

From the Vice President of Athletic Administration and Director of Intercollegiate Athletics



The 2004-05 academic year was the most exciting in the history of UAlbany Athletics. After only four years as a member of the America East Conference, the UAlbany Great Danes won the Commissioner's Cup which is emblematic of excellence in a broad based athletics program. Boston University had won the previous three America East Commissioner's Cups. This outstanding achievement became a reality as Volleyball, Men's Lacrosse and Softball all captured America East Conference Championships and advanced to their NCAA tournaments.

With the accomplishment of these major athletic feats, UAlbany also maintained a high level of academic excellence. The academic Progress Rate (APR) attained by UAlbany of 976, placed us among the top 40 Division One institutions in the nation. The APR achieved by our athletes reflects UAlbany's dedication and commitment in the classroom as well as on the playing field.

How has UAlbany been able to develop such an outstanding profile? We have dedicated student-athletes, coaches, and staff who work together in a climate of trust, integrity, commitment, and teamwork that facilitates our goals and expectations. When you return to campus, you will observe the construction of our lacrosse and field hockey venues. This is the initial phase of our Athletics Master Plan. The two facilities will become operational for the 2005-06 academic year.

Once again, thank you for all of your support and you can continue to look forward to great things to come from your UAlbany athletic programs. Go Great Danes!

Sincerely,
Lee McElroy, Ed.D.
Vice President

UAlbany Captures America East Commissioner's Cup

On June 27, at the America East Conference meeting in Boston, Dr. Lee McElroy, Vice President of Athletics Administration and Director of Intercollegiate Athletics was awarded the 2004-05 Stuart P. Haskell, Jr. Commissioner's Cup. It is the first such award for the Great Danes, who recently completed their fourth season in the conference. The Commissioner's Cup annually recognizes the strongest athletic program in America East as determined by a scoring system which rewards a school for success both during the regular season and at championship competition in the conference's 22 sports. UAlbany totaled 380 points to unseat Boston University, which had 368 points and had won each of the last three Commissioner's Cups. Binghamton University (357) was third, followed by University of Maine (332), Northeastern University (316), University of New Hampshire (308), Stony Brook University (266), University of Vermont (242), UMBC (236) and University of Hartford (151). UAlbany's point total was bolstered by championships in volleyball, men's lacrosse, men's outdoor track and field, and softball. In addition, the Great Danes were runners-up in men's indoor track and field, and women's golf. The men's soccer, volleyball, men's lacrosse and softball teams either won or shared the regular-season titles.

"The Commissioner's Cup represents the

hard work, dedication and tireless efforts of UAlbany's student-athletes, coaches, administrative staff and campus leadership," said Dr. Lee McElroy, Director of Athletics at Albany. "This teamwork approach has allowed us to build a comprehensive athletic program for men and women that strives for excellence with the goal of performing at a consistent level." Boston University also won four championships as the women's cross country, men's soccer, women's tennis and women's lacrosse teams each earned titles. Binghamton was victorious in women's soccer, men's tennis and men's golf. Maine saw it's men's cross country and baseball teams earn championships.

Other institutions to win sports championships included Northeastern (field hockey, women's indoor track and field, men's indoor track and field, and women's outdoor track and field), New Hampshire (women's swimming and diving), Vermont (men's basketball), UMBC (men's swimming and diving) and Hartford (women's basketball, women's golf).

The Stuart P. Haskell, Jr. Commissioner's Cup is named in honor of the first commissioner of America East. Haskell served as commissioner of the conference from 1987 until his retirement in 1997.

Groundbreaking Begins



On May 17, UAlbany Student-Athletes, Dr. Lee McElroy and President Hall (right) help kick off construction on Phase I of the Master Plan.

9/10

2005 Football Schedule

10/8

10/15

6:00pm



Fireworks

9/17 6:00pm
at UMass

9/24 5:00pm
at Cent. Conn

9/24 5:00pm
at Maine

4:00pm



Homecoming

4:00pm



Athletic and Alumni News and Notes...

Roman Dubiel (Baseball) and **Theresa Juva** (Track/CC) were awarded the Presidential Scholar-Athlete award at the annual Great Danes Awards held in May. Dubiel, carried a 3.82 GPA while majoring in Urban Studies while Juva had a 3.88 GPA as an English major...Other award winners included fellow seniors **Andy Allstadt** (Track/CC), **Jill Friedman** (Golf) and **Ashley Heilmann** (Lacrosse), who were named the ECAC Merit Medal winners which recognizes the top senior student-athletes. Allstadt was also named to the CoSIDA All-District I Men's Track & Cross Country team while Friedman was co-medalist with teammate **Diane Onofry** at the 2005 America East Women's Golf Championships. Friedman and Onofry helped led the Great Danes to a 2nd place finish at the conference championships...**Pat Filien** and **Eric Eaton** have joined the UAlbany Men's Basketball staff. Filien comes to UAlbany after four years as an assistant at Vermont while Eaton was an assistant for four years at Holy Cross...In other coaching news, **MJ Engstrom** was named as the top assistant for Volleyball. Engstrom was most recently the head coach at Nicholls State... **Bouna Coundoul '05** signed a development contract with the MLS' Colorado Rapids. The America East



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Three Sports make NCAA's



The UAlbany Men's Lacrosse team made it three America East Championships in a row when they defeated Stony Brook 16-7 on May 7th to advance to the NCAA tournament for a third consecutive year. The Great Danes were led by seniors **Luke Daquino** and **Kevin Rae**. Daquino, who passed **Cort Kim '92** on April 30 to become the schools all-time leading scorer, was a 1st-team All-America East selection and he's the first UAlbany player at the Division I level to be named to the All-American team, earning honorable mention honors. Rae, a four-year starter in goal was named the conference's Most Outstanding Player in the playoffs for the third consecutive year. The Great Danes, who fell to Virginia 23-9 in the first round of the NCAA tournament were ranked as high as 13th in the national polls.

The UAlbany Softball team earned its first-ever trip to the NCAA Division I softball championships when they captured the America East post-season tournament on May 14 at Stony Brook. The Great Danes defeated the host Seawolves twice and Boston U. to win the double-elimination tournament. Coach **Chris Cannata '85**, who won her 300th game earlier in the season, saw her team fall to #9 seed Northwestern 6-1 and lose to Louisville 5-4 to bow out in one of the Midwest sub-regionals. Despite the losses in the NCAA tournament, UAlbany set a school-record for wins going 35-14 on the way to their 2nd consecutive America East regular season crown. Cannata was named conference coach of the year for the third consecutive year.

The Men's Outdoor Track & Field team captured its second America East outdoor title by racking up 192.83 points to outpace UNH (177) and third place UMBC (110). UAlbany, who was second at the 2004 outdoor championships, finishing a half point behind champion Northeastern, won its first outdoor title in 2003. For its efforts, the Men's Outdoor Track & Field staff led by veteran Coach **Roberto Vives** was named Most Outstanding Staff. The UAlbany Women's Outdoor team finished in fifth place at the conference championships earning 83 points.

2005 UAlbany Football Season Tickets On Sale Now

Season tickets Only \$25

Reserved Parking \$10

Join the Varsity Club for only \$75

2005 Football Schedule*

Date and Times are subject to change

Sept. 10	Hofstra	6:00pm
Sep. 17	at UMass	4:00pm
Sep. 24	at CCSU	6:00pm
Oct. 1	at Maine	5:00pm
Oct. 8	Stony Brook	4:00pm
Oct. 15	Sacred Heart	4:00pm
Oct. 22	at St Francis	1:00pm
Oct. 29	at Wagner	1:00pm
Nov. 5	Robert Morris	4:00pm
Nov. 12	at Monmouth	1:00pm
Nov. 19	at Fordham	1:00pm

Order Your Tickets Today call (518) 442-4683

2005 Football Schedule 10/15

10/22 5:00pm at St. Francis
 10/29 1:00pm at Wagner
 4:00pm



11/12 1:00pm at Monmouth
 10/19 1:00pm at Fordham



2005 Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Class

An esteemed faculty member, one of the top quarterbacks in UAlbany football history,

and a two-sport star in lacrosse and volleyball highlight the 2005 UAlbany Athletic Hall of Fame induction class. Longtime UAlbany professor of Sociology Richard Hall will be inducted into the hall of fame as an Honorary member along with **Dan Gmelin '98** (Football), **Rafaela Nikas '98** (Lacrosse/Volleyball), **Joe Rajczak '81** (Football) and **Joe Savino '98** (Football).

The 2005 hall of fame dinner and induction ceremony will take place on Friday, October 7, 2005 as part of the University's Homecoming and Reunion Weekend. For more information on this very special event, please visit www.albany/sports.

Daquino & Buchanan Named 2004-05 Male & Female Athletes Of The Year

Luke Daquino '05 (Farmingville, NY) an All-American lacrosse attackman and **Blair Buchanan '07** (Muncie, IN), who earned All-American honors as a setter on the Volleyball team were chosen Male & Female Athletes of the Year in a vote of the head coaches of the 19-sport UAlbany athletic program. A three-time All-America East 1st-team selection, Daquino was the nation's fifth leading scorer as a senior. He helped lead UAlbany to three consecutive America East titles and he leaves as the Great Danes all-time leading scorer.

Buchanan led the Volleyball team to a 27-7 record and a berth in the NCAA Division I tournament. She was the first America East player to earn Player of the Year and Setter of the Year honors in the same season. UAlbany captured its first regular season title in 2004 and defeated Maine in five games to advance to NCAA play. This past season, Buchanan set the school's single-game (71) and single-season (1,448) assist records.



...News and Notes continued

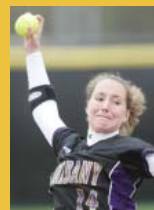
Conference Men's Soccer Goalie of the Year joined Colorado after graduating in May... **Kurt Campbell '05**

became the first UAlbany football player to be drafted when Green Bay selected him in the 7th round of the 2005 Draft. Teammate **Geir Gudmundsen '05** signed a free agent contract with Buffalo.



Sophomore's **Kate Fontana** and **Erin Fitzmartin** were both named to All-America East 1st-team in women's lacrosse... UAlbany's **Steve Wyland** was a first-team All-America East selection in baseball. The sophomore second baseman batted .357 to lead the Great Danes and ranked 6th among America East hitters. Teammate

Shawn Ryan '05 made his professional debut on June 2 as a member of Quebec in the Can-Am League..Seven UAlbany softball players earned 1st-team all-conference recognition including **Amber Maisonet '08** who was named Rookie of the Year and **Amanda Morin '06** who was named Pitcher of the Year. Other 1st-team honorees were juniors **Ali Meacham**, **Katrina Dunning**, and **Julie Gannon**, and sophomores **Casey Halloran** and **Kelly Ogden**. Morin and Ogden were both named to the NFCA All-Northeast Region Team... The Men's Lacrosse team had five players named to the America East 1st-team. Seniors **Patrick McSweeney**, **Kevin Rae** and **Luke Daquino** were joined by **Frank**



Resertartis '07 and **Merrick Thomson '07**. Rae was selected to play in the North-South All-Star game while Thomson's 54 goals were second in the country..UAlbany had six individual winners at the 2004 America East Men's Outdoor Track & Field Championships led by seniors **Jonathan Jones**- long jump, **Andy Allstadt** - 10000m, and **Kamar Elliott** - triple jump. **Eric Opuana '06** -hammer throw, **Marc Pallozzi '07**- Javelin and **Gered Burns '06** in the 1500m were also 1st place finishers. Burns added to his resume when he won the 800m title at IC4A's become the first UAlbany athlete to win an IC4A outdoor title.

UAlbany Scholarship Golf Classic

Sept. 29, 2005

Bethpage State Park Golf Course
Bethpage, NY

Foursomes only \$900

Registration and Lunch Begins at
12:00pm: Shotgun Start at 1:30pm

Your day includes

Lunch
Greens fees
On-course refreshments
Cocktail Hour
Dinner
Prizes and Fun



Fall is just around the corner Don't miss your chance to tee-up with your fellow Great Dane alums, coaches and administrators.

For more information and to reserve your outing call Don Ostrom at (518) 437-4416 or dostrom@uamail.albany.edu

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Upcoming Events

Giants Training Camp - 7/29
1st Football Game and
Fireworks - 9/10
MetroNY Golf Classic - 9/29
Hall of Fame Dinner - 10/7
Homecoming Football - 10/8

Support UAlbany Athletics

PARTICIPATE. DESIGNATE. MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Yes! I/We support UAlbany Great Dane Athletics with a gift to the
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Signature: _____ Date _____

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For more information on the importance of your gift to the athletic department, contact Don Ostrom at (518) 437-4416 or dostrom@uamail.albany.edu