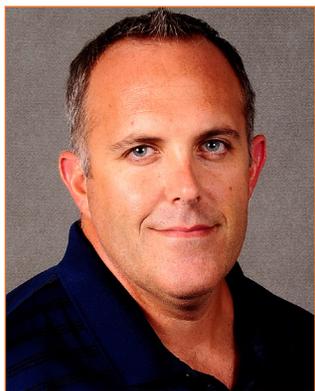


# THE SKIP SHOT

The Official Newsletter of the Bucknell Men's and Women's Water Polo Program

www.BucknellBison.com



## NOTES FROM COACH John McBride

short at the MAWPC Championships, finishing in third place. The team was recognized with four athletes making the all-conference team. Rade Joksimovic finished as MVP of the conference for the second consecutive year. At the 2017 MAWPC Championships the CWPA honored former Bucknell water polo athlete Jeff Hilk '86 by inducting him into its hall of fame.

We hosted the 40th Anniversary of Bucknell Water Polo this year as well. With over 100 attendees it was great to get together and celebrate our history. We honored Coach Dick Russell for all he has done for Bucknell and its water polo programs. We also honored the first ever Men's and Women's varsity water polo teams at Bucknell. It was truly an honor to be in the same room as the alumni as they shared their stories and experiences while at Bucknell.

As always none of these accomplishments can be reached without your support. There is a direct correlation between success and giving back. These teams get to truly experience what being part of a Div. I program is all about. When they get to travel in nice buses and proudly where the blue and orange uniforms it's all because of your generosity. Your gifts allow the athletes to do exactly what they came here for, and that is

not only a top athletic experience but also one of the top educational experiences available. We have been challenged with raising \$100,000 this year and I am confident that we will once again reach our goal. Other programs are envious of the support Bucknell Water Polo receives from our boosters. I hear it all of the time and it makes me feel very proud of being part of such an amazing tradition that is Bucknell Water Polo. Thank you so much for your ongoing support and let's set another record this year by getting to \$110,000. I know the athletes are very thankful because they have told me themselves how much it means to them to feel supported.

I hope this newsletter finds your family healthy and happy as you prepare for the holiday season. Hopefully you can find time in 2018 to come and support the teams at the pool. If not, I always appreciate the great emails I receive from each and every one of you.

**GoBISON!**<sup>TM</sup>

All my best,  
John McBride

Season's Greetings from Bucknell Water Polo,

As 2017 comes to a close it's always a great time to reflect on the past year. Both the men's and women's season were special in so many ways that I don't want this year to come to a close. Inevitably it does end and players that have given Bucknell four loyal years move on into the next chapter of their lives.

The women's team had a strong year, finishing 6th at the Eastern Championships to Indiana. They were ranked in the Top-25 all year with big wins over Santa Clara and Brown University. The team also had 12 athletes recognized on the ACWPC All-Academic Team for their outstanding academic efforts. We inked five new recruits who will make immediate impacts as we enter the 2018 season. We are hosting the 2018 Women's Eastern Championships at Kinney Natatorium this year and the team believes they can finish in the top-four!

The men's team had another great regular season. They went 10-0 in conference play but fell

## Celebrating 40 Years A Photo Recap



## Get to know the captains



### Jeff Hagen

short, so it was nice to finally achieve our goals.

**Q** What are two things you will take away from your four year Div. I athletic experience at Bucknell?

**A** I think the main thing I'd take away from my experience is the ability to just put my head down and work hard. So much work goes into playing water polo that I will be able to transfer that work ethic into my everyday life. Secondly I learned how to deal with adversity. Everything doesn't always go your way during the season and I learned how to deal with moving forward during tough times.

**Q** Do you have a favorite class or academic experience you could share and why?

**Q** What's the greatest moment in your four years of Bucknell Water Polo and why?

**A** My greatest moment during my four years had to be winning the Mid-Atlantic Championship last year. It was a really special moment because we had worked so hard the two previous years and ended up coming up



### Tommy Stupp

**Q** What are two things you will take away from your four year Div. I athletic experience at Bucknell?

**A** A stronger ability to manage my work and some very close friendships that I made throughout my four years on this team.

**Q** Do you have a favorite class or academic experience you could share and why?

**A** The final project that I made for my Intro to Energy Resources course would be my favorite experience so far. This project got me interested in Renewable Energies, which started my desire to try and continue in this field for my future career.

**Q** What's the greatest moment in your four years of Bucknell Water Polo and why?

**A** The greatest moment in my four years was winning the Mid-Atlantic Championships last season. It was a culmination of years of hard work, and it was really nice to achieve something that will go in to the school record books.

**A** My favorite class would probably be management 101. In this class we created a company, sold a product to the student body, and used the funds to do a service project for a daycare in Milton. It was a very fulfilling experience.

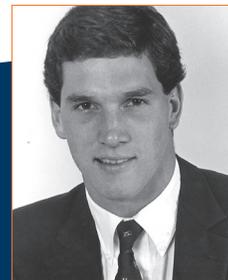
**Q** What did it mean to you to be a Bucknell student-athlete?

**A** It makes me hold myself to a higher standard and forces me to realize that I am a representative of Bucknell University and that I should act accordingly. Being a student athlete gave me a really well rounded experience at Bucknell, one I'll always cherish. ■

**Q** What did it mean to you to be a Bucknell student-athlete?

**A** It means a lot to me, as being a student-athlete redefined me as a person. It gave me a strong sense of pride throughout my four years for both my team and my school. Balancing my commitment to my athletics and academics taught me a lot of lessons that I will take with me in to the world outside of college that I believe will help me succeed. ■

## Catching up with Jeff Hilk '86 2017 CWPA Hall of Fame Inductee



**J**eff Hilk, Bucknell Class of 1986, was inducted into the The

Collegiate Water Polo Association Hall of Fame at the Mid Atlantic Water Polo Championships this year on the weekend of 11/17/17-11/19/17.

Jeff Hilk was a standout for both the Bucknell water polo and swimming and diving teams in the mid-1980s. During the water polo circuit, he posted 334 goals and 460 points in his career, totals that still rank second only to fellow Hall of Famer and All-American Scott Schulte '81 on Bucknell's career charts. Hilk is one of only 10 players in program history to score 100 goals in a season, and he and Schulte are the only two to do it more than once. A four-year starter, Hilk scored 108 goals as a sophomore and 104 as a senior.

In 1985 Hilk co-captained a Bison squad that finished 25-9, won the Mid-Atlantic Conference title, was runner-up at the Eastern Championship and placed seventh at the NCAA Championship. Hilk was a three-time All-MAC and All-East honoree, and as a senior he was an Honorable Mention All-American. He was later picked to play on the East team at the U.S. Olympic Festival in 1985 and 1986, and in 1983 he was a member of the National Junior Development Team. As a four-year swimming letterman, Hilk graduated with school records in the 200-yard freestyle and 400 and 800 freestyle relays. The Cincinnati, Ohio native was a top-eight finisher in five freestyle events at East Coast Conference Championships and was on two gold-medal relays in 1985. Hilk won the Scott Schulte Award as the water polo team's MVP in 1985 and was also the co-recipient of the Christy Mathewson Award as the top senior athlete in his class. ■



# 2018 SCHEDULE

Celebrating 40 Years  
A Photo Recap

Sat, Feb 03	Villanova	Providence, R.I.	8:00 AM
Sat, Feb 03	California Baptist University	Providence, R.I.	1:50 PM
Sat, Feb 03	McKendree University	Providence, R.I.	6:30 PM
Sun, Feb 04	Wagner	Providence, R.I.	11:00 AM

### Bison Invitational

Sat, Feb 10	Gannon	Lewisburg, Pa.	11:30 AM
Sat, Feb 10	Wagner	Lewisburg, Pa.	6:30 PM
Sun, Feb 11	Siena	Lewisburg, Pa.	11:00 AM

### Princeton Invitational

Sat, Feb 17	Chinese National Team (Exhibition)	Princeton, N.J.	11:45 AM
Sat, Feb 17	New York Athletic Club (Exhibition)	Princeton, N.J.	6:00 PM
Sun, Feb 18	Iona	Princeton, N.J.	9:15 AM
Sun, Feb 18	Wagner	Princeton, N.J.	2:15 PM

### Wolverine Invite

Sat, Mar 03	Long Beach State	Ann Arbor, Mich.	10:50 AM
Sat, Mar 03	Iona	Ann Arbor, Mich.	4:10 PM
Sun, Mar 04	Michigan	Ann Arbor, Mich.	9:40 AM
Sun, Mar 04	Cal St. Northridge	Ann Arbor, Mich.	12:20 PM

### Aztec Invitational

Sat, Mar 10	San Jose State	San Diego, Calif.	8:00 AM
Sat, Mar 10	UC San Diego	San Diego, Calif.	12:30 PM
Sun, Mar 11	Cal St. Northridge	San Diego, Calif.	11:30 AM
Sun, Mar 11	San Diego State	San Diego, Calif.	3:45 PM

Thu, Mar 15	Long Beach State	Long Beach, Calif.	7:00 PM
Sat, Mar 24	Indiana *	Loretto, Pa.	2:30 PM
Sat, Mar 24	George Washington *	Loretto, Pa.	7:30 PM
Sun, Mar 25	St. Francis (Pa.) *	Loretto, Pa.	2:00 PM
Sat, Mar 31	Mercyhurst College	Lewisburg, Pa.	3:00 PM
Sat, Apr 07	Hartwick *	Cambridge, Mass.	10:15 AM
Sat, Apr 07	Michigan *	Cambridge, Mass.	4:30 PM
Sun, Apr 08	St. Francis (Pa.) *	Cambridge, Mass.	8:00 AM
Sun, Apr 08	Indiana *	Cambridge, Mass.	2:15 PM
Sat, Apr 14	Harvard *	Princeton, N.J.	9:30 AM
Sat, Apr 14	Brown *	Princeton, N.J.	2:30 PM
Sun, Apr 15	George Washington *	Princeton, N.J.	9:00 AM
Sun, Apr 15	Princeton *	Princeton, N.J.	3:30 PM

Fri, Apr 27 - Sun, Apr 29	Eastern Championships	Lewisburg, Pa.	TBA
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All dates and times tentative and subject to change  
\* Conference Games

[Click here for an up-to-date schedule](#)





**Water Polo**  
Bucknell University  
One Dent Drive  
Lewisburg, PA 17837



## The Method of Giving that Works for You!

- **Check or Cash:** This is the most common way to give. When writing a check, make it out to Bucknell University and in the memo section note "Men's Water Polo" or Women's Water Polo"
- **Credit Card:** The university accepts most major credit cards. Monthly payment plans can be arranged.
- **Gifts of Stock/Securities:** To arrange a stock transfer, call the Office of Development & Alumni Relations at 570-577-3200.
- **Pledges:** You can set up a payment schedule when you make a pledge, and payment reminders will be sent to you.
- **Corporate Matching Gifts:** Many corporations match their employees' charitable donations to nonprofit institutions. Check with your benefits department for matching gift information and to see if they will match gifts to athletics.

You can give online: [www.BucknellBison.com](http://www.BucknellBison.com)



**Donate by clicking here!**

To designate your gift to Bucknell Water Polo choose "other" to search for "Bison Club, Men's Water Polo" or "Bison Club, Women's Water Polo."



### WATER POLO CONTACT INFORMATION

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