

Paw Prints

By Brian DePasquale

Photos by Bob Ewell

Fall 2006

Women's Volleyball

UAlbany (19-13) won its second America East Conference championship in the last three years by rallying to defeat UMBC in the final. **Ashley DeNeal** was named the championship's most outstanding player. **Blair Buchanan** was chosen the America East player and setter of the year for the third consecutive season. Joining Buchanan and DeNeal as first-team all-conference members were **Shelby Goldman** and **Ashley Crenshaw**. UAlbany hosted the first and second rounds of the NCAA Tournament at University Gymnasium, marking the first time the school has been a site for Division I postseason play.

Football

The Great Danes, who finished in a tie for second in the Northeast Conference standings, posted a 7-4 record, including a 17-10 upset over No. 11 Delaware. **Colin Disch**, the NEC Defensive Player of the Year, became the third UAlbany player to be named to the AFCA All-America squad. Disch has 103 tackles for a defense that ranked fourth nationally among Division I-AA teams in points allowed. In addition to Disch, defensive end **Andre Coleman**; offensive tackles **Jacob Anderson** and **Jacob Hobbs**; defensive tackle **Michael Dungey**; and punter **Chris Lynch** were voted to the all-league first team.

Field Hockey

The Great Danes earned a share of their first-ever America East Conference regular-season title with a 12-7 record. **Michelle Simpson**, the conference's offensive player of the year, was selected to the ECAC Division I All-Star Team. She led the league with 14 goals and seven assists for 35 points. **Arlette Westdorp** was named the A-East defensive player of the year.

Men's Soccer

UAlbany made its third consecutive postseason appearance before losing a double-overtime match in the America East Conference quarterfinal round. **Yan Gbolo** earned second-team all-conference recognition after scoring three game-winning goals. **Brian Gordon** was voted to the America East all-rookie squad. **Stephan Hall**, a senior midfielder, was a member of the ESPN The Magazine Academic All-America national first team for the second straight year.



Top right: Colin Disch

Bottom right: The women's volleyball team celebrates its second America East Conference championship in three years.

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Women's Soccer

UAlbany reached several milestones in head coach Mary-Frances Monroe's first season. The Great Danes won five matches – their highest win total as a Division I program – and recorded their first victory in America East Conference play since 2002. Freshman **Jacklyn Rosada**, who had six goals and two assists, was named to the conference's all-rookie team.

Men's Cross Country

Ricardo Estremara earned all-conference recognition after placing seventh at the America East championship meet with a time of 24:58.70. Estremara also finished second at the IC4A meet, bettering his previous year's performance by 44 positions.

Winter 2006-07

Women's Cross Country

Jessica Ortman and **Jenna Ortman** finished sixth and eighth, respectively, at the America East Conference meet in earning all-league honors. Jessica's time of 17:36.60 was just 13-plus seconds better than her twin sister's. Jenna was fourth at the ECAC championship; Jessica ended up fifth.

Women's Basketball

UAlbany showed improvement from the previous season. Head coach **Trina Patterson** has two of the better freshman players in the conference, with **Britney McGee** and **Charity Iromuanya** working in the backcourt. **Kristin Higy**, a 6-foot-1 junior, and senior **Amanda Ward** each scored in double figures throughout the year. **Gia Sanders**, who was among the league leaders in blocked shots, is one of America East's top defenders.

Men's Indoor Track

The Great Danes won the America East Conference championship for the fourth time in the last five years with a meet-record 203.5 points. **David Parker** set a UAlbany record in winning the heptathlon with 3,914 points, and finished fourth in the pole vault. Other conference champions were **Freddie Wills** (long jump), **Mike McCadney** (triple jump), **Pat Weider** (200-meter dash), and **Jean Juste** (55m-hurdles). Weider was also a member of the first-place 4x400 relay. Wills, who won the long jump with a leap of 23 feet, 6 inches, scored in four events, including a second-place showing in the high jump.



Frank Resetarits of the men's lacrosse team

Women's Indoor Track

Jessica Ortman was named the most outstanding track performer of the meet in leading UAlbany to second place at the America East Conference championship. Ortman won the 1,000-meter run in a school-record 2:50.74 and was first in the mile. She also anchored the first-place 4x800 relay that shattered both the conference and school standards with a time of 9:02.66. **Kamilah McShine** posted a pair of wins in the 55-hurdles and pentathlon, an event in which she registered a school-record 3,594 points. **Alyssa Lotmore** was a double-winner in the 3,000- and 5,000-meter runs, while **Brenna Militello** captured the high jump title.

Men's Lacrosse

This spring, the Great Danes got off to their best start since 1993, posting victories over Johns Hopkins (8-7); crosstown rival Siena (21-8); Delaware (13-7); Massachusetts (10-9, in overtime); and Drexel (16-13). At press time, UAlbany had one of the top scoring offenses in the nation at 13.59 goals per game and retained the No. 2 spot in the U.S. Intercollegiate Lacrosse Association (USILA) coaches' poll, just behind top-ranked Cornell.