# **Athlete Profile**

### **Athlete Profile - Betsy Hochadel '05**



Betsy Hochadel hit the most memorable shot of the season for the 2003-04 women's basketball team. With less than 10 seconds to play in the NESCAC Championship final vs. top-ranked Bowdoin, Hochadel hit an acrobatic layup to send the game to overtime.

While the Bobcats eventually lost to the heavily favored Polar Bears, Hochadel's shot had capped a furious, 19-point comeback by Bates, showcasing the team's rugged character.

"We made an impression on everyone in the gym that day," says Hochadel, a native of Portland, Maine. "Games like that confirm what it means to be a Bates basketball player. The heart and determination we displayed are unique to our team. It's why we are so successful."

Hochadel personifies the word determination. At 5-8, Hochadel is shorter than most forwards in the conference, but her tenacity on the boards helped her finish fifth in offensive rebounding in the elite NESCAC.

The gritty play of the women's basketball team has won the team support from every corner of the campus community.

"Bates provides an environment where you can excel in both academics and athletics," Hochadel says. "Professors, peers and members of the community are all very supportive, and being a member of a team here is like having a second family."

#### For more information

Bates is a nonsectarian college of the liberal arts and sciences located in Lewiston, Maine. Founded in 1855, it is the first coeducational college or university in New England and among the oldest such institutions in the country. Rated among the top 25 liberal arts colleges in the nation by *U.S. News & World Report*, Bates has a current enrollment of 1,700 undergraduates.

For more information about admission to the College, phone or write:
Bates College Admissions
Lindholm House
23 Campus Ave.
Lewiston ME 04240-6098
Phone 207-786-6000
Fax 207-786-6025
admissions@bates.edu
www.bates.eduladmissions.xml

For more information about women's basketball at Bates, please contact:
Head Coach Jim Murphy
Bates College Department of Athletics
Alumni Gymnasium
130 Central Ave.
Lewiston, ME 04240-6097
Phone 207-786-6369
Fax 207-786-8232
jmurphy@bates.edu
www.bates.edu/whoops.xml

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# Bates | College

# **Women's Basketball** at Bates





# Women's Basketball at Bates



Olivia Zurek '05

## The Program

The Bates College women's basketball team gives student-athletes an opportunity to compete for the New England Small College Athletic Conference championship, perhaps the nation's most coveted NCAA Division III title. The team's style demands intense defensive pressure and the ability and willingness to take advantage of every fast-break opportunity. Student-athletes who welcome both academic and athletic challenges while making friendships that will last a lifetime should consider applying to Bates.

The regular season consists of a 24-game schedule, including nine games vs. NESCAC opponents. The top eight teams in the regular season qualify for the NESCAC Championship, with the winner earning an automatic berth in the NCAA Division III Women's Basketball Championship.

#### 2003-04 Recap and 2004-05 Outlook

Bates advanced to the NESCAC Championship final for the second consecutive season, forcing overtime before falling to eventual NCAA runner-up Bowdoin. The Bobcats finished the season 19-8, marking the ninth consecutive year the team has won at least 17 games.

The Bobcats return four of their starting five players from the 2003-04 season, including Olivia Zurek '05 (Arlington, Mass.), a first-team All-NESCAC and d3hoops.com third-team All-Northeast forward. Heather Taylor '05 (Nobleboro, Maine) returns at point guard and Zurek, Betsy Hochadel '05 (Portland, Maine) and Meg Coffin '07 (Westford, Mass.) will make up one of the NESCAC's toughest front courts.

#### Head Coach - Jim Murphy



Jim Murphy '69 has been the women's basketball and women's soccer coach at Bates since 1994, compiling a 181-71 career record in 10 years as basketball coach. The team has made four NCAA tournament appearances during his tenure, including a trip to the regional semifinals in 1997-98.

The Bobcats advanced to the NESCAC Championship semifinals in each of the past four seasons and faced Bowdoin in the finals in 2003 and 2004.

From 1969 to 1993, Murphy coached and taught English at Masconomet Regional High School in Topsfield, Mass. He reached six Massachusetts state championship games in girls' soccer and girls' basketball, garnering four Coach of the Year honors.

"Student-athletes at Bates are challenged both in the classroom and on the court in a warm, friendly environment," Murphy says. "Players on my team learn that hard work can be fun and rewarding, and both individual and team goals can be achieved by working together."



Jackie Olsen '07

#### **Facilities**

Bates plays its home games in historic Alumni Gymnasium. The team draws a large following from the Bates and Lewiston-Auburn communities, and with the bleachers just a few feet from the court, Alumni Gym provides the Bobcats with a tremendous home court advantage. Bates went 10-1 at

home in 2003-04, with the only loss coming to topranked Bowdoin. Bates athletes also make use of Davis Fitness Center, a fully equipped weight room open to students, faculty and staff.

#### **Athletics at Bates**

Bates is a member of the NCAA Division III and the New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC). Other NESCAC members are Amherst, Bowdoin, Colby, Connecticut College, Hamilton, Middlebury, Trinity, Tufts, Wesleyan and Williams. In 2002-03, eight NESCAC teams finished in the top 60 out of 396 Division III institutions in the Directors' Cup standings, a measure of an athletic program's overall strength. Bates has produced 102 All-America honors in 20 sports since 1990, including 10 in 2002-03. Recent Bates athletes have been named NCAA Woman of the Year finalists, selected in the Major League Baseball draft, appeared on ESPN and in Sports Illustrated's Faces in the Crowd, competed in the Summer Olympics and won NCAA Division III national championships.

On the Cover: Betsy Hochadel '05