Morrisville State men end season at NEAC semis with 11-5 loss to Keuka

The #4 seed Morrisville State College men’s lacrosse team concluded the 2013 season Wednesday afternoon, falling 11-5 to top seed Keuka College in the semi-final round of the North Eastern Athletic Conference (NEAC) Championship Tournament, held in Keuka.

Morrisville State concludes the season with a 4-9 overall record, and finish fourth in the conference with a 4-3 record.

Brendan Shannon (Stanhope, N.J.) led the Mustang efforts with two scores, while John Sherlock (Tully, N.Y.) added one and assisted two others. Andrew Donoghue (Rochester, N.Y.) and Jeremy Beresovoy (Jamesville, N.Y.) rounded out Morrisville State scoring with one each.

Chris Fiore (Staten Island, N.Y.) made 16 stops in the efforts between the pipes, recording the loss.

Donoghue was the first to find the back of the net, posting the first tally of the day minutes into the opening quarter off an assist from Sherlock, before Keuka responded with three scores to claim the 3-1 lead after one.

In the second, Shannon posted an unassisted man-up goal to make it a 3-2 game at the 10:31 mark, but again Keuka rallied with three straight scores to take a 6-2 lead into halftime.

Keuka’s leading scorer Connor Lattimer posted the lone tally in the third quarter and added two additional scores early in the final stanza, but Morrisville State gained momentum and posted three straight, including two on man-up opportunities, to make it a 9-5 game with just over three minutes to go.

Lattimer added his fourth tally of the day with 1:55 to go and as time wound down, put the game away with another with seconds showing on the clock.

Geswaldo named NEAC Men’s Lacrosse Rookie of the Year

The North Eastern Athletic Conference (NEAC) office announced its individual award winners, naming Morrisville State College freshman attack, Louis Geswaldo (Lafayette, N.Y. / Lafayette HS) the 2013 Men’s Lacrosse Rookie of the Year.

Geswaldo led Morrisville State in scoring this season, posting 25 goals and assisting another 13 for 38 team points. Three of his tallies came on man-up opportunities, and he added 28 ground balls and three caused turnovers to his tallies in 13 games.

The freshman averaged 2.08 goals and 1.08 assists per game for the Mustangs, posting a collegiate best five goals against Hilbert, and a high seven points behind a four goal, three assist performance against SUNYIT earlier this season. Five times Geswaldo recorded four or more points in a single game.

He currently ranks eighth overall in the conference in goals scored and is ninth in points tallied. Geswaldo also ranks 10th overall in assists and is ranked nationally in four separate statistical categories in all of Division III in his first season of collegiate competition.

Head coach Jason Longo had said that it is a commendable honor for Geswaldo to be recognized as the top rookie player among all conference competitors. “I’m extremely happy for him to be receiving this award. He is an all around hard working player that has an impact on both the offensive and defensive ends of the field. While our attack unit fed off his ability to make great plays on the field, the opposing defensive unit had to work overtime to contain him.”

His play on the field throughout the season assisted Morrisville State in securing their fourth straight appearance in the NEAC Championship Tournament.

“He’s the type of kid every coach wants on their team. We look forward to the impact he will have on our program in future seasons,” said Longo.

Geswaldo was also named to the All-Conference second team at attack.

Five earn NEAC Men’s Lacrosse accolades for Morrisville State

The North Eastern Athletic Conference (NEAC) has announced its 2013 men’s lacrosse All-Conference selections, naming five Morrisville State student-athletes to its first and second teams.

Captains David Middlemore (Baldwinsville, N.Y.) and Mike Kellogg (Pawling, N.Y.) each earned first team honors at the midfield and defense positions, respectively, while Louie Geswaldo (Lafayette, N.Y.), Nick Perrotta (Albany, N.Y.) and Chris Fiore (Staten Island, N.Y.) each took home second team honors at attack, defense
Middlemore started and appeared in all 13 games for the Mustangs at midfield this season. He posted 15 goals, including three man up and one man down scores, and collected 27 ground balls, three caused turnovers throughout the season. He posted a season best three tallies twice, against SUNYIT and Keuka.

Kellogg had another great season at defense for the Mustangs. In 13 games he collected 39 ground balls, caused 22 turnovers and notched a score. His 39 ground balls were the second most on the team, and rank him 18th overall in the conference, while the 22 caused turnovers were a team best, ranking him third overall in the conference. He also ranks nationally in caused turnovers. Kellogg posted a game best five ground balls twice this season (Univ. New England and Potsdam) and he posted a high six caused turnovers against Plattsburgh and caused a season high three turnovers twice, including against SUNYIT and Wells.

Perrotta was key to the Mustangs defensive unit this season. In 13 games started on defense, he collected 27 ground balls and forced 16 turnovers, ranking 9th overall in the conference and second on the team in caused turnovers. Perrotta picked up a game best five ground balls against Plattsburgh and caused a season high three turnovers twice, including against SUNYIT and Wells.

Fiore was a defensive mainstay for the Mustangs this season, registering 131 saves on 356 shots against he appeared and started in 11 games between the pipes. Posting a .565 save percentage and 10.23 goals against average on the season, Fiore has recorded a 4-7 overall record in net. Six times this season he was in double digits for saves, including a collegiate best 24 to Keuka (.603 save percentage), as he made tremendous opponent stops on the doorstep of the crease. He ranks in the top seven in four separate categories at the conference level, including second in save percentage (.561), third in goals against average (10.14), fifth in saves (115) and seventh in minutes played (532:38). Aside from goalkeeping statistics, Fiore also has 19 ground balls, and four caused turnovers on the season. He also ranks nationally in three separate statistical categories, including save percentage and saves per game.

Morrisville State concluded the season with a 4-9 overall record, 4-3 NEAC record, and a semi-final NEAC Championship Tournament appearance.

Burks, D’Ercole named to NEAC Softball All-Conference teams

The North Eastern Athletic Conference (NEAC) has announced its 2013 Softball North Division All-Conference team selections, naming freshman Tiffany Burks (Macedon, N.Y.) and junior Jenna D’Ercole (Highland, N.Y.) to its first and second team, respectively.

Burks earned first team honors at the designated player position, following a stellar freshman campaign for the Mustangs. Appearing in 21 games, she made 56 at bats, posted 19 hits, including four doubles, two triples and four homeruns; scored 11 times and drove in another 10, while boasting a .339 batting average, increasing it from a .275 average just a week ago.

Burks peaked at the end of the season, hitting 4-for-5 in the doubleheader, including a double, a triple and a solo homerun that lifted the Mustangs to a 3-2 victory over the North Division leaders. In the contest she also scored four runs and registered two RBI’s. Her four runs have come off opposing pitchers from Cazenovia, Keuka and Cobleskill. She currently has a .381 batting average in conference play. 
Morrisville State College’s Athletic News

She also saw time at pitcher for Morrisville, tallying 19 put outs and 29 assists in 15 mound appearances, starting 13 games, and throwing 12 complete games; threw for a total 76 innings, registered 52 strikeouts and a 7.64 ERA. She threw a best 10 strikeouts against Keuka on April 20, in the 5-6 loss.

The freshman is a graduate of Ganada High and is majoring in liberal arts and science: humanities and social science at Morrisville State. She is the daughter of Michelle Burks of Macedon.

D’Ercole earned second team all-conference honors as pitcher, and was the leader on the mound for the Mustangs. The junior appeared and started in 14 games, throwing 79.1 innings and collecting 86 strikeouts. She boasted a 3.53 ERA and a 5-8 record, as opponents struggled to muster hits at the plate (.275 opponent batting average).

D’Ercole had a best appearance on the mound against Cazenovia on April 17, throwing 7 innings and striking out a season high 10. Eight times this season she has posted seven or more strikeouts.

At the plate, she tallied three hits in 24 at bats, one of which was a double, while driving in three runs. She also recorded 8 put outs and 10 assists.

Her pitching stats this season moved her into the leader position all-time in strikeouts thrown (317) in a career, as she holds three of the top five positions of strikeouts recorded in a single season. D’Ercole also moved into second on the season the leader board in earned run average following the 2013 campaign, posting a 3.44 ERA for the season.

The junior is a graduate of Highland High School and is majoring in nursing at Morrisville State. She is the daughter of Silvia and Mark D’Ercole of Highland.

Morrisville State women’s lacrosse takes stand, raises more than $5000 for Vera House, One Love Foundation

Focus is key to success in any team’s season, but 2013 brought more than just wins and losses for the Morrisville State College women’s lacrosse team.

Together 15 college age female student-athletes and a staff of three coaches, made a collaborative effort to streamline a new campaign on campus off the lacrosse field, a month long “Reach Out, Speak Up and Play On” crusade throughout April to raise awareness to the often unspoken issue of domestic violence among college age students.

The team’s initiative and support from fellow athletic teams and campus members for the event received tremendous backing from the community as well, as they raised more than $5,000 to benefit the Vera House in Syracuse, and the One Love Foundation.

Both organizations assist victims of domestic violence and intimate partner violence, at both the local and national levels, in providing support and promoting a culture of equity and respect in relationships.

The Mustangs campaign focused on taking a stand against domestic violence and speaking up to get assistance to those that may have experienced or are experiencing intimate partner violence, and included a turn the campus from green to purple day, along with a “handprint project” in the dining hall.

Their month long campaign was capped off by a benefit game against conference opponent Wells College on April 27, in which the Mustangs wore commemorative purple jerseys with the white ribbon, the symbol for taking a stand against domestic violence.

As part of a continuing community service program within the athletic department, student-athletes are involved in a variety of service programs, benefiting both the campus and surrounding communities.
Women receive bid to the ECAC Mid-Atlantic Women’s Lacrosse Championship Tournament

The Morrisville State College women’s lacrosse team was one of seven teams to receive a bid to the Eastern Collegiate Athletic Conference (ECAC) Mid-Atlantic Women’s Lacrosse Championship Tournament Monday, for the second straight season.

The third seeded Mustangs (9-7) will host sixth seed Medaille College (8-7) on Wednesday. Game time is scheduled for 4 p.m. on Drake field in Morrisville.

This is the third time the two teams will face-off against one another this season alone. In the first meeting Morrisville State claimed a 16-8 decision over Medaille, and on Saturday the Mavericks avenged the early season loss with a 18-15 victory in the semi-final round of the North Eastern Athletic Conference (NEAC) Championship Tournament.

Additional details will be released as they are made available on the Morrisville State College athletics web page at http://athletics.morrisville.edu.

Stewart wraps up season 16th in Nation at IHSA Championships

Freshman Kelsey Stewart (Cuttingsville, Vt.) wrapped up a stellar freshman campaign with a 16th place overall finish at the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA) National Championships held in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania over the weekend.

Stewart finished 13th out of 26 riders in the Horsemanship Phase of the American Quarter Horse Association (AQHA) high point rider competition, and landed a 10th place finish in the reining phase, finishing 16th overall with 27 points.

Stewart completed the regular season as the high point champion for Zone 2, Region 3 to earn the opportunity to represent the Region and Morrisville State at the National Championships.

The freshman is majoring in equine science at Morrisville State.

NEAC names six Mustangs to Women’s Lacrosse All-Conference teams

The North Eastern Athletic Conference (NEAC) has announced its 2013 Women’s Lacrosse All-Conference selections, naming six Morrisville State College players to its first, second and third teams.

Three earned first team honors, including Shelby Wood (Duanesburg, N.Y.), Cassie Edmondson (Oshawa, Ontario) and Abby Muraco (Amherst, N.Y.).

Jessica Young (Clifton Park, N.Y.) took home second team honors following a stellar senior season for the Mustangs, while Megan Carlin (Pawling, N.Y.) and Jennel Paul (Brooklyn, N.Y.) each earned a spot on the third team, at midfield and defense, respectively.

Wood played a significant role in Morrisville State’s success this season at the midfield position. Leading the team in scoring with 74 goals and 24 assists for 98 team points, 15 of her scores came on free position opportunities, while five were game winners, as she started all 15 games at midfield. Aside from scoring, she leads the Mustangs in ground balls (59) and draw controls (55), causing a team high 32 turnovers.

A two-time NEAC Player of the Week and ECAC Mid-Atlantic Co-Offensive Player of the Week selection this season, she ranks in the top four in seven different categories in conference play, and is ranked nationally in nine different categories, as high as seventh in goals scored per game, and eighth in points per game. Her rankings include: 2nd in points (98), 3rd in goals (74), 2nd in assists (24), 1st in ground balls (59), 4th in draw controls (55), 1st in caused turnovers (32) and 1st in free position goals scored (15-of-29).

The sophomore became the all-time career assist leader at Morrisville State in just her second season of play, and is closing in on the all-time goals and points leader categories as well. She was the 2012 NAC West Rookie of the Year, ECAC Rookie of the Year, and earned first team All-Conference honors, while taking home Synapsesports.com All-Rookie Squad honors last season.
Moved from her natural defender position to the midfield this season, Edmondson started all 15 games for the Mustangs and has tallied 40 goals, eight assists for 48 team points, collected 58 ground balls, 49 draw controls and caused 29 turnovers. Twelve of her tallies came on free position opportunities and two were game winners.

Instrumental to the transition game this season, she often used her speed and ability to strip opponents of the possession and move the ball to the offensive end of the field, often netting fast break scores. Edmondson averages 2.67 goals per game, 0.53 assists per game for 3.20 points per game in individual games. She posted a collegiate high five goals and two assists in the win over Medaille, and added a career best eight ground balls and five draw controls in the loss to Keuka.

The junior is a three-time All-Conference selection and currently ranks in the top 12 in six different statistical categories in the conference, and is ranked in three national categories as well, including caused turnovers, ground balls, and draw controls. Overall she is ranked 12th in points (48), 11th in goals (40), 4th in free position goals (12-for-21), 4th in ground balls (58), 5th in draw controls (49) and second in caused turnovers (29).

Muraco has earned all-conference honors for the first time. Often used to mark the best opposing offensive player, Muraco tallied 25 ground balls, six draw controls and caused nine turnovers in 13 games played. She averaged 1.92 ground balls and 0.7 caused turnovers per game despite battling injuries throughout the season.

Young played a key role to the offensive game for Morrisville State this season, starting all 15 games at attack for the Mustangs as she tallied 37 goals, assisted another 24 for 61 team points. Nine of her scores came on free position opportunities. She has added 22 ground balls and 15 draw controls to her tallies on the season, and scored .544 of shots taken. Averaging 2.47 goals per game and 1.60 assists per game, Young has posted five or more points in six games to date this season, including a collegiate best six goals and three assists against Misericordia. She tallied a best five assists in the win over SUNYIT.

Muraco had a season high four ground balls and two draw controls against Medaille, and had two caused turnovers against Lancaster.

The senior currently ranks in the top 13 in four statistical categories at the conference level, including 3rd overall in assists (24) and 8th in points (61), and has earned national ranking in both assist categories.

Carlin was moved from a defender to midfield position this season, and started all 15 games for the Mustangs, tallied 25 goals and 14 assists for 39 points, adding three scores from free position opportunities. She has collected 33 ground balls, 37 draw controls and caused 14 turnovers. She averages 2.60 points per game on 1.67 goals and 0.93 assists per game. Carlin posted a game high three goals and three assists in the win over Cazenovia, and has tallied three goals in four different contests this season. The second team all-conference selection at defense last season currently ranks in the top 18 in five conference stats categories, including 8th in assists (14), 17th in points (39), 18th in goals (25), 14th in draw controls (37) and 17th in caused turnovers (14).

Paul earns all-conference recognition for the first time in her career, appearing and starting in 10 games for Morrisville State at defense this season. Battling injury throughout a majority of the season, Paul played through and tallied 24 ground balls, six draw controls and caused 11 turnovers. She averaged 2.4 ground balls and 1.1 caused turnovers a game, and posted a collegiate best six ground balls and four caused turnovers in the loss to Keuka.

Morrisville State completed the regular season with a 9-6 overall record, 8-1 conference record and reached the semi-finals of the NEAC Championship Tournament.

**Upcoming Action**

**Wednesday, May 8**

- #3 W Lacrosse vs. #6 Medaille 4 p.m.
- ECAC Mid-Atlantic Championship