

# Paw Prints

By Brian DePasquale

## Spring 2007

**Merit Medals:** Ashley DeNeal, Kate Fontana and Ryan Chrobak were honored at the seventh annual Great Dane Awards with ECAC Merit Medals as the University's top senior male and female student-athletes. DeNeal, the 2006 America East Conference Championship's Most Outstanding Player in volleyball, posted a 3.61 cumulative grade point average in a dual major of criminal justice and psychology. Fontana, a four-time all-conference midfielder in women's lacrosse, had a 3.71 GPA in criminal justice. Chrobak, who had a 3.56 GPA as an undergraduate, is currently enrolled in UAlbany's criminal justice graduate program. He was voted the football program's top defensive back for the third straight year.

### Softball

The Great Danes captured their third consecutive America East championship. UAlbany (35-17) became the first No. 4 seed to win the conference's postseason tournament. Head coach Chris

Cannata guided her squad to the first NCAA Division I Tournament wins by a UAlbany women's program en route to reaching the Hempstead Regional final. **Casey Halloran**, who had a 19-10 record on the mound, was named the America East championship's most outstanding player for the second year in a row. Third baseman **Kelly Ogden**, the program's all-time leader in home runs and total hits, was picked to the all-region squad. The Great Danes have won 30 or more games in six straight seasons.

### Baseball

UAlbany registered its first-ever America East Conference championship by upsetting top-seed and regular-season champion Binghamton twice in tournament play. Head coach Jon Mueller directed the program to an NCAA Tournament berth for the first time at any divisional level in the program's history. UAlbany (29-29) played a pair of national top-20 teams in Arkansas and Creighton in the Fayetteville Regional. Third baseman **Steve Wyland**, third on the all-time hits list with 211, and reliever **Alexander Beaulieu** (10 saves) were named to the All-Northeast Region second team. Catcher **Tom Hill** became the fifth UAlbany player to be chosen in the Major League Draft (Kansas City, 34th round).



### Men's Lacrosse

UAlbany put together its most celebrated season by winning the program's fourth America East championship in the last five years. The Great Danes, who were ranked No. 2 nationally for six consecutive weeks, posted the first NCAA Division I Tournament victory in the athletic program's history in a first-round win over Loyola. UAlbany (15-3) was edged in overtime by top-ranked Cornell in the NCAA quarterfinals. Scott Marr was named the 2007 USILA National Coach of the Year for leading his team to seven top-20 wins, the most ever in a Division I campaign. **Frank Resetarits**, the America East player of the year, was named to the USILA All-America first team. **Jordan Levine** (second team), **Merrick Thomson** (third team) and **Brett Queener** (honorable mention) joined him on the national squad.

Frank Resetarits

Greg Wall

## Men's Outdoor Track

UAlbany won its fourth America East championship in the last five years. The Great Danes, who established a league record with 268 points, had six individual champions, including **Gered Burns** in the 800-meter run.

Bob Ewell



Joe Greene

**Junior Burnett**, who won the 100-meter dash, received the Coaches' Award after accounting for 23 points at the meet. **Joe Greene**, the championship's most outstanding track performer, and **Marc Pallozzi** earned All-America recognition for the second consecutive year. Greene was fourth in the 400-hurdles at the NCAA Championships, the highest finish by a UAlbany athlete. Pallozzi was eighth in the

javelin. Freshman **John Moore** made the U.S. roster for the Pan American Juniors in Brazil and came home with the 800-meters' bronze medal.

## Women's Outdoor Track

The Great Danes finished first at the America East championship for the second straight year by coming from behind on the final day to defeat New Hampshire for the title. **Jessica Ortman** (1,500), **Adanna Andrews** (800), **Jenn Gurrant** (long jump) and **Brenna Militello** (high jump) won individual championships. UAlbany also showed competitive balance, with six athletes placing second in their respective events. Ortman, one of five women to qualify for the NCAA East Regional, placed seventh in the 800-meter run and set a school record in qualifying.

## Women's Lacrosse

UAlbany made its first-ever appearance in the America East championship final after upending top-seed Stony Brook in the semifinals. Goalkeeper **Jen Daly**, the school's career saves leader, stopped 24 shots in the postseason and was voted to the all-championship team. **Kate Fontana**, **Katelyn Primomo** and **Sarah Spillett** were selected first-team all-conference. Fontana, who was named second-team All-Northeast Region, finished her career as the program's all-time scorer with 192 points (156 goals, 36 assists). She led this year's team with 38 goals and ranked seventh nationally in caused turnovers (2.71 pg).

## Women's Tennis

**Kim Weltman** posted a straight-set victory at first singles as UAlbany won the fifth-place match at the America East Championships. Weltman finished with a 16-7 overall singles record and posted eight wins in doubles play.

## Women's Golf

The Great Danes finished third at the America East championship. Freshman **Jessica Signorelli** placed sixth among the individual golfers with rounds of 85 and 87 at The Links at Hiawatha Landing course.

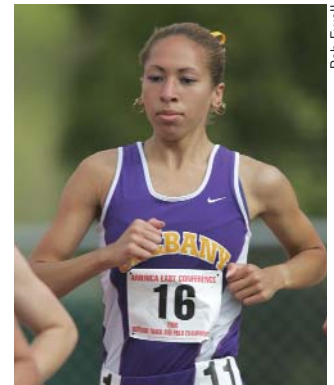
## Football

Defensive back **Rashad Barksdale** was taken in the sixth round of the 2007 NFL Draft by the Philadelphia Eagles. Barksdale is the second UAlbany football player to be selected in the draft.

Defensive end **Andre Coleman** (San Diego) and offensive lineman **Jacob Hobbs** (Philadelphia) signed as free agents.

## NCAA Scholarships

Track & field's **Alyssa Lotmore** and men's soccer's **Stephan Hall** were awarded NCAA Postgraduate Scholarships. The NCAA awards a national total of 174 postgraduate scholarships annually – 87 for men and 87 for women.



Bob Ewell

Alyssa Lotmore

## 2007 UAlbany Football Schedule

Sept. 1	(Sat.) at Colgate	1 p.m.
Sept. 8	(Sat.) at Fordham	6 p.m.
<b>Sept. 15</b>	<b>(Sat.) Hofstra</b>	<b>6 p.m.</b>
Sept. 22	(Sat.) at Montana	3:05 p.m.
<b>Oct. 6</b>	<b>(Sat.) Stony Brook</b>	<b>4 p.m.</b>
<b>Oct. 13</b>	<b>(Sat.) Sacred Heart* (HC)</b>	<b>4 p.m.</b>
Oct. 20	(Sat.) at St. Francis, Pa.*	1 p.m.
Oct. 27	(Sat.) at Wagner*	1 p.m.
<b>Nov. 3</b>	<b>(Sat.) Robert Morris*</b>	<b>1 p.m.</b>
Nov. 10	(Sat.) at Monmouth*	1 p.m.
Nov. 17	(Sat.) at Central Conn. State*	12 p.m.

\*Northeast Conference Opponent  
 (HC) Homecoming/Family Weekend  
 Home games are in **boldfaced type**  
 All Times Eastern



# Ashlee Reed, B.S.'06 Team Player

By Carol Olechowski

Ashlee Reed, B.S.'06, learned a lot at UAlbany. The Austin, Texas, native found that “going away from home” helped her “grow up.” So did participating in sports. “I don’t know what my college experience would have been like without sports,” says Reed, who majored in both human biology and psychology. “Being on a team helped me with time management and people skills. With 14 people on a team, you have so many different personalities. Especially as team captain, I had to learn how to make us work as a unit. When you’re on the court, nothing else matters. You do everything you can to help the team win.”

Reed’s winning attitude brought her numerous honors. Recruited to play volleyball at UAlbany on a full four-year scholarship, she helped to lead the Great Danes to America East Conference regular-season titles in 2004 and 2005 and the conference championship in 2004. Her efforts earned her the 2005 Most Valuable Player Award, which she shared with teammate and co-captain Blair Buchanan; the 2006 America East Woman of the Year Award; the ECAC Merit Award; and Chancellor’s Awards for Student Excellence and Athletics.

Shortly after graduation, Reed returned to UAlbany’s athletics department to accept a part-time assistantship. She spends part of each week at SEFCU Arena, helping athletes to condition themselves for competition – and treating the injuries of those unfortunate enough to pull muscles and sprain ankles. Reed has been on the other side of

the splint, so to speak: In her senior year, she played with an injured ankle that she didn’t realize was broken.

Her own experiences with sports-related injuries have made Reed sympathetic to her patients both at the University and at the Albany-area orthopedic center where she also works. “As a medical assistant, I’ve learned that you have to be personable. Even if I’m not happy that day, I put a smile on my face. I realize that the patient is feeling worse than I am,” observes Reed, who is studying for the MCAT and plans to apply for admission to medical school.

The academic experience at UAlbany prepared her well for future study. “I really thrived,” Reed notes. “The University is a great place to learn.” Her favorite faculty member was Associate Professor of Anthropology David Strait. “I really like classes that are challenging. His class made me pay attention, and by the end of the semester, I really felt I had learned everything and retained it. I had Dr. Strait for two other classes, including human biology.”

For her work with the University’s 300 athletes, Reed receives a modest stipend – and the satisfaction of helping the staff who were there for her when she was a student. Working two jobs provides “a nice balance. It breaks up my days; I get

to see my patients at the other job, then I see most of my friends here. I’m definitely never bored. I’m always busy.

“I really like interacting with people. The athletes here – all of them – are my friends. When I have a bad day, I go talk to them. Without them, and the coaching staff, my life wouldn’t be the same.”



*Future physician Ashlee Reed tapes an injured ankle at SEFCU Arena.*

Mark Schmidt