

Penn

SOCER

HEAD COACH JEFF HART

2016 STATE CHAMPIONS

Penn 2017 schedule

Home games UPPERCASE/All times ET

Day	Date	Opponent	Time/results
Fri.	Aug. 18	Zionsville	W, 5-0
Sat.	Aug. 19	Warsaw	W, 5-0
Sat.	Aug. 19	Chesterton	W, 8-0
Mon.	Aug. 21	MARIAN	W, 7-0
Wed.	Aug. 23	At Mishawaka	W, 9-0
Sat.	Aug. 26	MUNSTER	W, 2-0
Thurs.	Aug. 31	At Elkhart Central	W, 5-0
Fri.	Sept. 1	Simon Kenton	W, 2-0
Sat.	Sept. 2	Carmel	T, 1-1
Thurs.	Sept. 14	At S.B. Riley	W, 9-0
Sat.	Sept. 16	Leo	W, 8-0
Sat.	Sept. 15	At Canterbury	W, 8-0
Mon.	Sept. 18	BREMEN	W, 9-0
Wed.	Sept. 20	S.B. St. JOSEPH	W, 2-0
Sat.	Sept. 23	At Noblesville	W, 2-1
Tues.	Sept. 26	At S.B. Adams	W, 3-0
Thurs.	Sept. 28	At Glenn	W, 5-0

STATE TOURNAMENT

SECTIONAL @ Penn

Tues.	Oct. 3	S.B. Riley	W, 9-0
Thurs.	Oct. 5	S.B. Adams	W, 6-0
Sat.	Oct. 7	LaPorte	W, 7-0
REGIONAL @ Tallman/Beyrer Field (S.B.)			
Wed.	Oct. 14	Northridge	W, 4-0
Sat.	Oct. 16	Munster	W, 3-1
SEMISTATE @ Kokomo			
Sat.	Oct. 21	Noblesville	W, 1-1 (5-4)
STATE CHAMPIONSHIP @ Butler (Indpls.)			
Sat.	Oct. 27	Guerin Catholic	8 p.m.

LIONSHEAD SPECIALTY TIRE AND WHEEL FIELD

Both Penn Boys and Girls Soccer teams play at Lionshead Specialty Tire and Wheel Soccer Field. It is located north of the high school, and east of the Educational Services Center off of Bittersweet Rd. The natural-grass field is 70 yards by 120 yards. The field is fully lighted for night games, and features an LED scoreboard. There are covered concrete dugouts.

The concession stand and restroom facilities are located in the nearby softball pressbox. The bleacher seating capacity is 800. The soccer field is fully enclosed by fencing.



Penn
KINGSMEN



QUICK KICKS

IHSAA State-title match: 8 p.m., Friday, Oct. 27, **PENN (22-0-1)** vs. Guerin Catholic (16-1-1), 8 p.m., Bud and Jackie Sellick Bowl, Butler University (4600 Sunset Ave., Indianapolis).

Rankings: Penn is ranked No. 1 in the Nation by topdrawersoccer.com and No. 3 in the Nation by USA Today. ... The Kingsmen are ranked No. 1 in the state in the Indiana Soccer Coaches Association Poll. ... Guerin Catholic is ranked No. 11 in the Nation by topdrawersoccer.com and ranked No. 4 in the ISCA poll.

The Streak: Penn has a 46-game unbeaten streak (44-0-2) entering the State Championship game. Penn's last loss was a 2-1 setback vs. Brebeuf Jesuit in the 2015 state title game.

Defending state champions: Coach Jeff Hart's Kingsmen won the 2016 Class 2-A State Championship, defeating defending state champion Indianapolis Brebeuf Jesuit, 2-0. Kristina Lynch scored a goal and contributed an assist on a goal by Maya Lacognato.

Twitter: @The_Pennant

Penn High School facts

Principal: Sean Galiher

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

PROJECTED PENN LINE-UP

Player	No.	Gr.	Pos.	Notes
Mackenzie Wood	1	Sr.	G	Committed to Northwestern University. Has allowed 4 goals in 23 games. Goals Against Average of 0.23 is No. 1 in Indiana. Has 19 shutouts this season. Named a First-Team All-American by USA Today. Named to play in the All-American Soccer Game in Orlando.
Kelsi Carrico	11	So.	D	Purdue University commit. Speedy player who has scored 3 goals and has 6 assists.
Lexi Scott	20	Sr.	D	Scored the winning goal (and her first of the season) in a Shootout vs. Noblesville in the Semistate (5-4). Used athletic skills to emerge as a premiere defender last season.
Riley Chapla	27	Jr.	D	Known for tenacious defensive ability. Has scored one goal this season.
Lauren Hamilton	31	Jr.	D	Has 4 goals and 1 assist this season. Scored 1 goal and had 4 assists (second most by a defender) last season.
Brooke VanDyck	10	Jr.	M	Committed to University of Notre Dame. Has 13 goals and 14 assists this season. Contributed 10 goals and 17 assists for 37 points last season (second most on the team).
Sydney Egendoerfer	32	So.	M	Has scored 1 goal and has 2 assists this season.
Molly McLaughlin	14	Sr.	M	Committed to Xavier University. Boasts 4 goals and 5 assists this season in 10 games. Missed first 13 games of season with a broken foot.
Kristina Lynch	24	Sr.	M	Committed to Florida State University. Named First-Team All-American by USA Today. Penn's career scoring leader. Owns 44 goals and 17 assists this season. Named to play in the All-American Soccer Game in Orlando. Has 130 career goals and 66 career assists.
Maya Lacognato	12	Jr.	M	Has 12 goals and 12 assists this season. Scored 11 goals and had 7 assists last season as a sophomore (fourth best on the team).
Allie Lankowicz	8	Jr.	M	Has 4 goals and 3 assists.

Penn Girls Soccer Head Coach Jeff Hart

Penn Girls Soccer Varsity Head Coach Jeff Hart is in his sixth season as coach of the Kingsmen. His record as Penn's coach is 110-14-10.



Hart led Penn to the 2016 State Championship, and has guided Penn to three Consecutive State Championship Game appearances (2015, 2016, 2017). Penn finished as State Runner-up in 2015. Penn has won five NIC titles, six Sectional Championships, four Regional Championship and three Semi-state Championships under Hart.

This season, Coach Hart has led Penn to a No. 1-ranking nationally, and has developed two First-Team All-Americans, Kristina Lynch and Mackenzie Wood.

Coach Hart attended Ohio State University He was named the Indiana Coach of the Year in 2016, the NIC Coach of the Year four times in six seasons, and was selected to coach in the All-American Girls Soccer Game on Dec. 2, 2017, in Orlando, Fla.

KINGSMEN ROSTER

#	Yr.	First Name	Last Name	Pos.
0	Jr.	Kaitlin	Paul	G
00	Sr.	Melanie	Xouris	G
1	Sr.	Mackenzie	Wood	G
3	Sr.	Erin	Ludwig	M
5	Sr.	Regan	Hart	F
6	Sr.	Lauren	Cernak	M
8	11	Allison	Lankowicz	M
9	Sr.	Haylee	Shahan	D
10	Jr.	Brooke	VanDyck	M
11	So.	Kelsi	Carrico	D
12	Jr.	Maya	Lacognato	F
13	Jr.	Mallory	Lehmann	M
14	Sr.	Molly	McLaughlin	M
15	Sr.	Margaret	Graham	F

#	Yr.	First Name	Last Name	Pos.
17	So.	Kayla	Leady	D
18	Jr.	Elizabeth	Capek	D
20	Sr.	Alexis	Scott	D
21	Jr.	Hallie	Hedman	D
22	Jr.	Emily	Carter	D
23	Sr.	McKenzie	Blankenbaker	F
24	Sr.	Kristina	Lynch	F
25	Sr.	Ashley	McCoige	F
26	Jr.	Carolyn	Todd	F
27	Jr.	Riley	Chapla	D
29	Jr.	Meredith	O'Connor	D
30	So.	Grace	Szklarek	F
31	Jr.	Lauren	Hamilton	D
32	So.	Sydney	Egendoerfer	M

PENN GIRLS SOCCER CHAMPIONSHIPS

State Championships (1): 2016.

Semi-State Championships (5): 1996, 2007, 2015, 2016, 2017.

Regional Championships (10): 1996, 2005, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2013, 2015, 2016, 2017.

Sectional Championships (16): 1996, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2005, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017.

Northern Indiana Conference Championships (14): 1994, 1998, 2000, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2012, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017.

KINGSMEN COACHES

Head Coach	Jeff Hart
Varsity Assistant	Sarah Mott
Varsity Assistant	Jensen Stroinski
Varsity Assistant	Taylor Hart
Varsity Assistant	Scott Hayes
Junior Varsity	Chad Hershberger
Strength coach	Matt Cates

KINGSMEN MEDIA NOTES

The Penn Girls Soccer media notes are produced by the Penn High School Sports Journalism Class, Regan Hart, editor.

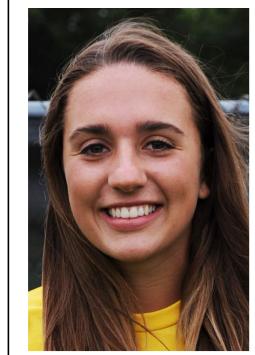
MEET THE KINGSMEN



0
Kaitlin Paul



00
Melanie Youris



1
Mackenzie Wood



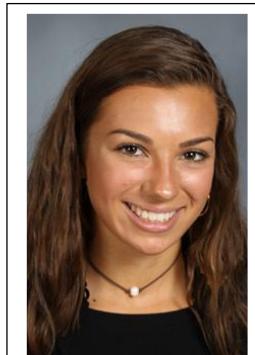
3
Erin Ludwig



5
Regan Hart



6
Lauren Cernak



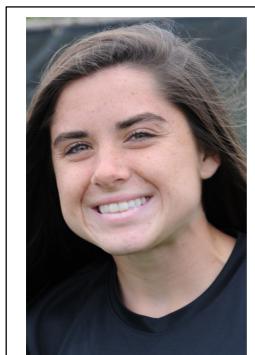
8
Allison Lankowicz



9
Haylee Shahan



10
Brooke VanDyck



11
Kelsi Carrico



12
Maya Lacognato



13
Mallory Lehmann

MEET THE KINGSMEN



14
Molly McLaughlin



15
Margaret Graham



17
Kayla Ledy



18
Elizabeth Capek



20
Alexis Scott



21
Hallie Hedman



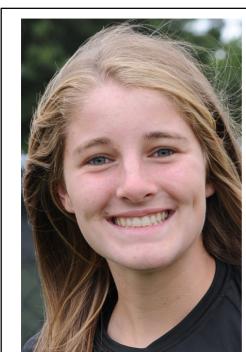
22
Emily Carter



23
McKenzie Blankenbaker



24
Kristina Lynch



25
Ashley McCoige

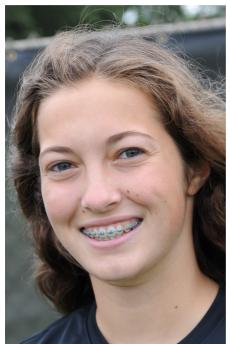


26
Carolyn Todd



27
Riley Chapla

MEET THE KINGSMEN



29
Meredith O'Connor



30
Grace Szklarek



31
Lauren Hamilton



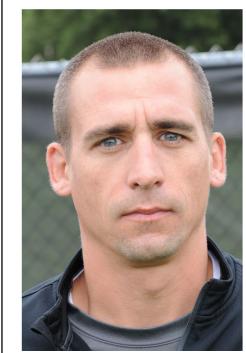
32
Sydney Egendoerfer



Head Coach
Jeff Hart



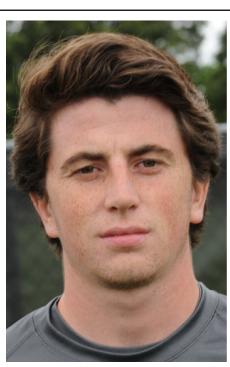
Assistant Coach
Sarah Mott



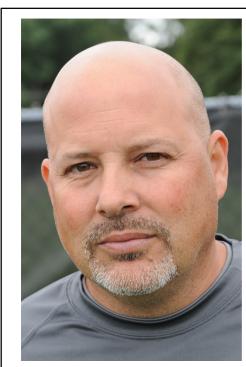
Assistant Coach
Chad Hershberger



Assistant Coach
Jensen Stroinski



Assistant Coach
Taylor Hart



Assistant Coach
Scott Hayes

Penn High School facts

Principal: Sean Galigher

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

Quick hits

COACH JEFF HART'S COMMENTS:

"We understand the challenge ahead of us in Guerin Catholic. They've beaten Carmel twice and they've only given up three goals on the season while playing a very difficult schedule. They have Division I talent and speed all over the field and they believe they will win every time they step on the field."

"Our team has come a long way since early August. We've played through some key injuries, we've played a lot of kids, we've had young players grow into big roles and our captains and seniors have done an amazing job leading the program to this point. Other than our early season draw with Carmel, we've played and beaten every top team that we've been matched up with. We have one more mountain to climb this weekend and everyone in this program is focused and excited on this opportunity to win the 2017 state championship."

PENN RANKED NO. 1 IN THE NATION

Penn is ranked No. 1 in the nation according to topdrawersoccer.com, one of the top soccer publications in the nation. The Kingsmen are No. 3 in the USA Today national rankings.

"We've recognized the pre-season ranking as a tribute to the hard work our girls have put in over the last few years as well as the outstanding coaching they are all getting in their travel programs," Penn coach Jeff Hart said. "Every player in the program has embraced the idea of putting the team ahead of individual goals which is not always easy to do. Being a target is unavoidable but we take it as an exciting challenge for us to always look at each "next" game as the most important one on our schedule."

topdrawersoccer.com High School Girls Soccer National Top 10

1. **PENN (Mishawaka, Ind.)**
2. Arlington (LaGrangeville, N.Y.)
3. Portland Jesuit (Portland, Ore.)
4. Northern Highlands (Allendale, N.J.)
5. Germantown Houston (Germantown, Tenn.)
6. Walsh Jesuit (Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio)
7. Central Catholic (Lawrence, Mass.)
8. Freehold Twp. (Freehold, N.J.)
9. Whitman-Hanson (Whitman, Mass.)
10. St. Anthony's (Melville, N.Y.)

KINGSMEN RANKED NO. 1 IN INDIANA

In addition to being ranked as the No. 1 team in the Nation, coach Jeff Hart's Kingsmen are also ranked No. 1 in Indiana. Penn is the top-ranked team in the Indiana Soccer Coaches Association Class 3-A final rankings.

1. **PENN**
2. Brebeuf Jesuit
3. Carmel
4. Guerin Catholic
5. Noblesville
6. Castle
7. Hamilton Southeastern
8. Terre Haute North
9. Evansville North
10. Zionsville

KINGSMEN DOMINATE ALL-NIC HONORS

Penn's Kristina Lynch was named the Most Valuable Player of the Northern Indiana Conference, and Kingsmen coach Jeff Hart was named the NIC Coach of the year.

A total of seven Penn players were named to the All-NIC team -- four on the first team, two on the second team, and one honorable mention.

Penn won the NIC title with a perfect 8-0 record.

Making it on first team was Senior forward Kristina Lynch, Junior midfielder Brooke VanDyck, Senior goalie Mackenzie Wood, and Junior forward Maya Lacognato.

On second team is Kelsi Carrico, a Sophomore defender, and Sydney Egendoerfer, a Sophomore midfielder.

Lexi Scott, a Senior defender was named Honorable Mention.

FUTURE COLLEGE RIVALS

Senior Kristina Lynch and Junior Brooke VanDyck are set to become future rivals. Lynch has committed to play College Women's Soccer at Florida State, and VanDyck has committed to play at Notre Dame.

The Seminoles and Fighting Irish are both members of the Atlantic Coast Conference for Women's Soccer. Florida State has won national championship in Women's Soccer, and Notre Dame has three national championships in Women's Soccer.

D-I COLLEGE COMMITS

Penn's line-up includes five players who have committed to play Division I College Women's Soccer. Senior Kristina Lynch committed to play for Florida State University, Senior Molly McLaughlin committed to Xavier, Senior Mackenzie Wood committed to Northwestern, Junior Brooke VanDyck committed to Notre Dame, and Sophomore Kelsi Carrico committed to Purdue.

KRISTINA LYNCH / Florida State



By MASON PLUMMER

Senior striker Kristina Lynch has created quite the legacy in her time at Penn High School. The Florida State commit has racked up an astounding 130 goals, 58 assists in her career (entering the Semistate match vs. Noblesville), and she's not quite finished yet.



Lynch is competing in her final IHSAA state tournament, looking to defend the Kingsmen's 2016 state championship.

This past year has been quite a whirlwind for Lynch, as she has allocated awards that could fill up anyone's trophy case.

Lynch was named a First-Team All-American by USA Today, and by the popular soccer website, Top Drawer Soccer. She's been a back-to-back Northern Indiana Conference, as well as NIC first-team nomination. She has been invited to play in the All-American Soccer Game in Orlando, Fla., on Dec. 2.

The scary part is, Lynch is only getting better. Her work ethic is simply unmatched, she is consistently the "first one on, and the last one off," if you will. Just this season, Lynch has hit the back of the net 44 times for the Kingsmen, to go along with 17 assists.

"Kristina has all the qualities that coaches would look for in an All-American type player," Penn Head Coach Jeff Hart said. "She's an elite athlete with top end speed and she's strong and durable. She also possesses an unbelievable work ethic and drive to get better. She is not content to be an average college player. Her competitive spirit will continue to help her raise her game at the next level."

Lynch said that she chose Florida State because of its exceptional academic and athletic opportunities.

"I believe that Florida State will best prepare me for my future career as I aspire to play professional soccer and later go into the medical field," Lynch said. "I will be challenged every day in training because I will be going up against not only the best players in the country, but the best players in the world due to their international roster."

"Florida State also has one of the best coaching staffs in the nation who can help take my game to a whole new level," Lynch said. "I also love the campus and its location. There are palm trees everywhere. It is absolutely stunning."

Lynch said that Penn's status as one of the top programs in the nation has helped her develop her game.

"Penn has helped prepare me for an elite D-1 school in so many ways," Lynch said. "In athletics, I feel that my Penn teammates and coaches challenge me every day in practice and have pushed me to be the best I can be. They have taught me so many things about the game and have helped me improve tremendously throughout the years."

"My teachers have also challenged me in the classroom which has helped prepare me academically, as well. Penn is special because they provide so many opportunities both in academics and athletics. If you have any type of dream or aspiration, Penn will provide you with the resources and support in order to achieve it."

Lynch said that she loves the overall Penn experience.

"There are so many things that I appreciate about the Penn soccer experience, it is hard to name them all," Lynch said. "The thing I appreciate most is being able to play the game that I love with my best friends. I will never forget the fun times we have had and all that we have accomplished as a team. I have never played for a team as motivated, supporting, and caring for one another. We don't play for ourselves, we play for each other, which is so rare in girls soccer and a huge factor of our success."

"I also enjoy having the opportunity to play for our school and community. We really appreciate all of the support and encouragement they give to the team. We especially appreciate our No. 1 fan (P-H-M Supt.) Dr. Thacker, who comes to support our games!"

"I have been blessed to play for a coach as caring and dedicated to soccer as Coach Hart. He always provides me with the resources and knowledge in order to be successful, and has been so influential to my development throughout the years."

Lynch said that she grew up in a 'baseball' family. She played softball until the eighth grade. Her father, Greg Lynch, played baseball at the University of Wisconsin, and her brother Ryan, a Penn sophomore, is a Notre Dame baseball recruit. In high school, she decided to focus on soccer.

"I excelled in softball and really loved it, but always found myself going to soccer when there was a conflict," Lynch said. "I ultimately chose soccer because I fell in love with the game at a young age and still love it to this day."

"With so many different aspects of soccer that can be practiced and improved, there is always something to work on. I really enjoy practicing soccer. There is nothing else I'd rather do than have a ball at my foot and some defenders to beat."

Lynch's competitiveness and motivation have set her apart.

"I love to go out and practice on my own and push myself to be better," Lynch said. "I also do not like to lose and always give it everything I have in practice and games to win. I never shy away from challenges, I embrace them and use them to help improve my game."

MOLLY McLAUGHLIN / Xavier University



By MALLORY NEWMAN

Penn Senior Girls Soccer player, Molly McLaughlin, has had an eventful journey so far throughout her Penn High School soccer career.



McLaughlin moved to Indiana from Seattle, which was a difficult transformation. Her father, Jim McLaughlin, left the University of Washington to take over as the Notre Dame Volleyball head coach. Molly's mother is a former Notre Dame assistant women's soccer coach.

After joining the Kingsmen Soccer Team as a sophomore, she helped lead Penn to the State Championship Game. The Kingsmen finished runner-up to Indianapolis Brebeuf Jesuit.

As a junior, McLaughlin helped Penn win the State Championship game.

This season, the Kingsmen are ranked No. 1 in Indiana, and were ranked No. 1 preseason in the nation.

"Molly is a great athlete but just as important she is a competitor and a leader," Penn Head Coach Jeff Hart said. "She wants the team to win above all else so she is always ready to do the little things that sometimes go unnoticed in the stats. Physically and mentally tough, her best days in soccer are still ahead of her."

Recently, Molly had a serious injury to her foot, which made her have an absence with soccer. She showed an appearance back on the field on Wednesday, Sept. 20, against Penn's tough rival, South Bend St. Joseph High School.

McLaughlin said that it was more difficult than she thought by being away from her passion for a long time. While she was resting, it gave her a lot of time to think about how meaningful soccer is to her.

After her high school career ends, McLaughlin will play at Xavier University.

McLaughlin's parents helped guide her through the recruiting process.

"By having both of my parents as coaches, it has helped me as a developing player and in the recruiting process as I was making a decision about my future," McLaughlin said.

Her father has taught her about the aspects surrounding the game, but never once mentioned soccer. He explained to her how important it is to be a good teammate and have a positive attitude.

"Both have played a huge role in my recruiting process, and my soccer career would probably be different if they weren't coaches and players themselves," McLaughlin said of her parents.

Regarding Xavier, McLaughlin loves the size and beautiful campus and loves how it is surrounded by the city of Cincinnati. McLaughlin can see herself having a future and finding a job in Ohio.

MACKENZIE WOOD / Northwestern University

By ANA KRUGGEL



Penn High School Girls Soccer senior Mackenzie Wood didn't intend to become a goalie, but a chance opportunity to play that position has led her to an opportunity to continue her academic and athletic career at Northwestern University.



Wood played was on the field playing a different position when the opportunity to play goalie arrived.

"One game, my coach put me in because nobody else wanted to volunteer for goalie, and I fell in love with it," Wood said. "It is arguably one of the hardest positions to play in sports, because if you make one mistake then your team could lose the game. I love being able to impact the game and having the challenge of not letting any goals in so that my team can win."

Wood, who leads the state with her 0.25 goals against average and has 19 shutouts this season, is looking forward to competing for Northwestern in the Big Ten Conference.

"I decided on Northwestern, because I love the campus, coaches, the high level of academics, the high level of women's soccer, and the proximity to home. It is a perfect fit for me."

All of Penn High School sports are very competitive which helps prepare athletes for their college experiences.

"Penn soccer has allowed me to make life-long friendships and learn how to be a leader. As a goalkeeper, I need to be able to communicate and organize my defense. Being the captain of the Penn Girls soccer team has helped me improve my communication and leadership skills I will need for college soccer."

Wood helped Penn reach the state championship game as a sophomore, and did not play for Penn last season.

"We are thrilled to have Mackenzie back after sitting out her junior year," Penn Head Coach Jeff Hart said. "It is not every day that you get a Top 10 nationally ranked high school goalie walking back through your door and she has fit in seamlessly with her long-time classmates. 'Z' is another top-end athlete that has all the tools the great goalies have – leadership, presence, great hands and movement (feel) for the position, outstanding foot skills, quickness and a fearless attitude. She will make an early difference at Northwestern next year."

BROOKE VAN DYCK / University of Notre Dame



Brooke VanDyck's exceptional soccer skills have helped the Penn High School Girls Soccer Team become Indiana's Gold Standard.

When VanDyck, a junior, wraps up her Kingsmen soccer career, she hopes to help the University of



Notre Dame women's soccer team raise championship banners as well.

VanDyck, who helped lead Penn to a state championship last season and the No. 1 ranking in the nation this season, verbally committed to continue her academic and athletic careers at Notre Dame.

"I think undoubtedly Notre Dame is one of the most prestigious universities throughout the country, so I am thrilled to be able to continue my education there," VanDyck said. "The soccer portion is just as exciting - being able to step into such a talented program in the Atlantic Coast Conference is a dream come true."

VanDyck said that the Notre Dame coaches and players were incredibly impressive when she visited the Irish.

"The coaches of the program are unbelievable and I know that not only will they be able to push me to improve my game all around, but also mold me into a better person," VanDyck said. "Also, the amazing players from all over country that Notre Dame brings in creates a thriving environment for each individual to push and get better."

VanDyck will be lining up against current Penn teammate Kristina Lynch in ACC action when the Fighting Irish take on Florida State. Lynch is a Seminoles' commit.

"Kristina is such a close friend of mine; we have been playing together since we were kids in club and high school," VanDyck said. "Practicing with her every day, I know we push each other to become the best players we can be."

"I know she is going to do great at Florida State, but will just have to get used to losing to Notre Dame every year," VanDyck joked.

Penn Head Coach Jeff Hart said that VanDyck is an elite player.

"Brooke is the best midfielder in the state and one of the best in the country," Hart said. "She has a point-guard mentality and she is devastating attacking defenses at speed with the dribble. She has elite technical ability and her outgoing personality makes her a natural leader. I have no doubt that she will make a name for herself at Notre Dame."

KELSI CARRICO / Purdue University



By DELAYNE SANCHEZ

Penn Girls Soccer phenom Kelsi Carrico, a sophomore, verbally committed to Purdue University.

Carrico is a starter on the Penn Girls Soccer Team that is ranked No. 1 in Indiana and No. 1 in the nation.



"I wanted to play a Big D-I school, so I could play at the highest level of college soccer," Carrico said of committing to Purdue.

Carrico said that going to a big school for college feels more right after coming to Penn. She wanted to be away from home to receive the full "college experience," but close enough so family and friends could come and support her at her games.

As for the Purdue Soccer program itself, Carrico stated she felt comfortable with the coaches and the teammates, which include some former high school and club teammates. Carrico played with current Purdue Boilermaker Alexis Marks on last season's Penn state championship team, and she played with Purdue's Ashley Witucki of Carmel on the Indiana Fire DA club team.

Carrico joked that because Purdue doesn't have a men's soccer team, the women's soccer team doesn't have to worry about sharing facilities.

On the academic side, Carrico has decided that she wants to pursue becoming a vet, with Purdue having an excellent vet program, however "If I decide to change my mind in the following years, Purdue is such a great and big school that I have many other options to chose from."

She boasted saying she is honored to get the opportunity to play for Purdue leaving with this comment "Boiler up!"

2017 RESULTS

Game 1:
Aug. 18, 2017

No. 1 PENN 5, No. 14 Zionsville 0
At Newton Park, Lakeville

First-team All-American Kristina Lynch, a Florida State recruit, led the Kingsmen against Zionsville with three goals. Maya Lacognato scored two goals. Brooke Van Dyck had two assists, and Kelsi Carrico and Lexi Scott had one assist each.

Game 2:
Aug. 19, 2017

No. 1 PENN 5, No. 15 Warsaw
At Newton Park, Lakeville

Notre Dame recruit Brooke Van Dyck blasted in three goals to power the Kingsmen to a 5-0 victory against Warsaw. Kristina Lynch and Maya Lacognato scored one goal each. McKenzie Blankenbaker, Kelsi Carrico and Kristina Lynch had assists.

Game 3:
Aug. 19, 2017

No. 1 PENN 8, Chesterton 0
At Newton Park, Lakeville

Kristina Lynch stung Chesterton for three goals in Penn's 8-0 victory. Maya Lacognato scored two goals, Lauren Cernak scored two goals, and Kelsi Carrico scored one goal. Brooke Van Dyck and Allie Lankowicz had two assists each. Kelsi Carrico, Lauren Cernak, Maya Lacognato and Kristina Lynch had one assist each.

Game 4:
Aug. 21, 2017

No. 1 PENN 7, Marian 0
At Lionshead Specialty Tire & Wheel Field, Penn H.S.

Kristina Lynch and Lauren Hamilton scored two goals each to power Penn High School's Girls Soccer Team to a 7-0 victory against Marian in the Northern Indiana Conference opener for both clubs on Monday, Aug. 21.

Mackenzie Wood earned her fourth shutout in as many games.

Penn, ranked No.1 in the Nation and No. 1 in Indiana, improved to 4-0 with the victory.

Penn only needed three minutes to light up the scoreboard. Lauren Cernak scored off an assist by Kristina Lynch.

Lynch skipped through Marian's defense and fired a shot into the top corner for Penn's second goal (ninth minute).

Brooke VanDyck then turned in a spectacular goal to make it 3-0 in the 19th minute. VanDyck dribbled past five defenders and then unleashed a right-footed strike from 20 yards out into the top corner.

One minute later, Lynch scored her second goal off an assist from McKenzie Blankenbaker.

Regan Hart took a dazzling pass from Lynch to make it 5-0 in the 31st minute.

Hamilton scored both of Penn's second-half goals, in the 45th minute and the 47th minute. Lynch heel-flicked a throw-in from Kelsi Carrico over two defenders and sent in a beautiful ball to Hamilton, who finished. Hamilton scored her second goal on a stunning cross from Carrico.

Game 5:
Aug. 23, 2017

No. 1 PENN 9, Mishawaka 0
At Baker Park, Mishawaka

Penn overpowered archrival Mishawaka, 9-0, in girls soccer action.

Penn started strong in the first minute with a goal from Brooke Van Dyck off an assist from Sydney Egendoerfer.

Allie Lankowicz scored off an assist from Brooke Van Dyck to push the Kingsmen lead to 2-0.

Not long after that, the Kingsmen established a dominant lead at 3-0, thanks a goal from Florida State commit Kristina Lynch, with an assist from Kelsi Carrico.

With confidence levels high, the Kingsmen continued to show teamwork.

Maya Lacognato contributed an unassisted goal and two assist. Mary Kaczynski had two assists. McKenzie Blankenbaker, Carly Todd, Allie Lankowicz, and Mackenzie Wood scored goals as the Kingsmen built an 8-0 lead.

Penn finished off the 9-0 victory in the 78th minute as Regan Hart assisted Haylee Shahan for the final goal.

Game 6:
Aug. 26, 2017

No. 1 PENN 2, Munster 0
At Lionshead Specialty Tire & Wheel Field, Penn H.S.

Kristina Lynch scored two goals to lead the No. 1-ranked Penn Kingsmen to a 2-0 victory against Munster on Saturday, Aug. 26.

Mackenzie Wood earned the shutout in goal.

Game 7:
Aug. 31, 2017

No. 1 PENN 5, Elkhart Central 0
At Elkhart Central High School

Penn star Kristina Lynch, a Florida State University recruit, scored her 100th career goal to highlight Penn's 5-0 victory against Elkhart Central on Thursday, Aug. 31. Lynch scored three goals in the game.

Maya Lacognato and Lauren Cernak also scored goals for the Kingsmen.

Notre Dame recruit Brooke VanDyck delivered three assists. Lynch had one assist.

Game 8:
Sept. 2, 2017

No. 1 PENN 2, No. 2 Simon Kenton (Kentucky) 0
At Zionsville High School

Brooke VanDyck put the Kingsmen on the board in the 30th minute against Simon Kenton off an assist from Kristina Lynch.

Lynch scored in the 78th minute off of an assist from VanDyck to wrap up the 2-0 victory.

Game 9:
Sept. 2, 2017

No. 1 PENN 1, No. 3 Carmel 1
At Zionsville High School

Carmel, the No. 25 team in the nation, took a 1-0 lead on Penn in the 20th minute.

Lynch fired in a goal unassisted in the 26th minute to tie the score.

Game 10:
Sept. 14, 2017

No. 1 PENN 9, South Bend Riley 0
At Jackson Field, South Bend

On Thursday, Sept. 14, the No. 1-ranked Penn Kingsmen Girls Soccer Team roared past the Riley Wildcats, 9-0.

The quick-strike Kingsmen offense got on the scoreboard in the third minute with a goal by Brooke VanDyck.

Just one minute later, Kristina Lynch scored to make it 2-0 Penn in the fourth minute.

The Kingsmen would then light up the scoreboard with three goals in four minutes. McKenzie Blankenbaker, Mary Kaczynski and Maya Locognato scored to build the Kingsmen lead to 5-0.

In the 30th minute, Carly Todd score to put the Kingsmen up 6-0. Kristina Lynch scored her second goal of the night on a penalty kick to put the Kingsmen up 7-0.

Grace Szklarek followed that up with a goal to put the Kingsmen up 8-0.

Haylee Shahan wrapped up the scoring for the Kingsmen.

Game 11:
Sept. 16, 2017

No. 1 PENN 8, Leo 0
At Canterbury, Fort Wayne

Kristina Lynch scored a hat trick to lead Penn. Lynch scored the Kingsmen's first two goals of the game on assists from Lauren Cernak and Lauren Hamilton. McKenzie Blankenbaker scored in the 18th minute to put the Kingsmen up 3-0 over the Lions. The next goal was scored by Kristina Lynch to wrap up the hat trick and put the Kingsmen up 4-0.

Hamilton scored her second of the game in the 45th minute to put the Kingsmen up 5-0.

In the 49th minute, Brooke VanDyck blasted in a goal to put the Kingsmen up 6-0. Carly Todd would add onto that in the 65th minute to put the Kingsmen in front 7-0. The final Kingsmen goal would be scored by Grace Szklarek in the 67th minute to help the Kingsmen seal the victory 8-0.

Game 12:
Sept. 16, 2017

No. 1 PENN 8, Fort Wayne Canterbury 0
At Canterbury, Fort Wayne

Kristina Lynch scored three goals. Maya Lacognato, Brooke Fuller, Brooke VanDyck, Regan Hart and Mary Kaczynski scored goals. Goalie Mackenzie Wood played offense in the second half and had two assists. Sydney Egendoerfer, McKenzie Blankenbaker, Kelsi Carrico and Kayla Leady also had assists.

Game 13:
Sept. 18, 2017

No. 1 PENN 9, Bremen 0
At Lionshead Specialty Tire & Wheel Field, Penn H.S.

McKenzie Blankenbaker scored two goalies, and goalie Mackenzie Wood played offense in the second half and scored a goal to highlight the victory.

Maggie Graham, Kristina Lynch, Carly Todd, Regan Hart, Brooke Fuller and Haylee Shahan scored goals for Penn.

Game 14:
Sept. 20, 2017

No. 1 PENN 2, No. 5 South Bend St. Joseph 0
At Lionshead Specialty Tire & Wheel Field, Penn H.S.

Penn's Girls Soccer Team, ranked No. 1 in Class 3-A, won a hard-fought match against No. 5 (Class 2-A) South Bend St. Joseph, 2-0, on Wednesday, Sept. 20.

In the 42nd minute, Maya Lacognato scored a header goal off an assist from Florida State University commit Kristina Lynch to put the Kingsmen on the scoreboard.

Lynch struck in the opening minutes of the second half to give Penn its 2-0 lead.

The Kingsmen move to 13-0-1, 7-0 in Northern Indiana Conference play.

Game 15:
Sept. 23, 2017

No. 1 PENN 2, Noblesville 1
At Noblesville High School

The Penn Girls Soccer Team traveled to the Indianapolis area to face the Noblesville Millers on Saturday, Sept. 23.

No. 1 Penn turned back No. 6 Noblesville, 2-1.

Both defenses were dominant in this one.

Kristina Lynch scored both Kingsmen goals, one in each half. She scored one at the 22nd minute mark, and one at the 55th minute mark. The Kingsmen move to 14-0-1, and Noblesville falls to 9-2-3.

Game 16:
Sept. 26, 2017

No. 1 PENN 3, South Bend Adams 0
At Tallman/Beyrer Field, South Bend

Penn took command in the second half to defeat the Eagles.

Kristina Lynch scored two goals, and Kelsi Carrico scored one goal.

Game 17:
Sept. 28, 2017

No. 1 PENN 5, Glenn 0
At Glenn High School

Kristina Lynch scored two goals as Penn closed out the regular season.

Brooke VanDyck, Kelsi Carrico and Mary Kaczynski also scored goals.

Maya Lacognato had two assists.

Game 18:
Oct. 3, 2017

No. 1 PENN 9, South Bend Riley 0
At Lionshead Specialty Tire & Wheel Field, Penn H.S.

Coach Jeff Hart's defending state champion and No. 1-ranked Penn Kingsmen Girls Soccer Team opened the Penn Sectional with a 9-0 victory against South Bend Riley on Tuesday, Oct. 3.

Penn (17-0-1) advances to the semifinal game against South Bend Adams on Thursday, Oct. 5.

Penn stung Riley with six goals in a seven-minute span in the first half.

Lauren Cernak scored a goal in the fifth minute to put the Kingsmen on the board.

Kristina Lynch followed that with a goal in the seventh minute to put Penn up 2-0.

Lynch scored her second goal in the ninth minute.

Lauren Hamilton followed that with a goal in the 11th minute to make a 4-0.

Brooke VanDyck also scored in the 11th minute to make it 5-0 Kingsmen.

Haylee Shahan scored in the 12th minute to make it 6-0 Kingsmen.

Molly McLaughlin added to the Kingsmen scoring total with a goal in the 19th minute.

Sydney Egendorfer scored in the 48th minute to make it 8-0 Penn.

Mallory Lehman closed out the scoring in the 54th minute to make it 9-0 Kingsmen.

Game 19:
Oct. 5, 2017

No. 1 PENN 6, South Bend Adams 0
At Lionshead Specialty Tire & Wheel Field, Penn H.S.

Defending State Champion Penn Girls Soccer defeated South Bend Adams, 6-0, in Class 3-A Sectional action on Thursday, Oct. 5.

Allie Lankowicz and the Kingsmen struck quickly. Lankowicz scored off an assist from Maya Locognato in the fourth minute to put the Kingsmen up 1-0.

Kristina Lynch would get a hat trick in a seven-minute span to put the Kingsmen up 4-0 by the 25th minute.

Molly McLaughlin had all three assists in Lynch's scoring flurry.

Mary Kaczynski scored on an assist from Maya Locognato in the 36th minute to put the Kingsmen up 5-0.

Lauren Cernak scored off an assist from Kristina Lynch in the 47th minute to give the Kingsmen their final 6-0 margin.

Game 20:
Oct. 7, 2017

No. 1 PENN 7, LaPorte 0
At Lionshead Specialty Tire & Wheel Field, Penn H.S.

No. 1-ranked Penn fought through a torrential downpour most of the game and overpowered LaPorte, 7-0, to capture the Class 3-A Sectional Championship on Saturday, Oct. 7. The Kingsmen own the state's best Sectional Championship winning streak, owning 11 Sectional Championships in a row.

Kristina Lynch ignited the Kingsmen attack off an assist from Lauren Cernak in the seventh minute.

Allie Lankowicz sliced through the LaPorte defense for a goal in the 19th minute.

Lynch scored her second goal in the 38th minute to give Penn a 3-0 lead.

Lynch wrapped up the hat trick one minute later, scoring in the 39th minute.

Molly McLaughlin scored off an assist from Lynch to put the Kingsmen up 5-0 in the 44th minute.

Brooke VanDyck scored in the 45th minute as the Kingsmen built their lead to 6-0.

VanDyck scores her second goal in the 48th minute to put the Kingsmen up 7-0.

Penn is (19-0-1) and plays Northridge at noon on Saturday, Oct. 14, at South Bend's Tallman/Beyrer Field in the Class 3-A Regional. The Penn-Northridge winner plays the Munster-Chesterton winner at 7 p.m. for the Regional Championship.

Game 21:
Oct. 14, 2017

No. 1 PENN 4, Northridge 0
At Tallman/Beyrer Field, South Bend

No. 1-ranked Penn overcame Northridge and tough playing conditions to post a 4-0 victory against the Raiders on Saturday, Oct. 14, and advance to the Regional Championship match.

Heavy rains and lightning forced the postponement of the Championship Game to Monday, Oct. 16. The game is set for 7 p.m. at South Bend's Tallman-Beyrer Field at the School Field complex.

Penn (20-0-1) will play No. 11 Munster (14-3-2) for the Regional Championship. Penn beat Munster 2-0 in the regular season.

Kristina Lynch stung Northridge with a pair of goals, including a sensational lunging header.

Molly McLaughlin scored off an assist by Lynch.

Riley Chapla scored Penn's fourth goal on a header off a corner from Lynch.

Game 22:
Oct. 16, 2017

No. 1 PENN 3, No. 11 Munster 1
At Tallman/Beyrer Field, South Bend

The Penn Girls Soccer Team punched its ticket to the Semi-state with a 3-1 victory in the South Bend Regional against Munster on Monday, Oct. 16.

The game was forced to be made up on Monday from the drenching rain storm Saturday Night.

Penn is 21-0-1 and ranked No. 1 in Indiana and in the nation.

Maya Locognato got the Kingsmen on the board first off an assist from Kristina Lynch in the seventh minute to put the Kingsmen up 1-0.

Kristina Lynch came through for the Kingsmen off an assist from Lauren Cernak in the 50th minute to snap a 1-1 tie.

Molly McLaughlin scored off a header in the 79th minute for the dagger that gave Penn a 3-1 lead.

Penn will play Noblesville at 3 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 21, at Municipal Stadium in Kokomo for the Semi-state.

Game 23:
Oct. 21, 2017

No. 1 PENN 1, No. 5 Noblesville 1 (Shootout, 5-4)
At Municipal Stadium, Kokomo

Lexi Scott's first goal of the season turned out to be the most important of the season so far for the Nation's No. 1 Girls Soccer Team, as it was the game-winner in a shootout to give the defending State Champion Penn Kingsmen a 1-1 (5-4 shootout) victory against Noblesville in the Kokomo Semi-State on Saturday, Oct. 21.

Penn (22-0-1) advances to its third consecutive State Championship Game to take on Guerin Catholic (16-1-1). The game will either be on Friday, Oct. 27, or Saturday, Oct. 28, at either Butler or IUPUI. The IHSAA will announce time and location on Sunday. Noblesville, ranked No. 5 in Indiana and No. 35 in the Nation, is done at 14-3-3.

Scott, a senior defender, emerged as a clutch penalty-kick shooter during tryouts for the shootout rotation.

"Lexi has a great shot and she can finish," Penn Coach Jeff Hart said. "The moment was not too big for her."

"We've been working on penalty kicks for weeks," Hart said. "We whittled it down to 10 or 11 kids. We knew for the last two weeks Lexi was going to be one of the five kids. In the last week, we told her that she would be the fifth, and that's because of her composure. She's so calm on the ball, and

you never know where the ball is going. When you're the fifth kicker, it's usually high pressure, high anxiety and you saw that she stepped up confident and finished it. I'm very proud of her."

Scott was totally focused on the PK despite shooting into a backdrop of a boisterous Noblesville student section.

"We've been practicing all week for this," Scott said. "Obviously, we never wanted it to get down to this (a shootout). I just treated it like another practice. I went to the same corner I always go it. It was just so much fun."

"It was a very different moment for me (to be a goal-scorer). I was excited, and I knew I had to live up to the moment. Everybody else who was shooting was a midfielder or a forward, but I knew what I had to do. I was awesome to be in that place. We've been practicing PK's, and the coaches realized that I could handle pressure and I could finish."

Hart thought that Penn's composure was the difference-maker.

"Our kids have been here before," Hart said. "We've been in tough battles before. We've played Noblesville before, now four times in the last 14 months, and basically, it's been a one-goal game each time, a tight, tight game. We talked about it at halftime, that Noblesville will never quit against us, and we will have to keep our composure. I'm just so proud of this team and the way our kids battled."

Hart also appreciated the accomplishments of his student-athletes.

"I think we'll wait another week to let it sink in how well this program has done," Hart said. "The accomplishments on the field are amazing, and the grade-point average is above 3.7 for the entire program. As coaches, we could not be more fortunate to coach this group of kids."

PENN 1, Noblesville 1 (Penn wins shootout 5-4)

P – Maya Lacognato (Kristina Lynch assist) 26th minute.

N – Jessica Hudnall (free kick), 43rd minute.

SHOOTOUT

N – Jessica Hudnall.

P – Maya Lacognato.

N – Kelsey Hughes.

P – Brooke VanDyck.

N – Jewell Hensley.

P – Molly McLaughlin.

N – Amber Wolf.

P – Kristina Lynch.

P – Lexi Scott.