



Topper Tracks

Fall 2007

Following athletics at St. Edward's University

Coaches Corner

Jennifer White,
women's basketball
head coach



Jennifer White knows what it's like to win on the court — as a player and a coach. At Louisiana Tech, White played on the 1981 AIAW Division I and 1982 NCAA Division I national championship teams. Her coaching career includes five years as an assistant at Louisiana Tech under legendary coach Leon Bar-more, where the team posted a 153–15 record, including four Final Four appearances and a national championship. She also spent three years as an assistant at UT–Austin under Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame member Jody Conradt. In five years she's led the Hilltoppers to a 43–65 record and a Heartland Conference championship in 2005–2006. She's also been named Heartland Conference Coach of the Year. Last season, the team finished second in the conference with a 9–18 overall record and a 6–4 conference record.

What do you like about coaching?

It's all about the team with me. It's about my relationship with them individually, as a team and with the coaching staff. It's also about challenging, encouraging and pushing them to do things beyond what they believe they are capable of doing.

What strategies do you use?

It's more about attitude than strategies. Have a solid work ethic. Pay attention to the details. Expect the unexpected and practice for it. Be nice. Take care of yourself and your team. And do the best you can academically. After that, everything else just falls into place.

Highlights from the last season?

We were behind at Incarnate Word and came back to win in overtime. That was a fun game to coach, watch and win. It was a great team effort. Also, we were a young team last year and it was nice to watch the team improve.

Goals for the upcoming season?

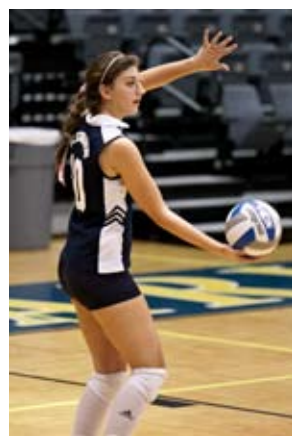
To have an even mixture of fun and work, be at the top in all the conference statistics, and win the Heartland Conference. We'll see what happens from there.

Season News

WRAP-UP

The St. Edward's women's soccer team finished the season as co-Heartland Conference champions and advanced to the NCAA tournament for the second consecutive season, where it fell in the second round to Central Oklahoma, 2–1 in overtime. The team finished the season with a 17–4 record, tying the school record for most victories in one season, which it set last year.

The men's soccer team finished with a record of 9–10–1. The team improved on its third-place finish in the Heartland Conference last season by earning a close second in the conference this year.



Freshman Chelsea Barsamian

The volleyball team had a remarkable turnaround this year, tallying a 16–14 record. That win total was up seven matches from last season's total and placed the team third in the Heartland Conference tournament. The team was knocked out in the conference tournament semifinals by the eventual champion, Incarnate Word.

The men's and women's cross country teams had respectable seasons this year, with the men placing fifth in the Heartland Conference and the women taking home eighth place. Junior **David Fuentes** and freshman **Cody Beamon** both competed at the NCAA regional meet, with Fuentes advancing to the national meet, where he finished 53rd out of 187 runners.

UPDATE

The *Golfworld*/Nike NCAA Division II Coaches' Poll ranked the men's golf team number one in the nation (*see story, page 3*). The team has won two tournaments already this fall and finished second in another. Senior **Jeff Howard** is ranked third in the nation individually and third regionally.

The women's golf team is currently ranked 17th in the nation, having finished as high as second in two tournaments during the fall season.

PREVIEW

The men's basketball team is picked to repeat as Heartland Conference champion this season. The Hilltoppers have won two-straight conference championships and have two preseason all-conference players on the team in juniors **Taylor Mullenax** and **Shawn Weinstein**. The Hilltoppers finished last season with a 24–6 record.

The women's basketball team is picked to finish second in the Heartland Conference. Three players from the team were selected to the preseason all-conference team in senior **Tammy Bartosh**, sophomore **Whitney Regian** and freshman **Sara Head**. The team will look to improve on last season's 9–18 record.



Sophomore Kim Abbott

SAAC Update

The Student-Athlete Advisory Committee — SAAC — provides insight on the student-athlete experience. SAAC also offers input on the rules, regulations and policies that affect the lives of student-athletes on NCAA member-institution campuses.

Goals

- Promote student-athletes on campus as well as in the community at large
- Encourage community service
- Promote camaraderie among different sports
- Recognize and display excellence among athletes
- Provide information on athlete-sensitive topics like nutrition and steroid abuse

SAAC Officers for 2007–2008

President: **Bradley Goldsmith, '08**
 Vice President: **Shawn Weinstein, '08**
 Secretary: **Charron Sumler, '09**
 Treasurer: **Elizabeth Chen, '10**
 Events: **Kailee Carver, '08**
 Fundraising: **Haley Tidwell, '10**
 Community Service: **Kevin Gregory, '08, Sean Hilbe, '10, and Mark Watson, '11**

Make-A-Wish Foundation

As part of a national SAAC initiative, St. Edward's along with the rest of the Heartland Conference SAAC organizations will be fundraising for the Make-A-Wish Foundation throughout the year.

SAAC Student-Athlete Mixer

In October, SAAC sponsored a student-athlete mixer that included food donated by Pluckers, Opal Divine's and Chick-Fil-A. Former men's basketball player **Anthony Felder, '07**, spun records as DJ for the gathering. The entry fee for the event was either a canned good or a \$1 donation towards Make-A-Wish. The mixer raised \$85 and several boxes full of canned goods.

Look for more SAAC information at www.stedwards.edu/athletic/saac/saac.htm.

Honors Roundup

The women's soccer team captured 18 total awards, while the volleyball team garnered 16 awards. Men's soccer also shared in the excitement with 14 awards. The men's cross country team earned two awards. The women's and men's basketball teams each started the season strong, picking up a total of five awards. Below is a list of all Hilltopper awards:

Women's Soccer

- Kim Abbott:** Second-team all-region, first-team all-Heartland Conference
Heather Arnold: Heartland Conference Player of the Week (1)
Janae Averett: Heartland Conference Player of the Week (1)
Kelly Boyd: Second-team all-Heartland Conference
Kristen Gascoyne: Heartland Conference Player of the Week (3); first-team all-Heartland Conference, Heartland Conference Player of the Year
Troi Jorgensen: Heartland Conference Player of the Week (1); first-team all-Heartland Conference
Aimee Langlinais: First-team all-region, first-team all-Heartland Conference
Alex Podowski: Heartland Conference Player of the Week (1); first-team all-Heartland Conference
Kelsey Yeatts: First-team all-region, first-team all-Heartland Conference

Men's Soccer

- John Calandro:** Second-team all-Heartland Conference
Dustin Cherry: First-team all-Heartland Conference
Jacob Juett: Heartland Conference Player of the Week (1)
Kevin Klaus: First-team all-region
Ezual Lewis: First-team all-Heartland Conference
Sean Meller: Heartland Conference Player of the Week (2)
Patrick Miller: Second-team all-Heartland Conference
Josh Nannen: Heartland Conference Player of the Week (1); first-team all-Heartland Conference
Brandin Parras: Heartland Conference Player of the Week (1); first-team all-Heartland Conference
Chris Sanders: Heartland Conference Player of the Week (1); second-team all-Heartland Conference

Volleyball

- Chelsea Barsamian:** Heartland Conference Player of the Week (1); Hilltopper Classic All-Tournament Team
Brittany Brown: Heartland Conference All-Tournament Team
Lindsey Douglas: Second-team all-Heartland Conference, Heartland Conference Player of the Week (2), COSIDA Academic Third-Team All-District, Hilltopper Classic All-Tournament Team and the tournament's most valuable player
Lauren Munselle: Second-team all-Heartland Conference
Kelsey Teal: Honorable mention all-Heartland Conference, Heartland Conference Player of the Week (3), Ram Rumble All-Tournament Team
Angela Vorpahl: COSIDA Academic First-Team All-District

Men's Cross Country

- David Fuentes:** First-team all-conference, Heartland Conference Runner of the Year, qualified individually for nationals

Men's Basketball

- Taylor Mullenax:** Preseason first-team all-conference
Shawn Weinstein: Preseason first-team all-conference

Women's Basketball

- Tammy Bartosh:** Preseason first-team all-conference
Sara Head: Preseason first-team all-conference
Whitney Regian: Preseason first-team all-conference

Calendar

Feb. 2

Baseball vs. Ouachita Baptist, noon

Feb. 4

Softball vs. Cameron, 1 p.m.

Feb. 18–19

St. Edward's Men's Golf Invitational

Homecoming (Feb. 22–24)

Feb. 23

Men's and Women's Alumni Tennis, 10 a.m.

Men's Soccer Alumni, 1 p.m.

Basketball vs. Texas A&M International

Women 5:30 p.m., Men 7:30 p.m.

March 3–4

St. Edward's Women's Golf Invitational

March 4

Women's Tennis vs. Tarleton State, 2 p.m.

March 7

Men's Tennis vs. Incarnate Word, 1:30 p.m.

Men's Golf Ranks First in Nation

In the most recent rankings, released on Oct. 17, the St. Edward's men's golf team ranked first place in the *Golfworld*/Nike NCAA Division II Coaches' Poll. This placement sets a new school record not only for the team but for all St. Edward's University sports.

Though the top-ranked team has won its last two tournaments — the Texoma Championship and the Coker Invitational — it's not planning to rest on its laurels anytime soon. The two wins, with margins of 21 shots and five shots respectively, helped the team jump 11 spots to take the lead. The team's only senior, **Jeff Howard**, won the individual portion of the Texoma Championship, and sophomore **Matt Smith** tied for first in the Coker Invitational.

In addition to the two big wins, the team placed second at the Charles Coody West Texas Intercollegiate, and sixth at the Territory Classic.

Head coach **Ryan Murphy**, now in his third season with St. Edward's, says he's pleased with the ranking but stresses that the young team needs to stay on top of its game. "It's a real validation that we have a good team," says Murphy. "We still need to work hard, but we know that we're one of the best teams out there."



Junior Andrew Workman is part of the team ranked number one in the *Golfworld*/Nike NCAA Division II Coaches' Poll.



From left: Head Coach Ryan Murphy stands with senior Jeff Howard, who won the individual portion of the Texoma Championship.

Basketball Drops in on Fall Carnival



Senior Daniel Pierre demonstrates his artistic talents as a face painter.

When Caldwell Heights Elementary School put on its fall carnival in late October, the St. Edward's men's basketball team was on hand to volunteer. Some of the team members helped out at the concessions booth while others manned the moonwalk as chaperones — or bouncers, if you prefer.

Junior **Taylor Land**, a guard who organized the community service project, says the biggest responsibility came to the players in charge of the face-painting table — if only for the patience the job required. After seeing one kid with a black blob of paint on his cheek, Land asked what it was. "Batman. Duh!" said the child. Both players and coaches signed autographs throughout the event. "The students seemed to have a great time and the parents had fun too," says Land. "We probably enjoyed the event just as much as anybody though."

Kristen Gascoyne: Leader on and off the Field



Senior forward **Kristen Gascoyne** has made an impact since her arrival at St. Edward's, and not just on the soccer field. The Early Childhood Education major has led the women's

soccer team all four years she's been here, while dedicating herself to community service projects in her limited off hours. Gascoyne's future plans include student teaching in the spring and applying to graduate school for either counseling or speech pathology. Here's a snapshot of her time on the hilltop.

Athletic Highlights

- **2007:** Led the team in goals and points; named Heartland Conference Player of the Week (3), first-team all-Heartland Conference and Heartland Conference Player of the Year
- **2006:** Named third-team all-American, first-

team all-region, first-team all-conference and Heartland Conference Player of the Year; led team in goals

- **2005:** Led team in goals; named first-team all-conference and Heartland Conference Player of the Week (1)
- **2004:** Named first-team all-conference and Heartland Conference Freshman of the Year

Community Service Highlights

- Mentored sixth grader through Side-by-Side Mentor Program and Community New Start
- Volunteered for SafePlace, an Austin-based nonprofit for abuse victims
- Ran in the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure
- Volunteered at Copperfield Elementary Math Night and Pflugerville ISD Reading Night

To learn more about supporting Hilltopper Athletics, call 512-448-8451 or 800-964-7833.



Senior forward Kristen Gascoyne has led the women's soccer team for four years.

Topper Backers

The corporate partner program for St. Edward's University Athletics

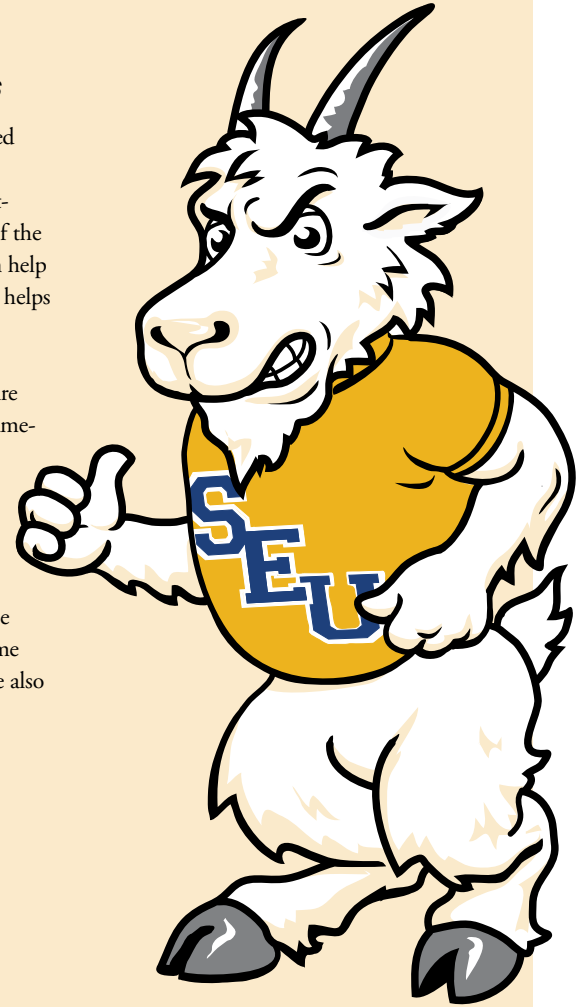
In November 2004, St. Edward's University Athletics launched Topper Backers, its official corporate partner program. Topper Backers offers a multitude of opportunities to market Austin-area businesses at home athletic events, which draw students, faculty, staff and fans from all over Austin — an audience of 300 to 1,000-plus people per game. The proceeds from this partnership have funded initiatives including materials, travel expenses, and facility improvements for more than 200 student-athletes.

Some of the leading business participants include Chick-Fil-A, Taco Shack, Pluckers, Cannoli Joe's, Opal Divine's, Juan's Mexicali Grill, Rockin' Tomato and local hotels.

"It is an honor for Athletics to have the support of so many local businesses that are committed to philanthropy and community involvement," says **Scott Abel**, associate athletic director, who oversees the program. He adds that the Comfort Suites–Austin Airport, Holiday Inn Express, Clarion Suites and the various Marriott

properties along South IH-35 have provided superior service and support to prospective student-athletes, parents of current student-athletes and visiting athletic teams. "One of the best aspects of Topper Backers is that it can help build a relationship with businesses, which helps create opportunities for student-athletes at St. Edward's."

Signage and webcast advertisements are offered to Topper Backers, as are unique game-day sponsorships. In November, Pluckers sponsored two watch parties for the men's basketball vs. Notre Dame contest, which took place in South Bend, Ind. Students and alumni watched the game at two Austin Pluckers location while enjoying free wings. Tickets to Hilltopper basketball home games, T-shirts and Pluckers gift cards were also given away at each of the watch parties.



To learn more about Topper Backers and marketing your business during Hilltopper home athletic events, contact Scott Abel at scotta@stedwards.edu or 512-233-1637.



ST. EDWARD'S
UNIVERSITY

Athletics
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