



Pennsylvania Stoners Sports Academy – PO Box 322, 1636 N Cedar Crest Blvd, Allentown, PA 18104  
www.pennstoners.org – pennstoners@gmail.com – 484 505 0382

## News Release

### 2008 Pennsylvania Stoners Sign First Player *Sam Bishop, Ex-Lehigh and Harrisburg City Islanders Goalkeeper, will also act as Assistant Coach.*

#### The Player

Sam Bishop makes his return to the Lehigh Valley this summer as a player/coach for the new Pennsylvania Stoners. A native of Moorestown, NJ, Bishop first came to the Lehigh Valley to play for Lehigh University from 2001-2004. His outstanding play led him on a professional career with the USL-2 2007 Champions Harrisburg City Islanders from 2005-2007. Bishop has maintained a coaching presence in the Lehigh Valley as a coach for Sean Topping's NCAA tournament Muhlenberg Men's team and as Director of Goalkeeping with FC Lehigh. Notes: Bishop has NSCAA Coaching Licenses for both Field Play and Goalkeeping. Bishop was also captain of Dean Koski's Lehigh University squad his senior year and was the winning goalkeeper on the 2005 MSSL Champions AC Perugia Grifos. Bishop displayed his versatility as a player when he played forward for the City Islanders during one six-minute stretch.

#### Quotes

Wolfgang Hochleitner – PA Stoners Personnel Committee – “I'm very pleased to have Sam on the roster. With his qualities as a player and a coach Sam personifies our efforts to field a strong team while delivering on instructional objectives. He'll provide our players valuable insight on being a professional while using his coaching experience to guide their understanding of what it takes to succeed in the game.”

Sam Bishop – “I'm really glad to be returning to the Lehigh Valley. This is a chance I never thought I'd get, because it still allows me to play while I coach. I love the area and its soccer potential. It also puts me closer to the area's soccer community and allows me greater time to work with local youth players.”

Bob Ehrlich – PA Stoners – “Having a guy like Sam around is a true treat. He's always played like a coach and carried himself with the utmost professionalism from the moment I first met him.”

#### The Team

The Pennsylvania Stoners are the Lehigh Valley's Minor League Soccer Team. They will play in the [National Premier Soccer League](#) and will play in the Northeast Division.

#### Tryouts

The Pennsylvania Stoners begin tryouts on December 29 at Iron Lakes Sports Club. The full schedule for opening tryouts is: Saturday, December 29 at 8 PM, Sunday, December 30 at 6 PM and Monday, December 31 at Noon. Tryout applications can be found at [www.pennstoners.org](http://www.pennstoners.org). For directions to Iron Lakes Sports Club, please go to: <http://www.ironlakesportsclub.com/Location.htm>.

Still to come





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The Pennsylvania Stoners will be announcing stadium and scheduling plans over the next few weeks, as well as season ticket plans and further coaching positions...

## Pennsylvania Stoners NPSL 2008 Player Information

Last Name	Bishop
First Name	Sam
Home Town	Moorestown
Home State	NJ
Birth Month	1-Mar-83
Nationality	US/English
Coaching License	NCAA Regional, Advance Regional, State GK, Regional GK
School	Lehigh University
Graduation Year	2006
Last Club Team	Harrisburg City Islanders
Favorite Position	GK
Most Played Position	GK
Other Positions	Forward (6 pro minutes of experience)
Preferred Foot	Right





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**Pennsylvania Stoners NPSL 2008  
 The 411 on....**

Player Name	<u>Sam Bishop</u>
Player Nickname	Bish
Pro Club Supported	Harrisburg City Islanders
Previous Clubs	Harrisburg City Islanders, Iron Lakes AC Perugia U23, Lehigh University
Strengths	Shot stopping, high balls, commanding, strong foot
Weaknesses	Haven't played competitively since August
My Brazilian Soccer Name Would Be	Bisopo
Career honors	Captained preseason matches for City Islanders, Captained at Lehigh University, Captained Iron Lakes U23, D1 National Team of the Week '03, Patriot League 2 <sup>nd</sup> team
Career Highlights	USL 2 National Champions, Beating DC United in the Open Cup, Signing 1 <sup>st</sup> pro contract, MSSL Champions, At-large bid to NCAA tournament
Best Goal Scored	Don't remember last time I scored in a game
Best Soccer Moment	My first pro game/save against DC United
Worst Soccer Moment	Having to get surgery after winning the starting position with a professional club
Toughest Opponent	DC United/New England Revolution/Lafayette College
Best-ever Teammate	Former Lehigh and AC Perugia Teammate and Goalkeeper Jim Morahan
Best Game I Ever Played In	Lehigh/Lafayette Regular Season '03





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Biggest Soccer Influence	My Father
Best Game I Ever Saw	Manchester United/AC Milan in Giants Stadium, front row on the mid-line
Best Advice Given	"If you train hard enough, you can play wherever you want"
Biggest Practical Joker	Matt Tanzini (Changed bookmarks in all my books every road trip for 3 years with Harrisburg)
Last Time You Laughed in a Game	When "Tall" tripped with the ball in front of an entire sorority with no players around him "Tall" is former Lehigh, City Islanders and AC perugia Teammate Jim Stevens, who happens to be 6' 7"
Favorite Meal	Burritos
Favorite Movie	The Goonies
Favrite TV Show	The Simpsons
Favorite Actress	Kate Beckinsale
Favorite Actor	Dustin Monahan
Favorite Babe	Kate Beckinsale
Dream Car	2006 Dodge Charger
Car I Drive	2000 Honda Civic
Xbox or PS3?	Both are too expensive, PS1
Other Favorite Sports?	Lacrosse, Ping pong, tennis
Player You'd Like to Play Alongside	My Father
In Five Years, I'd Like to Be	Driving my dream car that my business paid for

