

Sports Round-up | Fall 2005

By **Brian DePasquale**

Photography: Bob Ewell

Football

Colin Disch was chosen the 2005 Don Hansen's Football Gazette NCAA I-AA Mid-Major Linebacker of the Year. Disch, who also made The Sports Network's first-team All-America squad, totaled 112 tackles and 4.5 sacks. He was voted the Northeast Conference Defensive Player of the Year by the league's coaches. UAlbany (5-6, NEC 4-3) won five of its last six games to recover from a string of five consecutive losses to begin the season. Head coach Bob Ford recorded his 200th win at UAlbany in a 20-17 come-from-behind victory over Robert Morris Nov. 5.

Women's Volleyball

Blair Buchanan was named to the American Volleyball Coaches Association's All-America squad for the second straight year after leading UAlbany to a 28-4 record and the America East Conference regular-season crown. The Great Danes posted their highest win total as a Division I program. Buchanan, who averaged a conference-leading 12.19 assists and became UAlbany's all-time leader in that category, was voted the America East player and setter of the year for the second season in a row. Ashley DeNeal earned the conference's defensive player of the year award and joined Buchanan, Ashlee Reed, Shelby Goldman and Ashley Hunter on the A-East first team.

Women's Golf

UAlbany finished eighth at the ECAC Championship at Ballymeade Country Club in Falmouth, Mass. Freshman **Amanda McPhee** tied for 15th place and led the Great Danes with an 83.8 stroke average in eight rounds played.

Men's Soccer

The Great Danes reached the America East Conference Tournament's semifinal round and finished with a 6-9-4 record. **Stephan Hall**, a junior midfielder, led the team in scoring with five goals and seven assists. He was named to the 2005 ESPN The Magazine Academic All-America national first team. Hall, who has a 3.97 grade point average in urban planning, became the first UAlbany soccer player selected to the all-academic unit.

Field Hockey

UAlbany made its first-ever appearance in the America East Conference post-season by advancing to the semifinal round with a 9-9 overall record. **Tina Bryson** was named first-team All-America East Conference for the second consecutive season. Bryson was among the league's leading scorers with nine goals and four assists. Freshman goalkeeper Ashley Ross was a member of the America East All-Rookie Team.



Football Milestone:



Head football Coach Bob Ford has earned a Maxwell Award for his 200th collegiate win at UAlbany. Coach Ford, who started the football program as a club team in 1970, recorded his milestone win in a 20-17 come-from-behind victory against Robert Morris on Nov. 5, 2005.

Men's Cross Country

Ricardo Estremera placed second at the America East Conference Championship with a time of 23:59.0 as the Great Danes took fifth in the team standings. **Robbie Freeman**, who was seventh at the America East meet, and **Bryant Cherry-Woode** each earned All-East recognition at the IC4A Championship in November. Freeman, who also finished in the top five at the Fordham and George Mason competitions during the fall, ran 8,000 meters in 25:58.2 at Van Cortlandt Park.

Women's Cross Country

Alyssa Lotmore ran to a seventh-place finish at the ECAC Championship with a 5,000-meter time of 18:37.4. Lotmore, a junior, and **Jenna Ortman** were awarded All-East honors at the meet. Ortman was UAlbany's top finisher at the America East Conference Championship in 17th position as the Great Danes were sixth as a team.

Women's Soccer

Uju Ogbuawa earned honorable mention All-America East Conference honors for the second consecutive season. Ogbuawa, a starter in 18 of 19 matches, tallied three goals and one assist. **Mary-Frances Monroe**, an All-America standout at both Connecticut and UCLA from 1998-2001, was appointed head coach on an interim basis on Oct. 26. Monroe recently completed her first season as a UAlbany assistant. ■

For the latest UAlbany athletic results and schedules, go to:
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