

Penn

SOFTBALL

HEAD COACH BETH ZACHARY

STATE CHAMPIONS 1999 STATE RUNNER-UP 2016

Penn 2017 schedule

Home games UPPERCASE/All times ET

Day	Date	Opponent	Time/results
Sat.	Mar. 25	CARROLL	W, 13-0
Tues.	Mar. 28	PORTAGE	W, 7-1
Thurs.	Apr. 6	ELK. MEMORIAL	ppd.
Sat.	Apr. 8	MUNSTER	W, 4-0
Sat.	Apr. 8	Hunt. North	W, 13-3
Sat.	Apr. 8	Lafayette Jeff.	W, 21-0
Mon.	Apr. 10	At Northridge	W, 10-0
Thurs.	Apr. 13	At Bremen	W, 13-0
Fri.	Apr. 14	GLENN	W, 23-0
Sat.	Apr. 15	At Valparaiso (DH)	ppd.
Mon.	Apr. 17	ELK. CENTRAL	W, 19-0
Wed.	Apr. 19	At Marian	W, 9-2
Fri.	Apr. 21	Carroll	W, 12-2
Sat.	Apr. 22	Avon	W, 2-1
Sat.	Apr. 22	Carmel	W, 12-9
Mon.	Apr. 24	At S.B. Clay	W, 16-0
Tues.	Apr. 25	CONCORD	W, 9-0
Thurs.	Apr. 27	S.B. WASH.	W, 15-1
Wed.	May 3	At S.B. Adams	W, 11-0
Thurs.	May 4	CROWN POINT	ppd.
Sat.	May 6	Oak Park RF	L, 1-0
Sat.	May 6	Oak Park RF	W, 18-4
Mon.	May 8	At Lake Central	W, 7-1
Tues.	May 9	At S.B. St. Joseph	W, 13-1
Thurs.	May 11	MISHAWAKA	W, 10-0
Tues.	May 16	At New Prairie	W, 8-0
Wed.	May 17	JIMTOWN	W, 10-0
Fri.	May 19	At Lakeshore	W, 4-1

STATE TOURNAMENT

SECTIONAL @ Penn

Tues.	May 23	LaPorte	W, 5-0
Thurs.	May 25	S.B. Adams	W, 10-0

REGIONAL

Tues.	May 30	At Northridge	W, 13-0
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SEMISTATE

Sat.	June 3	Crown Point	11 a.m.
Sat.	June 3		TBA

STATE CHAMPIONSHIP @ Ben Davis

Sat.	June 10		TBA
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North Semi-state

When: Saturday, June 3, 2017

Where: Harrison High School (West Lafayette)

Game 1: PENN (27-1) vs. Crown Point (27-2), 11 a.m.

Game 2: Hamilton Southeastern (17-8) vs. Homestead (21-6), 1 p.m.

Game 3: Winner Game 1 vs. Winner Game 2, 7 p.m.

Semi-state history: Coach Beth Zachary's Penn Kingsmen are seeking their second Semi-state championship in a row, and second in school history. ... Crown Point is seeking its first Semi-state championship. ... Hamilton Southeastern is seeking its third Semi-state title, winning Semi-state titles in 2010 and 2014. ... Homestead is seeking its first Semi-state title.

State history: Penn won a Softball state title in 1999, and Hamilton Southeastern won state in 2007 and 2010.

Down the road: The State Championship game in Class 4-A is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. at Ben Davis High School on Saturday, June 10.

Rankings: No. 1-ranked Penn takes on No. 3-ranked Crown Point in a battle of two teams that are also nationally ranked. Penn is No. 14 in the USA Today high school softball national rankings, and Crown Point is No. 21. Penn is ranked No. 8 in the MaxPreps national rankings. Hamilton Southeastern and Homestead were not ranked in the final Indiana high school softball coaches poll.

South Semi-state: Defending state champion Avon (21-8) takes on Greenfield Central (23-6), and Center Grove (28-1) plays Gibson Southern (27-2) in the South Semi-state games at Bedford North-Lawrence.

Kingsmen media notes

The Penn softball media notes are produced by the Penn High School Sports Journalism Class.

Email pennant@phm.k12.in.us to contact the class.

Twitter: @The_Pennant

PROJECTED PENN LINE-UP

	Player	No.	Gr.	Pos.	B/T	Notes
1	Maddy Newman	2	12	2B	L/R	A University of Louisville commit. Hitting .578 with 19 RBI's. Leads the team with 17 stolen bases.
2	Katie Quinlan	1	12	CF	L/L	A Michigan State University commit. Hitting .463 with 18 RBI's. Owns a .658 slugging percentage.
3	Mackenzie Griman	11	10	1B	R/R	A Butler University commit. Leads the state with 62 RBI's. Has a team-high 9 homers (a Penn single-season record). Also has 10 doubles and four triples. Owns a 1.093 slugging percentage. Hitting .570. Is 5-0 with a 1.45 ERA as a pitcher.
4	Danielle Watson	13	12	P	R/R	A University of Louisville commit. Boasts a 20-1 record with a 0.46 ERA. Has 254 strikeouts and 32 walks. Has five no-hitters this season and 16 in her Kingsmen career. Hitting .456 with 36 RBI's. Has hit 13 doubles, two triples and five homers. Owns an .860 slugging percentage.
5	Brenna Brown	8	10	SS	R/R	Hitting .488 with 33 RBI's. Has 10 doubles and three triples. Owns a .674 slugging percentage.
6	Lexi Clay	10	11	RF	R/R	A Taylor Univ. commit. Hitting .367 with 18 RBI's.
7	Jessica Buckey	16	11	3B	R/R	Owns a .410 batting average with 19 RBI's. Has hit six doubles, one triple and two homers.
8	Sydney Middleton	20	11	C	R/R	Hitting .427 with 26 RBI's. Has hit three homers. Owns a .586 slugging percentage.
9	Lillie Ledbetter	14	12	LF	R/R	A Sauk Valley C.C. commit. Hitting .323 w/ 19 RBI's.

KINGSMEN VARSITY ROSTER

#	Yr.	First Name	Last Name	Pos.	B/T
1	12	Katie	Quinlan	OF	L/L
2	12	Maddy	Newman	2B	L/R
3	10	Ryleigh	Langwell	C/3B	R/R
5	10	Tori	Budzinski	P/OF	R/R
6	10	Mia	Church	SS	R/R
7	11	Mallory	Newman	2B	R/R
8	10	Brenna	Brown	SS	R/R
9	9	Lydia	Bradford	1B	R/R
10	11	Lexi	Clay	OF	R/R
11	10	Mackenzie	Griman	1B/P	R/R
12	11	Lexi	Gray	1B	R/R
13	12	Danielle	Watson	P	R/R
14	12	Lillie	Ledbetter	OF	R/R
16	11	Jessie	Buckey	3B	R/R
18	10	Anna	Gustafson	P/OF	R/R
20	11	Sydney	Middleton	C	R/R

KINGSMEN JUNIOR VARSITY ROSTER

#	Yr.	First Name	Last Name	Pos.	B/T
1	9	Jenna	McGlothlen	SS	R/R
2	10	Gabrielle	Cortier	2B	R/R
3	9	Sydney	Decauwer	P/OF	R/R
4/9	10	Tori	Budzinski	P/OF	R/R
5/18	9	Grace	Cole	3B	R/R
6	10	Katherine	Adams	C	R/R
7	9	Delayne	Sanchez	C/3B	R/R
8	10	Olivia	Milnamow	P-2B	R/R
9/15	9	Mikaela	Schramski	P/1B	R/R
10	9	Lydia	Bradford	1B	R/R
11	10	Mia	Church	SS	R/R
12	10	Kylei	Gray	OF	R/L
13	9	Emily	Cave	OF	L/R
14	10	Lilly	Thorn	OF	L/R
15/19	9	Makalia	Holt	C	R/R
16/20	9	Nichole	Van Zant	P	R/R



PENN HEAD COACH BETH ZACHARY

Coach Beth Zachary played for Castle High School in southern Indiana and pitched the Knights to a State Championship in 2001. She went on to play Division I collegiate softball at IPFW and is currently an Assistant Principal at Penn High School. Her husband, Dave, pitched the Penn Baseball team to a State Championship in 2001. They have 3 future Kingsmen: Aubrey (11), Ava (10) and Addyson (7).

In her time at Penn – nine seasons (2008-current) – the Kingsmen have amassed a record of 208-56 entering the 2017 season and consistently remain ranked in the top of both State and National polls.

In the past five seasons, Penn finished in the Final 8 twice, in the Final 4 in 2015, and finished as the State runner-up in 2016.

Penn has helped 26 student-athletes continue their academic and athletic careers at the collegiate level since 2008. Also, since 2008, Penn has graduated 12 Academic All-State softball players, 17 All-State athletes (8 1st team selections), 2 Gatorade National Player of the Year finalists, 4 NIC Player of the Year recipients, 57 NIC team selections, and 9 Indiana All-Stars.

MAY OBERFELL LORBER FIELD

The Penn High School Softball Field is sponsored by May Oberfell Lorber Law Firm. The complex is located north of Penn High School and the Educational Services Center off of Bittersweet Rd., and just south of U.S. 20. It has a limestone and grass surface that was renovated in 2015. There is an estimated seating capacity of more than 500.

KINGSMEN COACHES

Head Coach	Beth Zachary
Head JV Coach	Dave Barncord
Varsity Assistant	Brian Griman
Assistant	Sarah Dwigans
Assistant	Dustin Zachary
Assistant	Dave Zachary
Assistant	Aubrie Lane
Assistant	Maddie Smith
Strength Coach	Matt Cates

PENN STATE TOURNEY HISTORY

Sectional Championships (15): 1995, 1997, 1999 (3-A), 2000 (3-A), 2001 (3-A), 2002 (3-A), 2004 (4-A), 2005 (4-A), 2006 (4-A), 2008 (4-A), 2009 (4-A), 2011 (4-A), 2014 (4-A), 2015 (4-A), 2016 (4-A), 2017 (4-A).

Regional Championships (7): 1995, 1997, 1999 (3-A), 2011 (4-A), 2014 (4-A), 2015 (4-A), 2016 (4-A), 2017 (4-A).

Semistate Championships (1): 2016 (4-A)

State Championships (1): 1999 (3-A)

Penn High School facts

Principal: Steve Hope

Director of Athletics: Aaron Leniski

Assistant A.D.: Bridget Williams

Nickname: Kingsmen

School colors: Black and Gold

Enrollment: 3,690

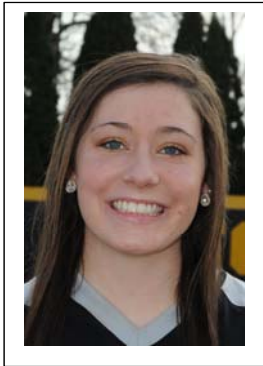
Conference: Northern Indiana Conference

Penn-Harris-Madison School Corporation

Supt.: Dr. Jerry Thacker

Board of Trustees: Larry Beehler, Gary Fox, K. Jaye Galloway, Angie Gates, Jim Garrett, Chris Riley, Jamie Woods

MEET THE KINGSMEN



1
Katie Quinlan



2
Maddy Newman



3
Ryleigh Langwell



5
Tori Budzinski



6
Mia Church



7
Mallory Newman



8
Brenna Brown



9
Lydia Bradford



10
Lexi Clay



11
Mackenzie Griman



12
Lexi Gray



13
Danielle Watson

MEET THE KINGSMMEN



14
Lillie Ledbetter



16
Jessie Buckley



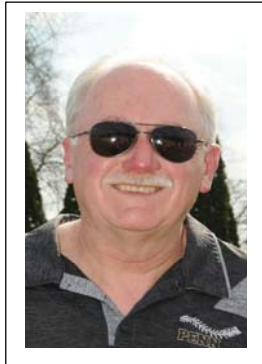
18
Anna Gustafson



20
Sydney Middleton



Head Coach
Beth Zachary



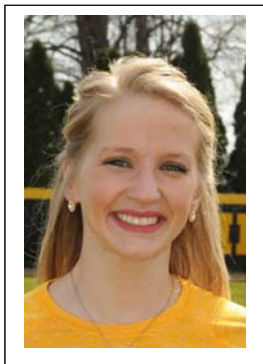
JV Coach
Dave Barncord



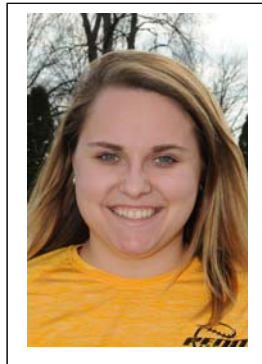
Varsity Assistant
Brian Grimman



Asst. Coach
Sarah Dwigans



Asst. Coach
Aubrie Lane



Asst. Coach
Maddie Smith



Asst. Coach
Dave Zachary



Asst. Coach
Dustin Zachary

Quick hits

COACH BETH ZACHARY'S COMMENTS:

"Our motto this week at practice has been to be grateful that we have worked hard enough to get to still be practicing. So many great teams have already hung up their cleats for the season and we are working as hard as we can, just as we have been since the State finals last year, to be the last team standing in 2017. On Saturday, we will get the opportunity to face some of the best competition in Indiana softball. We have been anxiously waiting to get back here and know through experience that we will have to bring our best game and play it one pitch at a time. Crown Point will bring great pitching and tough offense to the table. We are fortunate to have played a schedule this year that has exposed us to both of these facets of the game and helped prepare us. Execution will be key on all fronts. The bigger the game, the more fun softball is to play!"

KINGSMEN RANKED NO. 1

Coach Beth Zachary's Kingsmen are ranked No. 1 in the Indiana Coaches of Girls Sports Association Class 4-A Softball Poll:

1.	PENN HIGH SCHOOL	72
2.	Crown Point High School	71
3.	Center Grove High School	62
4.	Mooreville High School	61
5.	Gibson Southern High School	51
6.	Castle High School	46
6.	Lake Central High School	46
8.	Roncalli High School	32
9.	Decatur Central High School	31
10.	Floyd Central High School	20
11.	Munster High School	16
12.	Leo High School	14
13.	Chesterton High School	12
14.	Bedford North Lawrence High School	11
14.	Franklin Central High School	11
16.	Greenfield-Central High School	10
16.	Avon High School	10
16.	Harrison (West Lafayette)	10
19.	Terre Haute North Vigo High School	8
20.	Carmel High School	6

ACC RECRUITS HIGHLIGHT PENN vs. CROWN POINT

Pitchers Danielle Watson of Penn and Alexis Holloway of Crown Point highlight the first Semi-state game. Watson signed a National Letter of Intent to play for Louisville, and Holloway signed with Notre Dame. Watson is 20-1 with a 0.46 earned-run average. Holloway is 16-1 with a 0.25 ERA.

PENN RANKED NATIONALLY

Penn is No. 12 in the USA Today high school softball national rankings, and Crown Point is No. 18. Penn is ranked No. 8 in the MaxPreps national rankings. Coach Beth Zachary's Kingsmen and Crown Point are the only two teams from Indiana that are nationally ranked in the USA Today poll. In the MaxPrep national poll, Penn and Center Grove are the only two teams from Indiana that are ranked. Center Grove is No. 15 in the MaxPreps polls. Norco (California) is ranked No. 1 in both the USA Today and MaxPreps polls.

STATE LEADERS

Penn sophomore Mackenzie Griman leads the state in RBI's with 62. Senior pitcher Danielle Watson, who has signed to play for the University of Louisville, is ranked among the state leaders in several pitching categories. Watson leads the state with five no-hitters, and is second in the state in strikeouts with 254, fifth in the state in wins with 20, and third in the state in earned-run average with an ERA of 0.46.

WATSON AT 884 STRIKEOUTS IN CAREER

Penn pitcher Danielle Watson surpassed the 800-mark for career strikeouts in the game against Mishawaka on May 11, which was the Kingsmen Senior Night. Watson entered the game with 792 strikeouts and ended up striking out 11 Mishawaka players. The Kingsmen won the game 10-0. Watson pitched a no-hitter against the Cavemen. Watson has a total of 884 strikeouts in her career entering the Semi-state.

QUINLAN BLASTS GRAND SLAM IN REGIONAL

Michigan State recruit Katie Quinlan unleashed the power in the Regional championship game against Northridge. Quinlan hit a grand slam – her second career home run. The Kingsmen went on to defeat Northridge 13-0 to advance to the Semi-state.

WATSON STRIKES OUT 15 RAIDERS IN REGIONAL

All 15 outs by Northridge in Penn's 13-0 five-inning victory were strikeouts by Penn pitcher Danielle Watson. Northridge had three hits in the game, and Watson walked 1.

SCORELESS STREAK REACHES 21 INNINGS

Danielle Watson and the Kingsmen have a 21-inning scoreless streak entering Saturday's Semi-state. The last run that Watson and the Kingsmen allowed was in the third inning of a 4-1 victory against Lakeshore in Penn's final regular-season game (Friday, May 19).

TOURNEY NUMBERS

In three state tournament games, Danielle Watson has pitched a no-hitter (vs. LaPorte), a perfect game (vs. South Bend Adams), and struck out 15 in a five-inning game (vs. Northridge). She is 3-0 in the state tourney this season with a 0.00 ERA, striking out 41 and walking four, allowing three hits in 17 innings pitched.

PENN ADDS TO NIC TITLE STREAK

Penn earned the Northern Indiana Conference championship with an 11-0 record. Penn has captured the last three NIC championships, and the Kingsmen own a 32-game NIC winning streak. Penn owns 17 NIC titles overall. The Final NIC standings (through May 18) in 2017:

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Team</u>	<u>NIC</u>
1	PENN	11-0
2	Saint Joseph	9-2
3	Marian	8-3
3	Jimtown	8-3
5	Bremen	7-4
6	Mishawaka	6-5
6	New Prairie	6-5
8	Clay	4-7
9	Elkhart Central	3-8
9	Adams	3-8
11	Glenn	1-10
12	Washington	0-11

FIELDING GEMS

Penn's defense has a .978 fielding percentage. Penn second baseman Maddy Newman has a perfect 1.000 fielding percentage (no errors in 42 chances). Shortstop Brenna Brown has a .969 fielding percentage (one error in 32 chances), third baseman Jessie Buckey has a .963 fielding percentage (one error in 27 chances) and first baseman Mackenzie Griman has a .962 fielding percentage (two errors in 52 chances). The Kingsmen starting line-up in the outfield – Lillie Ledbetter and Lexi Clay – has no errors. Catcher Sydney Middleton has a .993 fielding percentage (two errors in 285 chances).

GRIMAN EARNS CENTIER HONOR FOR WEEK OF APRIL 8

Penn sophomore first baseman/pitcher Mackenzie Griman was named the Centier Bank Performer of the Week for her efforts during the week of April 8.

In a 13-3 victory over Huntington North in Penn's Spring Break Tournament, Griman went 4-of-4 with a double, two triples, and five RBIs. She also picked up the win on the pitching mound, allowing three runs, one earned, on four hits with seven strikeouts and one walk over five innings. Griman added two hits and three RBIs, including a home run, in 21-0 blanking of Lafayette Jeff and was 1-for-3 in a 4-0 triumph against Munster.

WATSON STRIKES OUT 21 VS. CONCORD, EARNS CENTIER HONOR

The Centier Bank Performer of the Week (April 24) is Penn senior pitcher Danielle Watson. In Monday's 16-0 blanking of Clay, the right-hander tossed a one-hitter with eight strikeouts and helped her own cause with three hits and three RBIs. Then, in Tuesday's 9-0 triumph over Concord, the Louisville-bound Watson struck out the first 19 batters she faced and finished with a two-hitter and 21 strikeouts. It is the second highest total for strikeouts in a game in Indiana high school history for a seven-inning game. She also added three hits and three RBIs to lead the top-ranked (Class 4-A) Kingsmen (16-0). For the season, Watson is 11-0 with a 0.47 earned-run average. In 59 innings pitched, she has allowed 19 hits, four earned runs with 136 strikeouts and 16 walks. At the plate, she is batting .475 (19-of-40) with three home runs and 21 RBIs for Penn, which is also 5-0 in the Northern Indiana Conference.

WATSON EARNS CENTIER HONOR FOR MAY 22

In Tuesday's 5-0 blanking of LaPorte in the Class 4-A Penn sectional semifinals, Louisville-bound right-hander Danielle Watson tossed her 15th career no-hitter and recorded 16 strikeouts over seven innings. Then, in Thursday's 10-0 five-inning victory over South Bend Adams in the championship game, Watson recorded the first perfect game of her career and fanned 10 of the 15 batters she faced to help the top-ranked (Class 4-A) Kingsmen to their fourth straight sectional crown.

ELITE CLASS

Penn seniors Lillie Ledbetter, Maddy Newman, Katie Quinlan and Danielle Watson accomplished 'four-peats' at the Sectional and Regional levels. They are the only Class in Penn Softball history to be on four consecutive Regional Championship teams, and they are only the second Class in Penn Softball history to be part of a Sectional 'four-peat.'

NO-HIT COUNT

Penn senior flamethrower Danielle Watson has 16 no-hitters in a Kingsmen uniform (which includes one perfect game). Watson had 11 no-hitters entering her senior season, including five no-hitters last season as a junior. She has pitched five no-hitters this season – against Fort Wayne Carroll, against Northridge, and against Mishawaka in the regular season, against LaPorte in the Sectional Semifinal game, and against Adams in the Sectional Championship game. Watson pitched a perfect game against Adams in the Sectional title game, the first of her career.

CARMEL INVITATIONAL CHAMPS

Penn won the Carmel Invitational championship with a 3-0 record in games played on April 21 and April 22. The Kingsmen defeated Carroll of Fort Wayne, 12-2, beat defending state champion Avon, 2-1, and knocked off Carmel, 12-9.

SPRING BREAK SERVICE PROJECT

On Wednesday, April 5, the Penn Softball team gave up an afternoon of its Spring Break vacation to travel to the Ronald McDonald House of South Bend. The Kingsmen student-athletes delivered donations of food and supplies to the RMDH and were given a tour of the new facility.

"This was an important opportunity for our student-athletes to learn about the facility and understand that the RMDH runs on the volunteer efforts of our community," Penn head coach Beth Zachary said. "Upon completion of our tour, we brainstormed ways that Penn Softball can continue to partner with RMDH in the future. We came up with several ideas on how to contribute both individually and as a team. We hope to make a trip back with our (Penn Softball) Middle School team in the early summer. It's important to keep everything we do as student-athletes in perspective. While winning games is important to us, there is much more to life than softball and we want our girls to use their gifts as student-athletes to contribute to the greater community and help other people any chance they get."

NATIONAL SHOWDOWN

Penn split a doubleheader with Oak Park River Forest, the defending Illinois state champion, on May 6. Oak Park won the first game, 1-0, in eight innings. Penn bounced back to end Oak Park River Forest's 46-game winning streak with an 18-4 victory.

In the first game, Penn's Danielle Watson (University of Louisville recruit) struck out 16, and Oak Park River Forest's Chaddon Harris (Auburn University recruit) struck out 20.

“Today was so much fun,” Penn coach Beth Zachary said. “Oak Park River Forest is an incredibly talented team and we had to work hard today in ways we haven't been pushed yet this season. Playing awesome competition is the only way for us to get better and be ready to perform post-season. I think the most important thing we realized today is our depth and our heart. We have a whole team of players, not just a few, who can play all parts of the game. We have heart and don't give up. Our teams flat out battled each other into extra innings in game one and OPRF just executed before we could to end the game.

“We hate losing and bounced right back and run ruled them 18-4, ending a 46-game winning streak. It was incredible effort.

Both Danielle Watson and Mackenzie Griman pitched amazing games today. MacKenzie Griman broke the Penn Softball all-time home runs in a season record today and didn't even realize what she had done. We played two games with solid defense and put up a lot of offensive numbers. Needless to say, I am very proud of our girls and can't wait to take them into post-season in a few weeks. Again, we are grateful to (Penn Athletic Director) Mr. Leniski and (Assistant Athletic Director) Mrs. Williams for making today happen for us!”

COLLEGE COMMITMENTS

Class of 2017



LILLIE LEDBETTER

Sauk Valley Community College

Ledbetter, an outfielder, played in 15 games for the Kingsmen softball that reached the state championship game last season.

“I chose Sauk Valley because as soon as I stepped on campus, I knew that this was where I wanted to spend my next two years,” Ledbetter said. “The coaching staff is absolutely amazing and Sauk has a great nursing program.”



Ledbetter will play in the same conference - the Arrowhead Athletic Conference - as her sister Emma, who plays for Kankakee Community College.

“I'm actually really excited for it!” Ledbetter said of playing against her sister. “I can't wait to see what the outcome of the game will be!”

Ledbetter said that Penn's academics and the softball program have been essential in her development.

“I would've never been able to reach my goal without the help of Penn Softball, to teach me how to work hard and stay disciplined and organized,” Ledbetter said. “While at Penn, I maintained an overall 3.8 GPA and was on the high honor roll all four years.”

Penn softball coach Beth Zachary said that Ledbetter will contribute greatly to the Sauk Valley program.

"Lillie has consistently been a quiet and focused leader for us," Zachary said. "She works hard and sets a great example for younger players in our program. We are looking for Lillie to do big things for us this Spring. Lillie's college team is lucky to have her; we are so proud of her!"



MADDY NEWMAN, University of Louisville

Penn senior Maddy Newman will be attending the University of Louisville to play softball next year.

"I chose to attend the university of Louisville, because both the athletic and academic environment seemed to fit me so well," Newman said. "I felt like I could succeed and become the person I want to be when on campus. The personality of the team as well as the coaching staff made me feel comfortable."



The competition for softball in the ACC is very good, and Newman is excited to take on many challenges that the conference has to offer.

"What will really be exciting about being in the ACC is that girls from my travel team who attend North Carolina, and former Penn softball player Halle Hixenbaugh who attends Boston College, are also in the conference," Newman said. "It'll be crazy seeing them and playing against them, rather than with them."

"Maddy is a D-1 athlete because she is a fierce competitor who gives her entire heart and effort to anything she does," Penn softball coach Beth Zachary said. "Maddy has an excellent work-ethic. She is disciplined, and she leads by example. Because of these attributes, and more, she will undoubtedly excel as a collegiate athlete."



KATIE QUINLAN, Michigan State University

Michigan State University commit Katie Quinlan has been a star player for the Kingsmen softball team ever since she joined the team her freshman year. As a leadoff hitter, Quinlan is faster than lightning and is a lethal threat to the opponent.



Quinlan chose MSU because of the welcoming coaches and players. Another aspect that she enjoyed about Michigan State was its all-around success in sports as well as academics.

"Katie Quinlan is a force to be reckoned with, both offensively and defensively," Penn softball coach Beth Zachary said. "She has patrolled center field for us since her freshman year and can hit for power or lay down a bunt with equal success. Katie is a quiet leader who sets a very positive example through her work-ethic, discipline, and kind heart. Michigan State is getting a great softball player and an even better person!"



DANIELLE WATSON, University of Louisville

Watson was a dominant force for the Kingsmen last season, leading Penn to the state championship game.

"I chose the University of Louisville because of the beautiful campus and the incredible facilities, and the opportunities the university provides," Watson said. "I look forward to the powerful competition of the ACC and can't wait to be challenged on a daily basis. Louisville provided the best opportunity to reach my maximum potential as a student, as an athlete, and as a person."



The Louisville commit pitched a no-hitter against LaPorte in the sectional, and pitched a no-hitter against Elkhart Memorial in the regional. She pitched five no-hitters last season, and combined on another gem. Watson has 11 career solo no-hitters.

Watson had a streak of 33 consecutive scoreless innings in the state-tournament last season entering the state championship game.

Watson finished last season 21-3 with a 0.35 ERA. She struck out 234 and walked 56. As a hitter, hit .442 batting average with a team-high four homers. She drove in 21 runs last season.

"Danielle Watson and her passion for the game of softball is one of the many reasons for Penn Softball's success," Penn softball coach Beth Zachary said. "Danielle leads our team from the pitcher's mound with power, speed, and heart. Danielle also is a powerful hitter who makes things happen in clutch, pressure situations. She is a tough competitor who refuses to give anything but her best at all times. Danielle is a natural leader who has left a great mark on the Penn program and will surely do the same thing for Louisville."

Class of 2018



LEXI CLAY, Taylor University

Penn outfielder Lexi Clay has committed to continue her academic and athletic careers at Taylor University, which is located in Upland, Ind. Taylor's Softball program reached the NAIA Nationals in 2017, the second time the Trojans have reached the NAIA Nationals in Softball in program history.



"I'm excited to become a collegiate athlete because it's something I've been working towards my whole career, and I can't wait to go there and play (Taylor)."

Clay hit .421 in Northern Indiana Conference action this season and drove in eight runs.

"Lexi brings a positive attitude and contagious effort to practices and games every day," Penn coach Beth Zachary said. "I think because Lexi sustained a significant injury last season, she has a new appreciation for the game and her opportunity to play it when she hits the field. Lexi

leads by example on and off the field and is a wonderful young lady that will do great things. We are lucky to have Lexi in the Penn Softball family."

Class of 2019



MACKENZIE GRIMAN, Butler University

Mackenzie Griman, one of the elite players in the state, has committed to Butler University as a Sophomore.

Butler is a great school," Griman said. "It has an outstanding Education and Physicians Assistant program, which are the two programs I am considering to major in. I love the softball program so much. Coach Hall and Coach Jenna make all of my visits to Butler and the camps fun. They are always so excited to see me whenever I go there and the players are all very nice.



"Penn softball has definitely helped me get to the next level by helping me love the game and respect it," Griman said. "Coach Zach always tells us before every game that we have to 'respect the game' because anything can happen in a game within a matter of seconds that will change the rest of the game."

"Mackenzie Griman is a bright star at such a young age," Penn Softball coach Beth Zachary said. "She continues to produce for this team and plays like a veteran leader. She has been a force on both sides of the ball, while being so versatile as a pitcher, as a first baseman, and as a hitter. She does it all."

2017 RESULTS

Game 1:
Mar. 25, 2017

No. 1 PENN 13, Carroll 0
At Penn High School

The Kingsmen opened the season in dominating fashion as senior flamethrower Danielle Watson fired a no-hitter, striking out 13 in a 13-0 five-inning victory against Carroll.

Mackenzie Griman contributed two hits – a homer and a double – and three RBI's to the Kingsmen assault. Katie Quinlan, Brenna Brown, Lydia Bradford and Mallory Newman drove in two runs each.

Maddy Newman also belted two hits.

Carroll	000	00 – 0 0 1
PENN	206	5x – 13 12 0

Penn extra-base hits: HR – Mackenzie Griman. 3B – Brenna Brown. 2B – Mackenzie Griman, Lillie Ledbetter.

Game 2:
Mar. 28, 2017

No. 1 PENN 7, Portage 1
At Penn High School

Mackenzie Griman and Lexi Clay drove in two runs each, and Danielle Watson pitched five innings of one-hit softball as Penn defeated Portage, 7-1.

Clay and Mackenzie Griman led Penn with two hits each.

Watson struck out 12, allowing one run and one hit in five innings.

Anna Gustafson pitched two perfect innings, striking out two.

Portage	001	000	0 – 1 1 1
PENN	250	000	x – 7 11 1

Penn extra-base hits: 2B – Brenna Brown.

Game 3:
April 8, 2017

No. 1 PENN 4, Munster 0
At Penn High School

Sydney Middleton blasted a three-run homer in the sixth inning to break open a close game and launch the Kingsmen to a 4-0 victory against Munster. Brenna Brown belted an RBI double in the fourth inning to give Penn a 1-0 lead.

Danielle Watson pitched a one-hit shutout, striking out 13 and walking three.

Munster	000	000	0 – 0 1 4
Penn	000	103	x – 4 6 0

Penn extra-base hits: 2B – Lexi Clay, Brenna Brown. HR – Sydney Middleton.

Game 4:
April 8, 2017

No. 1 PENN 13, Huntington North 3
At Penn High School

Lexi Clay and Mackenzie Griman smacked four hits each to lead the Kingsmen. Griman hit a single, a double and two triples, and drove in five runs.

Huntington North	002	01 – 3 4 2
Penn	(10)02	01 – 13 14 1

Penn extra-base hits: Lexi Clay, Mackenzie Griman. 3B: Mackenzie Griman (2).

Game 5:
April 8, 2017

No. 1 PENN 21, Lafayette Jefferson 0
At Penn High School

Anna Gustafson pitched a 1-hit shutout, striking out six and walking none.

Kingsmen bats pounded out 18 hits.

Maddy Newman led the Kingsmen hit parade with three hits. Mackenzie Griman hit a homer and a double, driving in three runs. Katie Quinlan had two hits and drove in three runs. Tori Budzinski hit two doubles.

Penn	880	41 – 21 18 1
Lafayette Jeff.	000	00 – 0 1 5

Penn extra-base hits: Katie Quinlan, Tori Budzinski (2), Mackenzie Griman, Brenna Brown. HR – Mackenzie Griman.

Game 6:
April 10, 2017

No. 1 PENN 10, Northridge 0
At Northridge High School

Danielle Watson pitched a no-hitter, striking out 12, and allowing one walk, as Penn knocked off Northridge 10-0.

Katie Quinlan powered the Kingsmen with four hits. Mackenzie Griman had three hits and two RBI. Watson hit a homer and drove in three runs. Jessie Buckey and Lillie Ledbetter also hit homers for the Kingsmen. Buckey hit a double.

Penn	201	70 – 10 12 0
Northridge	000	00 – 0 0 1

Penn extra-base hits: 2B – Katie Quinlan, Mackenzie Griman, Jessie Buckey. HR – Danielle Watson, Jessie Buckey, Lillie Ledbetter.

Game 7:
April 13, 2017

No. 1 PENN 14, Bremen 0
At Bremen High School

Danielle Watson pitched a two-hit shutout, striking out 13 and walking one.

Mackenzie Griman led Penn's offense with three hits, including a home run. Griman drove in three runs. Katie Quinlan and Sydney Middleton had three hits each. Quinlan hit a double and two triples. Lexi Clay had two hits and drove in two runs.

Penn 530 06 – 14 15 1
Bremen 000 00 – 0 2 5

Penn extra-base hits: 2B – Katie Quinlan. 3B – Katie Quinlan 2. HR – Mackenzie Griman.

Game 8:
April 14, 2017

No. 1 PENN 23, Glenn 0
At Penn High School

Anna Gustafson and Mackenzie Griman combined for a 1-hit shutout, striking out 10 and walking none.

Mackenzie Griman blasted a three-run homer to lead the Kingsmen assault. Ryleigh Langwell and Brenna Brown had three hits each. Brown drove in four runs. Lydia Bradford, Lexi Gray and Lillie Ledbetter had two hits each. Gray drove in three runs, and Jessie Buckey, Tori Budzinski and Mallory Newman drove in two runs each.

Glenn 000 00 – 0 1 3
Penn (10)43 6x – 23 23 0

Penn extra-base hits: 2B – Ryleigh Langwell, Brenna Brown, Anna Gustafson. 3B – Brenna Brown, Jessie Buckey, Lexi Gray. HR – Mackenzie Griman.

Game 9:
April 17, 2017

No. 1 PENN 19, Elkhart Central 0
At Penn High School

Danielle Watson overpowered Elkhart Central in the circle and at the plate. Watson pitched a 1-hit shutout, striking out 11 and walking none. She also did damage with the bat in her hands. She hit a home run and finished with three hits and three RBI's.

Sydney Middleton also three hits, including a homer, and drove in three runs. Maddy Newman had three hits. Brenna Brown and Lillie Ledbetter had two hits each.

Elkhart Central 000 00 – 0 1 1
Penn 419 5x – 19 22 0

Penn extra-base hits: 2B – Anna Gustafson, Jessie Buckey, Lydia Bradford. 3B – Brenna Brown. HR – Danielle Watson, Sydney Middleton.

Game 10:
April 19, 2017

No. 1 PENN 9, No. 4 (Class 3-A) Marian 2
At Marian High School

Maddy Newman and Brenna Brown had three hits each, and Danielle Watson had two hits, including a homer, as No. 1 (Class 4-A) Penn won a showdown against No. 4 (Class 3-A) Marian.

Newman, Brown and Watson each drove in two runs for the Kingsmen.

Watson earned the victory, striking out 15 and walking only two.

Penn	600	120	0 – 9 11 2
Marian	100	010	0 – 2 1 1

Penn extra-base hits: 2B – Maddy Newman, Mackenzie Griman, Danielle Watson, Brenna Brown. HR – Danielle Watson.

Game 11:
April 21, 2017

No. 1 PENN 12, F.W. Carroll 2
At Carmel High School

Penn beat Carroll for the second time this season. The Kingsmen beat the Chargers 13-0 in the season opener.

Mackenzie Griman and Anna Gustafson combined for the victory, limiting Carroll to three hits.

Sydney Middleton and Jessie Buckey belted three hits each to lead the 17-hit Kingsmen attack. Middleton blasted a homer. Maddy Newman, Katie Quinlan, Brenna Brown, Anna Gustafson and Lillie Ledbetter had two hits each for Penn.

Penn	015	24 – 12 17 2
Carroll	010	10 – 2 3 0

Penn extra-base hits: 2B – Anna Gustafson. HR – Sydney Middleton.

Game 12:
April 22, 2017

No. 1 PENN 2, No. 6 Avon 1
At Carmel High School

Danielle Watson pitched a four-hitter, striking out 13, as Penn won a rematch of last season's state championship game.

Penn pushed across a run in the first inning, and took a 2-0 lead in the top of the fifth. Watson and the Kingsmen then held off the Orioles to wrap up the victory.

Mackenzie Griman hit a home run for the Kingsmen. Maddy Newman also drove in a run.

Penn	100	010	0 – 2 4 0
Avon	000	010	0 – 1 4 0

Penn extra-base hits: HR – Mackenzie Griman.

Game 13:
April 22, 2017

No. 1 PENN 12, Carmel 9
At Carmel High School

Maddy Newman, Katie Quinlan and Brenna Brown had three hits each as the Kingsmen outlasted Carmel in a slugfest to win the Carmel Invitational title.

Danielle Watson had two hits and drove in three runs. Mackenzie Griman, Brenna Brown and Sydney Middleton drove in two runs each.

Penn	004	431	0 – 12 17 1
Carmel	000	305	1 – 9 11 3

Penn extra-base hits: 2B – Watson 2, Brown, Ledbetter.

Game 14:
April 24, 2017

No. 1 PENN 16, South Bend Clay 0
At Clay High School

Mackenzie Griman pounded out three hits – a single, a double and a homer – and drove in five runs. Danielle Watson had three hits – including two doubles – and drove in three runs. Maddy Newman, Katie Quinlan and Brenna Brown had two hits each.

Three Penn pitchers combined for a five-inning shutout as the Kingsmen defeated Clay, 16-0. Danielle Watson started the game and pitched three innings, allowing one hit. Watson struck out eight. Mackenzie Griman pitched one inning of perfect relief, and Anna Gustafson pitched one inning.

PENN	004	93 – 16 17 1
Clay	000	00 – 0 3 1

Penn extra-base hits: 2B – Maddy Newman, Katie Quinlan, Lexi Gray, Mackenzie Griman, Danielle Watson 2, Jessie Buckey. HR – Mackenzie Griman.

Game 15:
April 25, 2017

No. 1 PENN 9, Concord 0
At Penn High School

Danielle Watson turned in an overpowering performance, striking out the first 19 Concord batters she faced, and ending up striking out 21. Watson gave up two hits after setting down the first 19 Concord batters with strikeouts. She then ended the game with two strikeouts.

Mackenzie Griman and Watson had three hits each. Watson hit a single, a double and a triple, driving in three runs. Griman drove in two runs. Jessie Buckey had two hits.

Concord	000	000	0 – 0 2 2
PENN	520	200	x – 9 12 0

Game 16:
April 22, 2017

No. 1 PENN 15, South Bend Washington 1
At Penn High School

Mackenzie Griman pitched a three-hitter, and led the Kingsmen at the plate with three hits and four homers. Griman struck out 11 and walked none. Maddy Newman, Sydney Middleton, Lexi Clay, Jessie Buckey and Lillie Ledbetter had two hits each. Ledbetter drove in two runs.

Washington	000	10 – 1 3 1
PENN	193	2x – 15 17 1

Extra-base hits: 2B – Mackenzie Griman, Brenna Brown, Lillie Ledbetter.

Game 17:
May 3, 2017

No. 1 PENN 11, South Bend Adams 0
At School Field

Danielle Watson and Mackenzie Griman combined for a two-hit shutout, striking out seven, in a five-inning victory.

Maddy Newman, Brenna Brown, Sydney Middleton and Jessie Buckey had two hits each to power the Kingsmen. Danielle Watson, Lillie Ledbetter and Jessie Buckey each hit doubles.

Lillie Ledbetter and Sydney Middleton each drove in three runs. Mackenzie Griman and Brenna Brown drove in two runs each.

PENN	521	30 – 11 14 0
Adams	000	00 – 0 2 0

Penn extra-base hits: Doubles – Danielle Watson, Lillie Ledbetter, Jessie Buckey.

Game 18:
May 6, 2017

No. 1 Oak Park River Forest (III.) 1, No. 1 PENN 0
At Oak Park River Forest High School

Louisville recruit Danielle Watson of Penn and Auburn recruit Chardonay Harris of Oak Park River Forest waged a classic pitchers' dual in a clash of national powers.

Penn entered the game ranked No. 14 in the USA Today national softball rankings, and Oak Park River Forest entered the game ranked No. 11 in the USA Today national softball rankings.

Watson struck out 16 and walked one, giving up five hits.

Harris struck out 20, walking none and giving up five hits.

Katie Quinlan had three hits for Penn.

PENN	000	000	00 – 0 5 0
OPRF	000	000	01 – 1 5 0

Penn extra-base hits: Double – Katie Quinlan.

Game 19:
May 6, 2017

No. 1 PENN 18, No. 1 Oak Park River Forest (Ill.) 4
At Oak Park River Forest High School

Mackenzie Griman set Penn's all-time single-season home-run record with a grand slam, and the Kingsmen ended Oak Park River Forest's 46-game winning streak with a five-inning victory.

Penn entered the game ranked No. 14 in the USA Today national softball rankings, and Oak Park River Forest entered the game ranked No. 11 in the USA Today national softball rankings.

Griman, a sophomore who has committed to Butler, now has seven homers this season. She finished the game with four hits and five RBI's. Griman also picked up the victory pitching a complete game.

Danielle Watson also hit a homer.

Brenna Brown had four hits and drove in three runs.

Jessie Buckey had three hits and drove in four runs.

Maddy Newman, Katie Quinlan, Danielle Watson, Sydney Middleton and Lexi Clay had two hits each.

Danielle Watson drove in two runs.

PENN	4(12)	0	20	–	18	24	0
OPRF	301		00	–	4	8	0

Penn extra-base hits: Doubles – Katie Quinlan, Danielle Watson, Brenna Brown 2, Jessie Buckey. HR – Mackenzie Griman, Danielle Watson.

Game 20:
May 6, 2017

No. 1 PENN 8, Lake Central 1
At Lake Central High School

Penn used a balanced offensive attack and strong pitching from Danielle Watson to defeat the host Indians.

Lake Central took a 1-0 lead in the second inning, but the Kingsmen struck for four runs in the fourth inning, and then added one run in each the fifth, sixth and seventh innings.

Maddy Newman, Danielle Watson and Lillie Ledbetter had two hits each. Lexi Clay and Ledbetter drove in two runs each.

Watson allowed three hits, striking out nine in seven innings pitched.

PENN	000	411	1	–	7	12	0
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Lake Central 010 000 0 – 1 3 1

Penn extra-base hits: Doubles – Danielle Watson. Triples – Emma Ledbetter.

Game 21:
May 6, 2017

No. 1 PENN 13, South Bend St. Joseph 1
At St. Patrick's Park

Mackenzie Griman slugged two doubles and drove in six runs.

Maddy Newman, Brenna Brown and Jessie Buckey lined three hits each to lead a 16-hit attack by the Kingsmen.

Katie Quinlan and Danielle Watson had two hits each.

Newman, Brown and Quinlan drove in two runs each.

Watson pitched a complete game, striking out eight.

PENN	040	004	5 – 13 16 0
St. Joseph	000	001	0 – 1 3 1

Penn extra-base hits: Doubles – Griman 2, Newman 2, Quinlan.

Game 22:
May 6, 2017

No. 1 PENN 10, Mishawaka 0
At Penn High School

Danielle Watson pitched a no-hitter against the arch-rival Cavemen as the Kingsmen locked up a share of the Northern Indiana Conference championship.

Watson struck out 10.

Watson also hurt the Cavemen with a homer and a single, driving in two runs.

Katie Quinlan and Lexi Clay had three hits each.

Maddy Newman, Mackenzie Griman, Brenna Brown and Lillie Ledbetter belted two hits each.

Newman and Griman drove in two runs each.

Mishawaka	000	000 – 0 0 0
PENN	024	031 – 10 18 0

Penn extra-base hits: Doubles – Mackenzie Griman, Brenna Brown, Lexi Clay. Triples – Maddy Newman, Mackenzie Griman. Home run – Danielle Watson.

Game 23:
May 6, 2017

No. 1 PENN 8, New Prairie 0
At New Prairie High School

Danielle Watson pitched a 1-hitter, striking out 18.

Watson also wounded the Cougars with her hitting. She smacked two doubles and drove in four runs.

Maddy Newman and Katie Quinlan also had two hits each.

PENN	120	031	1 – 8 13 0
New Prairie	000	000	0 – 0 1 1

Penn extra-base hits: Doubles – Danielle Watson 2, Jessie Buckey.

Game 24:
May 6, 2017

No. 1 PENN 10, Jimtown 0
At Penn High School

Penn completed a perfect Northern Indiana Conference season by defeating the Jimmies.

Mackenzie Griman pitched shutout innings, striking out five and giving up only one hit. Anna Gustafson pitched one inning, allowing no runs and no hits, striking out two.

Danielle Watson hit a bases-loaded triple and a single, driving in a total of four runs. Maddy Newman and Katie Quinlan had three hits each. Mackenzie Griman drove in three runs.

Jimtown	000	00 – 0 1 1
PENN	002	71 – 10 14 1

Penn extra-base hits: Triples – Watson, Middleton.

Game 25:
May 6, 2017

No. 1 PENN 4, Lakeshore 1
At Lakeshore High School

Penn erased a 1-0 Lakeshore lead with a run in the fifth inning and three runs in the seventh inning.

Maddy Newman led the Kingsmen charge with two hits and two RBI's.

Danielle Watson and Sydney Middleton had two hits each.

Danielle Watson pitched a complete-game for the win, striking out 11.

PENN	000	010	3 – 4 8 0
Lakeshore	001	000	0 – 1 2 0

Penn extra-base hits: Maddy Newman, Danielle Watson, Sydney Middleton.

Game 26:
May 23, 2017

No. 1 PENN 5, LaPorte 0 (Sectional)
At Penn High School

Danielle Watson pitched a no-hitter, her second in a row against LaPorte in a Sectional semifinal game, as the Kingsmen advanced to the Sectional Championship. Watson pitched a no-hitter against the Slicers last season in the Sectional semifinal, as Penn won 2-0.

Watson retired the last 19 LaPorte batters in last season's game, and ran her streak to 30 LaPorte batters retired in a row on Tuesday. The University of Louisville recruit struck out 16. She now has four no-hitters this season and 15 in her Kingsmen career.

Mackenzie Griman blasted a 3-run homer in the seventh inning to put the finishing touches on the victory.

Maddy Newman had three hits and drove in a run, and Brenna Brown had two hits. Katie Quinlan smacked a triple and scored two runs.

PENN	010	010	3 – 5 7 0
LaPorte	000	000	0 – 0 0 2

Penn extra-base hits: Triple – Katie Quinlan. Home run – Mackenzie Griman.

Game 27:
May 23, 2017

No. 1 PENN 10, S.B. Adams 0 (Sectional final)
At Penn High School

Danielle Watson pitched a perfect game – the first of her career coming in her final appearance on Penn's home field – and the Kingsmen captured the Sectional Championship.

Coach Beth Zachary's club celebrated its fourth consecutive Sectional Championship and 16th in program history. Seniors Lillie Ledbetter, Maddy Newman, Katie Quinlan and Danielle Watson are the only other class in Penn Softball history to accomplish a 'four-peat.' The Kingsmen also had a run of four consecutive titles in 1999 (state champs), 2000, 2001 and 2002.

Watson's perfect game was the second in Penn's two sectional games. Watson pitched a no-hitter against LaPorte in semifinal action. Watson owns five no-hitters this season and 16 in her career. She struck out 10 Eagles in her 15-up, 15-down performance.

State RBI leader Mackenzie Griman walloped a three-run homer in the first inning to ignite the Kingsmen offensive assault. Griman also hit a single and scored twice.

Speedster Maddy Newman contributed three hits to the Kingsmen cause, drove in two runs and scored three runs. Jessie Buckey also had two hits.

Adams	000	00 – 0 0 2
PENN	361	0x – 10 11 0

Penn extra-base hits: 2B – Danielle Watson. HR – Mackenzie Griman.

Game 28:
May 30, 2017

No. 1 PENN 13, Northridge 0 (Regional final)
At Northridge

Katie Quinlan smashed a grand slam to lead an overpowering Kingsmen attack.

Maddy Newman had three of Penn's 13 hits.

Mackenzie Griman had two hits.

Lexi Clay drove in two runs.

Penn pitcher Danielle Watson struck out 15 batters in the five-inning game. She allowed three hits and one walk in pitching the shutout.

PENN	256	00 – 13 13 0
Northridge	000	00 – 0 3 4

Penn extra-base hits: Home run – Katie Quinlan (grand slam).