

2003 NCAA Tournament

DEC. 5, 2003

Quick Facts

Location: Washington, DC 20016
Founded: 1893
Undergraduate Enrollment: 5,359
Nickname: Eagles
Colors : AU Red, AU Blue and White
Affiliation: NCAA Division I
Conference: Patriot League

Team Information

Head Coach: Barry Goldberg (Pittsburgh '84)
Record at School (years): 371-145 (15)
Career Record (years): 371-145 (15)
Office Phone: 202-885-3031
Assistant Coaches: Silvia Johnson (American '01),
Sam Danai (American, '02)
Student Managers: Lisa Valentine (American, '05),
Roberto Vazquez (American '06)
Athletic Trainer: Jen Germaine
2002 Overall Record: 26-8
2002 Patriot League Record/Finish: 14-0/1st
Starters Returning/Lost: 4/2
Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 10/2
Newcomers: 3

Athletic Communications

Asst. AD, Communications: Shaun May
Asst. Dir. of Athletic Comm.: Anthony Wilson
**Athletic Communications Assistant/
Volleyball Contact:** Samantha Perry
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Athletics Web Site: aueagles.com
Sports Hotline: 202-885-DUNK
Mailing Address Bender Arena:
4400 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20016-8005

University Information

President: Dr. Benjamin Ladner
Vice President of Development: Al Checcio
Director of Athletics: Dr. Joni Comstock
Assoc. AD, SWA: Athena Argyropoulos
Assoc. AD, Business: Rob Andrey
Assoc. AD, Facilities/Ops: Ed McLaughlin
Asst. AD, Compliance: TBA
Asst. AD, Communications: Shaun May
Academic Coordinator: Meredith Basil
Head Athletic Trainer: Sean Dash

2003 AU Volleyball Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Opponent</u>	<u>Time/Score</u>
A29	vs. BYU	1-3 L
A29	at Florida	0-3 L
A30	vs. Rutgers	3-2 W
S5	at Akron	3-2 W
S6	vs. Penn State	0-3 L
S6	vs. Pittsburg	0-3 L
S12	vs. UC-Santa Barbara	3-1 L
S12	vs. New Mexico St.	0-3 L
S13	at Arizona	0-3 L
S19	SAN DIEGO	Canceled
S20	LOYOLA	3-0 W
S20	MICHIGAN STATE	3-1 L
S25	LEHIGH*	3-1 W
S27	LAFAYETTE*	3-0 W
O3	at Holy Cross*	3-1 W
O4	at Army*	3-0 W
O10	BUCKNELL*	3-0 W
O11	COLGATE	3-0 W
O17	NAVY*	3-0 W
O18	at Georgetown	3-1 W
O24	at Lafayette*	3-0 W
O25	at Lehigh*	3-0 W
O31	HOLY CROSS	3-0 W
N1	ARMY*	3-1 W
N5	at Temple	3-0 L
N7	at Colgate*	3-0 W
N8	at Bucknell*	3-1 W
N14	at Navy*	3-0 W
N15	UM-EASTERN SHORE	3-0 W
N21-22	Patriot League Championship	
N21	ARMY (PL Tourn.)	3-0 W
N22	BUCKNELL (PL Tourn.)	3-0 W
N26	at George Washington	3-0 W
D5-6	NCAA Tournament at Maryland	7:30 p.m.

* indicates Patriot League match

American University, which fields a 19-sport NCAA Division I athletics program featuring 10 women's sports and nine for men, completed its third year of membership in the Patriot League. Since joining the Patriot League, the University has captured league championships in men's cross country, women's cross country, women's lacrosse, men's soccer, women's soccer, men's tennis, women's tennis, women's volleyball, field hockey and a regular-season title in men's basketball. Chartered by an act of Congress in 1893, American University features students from all 50 states, the District of Columbia and more than 160 nations worldwide.

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2003 American Volleyball Roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Cl.	Ht.	Hometown/High School/Last School
1	Cutrina Biddulph	MB	So.	6-4	Reseda, Calif./Granada Hills
2	Jennifer Cosco	DS	So.	5-10	Montvale, N.J./Pascack Hills
3	Sabrina Vasconcelos	S	Jr.	5-7	Fortaleza, Brazil/Colegio Christus
4	Jessica Tuthill	L	Jr.	5-5	Sunapee, N.H./Sunapee Middle
5	Erin Allgaier	OH	Jr.	6-0	Kalamazoo, Mich./Kalamazoo Central
6	Jamie Lardner	DS	Fr.	5-2	Garden City, N.Y./Garden City
7	Natacha Cornaz	MB	Jr.	5-10	Lausanne, Switzerland/Gymnase Auguste Piccard
8	Catherine Fluegeman	MB	Jr.	6-1	Muncie, Ind./Burriss Laboratory School
11	Courtney Mulford	S	Jr.	6-0	San Diego, Calif./La Costa Canyon
12	Elizabeth Maloney	OH/RS	Fr.	6-0	Toronto, Canada/Richfield C.I.
14	Daria Bobko	OH	Jr.	6-3	Moscow Russia/S.E. School No. 783
15	Karla Kucerkova	OH	Sr.	6-3	Olomouc, Czech Republic/Brno

Head Coach: Barry Goldberg (Pittsburgh '84; 15th season)

Assistant: Silvia Johnson (American '01; second season)

Volunteer Assistant: Sam Danai (American '02; fifth season)

Managers: Lisa Valentine, Roberto Vazquez

Pronunciation Guide

No.	Name	Pronunciation
3	Sabrina Vasconcelos	vas-cone-SAY'-lohs
5	Erin Allgaier	ALL'-guy-er
6	Cutrina Biddulph	KUH'-trina bidd-OLF'
7	Natacha Cornaz	nah-TAH'-sha COR'-nah
8	Cathy Fluegeman	FLU'-gah-man
15	Karla Kucerkova	coo-CHAIR'-cove-ah

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Most kills:

1. 738 Lea Windlin 1991
2. **580 Karla Kucerkova 2003***
3. 554 Vendula Kurcova 1996
4. 551 Francine Courtat 1995
5. **513 Karla Kucerkova 2002**
6. 475 Francine Courtat 1994
7. 469 Natasha Sylvain 1994
8. 469 Edis Bonati 1998
9. 456 Heather Wintermeyer 1999
10. 433 Natasha Sylvain 1992

Most kills per game:

1. **9.00 Karla Kucerkova 2003**
2. 5.33 Lea Windlin 1991
3. 4.79 Francine Courtat 1995
4. **4.63 Karla Kucerkova 2001**
5. **4.58 Karla Kucerkova 2002**
6. 4.37 Ajola Berisha 2000
7. 4.23 Edis Bonati 1998
8. 4.20 Vendula Kurcova 1996
9. 4.18 Heather Wintermeyer 1999
10. 3.94 Ajola Berisha 1999

Highest hitting percentage (minimum 150 attempts):

1. **.400 Natacha Cornaz 2002**
2. .399 Heather Wintermeyer 1999
3. .375 Heather Wintermeyer 1997
4. **.354 Natacha Cornaz 2001**
5. .346 Sherita Hall 1993
6. .346 Ajola Berisha 1998
7. .328 Sherita Hall 1994
8. .324 Heather Wintermeyer 1998
9. .317 Ajola Berisha 2000
10. .308 Edis Bonati 1998

Most attack attempts:

1. 1784 Lea Windlin 1991
2. 1429 Vendula Kurcova 1996
3. 1282 Francine Courtat 1995
4. 1218 Natasha Sylvain 1994
5. 1191 Natasha Sylvain 1992
6. 1115 Francine Courtat 1994
7. 1091 Natasha Sylvain 1990
8. **1089 Karla Kucerkova 2002**
9. 1029 Jennifer Conner 1996
10. 1025 Edis Bonati 1998

Most aces:

1. 91 Jami Versteegen 1988
2. 85 Francine Courtat 1995
3. 81 Francine Courtat 1994
4. 79 Yvie Fabella 1991
5. 77 Jami Versteegen 1989
6. 73 Yvie Fabella 1992
- 73 Alice Gross 1994
8. 71 Jami Versteegen 1987
- 71 Shirley Smiekel 1995
10. 68 Theresa Flynn 1991

The Record Book

SINGLE-SEASON RECORDS (since 1987)

Most aces per game:

1. **2.33 Natacha Cornaz 2003**
1. .95 Jami Versteegen 1987
2. **.77 Natacha Cornaz 2001**
3. .74 Francine Courtat 1995
4. .73 Jami Versteegen 1988
5. .69 Beth Walrath 1987
6. .62 Shirley Smiekel 1995
7. .58 Yvie Fabella 1992
8. .57 Sylvia Panak 2000
9. **.56 Courtney Mulford 2002**
10. .55 Francine Courtat 1994

Most total blocks:

1. 172 Sherita Hall 1994
2. 131 Shannon Holeva 1991
3. 130 Sherita Hall 1992
4. 118 Sherita Hall 1993
5. 117 Megan Turner 1993
6. **101 Cutrina Biddulph 2002**
7. 100 Natasha Sylvain 1992
8. 91 Francine Courtat 1994
9. 89 Carissa Converse 1997
- 89 Heather Wintermeyer 1997

Most solo blocks:

1. 54 Sherita Hall 1994
2. 49 Sherita Hall 1992
3. 47 Karin Churchfield 1987
4. 44 Stephanie Elliott 1989
5. 38 Karin Churchfield 1989
- 38 Natasha Sylvain 1992
7. 26 Shannon Holeva 1991
8. 25 Sherita Hall 1993
9. 24 Natasha Sylvain 1994
10. 23 Jill Ferguson 1996

Most digs:

1. 735 Natasha Sylvain 1994
2. 564 Lea Windlin 1991
3. 492 Natasha Sylvain 1992
4. 403 Jennifer Conner 1996
5. 396 Francine Courtat 1994
6. 372 Jennifer Giordano 1992
7. 362 Natasha Sylvain 1993
8. 361 Alice Gross 1994
9. 359 Karin Churchfield 1989
10. 357 Vendula Kurcova 1996

*Indicates as of 11/26/03

Most digs per game:

1. 5.10 Natasha Sylvain 1994
2. 4.03 Lea Windlin 1991
3. 3.90 Natasha Sylvain 1992
4. 3.30 Jennifer Conner 1996
5. 3.15 Jennifer Giordano 1992
6. 3.09 Natasha Sylvain 1993
7. **3.05 Jessica Tuthill 2003**
8. 3.04 Karin Churchfield 1989
9. 2.79 Shannon Jaax 1995
10. 2.73 Jami Versteegen 1989

Most block assists:

1. 118 Sherita Hall 1994
2. 105 Shannon Holeva 1991
3. 97 Megan Turner 1993
4. 93 Sherita Hall 1993
5. 84 Jill Ferguson 1996
6. 81 Sherita Hall 1992
7. **80 Cutrina Biddulph 2002**
8. 76 Francine Courtat 1994
9. 72 Judit Szekelyhidi 2001
10. 71 Carissa Converse 1997

Most blocks per game:

1. 1.25 Sherita Hall 1994
2. 1.17 Sherita Hall 1992
3. 1.05 Megan Turner 1993
4. .99 Sherita Hall 1993
5. .92 Shannon Holeva 1991
6. **.89 Cutrina Biddulph 2002**
7. .87 Judit Szekelyhidi 2001
8. .80 Carissa Converse 1997
9. .79 Natasha Sylvain 1992
- .79 Judit Szekelyhidi 2000

Most assists:

1. 1610 Alice Gross 1994
2. 1420 Shirley Smiekel 1998
3. 1381 Jennifer Klutznick 1991
4. 1323 Shirley Smiekel 1995
5. 1290 Shirley Smiekel 1997
6. 1274 Silvia Panak 1999
7. 1266 Shirley Smiekel 1996
8. 1234 Tricia Gilbert 1988
9. 1196 Silvia Panak 2000
10. 1151 Tricia Gilbert 1989

Most assists per game:

1. 12.68 Shirley Smiekel 1998
2. 12.08 Silvia Panak 2000
3. 12.02 Silvia Panak 1999
4. 11.68 Tricia Gilbert 1987
5. 11.60 Shirley Smiekel 1995
6. **11.35 Sabrina Vasconcelos 2001**
7. 11.18 Alice Gross 1994
8. 1234 Tricia Gilbert 1988
9. 1196 Silvia Panak 2000
10. 1151 Tricia Gilbert 1989

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CAREER RECORDS (minimum two years)

Most kills:

1. Karla Kucerkova, 1747, 2000-04*
1. Natasha Sylvain, 1660, 1990-94
2. Vendula Kurcova, 1568, 1995-98
3. Francine Courtat, 1285, 1993-95
4. Heather Wintermeyer, 1224, 1997-99

Most kills per game:

1. Karla Kucerkova, 4.49, 2000-03*
2. Ajola Berisha, 4.01, 1998-2001
3. Heather Wintermeyer, 3.60, 1997-99
4. Vendula Kurcova, 3.50, 1995-98
5. Francine Courtat, 3.44, 1993-95

Most service aces:

1. Jami Versteegen, 239, 1987-89
2. Yvie Fabella, 228, 1990-93
3. Francine Courtat, 223, 1993-95
- Shirley Smiekel, 223, 1995-98
5. Natasha Sylvain, 206, 1990-94
6. Theresa Flynn, 204, 1988-91

Most digs:

1. Natasha Sylvain, 1865, 1990-94
2. Theresa Flynn, 987, 1988-91
3. Karla Kucerkova, 966, 2000-03*
4. Karin Churchfield, 954, 1987-90
5. Jennifer Giordano, 958, 1991-94

Most digs per game:

1. Natasha Sylvain, 3.59, 1990-94
2. Karin Churchfield, 2.91, 1987-89
3. Ajola Berisha, 2.61, 1998-01
4. Alice Gross, 2.60, 1993-94
5. Karla Kucerkova, 2.52, 2000-03*

Most solo blocks:

1. Sherita Hall, 132, 1992-95
2. Karin Churchfield, 97, 1987-90
3. Natasha Sylvain, 87, 1990-94
4. Heather Wintermeyer, 48, 1997-99
5. Theresa Flynn, 46, 1988-91
- Shannon Holeva, 46, 1990-91

Most block assists:

1. Sherita Hall, 301, 1992-95
2. Natasha Sylvain, 229, 1990-94
3. Judit Szekelyhidi, 173, 1999-02
4. Heather Wintermeyer, 172, 1997-99
5. Francine Courtat, 163, 1993-95

Most assists:

1. Shirley Smiekel, 5273, 1995-98
2. Tricia Gilbert, 4215, 1987-90
3. Alice Gross, 2651, 1993-94
4. Silvia Panak, 2470, 1999-00
5. Jennifer Klutznick, 2226, 1991-92

Most assists per game:

1. Silvia Panak, 12.05, 1999-00
2. Shirley Smiekel, 11.17, 1995-98
3. Alice Gross, 10.40, 1993-94
4. Tricia Gilbert, 9.28, 1987-90
5. Jennifer Klutznick, 9.01, 1991-92

*Indicates as of 11/26/03

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2003 GAME SUMMARIES



GAME 31

AMERICAN 30 30 30
GEORGE WASHINGTON 27 23 23
November 23, 2003
Washington, D.C.

AU Defeats George Washington, 3-0

Kucerkova and Mulford lead the Eagles to victory

November 26, 2003

WASHINGTON - The AU Eagles defeated cross-town rivals George Washington, 3-0 in its last regular-season match before the NCAA tournament.

Senior **Karla Kucerkova** (Olomouc, Czech Republic/Brno) led the Eagles with 19 kills, three set assists, 6 digs and a .286 hitting percentage. **Courtney Mulford** also contributed to the Eagles seventh straight win with eight kills and a .727 hitting percentage.

The first game of the match was close between the two teams, with the Colonials at one point pulling ahead at by four. The Eagles were able to rally back and close the gap to win the game 30-27.

In game two, the Eagles once again battled for lead and took the game in the end, 30-23. As the final game was played, AU again took control late in the game and pulled it out 30-23.

The Eagles played a strong match, out-hitting the Colonials .262 to .115, with 51 kills to GW's 44. Defensively, the Eagles had 47 digs to their opponents 39 and 10 team blocks to their six.

"This was a good win for us before the tournament," American University Head Coach **Barry Goldberg** said. "We will take a break for a day or two and then come back on Sunday to see where we will go for the tournament."

The AU Eagles will find out Sunday, Nov. 30 at 8 p.m. who and where they will be playing in the NCAA tournament. This will mark the Eagles fifth NCAA appearance in school history.



GAME 30

AMERICAN 30 30 30
BUCKNELL 27 25 15
November 23, 2003
Washington, D.C.

The AU Volleyball Team Defeats Bucknell For Third Straight PL Championship

Kucerkova takes home tournament MVP

November 23, 2003

WASHINGTON- For the third time in three years, American University volleyball has advanced to the NCAA Tournament after

clinching the Patriot League Championship with a 3-0 win over Bucknell.

Senior **Karla Kucerkova** (Olomouc, Czech Republic/Brno) was named the tournament Most Valuable Player after she accumulated a match high 26 kills, a .512 hitting percentage and 11 digs. Against Army, she had 18 kills and a .351 hitting percentage.

In the first game, both teams started out close, with neither team taking more than a three-point lead. The Eagles were able to pull ahead at the end and take the game, 30-27.

During the second game, the Eagles started with a small lead and held on to it, emerging victorious 30-25. As the third game started, the Eagles took a more dominant lead and finished the match off, 30-15.

"Bucknell played hard and had a great year," said American University Head Coach **Barry Goldberg**. "We were more powerful in hitting the ball and we were just a little bit better."

For the Eagles, **Natasha Cornaz** (Lausanne, Switzerland/Gymnase Auguste Piccard) played strong with 11 kills, .476 hitting percentage and three digs, while **Daria Bobka** (Moscow, Russia/S.E. School No.783) also played well with six kills and a .400 hitting percentage in two games.

As a team, the Eagles out-hit Bucknell 59 kills to 37 kills, respectively. Defensively, Bucknell had 41 digs and six team blocks to AU's 42 digs and seven team blocks.



GAME 29

AMERICAN 30 30 30
ARMY 24 25 23
November 22, 2003
Washington, D.C.

AU Advances to PL Tournament Finals

Kucerkova leads with 18 kills

November 22, 2003

WASHINGTON - Senior **Karla Kucerkova** and the AU volleyball team will advance to the Patriot League finals after defeating the Army Black Knights 3-0 (30-24, 30-25, 30-23) in the first round of the Patriot League tournament.

Kucerkova led the Eagles to victory with a match high 18 kills and the highest hitting percentage for both teams with .351. The Eagles opened the tournament against Army with a strong first game, taking 12 of the first 15 points. The Black Knights were able to rally back and come within two points of the lead, but the Eagles prevailed and took the first game 30-24.

Throughout the second game the Eagles once again took the lead, but Army was kept it close, coming within one point of them. As the game came to a close, Army fell short once again and

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the Eagles won 30-25.

In game three, the Eagles emulated the first game, taking nine of the first 10 points, only to have the Black Knights surge back and come within points of taking the lead. American was able to once again fight back and clinch the victory 30-23.

Sophomore **Cutrina Biddulph** (Reseda, Calif./Granada Falls) facilitated the Eagles victory with 12 kills, two digs and two blocks, while **Jessica Tuthill** (Sunapee, N.H./Sunapee Middle) sparked the Eagle defense with 15 digs.

Also playing strong for the Eagles was **Erin Allgaier** (Kalamazoo, Mich./Kalamazoo Central) with 11 kills, 11 digs and two blocks.



AMERICAN	30	30	30
UMES	24	21	23

GAME 28
November 15, 2003
Washington, D.C.

American Sweeps UMES, 3-0


Kucerkova finishes with 20 kills in 32 attempts

November 15, 2003

WASHINGTON - Senior **Karla Kucerkova** (Olomouc, Czech Republic/Brno) once again led the way for AU as the Eagles dominated the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, winning in three games (30-24, 30-21, 30-23). On Senior Night, Kucerkova notched 20 kills on just 32 attempts for a .531 hitting percentage. She also chipped in five digs and three block assists.

Sophomore **Cutrina Biddulph** (Reseda, Calif./Granada Hills) and junior **Erin Allgaier** (Kalamazoo, Mich./Kalamazoo Central) each had 10 kills versus UMES. Biddulph finished with a .333 hitting percentage and had two block assists while Allgaier added three digs and four assists.

Junior **Natacha Cornaz** (Lausanne, Switzerland/Gymnase Auguste Piccard) finished the match with eight kills and four digs while junior **Sabrina Vasconcelos** (Fortaleza, Brazil/Colegio Christus) led all setters with 27 assists. She also had three digs. American was challenged the most in the first game as UMES went ahead early. However, Kucerkova helped the Eagles put together a run as they took the lead for good 19-18.



AMERICAN	30	30	30
NAVY	26	23	11

GAME 27
November 14, 2003
Annapolis, Md.

Kucerkova Breaks All-Time Kill Record

Eagles run Patriot League streak to 41 straight matches

November 14, 2003

Annapolis, Md.- Senior **Karla Kucerkova** (Olomouc, Czech Republic/Brno) broke the AU all-time career kills record by four kills as she led the Eagles to a 3-0 (30-26, 30-23, 30-11) victory


over the Navy Midshipmen. The previous record was held by **Natasha Sylvain** at 1660.

The Eagles took all three games over the Mids as Kucerkova dominated with 19 kills, 4 digs and a .270 hitting percentage. Also leading the Eagles was junior **Natacha Cornaz** (Lausanne, Switzerland/Gymnase Auguste Piccard) with eight kills and a .400 hitting percentage.

The Eagles started the night out with a close first game, with neither team pulling out to an early lead. The Eagles were able to charge ahead after breaking a 16-16 tie to win the game 30-26.

During game two, Navy and AU kept the game close with the Eagles only taking the lead after breaking a 19-19 tie. The game ended with the Eagles winning 30-23. As the final game of the match was played, the Eagles dominated with 17 kills and just one error in 26 attempts.

The Eagles are currently 18-9 overall and 14-0 in the Patriot League.



AMERICAN	28	30	30	30
BUCKNELL	30	23	20	24

GAME 26
November 8, 2003
Lewisburg, Pa.

AU Volleyball Extends Patriot League Streak to 40

Kucerkova within 15 kills of AU career kills per game record

November 8, 2003

LEWISBURG, Pa.- The AU Volleyball team was able to extend its Patriot League winning streak to 40 as they defeated Bucknell 3-1 (28-30, 30-23, 30-20, 30-24).

With only two matches left until the Patriot League tournament, the Eagles continue to be undefeated in the Patriot League, 13-0 and 17-9 overall.

The Eagles won despite dropping the first game 28-30. As the match continued on the Eagles finished hard with a total of 55 set assists, .229 hitting percentage and 60 kills. Bucknell was not far behind with 52 set assists, .138 hitting percentage and 58 kills.

Senior **Karla Kucerkova** (Olomouc, Czech Republic/Brno) led the Eagles with 22

kills, 14 digs and 3 blocks. Kucerkova is now only 15 kills away from the AU all-time record for career kills.

Junior **Courtney Mulford** (San Diego, Calif./La Costa Canyon)



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also played well for the Eagles with four kills, 23 set assists and three blocks. In addition, **Erin Allgaier** (Kalamazoo, Mich./Kalamazoo Central) had 15 defensive digs and eight kills.



AMERICAN 30 30 30
COLGATE 27 27 28
GAME 25 November 7, 2003
Hamilton, N.Y.

AU Volleyball Sweeps Colgate, 3-0
Kucerkova within 37 kills of all-time career kill record

November 7, 2003

HAMILTON, N.Y. - In three tight games of volleyball, the AU Eagles were able to sweep the Colgate, 30-27, 30-27, 30-27. The Eagles have now won 39 straight Patriot League matches and are currently 16-9 overall and are 12-0 in the conference.



The Eagles were led to victory by senior **Karla Kucerkova** (Olomouc, Czech Republic/Brno), who had 17 kills. Kucerkova is presently ranked 16th in the nation in kills per game, and is only 37 kills away from breaking the decade-old AU record for kills per game.

Also leading the Eagles to victory over the Raiders was junior **Courtney Mulford** (San Diego, Calif./La Costa) who posted 22

assists, seven kills and .700 attack percentage. Mulford has continually been a strong force for the Eagles totaling 315 assists for the season, including 25 assists against Georgetown. AU was also helped to victory over Colgate by junior **Cutrina Biddulph** (Reseda, Calif./Granada Hills), who posted 12 kills.



AMERICAN 20 21 28
TEMPLE 30 30 30
GAME 24 November 17, 2003
Philadelphia, Pa.

AU Volleyball Falls to Temple, 3-0
Kucerkova within 54 of all-time career kill record

November 5, 2003

PHILADELPHIA - The AU volleyball team suffered a disappointing non-conference loss to Temple, dropping the match 3-0 (30-20, 30-21, 30-28). In the first loss in 12 matches, junior setter **Courtney Mulford** (San Diego, Calif./La Costa Canyon)

played strong volleyball for the Eagles with 21 assists, while senior **Karla Kucerkova** (Olomouc, Czech Republic/Brno) had 18 kills.

As Kucerkova closes out her career with the Eagles, she has put herself in a position to break the decade-old school record for kills currently held by Natasha Sylvain at 1660. After her match-high 18 kills against Temple and the combined 43 kills against Army and Holy Cross, Kucerkova is now within 54 of the record.

So far during her senior season, Kucerkova has led both the league and the team in kills and points, as well as breaking the AU record for most kills per game, as the Eagles crushed the Lehigh Mountain Hawks earlier this year.



AMERICAN 30 30 30
ARMY 26 14 17
GAME 23 November 1, 2003
Washington, D.C.

AU Volleyball Shuts out Army 3-1
Eagles run Patriot League streak to 38 straight matches

November 1, 2003

WASHINGTON - The AU Eagles were able to continue their Patriot League winning streak to 38 as they were able to defeat the Army Black Knights 3-1. AU was once again led by senior **Karla Kucerkova** (Olomouc, Czech Republic/Brno) who posted 30 kills for the day.

The Black Knights started the night strong, taking the first game 30-26, but the Eagles were able to quickly bounce back and take the lead early in game two. With junior **Sabrina Vasconcelos** (Fortaleza, Brazil/Colegio Christus) serving for five points with one ace mixed in, the Eagles defeated the Black Knights 30-14. During game two the Eagles posted a .621 hitting percentage, while Army posted .207.

As the match continued into game three, the Eagles once again were able to dominate, winning 30-17. The game was highlighted by junior **Natasha Cornaz** (Lausanne, Switzerland/Gymnase August Piccard) as she served for seven points in a row, including one of her three total service aces. Cumulatively this week, Cornaz has totaled ten service aces, seven of them against Holy Cross.

During game three, the Eagles were challenged by the Black Knights, as Army was able to keep within points of the lead. As match point was on the horizon, Army took the lead at one point, but only for the Eagles to rally back and win the game 30-27.



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AMERICAN 30 30 30

HOLY CROSS 12 24 8

GAME 22 October 31, 2003
Washington, D.C.

AU Volleyball Shuts out Holy Cross, 3-0
Cornaz leads with seven service aces

October 31, 2003

WASHINGTON - Led by junior **Natacha Cornaz** (Lausanne, Switzerland/Gymnase August Piccard) with seven service aces, the AU Eagles were able to sweep the Holy Cross Crusaders 3-0 (30-12, 30-24, 30-8).

Sophomore **Cutrina Biddulph** (Reseda, Calif./Granada Falls) also stood out for the Eagles, posting 10 kills and four service aces, while senior **Karla Kucerkova** (Olomouc, Czech Republic/Brno) had 13 kills to keep her within reach of the AU record for career kills.

The Eagles started out the night strong against the Crusaders in the first game, taking an early lead and never looking back. Kucerkova posted five kills, while Biddulph put up four.

Going into game two, AU was able to take another early lead, only to let the Crusaders come back with junior Diane Marzelli serving for five points in a row. Although Holy Cross was able to come within one point of the lead, the Eagles never let them take it, and AU took the game 30-14.

As the match progressed into game three, Cornaz was able to serve for eight points, including three of her seven service aces in a row. The Eagles were able to fly past the Crusaders in game three, 30-8, cementing their win, and pushing their Patriot League winning streak to 38.



AMERICAN 30 30 30

LAFAYETTE 17 19 19

GAME 21 October 24, 2003
Easton, Pa.

AU Sweeps Lafayette, 3-0
Eagles run Patriot League streak to 37 straight matches

October 24, 2003

EASTON Pa.-For the second time this season, the AU volleyball team was able to defeat the Lafayette Leopards 3-0 (30-17, 30-19, 30-19) for their ninth straight win this season and to extend their Patriot League winning streak to 37. The Eagles are now 13-8 overall and 9-0 in the Patriot League.

Junior **Courtney Mulford** (San Diego, Calif./La Costa) was a

huge force in leading the Eagles to victory with great defensive blocks and a strong hitting percentage (1.000). She also contributed with five kills and two digs and 18 set assists. Also leading the Eagles was senior **Karla Kucerkova** (Olomouc, Czech Republic/Brno), who racked up 10 kills to add her total career kills (1545) which now puts her 115 kills away from the AU record for most career kills.

Sophomore **Cutrina Biddulph** (Reseda, Calif./Granada Hills) and junior **Sabrina Vasconcelos** (Fortaleza, Brazil/Colegio Christus) also helped the Eagles with nine kills each.

With five Patriot League matches left until the tournament, the Eagles lead the way undefeated. If seated first at the end of the season, they will host the tournament November 21-22 at Bender Arena.



AMERICAN 30 30 30

LEHIGH 24 24 24

GAME 20 October 23, 2003
Bethlehem, Pa.

Kucerkova Breaks Most Kills Per Game Record
Eagles sweep Lehigh, 3-0

October 23, 2003

BETHLEHEM, Pa.- Senior **Karla Kucerkova** (Olomouc, Czech Republic/Brno) was able to break the AU record for Most Kills Per Game as she totaled 27 kills in three games as the Eagles took on the Lehigh Mountain Hawks. The previous record was held by Lea Windlin at 5.33, since 1991.

Throughout this season, Kucerkova has continually led the team and the league in kills (359). Also, with 1526 career kills, she is in reach of breaking the decade old school record for career kills, which is currently held by Natasha Sylvain at 1660.

Against Lehigh, Kucerkova was able to lead the Eagles to an impressive Patriot League victory, sweeping the match 3-0 (30-24, 30-24, 30-24).

American continues to be undefeated in Patriot League play (6-0), and 12-8 overall.

Erin Allagair (Kalamazoo, Mich./Kalamazoo), who was honored this week as the Baden Player of the Week contributed to the match with nine kills, while teammate **Natasha Cornaz** (Lausanne, Switzerland/Gymnase Auguste Piccard) also had nine kills for the night.



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AMERICAN 30 30 20 30
GEORGETOWN 28 14 30 20
October 18, 2003
Washington, D.C.

AU Defeats Georgetown 3-1
Kucerkova and Allgaier lead Eagles to victory

October 18, 2003

WASHINGTON - Senior **Karla Kucerkova** (Olomouc, Czech Republic/Brno) and junior **Erin Allgaier** (Kalamazoo, Mich./Kalamazoo Central) led the AU volleyball team to a 3-1 (30-28, 30-14, 28-30, 30-20) victory over Georgetown. Kucerkova had 21 kills, 10 digs, and five blocks, while her teammate Allgaier had 14 kills, and 18 digs.

The first game of the match started with the Eagles taking an early lead, only to have the Hoyas come back and take it away. As the game progressed, the two teams kept the score within two of each other. With Kucerkova leading the way with seven kills and three digs, the Eagles were able to come back and take the game 30-28.

The second game started with sophomore **Cutrina Biddulph** (Reseda, Calif./Granada Falls) serving for the first eight points, with one service ace in the mix. The Eagles didn't look back as they dominated and won 30-14.

Game three started with the Eagles on top, but the Hoyas were able to tie it up 18-18, and then taking the lead away from AU. Although the Eagles continued to fight back, keeping the score within one, the Hoyas were able to take the third game 30-28.

The Eagles were able to quickly clinch the match in the fourth game 30-20 to extend their seven game winning streak to eight.



AMERICAN 30 30 30
NAVY 26 15 19
October 17, 2003
Washington, D.C.

Eagles run Patriot League streak to 35 straight matches

October 17, 2003

WASHINGTON - In front of an enthusiastic homecoming crowd, the Eagles were able to beat Navy 3-0 (30-26, 30-15, 30-19), and extend their Patriot League winning streak to 35. Junior **Erin Allgaier** (Kalamazoo, Mich./Kalamazoo Central) led the way with 15 kills, and 10 defensive digs.

The Eagles kept the Midshipmen within three during the first game, but they were able to pull ahead and finish 30-27. Junior **Sabrina Vasconcelos** (Fortaleza, Brazil/Colegio Christus) led the team defensively with four digs.

During the second game, the Eagles were strongly led by Allgaier



(five kills, three digs), and by senior **Karla Kucerkova** (Olomouc, Czech Republic/Brno) with four kills. The Eagles were able to keep the Mids within three the entire game and won 30-15.

In game three, the Eagles started the game by taking the first seven points, but let

Navy come back within three to make it a close game. The Eagles were able to hold onto the lead, securing the match, 29-19.



AMERICAN 30 33 30
COLGATE 15 31 11
October 11, 2003
Washington, D.C.

AU Volleyball Blanks Colgate, 3-0
Eagles run Patriot League streak to 34 straight matches

October 11, 2003

WASHINGTON - Junior **Cathy Fluegeman** (Muncie, Ind./Burriss Laboratory School) led the AU Eagles to victory over Colgate with eight kills, four digs, six blocks and a service ace. AU defeated the Red Raiders 3-0 (30-15, 33-31, 30-11) and are now 9-8 overall and 5-0 in the Patriot League.

The Eagles played a strong first game against the Raiders, winning the game 30-15. With the score 13-9, the Eagles went on a 7-2 run, to help establish a nine-point lead. Five different Eagles notched kills during the run and **Karla Kucerkova** (Olomouc, Czech Republic/Brno) had two of the seven. She finished with six kills, and a .500 hitting percentage.

AU struggled through most of the second game, but were able to pull out an exciting 33-31 victory. They trailed 28-20 at one point, but then outscored Colgate 13-3 to win the game. **Erin Allgaier** (Kalamazoo, Mich./Kalamazoo Central), who led the team with 10 kills to go along with 11 digs and three service aces, collected five of her 11 kills on the 13-3 run. Freshman **Liz Mahoney** (Toronto, Ontario/Richview, C.I.), who finished with nine kills, nine digs, and one service ace, registered AU's last two kills of the rally, with Allgaier providing one of the sets.

During the third game the Eagles dominated once again, winning 30-11. The Eagles jumped out to a 10-1 lead, and eventually stretched it to 18 points, 27-9.

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AMERICAN 30 32 30
BUCKNELL 20 30 11
October 10, 2003
Washington, D.C.

GAME 16

AU Volleyball Shuts out Bucknell, 3-0

Eagles run Patriot League streak to 33 straight matches

October 10, 2003

WASHINGTON - The AU Eagles defeated Bucknell 3-0 (30-20, 32-30, 30-22) in an exciting match of volleyball. The Eagles have now won 33 straight Patriot League games.

The Eagles took the lead early in the game, and never gave up the lead, winning the game 30-20. During the second game Bucknell and the Eagles kept the game within just a couple of points of each other. Finally, the Bison pulled ahead and took a five point lead. The Eagles were able to come back and rally, finally taking the game 32-30.

Senior **Karla Kucerkova** (Olomouc, Czech Republic/Brno) led the team with 18 kills, putting her total career kills at 1,458. She is within reach of the career kill record for AU, which is 1,660. She also had 13 digs, and 21 total attacks.

Junior **Daria Bobka** (Moscow, Russia/S.E. School No. 783), and **Erin Allgaier** (Kalamazoo, Mich./Kalamazoo Central) also played a strong games with nine kills, and eight kills, respectively.



AMERICAN 30 30 30
ARMY 20 27 23
October 4, 2003
West Point, N.Y.

GAME 15

AU Volleyball Sweeps Army, 3-0

Eagles run Patriot League streak to 32 straight matches

October 4, 2003

WEST POINT, NY - Senior **Karla Kucerkova** (Olomouc, Czech Republic/Brno) once again led the AU volleyball team to an important Patriot League victory with a match high 21 Kills and 37 attempts. The Eagles swept Army by the scores of 30-20, 30-27 and 30-23.

Kucerkova led the team throughout the night with almost 50% of the kills for the team, and a .468 average for the night and a total of 23 points for the team. **Courtney Mulford** (San Diego, Calif./La Costa Canyon) also stood out against the Black Knights with 20 assists.

The Eagles began their 3-0 match victory by scoring the first six points of the game. Although the Black Knights came within five points of the lead, the Eagles were able to hold on and win the game 30-20.

The second game of the match was much closer, but the Eagles

were able to continue to dominate, and not give up the lead. As the Eagles came to game point junior **Natacha Cornaz** (Lausanne, Switzerland/Gymnase Auguste Piccard) put the game away with one of her eight kills to give the Eagles a 2-0 advantage, and win 30-27.

The Eagles continued to control the match and win the third game (30-23). AU is now 4-0 in Patriot League play, and 7-8 overall.



AMERICAN 30 28 30 30
HOLY CROSS 19 30 28 16
October 3, 2003
Worcester, Mass.

GAME 14

AU Volleyball Defeats Holy Cross

Eagles raise Patriot League record to 3-0

October 3, 2003

WORCESTER, Mass. - American University raised its record to 3-0 in Patriot League play after they defeated Holy Cross 3-1 (30-19, 28-30, 30-28, 30-16). **Karla Kucerkova** (Olomouc, Czech Republic/Brno) led the way with 27 kills, 24 digs and a block assist.

Sabrina Vasconcelos (Fortaleza, Brazil/Colegio Christus) paced AU's offense with 30 assists. She also had three kills and nine digs. **Cutrina Biddulph** (Reseda, Calif./Granada Falls) collected 12 kills and two block solos while **Natacha Cornaz** (Switzerland/Gymnase Auguste Piccard) finished with 10 kills, 13 digs and a pair of block assists.



AMERICAN 30 30 30
LAFAYETTE 13 19 20
September 27, 2003
Washington, D.C.

GAME 13

AU Knocks Off Lafayette For Second Patriot League Win

Kucerkova leads way with 17 kills

September 27, 2003

WASHINGTON - American University defeated Lafayette in three straight games to go 2-0 in Patriot League play. **Karla Kucerkova** (Olomouc, Czech Republic/Brno) led the way with 17 kills, 10 digs and three block solos.

Sabrina Vasconcelos (Fortaleza, Brazil/Colegio Christus) led AU's offense with 30 sets. She also had three aces and four digs. **Daria Bobko** (Moscow, Russia/S.E. School No. 783) notched six kills and **Erin Allgaier** (Kalamazoo, Mich./Kalamazoo Central) picked up five kills and seven digs.

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AMERICAN 28 30 30 30
LEHIGH 30 19 23 25
GAME 12 September 25, 2003
Washington, D.C.

AU Defeats Lehigh For First Patriot League Win Vasconcelos leads way with 47 sets

September 25, 2003

WASHINGTON - American University dropped the first game of the match to Lehigh (30-28), but they quickly regrouped and won the last three games to take the match 3-1.

In the first game no team ever had a lead larger than two points. The Eagles tied things up at 28 on a kill by **Cutrina Biddulph** (Reseda, Calif./Granada Hills), but then the Mountain Hawks closed out the game with a kill by Jeanette Singleton. Singleton finished the first game with eight kills.

In the second game **Sabrina Vasconcelos** (Fortaleza, Brazil/Colegio Christus) put the Eagles up 10 (24-14) with a kill off an assist from **Karla Kucerkova** (Olomouc, Czech Republic/Brno). AU eventually pulled away with a 30-19 victory. Vasconcelos finished with 47 sets, four kills and four aces on the night.

Kucerkova picked up 18 kills and nine digs for the evening. In the third game both teams battled for every point. AU never trailed, but did find itself tied with the Mountain Hawks at 18 apiece. Biddulph scored three of AU's last six points with kills to help the Eagles pull out a 30-23 victory.

The fourth game was more of the same, as both teams kept close to each other. A kill by Lehigh's Morgan Volkart brought the Mountain Hawks to within one (22-21). However, **Daria Bobko** (Moscow, Russia/S.E. School No. 783) and **Erin Allgaier** (Kalamazoo, Mich./Kalamazoo Central) combined for four points to finish the game and match. Bobko finished with four kills and two block assists while Allgaier had 11 kills and five digs.



AMERICAN 19 22 36 26
MICHIGAN STATE 30 30 34 30
GAME 11 September 20, 2003
Washington, D.C.

AU Defeated by Michigan State in AVC Finale Kucerkova racks up 22 kills

September 20, 2003

WASHINGTON — American University fought Michigan State close all evening, but finally came up on the short end of a 3-1 match score. It was the final match of the American Volleyball Classic

Karla Kucerkova (Olomouc, Czech Republic/Brno) led the way with 22 kills and six digs. She had 42 on the day. **Sabrina**



Vasconcelos (Fortaleza, Brazil/Colegio Christus) sparked AU's offense against the Spartans with 44 sets.

American got off to a slow start in the first game of the night, eventually losing by 11, 30-19. In the second game AU made more of a run, but again lost, this time by eight, 30-22. It was during the third game that the Eagles played the game of the day. At no time during the match did either team hold more than a two-point lead, which AU eventually won in overtime, 36-34. Trailing 34-33, **Natacha Cornaz** (Lausanne, Switzerland/Gymnase Auguste Piccard) took a set from Vasconcelos and got a kill. She then set up **Cutrina**

Biddulph (Reseda, Calif./Granada Hills) for another point. Finally, Cornaz set up Kucerkova for the 36th and final point of the game.

In the fourth game the Eagles had a late rally, but came up short. After trailing 21-16 the Eagles got to within one at 27-26 on an error by the Spartans. That would be as close as AU would get though, as Michigan State won the final three points of the game and the match.

Cornaz finished with 12 kills and a .435 kill percentage while Biddulph collected 14 kills and a service ace.

Kucerkova made the American Volleyball Classic All-Tournament squad. It is the fourth time this year she has made an all-tournament squad. Vasconcelos also made the squad.



AMERICAN 30 30 30
LOYOLA 10 23 18
GAME 10 September 20, 2003
Washington, D.C.

AU Sweeps Loyola in First Match of American Volleyball Classic Eagles to play Michigan State later this evening

September 20, 2003

WASHINGTON - American University struck quickly in the first match of the American Volleyball Classic, defeating the Greyhounds of Loyola in three straight games. **Karla Kucerkova** (Olomouc, Czech Republic/Brno) led the way with 20 kills and a .472 kill percentage.

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AU took the first game easily, winning by the final score of 30-10. Loyola came back in the second game and played the Eagles tough.

The match was tied at 10 apiece, and later AU led by just one, 17-16. However, AU scored four straight points led by **Cathy Fluegeman** (Muncie, Ind./Burris Laboratory School), who had an ace and a kill during the mini-run, to take a 21-17 lead.

In the final game of the match the Eagles jumped out to a 12-4 lead and never looked back. The Greyhounds never got any closer than seven the rest of the way and Kucerkova and Cutrina Biddulph (Reseda, Calif./Granada Hills) finished things off with a couple of kills.

Biddulph and **Natacha Cornaz** (Lausanne, Switzerland/Gymnase Auguste Piccard) each finished with six kills. Cornaz was very efficient, collecting her six kills on just seven attempts (.714). She also had three block assists and six digs. Biddulph had a pair of block assists and six digs.

Courtney Mulford (San Diego, Calif./La Costa Canyon) paced the Eagle attack with 17 assists. She also chipped in three kills.



AMERICAN 23 21 18
ARIZONA 30 30 30

GAME 9 September 13, 2003
Tucson, Ariz.

AU Volleyball falls to #14 Arizona, 3-0

Eagle will return home for the American Volleyball Classic

September 13, 2003

TUCSON, Ariz. - The AU Eagles fell to the No. 14 ranked Arizona Wildcats 3-0 in the final match of the Arizona Classic. The Wildcats dominated the match, out hitting the Eagles .358 to .067, out digging them 31-23 and out blocking them nine to three.

For the Eagles, **Karla Kucerkova** (Olomouc, Czech Republic/Brno) led with eight kills and three digs, while **Cutrina Biddulph** (Reseda, Calif./Granada Falls), **Erin Allagair** (Kalamazoo, Mich./Kalamazoo Central) and **Natalie Cornaz** (Lausanne, Switzerland/

Gymnase Auguste Piccard) all had four kills and two digs each.

The Eagle will next return home to the American Volleyball



AMERICAN 27 32 25

NEW MEXICO STATE 30 30 30

GAME 8 September 12, 2003
Tucson, Ariz.

AU Volleyball Edged by New Mexico State

Eagles to play Pittsburgh later this evening

September 12, 2003

TUCSON, Ariz. - American University's volleyball team played New Mexico State very tough in the second round of the Arizona Classic, however, they eventually lost 3-0.

Sabrina Vasconcelos (Fortaleza, Brazil/Colegio Christus) led the way with 25 assists and three digs. Fellow setter **Courtney Mulford** (San Diego, Calif./La Costa Canyon) added eighteen assists, two kills and two block assists.

AU (2-5) dropped the first game to New Mexico State by just three, 27-30. 19-30. The final two games were equally close. The Eagles lost by two in the second game by two (34-32) and by five in the finale (25-30)

Karla Kucerkova (Olomouc, Czech Republic/Brno) led AU's attack with 17 kills and three block assists. She also chipped in 10 digs. Sophomore **Cutrina Biddulph** (Reseda, Calif./Granada Falls) made her presence known with 14 kills and 11 digs while Jessica Tuthill contributed a total of 17 digs.



AMERICAN 27 31 29 25

UC-SANTA BARBARA 30 29 31 30

GAME 7 September 12, 2003
Tucson, Ariz.

AU Falls to UCSB at Arizona Invitational Opener

Team to next face New Mexico State

September 12, 2003

TUCSON, Ariz. -The AU volleyball team fell to 11th-ranked University of California-Santa Barbara 3-1 in the Arizona Invitational Tournament opener.

Playing strong the entire match the Eagles out hit the Gauchos .217 to .197, but fell in the end 27-30, 31-29. 29-31, 25-30.

Natasha Cornaz (Lausanne, Switzerland/Gynase Auguste Piccard) led the way with a .458 hitting percentage and 14 kills. The Eagles were also led by Sabrina Vasconcelos (Fortaleza, Brazil/Colegio Christus) with 40 assists. **Karla Kucerkova** (Olomouc, Czech Republic/Brno) also contributed with 22 kills while **Jessica Tuthill** (Sunapee N.H./Sunapee Middle) led defensively with 20 digs.

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AMERICAN 30 28 19
PITTSBURGH 32 28 30
September 6, 2003
Akron, Ohio

AU Volleyball Falls to Pittsburgh in Final Match at Akron Kucerkova named to All-Tournament Team

September 6, 2003

AKRON, Ohio - American University's volleyball team closed out play at the Akron Zips Invitational tonight, dropping a 3-0 match to Pittsburgh. The first two games of the match were very tight, but the Eagles were unable to take a game from the Panthers.

Karla Kucerkova led the way for AU with 10 kills while **Jessica Tuthill** added 14 digs.

American (2-4) lost the first game of the match, 30-32, and also fell in a close second game, 28-30. The Eagles could not win the third game, losing 19-30. AU was hurt by a .159 hitting percentage while the Panthers (4-2) hit .341.

Erin Allgaier posted eight kills for American and **Natacha Cornaz** added three aces. **Cutrina Biddulph** continued to lead the team in blocks, posting three block assists.

Kucerkova was named to the Akron Zips Classic All-Tournament Team after posting a career-high 33 kills last night against Akron and also leading the team in kills in the other two matches. She was also named to the all-tournament squad at the Florida Gators Classic last weekend.



AMERICAN 19 25 24
PENN STATE 30 30 30
September 6, 2003
Akron, Ohio

AU Volleyball Downed by No. 9 Penn State Eagles to play Pittsburgh later this evening

September 6, 2003

AKRON, Ohio - After winning a thrilling five-game match against Akron the night before, American University's volleyball team was unable to defeat No. 9 Penn State today, falling, 3-0. The Eagles were outthit by the Nittany Lions, .147 to .351. Erin

Erin Allgaier and **Karla Kucerkova** each had nine kills for American while **Cutrina Biddulph** added eight.

AU (2-3) dropped the first game to Penn State (6-0), 19-30. The final two games were much closer, but the Eagles fell, 25-30 and 24-30.

Sabrina Vasconcelos started her first match of the season and added 29 assists and three aces for the Eagles. **Jessica Tuthill** recorded her third consecutive double-digit digs match with 10. Kucerkova had seven digs and Allgaier tied her career high with six.



AMERICAN 24 30 26 33 17
AKRON 30 27 30 31 15
September 5, 2003
Akron, Ohio

American Wins Nailbiter Over Akron, 3-2 Kucerkova sets career high with 33 kills

September 5, 2003

AKRON, Ohio - American University's volleyball team won its second straight five-game match, defeating Akron, 3-2. The Eagles were victorious in an exciting battle in the come from behind win.

Senior **Karla Kucerkova** set a new career-high in kills for the second match in a row with 33 and posted a game-high 35 points.

AU (2-2) dropped the first game, 24-30, before winning the second, 30-27. After falling in the third game, 26-30, American was faced with game point in the fourth game, down 28-29. A kill by Kucerkova tied the match and the Eagles won, 33-31, on a block by **Cutrina Biddulph** and **Natacha Cornaz**. In the fifth game, a kill by Biddulph gave the Eagles a 16-15 lead before an Akron attack error helped AU to the 17-15 fifth game victory. The win is only AU's second five game win in the last five years when the Eagles trailed after three games.

In addition to her 33 kills, Kucerkova added 16 digs. She posted an impressive hitting percentage of .418 in the match. Biddulph (13) and Cornaz (11) also added double-digit kills for the Eagles. Biddulph also added two solo blocks and five block assists. **Sabrina Vasconcelos** posted a career-high 57 assists and 11 digs for AU while **Jessica Tuthill** had a career-best 17 digs.

The Eagles were outthit by the Zips, .237 to .235. However, American had four solo blocks and 11 team blocks compared to only four team blocks for Akron.



AMERICAN 34 25 30 27 15
RUTGERS 32 30 26 30 11
August 30, 2003
Gainesville, Fla.

American Volleyball Claims First Win of Season Kucerkova leads way with 29 kills

August 30, 2003

GAINESVILLE, Fla. - The American University won its first

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match of the season when they defeated Rutgers in the final match of the Campus USA Credit Union Invitational. The scores were 34-32, 25-30, 30-26, 27-30 and 15-11.

Senior **Karla Kucerkova** (Olomouc, Czech./Republic/Brno) was brilliant, collecting 29 kills and registering a .375 attack percentage. She also dished out four service aces and had a team-high 19 digs and was also named to the all-tournament team. For the second time this season sophomore **Cutrina Biddulph** (Reseda, Calif./Granada Hills) also was tremendous. She collected 17 kills, and nine defensive digs.

Junior setter **Sabrina Vasconcelos** (Fortaleza, Brazil/Colegio Christus) had her best outing of the season with 36 sets and eight digs. Junior **Erin Allgaier** (Kalamazoo, Mich./Kalamazoo Central) had eight kills, five digs and four aces while **Natacha Cornaz** (Lausanne, Switzerland/Gymnase Auguste Piccard) had nine kills and one service ace.



AMERICAN 14 21 16
FLORIDA 30 30 30
GAME 2
August 29, 2003
Gainesville, Fla.

American Volleyball Edged By Florida

Kucerkova led with nine kills
August 29, 2003

GAINESVILLE, Fla. - The American University battled Florida tightly, but ultimately lost in three games by the scores of 30-14, 30-21, 30-16. The Eagles started each game with a lead, but could not hang on, allowing the Gators to come from behind all three times.

Senior **Karla Kucerkova** (Olomouc, Czech./Republic/Brno) led AU with nine kills. while junior **Erin Allgaier** (Kalamazoo, Mich./Kalamazoo Central) registered five kills and three digs. Junior **Natacha Cornaz** (Lausanne, Switzerland/Gymnase Auguste Piccard) finished with four kills and a block solo.

In the first game, the Eagles had gained an early 1-0 lead, but a Florida run put them up 16-7. AU would not get any closer. In the second game AU put together a late rally to cut the deficit to 29-21, before succumbing. In the third game the Eagles led 4-3 before the Gators went on a 9-3 run



AMERICAN 19 19 30 20
BYU 30 30 28 30
GAME 1
August 29, 2003
Gainesville, Fla.

American Volleyball Loses Season Opener

Biddulph has 10 kills in match

August 29, 2003

GAINESVILLE, Fla.- AU volleyball lost its first match of the

season in a tough four-game set against Brigham Young in the first round of the Campus USA Credit Union Invitational. The scores were 30-19, 30-19, 28-30 and 30-20.

Senior **Karla Kucerkova** (Olomouc, Czech./Republic/Brno) picked up 11 kills, six digs and scored 14 points while sophomore **Cutrina Biddulph** (Reseda, Calif./Granada Hills) was one dig shy of a double double. She had 10 kills, nine digs and scored 10 points in the match. Junior **Erin Allgaier** (Kalamazoo, Mich./Kalamazoo Central) contributed eight kills and had a .333 attack percentage.

After dropping the first two games of the match by identical scores (30-19) the Eagles put together a brilliant third game, winning by two points (30-28). AU lost the fourth game by 10 (30-20).



Outside hitter Karla Kucerkova

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EAGLES TO WATCH



KARLA KUCERKOVA

Senior

Outside Hitter

Olomouc, Czech Republic/Brno

2003:

- 2003 CoSIDA Academic All-American Player of the Year for the second consecutive year.
- Named Patriot League Tournament Most Valuable Player for the third straight year.
- Named the Patriot League Player of the Year. She is the only Patriot League athlete to be recognized as the Player of the Year three years in succession.
- Ranked sixth in the nation with 5.78 kills per game.
- Broke AU record for career kills (11/14 against Navy).
- Broke AU record for most kills per game (27 kills in three games against Lehigh).
- Finished the regular season as the Patriot League leader in hitting percentage (.332), points (6.30 per game) and kills (580).

2002:

- Verizon Academic All-American Volleyball Player of the Year.
- Patriot League Female Scholar Athlete of the Year.
- Northeast Region All-America Team selection.
- District II Verizon Academic All-America First Team.
- Patriot League First Team All-League.
- Patriot League Scholar Athlete of the Year.
- Patriot League Volleyball Player of the Year.
- Led the PL in kills for second year with 513.



2001:

- Patriot League Tournament MVP.
- Patriot League Player of the Year.
- Patriot League First Team All-League Team.
- Patriot League Scholar Athlete of the Year.
- District II Verizon Academic All-America First Team.
- Three time Player of the Week selection.
- Led the PL in kills with 418.

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Cutrina Biddulph

Sophomore
Middle Blocker
Reseda, Calif./Granada Hills



- First Team All-Patriot League selection.
- Named Patriot League Rookie of the Year in 2002, in addition to being selected on the Second Team All-Patriot League team
- Played on the USA Select Team in the European Spring Cup in 2002.
- Earned a spot on the Northeast Region Honorable Mention All-America Team in 2002
- Consistently in the Patriot

League top 10 for service aces and hitting percentage.
• Second highest kills per game for the Eagles with 2.62 per game.

Biddulph at a glance:

2.62 kills per game	.192 hitting percentage
0.13 assists	0.29 service aces
1.16 digs	0.61 blocks

Courtney Mulford

Junior
Setter
San Diego, Calif./La Costa



- Second Team All-Patriot League Selection for the second straight year.
- Strong team leader with 38 total blocks and 476 assists.
- Played on the USA Select Team in the European Spring Cup in 2002.
- Ranks ninth on the AU single-season aces per game with 0.56 from the 2002 season.

Mulford at a glance:

0.90 kills per game	.352 hitting percentage
4.91 assists	0.02 service aces
0.40 digs	0.39 blocks

Sabrina Vasconcelos

Junior
Setter
Fortaleza, Brazil/Colegio Christus



- First Team All-Patriot League selection.
- Leads the Eagles with 7.07 assists and 40 total aces.
- Named to the Patriot League Academic Honor Roll.
- Named Co-Rookie of the Year in 2000, as well as a First Team All-Patriot League selection.

Vasconcelos at a glance:

0.29 kills per game	.180 hitting percentage
7.07 assists	0.38 service aces
1.73 digs	0.05 blocks

Natasha Cornaz

Junior
Outside Hitter
Lausanne, Switzerland/Gymnase Auguste Piccard



- A dominate force for the Eagles, leading them with 0.72 blocks per game.
- Currently has the second highest attack percentage at .287.
- Set the single-season school record for most aces per game at 2.33 against Holy Cross.
- Set the single-season school record in hitting percentage with a .400 finish in 2002.

Cornaz at a glance:

2.10 kills per game	.287 hitting percentage
0.31 assists	0.37 service aces
0.93 digs	0.72 blocks

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2003 NCAA Tournament

DEC. 5, 2003



EAGLE NOTES



HEADS ABOVE THE REST

In addition to **Karla Kucerkova** being named the Patriot League Player of the Year for the third straight year, the Eagles placed four additional athletes on the All-League Teams: **Cutrina Biddulph** and **Sabrina Vasconcelos** on the first team with Kucerkova and **Natasha Cornaz** and **Courtney Mulford** on the second team.

The Eagles have at least one player in each Patriot League Individual Leaders category with the exception of blocks. Kucerkova is on the top of the list for kills, hitting percentage and points.

LEADING THE PACK

Against Patriot League opponents, the Eagles have only dropped four of 48 games this season against conference opponents, including the tournament. They have not dropped more than one game per match and have swept every team in the conference 3-0 at least once in the course of the season.

The Eagles have extended its Patriot League winning streak to 48 matches. After winning the Patriot League for the third year in a row, AU will make the fifth NCAA appearance in school history.

ADDING TO THE RECORD BOOK

During the 2003 season, **Natasha Cornaz** has earned a spot in the AU single-season record book for the most aces per game (2.33), while **Jessica Tuthill** is ranked sixth with 3.05 digs per game and **Karla Kucerkova** leads with the most career kills (1747 as of 11/26) and most kills per game (9.00 against Lehigh).



AGAINST THE NATION

Over the course of the season, the Eagles have had the opportunity to face 11 AVCA regionally-ranked teams and five nationally-ranked teams, including No. 3 Florida. Against regionally-ranked teams, the Eagles posted a 2-9 record, while against national opponents, the Eagles have posted a 0-5 record.

LAST TIME OUT

In 2002, the Eagles fell in the first round of the NCAA tournament to South Carolina, 4-1 (10-30, 28-30, 30-23, 19-30). In 2001 the Eagles fell Colorado State, 3-0 (25-30, 22-30, 22-30). If the Eagles defeat Maryland in the first round, the Eagles will meet up with either Colorado State or George Mason University.

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INSIDE THE NUMBERS



NCAA History:

School(Years Participated)	Yrs.	Won	Lost
American (1997-98, 2001-02)	4	0	4
Maryland (1990-95-96-97)	4	2	2

A History:

American vs. Maryland

1998	American	8	11	7
	Maryland	15	15	15
1995	American	7	15	8 6
	Maryland	15	11	15 15
1991	American	7	8	4
	Maryland	15	15	15
1990	American	4	9	10
	Maryland	15	15	15
1989	American	15	4	6 2
	Maryland	13	15	15 15
1987	American	14	0	7
	Maryland	15	15	15

Statistical Comparison

American	Stats	Maryland
15.57	Kills Per Game	16.09
.256	Attack Percentage	.263
13.68	Assists	14.54
1.88	Service Aces	1.52
14.16	Digs Per Game	16.11
1.91	Blocks	3.02



How the Eagles Match Up:

	K/gm	Pct.	A/gm	SA/gm	Dig/gm	B/gm
All Opponents:	14.18	.206	12.28	1.51	13.88	1.93
American	15.57	.256	13.68	1.88	14.16	1.91
Regionally Ranked:	18.03	.306	16.03	1.74	15.61	2.49
American	13.55	.178	11.76	1.42	13.34	1.66
Nationally Ranked:	19.00	.339	17.29	1.94	16.12	3.15
American	12.53	.160	10.65	1.59	11.47	1.59

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AMERICAN UNIVERSITY VOLLEYBALL

NCAA Tournament
vs. University of Maryland
Friday, Dec. 5, 2003
7:30 p.m.



48-Straight Patriot League Victories
Five NCAA Appearances
2-Time CoSIDA Academic All-American Player of the Year: **Karla Kucerkova**
3-Time Patriot League Player of the Year: **Karla Kucerkova**