

Attn: Sports Department

No. of Pages: 1

For Immediate Release

August 31, 2004

For Futher Information

Jason Bryden/518-442-4511

### HERCULES LEADS UALBANY TO 2-1 WIN OVER WAGNER

Albany, N.Y. – Junior **Nicole Hercules** scored the game-winning goal at 4:07 into the first overtime off a cross from senior **Sara Rickard** as the University at Albany defeated Wagner College, 2-1, on Tuesday afternoon at Varsity Field. Hercules scored from about 10 yards out. UAlbany (2-1) eclipses its victory total from a year ago in just three games.

Rickard opened the scoring in the first half at 37:37 on a direct kick from about 25 yards out to give the Great Danes a 1-0 lead. The Seahawks (0-1) tied the game early in the second half when sophomore **Heather Daubert** fed junior **Jacqueline Santariello**, whose shot from 20 yards out hit the left post and ricocheted in at 58:40.

Wagner outshot UAlbany 19-17 in the contest. Great Danes junior **Kate Lawler** made seven saves to record her second win of the season, while sophomore **Ashley Wilson** also made seven saves for the Seahawks.

UAlbany will travel to Clifton Park on Friday at 7 p.m. to take on crosstown-rival Siena.

-agate-

Varsity Field -- Albany, N.Y.

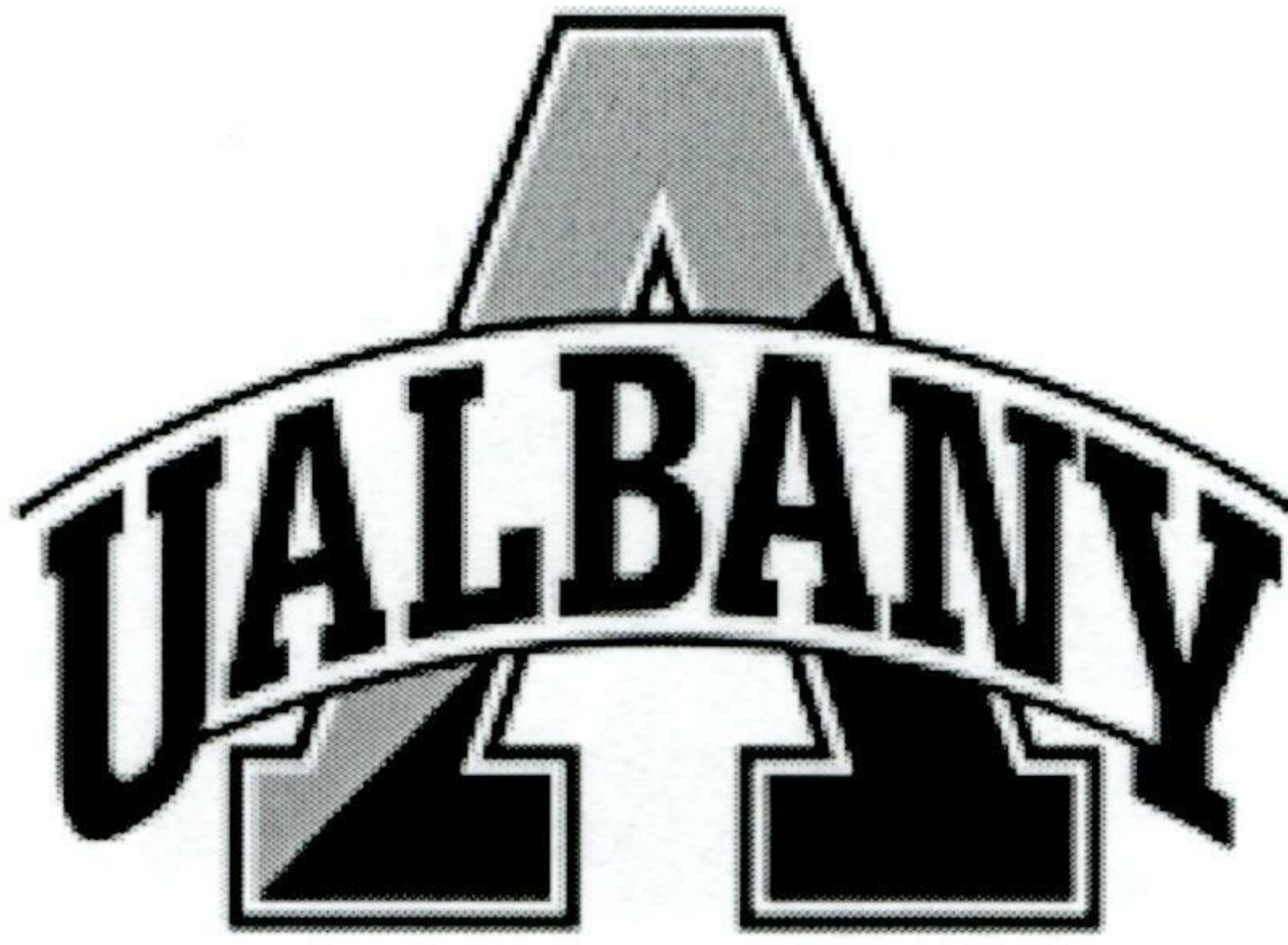
Wagner (0-1)	0	1	0	-	1
UAlbany (2-1)	1	0	1	-	2

UAlbany--Scoring: Goals-Assists Sara Rickard (1-1), Nicole Hercules (1-0); Goalkeeper: Kate Lawler (94:07, 7 saves, 1 GA)

Wagner--Scoring: Goals-Assists Jacqueline Santariello (1-0), Heather Daubert (0-1); Goalkeeper: Ashley Wilson (94:07, 7 saves, 2 GA)

Shots-Cornerkicks: Wagner -- 19-5; UAlbany 17-4





For Immediate Release  
Tuesday, August 31, 2004

Contact: Brian DePasquale  
(518) 442-3072

## **UALBANY BEGINS RECREATION & CONVOCATION CENTER RENOVATIONS**

Albany, N.Y. – University at Albany Director of Athletics Lee McElroy announced today that renovations to the Recreation and Convocation Center will begin on Wednesday, September 1. The \$1.5 million improvement is expected to be completed by November 30.

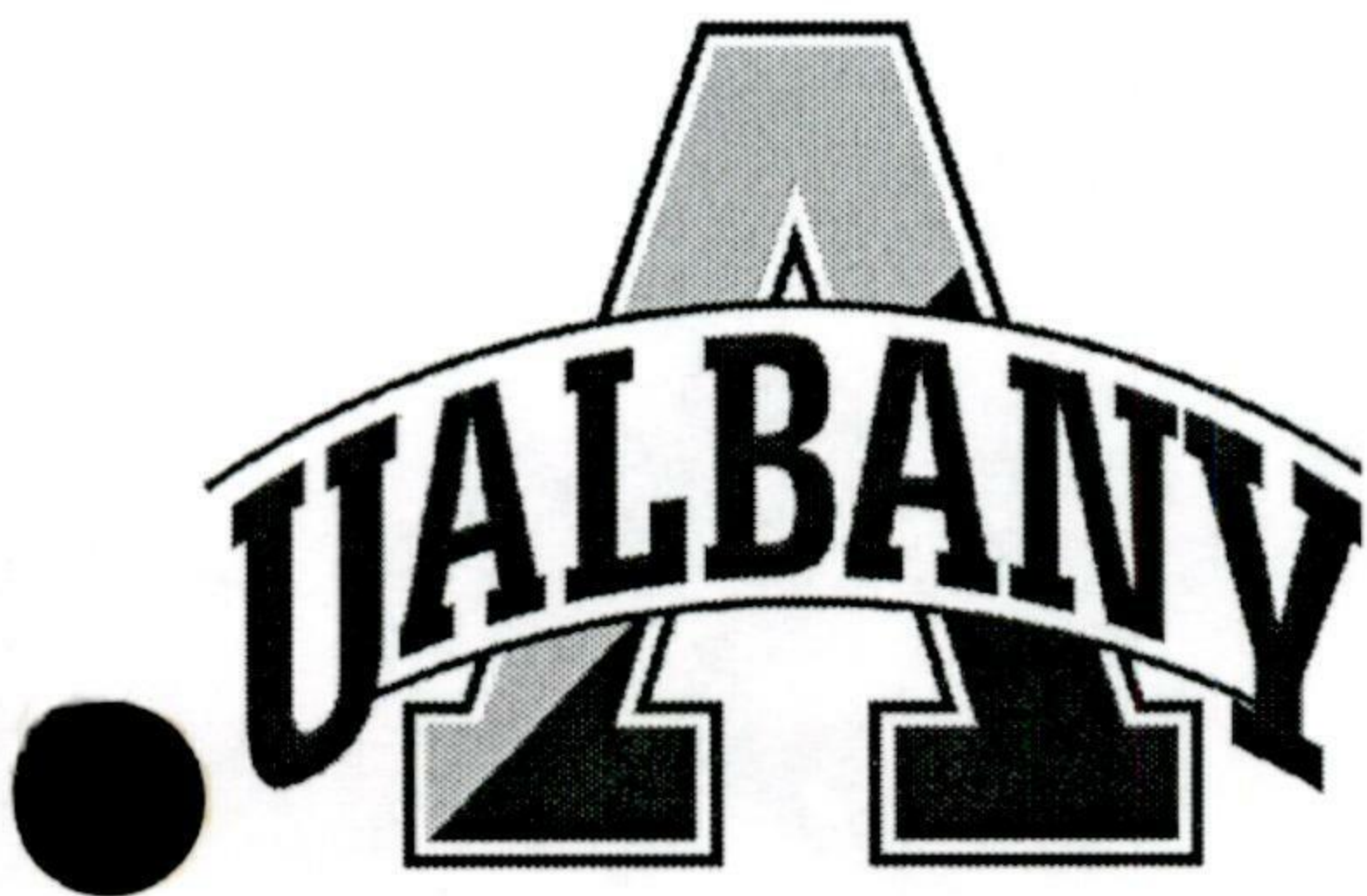
The RACC's three playing surfaces, located on the arena level, will be completely changed over to Robbins biochannel flooring, plus a new synthetic surface will cover the 170-meter indoor track. In addition, the facility's sound system, wiring, and telecommunications and data will be upgraded. Bunkoff General Contractors, Inc., of Latham, and McBain Electric, Inc., of Troy, are handling the project.

The University opened the Recreation and Convocation Center, an \$11 million multi-purpose facility, in the spring of 1992. The RACC is the home for UAlbany's men's and women's basketball teams. The 5,000-seat arena also serves as a major venue for Capital Region community events and University activities.

"The upgrade to the centerpiece of our current athletic complex is in keeping with the University's commitment to Division I intercollegiate athletics and a recreation program for all students," McElroy said. "All students, faculty and staff, as well as the community, will benefit from the improvements."

Over the next three months, the RACC's fitness center, locker rooms, racquetball/handball courts, and other areas will continue to keep regular hours. The RACC arena's upper level walking track will be closed. The University Bubble, which will house two full-sized basketball courts, and University Gymnasium will be used to accommodate recreation and intramurals.





Attn: Sports Department

No. of Pages: 1

For Immediate Release

August 29, 2004

For Futher Information

Jason Bryden/518-442-4511

### UALBANY WOMEN'S SOCCER FALLS WITH 27 SECONDS LEFT

Albany, N.Y. – Junior **Leandra Price** scored her first goal of the season with 27 seconds left in regulation from freshman **Leisl Lissfelt** to give Quinnipiac University a 1-0 victory over the University at Albany on Sunday afternoon at Varsity Field. Price scored from the right side of the box and slipped it past UAlbany's junior goalkeeper **Kate Lawler**.

The Bobcats (1-1) outshot the Great Danes 23-4 in the contest. Lawler made eight saves for UAlbany, while Quinnipiac goalkeeper **Heather Zaccone** made zero saves.

UAlbany (1-1) is at home again on Tuesday at 4 p.m. when Wagner visits Varsity Field.

-agate-

Varsity Field -- Albany, N.Y.

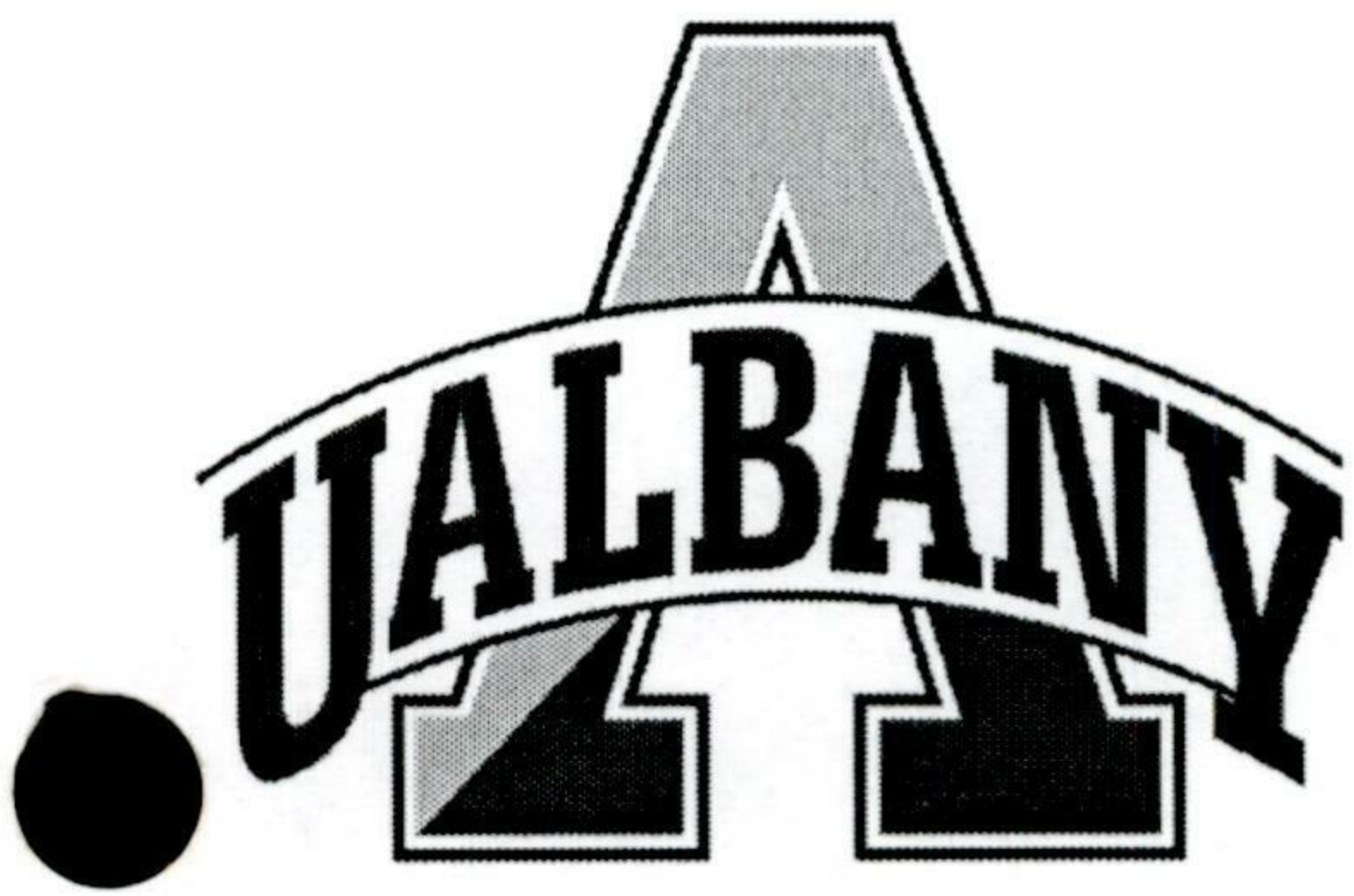
Quinnipiac (1-1)	0	1	-	1
UAlbany (1-1)	0	0	-	0

UAlbany--Scoring: None; Goalkeeper: Kate Lawler (90:00, 8 saves, 1 GA)

Quinnipiac--Scoring: Goals-Assists Leandra Price (1-0), Assists Leisl Lissfelt (0-1); Goalkeeper: Heather Zaccone (90:00, 0 saves, 0 GA)

Shots-Cornerkicks: Quinnipiac -- 23-6; UAlbany 4-5





Attn: Sports Department

No. of Pages: 1

For Immediate Release

August 28, 2004

For Further Information

Brianna LaBrecque/ 518-442-5733

## UAlbany Field Hockey Drops a 4-3 Decision to Sacred Heart in UConn Classic

Storrs, Conn. –**Jenna McLane** scored the game-winner off a penalty corner to lead Sacred Heart to a 4-3 victory over UAlbany on Sunday afternoon in the second day of the UConn Classic field hockey tournament.

UAlbany junior **Tina Bryson** scored two unassisted goals in the contest. Senior **Alexis Johnson** scored late in the second half in an attempt to spark a comeback, but the Great Danes were unable to capitalize in the closing minutes, falling to 0-2 on the season. Senior **Kristi Clausi** and junior **Shelley Gebhardt** assisted on Johnson's tally.

**Colleen Carney**, **Danielle Curcio** and **Jenn Howley** all scored for Sacred Heart (1-1).

UAlbany goalkeeper **Barbara Czaplinski** made eight saves in the cage for the Great Danes, while Pioneer goalie **Ashley Del Greco** stopped four shots.

The Great Danes will be back in action on Thursday, Sept. 2 as they face Pacific at 3 p.m. at Syracuse University.

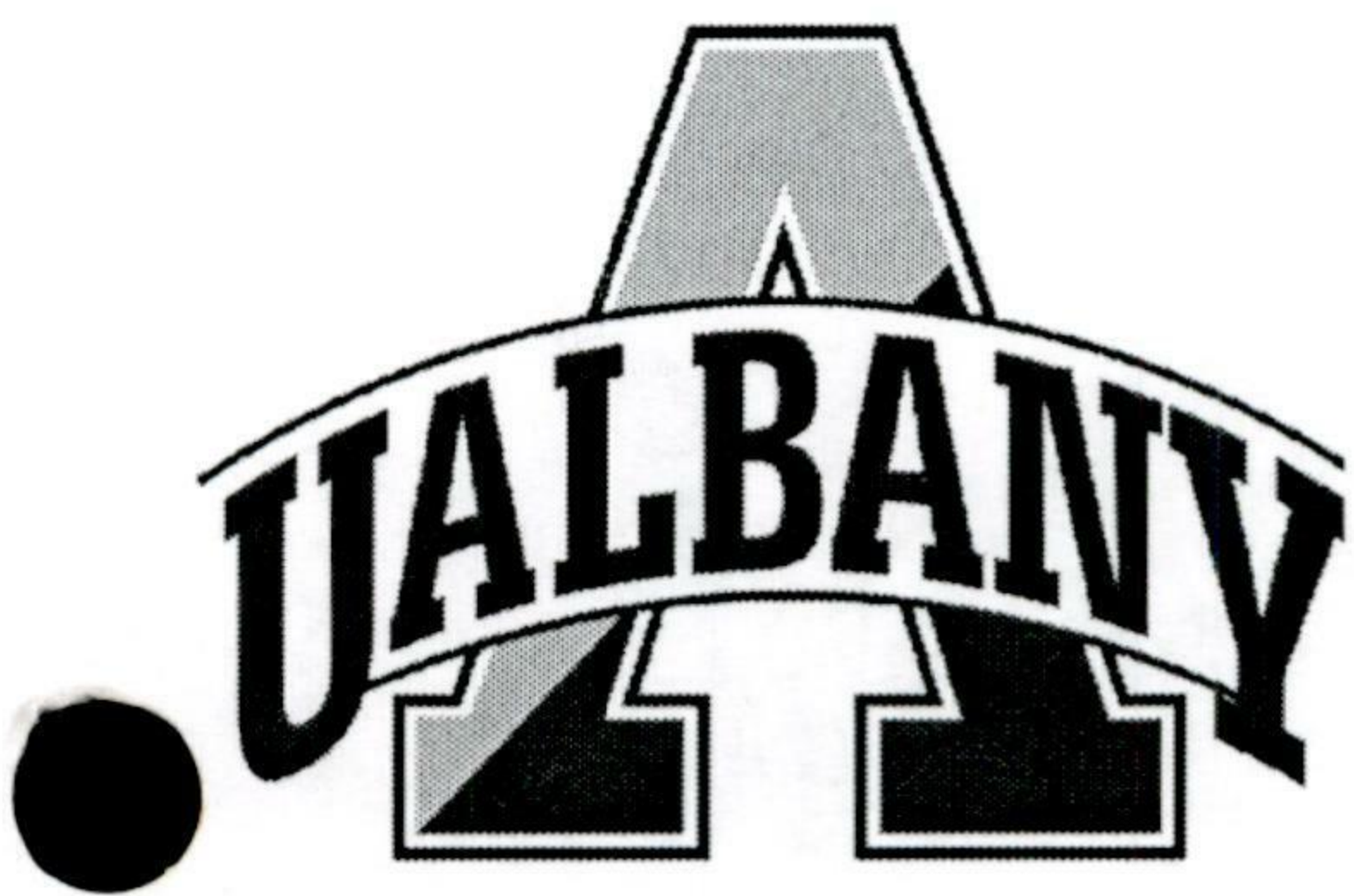
agate-

Joseph J. Morrone Stadium (Storrs, Conn.)

Albany (0-2)	1	2	-	3
Sacred Heart (1-1)	2	2	-	4

Albany—Scoring: Tina Bryson (2), Alexis Johnson (1); Goalkeeper: Barbara Czaplinski (70:00, 8 saves, 4 GA).  
Sacred Heart—Scoring: Colleen Carney (1), Danielle Curcio (1), Jenn Howley (1), Jenna McLane (1);  
Goalkeeper: Ashley Del Greco (70:00, 4 saves, 3 GA).





Attn: Sports Department

No. of Pages: 1

For Immediate Release

August 28, 2004

For Futher Information

Brianna LaBrecque/ 518-442-5733

## UAlbany Field Hockey Falls 4-0 to American in Season Opener

Storrs, Conn. –**Camila Infante** scored two first-half goals for American to lead the Eagles to a 4-0 win over UAlbany on the first day of the UConn Classic on Saturday afternoon at Joseph J. Marrone Stadium.

Senior **Danielle Costello** and freshman **Kristen Holder** each had a shot for the Great Danes in first-year head coach **Phil Sykes**' sideline debut. Sophomore goalkeeper **Barbara Czaplinski** made nine saves in the cage.

**Kaitlin DeTroia** and **Keri Garman** each added a tally for the Eagles (1-0). Goaltender **Allison Fayfich**, who did not have to make a save in the contest, played all 70:00 in the cage for American.

The Great Danes (0-1) will be back in action on Sunday, Aug. 29 on the second day of the field hockey tournament, facing off against Sacred Heart at 2 p.m.

-agate-

Joseph J. Morrone Stadium (Storrs, Conn.)

Albany (0-1)	0	0	-	0
American (1-0)	1	3	-	4

Albany—Scoring: None; Goalkeeper: Barbara Czaplinski (70:00, 9 saves, 4 GA).

American—Scoring: Camila Infante-2, Kaitlin DeTroia-1, Keri Garman-1; Goalkeeper: Mallison Fayfich (70:00, 0 saves, 0 GA).





**Attn: Sports Department**

**No. of Pages: 1**

**For Immediate Release**

August 27, 2004

**For Futher Information**

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(518) 442-3359

### **UALBANY WOMEN'S SOCCER DOWNS HOLY CROSS, 3-2, IN SEASON OPENER**

Worcester, Mass. – Freshman Uju Ogbuawa scored the game-winning goal to send the University at Albany to a 3-2 double overtime victory over Holy Cross (0-1) in non-conference women's soccer action on Friday.

Ogbuawa opened scoring just 13:00 into the game on an unassisted low corner shot past Crusaders' starting goalkeeper Eileen Geoghegan. The Great Danes were able to hold on to the one goal lead until just before the 60-minute mark as Holy Cross' Meredith Davis scored off a Kristen Locke assist.

UAlbany junior Nicole Hercules scored her first goal of the 2004 season at 87:03, after picking off a Holy Cross pass and slipping an unassisted shot past Crusader backup keeper Jessica Pietrowicz. Davis responded for Holy Cross, catching a rebound off an UAlbany save at 88:48, sending the game to extra time.

The score remained tied at two-all after the first overtime period, but Ogbuawa struck just 2:45 into the second to seal the victory for the Great Danes.

UAlbany junior Kate Lawler had a stellar opening game, turning away 12 Holy Cross shots. Geoghegan and Pietrowicz combined for three saves for the Crusaders.

The victory marked the second time in six years at the Division I level that the Great Danes have won their season opener. UAlbany defeated Iona, 4-0, in 2001. The victory also snapped a 10-match winless streak.

UAlbany (1-0) kicks off its home schedule on Sunday at 4 p.m. when Quinnipiac visits Varsity Field.





For Immediate Release  
Thursday, August 26, 2004

Contact: Brian DePasquale  
(518) 442-3072

## UALBANY QUARTERBACK ULI DELGADO WILL MISS OPENING TWO GAMES

Albany, N.Y. – University at Albany head football coach Bob Ford announced today that junior quarterback **Uli Delgado** will miss the opening two games with a knee injury. Delgado suffered a torn meniscus in his left knee during last Saturday's intrasquad scrimmage.

Dr. Max Alley, of Capital Region Orthopaedic Group and a member of the UAlbany sports medicine staff, confirmed the injury on Thursday through MRI results. Delgado will have surgery to repair the damaged cartilage and will miss the Great Danes' first two games against Hofstra (Sept. 2) and Fordham (Sept. 11).

Delgado, a high school standout at Gloversville High School, came out of spring practice as the No. 1 quarterback. He shared the duties with Anthony Sciarra last year, and completed 18 of 50 passes for 284 yards with two touchdowns and four interceptions. Delgado, who transferred from Colgate after his freshman season, also rushed for 95 yards and one TD.

**Nicholas Bazan**, a fifth-year senior, and freshman **Daniel Bocanegra** will take the majority of the snaps in practice as Delgado's replacement. Bazan returned to the quarterback position in the spring of 2004 after working at split end the previous two years. He missed all but one game in 2003 with a broken collarbone. Bocanegra, a California native who passed for 1,668 yards and rushed for 690 more during his senior campaign on the scholastic level last fall, attended the same high school as New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady.





For Immediate Release  
Wednesday, August 25, 2004

Contact: Brian DePasquale  
(518) 442-3072

**UALBANY FOOTBALL PLAYERS ON FOOTBALL GAZETTE I-AA MID-MAJOR ALL-AMERICA TEAM  
Great Danes Host Football Media Day on Thursday, August 26 in RACC Hall of Fame Room**

Albany, N.Y. -- University at Albany's **Geir Gudmundsen** and **Brandon Shaw** have been selected to the Football Gazette NCAA I-AA Mid-Major Preseason All-America Squad. Gudmundsen and Shaw, a pair of offensive linemen, were first-team selections. Linebacker **Brian Becker** (Saratoga Springs H.S.) was named to the second team. Cornerback **Ryan Chrobak** and roverback **Kurt Campbell** were picked in the honorable mention category.

Gudmundsen, at 6-foot-6 and 315 pounds, has made 33 consecutive starts at left tackle, while Shaw (6-0, 295) has been a regular at both the center and guard positions. Each player anchored an offensive line that set the Northeast Conference and school single-season rushing record with 3,215 yards last year. The Great Danes, who finished 7-4 overall and tied for the NEC title, ranked fourth nationally in rushing at 292.3 yards per game. Gudmundsen and Shaw were earlier named to The Sports Network preseason All-America team.

Becker, a junior inside linebacker, was second among the UAlbany leaders in tackles with 63, including 32 unassisted hits. He added two interceptions, five pass break-ups and two sacks. Becker, who was voted the team's most improved player in 2003, recorded a career-high 13 tackles in the season finale against Towson.

Chrobak, a sophomore, and Campbell, a senior, were also members of a strong defensive unit that ranked fifth in total yards allowed and eighth in rushing defense among the Division I-AA national leaders. Chrobak made 47 tackles to go with eight passes defended and one interception. Campbell, a 6-foot-1, 225-pound athlete, missed six games due to a shoulder injury last season, but has 86 tackles and 16 pass break-ups during his collegiate career.

**\*\*\*UAlbany's football media luncheon is scheduled for Thursday, Aug. 26. The event will be held in the Recreation and Convocation Center's Athletic Hall of Fame Room on campus. A barbecue-style lunch will be served at 11:45 a.m. UAlbany's coaching staff, team captains and other selected players will be in attendance\*\*\***





For Immediate Release  
Monday, August 23, 2004

Contact: Brian DePasquale  
(518) 442-3072

Attn: Members of the Media

**PHOTO OPPORTUNITY -- Giants Quarterback Kurt Warner Speaks with UAlbany Football Team**

When: Tuesday, August 24, 5:00 p.m.

Where: Following UAlbany Football Practice, Dutch Quad Intramural Field

Albany, N.Y. -- New York Giants quarterback Kurt Warner will speak to the University at Albany football team on Tuesday, August 24. Warner will talk to the squad at the UAlbany campus' Dutch Quad Intramural Field at 5:00 p.m.

Warner, the NFL's Most Valuable Player in 1999 and 2001 and the MVP of Super Bowl XXXIV, signed as a free agent with the Giants on June 2, 2004. One of the biggest success stories in NFL history, Warner rose from the Arena League and NFL Europe to become the highest-rated passer in league history. He led the St. Louis Rams to victory over the Tennessee Titans in Super Bowl XXXIV, and also guided the Rams to a Super Bowl XXXVI appearance against New England. Warner, who played as a collegian at Northern Iowa University, has participated in three Pro Bowls.

UAlbany has won or shared two consecutive Northeast Conference football championships, and are picked to win this year's title in the coaches preseason poll. The Great Danes open their schedule against Hofstra on Thursday, Sept. 2. Kickoff is 7:00 p.m. ET. The contest will be televised on Fox Sports New York.



Attn: Sports Department

No. of Pages: 1

For Immediate Release

August 20, 2004

For Futher Information

Alison Hischak/ [ahischak@uamail.albany.edu](mailto:ahischak@uamail.albany.edu)

(518) 442-3359



### FIELD HOCKEY PICKED FIFTH IN AMERICA EAST COACHES POLL

Boston, Mass. – The University at Albany women's field hockey squad was ranked fifth in the America East preseason poll as voted on by the conference head coaches. Northeastern received six first-place votes as the favorite to defend its conference title.

Senior forward **Alexis Johnson** (13 goals, 3 assists) heads the list of veteran Great Danes after tallying 29 points and earning all-conference honors in 2003. Junior forward **Tina Bryson** (11 goals, 5 assists) will help spur the offense after posting 27 points last season. Sophomore **Barbara Czaplinski** is the returning goalkeeper. She posted a 3.85 goals against average and made 54 saves in nine appearances as a freshman. In front of Czaplinski will be senior defenders **Kristi Clausi** and **Amber Wade**.

Four newcomers join first-year head coach Phil Sykes' squad in freshmen **Danielle Conklin** and **Kristen Holder** along with junior **Noelle Kussel** and senior **Jessica Whitcomb**.

The Great Danes open the 2004 campaign against American at the University of Connecticut Classic on Aug. 28.

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For Immediate Release  
Thursday, August 19, 2004

Contact: Brian DePasquale  
(518) 442-3072

## UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY ANNOUNCES MEN'S LACROSSE COMMITMENTS FOR 2004-05

ALBANY, N.Y. -- University at Albany men's lacrosse coach Scott Marr announced today that 11 student-athletes have made commitments to play for the Great Danes in 2004-05. The UAlbany program captured the America East Conference championship and earned an NCAA Division I Tournament berth for the second consecutive season last year.

"This is an outstanding group with four high school All-Americans in the class," said Marr, whose program has posted consecutive 10-6 campaigns. "It's an athletic group with good speed and running ability. We've added depth in the midfield and size and athleticism on defense."

**Craig McDonald** and **Garrett Pedley** should make the Great Danes' defensive unit even stronger. McDonald (6-0, 200) and Pedley (6-2, 200) each earned high school All-America honors by U.S. Lacrosse. McDonald played in the National High School Senior Showcase, while Pedley, a three-time all-state selection, led his team to New Hampshire's Division II state championship.

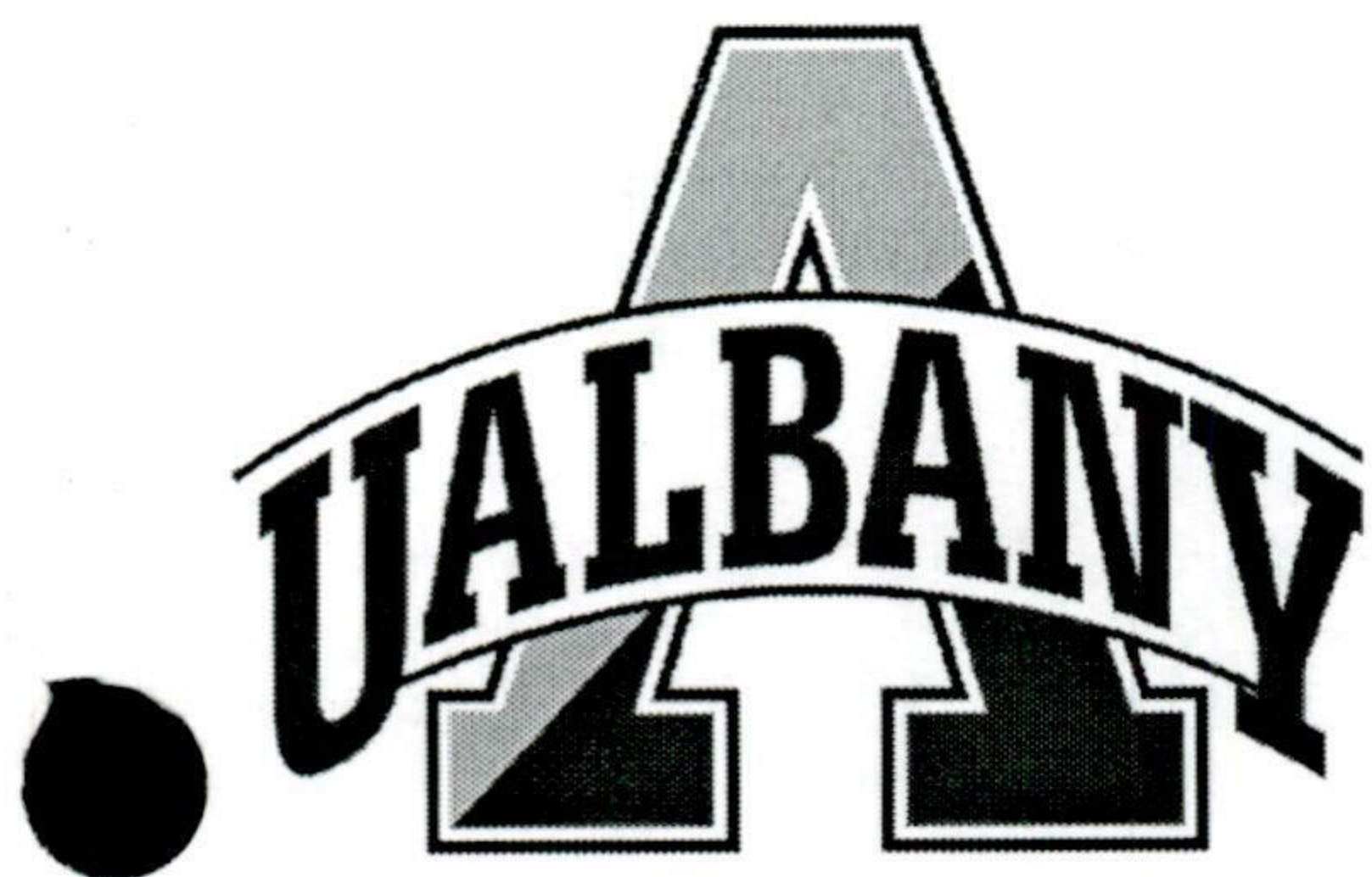
**Derek Dale**, an honorable mention scholastic All-America attackman, was twice named to the All-Suffolk County team on Long Island. Dale accounted for 33 goals and 48 assists as a senior. **Steve Ammann**, a 6-foot-2, 200-pound athlete, was picked to the U.S. Lacrosse All-America squad as a midfielder. He totaled 68 goals and 26 assists last spring. His brother, **Mike Ammann**, was the more prolific scorer with 70 goals and 31 assists as a Section I all-star. Both were members of *The Journal's* All-Westchester/Putnam first team, and led Putnam Valley, the No. 7 team in the Class C state rankings, to a 17-4 record.

Defenseman **Mark Phelan** and midfielders **Jordan Levine** and **Tyler Endres** join the All-Americans in the class. Phelan was named to the *Baltimore Sun* All-Metro second team, and earned first-team All-Anne Arundel County recognition. Levine, a two-time All-Nassau County selection, led Bethpage to a 16-2 record as one of the state's top Class B squads. Endres made the Section V Senior All-Star Game. **Ernie Fusco**, one of two recruits from the state of New Jersey, was voted All-Middlesex County as an attackman three times during his high school career.

### 2004 University at Albany Men's Lacrosse Newcomers

Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Hometown (High School)
Steve Ammann	Mid.	6-2	200	Putnam Valley, N.Y. (Putnam Valley)
Mike Ammann	Mid.	6-2	200	Putnam Valley, N.Y. (Putnam Valley)
A.J. Babnik	Gk.	5-10	185	Putnam Valley, N.Y. (Putnam Valley)
Derek Dale	Att.	5-11	160	Lake Ronkonkoma, N.Y. (Sachem)
Tyler Endres	Mid.	6-1	175	Brockport, N.Y. (Hilton Central)
Ernie Fusco	Att.	5-11	210	East Brunswick, N.J. (East Brunswick)
Jordan Levine	Mid.	5-7	165	Plainview, N.Y. (Bethpage)
Craig McDonald	Def.	6-0	200	Geneva, N.Y. (Geneva)
Garrett Pedley	Def.	6-2	200	Bow, N.H. (Bow)
Mark Phelan	Def.	5-11	175	Arnold, Md. (Broadneck)
Greg Shondel	Def.	6-2	230	Kinnelon, N.J. (Kinnelon)





**Attn: Sports Department**

**No. of Pages: 1**

**For Immediate Release**

August 19, 2004

**For Futher Information**

Alison Hischak/ [ahischak@uamail.albany.edu](mailto:ahischak@uamail.albany.edu)

(518) 442-3359

## **LINDSEY HART AND ALISON HISCHAK JOIN UALBANY ATHLETIC STAFF**

Albany, N.Y. – University at Albany Director of Athletics Lee McElroy announced on Thursday, August 19, the hiring of Lindsey Hart as an assistant women's lacrosse coach and Alison Hischak as the assistant director of media relations.

Prior to her arrival at UAlbany, Hart spent the 2003 season as an assistant at Ohio University where she handled scouting and recruiting duties in addition to her on the field responsibilities. She has also coached lacrosse at Ohio University's camps along with the East West Sports and Next Level Lacrosse camps.

Hart brings a wealth of playing experience, as a four-year member of Ohio's squad she earned first-team All-American Lacrosse Conference honors twice and was named to the regional All-America squad in 2001 and 2002. The most prolific offensive player in school history, Hart amassed 180 goals and 236 points during her career with the Bobcats. Hart played on the Canadian National U-19 Women's Lacrosse Team that won a bronze medal at the World Cup in 1999. Additionally, she was a member of the Canadian National Women's Lacrosse team that is preparing for the 2005 World Championships.

A native of Vineland, Ontario, Hart received a bachelor's degree in biology from Ohio in 2003.

Hischak comes to UAlbany from Villanova University where she worked as a media relations assistant covering the volleyball and men's lacrosse teams. She also spent a year at Lafayette College as an athletic communications graduate intern where she handled publicity for seven sports, including assisting with football and men's basketball.

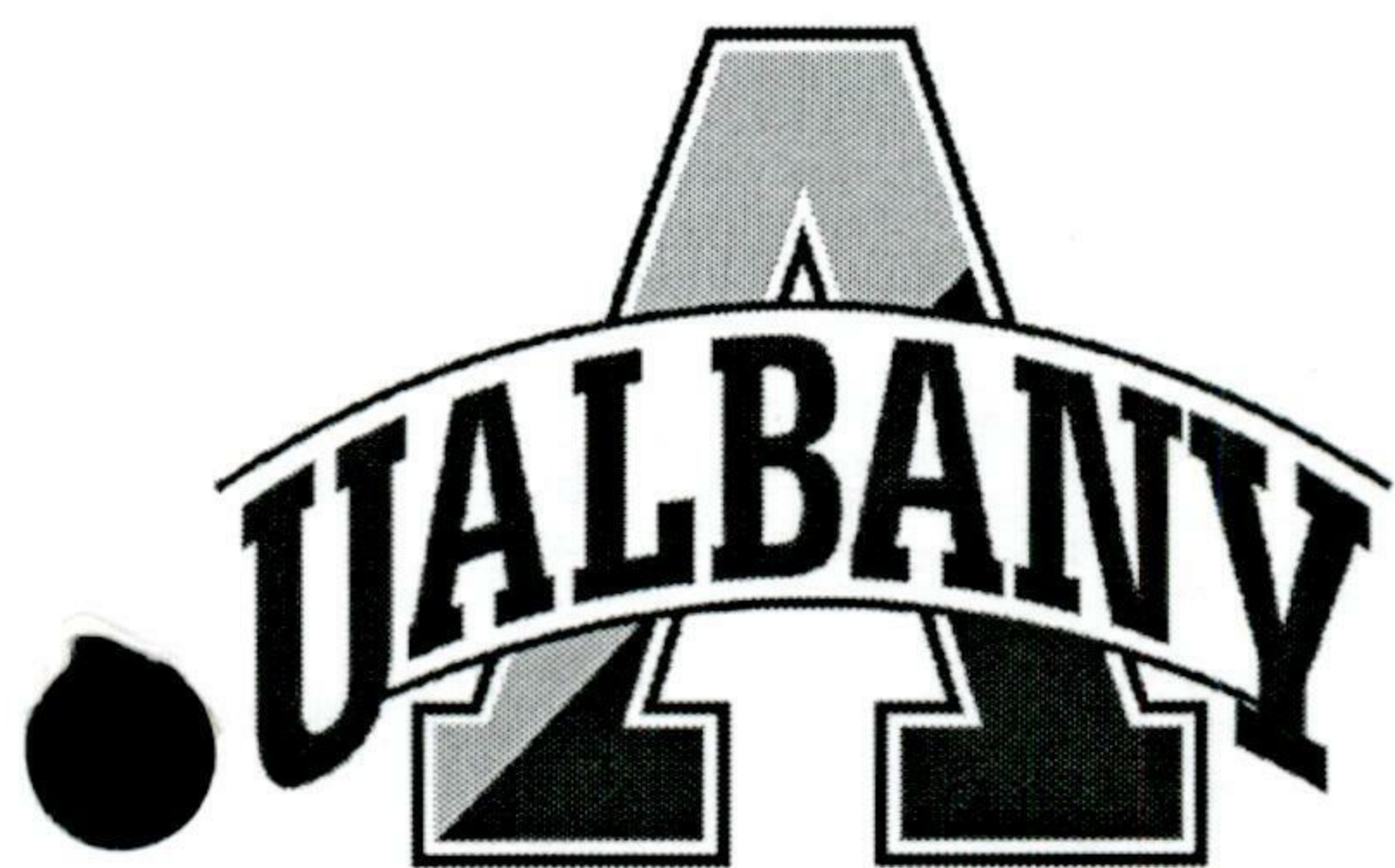
A 2002 graduate of Syracuse University, Hischak, 23, received her bachelor's degree in broadcast journalism. A native of Larksville, Penn., Hischak served as a public relations intern with the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins and Syracuse Crunch of the American Hockey League.

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College Sports Transactions

Albany – Named Lindsey Hart assistant women's lacrosse coach and Alison Hischak assistant director of media relations.





## UALBANY PICKED TO WIN NORTHEAST CONFERENCE FOOTBALL TITLE Gudmundsen, Shaw & Chrobak on Preseason All-NEC Squad

Somerset, N.J. – After winning a share of its second consecutive Northeast Conference football championship, the University at Albany is the preseason choice to capture this year's NEC title, in voting by the conference's head coaches.

The Great Danes, who went 7-4 overall and tied for first in the league standings with Monmouth, are ranked No. 7 in both The Sports Network and *Football Gazette* I-AA preseason polls. UAlbany opens its schedule on Thursday, Sept. 2 at Hofstra. Kickoff is 7:00 p.m. ET. The contest will be televised on Fox Sports New York.

"I am pleasantly surprised," commented Albany coach **Bob Ford**, who has 201 career victories at the collegiate level. "I believe the voting is based on our defensive returnees, and a great defense will win a championship. We still have plenty of work to do with questions to be answered at quarterback, running back, part of the offensive line, and the kicking game."

Three UAlbany players were named to the Preseason All-Northeast Conference Team. Senior left tackle **Geir Gudmundsen**, at 6-foot-6 and 315-pounds, has made 33 consecutive starts on Albany's offensive line. A two-time All-NEC first-team selection, Gudmundsen was named to three postseason Division I-AA All-America teams in 2003.

**Brandon Shaw**, a 6-foot, 295-pound center, anchored an offensive line that established the NEC and school single-season rushing record with 3,215 yards last year. Shaw, who has twice been chosen to the postseason all-conference team, helped the Great Danes rank fourth nationally in rushing at 292.3 yards per game.

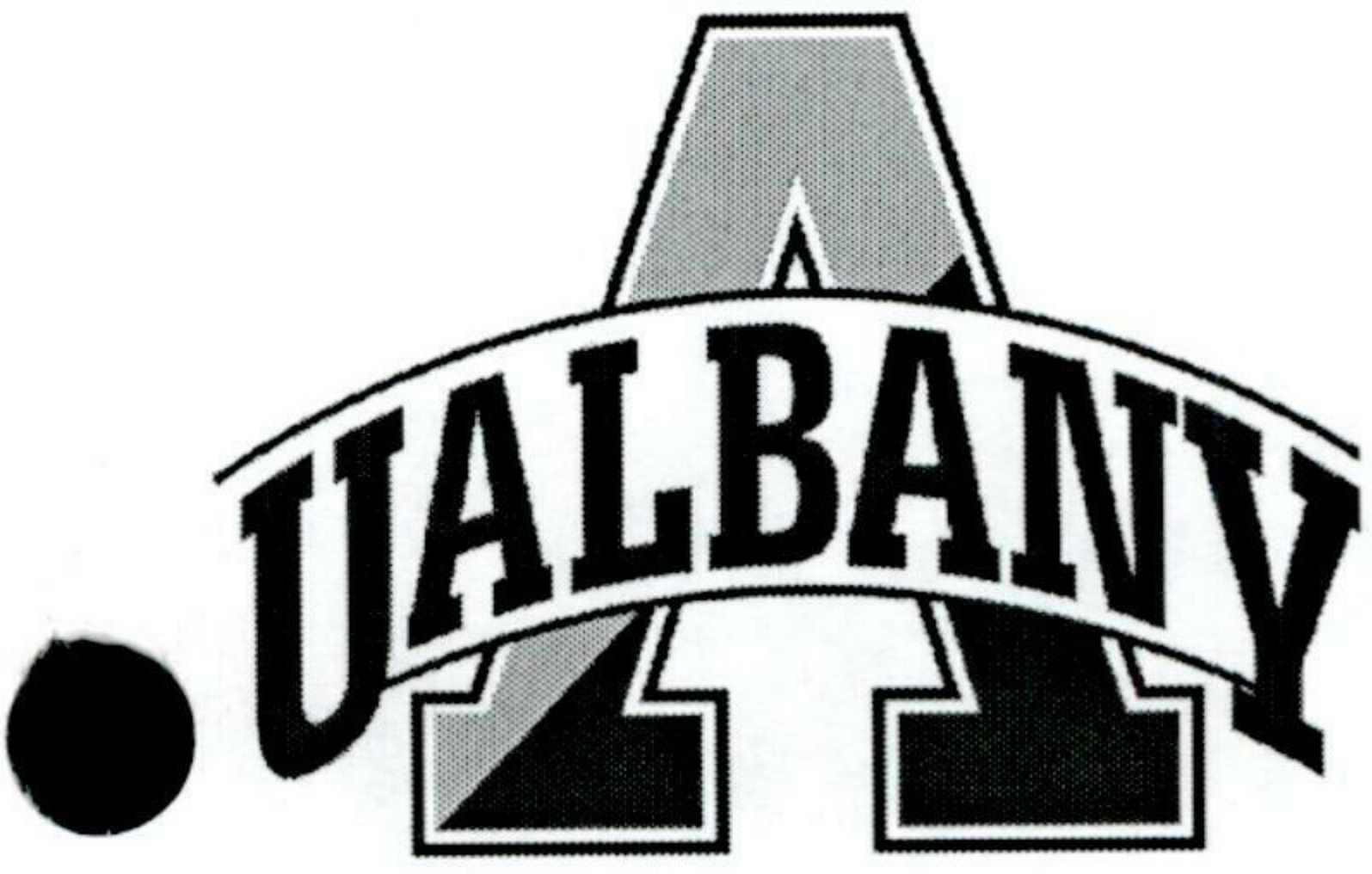
Sophomore cornerback **Ryan Chrobak** made 47 tackles, including 35 unassisted hits, in his first season as a starter. He added eight pass break-ups and one interception for a defensive unit that was among the top 10 nationally in rushing yards allowed and total defense. The Great Danes also ranked 11th in scoring defense with a 16.8 average.

### Northeast Conference 2004 Preseason Football Poll

1. Albany (5), T2. Stony Brook (2), T2. Monmouth (1), 4. Robert Morris, 5. Central Connecticut State, 6. Wagner, 7. Sacred Heart, 8. St. Francis, Pa.

( ) – first-place votes





Attn: Sports Department

No. of Pages: 1

For Immediate Release

August 18, 2004

For Further Information

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(518) 442-3359

## VOLLEYBALL RANKED THIRD IN AMERICA EAST PRESEASON COACHES POLL

BOSTON, MASS. – The University at Albany volleyball team was selected third in the America East Conference preseason poll as voted on by the conference head coaches on August 18. New Hampshire was picked as the favorite, garnering six first-place votes, while Northeastern was ranked second with one first-place vote.

The Great Danes are coming off their most successful season in program history, winning a school record 24 games at the Division I level. Juniors **Eileen Nicole Rodriguez** and **Ashlee Reed** were honored as all-conference first-team selections in 2003 and lead a team with nine veterans. An outside hitter, Rodriguez led the squad with 404 kills as a sophomore, in addition to registering a conference-best 143 service aces. Reed is coming off a sophomore campaign in which she registered a team-best .315 hitting percentage along with 354 kills and a team-high 90 blocks at middle blocker.

Other returning starters include sophomore **Ashley DeNeal** at outside hitter who was tabbed America East Rookie of the Year, and classmate **Blair Buchanan** at setter who earned a spot on the conference all-rookie team.

Two newcomers join head coach Kelly Sheffield's squad in freshman middle **Ashley Crenshaw** and junior transfer **Ashley Hunter** at outside hitter.

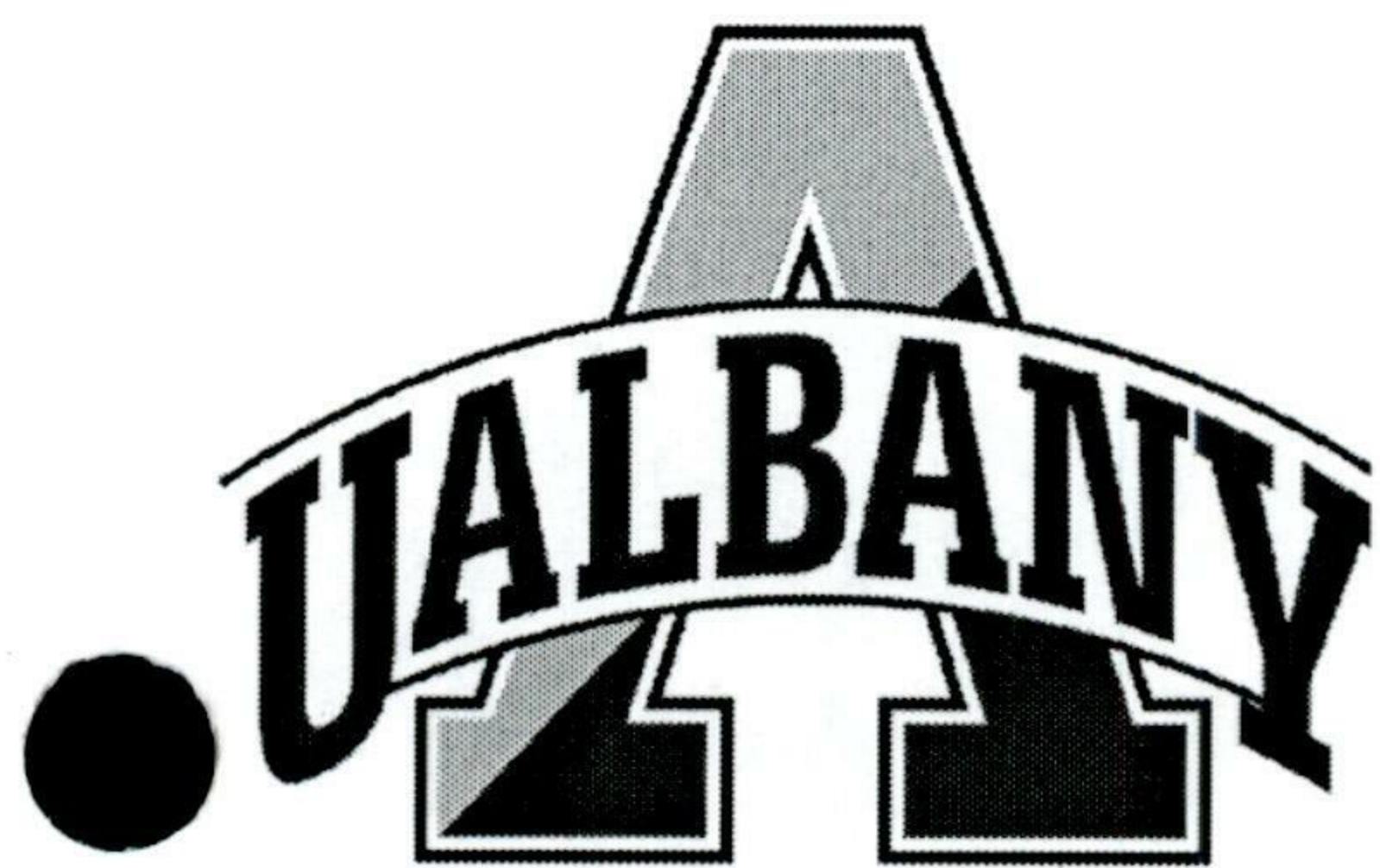
UAlbany opens its 2004 schedule at IUPU-Fort Wayne on Sept 1 when the Great Danes start their run at a third straight appearance in the America East Tournament.

### 2004 America East Volleyball Preseason Coaches Poll

1. New Hampshire (6), 2. Northeastern (1), 3. UAlbany (1), 4. Stony Brook, 5. Binghamton, T6. Maine, T6. UMBC, 8. Hartford. ( ) – number of first place votes

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### **Women's Soccer Picked Tenth In America East Coaches Poll**

Boston, Mass. – The University at Albany women's soccer team is preparing for better things as second-year head coach Kalekeni Banda continues to upgrade the program in the 2004 season. The Great Danes were picked to finish tenth in the America East conference preseason poll. Defending champion Boston University was selected to win the conference.

UAlbany's top returnee will be senior midfielder Sara Rickard (Otisville, N.Y.) who scored one goal and led the team in shots on goal. Senior forward Ashley Jurica (Fonda, N.Y.) returns to the lineup after missing the entire 2003 season with a knee injury. In 2002, she had nine points with three goals and three assists. UAlbany has 17 newcomers, highlighted by the addition of junior college transfer Jessica Insana (Warwick, R.I.), who was a member of the Community College of Rhode Island's 2002 NJCAA National Championship Team. The Great Danes will look to improve on last year's 0-9-0 record in the America East and 1-18-1 overall.

Banda's Great Danes kickoff their 2004 season on Aug. 27 at Holy Cross in Worcester, Mass., with game time at 3 p.m. UAlbany begins its home portion of the schedule on Aug. 29 at 4 p.m. against Quinnipiac and starts America East play on Oct. 3, when the Great Danes host Stony Brook at 1 p.m.

#### **America East Conference Women's Soccer Coaches Poll – First Place Votes in Parenthesis**

1. Boston University (9) 81, 2. Maine (1) 67, 3. New Hampshire 65, 4. Hartford 54, 5. Northeastern 51, 6. Stony Brook 37, 7. UMBC 36, 8. Binghamton 30, 9. Vermont 20, 10. Albany 9

### **Men's Soccer Picked Ninth In America East Coaches Poll**

Boston, Mass. – The University at Albany men's soccer team is looking to return to the America East Conference Tournament after narrowly missing postseason play the past two years. The Great Danes were chosen ninth in the preseason poll in a vote of the conference head coaches. Defending America East champion Binghamton University was picked to finish first.

UAlbany's top returnee will be senior defender Rodrigo Marion (La Paz, Bolivia), who made the second-team all-conference. He will help anchor a defense that allowed only 19 goals in 18 contests a year ago. Senior goalkeeper Bouna Coundoul (Bronx, N.Y.) had a 1.02 goals against average and 113 saves in 2003. Sophomore Yan Gbolo (Newburgh, N.Y.) tallied four goals and added one assist and senior Lucas Machado (Porto Alegre, Brazil) scored four goals. Each will be counted on to lead the way up front. Senior midfielder Savvas Theofilou (Nicosia, Cyprus), who had three goals and three assists, directs the midfield. The Great Danes, who return all 11 starters from a year ago, went 3-5-1 in the America East last season and 7-9-2 overall. The Great Danes missed the conference tournament by two points last season and lost out on a tiebreaker in 2002.

The Great Danes kickoff their 2004 season on Sept. 1 at home against Oneonta State, with game time at 4 p.m. UAlbany begins its America East portion of the schedule on Sept. 25 against the University of Maryland-Baltimore County at 1 p.m.

#### **America East Conference Men's Soccer Preseason Coaches Poll – First Place Votes in Parenthesis**

1. Binghamton (6) 75, 2. UMBC (3) 72, 3. Boston University (1) 65, 4. Northeastern 57, 5. Hartford 55, 6. Stony Brook 36, 7. New Hampshire 25, 8. Maine 24, 9. Albany 22, 10. Vermont 19





FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Siena and UAlbany Renew Basketball Contracts** *Men and Women Will Continue Series at Pepsi Arena*

**LOUDONVILLE, N.Y.** – Siena College and the University at Albany have agreed to continue their men's and women's basketball series at Pepsi Arena, officials from the institutions announced today. Both series will continue through the 2006-2007 season. The men will play again November 23, 2004 at 7 p.m., while the women's series commences during the 2005-2006 season following a one-year hiatus this season.

The contract extension follows a three-year agreement that brought the two programs together on the same court November 27, 2001 for the first time in 25 years. An average of 11,251 fans attended the three doubleheaders contested between the schools at Pepsi Arena, with attendance increasing each season. Siena won all six games and holds a 26-17 edge in the men's series and a 7-2 advantage on the women's side.

Following this season's men's only game, the two school's will again play men's and women's doubleheaders to complete the following two years of the new agreement. Exact dates have not been set for the 2005-2006 and 2006-2007 season.

### Division I Series Attendance

<b>November 27, 2001</b>	<b>10,285</b>
<b>November 22, 2002</b>	<b>11,672</b>
<b>November 21, 2003</b>	<b>11,797</b>

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**Albany vs. Siena (men)****Series Record: Siena leads, 26-17**

<b>Date</b>	<b>SC-UA</b>	<b>Location</b>
1939-40	52-45	Page Hall
1939-40	45-42	Page Hall
1940-41	62-27	Hackett Junior High Gym
1945-46	45-29	Page Hall
1945-46	46-45	Page Hall
1945-46	51-38	Troy Armory
1946-47	73-32	Page Hall
1946-47	62-41	Loudonville
1956-57	75-66	Washington Avenue Armory
1957-58	46-62	Washington Avenue Armory
1958-59	69-55	Washington Avenue Armory
1959-60	72-47	Washington Avenue Armory
1960-61	45-54	Washington Avenue Armory
1960-61	45-47 (3OT)	Gibbons Hall (Capital City Tournament)
1961-62	47-49	Washington Avenue Armory
1961-62	60-52	Gibbons Hall (Capital City Tournament)
1962-63	52-44	Washington Avenue Armory
1963-64	36-32	Washington Avenue Armory
1964-65	49-74	Washington Avenue Armory
1964-65	50-48	Gibbons Hall (Capital City Tournament)
1965-66	71-73	Washington Avenue Armory
1965-66	88-91	Gibbons Hall (Capital City Tournament)
1966-67	73-67	Gibbons Hall (Capital City Tournament)
1966-67	75-76 (OT)	Washington Avenue Armory
1967-68	62-69	Cardinal McCloskey High School
1967-68	72-79	Cardinal McCloskey High School
1968-69	58-59	University Gymnasium
1968-69	73-64	Troy High School
1969-70	63-72	University Gymnasium
1970-71	70-85	Mechanicville Middle School
1971-72	56-72	University Gymnasium
1972-73	71-81	Memorial Field House
1972-73	78-75	Washington Avenue Armory
1973-74	86-76	University Gymnasium
1973-74	83-84	University Gymnasium
1974-75	104-80	Alumni Recreation Center
1974-75	72-57	Alumni Recreation Center
1975-76	66-58	University Gymnasium
1976-77	91-86	University Gymnasium
1976-77	49-62	Alumni Recreation Center
2001-02	60-48	Pepsi Arena
2002-03	79-75	Pepsi Arena
2003-04	71-50	Pepsi Arena



**Albany vs. Siena (women)**

**Series Record: Siena leads, 7-2**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Result</b>	<b>Location</b>
1975-76	71-35, UA	Physical Education Building
1976-77	54-43, SC	Physical Education Building
1977-78	80-55, UA	Alumni Recreation Center
1978-79	71-46, SC	Physical Education Building
1979-80	75-42, SC	Alumni Recreation Center
1980-81	99-45, SC	Physical Education Building
2001-02	76-49, SC	Pepsi Arena
2002-03	74-56, SC	Pepsi Arena
2003-04	63-46, SC	Pepsi Arena



# University at Albany

## Athletic Media Relations Fax Cover Sheet

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**Date:** 8-11-04 (Wednesday)  
**Pages w/cover:** 1

**Comments:** College Football

### **UALBANY NAMES FOOTBALL CAPTAINS FOR 2004 SEASON**

Albany, N.Y. – University at Albany head football coach Bob Ford announced today that **Geir Gudmundsen, Brandon Shaw, Kurt Campbell** and **Lucas Kurtz** have been voted team captains for the 2004 season. The Great Danes, who shared their second consecutive Northeast Conference championship last year, open their schedule on Thursday, Sept. 2 at Hofstra. Kickoff is 7:00 p.m. ET. The contest will be televised on Fox Sports New York.

Gudmundsen, a 6-foot-6, 315-pound left tackle, has made 33 consecutive starts on UAlbany's offensive line. He was named to three postseason Division I-AA All-America teams in 2003. Gudmundsen, a two-time All-NEC first-team selection, blocked for an offense that ranked fourth nationally in rushing at 292.3 yards per game.

Shaw, a 6-foot, 295-pound center, anchored an offensive line that established the NEC and school single-season rushing record with 3,215 yards last year. Shaw, who like Gudmundsen was named to the preseason Sports Network Mid-Major All-America squad, has twice been chosen to the all-conference team.

Kurtz, a senior free safety, tied for third on the team in tackles with 55, including 27 unassisted hits, last season. He led the squad in pass break-ups (15) and blocked kicks (3). Kurtz (6-3, 210) totaled a career-high 10 tackles against both Brown and Sacred Heart.

Campbell, a senior roverbak, leads a defensive unit which was 11th among the NCAA Division I-AA leaders in scoring defense at 16.8 points per game. He suffered through an injury-plagued junior campaign, but when healthy is an all-conference performer. Campbell (6-1, 225) has 86 tackles and 16 pass break-ups during his three-year career.



# University at Albany

## Athletic Media Relations Fax Cover Sheet

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**Date:** 8-4-04 (Wednesday)  
**Pages w/cover:** 2  
**Comments:** UAlbany Football

### **UALBANY FOOTBALL BEGINS 2004 PRESEASON PRACTICE ON MONDAY, AUGUST 9**

Albany, N.Y. -- Football preseason practice begins at the University at Albany on Monday, August 9. The Great Danes, who shared their second consecutive Northeast Conference championship last year, will hold one practice on opening day from 2:00-4:30 p.m. on the campus' Dutch Quad intramural fields. All players, including freshmen and transfers, report to camp on Sunday, Aug. 8. UAlbany travels to Hofstra for the season opener on Thursday, Sept. 2. Kickoff is 7:00 p.m. ET.

### **2004 SEASON PREVIEW**

Albany head coach Bob Ford's sixth season at the Division I-AA level might be the most challenging for his program. Ford must replace 11 starters -- six on offense and five on defense -- from a 7-4 squad that shared its second consecutive Northeast Conference championship.

The list of graduates includes the school's all-time rusher and two-time NEC offensive player of the year Gary Jones, All-America offensive tackle Mike Laroche, All-NEC defensive tackle David Parks, linebacker Victor Camacho, the team's leading tackler, and kicker/punter Stan Zylinski.

"We lost some quality people to graduation, and that group of seniors will always hold a special place in my heart," states Ford, who has a 201-141-1 career record in 35 seasons at the collegiate level. "But I still believe we will compete for the conference championship. My job is to get the right people on the bus."

The Great Danes, who return 37 lettermen, play an ambitious schedule with two of the better Patriot League teams in Lehigh and Fordham, Brown of the Ivy League, and Atlantic 10 Conference opponent Hofstra on the non-league slate.

**OFFENSE:** Albany's multiple, option scheme must replace its entire offensive backfield, including an Associated Press All-America tailback. Fortunately, the Great Danes have a pair of All-NEC linemen returning.

Left tackle **Geir Gudmundsen** (6-6, 315), who has made 33 consecutive starts, was named to three All-America teams. Gudmundsen, a two-time All-NEC first-team selection, continues the program's fine tradition of quality offensive tackles. **Brandon Shaw** (6-0, 295) is a valued performer with his ability to play at center and left guard. Both players were instrumental in helping the offense rank fourth nationally in rushing at 292.3 yards per game.

**Aaron Kimball** (6-3, 310, Fonda-Fultonville) appears to have a firm grasp on the starting left guard position. The right side on the line is more up for grabs with **Tom DePalma** (6-0, 280, Christian Brothers Academy) and **Jacob Anderson** (6-6, 285) on top of the depth chart following spring drills. **Tom Burkart** (6-4, 230) looks like the man to beat at tight end. **Eddie Unverzagt** (6-1, 235) has switched to the position after two seasons as a fullback.

**MORE**



## UALBANY FOOTBALL 2-2-2

**Uli Delgado** (Gloversville) and **Nicholas Bazan** battled for the starting quarterback job throughout the spring. "Uli is a bit of a riverboat gambler, but he's become a student of the game," Ford says. "Nick also had a good spring, but needs to take control of that huddle. Our quarterback situation should allow us to be better in the passing game and at the same time spread the ball around." Delgado, who started five games, passed for 284 yards and ran for 95 more. Bazan missed all but one game last year with a broken collarbone.

**Rohann Vidal** is the likely starter at tailback. Vidal, a three-year letterman, rushed for 370 yards and five touchdowns as a junior. "He's a blue-collar worker," Ford offers. "I can count on one hand the mental mistakes he has made." **David Fantell** and **Dustin Wilson** will also compete for playing time. The fullback spot will be decided between a pair of redshirt freshmen in **Wayne Carrabus** and **Dan Beigel**.

Split end **Jason Miller** led the Great Danes with 15 receptions for 321 yards and two touchdowns, and became a solid blocker in the run game. "He's better than given credit for," Ford says. "He runs great routes and has good hands." Young receivers like **Ronnie DeAraujo** (6-2, 200), **Gabe Gallucci** (6-2, 185), **Topher Davey** (6-0, 190, Amsterdam) and **Mike Wall** (5-8, 170) represent an up-and-coming group that possess both size and leaping ability.

**DEFENSE:** The Great Danes' defense probably turned in its best season as a Division I-AA unit in 2003, and were among the national leaders in scoring and rushing yards allowed.

UAlbany can employ an excellent corps of linebackers. "We should be as good as last year," Ford offers. "There will be more emphasis placed on our linebackers in an effort to take advantage of their strengths. We have kids with size who can run."

**Brian Becker** (5-11, 225, Saratoga Springs), the team's most improved player, emerged as a top-notch performer. He was second on the team in tackles with 63, plus added two sacks and two interceptions. "Pound-for-pound he may be the strongest player on the team," Ford states. "He has blossomed into the cornerstone of our defense." **Will Boone** (6-0, 205) had 40 tackles despite missing three games with an injury. Redshirt freshman **Colin Disch** (6-1, 203) has moved to the inside.

A healthy **Kurt Campbell** (6-1, 225) gives the defense an all-conference type roverbak. Campbell, plagued by injuries as a collegian, has combined for 86 tackles and 16 pass break-ups during his career. "Kurt was molded for his position," Ford explains. "He has size, strength and speed. **Tom Cuozzo** (31 tackles) filled in admirably for Campbell last year and will move to outside linebacker. **Chris Stellato** (31 tackles) can also play both positions. **Trevor DuPont**, a redshirt freshman, has moved up the depth chart.

Three starters have graduated on the defensive line, but tackles **Matt Kryzak** (6-0, 295, Albany Academy) and **Justin Sands** (6-1, 285) have played many downs in the trenches. Kryzak made 22 tackles and 3.0 sacks last year, while Sands had 25 tackles, including eight for losses. **Jermaine Lee** (30 tackles, 3.5 sacks) has tremendous ability.

**Andre Coleman** (14 tackles, 3.0 sacks, could become a dominating player at defensive end, but needs to become a more consistent force. Redshirt freshman **Kelsey Jenks** showed quickness and strength at the end spot during the spring.

The team's deepest positions may be in the secondary. Starting cornerbacks **Kamar Elliott** (27 tackles) and **Ryan Chrobak** both return. Chrobak, a former receiver, was fifth on the squad in tackles (47) and added eight pass break-ups. **Lucas Kurtz** (55 tackles, 15 PBUs) has the size, at 6-foot-3 and 210 pounds, to be an imposing free safety. **Olubunmi Awofeso** (12 tackles, 3 PBUs) has played both cornerback and safety during his career.

**KICKING GAME:** All of the kicking and punting last year fell into Zylinski's hands. Freshmen **Chris Lynch** and **Kevin Wilary** (Amsterdam) will get an opportunity to have an impact in their first collegiate seasons. Lynch scored 81 points (10 FGs & 51 PATs) as a scholastic senior.