

HERONews

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The Heron Society of WILLIAM SMITH COLLEGE

Heron soccer program celebrates 25th season with win over Nazareth

Celebrating its 25th season in 2004, the William Smith soccer team is in the midst of a youth movement with underclassmen representing 65 percent of the roster. Despite having such a young and untested squad and having to play over half of their games on the road, the Herons are a solid 9-2-2 overall and poised to earn one of the four spots in the Liberty League Tournament.

Opening the year ranked 21st in the country, William Smith started off on the right foot with a 3-0 blanking of visiting Cortland. Senior **CAROLINE WENZEL** tallied a pair of goals and junior **KATE WARNER** added a third to lead the Herons to a season-opening win.

William Smith hit the road three days later, playing in the Red Dragon Invitational at Oneonta State. Matching up with a tough Gettysburg squad, the first-years came through for the Herons in



a 2-1 victory over the Bullets. Rookie forward **COURTNEY PETERS** netted her first collegiate goal in the 16th minute, while classmate **LAURA BURNETT-KURIE** knocked the ball home in the 71st minute for the game-winner.

The following afternoon Head Coach **ALICEANN**

WILBER's squad faced its toughest test against defending national champion and preseason No. 1, Oneonta State. It was Warner who put the Herons up 1-0, but the Red Dragons netted a score with 1:42 left in the first stanza to tie the game. That would be how the game would end as neither team could score in the game's final 65 minutes. Junior defender **SERAPHINE HAMILTON** anchored the defense all weekend, earning the tournament's Most Valuable Defensive Player award.

The Herons breezed past Geneseo, 4-0, in the

Heron Cup opener, but needed a few extra minutes the next day to get past Allegheny, 2-1. Sophomore **ALEX RIEBEN** fired a free kick over the head of the Gators' goalie for a 1-0 William Smith advantage at halftime, but Allegheny tied the score in the 66th minute to force overtime. It was Burnett-Kurie again who headed home the golden goal in the 100th minute to keep the Herons undefeated for the year.

After battling through 110 minutes of scoreless soccer at Rochester, William Smith opened League play against rival Union. The 11th-ranked Dutchwomen found the back of the net in the 76th minute to hand the Herons their first setback of the year. The next afternoon, Burnett-Kurie was the spark again, netting her third game-winner in 1-0 triumph over Skidmore.

The Herons suffered another setback the following week with a 1-0 double overtime loss at Hamilton. Losing their first overtime game since Sept. 9, 2001, they outshot the Continentals but could not get on the board.

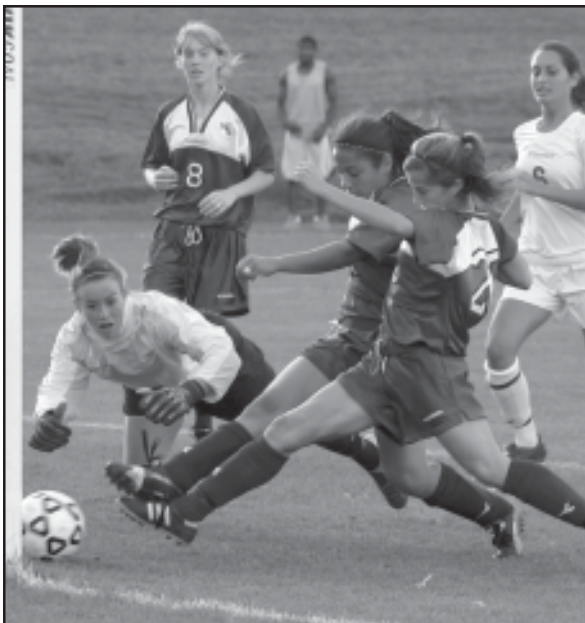
Finally returning home for the first time in three weeks, William Smith remained undefeated in Geneva with a pair of key conference victories over Rensselaer and Vassar. The Herons kept their home win streak going three days later with a 3-0 shutout of RIT.

In its final home game of the regular season, William Smith capped off its 25th season celebration with a 2-0 win over Nazareth. First-year **BRITTANY WARREN** scored just 2:47 into the contest and Rieben added an insurance goal in the 89th minute to help the Herons earn their ninth win of the year.

Burnett-Kurie leads all scorers with five goals and three assists for 13 points, while Rieben is second with seven points.

See *SOCCER CELEBRATION*, p. 3

KEN DEBOLT



Heather Phillip (foreground) just edged teammate Marisa Vespa for the first goal in a 2-0 win over RPI.

Tennis improves to 4th in Liberty League

The William Smith tennis team completed another fruitful fall season. The Herons improved to fourth in the annual Liberty League Championships after placing fifth a year ago.

Following a season-opening 5-4 setback to Cortland, William Smith rattled off five straight victories, before bowing to conference runner-up Hamilton. The Herons (7-4) closed out their dual match schedule with a convincing 9-0 win over RIT.

In the NYSWCAA Tournament, William Smith finished sixth in the team standings and got strong singles performances from senior **LAURA MAIER**, first-year **KATIE CAMPBELL**, and sophomore **MEGHAN KELLY**. All three players advanced to the semifinals of the fourth, fifth, and sixth singles flights, respectively. Kelly finished the fall season with the team's best singles mark, 9-5.

Senior **MOLLY PATTERSON** and junior **KAREN NEWBURY** turned in strong efforts in doubles play, advancing to the semifinals in the first flight.

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Senior captain Laura Maier posted an 8-5 singles record this fall.

Heron E-Mail Updates

Sign up for e-mail updates on your favorite Heron team by visiting:

www.hws.edu/athletics/emailsignup.asp

Field hockey rolling towards postseason berth

The William Smith field hockey team fashioned a 1-1 start into a nine-match win streak to climb into the top-10 in the NFCA Coaches Poll and position the Herons for an 18th consecutive postseason appearance.

Following a 4-2 season-opening win over Geneseo, William Smith suffered a disheartening 9-0 loss at then top-ranked Messiah.

Rather than allow that loss to dampen the team's enthusiasm, the Herons rallied for a nine-match win streak that included a 3-1 win over No. 14 Manhattanville, a 6-1 domination of No. 13 Ithaca, and a 2-1 squeaker over No. 16 Skidmore.

At 11-2 heading into the final weekend of conference play, William Smith has ensured its 20th consecutive winning season.

Traveling to Vassar and Rensselaer on Oct. 22-23, the Herons can secure the top-seed and the right to host the Liberty League Tournament with a win over the Red Hawks.

William Smith has had a different hero nearly every week. Five different Herons have earned weekly honors from the conference, RACA, or womensfieldhockey.com.

Sophomore **SOPHIE DENNIS** is the Liberty League's leading scorer, sporting 13 goals and five assists for 31 points in 13 games. Junior **MAGGIE DOLAN** is the



KEVIN COLTON/SPORTSPICS.NET

Liz Saucier scored the game-winning goal against Rochester under the lights of McCooey Field.

team's top playmaker with six assists. Senior **LILY GILLETT** and sophomore **LIZ SAUCIER** also sport double digit points with 13 and 11, respectively.

Junior goalie **SUE JORDAN**, a first-year starter, has made steady progress, earning the Liberty League Defensive Performer of the Week Award on Oct. 10, thanks in large part to the smothering play of senior backs **LEA DESFORGES** and **JANIE O'DONNELL**. The Heron D boasts five shutouts this season, including a 1-0 blanking of 13th-ranked Lebanon Valley.

Liberty League Field Hockey Standings (As of Oct. 19, 2004)

	Liberty League						Overall					
	W	L	PCT	GP	GF	GA	W	L	PCT	GP	GF	GA
1 x-William Smith	5	0	1.000	5	18	4	11	2	.846	13	42	22
2 Rensselaer	4	1	.800	5	10	3	7	6	.538	13	21	18
3 St. Lawrence	3	2	.600	5	16	11	7	5	.583	12	30	27
Skidmore	3	2	.600	5	9	6	7	6	.538	13	33	19
5 Rochester	2	3	.400	5	12	10	8	6	.571	14	34	26
6 Hamilton	1	4	.200	5	3	15	1	11	.083	12	9	45
Vassar	1	4	.200	5	5	13	3	8	.273	11	14	23
Union	1	4	.200	5	7	18	5	10	.333	15	33	58

x-clinched Liberty League Tournament berth

Liberty League Soccer Standings (As of Oct. 19, 2004)

	Liberty League						Overall								
	W	L	T	PTS	PCT	GP	GF	GA	W	L	T	PCT	GP	GF	GA
1 x-Hamilton	4	0	1	13	.900	5	11	3	9	0	1	.950	10	28	4
2 x-Union	4	1	0	12	.800	5	16	3	12	1	1	.893	14	41	4
3 William Smith	3	2	0	9	.600	5	4	2	9	2	2	.769	13	21	5
St. Lawrence	3	2	0	9	.600	5	9	9	5	7	0	.417	12	21	24
5 Skidmore	2	2	1	7	.500	5	6	5	10	4	1	.700	15	27	15
6 Vassar	2	3	0	6	.400	5	7	7	6	5	1	.542	12	32	15
7 Clarkson	1	4	0	3	.200	5	2	16	4	10	0	.286	14	15	31
8 Rensselaer	0	5	0	0	.000	5	5	15	1	8	1	.150	10	10	22

x-clinched Liberty League Tournament berth

Roncolato pacing Heron harriers

Consistent is the word that best describes what the William Smith cross country team has been this season. Switching between 5k and 6k races, the Herons have shown consistent improvement week in and week out.

Sophomore **LEANNE RONCOLATO** has



Leanne Roncolato

paced the Herons throughout 2004, leading the way in each of the team's six races. Finishing among the top half of the runners every week,

Roncolato turned in an excellent second week performance at the

Oswego State Invitational, dropping 1:16 off her time from the previous meet to take 50th of 136 runners.

The following weekend the native of Meadville, Pa., earned her highest finish of the year at the Hobart Invitational. She covered the 6k course in 25:24 for 12th place.

Roncolato turned in her best race this past weekend at the Roberts Wesleyan Invitational with a time of 20:55 for 32nd place of 115 runners.

Also running well for William Smith has been junior **KATHRYN CHABOT**, sophomore **JEN STRONG**, and first-year **MORGAN MacCUAIG**. Working together throughout the race, the trio have picked up their pace in recent weeks. Chabot clocked her best time of the season of 21:26 at Roberts Wesleyan. Strong and MacCuaig were not far behind, crossing the line in 21:39 and 21:45, respectively, to post their best 5k times of the season as well. Strong improved an astounding 2:57 from her first outing of the year, while MacCuaig dropped 1:53 from her opening time.

The Herons captured their highest finish of the year at the Hobart Invitational, finishing second overall with five top-20 individual performances.

William Smith will compete in four more races and will end the season on Nov. 13, at the NCAA Regional Championships at St. Lawrence University.

RETURNING TO THE NEST



MEREDITH RIEDER

Dozens of alumnae, family, and friends returned to campus for the annual William Smith soccer alumnae weekend. The Herons kicked off the festivities with a 2-0 win over Nazareth on Oct. 16, and ended the get together with alumnae games the following afternoon.

Golfers cap successful inaugural campaign

The William Smith golf team enjoyed a successful inaugural season on the links. The Herons, under the direction of Head Coach **JEFF PULLI**, posted their first victory in a dual match against Nazareth on Sept. 27, at the Golden Flyers home course. The win came just four days after Nazareth had defeated William Smith at the Clifton Springs Country Club.

Senior **SARAH COFFIN** led the Herons to victory with junior **VAL DOLAN** and sophomore **MAUREEN HANNAN** just one stroke behind.

In the team's final match of the fall, the New York State Women's Collegiate Athletic Association Championships, Dolan (pictured) became the answer to the trivia question: Who was the first Heron to record a hole in one?

Dolan used a six iron on the par three 137-yard 13th at CSCC for an ace. She finished the tournament tied for 12th place with Coffin just one stroke behind.



MEREDITH RIEDER

Pria²

William Smith junior back Pria Young poses with Pria Parker, the daughter of Michelle Lloyd Parker '92. A pregnant Lloyd Parker watched Young play soccer at her old position, right back, last season and decided she liked the unique moniker so much that she gave the name to her daughter.

SOCCER CELEBRATION (from p. 1)

Sophomore goalkeeper **NIKKI DUDLEY** has been outstanding this fall, posting eight shutouts, a 0.36 goals against average, and a .909 save percentage.

The Herons will close out conference play with important games at Clarkson and St. Lawrence, on Oct. 22 and Oct. 23, respectively.



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THE HERON SOCIETY

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2004-05 Peak Performance Plan: Preparing Herons to soar

Heron sophomores attend a seminar titled "Sophomores Soar" while first-years (pictured below and right) take part in a time management presentation by Anita Canizares of the Center for Teaching and Learning.



Following seminars for first-years and sophomores, all Heron student-athletes gathered for a start of the year pep rally that included skits by student-athletes and coaches (below).

