



UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY

DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS & RECREATION

For Immediate Release
Thursday, January 31, 2001

Contact: Brian DePasquale
(518) 442-3072

UALBANY ATHLETES NAMED TO AMERICA EAST ACADEMIC HONOR ROLL

ALBANY, N.Y. – America East Conference Commissioner Chris Monasch announced today that 46 student-athletes from the University at Albany have been named to the 2001 America East Fall Academic Honor Roll for earning grade-point-averages of 3.0 or higher. UAlbany also had 24 student-athletes selected to the Commissioner's Honor Roll for attaining a 3.5 GPA or better during the fall semester.

"We are pleased that our student-athletes are excelling in the classroom," UAlbany Director of Athletics Lee McElroy said. "It is important that we acknowledge academic success as well as accomplishments achieved on the playing field. These individuals have made our University very proud."

Amy DiMicco, one of the school's all-time scorers in field hockey, leads a group of 14 players recognized by America East. Women's cross country had 12 players named, including Saratoga Springs native **Laura Kearns**, who had a perfect 4.0 GPA. **Jessica Walton** (Fonda-Fultonville), **Nicole Susser** (Colonie Central) and **Sarah Best** (Granville Central) were also chosen.

Men's soccer and men's cross country each placed eight athletes on the honor roll. **Nick Southworth** (Maple Hill) was a starting midfielder in soccer. **Jamie Rodriguez** (Christian Brothers Academy), **Joe Pienta** (Ichabod Crane) and **Sam Gonzalez** (Fonda-Fultonville) are among UAlbany's top-five cross country runners. Shenendehowa's **Alissa Gibbs**, a first-team all-conference selection, and **Susan Spierre** (Averill Park) are among four volleyball players honored.

In all, 622 student-athletes from the sports of men's cross country, women's cross country, field hockey, men's soccer, women's soccer and volleyball were honored by the conference. Member institutions for the 2001 fall season included UAlbany, Binghamton University, Boston University, University of Delaware, Drexel University, University of Hartford, Hofstra University, University of Maine, Northeastern University, Stony Brook University, Towson University and University of Vermont.

MORE



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ALBANY SPORTS 2-2-2-2

2001 America East Fall Academic Honor Roll

Men's Cross Country

Andy Allstadt (Fr., 3.54), Manny DeLos Santos (Jr., 3.14), Sam Gonzalez (Fr., 3.52), Josh Merlis (Jr., 3.96), Scott Mitchell (Fr., 3.74), Joe Pienta (So., 3.80), Adam Rice (Sr., 3.70), Jamie Rodriguez (Jr., 3.00).

Women's Cross Country

Sarah Best (Jr., 3.75), Maureen Brown (Fr., 3.25), Crystal Cooper (Fr., 3.00), Erin Goddard (Jr., 3.50), Meghan Howell (Jr., 3.33), Theresa Juva (Fr., 3.64), Laura Kearns (Sr., 4.00), Erin Michno (Fr., 4.00), Trista Neinast (So., 3.38), Megan Roeder (Sr., 3.33), Nicole Susser (Fr., 3.00), Jessica Walton (So., 3.84).

Field Hockey

Megan Akstin (Fr., 3.43), Heidi Bowen (Jr., 3.06), Lisa Burline (So., 3.14), Kristi Clausi (Fr., 3.51), Rhonda Corcoran (So., 3.93), Amy DiMicco (Sr., 3.88), Jen Gonzalez (Jr., 3.10), Sara Gonzalez (Fr., 3.12), Amber Greiner (Fr., 3.35), Amy Hammer (So., 3.50), Cheryl Varga (Fr., 4.00), Amber Wade (Fr., 3.51), Jessica Whitcomb (Fr., 3.08), Sarah Zaborowski (Sr., 3.20).

Men's Soccer

Shawn Baron (Fr., 3.35), Anthony Matrone (Fr., 3.50), Brandon McLaren (Sr., 3.62), Anthony Micali (Fr., 3.00), Jason Myers (So., 3.18), Valter Pinto (Fr., 3.20), Tim Roty (Jr., 3.15), Nick Southworth (Jr., 3.67).

Women's Volleyball

Jill Dombrowski (Fr., 3.18), Alissa Gibbs (Jr., 3.68), Kathryn Neel (So., 3.83), Susan Spierre (Fr., 3.93).

MEN'S BASKETBALL RECORDS BACK-TO-BACK VICTORIES FOR FIRST TIME IN NEARLY TWO YEARS

Albany, N.Y. – Earv Opong scored 13 of his career-high 25 points in the opening period, as Albany posted back-to-back wins for the first time this season with a 74-57 America East Conference victory over New Hampshire on Wednesday, Jan. 30 at the Recreation and Convocation Center.

Albany (5-14, AE 2-6) leaped to an early 19-10 lead on a jumper by Opong, who added four assists, three rebounds and three steals. The Great Danes later ran off 12 unanswered points to build a 38-17 advantage. Opong buried two 3-point field goals and hit a driving layup in that outburst. Albany made 16 of its first 26 attempts from the field en route to a 20-point halftime cushion.

In the final period, Opong's tip-in off the glass pushed his team's lead to 50-26 with 16:31 remaining. However, New Hampshire (7-13, AE 4-5) stormed back with 13 straight markers. Austin Ganly, a 6-foot-6 senior, had seven of his 13 points in that run.

The Wildcats, who had won six of their previous eight games entering the contest, could never get closer than 12 points in the stretch. Albany used the free throw line to keep its lead safe and canned 21 of 36 attempts on the night. Opong, a 5-foot-7 junior, made 6-of-6 from the stripe in the final two minutes.

"Our defense and rebounding are getting better," said Albany coach Will Brown, whose team won the rebounding battle, 43-32, for the second straight game. "We played with confidence in the first half and made some shots. We've got work to do yet to get out of the cellar in this conference."

Antione Johnson scored 15 points for the Great Danes, who last recorded consecutive victories in February 2000, and also avenged a 71-60 loss to New Hampshire in this year's first meeting on Jan. 20. Freshman Chris Wyatt added 11 points and eight rebounds, both season-highs.

New Hampshire's Allen Gould and Jeff Senulis tallied 13 and 10 points, respectively. Senior forward Chris Brown, who was averaging 14.2 points and 10.1 rebounds on the season, was limited to one point and three rebounds.

MEN'S BASKETBALL RECORDS FIRST AMERICA EAST WIN ON OPONG'S LAST-SECOND SHOT

Albany, N.Y. – Earv Opong hit a driving bank shot with four seconds remaining, as Albany snapped a three-game losing streak with a 51-50 America East Conference victory over Northeastern on Saturday, Jan. 26 at the Recreation and Convocation Center.

Albany (4-14, AE 1-6) rallied from a 50-46 deficit in the stretch. Will Brand closed the gap to a single point, as he converted a three-point play when he was fouled on a follow shot in the lane with 1:03 remaining.

Opong, a 5-foot-7 junior, then created a turnover on Northeastern's next possession when he tied up Antonio Johnson on the right baseline. The Great Danes, who had lost seven of their previous eight contests, then set

		2001-02 Schedule All Times Eastern Record: 5-14 (AE 2-6) Listen to Albany Basketball on WOFX 980 AM or WTRY 98.3 FM	
November			
17	Sat.	Lafayette	80-72, L
20	Tue.	at Ohio State	87-62, L
24	Sat.	at Quinnipiac	79-65, L
27	Tue.	at Siena (Pepsi Arena)	60-48, L
December			
2	Sun.	Syracuse (Pepsi Arena)	91-65, L
5	Wed.	at Bucknell	51-50, W
8	Sat.	at Yale	73-61, L
11	Tue.	Army	68-60, L
23	Sun.	at Robert Morris	61-58, W
31	Mon.	at Vermont*	71-43, L
January			
2	Wed.	at Maine*	59-52, L
7	Mon.	Binghamton*	69-61, L
13	Sun.	Maine* (OT)	73-66, L
15	Tue.	Columbia	41-40, W
18	Fri.	at Dartmouth	77-56, L
20	Sun.	at New Hampshire*	71-60, L
24	Thur.	Boston U.*	64-49, L
26	Sat.	Northeastern*	51-50, W
30	Wed.	New Hampshire*	74-57, W
February			
2	Sat.	at Stony Brook (WOFX)	2:00
5	Tue.	at Binghamton (WOFX)	7:00
8	Fri.	at Hartford (WOFX)	7:00
10	Sun.	Vermont* (WOFX & WCDB)	12:00
12	Tue.	at Northeastern* (WOFX)	7:00
16	Sat.	at Boston U.* (WOFX)	1:00
22	Fri.	Hartford* (WOFX)	7:00
24	Sun.	Stony Brook* (WOFX)	1:00
March			
2-3, 9		at America East Conference Tournament (Boston, Mass.)	
		*America East Conference opponent	

University at Albany

Athletic Media Relations Fax Cover Sheet

To: Sports Department
Organization: Albany Times Union

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Date: 1-27-02 (Sunday)
Pages w/cover: 1

Comments: College Sports

UALBANY'S 4x800 RELAY QUALIFIES FOR IC4As AT TERRIER CLASSIC

Boston, Mass. – Freshman **Kristof Molnar** anchored UAlbany's 4x800-meter relay to a second-place finish at the Boston University's Terrier Classic. The Great Danes qualified for the IC4A championships in March with a time of 7:45.19, the third fastest mark in school history.

Noel Campbell, Szabolcs Molnar and **Ike Cherry** joined Molnar, who ran his anchor leg in 1:53, on the relay. The Great Danes bettered the IC4A standard by nearly six seconds at the Boston University Armory. Nike Farm Team won the Terrier Classic title in 7:33.76.

UAlbany was also second in the women's 4x800 relay, and was clocked in 9:25.41. **Dinnah Decatus** went 2:18 on the second leg to lead the way. **Erin Goddard, Tammy Freeman** and **Diane Matthews** also ran on a squad that missed the ECAC-qualifying standard by 1.11 seconds. Syracuse Chargers won the race in 9:24.39.

-agate-

Terrier Classic

Men's 4x800 Meter Relay

1. Nike Farm Team, 7:33.46, 2. Albany (Noel Campbell, Szabolcs Molnar, Ike Cherry, Kristof Molnar), 7:45.19, 3. St. Joseph's, 7:49.82, 4. Pennsylvania, 7:51.89, 5. Bentley, 7:54.01, 6. Colgate, 8:00.42, 7. Fordham, 8:05.01, 8. Marist, 8:10.66, 9. Ithaca, 8:10.77, 10. Seton Hall, 8:22.20.

Women's 4x800 Meter Relay

1. Syracuse Chargers, 9:24.39, 2. Albany (Erin Goddard, Dinnah Decatus, Tammy Freeman, Diane Matthews), 9:25.41, 3. St. Joseph's, 9:38.73, 4. Bentley, 9:56.39, 5. Marist, 10:08.00, 6. C.W. Post, 10:17.75, 7. Southern Connecticut State, 11:01.00.

University at Albany

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Organization: Amsterdam Recorder

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Date: 1-26-02 (Saturday)
Pages w/cover: 3

Comments: College Sports (W. Basketball & Track)

(Women's Basketball)

Boston, Mass. – **Melissa Kowalski** scored all 19 of her points in the first half, as Northeastern ended a six-game losing streak in conference play with a 63-54 America East victory over Albany on Saturday at Solomon Court.

Albany (4-12, AE 0-5) led 19-9 midway through the opening period **after Jess McGinlay**, who scored 10, made a three-point field goal. **Danielle Hutcheson**, a 6-foot-4 freshman, had eight of her 16 points in that stretch before picking up her third foul.

Northeastern (4-15, AE 2-6) responded with 28 of the game's next 36 points to end the stanza. Kowalski, a sophomore guard, canned five 3-pointers in that span, as her club held a 37-27 halftime advantage. Kowalski, who had 10 rebounds, recorded her first double-double of the season.

The Great Danes went through a nine-minute stretch of the second half without a field goal. Northeastern took advantage of the drought to extend its margin to 49-33 on **Aisha Williams'** two free throws with 11:44 remaining.

Albany closed within 49-41 six minutes later, but the Huskies were able to build their lead back to double figures. Sophomore **Joi Jefferson**, who had 10 of her 12 points in the final half, hit consecutive baskets in a spurt that handed her club a 56-43 lead.

"I thought we came out uninspired on the defensive end," said Albany coach Mari Warner, whose team lost for the fifth straight time. "This was a game we needed to win to get some momentum in the conference. Our top three scorers struggled, and Danielle's foul trouble put us at a disadvantage."

Northeastern's **Francesca Vanin**, a 6-foot-1 freshman, added 10 points and 11 rebounds. Freshman guard **Becky Ayers** was the third Albany player in double figures with 14 points.

MORE

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Northeastern (4-15, AE 2-16) responded with 28 of the game's next 36 points to end the stanza. Kowalski, a sophomore guard, canned five 3-pointers in that span, as her club held a 37-27 halftime advantage. Kowalski, who had 10 rebounds, recorded her first double-double of the season.

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MORE

Albany Sports 2-2-2

(Indoor Track & Field)

Boston, Mass. – Senior **Jamie Rodriguez** (Christian Brothers Academy) qualified for the IC4A championships in the 5,000-meter run at Boston University's Terrier Classic. Rodriguez finished second in his section with a time of 14:35.50, and was more than 14 seconds better than the qualifying standard. Trinity's Ryan Bak, who was clocked in 14:35.37, edged Rodriguez at the finish line.

At Northeastern's Husky Invitational, **Sheldon Gomes** (Shaker) was one of four individual champions, as the Great Danes finished fourth in the men's team standings. Rutgers took the title with 163 points, and was followed by Massachusetts-Lowell and Northeastern. Gomes, a freshman, won the triple jump with a leap of 44-feet, 2-inches. **Naron Stewart** captured his third high jump competition of the winter season with a mark of 6-feet, 8-inches.

Freshman **Kristof Molnar**, who set a school record last weekend, was first in the 800-meter run with a time of 1:55.02 at the Reggie Lewis Track & Athletic Center. His brother, **Szabolcs Molnar**, was a winner in the 1,000-yard run, and hit the tape in 2:29.66. **Aggrey Morris** (400-dash, 49.99) and **Alix Rodriguez** (55-dash, 6.49) posted a pair of second-place finishes.

UAlbany tied for 12th in the women's standings. **Tammy Freeman** was fourth in the 500-meter event with a time of 1:17.38. **Dinnah Decatus** ran 2:18.40 at 800 meters to take fourth place in that race.

-agate-

Husky Invitational

MEN – 1. Rutgers 163, 2. Massachusetts-Lowell 98, 3. Northeastern 94, 4. Albany 83, 5. Syracuse 53, 6. Southern Connecticut State 37, 7. Dartmouth 32, T8. Rider 31, T8. Boston College 31, 10. Colgate 21, 11. Yale 13, 12. Vermont 3, 13. New Haven 2.

WOMEN – 1. Connecticut 140.50, 2. Rutgers 101.50, 3. Syracuse 82, 4. Boston College 56.50, 5. Northeastern 54, 6. Yale 48, 7. Massachusetts-Lowell 43, 8. Dartmouth 37.50, 9. Massachusetts 33, 10. Vermont 17, 11. Southern Connecticut State 15, T12. Albany 12, T12. New Hampshire 12, 14. Rider 11.

University at Albany

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Date: 1-24-02 (Thursday)
Pages w/cover: 2

Comments: College Basketball

WOMEN – Boston U. 77, Albany 71 (OT)

Boston, Mass. – Sophomore forward **Katie Terhune** totaled six of her game-high 24 points in overtime, as Boston University posted a 77-71 America East Conference victory over Albany on Thursday evening at Case Gymnasium.

Boston U. (10-7, AE 3-3) led 70-66 midway through the extra period on a three-point field goal by Terhune, who was coming off a career-high 35-point effort in her last start. Albany (4-11, AE 0-4) sliced the deficit to a single point, when **Jess McGinlay**, who scored a season-high 21 and added eight rebounds, nailed a long-range jumper from behind the arc.

However, **Adrienne Norris**, who totaled 16 points and eight rebounds, converted a conventional three-point play as she was fouled while hitting a layup for a 73-69 lead. The Terriers won their second straight conference game by making four of five free throws to seal the outcome.

In regulation, the Great Danes trailed 53-46, but rallied with nine unanswered points. Freshman center **Danielle Hutcheson**, who grabbed 11 rebounds, sparked the run with six of her 15 points. Hutcheson's fadeaway jumper put her team ahead.

Norris, a 6-foot-1 freshman, would later make a follow shot to put Boston U. back on top at 59-58, before Albany's **Becky Ayers** nailed a three-pointer that gave her club a 61-59 lead. **Marisa Moseley's** layup tied the game at 61 apiece with 12.1 seconds remaining.

"Turnovers once again hurt us down the stretch," said Albany coach Mari Warner, whose team committed a season-high 32 miscues, and shot 39.7 percent from the floor. "I am terribly disappointed because we are close to tasting victory."

Boston U.'s **Alison Argentieri** had 17 points, including four 3-point field goals, while Moseley scored 12. Ayers, a freshman guard, had 18 points, one off her season-best.

University at Albany

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Date: 1-24-02 (Thursday)
Pages w/cover: 1

Comments: College Basketball

MEN – Boston U. 64, Albany 49

Albany, N.Y. – Freshman guard **Chaz Carr** led three players in double figures with 16 points, as Boston University won its fifth straight with a 64-49 America East Conference victory over Albany on Thursday evening at the Recreation and Convocation Center.

Boston U. (12-7, AE 6-1) raced to an 8-0 lead in the opening five minutes, as Albany (3-14, AE 0-6) missed its first nine shots from the field. The Terriers, who held on to second place in the conference standings behind league-leader Vermont, would later build a 29-12 lead when Carr converted a three-point play as he was fouled on a fastbreak layup.

The Great Danes, who have dropped eight of their last nine games, tallied the final nine markers of the half behind the play of junior guard **Antione Johnson**, who had 11 of his 15 points in the period.

Albany closed within 30-23 early in the second half on **Karim Ouattara's** follow shot in the lane. But the Terriers regrouped with 11 unanswered points to put the game away. **Kevin Fitzgerald** hit a drive in the lane to push the lead back to double figures, before **Billy Collins** sank a three-point field goal. Carr's jumper finished off the run for a 41-23 lead with 14:34 remaining.

Albany's Johnson hit a pair of free throws six minutes later to close the gap to 49-40. However, the Terriers, who employed a full-court zone press defense for the most of the night, came up with 13 of the game's next 14 points.

"They are very good basketball team, and a program that is established and rich in tradition," Albany coach Will Brown said. "They defend the three-point line extremely well, and we were not able to come up with any interior scoring. I am pleased with how we defended, but we missed a lot of open shots."

Collins, a 6-foot-7 junior who had seven rebounds, and **Ryan Butt** each scored 10 points. Boston U., the top defensive club in America East, held Albany to 33.3 percent shooting. **Will Brand** totaled 13 points, four rebounds and four blocked shots for the Great Danes.

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Date: 1-21-02 (Monday)
Pages w/cover: 1

Comments: College Sports

(Indoor Track & Field)

New York, N.Y. – At the State University Centers Invitational, **Jamie Rodriguez** (Christian Brothers Academy) won the 1,000-meter run and helped the distance medley relay qualify for the IC4A championships at The Armory Track and Field Center. **Kristof Molnar**, who was also a member of the distance medley relay, set a school record in winning the 800-meter run.

Rodriguez, a senior who hit the tape in the 1,000 in 2:32.06, out-dueled Buffalo's Onile White by 75-hundredths of a second. He anchored the distance medley to an IC4A-qualifying time of 10:12.15.

Molnar, a freshman from Hungary, shattered the 800 record with a first-place finish of 1:52.62. He broke the school's standard of 1:54.33 set by Dennis King in 1997. **Joe Pienta** (Ichabod Crane) ran to victory in the 3,000 with a time of 8:46.30. Other winners in the men's competition were **Naron Stewart** (high jump, 6-9) and the 4x800 relay (7:59.58). **Alix Rodriques** took third in the 55-meter dash, but qualified for the IC4A meet in March by sprinting 6.45 seconds in the preliminaries.

In the women's meet, **Cherice Vanderhall** threw 40-feet, 9.50-inches to capture the shot put competition. She was three-quarters of an inch better than Binghamton's Laura Yelverton.

Dinnah Decatus broke her own school record at 800 meters, as she placed second in 2:16.27. Decatus set the previous mark (2:16.88) on this same track two years ago. **Meghan Howell** (3,000, 10:32.74) and **Diane Matthews** (500, 1:18.17) also turned in second-place finishes. Freshman **Kristen O'Brien** established another UAlbany record in the pole vault, as she cleared 9-feet, 6.25-inches.

Northeastern, Lafayette, Buffalo, Binghamton and Club Santurce of Puerto Rico competed in both the men's and women's meet. New Hampshire's women's team was also entered.

University at Albany

Sports Information Fax Cover Sheet

To: Sports Department

Organization: Daily Gazette

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Date: 1-20-02 (Sunday)

Pages w/cover: 2

Comments: College Basketball

New Hampshire 71, Albany 60

Durham, N.H.—Sophomore guard **Marcus Bullock** scored 10 of his 16 points in the second half, as New Hampshire rallied for a 71-60 America East Conference victory over Albany on Sunday at Lundholm Gymnasium.

Albany (3-13, AE 0-5) built a 39-33 lead early in the final period following **Antione Johnson's** three-pointer and **Rhasheed Peterson's** 15-foot jumper. New Hampshire (6-11, AE 3-3) regrouped with 13 unanswered points, as the Great Danes went scoreless for six-plus minutes. **Chris Brown**, who had 12 of his 13 points after halftime, made two free throws to put his team ahead for good at 40-39. Brown, who added eight rebounds and four assists, canned another pair of foul shots for a 46-39 advantage with 11:26 remaining.

The Wildcats, who have won five of their last six games, pushed their lead to double-figures at 54-44 with 6:16 to play on Bullock's two free throws. New Hampshire shot 50 percent from the field in the final half, and converted 17-of-19 attempts from the charity stripe.

"We need to value every possession, because we are not a good offensive team," Albany coach **Will Brown** said. "New Hampshire can score from several positions on the floor, but we made it very easy on them in the second half. Others need to step up and handle the ball, and we need to do a better job of limiting teams to one shot defensively."

Will Brand led all scorers with 17 points and moved into 10th place on the all-time scoring list with 1,289. Peterson had 12 of his 16 points in the opening period, and Johnson was the third Great Dane in double figures with 13. **Austin Ganly** also had 14 points for the Wildcats.

University at Albany

Sports Information Office Fax Cover Sheet

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Organization: Albany Times Union

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Date: 1-19-02 (Saturday)
Pages w/cover: 1

Comments: COLLEGE SPORTS

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

New Hampshire 50, Albany 42

Albany, N.Y. – Sophomore center **Maren Matthias** totaled 17 of her career-high 23 points in the second half lifting New Hampshire to a 50-42 come-from-behind America East Conference victory over Albany on Saturday afternoon at the Recreation & Convocation Center.

New Hampshire (9-7, AE 3-2), winners in four of its last five, trailed 28-22 early in the second half, but then used seven unanswered points to regain the lead on **Geneva Livingston's** jumper in transition. With the score knotted at 33, Matthias would convert on consecutive layups to put her team back on top. Albany (4-10, AE 0-3) pulled within one on three occasions under the nine-minute mark and tied the contest at 42 as **Becky Ayers** sank one of two free throws with 3:08 remaining. However, the Great Danes didn't score the rest of the way and were limited to two field goals over the final eight minutes.

In the first half, the Wildcats used a 13-2 spurt and held a 19-12 lead late in the stanza. **Lindsay Adams** came off the bench and scored all five of her points during the stretch. The Great Danes, who forced UNH into 17 first-half turnovers, regrouped and ended the frame with 11 of the final 12 markers. **Jess McGinlay** nailed consecutive threes in the run and finished with a team-high 14 points. Both squads struggled offensively shooting under 26 percent in the period and combining for 32 turnovers.

"I am happy that we held them to 50 points," said Albany coach **Mari Warner**, whose team dropped their third straight league outing. "We didn't do a good job of switching in the post during key sequences late in the game. Our team has showed that we can compete against these teams. We just need to learn how to win."

Matthias, who was making only her third start as a collegian, made 10 of 15 field goals and added seven rebounds. New Hampshire outrebounded Albany, 47-37, including 19 offensive boards. **Sarah Sweetland** tallied seven points off the bench for the Great Danes, who posted a season-low offensive total and couldn't capitalize on UNH's 2 of 13 shooting from beyond the arc.

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Date: 1-18-02 (Friday)
Pages w/cover: 2

Comments: COLLEGE SPORTS

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Dartmouth 77, Albany 56

Hanover, N.H. – **Vedad Osmanovic** scored 15 points and Dartmouth made 15 three-point field goals in a 77-56 non-conference victory over Albany on Friday evening at the Leede Arena.

Dartmouth (7-9) reversed a 25-21 deficit with 11 unanswered points to end the opening period. **Steve Callahan**, who had nine points off the bench, buried two three-point shots in that stretch. **Greg Friel** canned another long-range jumper to give his team the lead for good at 27-25.

The Big Green, who ended a four-game losing streak, went on to shoot 50 percent from the field in the final half. Callahan's three-pointer built a commanding 47-31 lead with 15:19 remaining. Dartmouth made 15 of 34 attempts from behind the arc, and would lead by as many as 27 points in the second half.

"This is the first time since I became head coach that a team played harder than us," said Albany coach **Will Brown**, whose squad shot less than 40 percent from the field for the sixth straight game. "I am disappointed because this was a winnable game. We lost our momentum with two minutes left in the first half and could never recover. Dartmouth has always featured the three-point shot, and they did it again tonight."

Albany (3-12) was lead by **Antione Johnson's** 15 points. Freshman guard **Sequon Young** came off the bench to score a career-high 10. The Great Danes return to America East Conference play on Sunday at New Hampshire.

University at Albany

Sports Information Fax Cover Sheet

To: Sports Department
Organization: Albany Times Union

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Date: 1-15-02 (Tuesday)
Pages w/cover: 1

Comments: College Basketball – Albany 41, Columbia 40

Albany, N.Y. – **Rhasheed Peterson** made a 15-foot jumper with five seconds remaining, as Albany snapped a four-game losing streak with a 41-40 non-conference victory over Columbia on Tuesday at the Recreation and Convocation Center.

Albany (3-11) trailed 40-34 with 2:35 remaining, but regrouped with the game's last seven points. **Earv Opong**, a 5-foot-7 guard, canned a three-point field goal from the top of the circle to get his club within 40-39. After Columbia's **Maurice Murphy** missed a jumper in the lane, Opong grabbed the rebound to set up the Great Danes' last possession.

Peterson, who led all scorers with 12 points, hit the game-winner from the left side on a feed from a driving **Will Brand**. Columbia (7-9) was unable to get off a shot in the final seconds, and **Treg Duerksen** was stuck with the ball in his hands as time expired.

"It's the first game that I have ever made the winning shot," Peterson said. "This was a big boost for our confidence. We've been through a lot over the last few weeks."

The Great Danes, who also ended a streak of six straight home losses dating back to last year, took a 34-30 lead with 8:10 remaining on Brand's driving bank shot. Brand finished with six points, five rebounds and three blocks. But Albany went completely dry over the next six minutes.

Columbia took advantage with 10 unanswered points during that stretch. **Chris Wiedemann**, a 6-foot-10 center who had eight points and five rebounds, scored on a follow shot in the lane for a 36-34 lead. Wiedemann then added two free throws and a baseline jumper to increase the Lions' margin.

"That was a great defensive effort," said Albany coach Will Brown, whose team ended its longest string of home losses since 1954-55. "Columbia does a real good job with their offensive sets, so we needed to challenge their three-point shooters. This proves that you do not always have to play well to win, if you give great effort."

Defense ruled throughout the contest, as each team's field goal percentage was right around 35 percent. There were eight lead changes and five ties.

Columbia's **Joe Case** led his team with nine points. **Craig Austin**, last year's Ivy League Player of the Year, was held to five points, well below his team-leading 17.4 scoring average.

University at Albany

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Date: 1-13-02 (Sunday)
Pages w/cover: 2

Comments: College Basketball MEN – Maine 73, Albany 66 (OT)

Albany, N.Y. – Freshman **Joe Campbell** scored 13 points, including the go-ahead basket in overtime, as Maine outlasted Albany, 73-66, in an America East Conference game on Sunday at the Recreation and Convocation Center.

Maine (5-10, AE 2-2) forced the extra period, when **Justin Rowe**, a 7-foot center, hit a slam dunk off a lob pass from **Freddy Petkus** with 17.6 seconds remaining. Albany (2-11, AE 0-4) had an opportunity to win in regulation, but **Will Brand's** bank shot in the lane bounced off the rim with less than three seconds left.

In overtime, Campbell put his team ahead for good at 60-57 with a three-point field goal from the left side. Still leading 66-63 with one minute left, Maine's **Errick Greene** sank five of six free throws to seal the outcome. Greene, the conference's leading-scorer, scored seven of his team-high 16 points in the overtime session.

"We put ourselves in a position to win," said Albany coach Will Brown. "We came out flat in overtime, and Maine took advantage of the situation. I was happy with our effort, but not the result. We didn't make the best decisions at the end."

The Black Bears, who posted a 59-52 victory over Albany in this year's first meeting eleven days ago, rallied from a six-point deficit with a 14-2 run to end the first half. **Clayton Brown**, a 6-foot-7 forward who had 13 points, made two 3-pointers in that outburst.

Albany trailed by six at halftime, but regrouped to take a 41-37 lead with 16:07 remaining on a three-pointer by **Rhasheed Peterson**, who finished with a season-high 20 points. The teams went back and forth down the stretch in a contest that featured eleven lead changes and six ties.

Campbell split a pair of free throws to hand Maine a 55-54 advantage. However, Albany point guard **Earv Opong**, who had 12 points and five assists, regained the lead, 57-55, with a 3-point field goal from the top of the arc with 59.4 seconds to play.

Derrick Jackson was the fourth Black Bear in double figures with 13 points, while Rowe added nine points, 12 rebounds and four blocked shots. Brand had 10 points and 11 rebounds for the Great Danes, who lost for the fourth consecutive time.

University at Albany

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Date: 1-12-02 (Saturday)
Pages w/cover: 1

Comments: College Basketball

WOMEN – Maine 88, Albany 58

Orono, Maine – Sophomore guard **Melissa Heon** turned in an all-around effort by totaling a season-high 20 points and adding five rebounds, six assists and four steals in leading Maine to an 88-58 America East Conference victory over Albany on Saturday before 2,014 fans at Alfond Arena.

Albany (4-9, 0-2) trailed 14-11 after freshman **Becky Ayers** canned a three-point field goal midway through the opening period. Maine (9-6, 2-2) would go on to score 23 of the game's next 30 points. **Anna James** made two free throws for 37-18 advantage. Heon totaled seven of her 11 first-half points in that six-minute stretch.

The Black Bears, who snapped a two-game skid, including a one-point loss to Vermont last Thursday, were ahead 41-26 at the intermission, as they shot 50 percent from the field and nine players reached the scoring column.

In the final stanza, the Great Danes pulled within eleven on three occasions, but were victims of a 19-3 run. **Heather Ernest**, a 6-foot-1 sophomore, had six of her 14 points to highlight the spurt. The Black Bears, whose offense posted a season-best total, extended the margin to 64-37 on **Missy Traversi's** free throw with 11:17 remaining.

"Maine played good basketball," said Albany coach Mari Warner, who was a four-year letterwinner at Maine from 1978-81 and coached against her alma mater for the first time. "They reversed the ball nicely and hit their shots. We had troubling containing their transition."

Freshman **Monica Peterson** had 14 points and 11 rebounds for the Black Bears, who held a 44-23 advantage on the glass and tallied 25 second-chance points.

"We've got to work at having more heart and pride on the floor," said UAlbany's **Jess McGinlay**, who finished with 11 points. "We're not coming out of the blocks, and we are not doing what we are supposed to at the start of the game."

Ayers extended her double-figure scoring streak to five straight with 14 points. Freshman center **Danielle Hutcheson** added 11 points and seven rebounds.

University at Albany

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Date: 1-9-02 (Wednesday)
Pages w/cover: 1

Comments: College Sports

RYAN MacLEAN NAMED TO DIVISION I-AA ACADEMIC ALL-STAR TEAM **Eleven Football Players Selected to Northeast Conference Academic Honor Roll**

Albany, N.Y. – University at Albany's **Ryan MacLean** has been named to the fourth annual Division I-AA Athletic Directors Association Academic All-Star Football Team, as announced by John Johnson, chair of the Division I-AA ADA Academic All-Star Selection Committee and athletics director at Weber State.

MacLean, a junior roverbak, was one of 43 student-athletes voted to the squad. He has a 3.69 cumulative grade point average in management information systems. MacLean totaled 77 tackles, including 49 unassisted, two fumble recoveries, two pass break-ups and 2.0 sacks. A 6-foot, 205-pound defender, he also played on special teams, and averaged 24.6 yards per kickoff return.

In addition, MacLean joined ten of his teammates on the Northeast Conference Fall Academic Honor Roll. Senior outside linebacker **Brian Green** (3.52, finance/marketing) had 59 tackles, while defensive end **Josh MacAnn** (3.21, geology) and defensive tackle **David Parks** (3.52, history) were also starters on defense.

Junior quarterback **Ryan Roeder** (3.23, psychology/communication) passed for 1,019 yards and seven touchdowns, while **Billy Pike** (3.37, business administration) was a first-team all-conference punter.

Other UAlbany players on the NEC's honor roll are offensive tackle **Mike Laroche** (3.43, mathematics), offensive guard **Brandon Shaw** (3.32, business administration), free safety **Lucas Kurtz** (3.79, mathematics), linebacker **Victor Camacho** (3.82, accounting) and offensive guard **Eric Holzer** (3.62, undeclared).

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Comments: College Sports

FOUR PLAYERS LEAVE UALBANY MEN'S BASKETBALL PROGRAM

Albany, N.Y. – University at Albany Director of Athletics Lee McElroy announced today that **E.J. Gallup** and **Jan van den Berg** have left the men's basketball program. In addition, freshman walk-ons **Jemel Williams** and **Andrew Marsh** will not return.

Gallup, a 6-foot-4 sophomore guard, led the Great Danes in scoring through the opening nine games with an 18.4 average. Gallup has indicated that he intends to transfer to another institution.

A 6-foot-10 freshman from Urk, The Netherlands, van den Berg averaged 1.7 points and 1.0 rebounds in three appearances this season. van den Berg cited personal reasons for leaving the program, and is expected to return to Europe.

"E.J. Gallup will be given his release to transfer following the completion of 2001-02 season, as consistent with athletic department policy," McElroy said. "We wish both student-athletes well in their academic and athletic pursuits."

Williams and Marsh each made the team as walk-ons during fall semester tryouts. Williams, a 6'3" guard from Rochester, N.Y., and Marsh, a 6'6" forward from Yonkers, N.Y., each played briefly in two games during the early part of this year's schedule.

Albany, a third-year NCAA Division I program, is competing in the America East Conference for the first time.

University at Albany

Sports Information Fax Cover Sheet

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Date: 1-7-02 (Monday)
Pages w/cover: 2

Comments: College Basketball

Binghamton 69, Albany 61

Albany, N.Y. – Senior **Jeffrey Daws** scored 20 points and **Jeffrey St. Fort** added 14 in leading Binghamton to a 69-61 America East Conference victory over Albany on Monday at the Recreation and Convocation Center.

Albany (2-10, AE 0-3) trailed by as much as eight points in the opening period, but came back to take a 45-44 lead with 11:45 remaining on a three-point field goal by **Antione Johnson**.

The Great Danes were still in front at 52-49 following a conventional three-point by **Will Brand**, who tossed in a season-high 24 points. Brand, a 6-foot-5 senior whose total was two off his career-best, was fouled on a fastbreak layup.

Binghamton (5-8, AE 2-1) then ripped off seven straight to go ahead for good. **Anthony Green**, who had eight points off the bench, canned two free throws to put his team on top, while St. Fort, a 6-foot-6 forward who grabbed seven rebounds, added a pair of baskets in the run.

Still leading 60-57, the Bearcats put the game away on Green's two foul shots and **Brett Watson's** three-pointer from the left corner with 1:15 to play. Daws, who made 4 of 8 long-range jumpers, canned four free throws to seal the verdict in the final minute.

"I liked our aggressiveness, but I didn't like our intelligence," said Albany coach Will Brown, whose club was out-rebounded 40-27. "We need to eliminate mental errors and make smarter decisions in the stretch. We can't afford to lose at home in this conference, because it is so hard to win on the road."

Albany's Johnson scored in double figures for the fourth straight game with 17 points.

University at Albany

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Pages w/cover: 1

Comments: College Football

UALBANY'S BAZAN NAMED FOOTBALL GAZETTE LINEBACKER OF THE YEAR Chris Phillis and Bryan Bagstad Earn Second-Team All-America Honors

Brookfield, Ill. – University at Albany's **Josh Bazan** has been selected as the Football Gazette NCAA I-AA Mid-Major Linebacker of the Year as announced today by the national football publication. Bazan, a first-team All-America choice, received the award for the second consecutive year.

Split end **Chris Phillis** (Saratoga Springs) and place-kicker **Bryan Bagstad** (Shenendehowa) were named to the Football Gazette All-America second team.

Bazan, a 6-foot, 210-pound inside linebacker, led the Great Danes in tackles (103), hits for a loss (17), fumbles forced (4) and fumbles recovered (4). He added six pass break-ups and 4.0 sacks for minus-38 yards. Bazan, who was also voted to The Sports Network I-AA Mid-Major All-America squad, earned first-team All-Northeast Conference honors for the second consecutive season. He led a defense that ranked 17th in rushing (111.0 yards/game) and 22nd in scoring (19.5 points/game) among the Division I-AA national leaders.

Phillis, a 6-foot-1, 195-pound receiver, caught 42 passes for 609 yards and six touchdowns as a senior. He was chosen first-team All-NEC and earned UAlbany's team MVP award. Phillis finished his career with 126 receptions for 2,100 yards and a school-record 20 TDs.

Bagstad, a senior, made 9 of 14 field goals and 27 of 29 point-after attempts for a team-leading 54 points. He ranks third on the school's all-time scoring list with 167 points, the most by a place-kicker. Bagstad set a UAlbany mark with 22 career field goals, and tied another standard with 101 PATs.

UAlbany placed eight players in Football Gazette's honorable mention category, including tailback **Brian Manigault**, offensive guard **Alex Argulewicz**, center **Regan Jones**, offensive tackle **Geir Gudmundsen**, defensive end **John Bolt**, free safety **Samson Brown**, roverbak **Ryan MacLean** and punter **Billy Pike**.

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Date: 1-6-02 (Sunday)
Pages w/cover: 2

Comments: College Sports

WOMEN – New Hampshire 72, Albany 56

Durham, N.H. – Senior **Anna Matthias** tallied 13 points to pace four players in double figures as New Hampshire posted a 72-56 America East Conference victory over Albany on Sunday at Lundholm Gymnasium. The Great Danes were making their debut in conference play.

New Hampshire (6-6, 1-1) jumped to a 20-6 lead in this first-ever meeting between the schools on a conventional three-point play by Matthias, a 6-foot-3 center. Matthias, who was fouled on a tip-in, tallied seven of her nine first-half points in the run. The Wildcats, who have won four of their last six starts, would then score 16 of the game's next 22 points, and built a 36-12 cushion on back-to-back three-point field goals by **Kiki Proctor**.

Albany (4-8, 0-1) regrouped with nine unanswered points to pull within 15 with 4:13 left in the period. However, UNH held the Great Danes to one field goal the rest of the way, and pushed its lead to 45-23 at halftime.

In the final stanza, Albany used as 13-3 run, capped by **Becky Ayers'** three-pointer, in slicing the deficit to 58-46 with 7:04 remaining. Ayers, a freshman who nailed four long-range jumpers, finished with a career-high 19 points. The Great Danes, who were out-rebounded, 46-29, could never closer than 11 points in the stretch.

"I thought we came out intimidated in the first half," said Albany coach Mari Warner, whose team managed just 36-percent shooting in the opening period. "They dominated us on the boards and in the paint. I was proud of our fire and determination at the end of the game. New Hampshire was a senior-dominated team, and it showed."

New Hampshire's **Aubrey Danen**, a 6-foot-1 senior, totaled 12 points and 10 rebounds, while **Heidi Plencner** and Proctor each scored 10. Plencner became the school's career leading in three-point field goals made with 144.

University at Albany

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Date: 1-4-02 (Friday)
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Comments: College Sports

JANIS PIPIKIS RETURNS TO UALBANY MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM

Albany, N.Y. – University at Albany men's basketball coach Will Brown announced today that sophomore **Janis Pipikis** has returned to the team. Pipikis, a 6-foot-8 center from Ventspils, Latvia, had been considering whether to remain a member of the program since Dec. 27.

Pipikis, who missed the opening two America East Conference games against Vermont and Maine, participated in today's 12 noon practice at University Gymnasium on campus.

"Janis expressed a sincere desire to rejoin the program, and his teammates have welcomed him back with open arms," said Brown, who met with Pipikis on Friday morning. "The adjustment to college life on both an athletic and academic level were factors in his initial confusion. He feels more confident now that he has spoken with his parents in Latvia and has their support."

Pipikis is averaging 3.2 points and 2.7 rebounds this season. He started four of the six games in which he appeared, and averaged more than 16 minutes per contest.

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Date: 01-02-02 (Wednesday)
Pages w/cover: 1

Comments: College Basketball

MAINE 59, ALBANY 52

Orono, Maine—Senior guard **Errick Greene** scored 12 of his 15 points in the second half as Maine rallied for a 59-52 America East Conference victory over Albany on Wednesday at Alfond Arena.

Maine (4-8, 1-0) won back-to-back for the first time this year, as Greene broke a 50-50 tie with a 3-point field goal. **Rickey White**, who had nine points and 12 rebounds, improved the Black Bears' lead to five points with a follow shot in the lane.

Albany (2-9, 0-2) closed within 55-52 on a basket by **Will Brand**, who had 11 points and eight rebounds. The Great Danes would miss several opportunities to tie the contest, including wide-open three-point attempts by **Earv Opong** and **Sequon Young**, down the stretch. Greene converted four free throws in the final 18 seconds to preserve the victory.

"We gave a great effort, but we didn't make the best decisions down the stretch," Albany coach **Will Brown** said. "Maine is talented, big and has great athletes, and is definitely one of the top three teams in the league. Tonight we took a step in the right direction. I feel good about this team."

The Great Danes, who held a two-point halftime lead, pushed out to a 37-32 advantage on a three-point field goal by Opong, who had eight points and six assists. Maine would later score nine straight points to go ahead, and led by as much as 47-41 on Greene's fastbreak layup. Albany drew even at 50 apiece behind a long-range jumper by Antione Johnson, who led all scorers with 18 points.

University at Albany

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Date: 01-02-02 (Wednesday)
Pages w/cover: 1

Comments: Women's College Basketball

Albany 74, Lafayette 62

Easton, Pa.—Junior guard **Jess McGinlay** totaled a game-high 18 points as Albany earned a 74-62 non-conference victory over Lafayette on Wednesday evening at the Kirby Sports Center.

Albany (4-7) capitalized on an 18-7 spurt late in the final stanza, increasing its lead to 63-52 on **Kathryn Hemlock's** steal and layup in transition with 4:43 left. **Marie Connors** came off the bench and netted 8 of her 12 points during the span.

The Great Danes, who controlled a lead since the 18-minute mark in the first half, were threatened several midway through the final period. Lafayette (2-9) would pull within two on six occasions and tie the score at 45 on **Jennifer Bayer's** layup at the 11:35 mark. However, Albany would pull away, benefiting from 18-of-23 free throw shooting in the half.

"We executed well offensively in the second half," said Albany coach **Mari Warner**, who earned her 299th career victory at the school. "We were able to bring the ball closer to the basket, which allowed us to shoot more free throws. Our ability to make those free throws was the difference for us."

In the opening stanza, Albany used a 15-3 run and took a 17-7 lead on McGinlay's layup. McGinlay also added a three-pointer in the sequence while **Chris Gray** posted five points off the bench. With the Great Danes ahead 26-17 and six minutes to play in the period, Lafayette sliced the deficit to 26-24 as **Colleen Fitzpatrick's** two baskets highlighted seven unanswered markers. Fitzpatrick finished with a team-high 14 points. Albany carried a 32-30 advantage into the intermission.

The Great Danes shot a season-high 49 percent from the field. **Becky Ayers** was Albany's third player in double digits with 12 points, while Hemlock recorded a career-high eight assists. **Lindsay Myers** and **Ashley MacLelland** had 13 and 11 points, respectively, for the Leopards off the bench.

Albany, who has won four of its last seven games, opens America East Conference play on Sunday at New Hampshire.