

SPORTS NEWS



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Women's Soccer

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Night and Day: Bearcats split opening two games

Binghamton quickly experienced the gamut of emotions as the 2003 got under way. The Bearcats opened the season with a lopsided 7-1 loss at Syracuse before turning the tables with a strong 3-0 win at Niagara.

At Syracuse Friday night, BU ran into a buzzsaw in the Orangewomen, ranked No. 5 in this week's NSCAA Northeast regional poll. Syracuse broke open a scoreless game with three goals in a span of 10:13. Freshman forward **Danielle White (Haddon Township, N.J.)** got the Bearcats on the board 1:48 before halftime, but SU exploded for four second-half goals in a 15:37 span to break away.

"They were just more athletic, quicker and were lethal finishing," head coach Jeff Leightman said. "We got beat by a better team."

Two days later, however, BU tightened up its defense and converted its own chances in the shutout of Niagara. Senior forward **Tracy Kasmarcik (Binghamton, N.Y./Susquehanna Valley)** opened the scoring in the 28th minute, and BU stretched the lead with a pair of second-half goals.

"We cleaned up some things but what really made a difference was how we finished the game," Leightman said. "Last year, we were unable to close games as strong, so getting those two late goals was great."

Mathelier shuts down nation's top goal scorer

Against Niagara, junior defender **Tatiana Mathelier (Pomona, N.Y./Saddle River Day, N.J.)** had the unenviable task of marking Rosie Luzak, the nation's scoring leader last season. Mathelier shut down the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference Player of the Year, who scored 25 goals last season and led the nation in goals per game (1.39).

"Tat did a great job," Leightman said. "Any time you can hold the leading goal scorer in the country to essentially no opportunities, it's great. Rosie has been dangerous against us in the past, but Tat shut her down."

Bearcats lose starting back for second straight year

For the second straight year, BU has seen one of its starting defenders sidelined with an early-season injury. One year after senior wing back Tracey Anderson was lost to the team early on, center back **Meghan Taylor (Burlington, Ontario/Notre Dame HS)** could be lost for an extended period of time with a knee injury. Taylor, who earned honorable mention America East all-star honors last season as a freshman, was injured in pre-season. Her status for the remainder of the season is uncertain.

Up Next: Pair of Saints

The Bearcats open a modest three-game homestand on Friday when they host Big East member St. John's, ranked No. 6 in the Northeast pre-season poll by SoccerBuzz. Two days later, BU will take on Atlantic 10 affiliate St. Bonaventure. Last season, St. John's defeated Binghamton 2-0 in Jamaica, N.Y. Less than two weeks later, the Bearcats edged the Bonnies, 2-1, in overtime in Olean.

2003 Schedule/Results (1-1)

AUGUST

29 Fri. @ Syracuse L 1-7
31 Sun. @ Niagara W 3-0

SEPTEMBER

5 Fri. **ST. JOHN'S** 4 p.m.
7 Sun. **ST. BONAVENTURE** 2 p.m.
12 Fri. **ST. PETER'S** 4 p.m.
14 Sun. @ Navy 4 p.m.
17 Wed. @ FDU 4 p.m.
21 Sun. *@ Hartford 2 p.m.
24 Wed. @ West Virginia 7 p.m.
28 Sun. @ UMass 3 p.m.

OCTOBER

2 Thu. *@ Northeastern 3 p.m.
5 Sun. ***NEW HAMPSHIRE** 1 p.m.
11 Sat. ***STONY BROOK** noon
16 Thu. ***MAINE** 2 p.m.
19 Sun. *@ Albany 1 p.m.
23 Thu. ***UMBC** 3 p.m.
26 Sun. ***VERMONT** 1 p.m.

NOVEMBER

1 Sat. *@ Boston University 1 p.m.
4 Tue. @ America East Qtrs. TBA
7 Fri. @ America East Semis TBA
9 Sun. @ America East Final TBA

* America East Conference game

Leading Scorers

Name	G	A	Pts.
Tracy Kasmarcik	1	1	3
Danielle White	1	1	3
Lia Cohen	1	0	2
Lauren Massey	1	0	2

Goalkeeping Stats

Name	GP	GAA	Sv. %
Kristie Bowers	2	3.50	.588