

Paw Prints

Winter/Spring 2006

By **Brian DePasquale**

Photography: Bob Ewell

Top Athletes

Jamar Wilson, an All-America guard in basketball, and **Blair Buchanan**, a volleyball setter who also earned All-America honors for the second straight year, are the University at Albany's 2005–06 male and female athletes of the year. Wilson became the first UAlbany basketball player to be named to the Associated Press All-America squad. He averaged 17.7 points and 3.9 assists. Buchanan was named an AVCA honorable mention All-American for the second consecutive year. Buchanan, the 2005 America East Conference player and setter of the year, averaged 12.19 assists in leading her team to the America East regular-season crown.



Greg Carroccio

Merit Medals

Ashlee Reed and **Stephan Hall** were honored at the sixth annual Great Dane Awards with ECAC Merit Medals as the University's top senior male and female student-athletes. Reed, the inaugural America East Woman of the Year recipient and a three-time all-conference volleyball performer, posted a 3.53 cumulative grade point average in a dual major of human biology and psychology. Hall, a two-time All-America East men's soccer selection, had a 3.97 GPA in urban studies and planning. He became the first UAlbany soccer player to be selected to the *ESPN The Magazine* Academic All-America national first team.

Softball

The Great Danes won their second straight America East championship and reached the NCAA Tournament with a school-record 36–13–1 mark. **Casey Halloran**, the America East pitcher of the year, posted a 27–10 record with a 1.51 earned run average.

Men's Outdoor Track

UAlbany captured its third America East championship in the last four years. The Great Danes had five individual champions, including **Joe Greene** (400-hurdles, 400-dash), **Junior Burnett** (200), Ray Gilman (triple jump) and **Andy Allstadt** (10,000). The 4x400 relay also crossed the finish line in first. Greene, who was the championship's most

outstanding track performer, went on to win an IC4A 400-hurdles title and earn All-America honors at the NCAA Division I meet.

Women's Outdoor Track

The Great Danes won their first-ever America East Conference championship by a 13.5-point margin. **Jessica Ortman** (1,500), **Kamilah McShine** (100-hurdles) and **Ritshell Verdier** (discus) won conference titles. **Adanna Andrews**, **Danielle Trimpop**, **Jenna Ortman** and **Jessica Ortman** ran to victory in the 4x800-meter relay.

Men's Lacrosse

UAlbany reached the America East postseason tournament final for the fifth consecutive year. The Great Danes produced six all-conference players, including three first-team selections. **Frank Resertaris**, who had 45 goals and 19 assists, led the nation in scoring at 4.27 points per game. **Jordan Levine** had 14 goals and 13 assists, plus ranked eighth nationally in ground balls (5.87 pg).

Baseball

The Great Danes made the America East postseason tournament for the second time in the last three seasons. Catcher **Tom Hill** was named to the All-Northeast Region first team after registering 11 home runs and 46 RBI. **Nate Olson**, a designated hitter who joined Hill on the All-America East first team, had eight homers and 30 RBI.

Jenna Ortman



Women's Lacrosse

The Great Danes matched their highest victory total at the Division I level with an 8-8 record. **Kate Fontana**, a first-team All-America East midfielder, had 34 goals and 10 assists, and led the nation in ground balls (4.94 pg) and caused turnovers (3.13 pg).

Women's Tennis

UAlbany was greatly improved for the second consecutive year with a 10-6 overall record and a fifth-place showing at the America East championship. **Lisa Klarmann**, who had a 17-1 record at first singles, and **Aimee Kern** were chosen to the All-America East second team.

Women's Golf

The Great Danes placed third at the America East championship. **Amanda McPhee** (89-88) had a two-round total of 177 to finished third, while **Maggie Taylert** (94-95) was tenth.

Men's Basketball

The Great Danes won their first-ever America East championship with a 21-11 record and provided a near-upset of second-ranked Connecticut in the NCAA Tournament. **Jamar Wilson** was named the America East player of the year and the championship's most outstanding performer. (See the Spring 2006 *UAlbany* magazine for more details.)

Women's Basketball

Senior guard **Jen Schumacher** finished her career as the program's all-time leader with 197 three-point field goals. Schumacher, who averaged 11 points, led America East in three-pointers made (66) and three-point percentage (.367) in 2005-06.

Women's Indoor Track

UAlbany was second at the America East championship, the program's best-ever finish. **Adanna Andrews** won the 500-meter dash in a school-record 1:14.54 and ran the second leg on the winning 4x800 relay. **Kamilah McShine** (55-hurdles) and **Ritshell Verdier** (shot put) also posted victories. At ECACs, freshman **Jenna Ortman** won the 1,000-meter run.

Men's Indoor Track

The Great Danes, who were edged out by a single point in the previous year's America East championship, reclaimed the conference crown in 2006. **Andy Allstadt** won the 3,000- and 5,000-meter runs en route to receiving the meet's most outstanding track performer award. **Kamar Elliott** captured his third consecutive triple jump title. **Gered Burns**, the America East and IC4A 800-meter champion, went on to become the first Division I track All-American in UAlbany history.

Joe Greene



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