

Indiana University of Pennsylvania athletics have completed their fall sports season. Both men's and women's sports teams finished strong, with many teams making it to post season and proved themselves as strong contenders in the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference.

Women's soccer led by Head Coach Adel Heder and assisted by Howard Megee had a winning season with an overall record of 11-4-3. The lady Hawks were 9-3-2 in their conference and made it to the quarterfinals of the PSAC tournament. Heather Robbins led the team in scores this year with 15 goals. The Hawks averaged 16.7 goals per game in their regular-season play. Two of the team's players, Melissa Kornock and Heather Robbins have been named to the 2011 Draktronics All-Atlantic Region Squads.

Cross Country was another strong performer for IUP sports this fall. Victor Costello finished 12th at the NCAA Atlantic Regionals and Alyssa Taddie was the top finisher for the girls team. The Hawks entered their season with an eighth place ranking for the men's team in the PSAC Preseason Poll and a ninth place rank for the women's team. Cross country is coached by Joey Zins.

The IUP women's volleyball team finished their season with a record of 11-22 and a conference record of 5-14. The Hawks recently signed three recruits on for the 2012 season: Joie Hrapla, Stephanie kruzynski and Sarah Smiley.

Wrap Up

Fall Sports

Football closed their regular-season play Nov. 12 with a 34-7 win over West Chester. The team had many strong players this year including top-scorer Harvie Tuck, who had 9 touchdowns. Quarterback Pat Smith completed 9 touchdown passes this season after sitting out last season for an injury he received to his left hand. Johnny France led the defense with 5 interceptions. The team had an overall

record of 7-3 and 5-3 in the PSAC.

The women's field hockey team had a record of 12-7-0 in their regular season and 7-3-0 in the PSAC. The Hawks' top scorer was Captain Anouk Sickman with 19 goals. Sickman, along with Shannon Sullivan, Casey McGowan, Erin Shirk and Sarah Lemieux were named to the 2011 All-PSAC First team. The team made it to the semifinal round of the PSAC tournament but lost 6-0 to Bloomsburg.

"I'm really proud of all the girls this year," Sickman said.

The athletics program now looks forward to their winter and spring sports seasons.

-By Sarah Burke



On Deck

Looking ahead

As we move to close this semester, spring is just around the corner and we look into the future of sports at IUP, there are a lot of things to look forward to. Baseball, cross country, golf, lacrosse, softball, track & field, swimming, and tennis is what we're faced with. Most of the athletes who participate in these sports are already gearing up for spring with full enthusiasm.

It appears that we have a women's softball team made up of players who know how to make the grade. Nine members of the team had a GPA of 3.5 or better for the academic year. The team had a winning season last year and have held tryouts for the new season starting in the spring. Evidentially, they are just

as good on the field as they are in the classroom... hopefully they'll be able to continue that trend.

Last season, women's lacrosse had a rough road finishing the season with an overall record of 11-7... which isn't all that bad... The girls are working toward a better record this coming March when the games continue in 2012.

Swimmers seem to spend their lives in the water, and IUP has both sexes competing in matches throughout the fall and into the spring semester. The teams dive into the pool throughout the entire school year, bringing with them a lot of splashing, fun, speed and excitement.

Shawna McCutcheon

Baseball is for boys at IUP. The team opens up their season in February after having a losing season last year. Hard work is what they are going to need to pull this next season into a winning one. Confidence and pride along with that hard work should help them pull things around... It's a wait and see game.

Round and round we go on the track and field circuit... both men's and women's are gearing up for spring when the games begin in January. Both teams have their work cut out for them while running, hurdling, jumping and sprinting.

We hope we have given you a taste of what's in store for the spring semester at IUP. It's going to be fun!

GAME ON! CRIMSON HAWKS

MEET THE PLAYERS

Melanie Simmons talks about what it is like being a student-athlete.



PAST. PRESENT. FUTURE.

How did IUP athletics start and become the Crimson Hawks?

THE WRAP UP

Fall sports at IUP come to a close.

ON DECK

Spring athletics show promise of great competition and lots of talent.

Past. Present. Future.

IUP Athletics History

Shawna McCutcheon

Did you ever wonder what it would have been like to play sports in the 1800s? Well, now is your chance. We'll be taking you back in time each month to give you an idea of what it was like to be an athlete at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. In this introductory issue, we'll be giving you a general background on the history of sports at IUP and one specific sport that was played here. In future issues, we will dive into each sports history and try to give you, our reader, an insight to what it was like and how things have changed. We'll also give you a few players who have stood out and gone on to achieving great things in their lives.

The school opened in 1875 as Indiana Normal School to be used to train teachers. Sure they had games and recreation, but they didn't have organized sports. They had a gymnasium for the students which had some sporting equipment but not a lot. Fifteen years later, in 1890, the school had its first organized sport. Football.

Football back then was nothing like we know it today. In those days, there were no pads, no helmets and a different set of rules. The sport was at the time a variance of soccer and rugby. It wasn't until the early 1880s that football began to take the shape of what it is today.

A young man in 1895, played for the Normal school even though he was a high school student. Seventeen year old John Brallier was chosen by the newly formed

Latrobe professional team's football coach to come in and replace the quarterback. Brallier was waiting to go to Washington & Jefferson College in a few weeks on a full football scholarship and didn't want to play for Latrobe. The coach offered him a deal, paying him \$10 a game, plus expenses causing him to become the first openly paid football player.

He agreed and played 2 games for the Latrobe team, and then went off to college. Brallier had an interesting career as he went from playing football, to concentrating on his studies, back to playing and then eventually retired and became a dentist. He said before he died in 1960 that he loved the fact that he was one of the first professional football players. He is one of the few who has yet to be elected into the National Football League Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio.

There is another interesting person who walked through the halls of this school in Indiana, Pennsylvania and that person was none other than Art Rooney, the founding owner of the Pittsburgh Steelers. He attended Indiana Normal School during the 1918-1920 years and was formidable on both the football gridiron and the baseball diamond. During one game against California in 1920, Rooney ran for two touchdowns in the same period. The team squashed the efforts of California's 11 game winning streak by beating them 21-0.

Rooney was also pretty good boxer, according to Chief Copy

Editor, Bob Fulton at the Indiana Gazette. Fulton states, "Rooney was considered for the 1920 Olympic team in Belgium, but turned it down". Rumor has it that he declined to participate in the Games because he was considered an amateur in the sport. However, he fought and beat the Olympic gold medalist before and after the Olympics.

In 1964 and 1965, the IUP football team made it to the PSAC championship games but lost both times to East Stroudsburg, however, twenty years later, they redeemed themselves with back to back PSAC championship wins in 1986 and 1987. The rest of the 1980s, the 1990s, and into the early 2000s, the team did well with making it into the playoff seasons.

Other people worth mentioning throughout the history of IUP who went on to the pros are: Jim Haslett, who played for the Buffalo Bills and the New York Jets; Chris Villarrial, who played for the Chicago Bears and the Buffalo Bills; Mike Jemison, who played for the New York Giants and the Pittsburgh Steelers; Leander Jordon played for the Carolina Panthers; Kris Griffin, who has played for the Kansas City Chiefs, Cleveland Browns, and the Jacksonville Jaguars.

We hope you enjoyed a trip down memory lane of IUP football history and we hope you will enjoy this path with us in each exciting edition.

MEET THE PLAYERS

Melanie Simmons



TEAM. For one Indiana University of Pennsylvania field hockey player, team means a sense of community, structure to her day and knowing the girl next to her has the same goals she does.

Melanie Simmons, a sophomore and psychology major at IUP, has been playing field hockey since she was in fifth grade. The Young Women's Christian Association in her home town of Pittsburgh held an instructional league for girls to learn how to play the sport. From that point on Simmons was hooked.

"I knew I wanted to play in college before I knew I wanted to go to college," she said.

Field hockey was always a staple in Simmons' life and when it came time to look at colleges, field hockey was a top priority. She was initially

drawn to IUP for the intensity of the program. She knew at IUP she would be challenged every day and her passion for the sport would be matched by the school's program.

Simmons reflected on this season, which came to a close on Oct. 28 when the IUP Crimson Hawks fell to Bloomsburgh in the semifinal round of the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference championship.

"This season was frustrating at times, as it is for any student on a sports team. But I am really proud of how we played this year," Simmons said.

With so much pressure to perform well on the field and in the classroom, is it difficult to be a student-athlete?

Simmons knows a lot is expected from her but she wouldn't change anything about her college experience. She knew since her first preseason that this was not going to be an easy

road. But she likes having a set schedule and knowing that she always has a support system with her teammates.

"We all lean on each other," Simmons said. "Win or lose."

Simmons is looking forward to her off season, a time for training when the team focuses on skills and conditioning. She intends to hone her skills in preparation for next fall. Simmons said you always have to look ahead and keep pushing yourself.

Even though field hockey is a major part of her life now, Simmons' long term professional goals do not involve the beloved sport. She plans to graduate from IUP with a bachelor's degree in psychology and hopes to one day do humanitarian work overseas. She hopes that the Crimson Hawks can clinch a conference championship by her senior year.

-By Sarah Burke