



Top Women's Team in Muhlenberg History

**Contest 10:
2006 Basketball vs.
2001 Softball**

2006 Basketball
Head Coach: Ron Rohn
Final Record: 26-3
Centennial Conference Champions



Picked sixth in the Centennial Conference preseason poll after going 11-14 the previous year, the 2006 basketball team put together the best season in program history. The Mules won the CC championship for the first time since 1998, advanced to the second round of the NCAA Tournament and finished the year ranked 20th in Division III.

With a record of 26-3, the team not only broke the team and Conference records for wins in a season, but it also came within one of the College record for wins by any team (held by 1992 volleyball). The 13-game improvement tied for the third-best in Division III history.

But it wasn't just that they won, it was how they won. All year long, Muhlenberg was at its best with the game on the line. The Mules were 14-1 in games decided by fewer than 10 points, winning their last five by a total of 18 points.

Two years after leading all of college women's basketball in scoring, Muhlenberg rebuilt itself around defense and rebounding, ranking among the Division III leaders in scoring defense, field-goal percentage defense and rebound margin.

After finishing in first place with a 16-2 record, the Mules defeated McDaniel and Johns Hopkins in two close games to win the CC championship and wrap up a perfect (15-0) home season. They defeated Wesleyan in the first round of the NCAA Tournament before losing to Mary Washington, the last undefeated team in Division III.

Senior point guard Kristen Piscadlo, who rewrote the school record book for assists, and junior center Meghan Courtney earned first-team All-CC and all-region honors.

2001 Softball
Head Coach: Ruth Gibbs
Final Record: 25-17
Centennial Conference Champions



The 2001 softball team showed it could work within the system - any system. For the 2001 season, the Centennial Conference instituted a postseason playoff to determine the conference champion, and the Mules, who won the title with the best regular-season record in 2000, repeated by capturing the first CC tournament.

Little came easy for Muhlenberg, which entered the CC playoffs as the third seed and emerged by winning three games in two days by a total of four runs. More than half of the Mules' 42 games were decided by three runs or fewer, 11 of those by a single run. The Mules won a game in which they were no-hit (against Messiah) and were down to their last out against 1-14 Swarthmore before rallying to win in 12 innings.

The team sported a record of 7-11 at one point, but rebounded to come within one of the school record for wins in a season.

Sent to Salem, Va., for the Atlantic Regional of the NCAA Division III Tournament, fifth-seeded Muhlenberg was one strike away from being eliminated in two games before erupting for six runs in the top of the seventh to knock off third-seeded Christopher Newport, 6-2. The Mules then defeated York, the team they lost to in the first tournament game, before falling to eighth-ranked Salisbury State to finish third at the regional.

Freshman Danielle DeLucia was named CC pitcher of the year after winning all three CC tourney games and ending the year with a 1.27 ERA. She and OF Becki Toth earned first-team All-CC and third-team all-region honors, with 1B Elizabeth Kostelnick also making the All-CC first team.