

The Official Newsletter of the Bucknell Baseball Program

www.BucknellBison.com



NOTES FROM COACH Scott Heather

Danny Rafferty and Alex Salem were a big part of our offense. Mike Castellani was tremendous as a starter for us, and Jack Schoenberg as well as Tommy Gambon were quality arms out of the pen for us. These guys will certainly be missed in a lot of ways as they provided great leadership and team chemistry to the program. I will say though that I am excited about what we have back. We return six position player starters and three conference starters in the rotation which puts us in a good position to compete for a league title. Competition for playing time has been constant this year as we have depth in players that we feel can contribute. The first portion of the season will be used to fine tune our lineup and give a variety of players an opportunity to show what they can do.

Some of you may have noticed that the league schedule has changed. We are now playing 25 conference games and adding two weeks of conference play. We will have three four-game series weekends along with four three-game series for the weekend portion of the schedule. The change was made for a variety of reasons but moving to more three-game series was a major factor in enhancing student-athlete welfare. The coaches in the league also felt we could benefit from

playing more conference games. It should be an interesting change. Personally I don't know how to feel about it yet. I certainly like the three-game series weekends and it should be interesting to see how the teams will set up the rotations for the split weekends where we play two different teams. The full schedule is provided on page 5. It should certainly be challenging early with playing two Top-25 teams in Arkansas and Duke, but the schedule also has a good balance as we move forward.

Almost all of the construction is completed with the grand stand project at Depew Field. There are just a few things we are waiting on until the winter is gone (hopefully soon). I can tell you that it will be a great place to watch a game and should be a great atmosphere for the players and families. Hopefully you like the pictures! I really think it puts us towards the top of the league with the facility we have now. The additional items to complete will be installing new wind screen to the outfield fence and on the back the grand stand. The cage area will be redesigned with turf and a new cage structure which will include one long cage and a second cage for short toss. New dugout padding will be installed as well. It should be a very nice set up for the fans for the

games, and it's a facility we can be very proud of as a program.

I also wanted to announce that we have a big weekend planned for April 21-22. We will be hosting a Celebration of Donors to the Baseball/Softball Complex, as well as an Alumni Appreciation Day. Following the single game on Sunday of that weekend we would like to connect the current players with the alumni at a networking dinner in the Terrace Room. On Monday, April 23, we will host the 3rd Annual Gene Depew Memorial Golf Tournament at the Bucknell Golf Club. We have had a great turnout locally for the golf tournament and are looking to continue to grow the event with alumni. It should be a great time. Please connect with your classmates to see if you can get a group together that can come be a part of the event. I really think it can be a great experience for the current players and alumni and bring the program together for a very special weekend. I hope to see many of you there.

Scott

Here we are just over a week away from the opener. We certainly are set to challenge ourselves early with an opening weekend at Arkansas and at match-up at Duke the second weekend. I have to say I am very excited to head back to Arkansas to open the year. It should be a great experience for the players. Although it looks like they have better pitching than when I was there, I know are players are excited for the challenge. On a personal note, I am excited to see many old friends, teammates and former players as well. It should be a good time and hopefully we get great weather so the attendance is good.

Preparation so far has been good for this time of year. We have been stuck in the fieldhouse a bit here lately, but also have had some quality work out on the field turf as well. Pitching has looked strong so far, and there is a lot of competition yet at all our other positions that we will look to settle as the season goes. It is always tough to replace the seniors and this year will be no different. Brett Smith, Sam Clark,

GETTOKNOW the Bison Newcomers for the 2018 Season



Caleb Broughton

Freshman • 2B/SS • 5'9" • 175 lbs
Hometown: Lebanon, NH

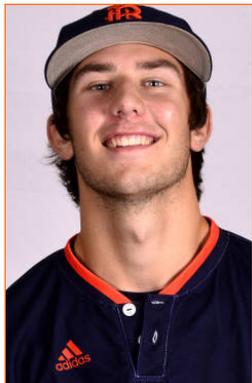
Broughton is a middle infielder from West Lebanon, NH. Broughton is an above average athlete with a strong will to compete. Broughton is a sure handed defensive player with a strong frame and swing that shows promise. Caleb has been particularly impressive in early spring workouts by consistently making defensive plays.



Matthew Ottsen

Freshman • LHP • 5'11" • 165 lbs
Hometown: St. Louis, MO

Ottsen is a talented left-handed pitcher from St. Louis, MO, with an unconventional delivery and a fastball in the mid 80s that moves in both directions. He uses a cutter and a two seamer and his CB boasts the highest spin rate on the team. Ottsen has great potential to give Patriot League hitters fits for years to come.



Tyler Daly

Freshman • RHP • 6'2" • 190 lbs
Hometown: Wallingford, CT

Daly is a hard-working talented right-handed pitcher from Wallingford, CT. Daly shows flashes of life in his fastball with ability to get into the upper 80s and solid secondary stuff. He competes well and is able to use all of his pitches for strikes. Daly is a nice complement to a talented freshmen class of pitchers. Tyler will see time as a possible mid-week starter or relief role.



Charles Rafferty

Sophomore • RHP • 6'0" • 180 lbs
Hometown: Chicago, IL

Charlie transferred to the Bison after spending a year at Providence College. He will add depth on the mound with his ability to get multiple pitches over the plate for strikes in any count. Charlie was a two-sport athlete at Loyola Academy in Chicago. He is the younger brother of former Bison Danny Rafferty '17.



Josh Hunter

Sophomore • OF • 6'0" • 215 lbs
Hometown: Silver Spring, MD

Hunter comes to the Bison from the Landon School in Baltimore. Josh is an outfielder with above average tools. He hits for power and impressed the coaching staff with his ability to drive the ball to all fields. He was a three-sport athlete in high school where he also starred in football and wrestling. He was a three-year Varsity letterman in baseball at Landon. Josh came to Bucknell through its partnership with the Posse Foundation which helps bring exceptional leaders and scholars to the university.



Nicholas Sadd

Freshman • RHP • 6'1" • 192 lbs
Hometown: Atlanta, GA

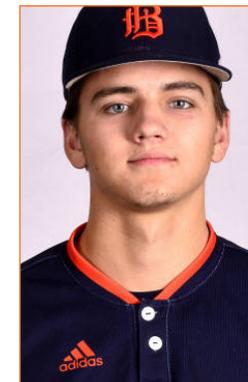
An athletic right-handed pitcher from Atlanta, GA, Nick Sadd has a lot of potential on the mound. With a fastball that can run up into the low 90s and above average secondary stuff, Sadd will most likely see time out of the bullpen early but could also become the mid-week starter as the season progresses.



Peter Marren

Freshman • 3B/1B • 5'11" • 205 lbs
Hometown: Darien, CT

A power bat from Darien, CT Marren is a strong corner infielder with a tremendous work ethic. Marren boasts a strong arm and above average power as a college freshman. Peter has a chance to contribute as a freshmen at one of the corner infield spots or designated hitter. Marren gives the Bison lineup added thump for years to come.



Jack Schuler

Freshman • INF/OF • 6'0" • 165 lbs
Hometown: Frisco, TX

Schuler is a former teammate of senior RHP Mike Stephens at Frisco High School in Dallas, TX. Schuler is a versatile and athletic player. With the ability to add depth at most any position on the field Jack comes to the Bison with the ability to make an immediate impact on the lineup. He has shown he can play the infield, but he may see more time this year in the outfield because of his defense.

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the Bison Newcomers for the 2018 Season



Benjamin Smith

Freshman • C • 6'3" • 190 lbs
Hometown: Sammamish, WA

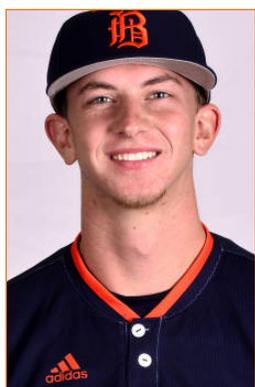
Smith is a former high school teammates with sophomore pitcher Jack Simpson at Skyline High School. Smith is a tall athletic catcher with an above average arm and good actions behind the plate. Smith shows signs of power potential at the plate and great speed for a catcher. He is an above average thrower behind the plate and receives well for a freshman. Has a bright future as a backstop for the Bison.



Dominic Toso

Freshman • 3B/SS/2B • 6'0" • 180 lbs
Hometown: Philadelphia, PA

Coming off of a successful summer campaign in the PGCBL, Dom Toso (Philadelphia, PA) has the ability to become a special college baseball player. Dom has a plus arm with great bat speed that will have an almost immediate impact on the Patriot League. He is pushing to be in the lineup already with his offensive potential and might force his way in by the time league play rolls around.



Brendan Tuttle

Freshman • RHP • 6'4" • 180 lbs
Hometown: Hollywood, FL

A tall and athletic power arm from Hollywood, FL, Tuttle is an exciting talent for the Bison. A right-handed pitcher with a fastball that can get up to 94 mph, Tuttle compliments his power pitch with a wipe-out slider. He is the freshman that is most ready to contribute on the mound. Brenden will see innings as a top reliever this year for the Bison at the end of games.

The Baseball Team takes down Lacrosse in Competition



Check out the video @ Bucknell_BB



When the spring sports teams come back from Thanksgiving break, they only have two days where they can do team activities before they need to shut down those activities and focus on preparation for finals. Due to these time constraints, the baseball team has often done competitions within the team as a fun activity to close the fall season. It has long been bantered back and forth between baseball and lacrosse players as well as the coaching staffs on which sport produces the better athlete. The chirping from the lacrosse side has seemed to grow stronger in the last few years as the sport has certainly grown, so we decided to settle it once and for all and challenge the lacrosse team in a competition designed to determine who has the better athletes? Baseball or Lacrosse.

Each team picked six guys per category to represent the team in the event. Every player had to compete in an event, and there were only a few that doubled up in

a second event. To the surprise of just a few people, the baseball team handily won the event. It was a great way to end the fall baseball workouts with a victory. Dodge Ball and Tug of War were the most riveting events which brought out big great celebrations and taunting afterwards. We were probably most impressive in basketball where we had four dunks in a limited knock out game. Although we did lose two events, it was great to come together as a team and compete.

BASEBALL VICTORIES

- Dodge Ball
- Football Target toss
- Relay Race
- Basketball (Knockout)
- Tug of War

LACROSSE VICTORIES

- Concentration Grid Race
- Switch Sports Target Toss

Van Hoose Named PL Preseason Pitcher of Year, Bucknell Tabbed as PL Favorite!

Read the article at



www.BucknellBison.com



LET THE
MARCH
BEGIN

3.20.18



Join us in this 24-hour athletics-specific giving challenge and help support Bison student-athletes! Support Bison Athletics as we work to develop scholars, leaders and champions!



BISON MARCH for *Excellence*

Tuesday, March 20th to Wednesday, March 21st
Noon to Noon.

Stay tuned to www.BucknellBison.com
for more details as 3.20.18 approaches.

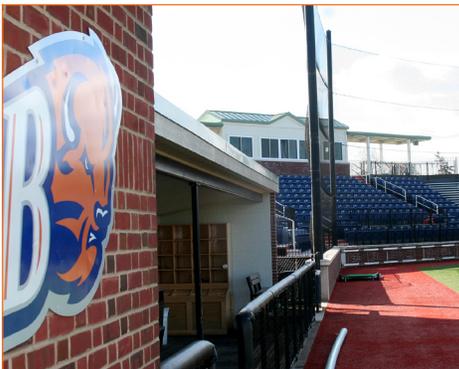


2018 SCHEDULE

Join us for a Celebration of Donors to the Baseball/Softball Complex on Sunday, April 22nd.



| | | | |
|-------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------|
| Fri, Feb 16 | Arkansas | Fayetteville, Ark. | 3:00 PM |
| Sat, Feb 17 | Arkansas | Fayetteville, Ark. | 12:30 PM |
| Sun, Feb 18 | Arkansas | Fayetteville, Ark. | 12:00 PM |
| Fri, Feb 23 | Duke | Durham, N.C. | 4:00 PM |
| Sat, Feb 24 | Duke | Durham, N.C. | 1:00 PM |
| Sun, Feb 25 | Duke | Durham, N.C. | 1:00 PM |
| Fri, Mar 02 | North Carolina A&T | Greensboro, N.C. | 4:00 PM |
| Sat, Mar 03 | North Carolina A&T | Greensboro, N.C. | 2:00 PM |
| Sun, Mar 04 | North Carolina A&T | Greensboro, N.C. | 1:00 PM |
| Wed, Mar 07 | Mount St. Mary's - MD | Emmitsburg, Md. | 3:00 PM |
| Sat, Mar 10 | Villanova | Kissimmee, Fla. | 11:00 AM |
| Sun, Mar 11 | Villanova | Kissimmee, Fla. | 11:00 AM |
| Mon, Mar 12 | Massachusetts | Kissimmee, Fla. | 11:00 AM |
| Tue, Mar 13 | Massachusetts | Kissimmee, Fla. | 3:00 PM |
| Wed, Mar 14 | Massachusetts | Kissimmee, Fla. | 11:00 AM |
| Sat, Mar 17 | Navy * | Lewisburg, Pa. | 12:00 PM |
| Sat, Mar 17 | Navy * | Lewisburg, Pa. | 2:30 PM |
| Sun, Mar 18 | Navy * | Lewisburg, Pa. | 12:00 PM |
| Sun, Mar 18 | Navy * | Lewisburg, Pa. | 2:30 PM |
| Tue, Mar 20 | Penn State | State College, Pa. | 6:05 PM |
| Wed, Mar 21 | Saint Joseph's | Lewisburg, Pa. | 3:00 PM |
| Sat, Mar 24 | Army * | Lewisburg, Pa. | 12:00 PM |
| Sat, Mar 24 | Army * | Lewisburg, Pa. | 2:30 PM |
| Sun, Mar 25 | Holy Cross * | Lewisburg, Pa. | 12:00 PM |
| Sun, Mar 25 | Holy Cross * | Lewisburg, Pa. | 3:00 PM |
| Tue, Mar 27 | St. Bonaventure | St. Bonaventure, N.Y. | 2:00 PM |
| Wed, Mar 28 | Villanova | Lewisburg, Pa. | 3:30 PM |
| Sat, Mar 31 | Army * | West Point, N.Y. | 12:00 PM |
| Sat, Mar 31 | Army * | West Point, N.Y. | 2:30 PM |
| Sun, Apr 01 | Army * | West Point, N.Y. | 1:00 PM |
| Tue, Apr 03 | Binghamton | Binghamton, N.Y. | 3:00 PM |
| Sat, Apr 07 | Lafayette * | Lewisburg, Pa. | 12:00 PM |
| Sat, Apr 07 | Lafayette * | Lewisburg, Pa. | 2:30 PM |
| Sun, Apr 08 | Lafayette * | Lewisburg, Pa. | 1:00 PM |
| Tue, Apr 10 | Towson | Lewisburg, Pa. | 3:30 PM |
| Sat, Apr 14 | Holy Cross * | Worcester, Mass. | 2:00 PM |
| Sat, Apr 14 | Holy Cross * | Worcester, Mass. | 4:30 PM |
| Sun, Apr 15 | Holy Cross * | Worcester, Mass. | 1:00 PM |
| Wed, Apr 18 | Navy * | Annapolis, Md. | 3:00 PM |
| Sat, Apr 21 | Lehigh * | Lewisburg, Pa. | 12:00 PM |
| Sat, Apr 21 | Lehigh * | Lewisburg, Pa. | 2:30 PM |
| Sun, Apr 22 | Lehigh * | Lewisburg, Pa. | 1:00 PM |
| Tue, Apr 24 | Penn State | State College, Pa. | 6:05 PM |
| Sat, Apr 28 | Lafayette * | Easton, Pa. | 12:00 PM |
| Sat, Apr 28 | Lafayette * | Easton, Pa. | 2:30 PM |
| Sun, Apr 29 | Lehigh * | Bethlehem, Pa. | 12:00 PM |
| Sun, Apr 29 | Lehigh * | Bethlehem, Pa. | 2:30 PM |



All dates and times tentative and subject to change
* Conference Games





Baseball
 Bucknell University
 One Dent Drive
 Lewisburg, PA 17837



BUCKNELL BASEBALL

Alumni **WEEKEND**

Saturday, April 21st - Monday, April 23rd

Bucknell Baseball Announces Alumni Weekend
 and A Celebration of Donors to the Baseball/Softball Complex.



Saturday, April 21
 Noon and 2:30 p.m.
 Bucknell vs. Lehigh - Senior Day

Sunday, April 22
 Bucknell vs. Lehigh - Noon
 Celebration of Donors to the Baseball/Softball Complex

Bucknell Alumni Networking Dinner with Current Bison Team - 6:00 p.m.

Monday, April 23
 3rd Annual Gene Depew Memorial Golf Tournament
 1:00 p.m. shotgun at the Bucknell Golf Club



BASEBALL CONTACT INFORMATION

Head Coach: Scott Heather / 570-577-3593/ sheather@bucknell.edu
 Assistant Coach: Jason Neitz / 570-577-1059 / jln013@bucknell.edu
 Volunteer Assistant Coach: CJ Baker / cjb037@bucknell.edu
 Volunteer Assistant Coach: Tyler Packanik / tnp004@bucknell.edu

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