

Dear Salutation,

The sidelines are packed, the rumbling buzz of the crowd is audible, and Plymouth State University student-athletes are putting on yet another impressive showing of strength, agility, and skill. This was no uncommon scenario during the 2004-2005 academic seasons, thanks to the generous support of PSU alumni and friends.



However, many of our nearly 500 student athletes' most impressive showings take place when they aren't in uniform. They not only hold competitive GPA, but also help new students move into their residence halls and play leading roles in many community activities. From cancer walks to food drives to transporting holiday meals for families in need, among many other charitable outings, our student athletes truly know what it means to be an integral part of the PSU community.

Annual gifts help make our students' experience that much better—from providing warm-up gear and award banquets to making available coaching clinics and new technology—your support makes the difference. When they do not have to worry about fundraising activities, they can concentrate on the things that make PSU Athletics truly special. But, since gifts make many different dreams a winning reality, our students can also feel good about their sport. And, wow, do they perform!

The women's highlights were turned in by the tennis and volleyball teams, which brought home their first LEC Championships, with women's volleyball advancing to the NCAA Tournament for the first time. The field hockey and lacrosse teams proudly represented PSU with ECAC New England Championships. The Panther men's teams also enjoyed success, as the soccer, basketball, ice hockey and lacrosse teams all advanced to the ECAC Tournament, with the ice hockey team enjoying home ice in the first round and the lacrosse team advancing to the championship game. Additionally, several Panther individuals earned prominent post-season awards. Exciting men's basketball star Nick Pelotte earned All-America honors after a memorable season which included ECAC New England Player of the Year honors and a remarkable 62 points in the LEC Tournament Championship game. Pitcher Kim Jeffs finished her career as one of the top strikeouts leaders in the history of NCAA Division III softball. Field hockey senior captain Annie Metz was named Conference Defensive Player of the Year, and volleyball star Kelly Landry and lacrosse standout Kelsey MacDonald were voted LEC Offensive Players of the Year. Wrestler Nate Kittredge won a New England Championship, and swimmer Cait Anton was All-New England in three events, including a runner-up finish in the 200 backstroke.

A recap of the year would not be complete without mentioning the introductions of women's ice hockey and cheerleading as affiliate members of the department. With nearly 50 women participating, these additions go a long way to helping us realize our goal of a fully equitable and diverse department that all members of the PSU family can be proud of. And, let's not forget the renovation and expansion of the fitness room, the new Vailas Performance Center. The new facility has been a major boost to the strength and conditioning of Panther student-athletes.

Your continued support will help ensure the resources necessary to keep our students on the fields, courts, slopes, rinks, and in the pools. Please join me in support of Plymouth State University's next generation of student athletes by making a gift to this year's annual giving campaign.

With sincerest thanks,

John P. Clark
Director of Athletics



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