

For Immediate Release

January 31, 2006

For Further Information

Brian DePasquale / 518-442-3072

UALBANY'S BIG PURPLE GROWL SCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4

Albany, N.Y. – The ninth annual Big Purple Growl and Ferocious Feast is set for Saturday, Feb. 4 on the University at Albany campus. The University's Winter Homecoming features a men's and women's basketball doubleheader with America East Conference opponent Boston University. The women's game begins at 5:00 p.m., while the men follow at 7:30.

The Ferocious Feast will be held in University Gymnasium, adjacent to the Recreation and Convocation Center, from 5:00-7:00 p.m. The menu includes barbecue ribs, chicken tenders and a variety of wraps. The Puppy Pound for younger children highlights a list of activities. The amazing Mr. Twisty, a basketball shoot and face painting are also part of the celebration. The Earth Tones, the University's men's a capella group, will also provide musical entertainment.

Big Purple Growl T-shirts, courtesy of Verizon Wireless, will be handed out to the first 1,000 students and first 1,000 fans at the basketball doubleheader. Students will participate in the CDTA Shot for Tuition, with the winner receiving an award that is equivalent to one year's in-state tuition. Both schools' pep bands will also perform.

For ticket information, contact the UAlbany Athletic Ticket Office, at 518-442-4683. The ticket office is open from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The office will open at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday. They are currently 1,000 reserved seats available for sale.

Both Big Purple Growl games will be televised on the America East TV Network. Time Warner Cable-Channel 3 and NESN are picking up the broadcast. Rodger Wyland, sports director at WNYT-TV, will handle the play-by-play coverage for both contests. Ron Perry is the color commentator for the men's game, while Leah Secondo will perform the same duties for the women's broadcast.

UALBANY'S ANISHA ANDREWS NAMED A-EAST CO-ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Boston, Mass. – UAlbany junior Anisha Andrews has been named the America East Conference Co-Female Performer of the Week in track and field, as announced by the league office on Tuesday afternoon. Andrews set school records in the 500-meter dash and as a member of the 4x400-meter relay at last weekend's Terrier Classic. She shares this week's award with Stony Brook's Dana Hastie.

Andrews covered the 500m in 1:16.24, breaking the 1998 UAlbany standard set by Xiomara Davila Diaz by 12-hundredths of a second. Her time is a season best and the top mark among Great Dane women, as well as second fastest in the America East.

She also ran a 56.5 split in the second leg of the 4x400m relay which finished with an ECAC-qualifying time of 3:51.60. The relay finished third in the event and the mark was 16-hundredths of a second better than the previous UAlbany standard set in 2004.

The UAlbany 4x400m relay teams will compete at the Millrose Games on Feb. 3, while the full squads will contend at the New Balance Collegiate Invitational on Feb. 3-4.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 30, 2006

BRACKETBUSTERS PAIRINGS ANNOUNCED

13 GAMES WITH NCAA TOURNAMENT HOPEFULS FEBRUARY 17-18

Pairings for the fourth annual *BracketBusters presented by eBay* -- a 13-game men's basketball event matching NCAA tournament hopefuls against each other on Friday, Feb. 17 and Saturday, Feb. 18 -- were announced today. This 26 *BracketBusters* teams were selected from a pool of 100 schools representing 18 conferences. Last year's field included a potential of 64 teams representing 13 conferences (vying for 11 *BracketBusters* games).

ESPN and ESPN2 will combine to televise six *BracketBusters* contests, ESPNU, the 24-hour college sports network, will televise five and ESPN360 will offer coverage of the remaining two. Game times and network assignments for the 13 matchups will be announced Tuesday, Feb. 7. This year's event will mark the first time games will be televised over two days. The first three years of *BracketBusters*, previously branded as *Bracket Buster Saturday*, featured every game on a Saturday.

"The *BracketBusters* event continues to show remarkable year-to-year growth with this year's field featuring the deepest pool of quality matchups," said Burke Magnus, vice president and general manager, ESPNU. "The expanded coverage on ESPNU and ESPN360 will provide additional national exposure for potential bracket-busting teams and allow fans to follow more teams as they prepare for an NCAA Tournament run."

***BracketBusters* event pairings:**

Bucknell at #24 Northern Iowa
George Mason at Wichita State
Missouri State at University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Louisiana Tech at Southern Illinois
Buffalo at Iona
Fresno State at Creighton
Akron at Nevada
Butler at Kent State
Marist at Old Dominion
Northwestern State at Utah State
Samford at Ohio
Albany at Virginia Commonwealth University
Northern Arizona at Western Kentucky

This year's 26 *BracketBusters* teams represent 12 conferences and

- Thirteen of the teams lead or co-lead their conference;
- Five are in the RPI top 25, 10 are in the top 50, 14 in the top 64 and 20 are in the top 100;
- Fourteen participated in post-season play last year, including nine in the NCAA Tournament.

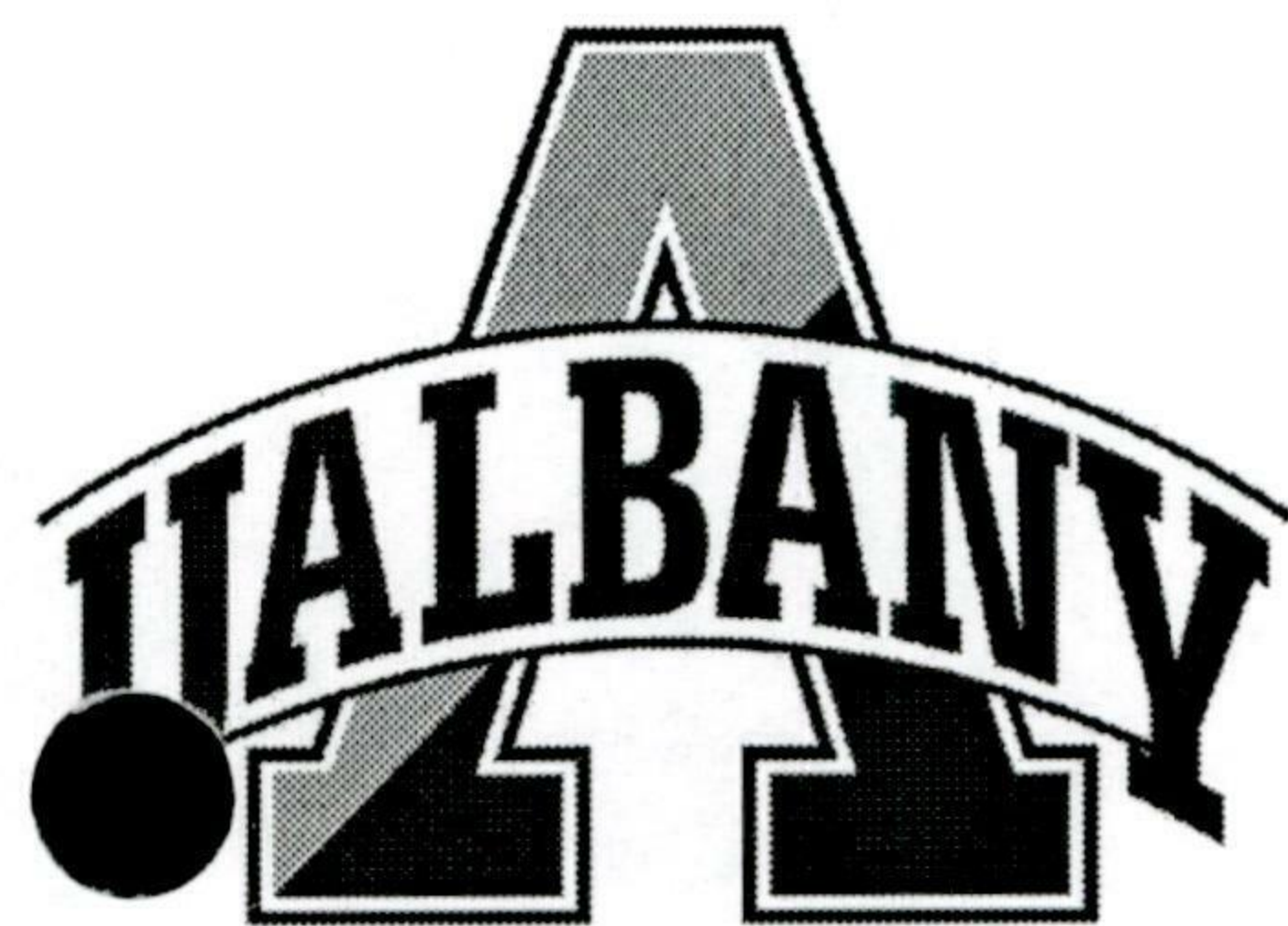
The *BracketBusters* concept, named because of the success of teams from these conferences in NCAA Tournament play over the past years, provides participating programs with an opportunity to play top non-conference opponents approximately three weeks prior to

Selection Sunday. Each conference selected their participating teams months prior to the season and the matchups for the event were determined by ESPN in conjunction with the conferences.

BracketBusters is an example of ESPN college basketball franchise programming. Others include *Rivalry Week*, *Feast Week*, *Judgment Week* and *Championship Week*.

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Contacts: Michael Humes at 860-766-2233; michael.c.humes@espn.com



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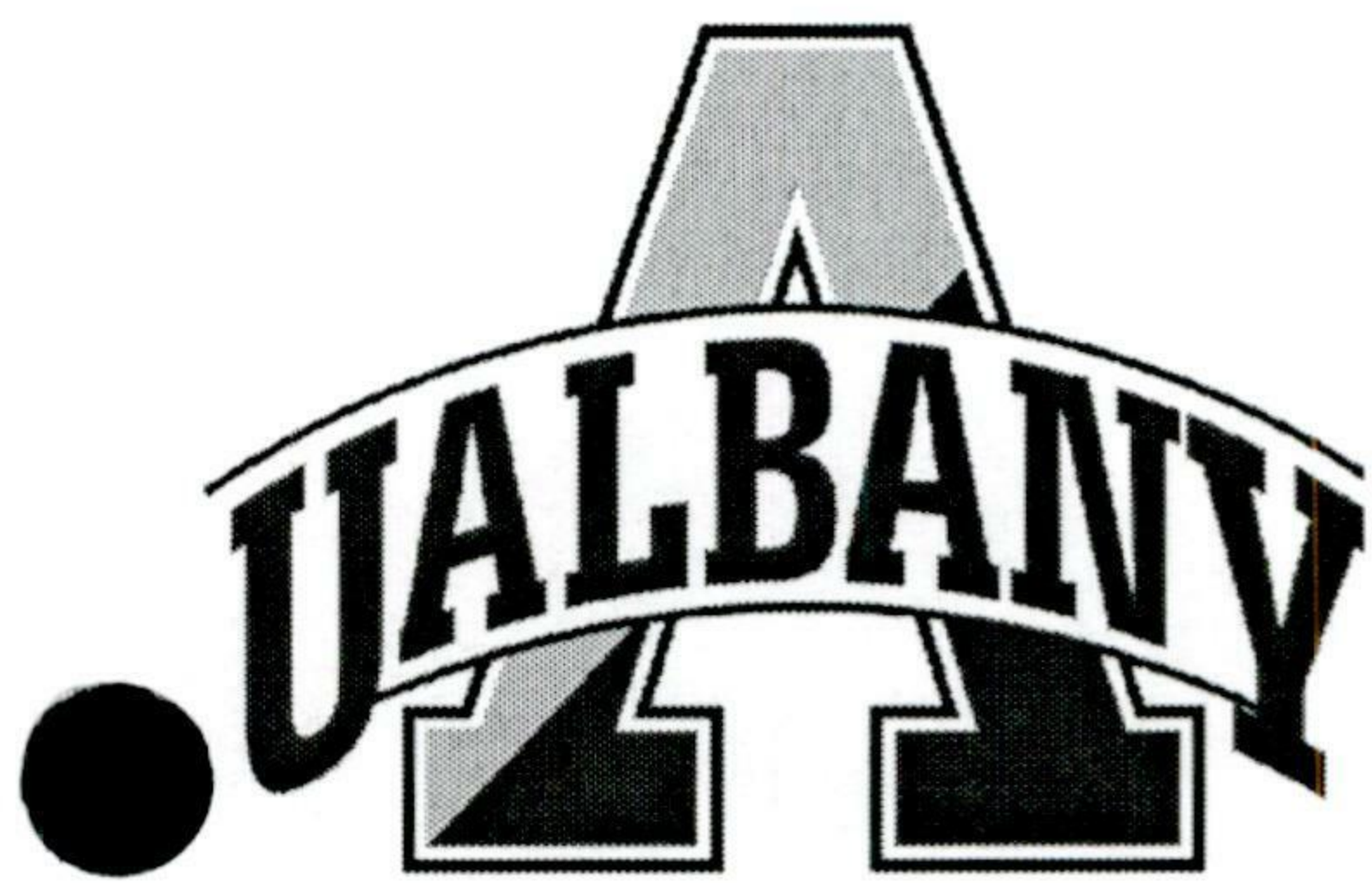
UALBANY'S JASON SIGGERS NAMED AMERICA EAST CO-PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Albany, N.Y. – University at Albany's Jason Siggers has been chosen the America East Conference Co-Player of the Week in men's basketball, as announced by the conference office on Monday afternoon. He shares the award with Boston University's Kevin Gardner.

Siggers, a 6-foot-4 junior from Dallas, Texas, was a key figure in a pair of come-from-behind America East victories last week. He made the game-winning 8-foot baseline jumper with six seconds remaining in a 52-51 road win against Binghamton, a battle for first place in the conference standings. Siggers had 10 points off the bench as his team rallied from 11 down with 4:22 to play.

In a 62-50 victory over UMBC on Jan. 25, Siggers scored a career-high 18 points, all in the second half. He made 6-of-9 from the field, including all five of his 3-point field goal attempts. UAlbany (12-8, AE 7-2) regrouped from a seven-point deficit in the second half.

Siggers, who transferred from New Mexico Junior College, has appeared in all 20 games this season and is averaging 4.2 points.



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January 29, 2006

For Further Information

Sean Tainsh / 518-442-5733

Women's Basketball: Binghamton 70, UAlbany 49

Vestal, N.Y. – Sophomore center Laine Kurpniece had a double-double with 19 points and 10 rebounds to lead Binghamton to a 70-49 America East Conference victory over UAlbany on Sunday afternoon before 2,499 fans on at the Events Center. The Bearcats have won five of their last seven.

Binghamton (13-6, AE 5-2) got out to an early 7-0 lead as senior forward Jen Haubrich had three of her four points in the outburst. Joy Sterling, who had 11 points, six rebounds and a career-high four steals, sank UAlbany's first hoop four minutes into the contest. But Binghamton ran off 11 straight points to take an 18-3 lead with 9:30 to go in the period. Jen Blues, a 6-foot guard, started the run with a 3-pointer, while Kurpniece had consecutive layups during that stretch. Jen Schumacher netted two of her three 3-pointers in the final three minutes to cut the margin to 34-20 before halftime.

UAlbany (5-13, AE 1-6) trimmed the deficit further in the second half with a string of nine straight points midway through the stanza. Gia Sanders, who had 12 points and four rebounds, made consecutive hoops, including a jumper with 8:27 remaining to cut the into lead. Sherri Mikus' free throw made the score 50-41 two minutes later. The Bearcats then scored 12 of the game's next 14 points to put the game away. Kurpniece, who shot 6-of-10 from the field and 7-of-7 from the free throw line, had 11 of her 19 scoring total in the stretch.

"We were terrible on the boards and that's not us," said UAlbany coach Trina Patterson, whose team was out-rebounded 45-28 and surrendered 16 second-chance points. "When you give up two or three shots on the rim they're going to make one. Our team got in a hole too quickly but I'm proud of our comeback."

Sophomore guard Laura Sario, who was a perfect 6-of-6 from the field including 2-of-2 from three-point land, and Blues joined Kurpniece in double figures with 15 and 14 points, respectively. The Bearcats, who are tied for second in the conference standings with Boston U., shot 45.5 percent from the floor on 25-of-55 shooting.

Schumacher led UAlbany with 13 points. Sanders, who had three blocks, moved into sixth place on the program's single-season block list with 41.



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For Immediate Release

January 28, 2006

For Further Information

Lisa Cangelosi / 518-442-4511

UALBANY SETS FOUR SCHOOL RECORDS AT BOSTON U.'S TERRIER CLASSIC

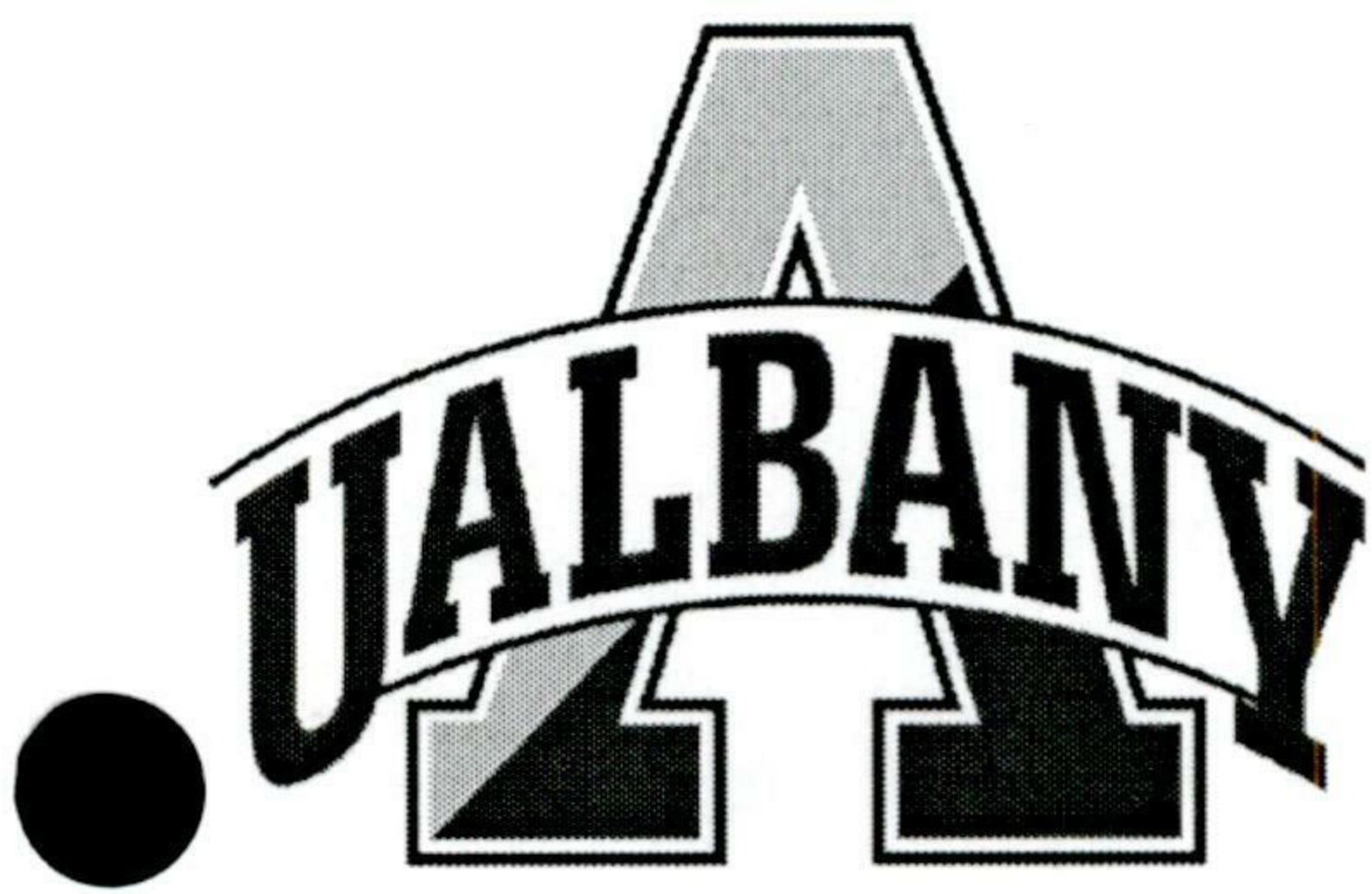
Boston, Mass. - Robbie Freeman broke the school record in the 3,000-meter run with an IC4A-qualifying time of 8:20.54, while three women's competitors also set new school standards at Boston University's Terrier Classic held at the BU Track and Tennis Center.

Freeman's time broke previous mark of 8:23.43 set by Todd Orvis in 1992. Andy Allstadt covered the 3,000m in an IC4A-qualifying time of 8:20.63, which also broke the existing standard. Freeman and Allstadt have the top two times in the America East this season. Gered Burns (Guilderland), who eclipsed his own school record in the 800m last week, ran a 1:52.75 in the event to take third overall.

On the women's side, Jessica Ortman set a school record in the 1,000-meters and was the top collegiate finisher in the event with a time of 2:50.98. Ortman, who qualified for the ECAC championships at the Yale Invitational in December, bested the previous mark of 2:53.20 set by Diane Matthews in 2004.

Anisha Andrews broke the school record in the 500-meters with a time of 1:16:24, besting the previous mark set in 1998 by Xiomara Davila Diaz. Her sister, Adanna Andrews, finished seventh overall in the 800m with an ECAC-qualifying time of 2:14.17. Both ran legs on the 4x400 relay team that set a new school standard and finished third overall with a time of 3:51.60. Kamilah McShine and Tracy Estriplet were also relay members.

Other top finishers for Great Danes included freshman Candace Mann, who finished fourth overall and set a personal best in the shot put with a throw of 41-feet, 2.5 inches. Freshman Jenn Garrant placed sixth in the triple jump with a personal best leap of 37-feet, 7.25 inches.



Men's Basketball: Albany 52, Binghamton 51

Vestal, N.Y. – Jason Siggers hit an eight-foot jumper on the left baseline with six seconds remaining as UAlbany came from behind for a 52-51 America East Conference victory over Binghamton in a battle for first place in the conference standings on Saturday afternoon before 4,743 fans at the Events Center.

Binghamton (9-10, AE 6-2) reversed a 33-31 deficit in the second half by holding the visitors scoreless for seven-plus minutes. In that span, the Bearcats reeled off 15 unanswered points. Troy Hailey, who had all 14 of his points after halftime, led that charge. Hailey tallied the final 11 points in the outburst, including a three-pointer that gave his club a 38-33 advantage. The junior guard finished off that run with a steal and layup for a 46-33 margin with 6:37 remaining.

UAlbany (12-8, AE 7-2) still trailed by 11 points with 4:22 to play before starting its comeback. Jamar Wilson, who had eight of his 12 points in the late stages of the game, converted a driving layup to close the gap to 48-45. The Great Danes would later draw even at 50 apiece with 55.6 seconds left on Wilson's three-point play. The 6-foot-1 junior was fouled on a driving layup from the top of the key and made the subsequent free throw.

Binghamton's Sebastian Hermenier, who had nine points and seven rebounds, was fouled on the right baseline on his team's next possession. Hermenier split a pair of free throws for a 51-50 advantage. After Siggers hit the game-winning shot, the Bearcats' Andre Heard misfired on a three-pointer from the left wing as time expired.

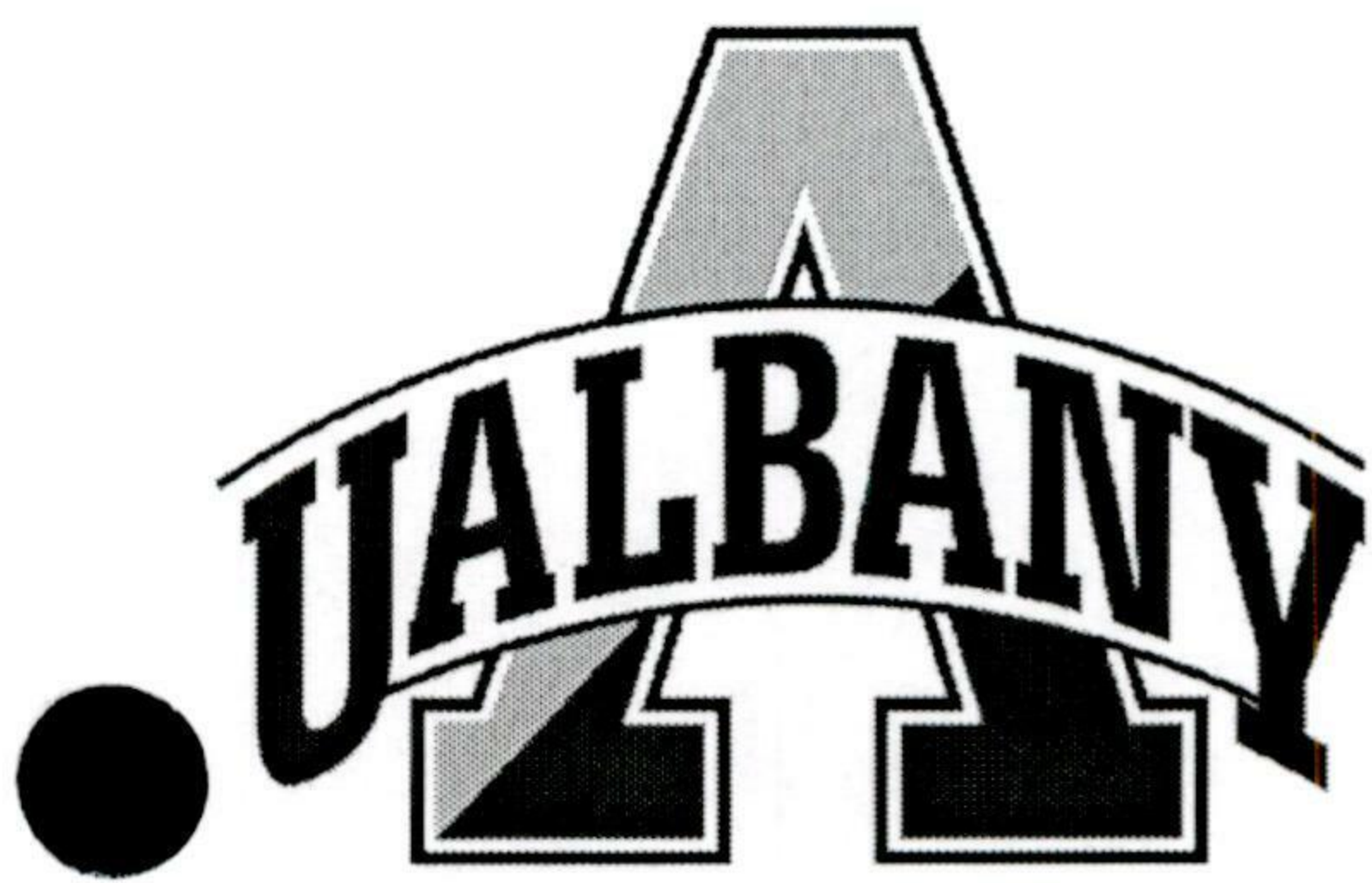
"It was gut check time with six minutes to go," said UAlbany coach Will Brown, whose team ended a string of six straight road losses against Binghamton and swept the regular-season series against the Bearcats. "We dug down defensively and hit a couple of shots to finally feel good about ourselves. Jamar (Wilson) showed maturity down the stretch."

Levi Levine was one of three UAlbany players in double figures with 11 points and five rebounds off the bench. Siggers scored in double figures for the second straight game with 10 points.

"I had a big guy on me and I saw the mismatch," offered Siggers, who made 4-of-6 from the field. "I just took the angle and made the shot. I have confidence in myself and my teammates."

Heard, a 6-foot-3 senior, led all scorers with 15 points and eight rebounds. The Bearcats shot 35.2 percent from the field on 19-of-54 attempts, including 4-of-15 from the three-point arc.

"I never saw so much green in my life," commented Wilson, referring to the color of Binghamton's jerseys. "I wasn't getting good looks in the first half and I missed some easy shots. We made plays and hustled down the stretch and whatever it took to win."



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For Further Information

Lisa Cangelosi / 518-442-4511

MEN'S INDOOR TRACK TEAM TAKES SECOND AT BOSTON INDOOR GAMES

Boston, Mass. – **Junior Burnett** won the 55-meter dash and placed second in the 200m to lead the UAlbany men's indoor track and field team to a second-place overall finish at the Reebok Boston Indoor Games held at the Reggie Lewis Center. **Joe Greene** and **Ricardo Estremera** also won their events for the Great Danes.

Burnett ran an IC4A-qualifying time of 6.48 to be the first across the line in the 55m dash. He then finished the 200m in a time of 22.34 after setting a new school record in the event at last weekend's Great Dane Classic. Burnett was only 12-hundredths off the lead, while Greene and freshman **Pat Weider** placed third and fourth in the event, respectively.

Greene posted a long jump of 22-feet, 7-inches to best his nearest competitor by nearly five inches. A freshman, Greene has also posted three wins in sprinting events this season. Estremera, a sophomore, won the 1,000m for the first time this season in a time of 2:32.35.

Senior **Stephen Evans** and freshman **Rachaud Hill** (Glens Falls) had season-bests to place second in the 400m and 500m, respectively. Evans crossed the line in 49.57, while Hill finished in 1:06.12. **Kamar Elliott** and **Jesse Bennett** placed second and fourth in the 55m-hurdles with times of 7.82 and 7.87, respectively.

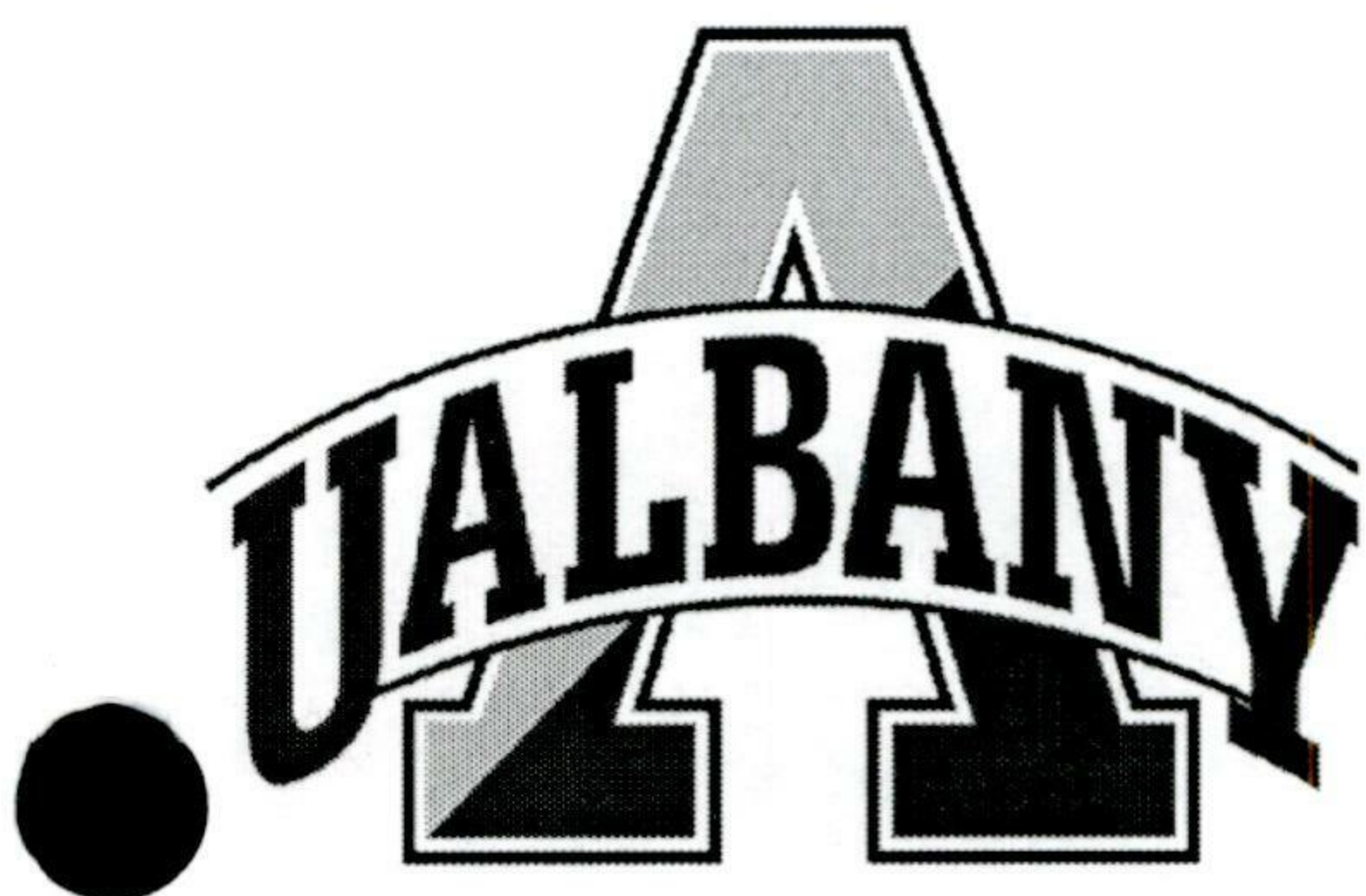
The men's indoor track and field teams return to action at the Millrose Games and the New Balance Collegiate Invitational on Feb. 3-4.

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REEBOK BOSTON INDOOR GAMES

Men's Team Results

1. Southern Connecticut State 130, **2. UAlbany 121**, 3. New Hampshire 112, 4. Northeastern 74.50, 5. Massachusetts 62, 6. Williams 60, 7. Boston College 54, 8. New Haven 16, 9. Holy Cross 15.50, 10. Vermont 10, 11. Hartford 7



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For Immediate Release

January 26, 2006

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Sean Tainsh / 518-442-5733

Women's Basketball: UMBC 48, Albany 41

Baltimore, Md. – **Sarah Rohde** scored a career-high 20 points and added nine rebounds as UMBC defeated UAlbany, 48-41, in America East Conference women's basketball action on Thursday afternoon at the RAC Arena.

UAlbany (5-12, AE 1-5) went on an early 9-0 run to open up a 12-3 lead as **Jen Schumacher** and **Amanda Ward** each canned two three-pointers during the stretch. The Great Danes led by as many as 10 in the first half, but UMBC trimmed the deficit to three as Rohde scored seven straight points, including a driving layup with 7:57 left in the period. The Great Danes, who made just 3-of-22 shots to close out the half, led 26-21 at intermission.

UMBC (9-8, AE 1-5) took its first lead of the game with 9:18 left in the second period, when **Brittanie Hughes** hit a layup to give her squad a 36-35 advantage. The basket capped an 8-2 UMBC run. UAlbany regained the lead on the following possession when **Tanya James**, who scored a season-high 10 points in 20 minutes off the bench, scored on a driving layup. But Rohde and Hughes combined for nine of their team's last 10 points and UAlbany made just one field goal in the final 9:08 to seal the victory for the Retrievers.

"We still have our scoring problems," said UAlbany head coach Trina Patterson, whose team shot just 26 percent and had its second-lowest scoring output of the season. "We can match our opponents defensively but not offensively."

Rohde, who shot 7-of-14 from the field and 5-of-7 from the free-throw line, was the only Retriever in double figures. Hughes, the team's second-leading scorer at 10.3 points per game, had all of her six points in the final period.

Schumacher led three Great Danes in double figures with 14 points, including four 3-pointers. Ward, who scored in twin figures for the second consecutive game, added 10 points, six rebounds and four assists.



Men's Basketball – Albany 62, UMBC 50

Albany, N.Y. – Jason Siggers came off the bench to score a career-high 18 points, all in the second half, as UAlbany rallied for a 62-50 America East Conference victory over UMBC on Wednesday evening at the Recreation and Convocation Center.

UMBC (7-11, AE 3-4) trailed by as much as 15 points midway through the first half, but regrouped by using both a zone defense and full-court pressure to go in front early in the final period. Freshman guard Jay Greene buried a three-point field goal to give his team its first lead, 26-23, with 16:22 remaining. The Retrievers would eventually push out to a 33-26 advantage, when Jerrell Dinkins scored on a follow shot in the lane.

UAlbany (11-8, AE 6-2) fought back with nine of the game's next 11 points. Siggers, a 6-foot-4 junior, canned a 3-pointer from left of the key and then converted a three-point play when he was fouled on a right baseline drive for a 38-35 lead.

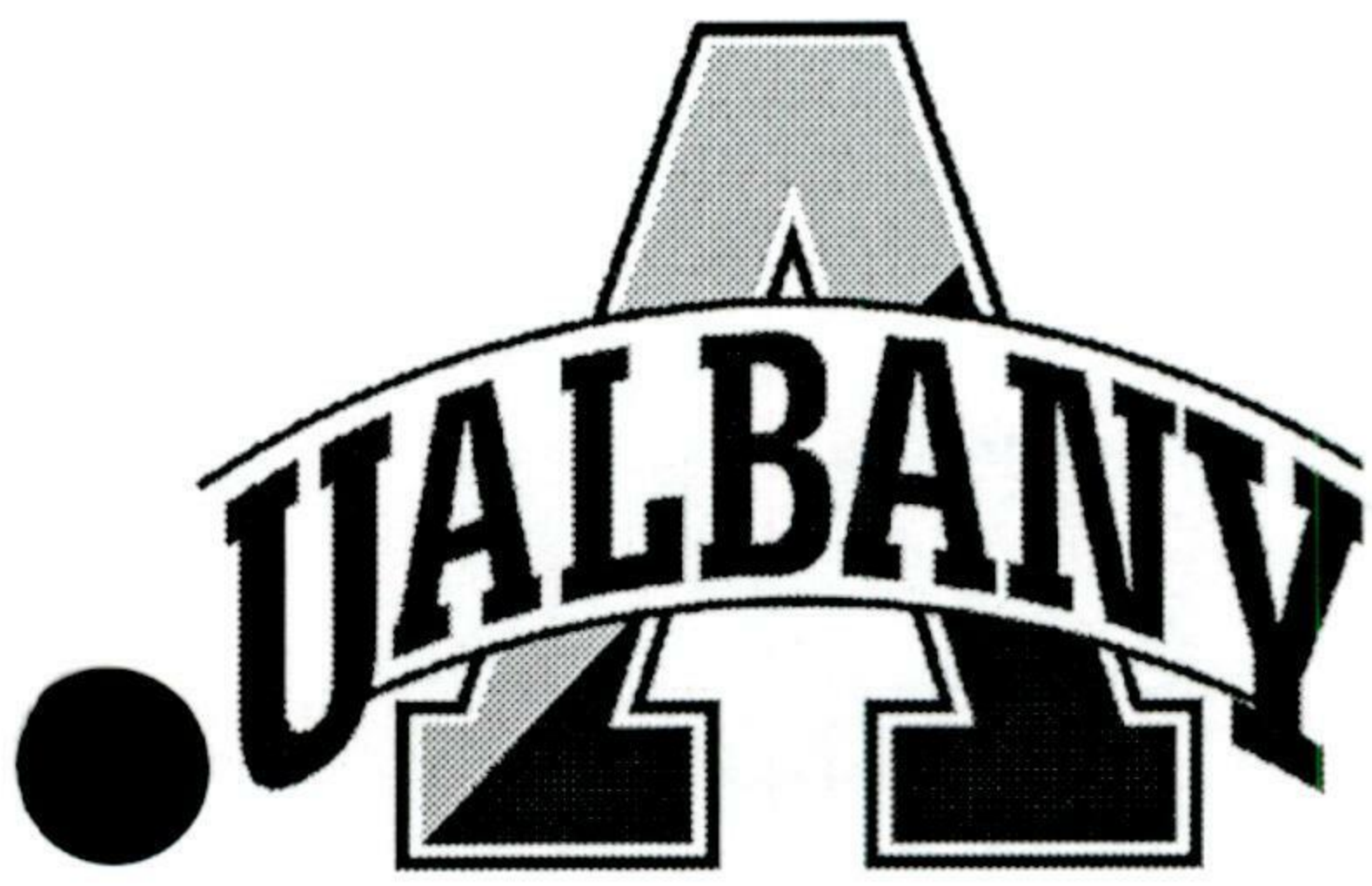
In a second half that featured four lead changes and two ties, the Retrievers regained the lead when Tom Young scored on a follow shot and made two free throws. However, UAlbany went ahead for good, 44-39, on back-to-back three-point field goals by Siggers and Jamar Wilson.

Brian Hodges, a 6-foot-3 sophomore who led all scorers with 19 points off the bench, kept UMBC within striking distance on a long-range jumper that closed the gap to 46-45 with 7:12 left. But the Great Danes finally seized control with a 14-2 run over the next five minutes. Siggers drilled a pair of three-point shots in that stretch, while sophomore Brian Lillis added a 12-foot jumper in the lane and a tip-in.

"We started and finished great, but we had a lull in the middle," said UAlbany coach Will Brown, whose team started the contest with a 14-0 run before not scoring for nearly seven minutes in the first half. "Teams are going to sit in a zone against us and we just have to make shots. What got us the win was the fact that we defended on every possession."

UAlbany's Lucious Jordan had eight of his 10 points in the opening period, as his team held a 23-19 halftime margin. Levi Levine and Wilson each scored nine for the Great Danes, who have won nine of their last 11. Lillis totaled eight points, six rebounds and four assists. UMBC's Dinkins finished with 10 points.

"I am ready to play when called upon," said Siggers, who made 6-of-9 from the field, including all five 3-point attempts. "I got good looks at the basket and I just hit the shots and got in a zone. I was relaxed and focused."



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Lisa Cangelosi / 518-442-4511

BURKS-WILEY NOTCHES DOUBLE-DOUBLE TO LEAD BOSTON U. PAST UALBANY

Boston, Mass. – **Jesyka Burks-Wiley** recorded career highs with 20 points and 15 rebounds to lead Boston University past UAlbany, 69-52, in America East Conference women's basketball action on Tuesday afternoon at Case Gymnasium.

UAlbany (5-11, AE 1-4) jumped out to an early 10-5 lead, but the Terriers were able to reverse the deficit with a 10-0 run. **Cheri Raffo**, the team's top scorer on the season, capped that uprising with a jumper from the left corner to give her squad a 15-10 advantage with 13:00 remaining in the first period.

Boston U. (11-6, AE 4-2) scored eight of the game's next 11 points to take control, including back-to-back fastbreak layups by **Rachael Vanderwal** to make the score 23-13 with 8:46 left in the half. The Terriers widened their margin as **Kristi Dini** hit a three-pointer to push the lead to 33-17 with three minutes to go in the opening stanza. The Great Danes made just two field goals in the last 10 minutes of the half and trailed 35-21 at the midway point.

The Terriers, who have won five of their last seven outings, improved their margin as Burks-Wiley opened the second half with seven points in three minutes for a 44-25 lead. UAlbany later pulled within 56-43 with 8:21 left to play as **Gia Sanders** converted a second-chance bucket. The Great Danes, however, could not mount a comeback, and the Terriers improved to 5-0 at home this season before more than 1,000 fans in a noontime start.

"The crowd was the sixth man," said UAlbany head coach Trina Patterson, who saw her squad even its record to 4-4 in day games. "They made it hard to hear and they were so close to the court. Boston U.'s full-court pressure also bothered us."

Amanda Ward had a career-high 18 points for the Great Danes, reaching double figures for the second time this season. The junior also snagged a career-best nine rebounds.

"I'm glad to see her (Ward) give us an offensive spark," Patterson commented. "She drove to the basket and was able to finish off the dribble."

Jen Schumacher added nine points and five rebounds as she played in her 100th game for UAlbany, while Sanders had eight points and eight rebounds.

ORTMAN, BURNETT, SHERMAN EARN WEEKLY AMERICA EAST HONORS

Boston, Mass. – UAlbany's **Jessica Ortman** was named the America East Conference Women's Track Performer of the Week, as announced by the league office on Tuesday afternoon. **Jillian Sherman** (Academy of the Holy Names) was named the women's field performer of the week, while **Junior Burnett** shared the men's track performer of the week honors.

Ortman set a new UAlbany standard in the 800m for the second straight week. She ran a 2:11.23 at last Friday's Great Dane Classic to win the event by nearly three seconds. The freshman broke her own school record of 2:12.96, which she set the previous week at the

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NYC Gotham Cup. She also ran a leg of the winning distance medley relay at the Great Dane Classic, which qualified for the ECAC Championship. She has won the award for the second time this season.

Sherman tied the school record in the triple jump with a mark of 40-feet, 1.5-inches at the Great Dane Classic. She won the event by a comfortable margin to help her team to a second-place overall finish. The senior also qualified for the ECAC Championship in her first triple jump competition as a collegian.

Burnett set a school record in the 200m last weekend, placing fifth overall in the event. His time of 21.93 also qualified him for the IC4A Championship and is the fastest in the America East this season. The senior also took fourth place in the 55m dash with an IC4A-qualifying time of 6.44, plus ran the first leg of the winning 4x400m relay which also set a school record with a time of 3:13.26. He shares this week's award with Hartford's Chris Spivey.

The UAlbany track and field teams return to action at the Boston Indoor Games and the Terrier Classic on Jan. 27-28.



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For Immediate Release

January 22, 2006

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Brian DePasquale / 518-442-3072

Men's Basketball – New Hampshire 75, Albany 72 (OT)

Albany, N.Y. – Blagoj Janev and Jermaine Anderson combined for seven points in overtime in leading New Hampshire to a 75-72 America East Conference victory over UAlbany on Sunday afternoon at the Recreation and Convocation Center.

UAlbany (10-8, AE 5-2) took a 64-63 lead in the extra period when Jamar Wilson drilled a three-point field goal from left of the key. New Hampshire (7-12, AE 4-4) went back in front when Jamaal Caterina converted a conventional three-point play as he was fouled after scoring in the lane. Freshman Tyrece Gibbs then hit a driving one-hander in the lane for a 68-64 advantage.

The Great Danes' Jon Iati closed the gap to one when he made a 3-pointer from the right wing. However, Ioannis Karalis followed up Anderson's missed jumper from the right baseline and the Wildcats used the foul line to seal the verdict. Janev made 4-of-4 from the charity stripe in the final 30 seconds. The 6-foot-8 junior from Australia finished with 24 points.

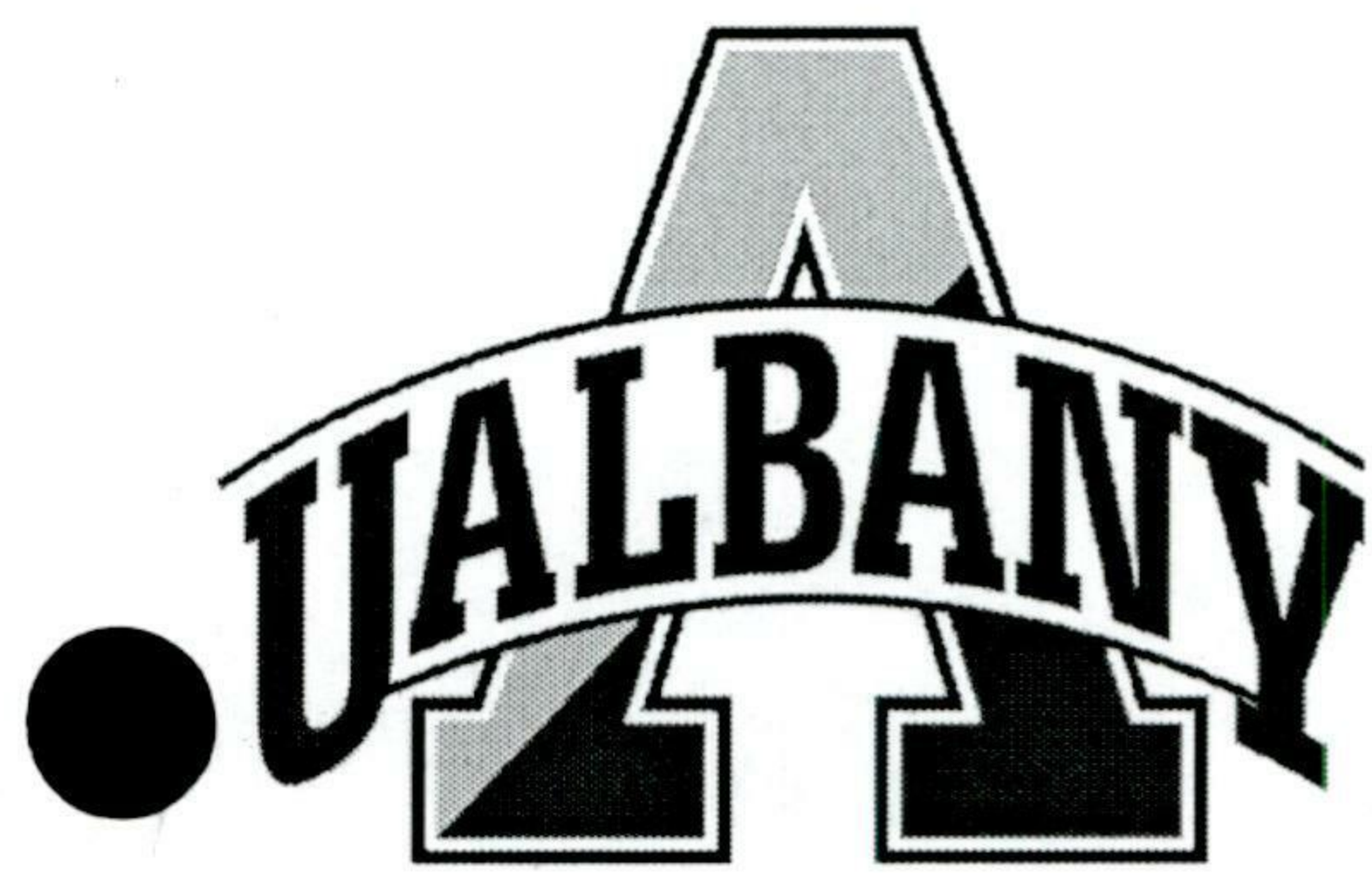
UAlbany trailed by two at halftime, but regrouped to take a 49-43 lead in the second half with a string of seven straight points. Brent Wilson, who had 14 points, made a 3-pointer from the top of the arc before Jamar Wilson converted a left-handed driving layup.

New Hampshire would later draw even at 49 apiece, when Janev was fouled on a driving bank shot in the lane. The contest, which featured nine lead changes and eight ties, then went back and forth. Anderson, who had 20 points, made two free throws with 50.9 seconds remaining, before UAlbany's Levi Levine was able to tip-in a missed jumper that tied the contest at 61. Janev misfired on a three-pointer from the right side as time expired in regulation.

"They shot the ball extremely well," said UAlbany coach Will Brown, whose team has dropped back-to-back contests following an eight-game win streak. "We got beat off the dribble and gave them too many open looks. They were able to spread out the floor and we were not able to get the job done defensively."

Caterina added 12 points and five rebounds for the Wildcats, who have won five of their last six starts. UAlbany's Wilson totaled 21 points, six rebounds and five assists. Kirsten Zoellner, a 7-foot-1 senior, had 11 points and nine rebounds.

"We play at our best when we are solid defensively," Jamar Wilson offered. "They got what they wanted on offense. We are still hungry, but we were in cruise control instead of coming out strong against them."



Attn: Sports Department

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For Immediate Release

January 21, 2006

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Brian DePasquale / 518-442-3072

Women's Basketball – Albany 62, New Hampshire 58

Albany, N.Y. – Gia Sanders scored a career-high 17 points, including the go-ahead three-point field goal with 36 seconds remaining, as UAlbany rallied for a 62-58 America East Conference victory over New Hampshire on Saturday afternoon at the Recreation and Convocation Center.

New Hampshire (10-6, AE 2-3) reversed a 50-48 deficit with 10 of the game's next 13 points. Ray Williams, a 6-foot junior, scored on a follow shot in the lane to put her team in front. She later gave the Wildcats a 58-53 advantage when she converted a three-point play after being fouled on a basket in the lane with 2:13 left.

UAlbany (5-10, AE 1-3) regrouped behind the play of sophomore guard Sherri Mikus, who tied a career-high with 16 points. Mikus made a pair of free throws and then hit a spinning jumper in the lane to slice the margin to 58-57. Following a Mikus' steal, Sanders drilled a three-pointer from the left wing to regain the lead.

The Wildcats' Whitney Edwards would misfire on a three-point attempt from left of the key on her team's next possession. Mikus, who made 6-of-9 from the field and tied a season-best with six assists, sealed the outcome when she made two free throws in a one-and-one situation with 7.1 seconds to play.

"I am proud of our team because they never gave up to beat a good team," said UAlbany coach Trina Patterson, whose squad had dropped six of its previous seven outings. "We shared the ball and concentrated on offense. We now know how to win a tough game."

The Great Danes, who held the visitors to 35.1-percent shooting and forced 20 turnovers, led by as much as 31-22 in the first half. But UNH closed the gap to one by halftime, as junior forward Danielle Clark had 11 of her 20 points in the opening period. The game featured 10 lead changes and five ties.

Kirsten Peterson, a 6-foot-4 redshirt freshman, had 10 points, eight rebounds and three blocked shots for the Great Danes, who ended a three-game losing streak. New Hampshire's Williams finished with 13 points and five rebounds off the bench.

"We've gone through a lot the last few weeks, so I am happy that we won," commented Sanders, who grabbed six rebounds and tied career-highs with six steals and five blocked shots. "I thought we took our time and did not rush things. We found people on the cuts and got the ball to the open shooters."

UALBANY MEN'S AND WOMEN'S TEAMS PLACE SECOND AT GREAT DANE CLASSIC

New York, N.Y. – **Gered Burns** (Guilderland) and **Jessica Ortman** each broke their own school records in the 800-meter run to lead the UAlbany men's and women's track teams to second-place finishes at the Fourth Annual Great Dane Classic at the New York City Armory. The Great Danes won a combined 10 events and set five new UAlbany standards.

The men placed second behind defending IC4A champion Rutgers. The Scarlet Knights scored 134 points to UAlbany's 109. Burns, who was named the meet's most

-more-

valuable performer, ran a 1:49.24 to win the 800m, breaking his own record of 1:49.49 in the event which he set at last year's USA Track & Field Nationals. Burns' time is the fastest in the nation this season. **Junior Burnett** also set a new school record in the 200m, running an IC4A-qualifying time of 21.93 to take fifth place overall. His time is also the fastest in the America East this season. Burnett also qualified for IC4As in the 55m dash with a time of 6.44, good for fourth place.

Four-time America East triple jump champion **Kamar Elliott** posted his first win in the event this season with an IC4A-qualifying mark of 48-feet, 5.25-inches. **Joe Greene** won the 400m for the second time this season with a time of 48.15. **Andy Allstadt** also posted a win in the 5,000m with a time of 15:07.16, while **Robbie Freeman** covered the 3,000m in 8:32.81 to win the event. The men's 4x400m relay ran 3:13.26 to break a school record established in 2003. Greene ran an anchor leg of 47.4, while Burnett, Burns, and **Stephen Evans** were also on the relay.

The women finished second among a field of 13 teams with 116 points. Northeastern won the title with 143. Jessica Ortman ran a 2:11.23 to win the 800m, eclipsing her own record of 2:12.96 set at last week's NYC Gotham Cup. **Jillian Sherman** (Academy of the Holy Names) won the triple jump with a distance of 40-1.5 to tie the UAlbany standard set by Saratoga Springs' Jennifer Aubin in 2004. The mark also qualifies her for the ECAC Championship.

Alyssa Lotmore (Bishop Maginn) ran a season-best 9:54.38 to win the 3,000m for the second time this season. The women's distance medley relay also posted a win with an ECAC-qualifying time of 12:14.77 with legs run by Lotmore, **Heather Angel**, Jessica Ortman and her twin sister **Jenna Ortman**. **Patty Diedrich** ran the 55m hurdles in an ECAC-qualifying time of 8.29 for a second-place finish, while freshman **Sarah Charles** had a personal-best triple jump of 39-4.25 to qualify for ECACs.

-agate-

Fourth Annual Great Dane Classic

MEN

1. Rutgers 134, **2. UAlbany 109**, 3. Monmouth 90.50, 4. Southern Connecticut State 73.50, 5. Northeastern 51, 6. Rider 50, 7. Binghamton 47.50, 8. Long Island 32.50, 9. Carolina-Puerto Rico 31.50, 10. Stony Brook 30, 11. Fairleigh Dickinson 12, 12. Moravian 8, 13. Farmingdale 7.50, 14. Wheeling Jesuit 4

INDIVIDUAL WINNERS

55m dash: Yavid Zackey (Carolina-Puerto Rico) 6.36, 55m hurdles: Andrew Allen (Monmouth) 7.68, 200m: Yavid Zackey (Carolina-Puerto Rico) 21.49, **400m: Joe Greene (UAlbany) 48.15**, 500m: Ryan Westman (Rutgers) 1:03.26, **800m: Gered Burns (UAlbany) 1:49.24**, 1,000m: Collin Walsh (Southern Connecticut State) 2:29.62, Mile: Brian Farrell (Stony Brook) 4:12.09, **3,000m: Robbie Freeman (UAlbany) 8:32.81**, **5,000m: Andy Allstadt (UAlbany) 15:07.16**, **4x400m relay: UAlbany (Junior Burnett, Gered Burns, Stephen Evans, Joe Greene) 3:13.26**, Distance Medley Relay: Rider 10:16.07, High Jump: Ivan Schmidt (Southern Connecticut State) 7-1, Long Jump: Marquis Allen (Rutgers) 25-0.75, **Triple Jump: Kamar Elliott (UAlbany) 48-5.25**, Pole Vault: Brian Duggan (Rutgers) 15-9, Shot Put: Derek Anderson (Northeastern) 59-0.75, Weight Throw: Derek Anderson (Northeastern) 60-0.25.

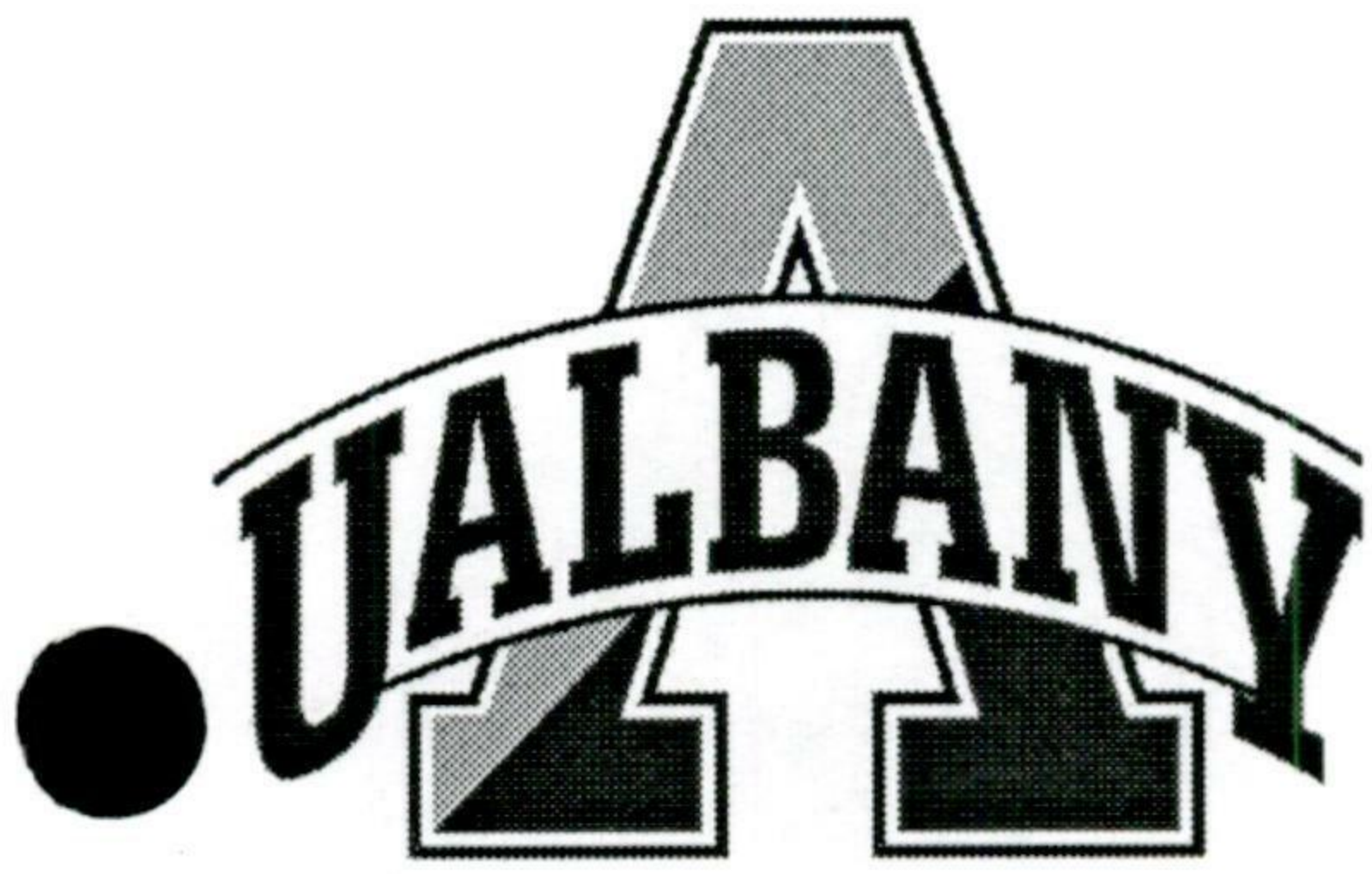
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WOMEN

1. Northeastern 143, **2. UAlbany 116**, 3. St. John's 113.50, 4. Monmouth 73, 5. Binghamton 63, 6. Southern Connecticut State 40, 7. Stony Brook 32, 8. Rider 29, 9. Long Island 28, 10. Carolina-Puerto Rico 22.50, 11. Fairleigh Dickinson 12, 12. Temple 7, 13. Wheeling Jesuit 5

INDIVIDUAL WINNERS

55m dash: Jordine Kimbrel (Northeastern) 7.05, 55m hurdles: Tramaine Shaw (Northeastern) 8.08, 200m: Jordine Kimbrel (Northeastern) 24.48, 400m: Maxcine Foster (St. John's) 55.99, 500m: Kay-Dian Reid (St. John's) 1:14.85, **800m: Jessica Ortman (UAlbany) 2:11.23**, 1,000m: Laura McCloskey (Northeastern) 3:01.64, Mile: Leonora Joy (Stony Brook) 5:01.58, **3,000m: Alyssa Lotmore (UAlbany) 9:54.38**, 5,000m: Malia Lyles (Monmouth) 19:06.37, 4x400m relay: St. John's 3:46.34, **Distance Medley Relay: UAlbany (Alyssa Lotmore, Heather Angel, Jessica Ortman, Jenna Ortman) 12:14.77**, High Jump: Venisa Clark (St. John's) 5-5, Long Jump: Merline Egbert (Southern Connecticut State) 19-8, **Triple Jump: Jillian Sherman (UAlbany) 40-1.5**, Pole Vault: Laura Chmielewski (Northeastern) 11-9.75, Shot Put: Zara Northover (Northeastern) 51-9.25, Weight Throw: Blessing Egwu (St. John's) 64-0.



Attn: Sports Department

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For Immediate Release

January 19, 2006

For Further Information

Brian DePasquale / 518-442-3072

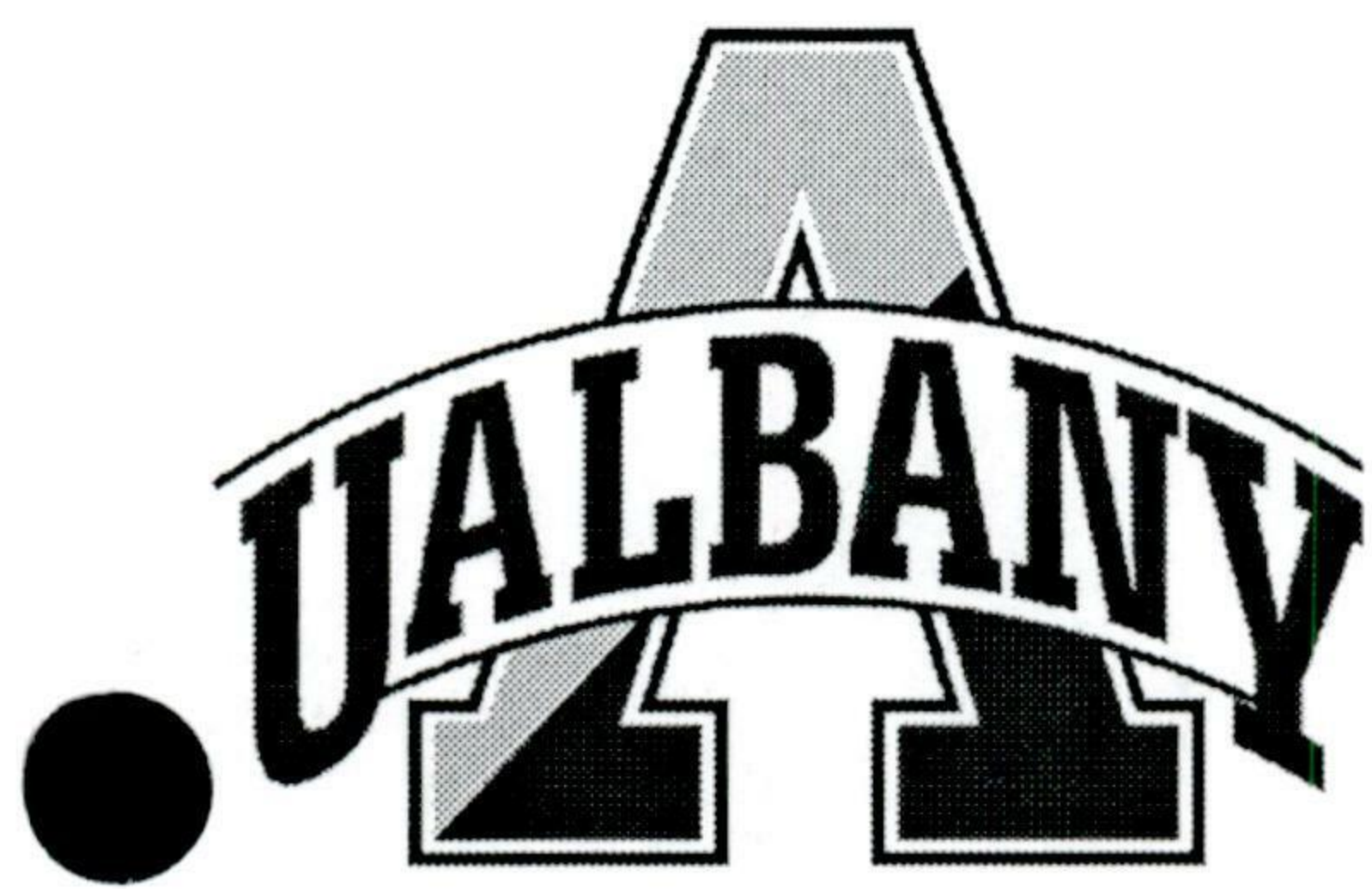
“UALBANY HOOP GAMES” WILL AIR ON TIME WARNER CABLE & WNYT-TV (NBC 13)

Albany, N.Y. – University at Albany Vice President and Director of Athletics Lee McElroy announced today that Time Warner Cable will broadcast a weekly University at Albany basketball show, beginning this weekend. “UAlbany Hoop Games” will run for eight consecutive weeks, starting Jan. 20 and 21.

Rodger Wyland, sports director at WNYT-TV (NewsChannel 13) and the host of WOFX’s morning radio program, “Big Board Sports Talk,” will host the 30-minute television broadcast. UAlbany head basketball coaches Will Brown and Trina Patterson along with player guests will be featured each week.

TWC-Channel 3 will televise “UAlbany Hoop Games” on Fridays at 6:00 p.m., plus replay the broadcast on Saturdays at 10:30 a.m. and Sundays at 11:00 a.m. WNYT-TV will also air the program on Saturdays at 1:30 p.m., but not during the station’s Winter Olympics coverage.

Time Warner Cable is also televising six UAlbany basketball games during the 2005-06 season, including UMBC (Jan. 25), Stony Brook (Feb. 1) and Vermont (Feb. 20). TW3 is also picking up the America East TV Network broadcast of the Big Purple Growl doubleheader with Boston University on Feb. 4.



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For Immediate Release

January 18, 2006

For Further Information

Alison Hischak / 518-442-3359

VERMONT SNAPS UALBANY'S EIGHT-GAME UNBEATEN STREAK WITH 65-53 WIN

Burlington, Vt. – **Mike Trimboli** had 21 points and **Kyle Cieplicki** added 14 as Vermont ended UAlbany's eight-game winning streak with a 65-53 America East Conference victory on Wednesday evening at Patrick Gymnasium.

Vermont (8-8, AE 4-2) broke an early 6-6 tie with seven straight points. Cieplicki drilled a three-pointer from the right corner to end that run. Trimboli, who had 12 first-half points, made one of his four three-pointers for a 22-10 lead. The freshman guard then hit another long-range jumper from the top of the arc to give his team a 15-point advantage.

The Catamounts, who have won 20 of their last 22 games in this arena, led by as much as 16 points in the opening period before settling for a 35-23 halftime margin. Vermont's defense keyed the early surge as they held the visitors to 30.4-percent shooting including 0-of-8 from three-point range, and forced nine turnovers.

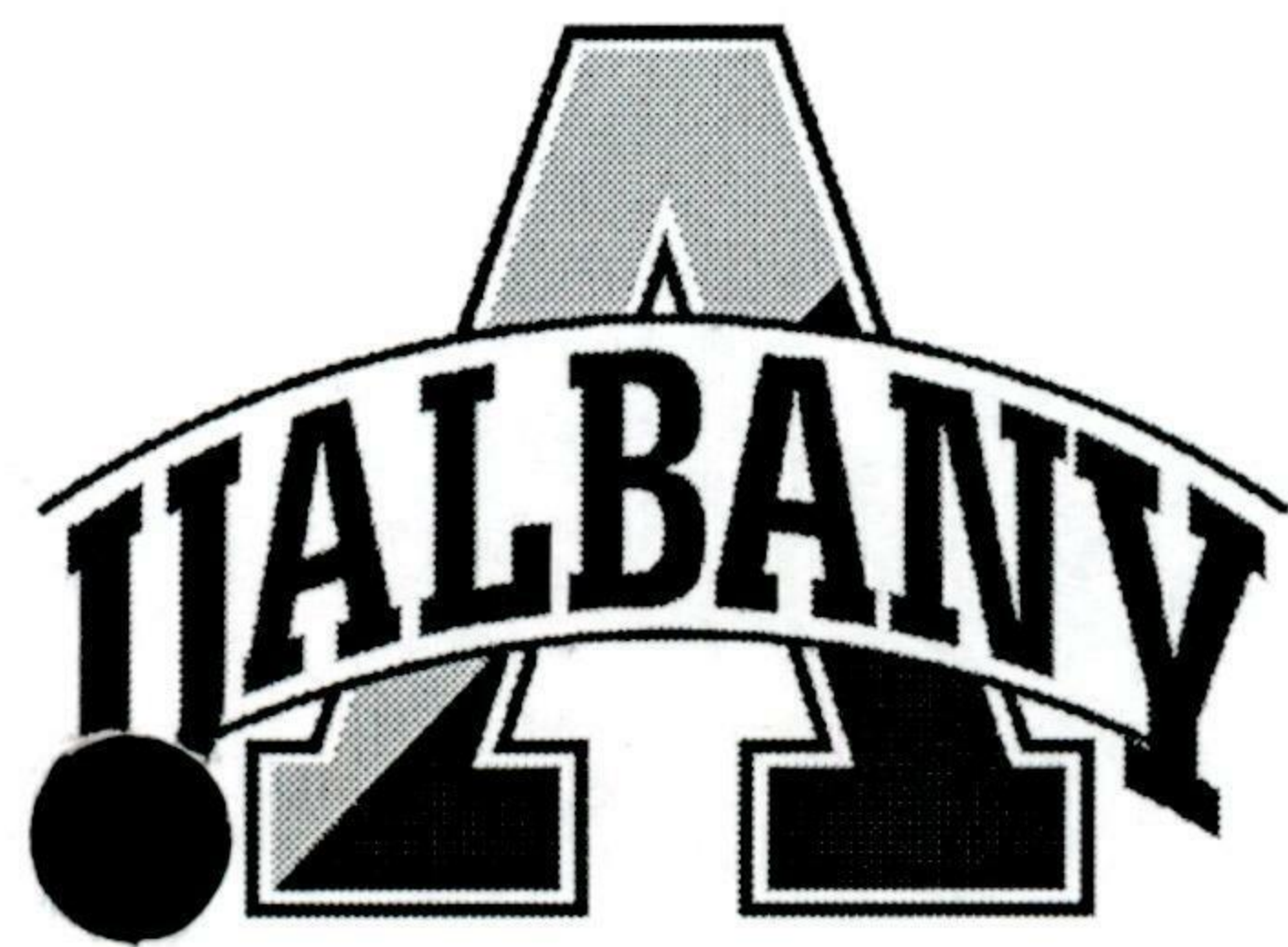
UAlbany (10-7, AE 5-1) closed the gap to four points on three separate occasions in the second half. **Jamar Wilson**, who led all scorers with a season-high 29 points, made a pair of free throws to get his team within 47-43 with 11:24 remaining. However, Wilson picked up his fourth personal foul less than one minute later. Vermont took advantage of the situation by scoring 11 of the game's next 14 points. Cieplicki ended that outburst with a three-pointer from the left corner for a 58-46 lead with 5:35 to play.

"The team that deserved to win the game won," said UAlbany coach Will Brown, who saw the Great Danes lose for the sixth straight time in this facility. "We chipped away in the second half and had some opportunities. However, we were not composed. A lack of offensive execution along with their solid defense led to this result."

Martin Klimes was the third UVM player in double figures with 11 points. The Catamounts shot a sizzling 51.2 percent from the field on 22-of-43 attempts.

"You could tell in the opening minutes that they had come out to play physical," offered Wilson, who made 8-of-11 from the field and 12-of-13 from the line. "They hit some shots and gained confidence. We were stagnant at the start."

Brent Wilson, who was playing with a badly-sprained left thumb that was injured in practice yesterday, was held to just five points on 2-of-13 shooting, as no other UAlbany player reached double figures.



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For Immediate Release

January 18, 2006

For Further Information

Alison Hischak / 518-442-3359

ALEXIS CASTRO POWERS VERMONT PAST UALBANY WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Albany, N.Y. – **Alexis Castro** notched a double-double with 16 points and 12 rebounds as Vermont defeated UAlbany, 67-38, in America East Conference women's basketball action on Wednesday afternoon at the Recreation and Convocation Center.

Castro, who averages a conference-best 16.9 points per game, helped Vermont (7-8, AE 3-2) build a 19-2 advantage in the opening minutes. The 6-foot sophomore scored six points in the paint during the Catamount run, while teammate **Chrissy Battram** added four points in that stretch.

"The two ingredients you need to have to win a game are rebounding and not giving up layups," said UAlbany coach Trina Patterson, whose team was held to a season-low 38 points. "We didn't do either of those, so we didn't put ourselves in a position to win the game. This is a long season and I know we can turn the corner. We just need to stay positive."

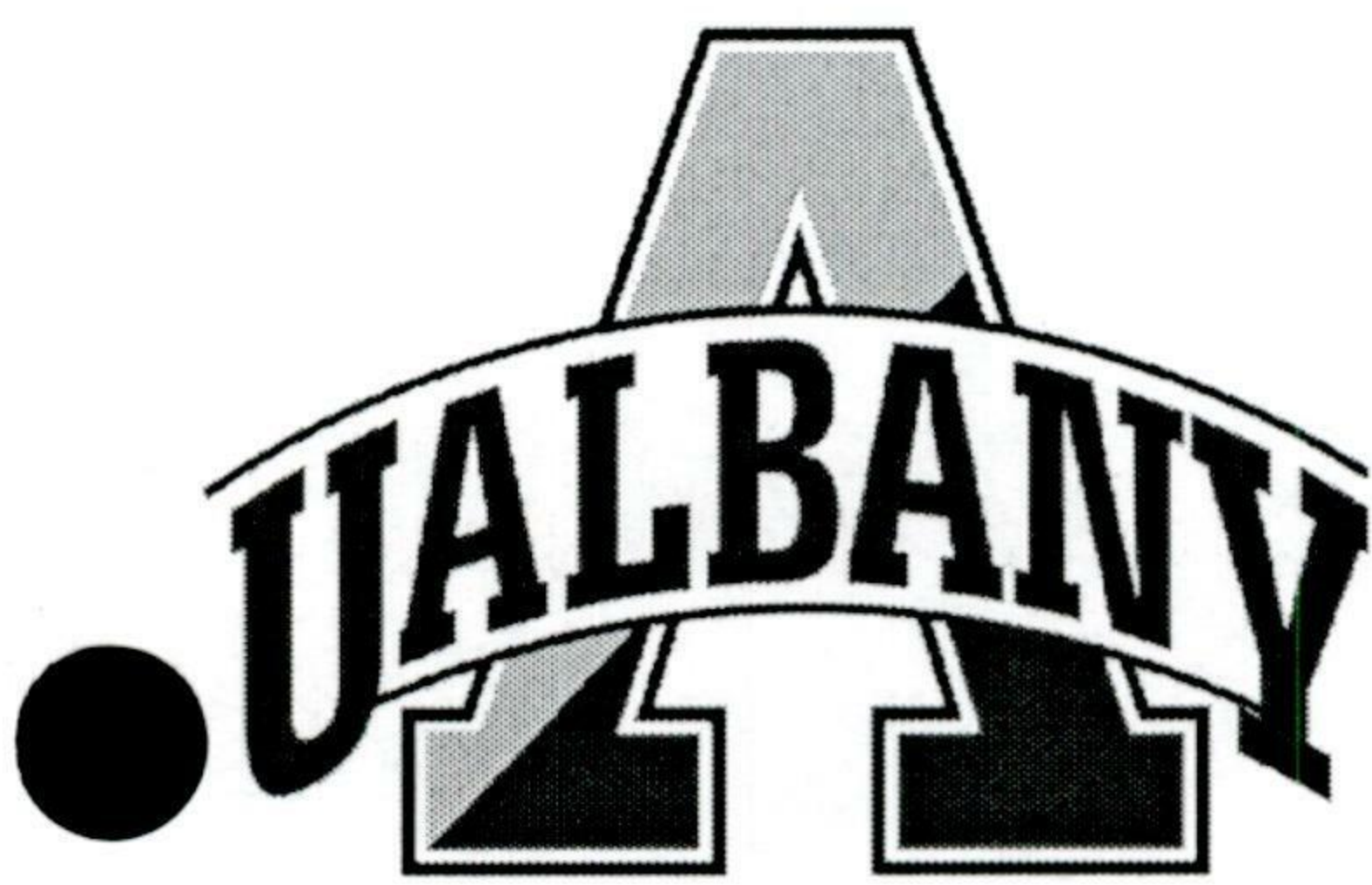
Sherri Mikus, who led UAlbany with 14 points, netted the Great Danes' first basket of the game at 12:51 to make the score 20-4. Vermont continued to pound the ball inside as Castro and **Sara Fenton** converted layups, stretching the lead to 24-4 at 8:13.

The Catamounts held a 39-14 advantage at halftime after shooting 42 percent (16-of-38) in the period. UAlbany (4-10, AE 0-3) connected on 5-of-28 first-half attempts for 18 percent.

In the second half, Vermont pushed the lead to 49-19 on a jumper by **Amy Rosenkrantz**, who finished with 15 points on 7-of-13 shooting. The Catamounts shot 43 percent for the game (28-of-65), while limiting the Great Danes to 24 percent (14-of-57). Vermont also held a 47-38 edge on the glass.

"We did not execute well in the first half," said Mikus, who added two assists and three steals. "We are doing well at practice, we just need to put it together for the games. We have good players, we just need to get better at playing together."

Tanya James finished with seven points and a career-high five rebounds for UAlbany, which dropped its third straight game. **Brittney Cross** added eight points and three assists for Vermont.



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For Immediate Release

January 17, 2006

For Further Information

Lisa Cangelosi / 518-442-4511

JOE GREENE NAMED AMERICA EAST TRACK ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Boston, Mass. – UAlbany freshman **Joe Greene** has been named the America East Conference Male Track Athlete of the Week, as announced by the league office on Tuesday afternoon.

Greene took second in the 400m dash at the NYC Gotham Cup last Friday with an IC4A-qualifying time of 47.83 to help the UAlbany men to a third-place showing. Greene's time is the fastest of any America East runner this season and was a personal best. He finished only 35-hundredths of a second off UAlbany's record in the event.

The freshman later ran an anchor split of 47.7 for the men's winning 4x400m relay, which also qualified for IC4As with a time of 3:13.94. Greene also had an indoor personal best in the long jump with a mark of 22-feet, 9.75-inches, which puts him in a tie for second-best in the conference.

Previously this season, Greene won the 400m at Army's Carlton Crowell Open and qualified for IC4As in the 500m as he won the event at Yale's Lidlifter Invitational. He ranks in the top three in the America East in each of his events.

The UAlbany track and field teams return to action when they host the Great Dane Classic on Friday, Jan. 20.

UALBANY TO HOST FOURTH ANNUAL GREAT DANE CLASSIC

Albany, N.Y. – The University at Albany will host the fourth annual Great Dane Classic for indoor track and field on Friday, Jan. 20 at the New York City Armory. The meet begins at 3:00 p.m., with the championship portion of the meet starting at 7:00 p.m.

This year's meet features 14 men's teams and 15 women's teams, including last year's men's and women's team champions Monmouth and Northeastern, respectively. The field also includes America East Conference members Binghamton and Stony Brook.

Alyssa Lotmore (Bishop Maginn), who set the women's meet record in the mile last year, returns as one of UAlbany's top middle-distance runners. **Arina Gerasimova**, last year's America East indoor triple jump champion, set the meet record in the event last year and will vie for her third straight win in the event this season. Newcomers **Jessica** and **Jenna Ortman** should also make a splash for the women, as Jessica set the UAlbany school record in the 800m last weekend.

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The UAlbany men's squad will try for their second Great Dane Classic team title in three years. Top contenders include middle-distance runner **Gered Burns** (Guilderland), who owns four individual school records and has already qualified for the IC4A championship in two individual events this season. Freshman **Joe Greene**, who has also qualified for two IC4A events in the first three meets of the season, will help lead the sprinters, while four-time America East triple jump champion **Kamar Elliott** returns to be a force in the field events.

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**Fourth Annual Great Dane Classic
Schedule of Events (Championship Portion)**

7:00 – Mile

7:15 – 55m Hurdles Final

7:25 – 400m

7:35 – 55m Dash Final

7:45 – 800m

7:55 – 200m

8:05 – 3,000m

8:30 – 4x400m Relay

All events start with the women's competition and are followed by the men.



Attn: Sports Department

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For Immediate Release

January 14, 2006

For Further Information

Brian DePasquale / 518-442-3072

Men's Basketball – Albany 72, Utah Valley State 61

Albany, N.Y. – Levi Levine totaled 17 points and 10 rebounds off the bench to lead UAlbany to its eighth consecutive victory in a 72-61 non-conference win over Utah Valley State on Saturday evening at the Recreation and Convocation Center.

UAlbany (10-6) led 44-38 in the second half, but then pulled away with eight straight points. Levine, a 6-foot-6 senior, made a pair of free throws before converting a conventional three-point play when he was fouled on a left baseline jumper. Jamar Wilson, who had all 16 of his points in the final period, then buried a three-point shot off a screen for a 52-38 advantage with 11:10 remaining.

The Great Danes, who own their longest winning streak since the 1993-94 season, led by as much as 19 points in the late going when Brent Wilson canned one of his three 3-point field goals for a 70-51 lead. Wilson, a 6-foot-8 sophomore, finished with 15 points, as his team shot 53.8 percent in the second half on 14-of-26 from the floor.

Utah Valley State (6-11), a third-year Division I program who is competing as an independent, got off to a quick start by making its opening seven field goal attempts in building a 15-8 margin. But the Great Danes wiped out that deficit with 11 unanswered points. Levine, who made 6-of-8 from the field and added five assists, drained a pair of 3-pointers in that run. Jon Iati added a three-point play to end the outburst when he was fouled on a baseline drive. UAlbany led 28-23 at halftime despite shooting just 38 percent in the stanza.

"I thought we looked sluggish and at times fatigued due to this tough stretch of games," said UAlbany coach Will Brown, whose team has come back with five consecutive home wins after losing its first two dates at the RACC this season. "Levi (Levine) really played well and our bench gave us lift, especially in the first half."

Ben Devoe, a 6-foot-10 center, had 11 of his 15 points in opening half for the Wolverines, who lost for the fifth straight time and have just one road win this season. Chris Bailey had 12 points, while Russell Wesley and Pierre Thomas scored 11 apiece.

"I just tried to step it up," commented Levine, who recorded his first double-double since Nov. 23, 2004. "I got into a rhythm when I made those two three-point shots in the first half. I told coach then whenever you need me I will be there, and this was my time to do it."

UAlbany's Kirsten Zoellner, a 7-foot-1 senior, added eight points, all in the opening period, and tied a season-high with 10 rebounds. The Great Danes continue to play solid defense and are holding the opposition to an average of 56.9 points during this string of wins.



Attn: Sports Department

No. of Pages: 2

For Immediate Release

January 14, 2006

For Further Information

Lisa Cangelosi / 518-442-4511

UALBANY WOMEN PLACE SECOND, MEN THIRD AT NYC GOTHAM CUP

New York, N.Y. – Freshman **Jessica Ortman** set a school record in the 800-meter run to lead the UAlbany women's track and field team to a second-place finish at the New York City Gotham Cup at the New York City Armory Track Center. The men's 4x400-meter relay was first across the line and three men turned in individual second-place showings to help the Great Danes to a third-place finish in the 35-team field.

Ortman finished second overall in her event with an ECAC-qualifying time of 2:12.96, eclipsing the previous record of 2:13.59 set by Diane Matthews in 2004. Ortman qualified for the ECAC Championship in the 1,000m event in December. **Arina Gerasimova**, last week's America East Co-Field Performer of the Week, won the triple jump for the second time this season with a leap of 38-feet, 11.5-inches.

Jenna Ortman, Jessica's twin sister, posted a sixth-place showing the 1,000 with an ECAC-qualifying time of 2:53.54. Senior tri-captain **Jillian Sherman** (Academy of the Holy Names) finished second in the long jump with a personal best 19-0. The mark also qualified her for the ECAC Championship.

In the men's competition, freshman **Joe Greene** ran an anchor-leg split of 47.7 to help the men's 4x400m relay to a win with an IC4A-qualifying time of 3:13.94. Greene took second overall in the individual 400-meter dash with a time of 47.83, which also qualifies him for IC4As. His mark was a personal best and 35-hundredths of a second off the school record. The UAlbany freshman also had a personal best 22-9.75 long jump to place sixth overall.

Gered Burns (Guilderland) was second overall and the top collegian in the 500m with an IC4A-qualifying time of 1:02.90. Burns' time was second in school history and 24-hundredths of a second behind Howard Sellers' UAlbany standard of 1:02.66 set in 1993. **Andy Allstadt** was UAlbany's final IC4A qualifier at the meet, as he registered a time of 8:27.40 in the 3,000m run to finish second.

The UAlbany track and field teams resume their schedules at the Fourth Annual Great Dane Classic, held at the New York City Armory on Friday, Jan. 20.

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MEN'S TEAM RESULTS

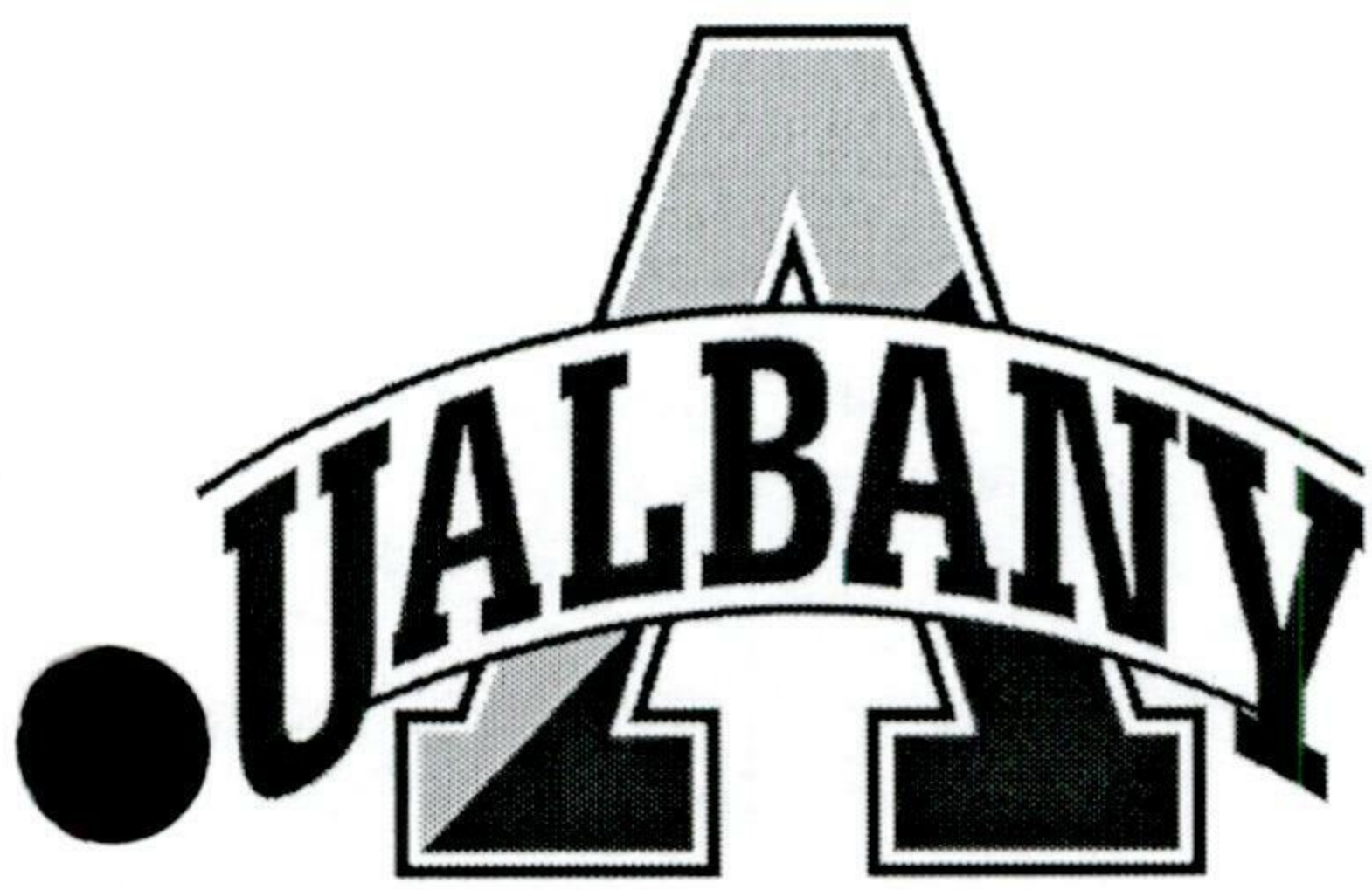
1. Villanova 119, 2. UMBC 66, **3. UAlbany 64**, 4. Rider 50.50, 5. NYU 48, 6. Lehigh 47, 7. Lincoln 40, 8. Haverford 39, T9. C. W. Post 34, T9. Lafayette 34, 11. Coppin State 33, 12. Fordham 31, 13. Delaware State 30, 14. Quinnipiac 23, T15. Bowie State 22, T15. Delaware 22, T15. Wagner, 18. Marist 21, 19. Morgan State 20, 20. Iona 18, 21. Marist 16, 21. NY Elite TC 16, 23. SUNY Farmingdale 13.50, T24. Columbia 10, T24. Globe Institute, 26. Long Island University 9, 27. Temple 8, 28. St. Francis (NY) 7, 29. Swarthmore 5, T30. Monmouth 3, T30. UPenn 3, 32. Johns Hopkins 2, T33. Bellmore Striders 1, T33. Haddonfield RC 1, 34. LaSalle 1, 35. Stevens Tech 1.

WOMEN'S TEAM RESULTS

1. Villanova 75, **2. UAlbany 67.50**, 3. Lafayette 58, 4. Morgan State 54, 5. Rider 52.40,

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6. Bowie State 48, T7. Essex County 47, T7. Quinnipiac 47, 9. Delaware 43, 10. Lehigh 34.50, 11. UMBC 34, 12. Delaware State 29, 13. Fordham 27.50, 14. Haverford 26.50, 15. Wagner 26.40, 16. Princeton 25, 17. St John's 22, 18. St. Francis (NY) 20, T19. Cabrini College 18, T19. Columbia 18, 21. Lincoln 17, 22. Temple 16.20, 23. Sacred Heart 12, 24. Lehman 8, 25. Marist 7, 26. Mizuno 6, 28. Fairleigh Dickinson 4, 29. Long Island 3, T30. Johns Hopkins 2, T30. Ramapo College 2, T32. LaSalle 1, T32. Monmouth 1.



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No. of Pages: 1

For Immediate Release

January 12, 2006

For Further Information

Brian DePasquale / 518-442-3072

Men's Basketball – Albany 53, Boston U. 47

Boston, Mass. – **Jamar Wilson** scored 20 points as UAlbany posted its seventh straight victory with a 53-47 America East Conference win over Boston University on Thursday evening at Case Gymnasium.

UAlbany (9-6, AE 5-0) trailed 28-26 at halftime, but started the final period with 12 consecutive points. **Kirsten Zoellner**, a 7-foot-1 center, scored in the lane to put his team ahead. **Brent Wilson**, who had 15 points, drilled two of his four 3-point field goals in a run that gave his team a 38-28 lead.

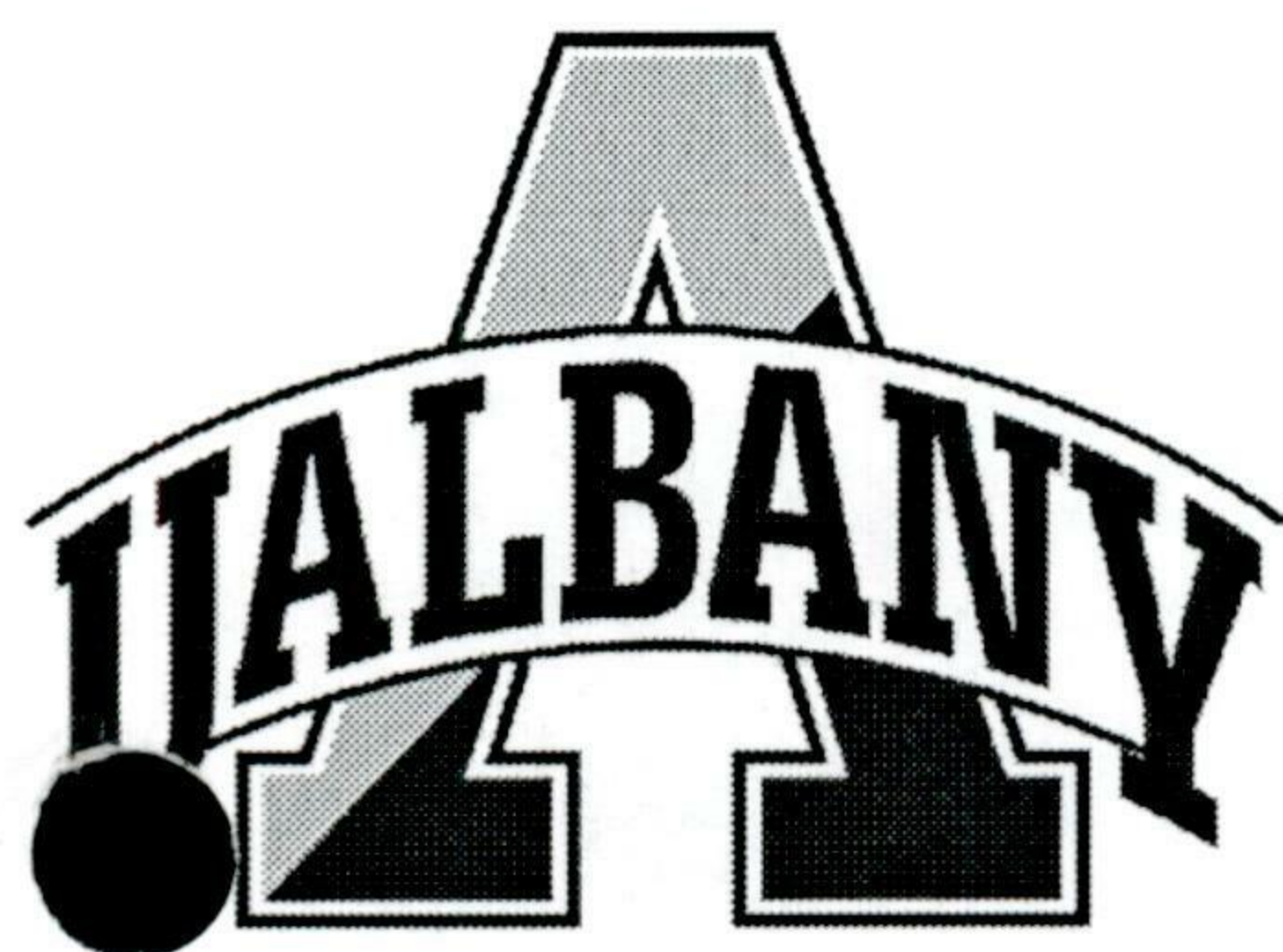
Boston U. (5-10, AE 2-2) regrouped with nine of the game's next 10 points. **Kevin Gardner**, who had 14 of his 18 points in the second half, was fouled as he made a one-handed bank shot, and his free throw closed the gap to 39-37 with 9:50 remaining.

The Great Danes, who own their longest winning streak since 1998-99, answered with a pair of three pointers by Brent Wilson and **Jon Iati** to push out to a 45-38 advantage. But the Terriers would make another run at the lead when Gardner scored in the paint on a lob pass from **Shaun Wynn** with 39 seconds left. Jamar Wilson, who added a season-high eight rebounds with three assists and four steals, sealed the verdict by making four of four from the foul line in the closing moments.

“We did a great job defensively by holding them to 28-percent shooting in the second half,” said UAlbany coach Will Brown, whose team came from behind on the road following a halftime deficit for the first time since Feb. 2, 2002. “It’s a tremendous accomplishment to win here. We have to win our home games and steal a few on the road to be a good team in this conference.”

The Terriers’ **Omari Peterkin** had 11 points, all in the first half, and added seven rebounds. Wynn, a preseason all-league selection, contributed nine points, seven rebounds and five assists.

“We did okay defensively in the first half, but we made some mistakes on some screens and gave up fast breaks off turnovers,” said Jamar Wilson, whose squad defeated Boston U. for the first time in nine tries since joining the league in 2001-02. “We played with both composure and confidence in the second half. This was a good experience for us, especially to beat them on their own floor.”



MAINE HOLDS OFF UALBANY IN AMERICA EAST WOMEN'S BASKETBALL ACTION

Orono, Maine – **Ashley Underwood** poured in a game-high 20 points to spark Maine to a 60-52 victory over UAlbany in an America East Conference contest on Wednesday night at Alfond Arena.

Maine (5-8, AE 1-1) staked itself to a 32-25 halftime advantage as **Ashley Underwood** scored 15 points in the opening period. Underwood connected on 6-of-11 attempts in the stanza, including 3-of-6 from three-point range. The Black Bears also out-rebounded the Great Danes 24-12 in the first half.

“I thought the difference in the game was the rebounding in the first half,” said UAlbany coach Trina Patterson, whose team remained winless in 10 tries against the Black Bears. “We gave up 10 second-chance points. The effort was there tonight, we just haven’t learned how to play for 40 minutes.”

UAlbany (4-9, AE 0-2) opened the second stanza with a 13-6 spurt, capped by a pair of **Tanya James** free throws to even the game at 38-38 with 12:35 to go. **Jen Schumacher** netted one of her three three-pointers in that run and **Joy Sterling** added a three-point play.

Maine rebuilt a 45-38 cushion with buckets by Underwood and **Bracey Barker**. After a UAlbany timeout, Sterling drained a jumper and **Gia Sanders** connected on a three to pull the Great Danes within 45-43 at 9:35. Sanders finished with a team-high 11 points for her second straight double-figure game.

Underwood countered with a turnaround jumper and Barker followed with a three-point basket to put Maine ahead 50-43. **Lindsey Hugstad-Vaa** tacked on another jump shot making the score 52-43 with 7:44 remaining.

UAlbany made one last run as a field goal by **Sherri Mikus** and a three-pointer by Schumacher cut the lead to 53-48 with less than two minutes to go. Maine again answered as **Katie Whittier** converted an offensive rebound to end the threat.

“We know we have to work on our post defense and talking to each other on defense,” said Sanders, who added eight rebounds, a career-high six steals, five blocks and three assists. “We also need to get better with our shot selection.”

Schumacher tallied nine points for UAlbany, while Mikus finished with eight points and four rebounds. Barker finished with 12 points and **Abby Schrader** added 11 for the Black Bears.



Attn: Sports Department

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For Immediate Release

January 10, 2006

For Further Information

Alison Hischak / 518-442-3359

UALBANY CELEBRATES 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF WOMEN'S SPORT CHAMPIONSHIPS

Albany, N.Y. – The University at Albany Department of Athletics and Recreation has announced its plans to honor the 25th anniversary of NCAA Women's Championships. The goal of the celebration is to educate and increase awareness about women's intercollegiate athletics by honoring the past and looking forward to the future.

As part of its celebration, the UAlbany women's basketball team will host America East Conference-rival Vermont on Wednesday, Jan. 18 at 12 noon at the Recreation and Convocation Center. The America East has encouraged its conference members to participate in the celebration as a way to welcome more fans to the sport of women's basketball.

All reserved seats will be \$1.00 for the Jan. 18 contest, while chairback (\$9) and courtside (\$20) tickets will be at their regular prices. Anyone interested in group sales should call (518) 437-4415.

UALBANY'S LOTMORE, GERASIMOVA, GILMAN HONORED BY AMERICA EAST

Boston, Mass. – UAlbany's **Alyssa Lotmore** (Bishop Maginn) was named the America East Conference Women's Track Athlete of the Week by the conference office on Tuesday afternoon. **Arina Gerasimova** was honored as the women's co-field athlete of the week, while **Ray Gilman** (Berne-Knox-Westerlo) was named the co-recipient of the men's field athlete award.

Lotmore qualified for the ECAC Championship in two events last weekend. She first won the women's mile run in a time of 4:59.03 at the Fordham Kickoff Invitational on Jan. 6. She was one of only two women to break the five-minute mark in the race, plus she finished nearly a minute ahead of her nearest competitor. The following day, she anchored the 4x800m relay which won its event with a time of 9:20.42 at Army's Carlton Crowell Open. The mark also qualified the relay for the ECAC meet.

Gerasimova won the triple jump at Army on Jan. 7 with an ECAC-qualifying jump of 39-feet, 5.25-inches. The mark was six inches off the school record an indoor personal best for the defending America East indoor triple jump champion. Gerasimova's performance bested her nearest competitor by more than four feet.

Gilman, a junior, turned in a first-place showing in the high jump at Army's Carlton Crowell Open on Jan. 7 with a leap of 6'4.75". It was his first victory in the event as a collegian, and he won by two inches. He also was the top UAlbany finisher in the triple jump at Army with a leap of 44'7".

The UAlbany track and field teams continue their seasons on Friday, Jan. 13 at the NYU Gotham Cup.



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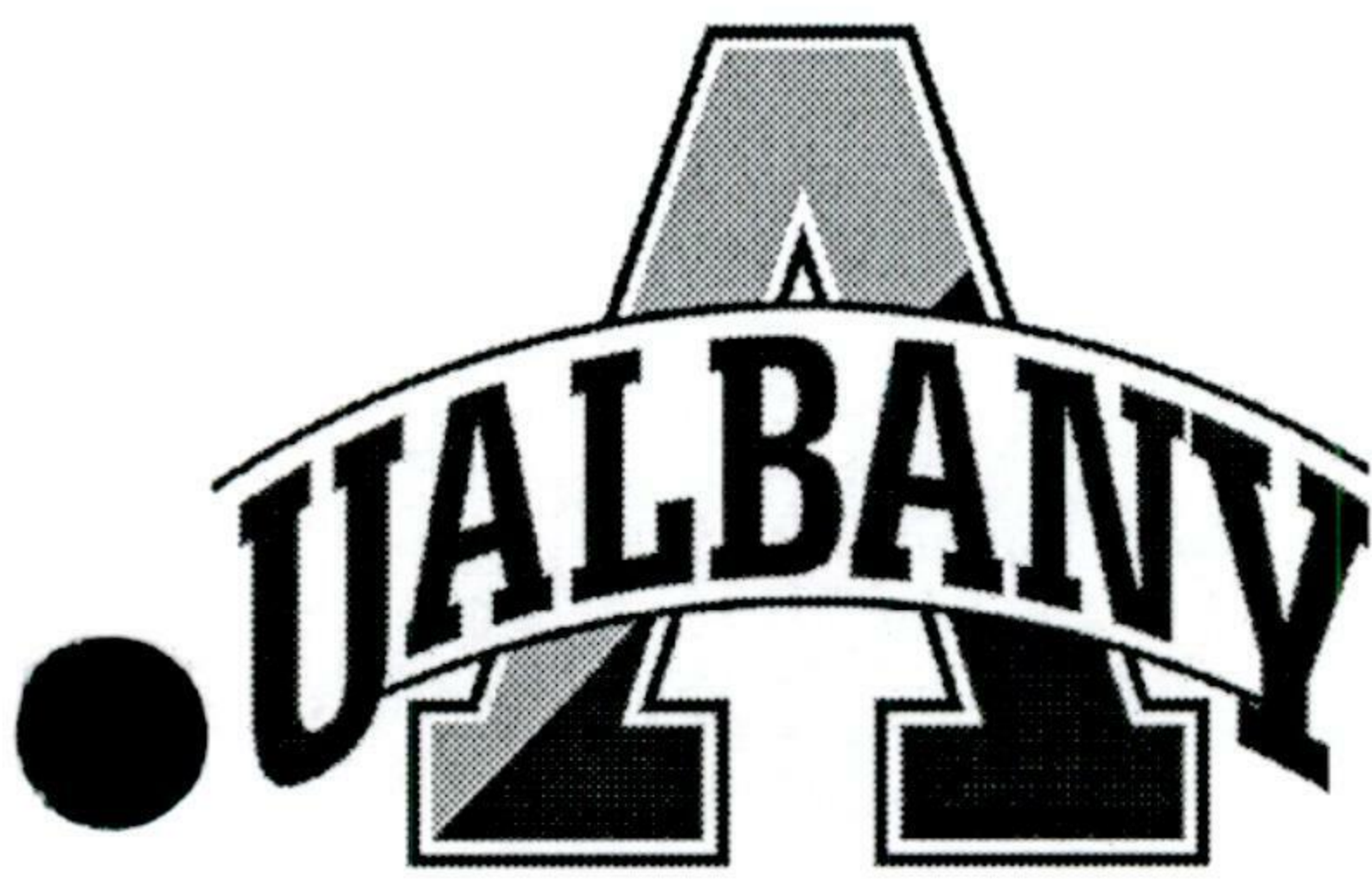
Alison Hischak / 518-442-3359

UALBANY'S TANIKA THROWER WILL MISS REMAINDER OF SEASON

Albany, N.Y. – University at Albany women's basketball coach Trina Patterson announced today that **Tanika Thrower** will miss the remainder of the season. Thrower, a sophomore guard, suffered a broken nose and concussion against Siena in November. Her last appearance came on Dec. 3-4 at the University of California's Contra Costa Times Classic. She has missed the last five games with a post-concussion syndrome as a result of her injuries.

"We have decided to hold her out the rest of the season based on the doctors' recommendations," Patterson said. "Tanika was a significant contributor the first several games of the season. Once she recovers from her injury, we know she will have a bright future within the program."

Thrower was averaging a team-high 12.5 points in six games played this season. She scored a career-high 26 points against Army on Nov. 30.



Men's Basketball – Albany 68, Cornell 59

Albany, N.Y. – Jamar Wilson scored 21 points and Brian Lillis added a career-high 14 as UAlbany held off Cornell, 68-59, for its sixth consecutive victory on Monday evening at the Recreation and Convocation Center.

Cornell (5-9) trailed by as much as 20 points in the first half and was still behind 58-44 with 7:42 remaining. The Big Red then made their comeback attempt with 11 of the game's next 13 points. Freshman guard Adam Gore, who had 12 of his 17 points in the final period, drilled one of his five 3-point field goals to drop the deficit under double figures. Ryan Rourke, who had 10 points, then connected on a bank shot to close the gap to 60-55 with 3:05 left.

UAlbany (8-6) regrouped with an 8-2 run to pull away. Wilson, a 6-foot-1 guard who added six rebounds, canned a three-pointer off the dribble from the right wing to ignite the spurt. Lillis, a 6-foot-5 sophomore who also contributed four rebounds and four steals, later sank a pair of free throws, before Wilson made two more from the line for a 68-56 advantage with 22.4 seconds to play.

The Great Danes, who own their longest winning streak since the 1999-2000 campaign, reversed an early 11-9 deficit with 10 unanswered points. Brent Wilson, who had 10 points and nine rebounds, made a jump hook to draw his team even. Jamar Wilson followed with six straight points, including one of his career-best four 3-pointers and a driving left-handed layup.

"We lost a little bit of our focus right before the half," said UAlbany coach Will Brown, whose team is holding opponents to 57.8 points per game during its current win streak. "I think we thought that they would go away. We missed some free throws and didn't make great decisions in the second half. But with the win we can still learn from our mistakes."

UAlbany would later push out to a 40-20 lead with 1:50 left in the opening half. Jon Iati canned a three-pointer and Lillis converted a layup after a steal in run of eight points that gave the Great Danes their biggest lead. UAlbany shot a blistering 57.7 percent in period before settling for a 40-25 halftime margin.

Jason Hartford, a 6-foot-9 junior, was the third Cornell player in double figures with 11 points and five rebounds.

"It's the first time we have been up with a comfortable lead and we just have to do a better job of maintaining that," commented Wilson, who made 7-of-14 from the field to go with two assists and three steals. "We have been motivated since starting 2-6, and it's amazing to go 6-0 since then. We were not executing the game plan early in the season."



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January 9, 2006

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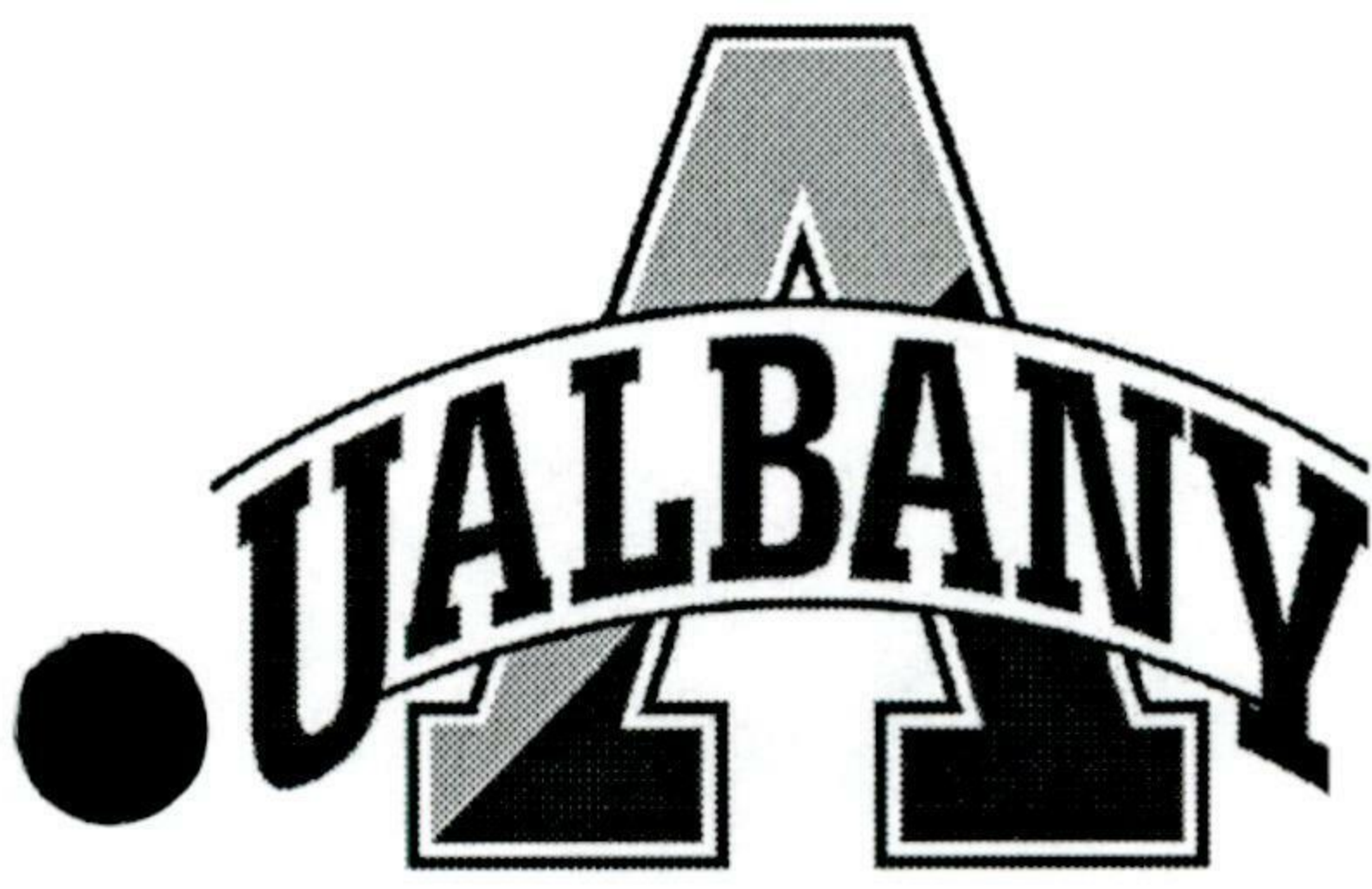
Brian DePasquale / 518-442-3072

JAMAR WILSON NAMED AMERICA EAST CONFERENCE PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Boston, Mass. – University at Albany's Jamar Wilson has been selected as the America East Conference Player of the Week in men's basketball as announced today by the conference office. Wilson, who earned player of the week honors for the second time this season, averaged 22.5 points, 3.5 rebounds and 5.0 assists in a pair of league victories.

Wilson, a 6-foot-1 junior, scored a season-high 29 points in a 75-62 victory over Hartford as he made 8-of-12 from the field and 11-of-13 from the line. He tied the top single-game mark by an America East player this season and matched his fifth-best scoring total as a collegian. Wilson had 16 points, four assists and three rebounds in last Saturday's 76-56 triumph against Maine.

A native of Bronx, N.Y., Wilson has moved to No. 14 on the school's all-time scoring list with 1,183 points. He is also 14th in career assists with 254.



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January 7, 2006

For Further Information

Brian DePasquale / 518-442-3072

Men's Basketball – Albany 76, Maine 56

Albany, N.Y. – Jamar Wilson and Brent Wilson each had 16 points as UAlbany extended its winning streak to five straight with a 76-56 America East Conference victory over Maine on Saturday evening at the Recreation and Convocation Center.

UAlbany (7-6, AE 4-0) led 31-28 late in the opening period, but then scored the final five points of the half. Jamar Wilson, who had 14 first-half points, drilled a three-point field goal from the top of the key before converting a fastbreak layup off an outlet pass from Brian Lillis.

The Great Danes, who own a four-game win streak in conference play for the first time since joining America East in 2001-02, tacked on the opening five points of the second half to push out to a 41-28 margin. Lucious Jordan, who had 13 points and six rebounds, scored on a follow shot and Brent Wilson followed with a 3-pointer from the top of the arc.

Maine (5-9, AE 0-3) closed within 44-38 when Freddy Petkus canned a 3-point shot. But UAlbany regrouped with nine of the game's next 10 points to pull away for good. Jon Iati, a 5-foot-9 sophomore, ignited that run with a three-pointer from the left corner and later made three free throws after being fouled on a long-range attempt for a 53-39 lead with 12:17 remaining.

Both Wilsons would later work together in building their team's cushion to 72-52 with 4:32 to play. Jamar Wilson, who added four assists and three rebounds to his scoring total, set up Brent Wilson for a 3-point field goal and layup in the paint before he sank a pair of foul shots for a 20-point advantage.

"Our commitment to defense has been the key to winning five straight," said Brent Wilson, who made 7-of-15 from the floor and grabbed six rebounds. "We weren't satisfied at halftime. This team has a lot of people who can score but when you hold a team to 29-percent shooting in the second half that says something."

Rashard Turner and Philip Tchekane Bofia had 18 and 12 points, respectively, for the Black Bears, who shot just 35.1 percent from the field as their two-game win skein came to an end. UAlbany's Lillis, a 6-foot-5 sophomore, posted career-highs with 12 rebounds and six assists, plus had a season-best eight points. Levi Levine totaled eight points and seven rebounds in 23 minutes off the bench.

"(Brian) Lillis is an X-factor for us," commented UAlbany coach Will Brown, whose squad has put together the program's longest string of victories since the 1999-2000 season. "He finds the open man and is a calming force on offense. As a group we did a good job of defending the three-point line. We are starting to play well at home."



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For Immediate Release

January 7, 2006

For Further Information

Lisa Cangelosi / 518-442-4511

UALBANY WINS FIVE MEN'S, THREE WOMEN'S EVENTS AT ARMY'S CROWELL OPEN

West Point, N.Y. – The UAlbany women's 4x800-meter relay led the squad by taking first place and qualifying for the ECAC Championship with a time of 9:20.42 at the final day of Army's Carlton Crowell Open, held at Gillis Field House on Saturday. **Alyssa Lotmore** (Bishop Maginn) anchored the team that included freshman twins **Jessica** and **Jenna Ortman**, and sophomore **Danielle Trimpop**.

The UAlbany men's team won five events at the non-team scoring meet. Freshman **Joe Greene**, who won the New York State high school championship in the 400-meters last year, finished in first place with a time of 49.58 in that race. **Stephen Evans** followed Greene with a second-place finish in a time of 51.08. The men also took first and second in the 60-meters, where **Junior Burnett** and **Shamere Boland** ran times of 7.03 and 7.16, respectively.

Freshman **Joe Belokopitsky** (Shaker) won the 500m with a time of 1:06.65. Junior **Ray Gilman** (Berne-Knox-Westerlo) leapt 6'4.75" in the high jump to win the event. The men's 4x800m relay team also posted a first-place finish, with anchor **Gered Burns** (Guilderland) running a 1:51.5 split.

Defending indoor America East triple jump champion **Arina Gerasimova** won the event at Army with an indoor personal-best 39'5.25" leap, which is also an ECAC-qualifying mark. Senior **Patty Diedrich** rounded out the women's winners with a first-place showing in the women's pentathlon, which was held yesterday.

Senior tri-captain **Jillian Sherman** (Academy of the Holy Names) recorded a personal best in the long jump with an 18'5.75" effort, while freshman thrower **Candice Mann** had a personal best of 39'11.25" in the shot put.

The UAlbany track and field teams continue their seasons on Friday, Jan. 13 at the NYU Gotham Cup.



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For Immediate Release

January 7, 2006

For Further Information

Alison Hischak / 518-442-3359

DANIELLE HOOD SCORES 30 POINTS TO LEAD HARTFORD PAST UALBANY, 70-50

Albany, N.Y. – **Danielle Hood** poured in a career-high 30 points as Hartford upended UAlbany, 70-50, in America East Conference women's basketball action on Saturday night at the Recreation and Convocation Center. Hartford, the reigning conference champion, was a unanimous choice to defend its title in the preseason coaches poll.

Hood, who connected on 12-of-18 from the floor, scored eight of the Hawks' first 15 points as they built a 15-10 lead midway through the opening stanza. UAlbany (4-8, AE 0-1) pulled to within 15-12 on a jumper by **Joy Sterling**, who finished with four points and six rebounds.

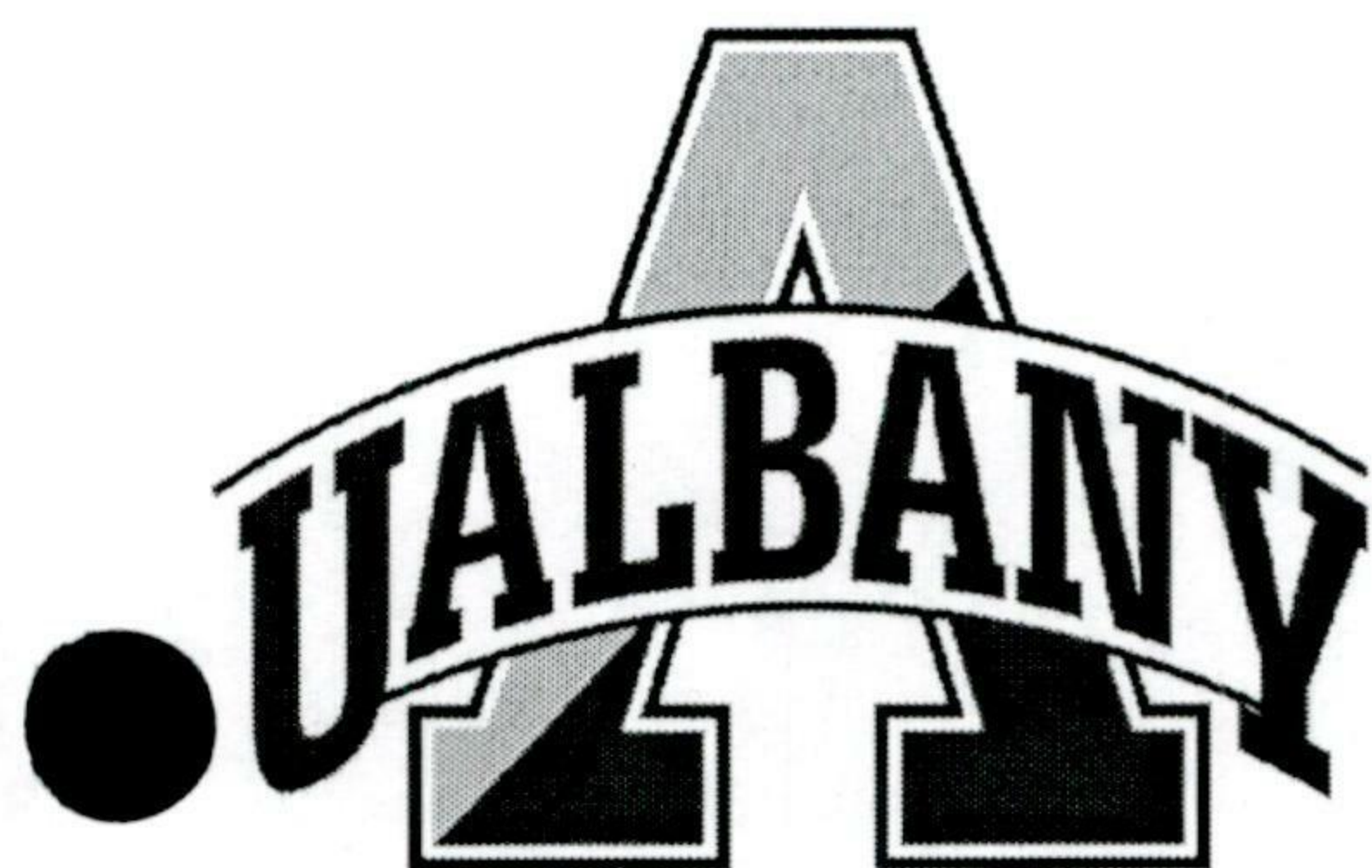
Hartford (10-2, AE 2-0) outscored the Great Danes 10-2 over the next eight minutes.

MaryLynne Schaefer started the spurt with a layup before four different Hawks netted the next eight points en route to a 25-14 lead with 3:56 remaining in the half. Hartford led 33-16 at halftime. The aggressive Hartford defense forced the Great Danes into 15 first-half turnovers.

"We hit an offensive drought and then the turnovers became contagious," said UAlbany coach Trina Patterson, whose team fell to 0-5 in America East openers. "Some of our players were loose with the ball and loose with their cuts. We just don't have the mental toughness we need right now. We beat ourselves tonight."

Hartford connected on five of their first nine shots in the second half in stretching the score to 45-23 at 15:23. UAlbany trimmed the gap to 53-36 on a three-pointer by **Jen Schumacher**, who finished with eight points. Hood then took over and converted layups on four straight possessions as the Hawks pushed the score to 63-38 with 7:38 remaining and never looked back.

Erica Beverly finished with nine points and a team-high 11 rebounds as the Hawks held a 39-35 advantage on the glass. **Sherri Mikus** tallied a career-high 16 points for the Great Danes, while **Gia Sanders** added 10 points and nine boards.



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For Immediate Release

January 6, 2006

For Further Information

Lisa Cangelosi / 518-442-4511

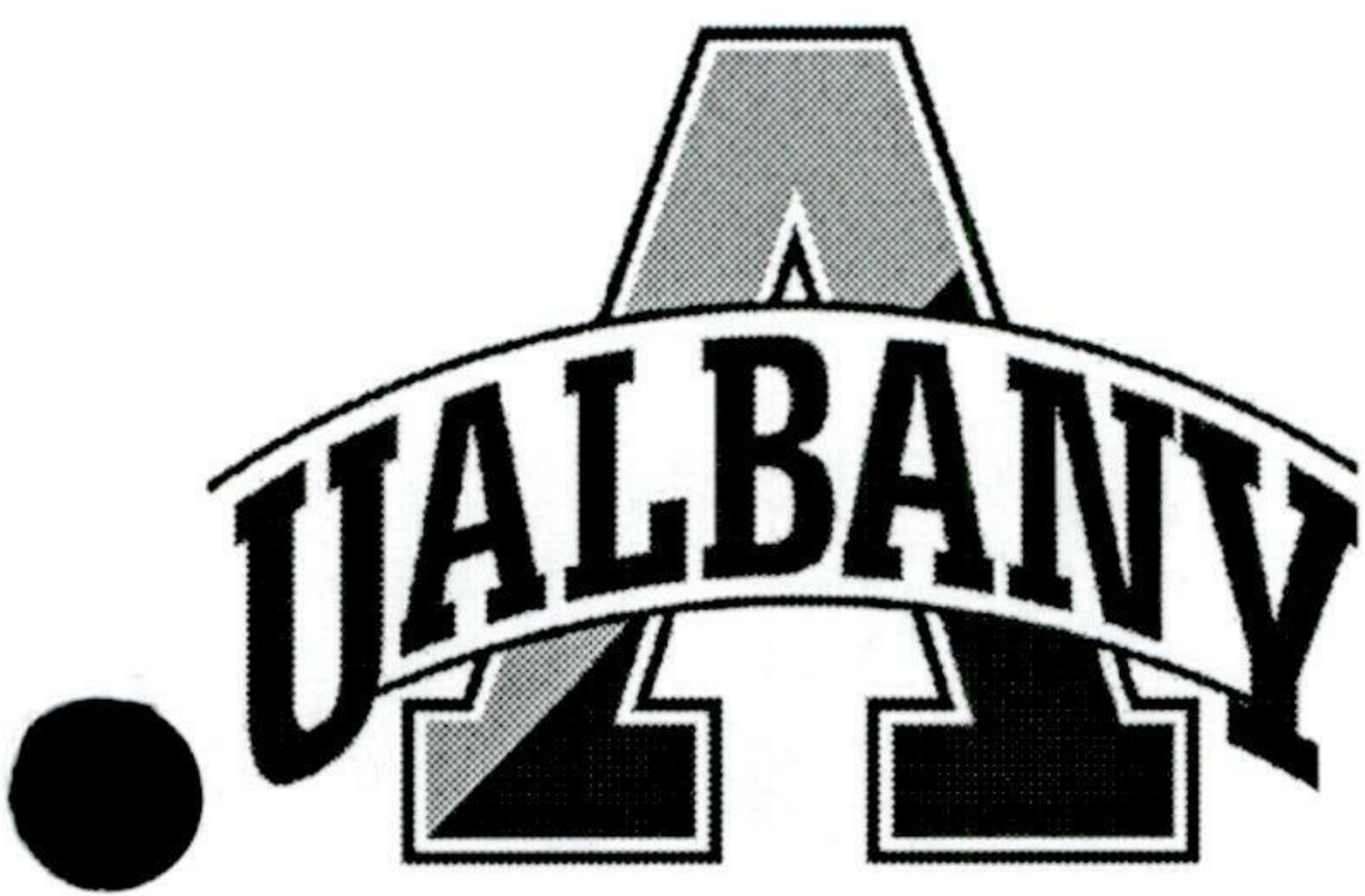
UALBANY'S ALYSSA LOTMORE WINS MILE AT FORDHAM INVITATIONAL

New York, N.Y. – UAlbany's **Alyssa Lotmore** (Bishop Maginn) won the women's mile run with a time of 4:59.03 at the Fordham Kickoff Invitational at the New York City Armory on Friday evening.

Lotmore finished 0.8 seconds better than her nearest competitor, Stony Brook's **Leonora Joy**, who captured the 2005 America East women's cross country title. Freshman **Jessica Ortman** took third place with a time of 5:01.22, while her twin sister **Jenna Ortman** had a time of 5:02.67, good for fourth place in the event. Both Ortman's set personal bests for the mile run.

The UAlbany women's pentathletes also competed at the first day of Army's Carlton Crowell Open in West Point, N.Y., where **Patty Diedrich** won the combined event with 2,988 points. Her long jump measured 17'2", a personal best for the senior. Freshman **Kamilah McShine** finished third, while UAlbany sophomores **Brenna Militello** and **Valerie Maignan** finished fourth and fifth, respectively.

The UAlbany track and field teams continue their seasons tomorrow at the final day of the Carlton Crowell Open.



Men's Basketball – Albany 75, Hartford 62

Albany, N.Y. – Jamar Wilson scored a season-high 29 points as UAlbany came from behind in the second half to post its fourth straight win in a 75-62 America East Conference victory over Hartford on Wednesday evening at the Recreation and Convocation Center.

UAlbany (6-6, AE 3-0) led 32-26 at halftime as Wilson tallied 14 first-half points. The Great Danes, who own their longest winning streak since 1999-2000, built a 39-30 lead early in the final period, when Brent Wilson hit a jump hook in the lane. Wilson, a 6-foot-8 sophomore, finished with 16 points.

Hartford (5-7, AE 1-1) regrouped with eight straight markers to get back into the contest. Aaron Cook, who had 13 of his 16 points after halftime, drilled back-to-back three-point field goals to end that outburst. The Hawks would eventually grab a 50-48 lead with David Ruffin, who had 10 points and eight rebounds, hit a fastbreak layup with 10:07 remaining.

The Great Danes then responded with 15 of the game's next 17 points to take control. Levi Levine nailed a three-point shot to put his team ahead for good. Lucious Jordan, who had 11 points and five rebounds, would later score on a follow shot before Jamar Wilson converted a back-door layup for a 56-50 advantage.

Brent Wilson helped push his team's margin to double digits. He found Jordan breaking to the basket from the high post, and then made a 3-pointer from left of the key for a 63-52 lead with 3:12 to play.

"We raised our level of energy and moved with a sense of purpose midway through the second half," said UAlbany coach Will Brown, whose team is off to a 3-0 start in America East play for the first time. "Our team has the experience of digging out of holes and we showed composure. Jamar Wilson played with focus and intensity and I think challenged himself to perform well."

Hartford's Kenny Adeleke, a 6-foot-9, 245-pound senior, recorded his ninth double-double of the season with 21 points and 14 rebounds. However, the Hawks lost for the third straight time by shooting 36.7 percent from the field on 22 of 60 attempts. UAlbany's Jamar Wilson recorded his highest point total since Feb. 2003 by making 8 of 12 from the field and 11 of 13 from the line.

"We concentrated as a team and played well together," said Wilson, who added six assists and four rebounds while playing the entire 40 minutes. "We are starting to rely on each other on both the offensive and defensive end of the floor."



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For Immediate Release

January 4, 2006

For Further Information

Lisa Cangelosi / 518-442-4511

JEN SCHUMACHER LEADS GREAT DANES PAST SAVANNAH STATE

Savannah, Ga. – **Jen Schumacher** scored a season-high 20 points to lead UAlbany past Savannah State, 53-42, in a non-conference women's basketball contest on Wednesday, Jan. 4 at Tiger Arena. The Lady Tigers' 42 points was the lowest output by a UAlbany opponent since the Great Danes defeated Bucknell, 64-37, on Dec. 4, 2004.

Savannah State (1-15) dominated early in the paint to take a 10-2 lead, but the Great Danes answered with a 20-2 run to make the score 22-12 with 4:34 left in the first stanza. Schumacher, **Gia Sanders** and **Sherri Mikus** each had one three-point field goal in that run. Schumacher closed the stretch by making three straight free throws, including two resulting from a technical foul on opposing head coach Cedric Baker.

UAlbany (4-7) took a 28-19 lead into the locker room after **Tanya James** converted a three-point play and freshman **Joy Sterling** added two more on a layup.

The Great Danes opened the second half by making the score 35-24 before **Lashara Smith** sparked an 11-4 run for the Lady Tigers. Smith scored four points and **Amber West** added five of her team-high eight points in the stretch as Savannah State closed the gap to 39-35, but it was the closest the team would come before UAlbany pulled away for good.

"I thought that our team handled the hostile playing environment very well. They were an aggressive defensive team, but we were able to handle the pressure," said UAlbany head coach Trina Patterson. "I hope that this is Jen (Schumacher)'s breakout game. It's the type of game she needed heading into conference play."

Schumacher, who holds the school's career three-point field goal record, scored six from the arc and made eight of nine at the line. Mikus, a sophomore guard, tied her career highs with 10 points and six steals, while Sterling finished with a team-high nine rebounds on the night.



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For Immediate Release

January 2, 2006

For Further Information

Sean Tainsh / 518-442-5733

Women's College Basketball- Charleston Southern 51, Albany 50

Charleston, S.C. – **Erica McCoy** sank two free throws with 0.6 seconds remaining to give Charleston Southern a 51-50 victory over UAlbany in non-conference women's basketball action on Monday night at CSU Fieldhouse.

Charleston Southern (4-5) led 22-21 with 5:14 remaining in the first half, but went on a 10-0 run to extend its lead to 11 as **Pam Tolbert** capped the run on a driving layup with 2:24 left in the period. The Lady Bucs, who shot 52 percent in the first half, led 36-27 at the break.

The Great Danes (3-7) scored 10 unanswered points as part of a 15-6 run to open the second half and tied the game at 42 apiece with 8:50 remaining. **Joy Sterling** sparked the run with a driving hoop, while **Kirsten Peterson** scored six of her career-high 14 points during the spurt.

The Lady Bucs led 45-42 with 5:19 left when Peterson hit two free throws to cut the deficit to one. CSU's **Keena Wicker** hit her squad's first field goal since the 16:10 mark of the second half on a driving layup to push the lead back to three. **Jen Schumacher** then tied the game on a three with 2:04 remaining, but Wicker came right back with a bank shot from the left elbow to give her team a 49-47 advantage with 1:24 left.

Schumacher canned another three with 23.4 remaining to give the Great Danes their first lead since the 12:20 mark of the first half at 50-49. **Sharon Majors** stole the ensuing inbound pass and was fouled, but missed the front end of a one and one. CSU's **Pam Tolbert's** missed a long three-point try, but McCoy, who was 7-of-10 from the free-throw line including the game winning shot, was there to get the rebound and was fouled on the putback.

"Poor shooting is killing us," said UAlbany head coach Trina Patterson, whose team shot less than 40 percent from the floor for the ninth time in 10 games this season. "Our guard's shooting has been poor all season. We got off to a slow start and didn't come to play in the first half."

Wicker, a second-team All-Big South selection last season, led the way for CSU with 21 points and 10 rebounds. Tolbert had 10 points, seven rebounds and six assists. Peterson added 11 rebounds for UAlbany to record her first career double-double. Schumacher, who was the only other Great Dane in double figures, had 12 points and became the program's all-time leader in three-point field goals, surpassing the previous mark held by Jess McGinlay.