

## Top Women's Team in Muhlenberg History

### Contest 1: Filling in the last 4 teams in the bracket

Nominees for the last four spots, in chronological order:

#### 1973 Field Hockey

The last of the eight field hockey squads to finish a season undefeated, the 1973 team went 5-0-2 and outscored its opponents 24-2. Included in the victories was a 5-0 shutout of Lehigh, which had just recently gone co-ed, in the first meeting of the two schools. The only blemishes on the record were 1-1 ties with Kutztown and Lafayette.

#### 1975 Basketball

Reaching double digits in wins for the only time in its first 26 seasons, Muhlenberg prevailed in 10 of 11 games to set a school record for winning percentage (.909) that still stands. The team's only loss came at Kutztown by 29 points, but a week later the Mules got their revenge, beating the Golden Bears by 11.

#### 1982 Softball

The softball program, which won a total of six games in its first three years, captured the MAC South title in 1982. The 8-6 Mules, who ranked third in the NCAA with a .339 team batting average and averaged 8.71 runs per game, defeated Franklin & Marshall, 4-2, in their first-ever playoff game before losing a one-run heartbreaker in the MAC championship game to Wilkes.

#### 1987 Tennis

In what was a near duplicate of the 1986 season, the Mules went 10-1 in the regular season, losing only to Haverford, a team they had beaten by the same 5-4 score the previous year. As in '86, Muhlenberg defeated Scranton to win the MAC North title, but fell to Franklin & Marshall in the MAC championship match. Two Mules teamed up to win the MAC doubles crown.

#### 1990 Cross Country

Muhlenberg was a perfect 12-0 in dual meets, including shutouts of Delaware Valley, Drew and Alvernia, in its second varsity season. The Mules were only 10th at the MAC Championships, but turned it around at the NCAA Mideast Regional, coming in eighth out of 24 teams (fifth among MAC squads). The eighth-place regional finish still stands as the best in program history.

#### 1992 Softball

The last of four straight Muhlenberg softball teams to qualify for the NCAA Tournament compiled a record of 22-13 and entered the national tournament ranked 18th in Division III. Although the Mules had their 40-game MAC Southeast winning streak snapped, they captured the MAC championship with three victories – two in extra innings – in the conference tournament.

#### 1998 Soccer

Three one-goal losses – two in overtime – were all that separated this 15-5 team from a perfect Centennial Conference season. The Mules broke or tied 16 school records (their average of 3.30 goals per game is more than a goal better than second place) and earned their first regional ranking and first postseason bid, winning the ECAC Mid-Atlantic championship.

#### 2000 Softball

Heading into Centennial Conference play with a 4-12 record, the Mules split their first league doubleheader, then went on a roll. They won 13 of their next 14 CC contests – seven via the eight-run rule – to capture the CC championship by one game. Muhlenberg earned its first NCAA Tournament bid since 1992, losing two close games to end with a record of 18-18.

#### 2001 Golf

In just its second varsity season, Muhlenberg won the inaugural Centennial Conference championship, defeating Gettysburg by 12 strokes.

#### 2002 Tennis

After dominating the MAC Northeast, the Mules found the sledding a little rougher in the Centennial Conference, never finishing better than 4-6 in the league's first seven years. They went 7-3 in 2001, then improved to 9-1 the following year to tie Washington for the title. Muhlenberg beat Washington, 7-2, but lost 5-4 to Johns Hopkins for the lone setback in a 12-1 season.

#### 2003 Softball

Ten-game losing streaks are hardly the things of champions, except for this team. Muhlenberg dropped 10 in a row early in the season and sported a 1-12 mark at one point, but earned the fourth seed in the Centennial Conference playoffs, then won three of four games to capture its third title in four years. The Mules split four NCAA Tournament games and finished 16-21.

#### 2004 Basketball

One of the most entertaining teams in history, the Mules led all of women's college basketball by averaging 90.8 points per game. They topped the 100-point mark eight times, set more than 30 school records and broke four NCAA marks, including most three-pointers made and attempted in a season. The team finished at 19-7 and qualified for the Centennial Conference playoffs.

#### 2004 Cross Country

Muhlenberg ran away with its best finish at the Centennial Conference Championships (fourth place) and its second-best finish at the NCAA Mideast Regional (ninth place). The team also made history by winning the McDaniel Invitational for its first meet title away from home.

#### 2005 Tennis

Muhlenberg packed up its rackets after going 12-3 (with two 5-4 losses to nationally ranked teams) and finishing second in the Centennial Conference, but got a belated invite to the NCAA Tournament when another team withdrew. The Mules were defeated in their first taste of the national team tourney, but one of their players advanced to the Round of 16 in the individual draw.

#### 2006 Lacrosse

The Mules set a school record with 10 wins, finishing with the best record (10-6) in the history of a program that began in 1984. Starting with a win against nationally ranked Drew, the team won its first four games and narrowly missed the conference playoffs.

#### 2007 Golf

Muhlenberg outshot five-time defending champion McDaniel by 30 strokes to capture the Centennial Conference championship. The Mules finished with the second-lowest 36-hole total (724) in CC history and broke the school record for lowest score in a two-day tournament by 42 strokes.