

# DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS & RECREATION

Contact: Brian DePasquale (518) 442-3072

## For Immediate Release Friday, June 28, 2002

## UALBANY FOOTBALL RECEIVES COMMITMENTS FROM 27 STUDENT-ATHLETES

ALBANY, N.Y. – University at Albany head football coach Bob Ford announced today that 27 student-athletes have committed to attend the University at Albany and play football in the fall of 2002. The Great Danes, who compete in the Northeast Conference, will begin their 30th season on Sept. 7 at defending Division I-AA national champion Montana.

"We improved ourselves on defense with a quality group of linemen and linebackers," said Ford, who has 186 career victories as a college head coach. "I also think there are players here who can help us on special teams, especially on kick and punt return. Shawn Miller should step right in at receiver, where we were hurt severely by graduation."

The 2002 class features 24 high school stars, one prep school athlete, one junior college transfer and one transfer from another college. The group is comprised of 24 players from the state of New York, plus one each from Florida, Maine and New Jersey. The breakdown by position includes six wide receivers, four offensive linemen, two runnings backs, one quarterback, six linebackers, six defensive linemen and two defensive backs.

The Great Danes landed one junior college All-American and seven all-state players. Shawn Miller, a first-team All-America receiver at Hudson Valley Community College, caught 41 passes for 611 yards and nine touchdowns. He was a second-team all-state choice at Troy (N.Y.) High School. Defensive lineman Sean Thomas (Newburgh Free Academy) and running back Chad Rissland (William Floyd) were voted to the Class AA all-state first team. Thomas made 77 tackles as a senior, while Rissland rushed for 1,855 yards and a school-record 26 touchdowns.

Schenectady's **Jacob Hobbs**, a consensus all-area defensive lineman in the Capital Region, and defensive back **Gregg Damon** (North Rockland) were on the all-state squad as second- and third-team selections, respectively. Hobbs totaled 41 tackles and five sacks. Free safety **Eric Neugebauer** (Sayville) and linebacker **Chris Martocchia** (Wantagh) earned all-state recognition at the Class A level. Neugebauer (117 tackles, 6 sacks) and Martocchia (105 tackles, 3 interceptions) were active defenders.

UAlbany also picked up the state of Florida's No. 2 rusher in **David Fantell**, who ran for 1,423 yards and 20 touchdowns. A second-team all-state selection, Fantell was also fourth among Florida's scoring leaders with 122 points. Colgate University transfer **Uli Delgado**, a second-team all-state quarterback from Gloversville, N.Y., will be eligible to play in 2003. Delgado rushed for 973 yards and 16 TDs as senior en route to Section II Offensive Player of the Year honors. Local high school players **John Neuberger** (Scotia-Glenville), **Frank Simmons** (LaSalle Institute), **Andres Vives** (Shenendehowa) and **Brian Becker** (Saratoga Springs) are also among the newcomers.

MORE





# 2002 University at Albany Football Newcomers

Name	Pos.	<u>Cl.</u>	Ht.	Wt.	High School/Hometown
Jacob Anderson	OT	Fr.	6-6	280	West Seneca West/West Seneca, N.Y.
Marc Angelillo	ROV	Fr.	5-10	180	Skaneateles/Skaneateles, N.Y.
Brian Becker	LB	Fr.	5-11	210	Saratoga Springs/Saratoga, N.Y.
Ryan Chrobak	FL	Fr.	5-11	165	Clinton Central/Clinton, N.Y.
Andre Coleman	DT	Fr.	6-4	270	Burgard/Buffalo, N.Y.
Gregg Damon	ROV	Fr.	6-1	190	North Rockland/Stony Point, N.Y.
^Uli Delgado	QB	So.	6-1	195	Gloversville/Gloversville, N.Y.
Paul DeSantis	SE	Fr.	6-2	175	Kenmore East/Tonawanda, N.Y.
David Fantell	TB	Fr.	6-0	190	Coral Springs Christian Academy/Coral Springs, Fla.
Jacob Hobbs	DT	Fr.	6-4	310	Schenectady/Schenectady, N.Y.
Ryan Howard	FS	Fr.	6-2	190	Sachem/Holbrook, N.Y.
Joel Howarth	SE	Fr.	5-11	185	Mainland Regional/Somers Point, N.J.
Jermaine Lee	DE	Fr.	6-1	225	Kellenberg Memorial/Rockville Centre, N.Y.
Chris Martocchia	LB	Fr.	6-2	225	Wantagh/Wantagh, N.Y.
Mike McCaffrey	OT	Fr.	6-3	240	St. Peter's Boys/Staten Island, N.Y.
Mike Meritet	DE	Fr.	6-2	212	Harborfields/Greenlawn, N.Y.
#Shawn Miller	FL	Jr.	6-1	185	Troy/Troy, N.Y.
John Neuberger	LB	Fr.	6-0	208	Scotia-Glenville/Scotia, N.Y.
Eric Neugebauer	FS	Fr.	6-1	180	Sayville/Sayville, N.Y.
Chad Rissland	TB	Fr.	5-11	175	William Floyd/Mastic, N.Y.
Pat Shairs	OLB	Fr.	6-0	196	Bridgton Academy/Springvale, Maine
James Siederman	OT	Fr.	6-5	280	Division Avenue/Levittown, N.Y.
Frank Simmons	C	Fr.	6-2	310	LaSalle Institute/Cohoes, N.Y.
Sean Thomas	DE	Fr.	6-3	250	Newburgh Free Academy/Newburgh, N.Y.
Kevin Tolan	SE	Fr.	6-2	185	Valley Stream South/Valley Stream, N.Y.
Andres Vives	FL	Fr.	5-8	170	Shenendehowa/Clifton Park, N.Y.
Lamar Williams	DT	Fr.	6-4	266	Mamaroneck/New Rochelle, N.Y.

#Hudson Valley Community College transfer ^Colgate University transfer (eligible in 2003)



# DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS & RECREATION

For Immediate Release Thursday, June 27, 2002 Contact: Brian DePasquale

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### UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY NAMES CHRISSY SHORT HEAD WOMEN'S TENNIS COACH

ALBANY, N.Y. – University at Albany Director of Athletics and Recreation Dr. Lee McElroy announced today the hiring of Chrissy Short as head women's tennis coach. Short, who becomes the eighth head coach in the tennis program's history, was previously an assistant coach at The Ohio State University from 1997-2001.

Short, 27, helped establish a nationally-ranked program at Ohio State. During her four seasons as a member of Chuck Merzbacher's staff, the Buckeyes made three NCAA Tournament appearances and were ranked 23rd in the nation in 2000. OSU improved to a third-place finish in the Big Ten Conference standings in her final two years. Her duties included recruiting, coaching individual and group tennis skills, practice planning, fund raising and coordinating travel. In addition, she was assistant director for the Ohio State University Tennis Camp for three years.

Short was a four-year starter and senior co-captain on the Ohio State tennis team. She competed primarily at the No. 2 singles and No. 1 doubles positions and received the program's most improved award. She earned an undergraduate degree in business administration and marketing in 1997.

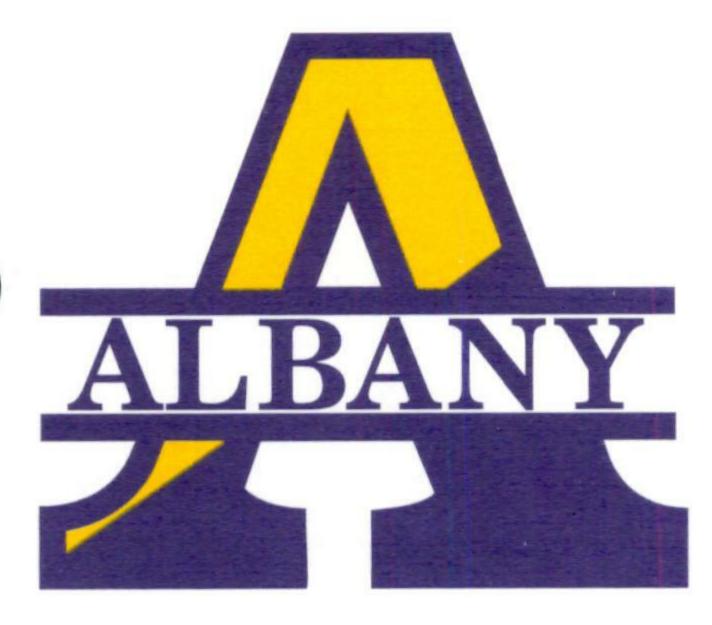
A native of Upper Arlington, Ohio, Short was the Class AAA state runner-up at first singles as a high school senior. She received the 1991 Central Ohio Player of the Year Award. Short competed for eight years on the national junior tennis circuit and achieved a singles ranking as high as No. 80 in her classificiation.

Short spent the last year as a part-time tennis instructor at Capital Region Tennis & Fitness while working for Sargent & Blais Personnel Services. The former Chrissy Splawnyk is married to UAlbany women's lacrosse coach Dennis Short.

UAlbany, a NCAA Division I women's tennis program since 1999, recently completed its first year as a member of the America East Conference.







# DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS & RECREATION

For Immediate Release Wednesday, June 26, 2002

Contact: Brian DePasquale

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### **UALBANY ATHLETES NAMED TO AMERICA EAST ACADEMIC HONOR ROLL**

Boston, Mass. -- America East Conference Commissioner Chris Monasch announced today that 87 studentathletes from the University at Albany have been named to the 2002 America East Winter/Spring Academic Honor Roll for earning grade-point averages of 3.0 or higher. UAlbany also had 27 of those student-athletes selected to the Commissioner's Honor Roll for attaining a 3.5 GPA or better during the spring semester.

"It is is important that we acknowledge academic success as well as accomplishments achieved on the playing field," UAlbany Director of Athletics Lee McElroy said. "We had fifty athletes honored in the fall, so we are very pleased that our students are excelling in the classroom."

**Emil Bove**, a junior midfielder, leads a group of 14 men's lacrosse players honored by America East. Bove has a 4.00 GPA in a dual major of public policy and economics, and was recently voted to the Verizon At-Large Academic All-America national second team. Women's track and field placed 16 athletes on the conference's academic honor roll. **Jessica Walton** (Fonda-Fultonville), **Nicole Susser** (Colonie Central) and **Sarah Best** (Granville Central) were the local athletes in that group.

Women's basketball had 10 players on the honor roll, including second-leading scorer **Becky Ayers**. **Eddie Scott**, a national third-team Verizon Academic All-America, leads a group of nine baseball athletes named. Freshman outfielder **Tony Vallone** (Greenwich Central) was also chosen. Women's lacrosse and men's track and field each had nine student-athletes chosen. Leading the lacrosse selections are **Allison Beagle** (Saratoga Springs) and **Erin Pemrick** (Saratoga Springs). Tracksters honored include **Paul Roche** (Niskayuna), **Joe Pienta** (Ichabod Crane) and **Sam Gonzalez** (Fonda-Fultonville). Women's tennis (8), softball (7) and men's basketball (4) also had players selected.

In all, 925 student-athletes from the sports of men's and women's basketball, men's and women's track and field, men's and women's lacrosse, men's and women's tennis, baseball, softball, men's and women's swimming and men's golf were honored by the conference. Member institutions include UAlbany, Binghamton University, Boston University, University of Hartford, University of New Hampshire, University of Maine, Northeastern University, Stony Brook University and University of Vermont. Quinnipiac University is an associate member in men's lacrosse.

# 2002 America East Conference Winter/Spring Academic Honor Roll

Baseball

Adam Castoldi (Sr., 3.38), Roman Dubiel (Fr., 3.93), Steve Emmerthal (So., 3.34), Craig Farley (Fr., 3.25), Chase Muratore (Fr., 3.00), David Paterniani (Fr., 3.74), Marty Pincar (So., 3.12), Ryan Sullivan (So., 3.00), Tony Vallone (Fr., 3.10).

MORE





#### Men's Basketball

Brian Barnes (Jr., 3.34), Karim Ouattara (Sr., 3.33), Janis Pipikis (So., 3.70), Joe Vukovic (Sr., 3.30).

#### Women's Basketball

Becky Ayers (Fr., 3.32), Shauna Brew (Fr., 3.31), Cara Caffell (Sr., 3.67), Marie Connors (Sr., 3.09), Chris Gray (Jr., 3.46), Kathryn Hemlock (So., 3.61), Nicole Johnson (So., 3.18), Alicia Learn (Fr., 3.00), Jess McGinlay (Jr., 3.60), Sarah Sweetland (So., 3.33).

#### Men's Lacrosse

Alan Beach (Jr., 3.00), Emil Bove (Jr., 4.00), Bob Bruno (Fr., 3.40), Randy Donaldson (So., 3.00), Aaron Eleby (Sr., 3.58), John Eleby (Fr., 3.06), Bobby Gabriel (Jr., 3.45), Peter Giattino (So., 3.50), Chris Kivlen (Fr., 3.00), Ryan Lacava (Fr., 3.60), Sal Massa (Sr., 3.35), Kevin Rae (Fr., 3.12), Jon Smith (Jr., 3.08), Luke Smith (Jr., 3.22).

#### Women's Lacrosse

Liz Adamo (Sr., 3.20), Rita Azrelyant (So., 3.40), Allison Beagle (Sr., 3.08), Francine Beltempo (Fr., 3.18), Erin Finnigan (Sr., 3.32), Ashley Heilmann (Fr., 3.67), Theresa Masse (Jr., 3.93), Erin Pemrick (Jr., 3.40), Michelle Talviste (Sr., 3.23).

### Softball

Brittany Burnham (Fr., 3.40), Danielle Buyea (Fr., 3.54), Stacy Gitlin (Jr., 3.35), Debbie Hodge (Sr., 3.00), Jess Kostenblatt (So., 3.31), Stacy Kowal (Jr., 3.33), Liz Wieboldt (So., 3.70).

#### Women's Tennis

Krista Babiarz (Fr., 3.66), Alex Berley (So., 3.25), Marisa Berley (Fr., 3.35), Lisa Fund (Fr., 3.70), Kristen Harris (So., 3.40), Reeba Miller (Fr., 3.88), Erin Morrison (Jr., 3.45), Violeta Petijevic (Jr., 3.66).

#### Men's Track & Field

Andy Allstadt (Fr., 3.71), Teiko Aryee (So., 3.25), Ike Cherry (Jr., 3.43), Sam Gonzalez (Fr., 3.26), Jason Groark (Jr., 3.00), Joe Pienta (So., 4.00), Paul Roche (Jr., 3.48), Wagner Samaniego (Fr., 3.25), Rich Villanueva (Fr., 3.08).

#### Women's Track & Field

Sarah Best (Jr., 3.70), Maureen Brown (Fr., 3.31), Tequirra Cox (Fr., 3.08), Dinnah Decatus (Jr., 3.40), Erin Goddard (Jr., 3.08), Rebecca Habernig (Fr., 3.63), April Hanley (Fr., 3.89), Raphaelle Jean (Jr., 3.60), Theresa Juva (Fr., 3.94), Diane Matthews (So., 3.43), Kristen O'Brien (Fr., 3.61), Sarah Scoville (So., 3.42), Nicole Susser (Fr., 3.00), Cherice' Vanderhall (Jr., 3.40), Rebecca Vannoy (Fr., 3.03), Jessica Walton (So., 3.85).

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Comments: COLLEGE SPORTS

## **UALBANY WOMEN'S SOCCER ANNOUNCES 2002 RECRUITING CLASS**

Albany, N.Y. – University at Albany women's soccer coach Joanna Tomasino announced today that six student-athletes have committed to play for the Great Danes in the 2002-03 academic year. Albany begins its second season in the America East Conference this fall.

"I am anxious to begin working with this group of incoming student-athletes," said Tomasino, who enters her third season. "Each player has the potential to contribute to our program's growth. These newcomers bring with them a solid background of success in their club and high school programs. This winning mentality, combined with our solid core of veterans will exude the personality, leadership, and work ethic needed to bring our program to the next level. I am confident that Albany Women's Soccer is on the brink of solidifying a strong foundation en route to building a successful Division I program.""

**Christie Cremo**, a 5-7 midfielder from Mechanicsburg, Pa., totaled 34 goals and 22 assists during her career at Mechanicsburg Area High School and led the Wildcats to a 15-8-1 record this season. She was a first-team All-Mid Penn Conference all-star and *Carlisle Sentinel* second-team selection. A four-year participant at the Keystone State Games, Cremo also was also a member of two indoor Pennsylvania State Cup championship teams at the club level.

**Katie Lawler**, a 5-9 defender from Middletown, N.Y., guided Pine Bush to three straight OCIAA Division I titles and three Section 9 Class A semifinal appearances. A five-year varsity starter, Lawler is a two-time first-team All-Times Herald Record choice. She earned sixth-team All-New York State honors as a junior.

Katie Petrarca, a 5-5 defender from Liverpool, N.Y. (Liverpool H.S.), has been an integral member of a program which posted a 58-6-1 record over the last three seasons. The Warriors totaled three Section III Class A championships in that stretch, including a pair of state quarterfinal runs. During her sophomore season, Liverpool won the regional championship and lost in overtime of the state semifinals to eventual state champion, North Rockland. Petrarca was named an Onondaga High School League (OHSL) Class A-1 second-team all-star this season, while securing all-Central New York second-team honors as a junior.

### **ALBANY SPORTS 2-2-2-2**

**Kristen Winneberger** is a 5-4 forward who attended Absegami High. She finished as the program's career leader in goals (67) and assists (29) and established single-season milestones with 26 goals and 12 assists during her junior year. The Braves won the 2000 Cape Atlantic League Division I championship with an 18-3-1 mark. A native of Galloway, N.J., Winneberger is a three-time *Atlantic City Press* first-team selection as well as a two-time All-CAL first-team award winner. She was chosen as the 2000 *Atlantic City Press* Soccer Athlete of the Year.

**Erin Fitzmartin**, a 5-8 midfielder, comes to UAlbany from John Jay-Cross River High School where she registered 11 goals and 16 assists in leading the Indians to a 15-4 overall record. A four-year letterwinner, Fitzmartin tallied All-Section I Class B honors and helped her squad win a sectional championship as a junior.

**Marisa Glaser**, out of Elwood-John H. Glenn High School, is the lone goalkeeper in the 2002 recruiting class. She totals 25 shutouts and 527 saves as a four-year starter for the Knights. A native of Huntington, N.Y., Glaser only allowed seven goals in 13 matches in her senior campaign and was cited as an All-Suffolk County Class B & C all-star.

The Great Danes, who return 14 letterwinners and ten starters, open their 2002 season on Friday, August 30 against Wagner at Varsity Field.

## 2002 University at Albany Women's Soccer Commitments

Name	Pos.	Ht.	High School/Hometown
Christie Cremo	MF/BK	5-7	Mechanicsburg Area/Mechanicsburg, Pa.
Erin Fitzmartin	MF	5-8	John Jay-Cross River/South Salem, N.Y.
Marisa Glaser	GK	5-6	Elwood-John H. Glenn/Huntington, N.Y.
Katie Lawler	BK	5-9	Pine Bush/Middletown, N.Y.
Katie Petrarca	BK	5-5	Liverpool/Liverpool, N.Y.
Kristen Winneberger	FD/MF	5-4	Absegami/Galloway, N.J.

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Comments:

College Sports

### **UALBANY CROSS COUNTRY RECEIVES THREE COMMITMENTS FOR 2002 SEASON**

Albany, N.Y.—University at Albany head coach Craig McVey announced today that three studentathletes have committed to the Great Danes' cross country/track & field program for the 2002-03 academic year. UAlbany is a member of the America East Conference.

**Robbie Freeman** of New Hyde Park, N.Y. (Great Neck South H.S.) was a third-team all-state cross country selection after finishing in the top-20 at the State Federation meet in 2001. He posts times among the New York State top-10 in the 1,500-, 1,600- and 3,000-meter runs. Freeman, who went 8:36.17 in the 3,000-meter run to finish eighth at Penn Relays, is ranked 21st nationally in that event by Dyestat.com. The Long Island Track & Field Coaches Association selected Freeman as the 2002 Long Island Male Track Athlete of the Year.

**Laura Subik** (Gloversville, N.Y.) was the top finisher for Fonda-Fultonville and placed 44th overall at the 2001 New York State Class C Cross Country Championships. She was the 2002 Section II, Class CC outdoor champion in the 2,000-meter steeplechase, and finished third in the 3,000-meter run at the sectional meet. Subik also ran on Fonda-Fultonville's Class CC champion 4x800-meter relay team and captured the 2001-02 Independent Small School indoor 1,000-meter championship.

**Gwendolyn Uhler** (Cadyville, N.Y.) finished 30th overall and guided Saranac Central to a ninth-place showing in the team competition at the 2001 New York State Class B Cross Country Championships. She was 11th among all seniors in the Class B race. Uhler was a Class B honorable mention All-New York State cross country selection.

### 2002-03 University at Albany Cross Country/Track & Field Commitments

Name High School/Hometown

Robbie Freeman

Great Neck South/New Hyde Park, N.Y.

Laura Subik

Fonda-Fultonville/Gloversville, N.Y.

Gwendolyn Uhler

Saranac Central/Cadyville, N.Y.

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Comments:

College Sports

#### **ELEVEN STUDENT-ATHLETES COMMIT TO UALBANY TRACK & FIELD**

Albany, N.Y.—University at Albany head coach Roberto Vives announced today that eleven studentathletes have committed to the Great Danes' track & field program for the 2002-03 academic year.

Albany's recruiting class features six student-athletes from the Capital Region, including two from Guilderland Central High School. **Gered Burns** (Guilderland Central/Guilderland Center, N.Y.) captured the 800-meter dash federation title at the 2002 NYS Outdoor Championships, winning in a time of 1:54.0. He also won the public school race at the meet. During the 2001-02 indoor season, Burns captured the second of his consecutive state indoor championships in the 600-meter run. He finished second at the 2001 NYS Outdoor Championships in the 800-meter run. Burns was the 2002 Section II, Class A champion in that event, and posts the section's top time at 1:53.6.

**Nelson English** (Guilderland Central/Altamont, N.Y.) was the runner-up in the 300-meter dash at the 2000-01 NYS Indoor Championships and finished third at this year's state indoor meet. He has the state's third-best outdoor 200-meter dash time this spring at 21.54, and ranks in the top-10 among the 400-meter leaders at 49.34 seconds. Both are the top outdoor times in Section II this season.

Scotia-Glenville's **Anthony Robibero** (Cohoes, N.Y.) earned a New York State Class B championship in the 110-meter high hurdles on June 7, and finished third in the Federation for the same event. Robibero is also the Section II, Class BB titleholder in the 110- and 400-meter hurdles. He helped the Tartans to the men's team title at the Section II meet with a second-place finish in the triple jump. Robibero secured Class BB's top time in the 110-hurdles at the 2002 outdoor state qualifier, and has a personal-best time of 14.2 seconds in the event.

**Jillian Sherman** of Holy Names (Albany, N.Y.) was the Section II, Class B outdoor champion in the 100- and 200-meter dashes and the long jump in 2001. She also ran on the school's sectional-champion 4x100-meter relay team. Sherman has a personal-best long jump of 17-feet, 11-inches.

**Nicole Pafundi** (Granville Central/Granville, N.Y.) was a top-10 finisher in both the 100- and 200-meter dashes at the 2002 state outdoor championships. She registered the top time in both events among Class C runners at the Section II state qualifying meet, and was the sectional Class CC champion in the 100 and 200.

Shenendehowa's **Andres Vives** (Clifton Park, N.Y.) was third in the 110-hurdles at the Class A sectional championships, and placed in the top-15 in the triple jump as the Plainsmen captured the team title. He was second among Class A competitors in the 110-meter hurdles at the 2002 outdoor state qualifying meet, and has a personal-best distance of 21-feet, 4 1/2-inches in the long jump. Vives, son of UAlbany head coach Roberto Vives, also plans to play football as a wide receiver for the Great Danes. **MORE** 

#### **ALBANY SPORTS 2-2-2-2**

Peru's **Chris Henderson** (Peru, N.Y.) took the Class B 200- and 400-meter dash titles at the 2002 NYSPHSAA Outdoor Championships. He won the 400-dash with a Section VII-record time of 48.79 seconds and went 22.24 in the 200. Henderson also earned state titles in the 1,600 relay as both a freshman and as a junior.

Alexis Bowens (Pike/Indianapolis, Ind.) plans to compete for both the Great Danes' track & field and volleyball programs. Bowens established a personal best of 46-feet, 1-inch in winning the 2002 Indiana state shot put title. By comparison, the America East champion threw 43' 10 3/4" in 2002. Bowens has a personal-best of 143-feet, 2-inches in the discus throw, and she was a 2001 Indiana All-State selection in both events.

**Tracy Estriplet** (Suffern/Suffern, N.Y.) was the 2001 NYS Class A outdoor 400-meter dash Champion and helped the Section I 4x200-meter relay team to the 2001-02 indoor state title. She finished third in the 200-meter dash and guided the 4x100-meter relay team to the title at this year's Section I outdoor championships. Estriplet owns the third-best time among the sectional leaders in both the 200- and 400-meter dashes this spring.

Waverly's **Patty Diedrich** (Waverly H.S.) was third at the 2001 NYS Outdoor Championships in the 100-meter hurdles with a time of 14.90 seconds. She finished seventh at the 2002 outdoor state meet, and was second among the Class B racers in both the 100-dash and 100-hurdles. Diedrich, who has personal-bests of 14.2 in the 100-hurdles and 5-feet, 2-inches in the high jump, was also an All-IAC Division I first-team selection in basketball at Waverly.

Heather Angel (Central Dauphin/Harrisburg, Pa.) finished 14th in the 300-meter intermediate hurdles at the 2001 Pennsylvania Class AAA Indoor Track & Field Championships with a time of 46.32.

### 2002-03 University at Albany Women's Track & Field Commitments

Name	Events	High School/Hometown
Heather Angel	400m hurdles, 400m	Central Dauphin/Harrisburg, Pa.
Alexis Bowens	shot put, discus throw	Pike/Indianapolis, Ind.
Patty Diedrich	100m hurdles, high jump	Waverly/Waverly, N.Y.
Tracy Estriplet	100m, 200m, 400m	Suffern/Spring Valley, N.Y.
Nicole Pafundi	100m, 200m	Granville Central/Granville, N.Y.
Jillian Sherman	long jump, 100m, 200m	Holy Names/Albany, N.Y.

#### 2002-03 University at Albany Men's Track & Field Commitments

Name	Events	High School/Hometown
Gered Burns	600m, 800m	GuilderlandCentral/Guilderland Center, N.Y.
Nelson English	100m, 200m, 400m	Guilderland Central/Altamont, N.Y.
Chris Henderson	200m, 400m	Peru/Peru, N.Y.
Anthony Robibero	110m hurdles, triple jump	Scotia-Glenville/Cohoes, N.Y.
Andres Vives	110m hurdles, long jump	Shenendehowa/Clifton Park, N.Y.



# DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS & RECREATION

For Immediate Release Monday, June 17, 2002 Contact: Josh White (518) 442-5733

### UALBANY NAMES VAL KLOPFER ASSISTANT WOMEN'S BASKETBALL COACH

ALBANY, N.Y. – University at Albany head women's basketball coach Trina Thomas Patterson announced today the hiring of **Val Klopfer** as assistant coach. Klopfer recently completed her collegiate playing career at Wake Forest as a four-year letterwinner.

Klopfer, a native of Albany, N.Y., finished her career among Wake Forest's all-time leaders in three-point shooting. She ranks seventh in career three-pointers made (68) and eighth in three-point attempts (221). Klopfer, who started 53 games and played in 109 contests, also places fourth among the school's record-holders in assist-to-turnover ratio (1.17). She totaled 288 points, 148 assists and 51 steals during her tenure in Winston-Salem, N.C.

Elected captain during her junior season, Klopfer also scored a career-high 18 points against Georgia Tech in her freshman campaign. The Demon Deacons posted a 12-16 overall record in 2001-02, including a 5-11 Atlantic Coast Conference mark. It was the highest number of total wins in five seasons and best ACC regular-season record since 1996.

"We are very pleased to add Val to our staff," said Patterson. "She has played college basketball at the highest level in the Atlantic Coast Conference and is one of the most decorated scholastic players to come out of the Albany area. Val brings experience as a floor general with tremendous intensity and work ethic. We feel she will play a major role in the development of our guards."

Klopfer, 22, played high school basketball at Bishop Maginn High School, where she led the Lady Griffins to a combined 84-9 record, four Big Ten Conference titles and the Class A state championship in 1996. She averaged 12 points and 5.5 assists per game as a senior. Klopfer was a *Street & Smith* honorable mention All-America selection and was cited by the *Blue Star Index* as one of the top 300 players nationally.

A Dean's List student and member of the ACC Honor Roll, Klopfer received a B.A. in elementary education with a minor in psychology from Wake Forest in May. She was presented the "Academic Award" at the women's basketball annual postseason banquet in April. Klopfer also earned the "Iron Deacon Award", which honors the player who has shown the most dedication in the weight room.





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**COLLEGE SPORTS** Comments:

### TWO UALBANY BASEBALL PLAYERS TO PLAY FOR SUNY ALL-STAR TEAM IN RUSSIA

Albany, N.Y. – University at Albany's **Tony Vallone** (Greenwich) and **Joe Lamb** have been selected to participate in an international baseball tournament in Moscow, Russia later this month as part of a State University of New York (SUNY) college all-star team.

Vallone and Lamb were two of 21 players chosen to represent the 64-campus SUNY system. The squad also consists of players from Binghamton University, University of Buffalo, Oneonta State, SUNY-Brockport and seven other colleges. Cortland State's Joe Brown will serve as the team's head coach. The group meets at SUNY-Farmingdale for practices on June 21-22 and flies to Moscow on June 23rd. The tournament, which features teams from Japan, Korea, Russia and other European nations, runs from June 24-July 1.

"This is a tremendous opportunity for two future cornerstones of the University at Albany baseball program," said Albany head coach Jon Mueller. "Tony and Joe are two young talents who will get an chance to experience a new culture and play against some of the best players around the world."

Vallone, a freshman right fielder, was named a 2002 Louisville Slugger Freshman All-America honorable mention selection, secured second-team All-America East Conference honors and a spot on the conference All-Rookie Team. He led the Great Danes with a .351 batting average, which placed fourth among the America East's top hitters. Vallone missed a 13-game stretch due to a dislocated left thumb early in the season, but recovered with 18 RBI in 27 contests after the return.

Lamb, a freshman shortstop, was one of four UAlbany players to play in all 50 games this season. The Deptford, N.J., native hit .284 with 27 runs, 25 RBI, four doubles and two home runs.

UAlbany completed its first season in the America East Conference with a 20-30 overall record and an 8-14 mark in league play.

### **ALBANY SPORTS 2-2-2-2**

UALBANY LAXERS FERRUCCI AND MASSE NAMED TO NATIONAL ACADEMIC SQUAD Albany, N.Y. -- University at Albany juniors Maria Ferrucci and Theresa Masse have been named to the Intercollegiate Women's Lacrosse Coaches Association's (IWLCA) Division I National Academic Squad.

Ferrucci, a midfielder, led her squad in scoring this season with 45 points (35 goals, 10 assists) and earned second-team All-America East honors. She is second on the school's all-time list with 124 goals, and sits third with 142 career points. A native of West Seneca, N.Y., Ferrucci has a cumulative grade point average of 3.33 in business administration with a minor in economics.

Masse, a second-team All-America East selection at midfielder, carries a 3.64 cumulative grade point average in psychology with a minor in education. She started 15 games in the midfield, while recording a career-best 13 points and America East Conference Championship all-tournament honors. The Liverpool, N.Y. native was second on the squad with 52 ground balls, and ranked among the national leaders at 3.25 per game.



# DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS & RECREATION

For Immediate Release Thursday, June 13, 2002 Contact: 518-442-3072 Josh White or Matt McCullough

# UALBANY NAMES RUTGER-JAN BEVERS ASSISTANT MEN'S SOCCER COACH, MICHELLE HINMAN ASSISTANT FIELD HOCKEY COACH AND SARAH HUGHES ASSISTANT WOMEN'S LACROSSE COACH

ALBANY, N.Y. – University at Albany Director of Athletics and Recreation Dr. Lee McElroy announced today the hiring of **Rutger-Jan Bevers** as assistant men's soccer coach, **Michelle Hinman** as assistant field hockey coach and **Sarah Hughes** as assistant women's lacrosse coach.

Bevers, 28, recently served as the director of soccer training for Euro Futbol United, a premier youth level club team in Vestal, N.Y. He was involved in the training and coaching of eight youth teams and handled organizational tasks such as scheduling, travel, budgeting and fundraising. Euro Futbol United has won consecutive under-18 boys regional indoor championships and in 2000 captured the first State Cup for the Binghamton District in 12 years. Bevers also held ownership of Soccer Xtra, an academy that specialized in small group training and clinics for youth, ages 12-17. In addition, he coached the girls' varsity soccer team at Norwich High School last fall and led the Cadets to their first winning season in school history with an 11-6 record. Bevers previously assisted with the Binghamton High School boys' soccer program.

A native of Warnsveld, The Netherlands, Bevers brings 20 years of playing experience at the top imateur level in Holland, while holding two coaching diplomas from the Royal Dutch Soccer Association. He carries seven years of coaching experience at the Dutch Premier Youth Level. Bevers received a bachelor's degree in leisure management from the Leisure Management School in Leeuwarden, The Netherlands, in 1997.

Hinman, 23, has served as assistant field hockey coach at Northwestern University for the past two years. She held responsibilities that included working with the goalkeepers, recruiting and opponent scouting. A goalkeeper at Ohio University from 1996-2000, Hinman was a first-team All-Mid-American Conference selection as a senior. She earned second-team NFHCA Regional All-America honors that season after leading the MAC with an .801 save percentage. Hinman posted four shutouts to lead the Bobcats to their best record since 1986 at 13-9 overall.

A native of Weedsport, N.Y., Hinman earned a B.S. in sports sciences with concentrations in sports industry and coaching in 2000. She has experience as a goalkeeping coach in various United States Field Hockey Association programs, participated in USFHA camps as a player, and attended U.S. National Team tryouts in 2001 and 2002.

Hughes, 22, will serve as the goalkeeper coach and defensive coordinator for the women's lacrosse team. A four-year starter in goal for Dartmouth College, Hughes earned third-team Brine/IWLCA National All-America honors in both 2000 and 2001. She guided the Big Green to three Ivy League titles and NCAA Tournament appearances from 1999-2001. Additionally, Hughes was a two-time first-team All-Ivy League selection.

A native of Broomall, Pa., Hughes has completed coursework toward a B.A. in sociology from Dartmouth. Hughes holds the Dartmouth record for career saves with 550 and established the single-game record with 22 against Maryland during her freshman campaign. She has been a member of the U.S. Women's Lacrosse Developmental Squad for the past two years and was assistant director of girls programming at MetroLacrosse, a non-profit organization that provides motivational lacrosse and education programs to youths from underprivileged neighborhoods in the Boston area.





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6-11-02 (Tuesday)

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Comments:

College Sports

## UALBANY'S EMIL BOVE ON VERIZON ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICA TEAM

Stamford, Conn.— University at Albany's **Emil Bove** has been named to the Verizon University Division Academic All-America Men's At-Large Team, as announced on Tuesday, June 11 in voting by CoSIDA (College Sports Information Directors of America). Bove, a second-team national selection, has a cumulative grade point average of 4.00 in a dual major of public policy and economics.

Bove, a junior co-captain on the UAlbany lacrosse squad, was a 16-game starter as a long-stick midfielder. A first-team Academic All-District I At-Large selection, he helped the Great Danes win the America East Conference regular-season title and reach the postseason tournament championship. Bove was third on the team in ground balls with 49, and Albany ranked 11th nationally in scoring defense at 8.06 goals per game.

A native of Seneca Falls, N.Y., Bove is a member of the school's Student-Athlete Advisory Committee and is currently serving an internship with the New York State Energy & Development Authority. Bove, a Presidential Scholar and Dean's List student, has worked with the Capital Region Big Brothers & Big Sisters Mentor Program.

Bove is the third UAlbany athlete to be voted to a Verizon national academic team at the University Division level. Football's J.T. Herfurth was a member of the national first team in 2000, while baseball's Eddie Scott was a third-team selection at the national level this year.

### VERIZON ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICA MEN'S AT-LARGE TEAM

### **University Division First Team**

Name (School)	Sport	Yr.	Hometown	GPA/Major
Pietro Broggini (Denver)	Skiing	Gr.	Gallarate, Italy	3.74/Business Admin.
Justin Dumais* (Texas)	Swimming	Sr.	Ventura, Calif.	4.00/Finance
David Evans (Clarkson)	Ice Hockey	Sr.	Sand Lake, N.Y.	3.86/Bio-Molecular Science
Bence Hamori (American)	Tennis	Sr.	Budapest, Hungary	3.81/Business Admin.
K.J. Hippensteel (Stanford)	Tennis	Sr.	Roanoke, Va.	3.57/Human Biology
Michael Jansen (Florida)	Swimming	Sr.	Wellington, Fla.	3.87/Microbio. & Cell Sci.
David Johnston (Oklahoma)	Gymnastics	Sr.	Dallas, Texas	3.82/Finance
Ola Jonsson (Charlotte)	Tennis	Sr.	Viken, Sweden	3.97/Business Mgmt.
Frantisek Krepelka (Oklahoma St.)	Tennis	Sr.	Kosice, Slovakia	4.00/Computer Sci./Math
Andrew Lux (James Madison)	Tennis	Sr.	Remscheid, Germany	4.00/Mktg. Info. Systems
Dejan Miladinovic (Hawaii)	Volleyball	Sr.	Kraljevo, Serbia	3.82/Business & Finance
David Moilanen (Washington)	Swimming	Sr.	Renton, Wash.	3.96/Physics & Chemistry
Brad Morris (Eastern Kentucky)	Golf	Sr.	Stanton, Ky.	4.00/Chemistry
Gustav Pousette (Kentucky)	Tennis	Sr.	Kolmarden, Sweden	4.00/Foreign Language/Int'l. Econ.
				& Business
Dan Swan (Purdue)	Tennis	Sr.	Okemos, Mich.	3.99/Management
Justin Toman (Michigan)	Gymnastics	Sr.	Wallingford, Conn.	3.83/Sports Management
Dan Witt (Ball St.)	Golf	Sr.	Noblesville, Ind.	4.00/Marketing

### **University Division Second Team**

David Adkins (Towson)	Swimming	Sr.	Poolesville, Md.	3.96/Political Science
Emil Bove (Albany)	Lacrosse	Jr.	Seneca Falls, N.Y.	4.00/Public Policy/Econ.
Wil Collins (New Mexico)	Golf	Sr.	Rapid City, S. Dak.	3.87/Travel & Tourism
P.J. Diconza (Johns Hopkins)	Lacrosse	Sr.	Manhasset, N.Y.	3.68/Sociology
Steve Dusseau (Georgetown)	Lacrosse	Sr.	Columbus, Ohio	3.60/Psychology
Mark Koontz (Virginia)	Lacrosse	Sr.	Upper Arlington, Ohio	3.48/Finance
Art Kulans (George Mason)	Volleyball	Jr.	Crystal Lake, Ill.	3.99/Finance
Marc Lindsay (Georgia)	Swimming	Sr.	Newark, Del.	3.74/English & Poli. Sci.
Vince Ng (Ohio St.)	Tennis	Jr.	Broadview Heights, Ohio	3.95/Biology
Clint Olson (Pepperdine)	Volleyball	Sr.	Madison, Wis.	3.95/Psychology
Scott Owen (Northern Illinois)	Wrestling	Sr.	Oarlsbad, N. Mex.	3.61/Biological Sciences
Andrew Park (USC)	Tennis	Sr.	San Marino, Calif.	3.74/Biological Sciences
Steve Ratay (Notre Dame)	Golf	Sr.	Arlington Heights, Ill.	3.82/Computer Science
Barry Shaw (Navy)	Water Polo	Sr.	Johannesburg, S. Africa	3.94/History
Costas Theocharidis (Hawaii)	Volleyball	Jr.	Orestiada, Greece	3.73/Business

### **University Division Third Team**

Michael Boylan (Connecticut)	Ice Hockey	Sr.	Doylestown, Pa.	3.90/Finance
Marcos Cabrera (Belmont)	Tennis	722	•	3.93/Finance
		Sr.	Montevideo, Uruguay	
Nick Ellis (Stanford)	Water Polo	Jr.	Santa Ana, Calif.	3.39/Symbolic Systems
Caesar Garcia (Auburn)	Swimming	So.	Baton Rouge, La.	3.95/Mechanical Engin.
Brian Gornick (Air Force)	Ice Hockey	Sr.	St. Paul, Minn.	3.92/Operations Research
Don Jackson (Iowa)	Gymnastics	Sr.	Littleton, Colo.	3.61/Finance
Matthew Jarvis (Providence)	Tennis	Sr.	Fairhaven, Mass.	3.99/Computer Science
Torgier Lein (Vermont)	Nordic Skiing	Gr.	Oslo, Norway	3.92/Computer Science
John Lockhart (Illinois)	Wrestling	Sr.	Mahomet, Ill.	3.51/Kinesiology
Harsh Mankad (Minnesota)	Tennis	Jr.	Mumbai, India	3.71/Economics
Mark McRae (Cornell)	Ice Hockey	Jr.	Toronto, Ontario	3.89/Pre-Med.
David Ruiz (Mississippi St.)	Tennis	Sr.	Colmar, France	3.96/Int'l. Business
D.J. Trahan (Clemson)	Golf	Jr.	Inman, S.C.	3.22/PRTM

<sup>\*</sup> Verizon Academic All-America® Team Member of the Year – University Division

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Comments: College Sports

## HERMAN BANKS WILL PLAY BASKETBALL FOR UALBANY IN 2002-03

Albany, N.Y. – University at Albany men's basketball coach Will Brown announced today that **Herman Banks** has signed an enrollment certificate to play for the Great Danes in 2002-03.

Banks, a 6-foot-9, 215-pound forward/center from Dallas, Texas (W.T. White H.S.), averaged 18 points, 11 rebounds and four blocked shots per game as a senior. He was named to the Class 4A, District 11 all-star team. Banks, a two-time team MVP and the school's all-time blocked shots leader, was listed in *Texas Basketball Magazine* as one of the top 20 frontcourt players in the state of Texas.

"Herman is an athlete who can run and jump and has great touch around the basket," Brown said. "He can help us defensively with his long, wiry frame and his ability to block shots. He has an opportunity to become a special player in the America East Conference."

UAlbany previously received national letters of intent from **Jared Knotts**, a 6-foot-6, 235-pound forward from Colton, Calif. (St. James School, Md.), **Levi Levine**, a 6-foot-5, 220-pound forward from Manhattan, N.Y. (Cheshire Academy) and **Jamar Wilson**, a 6-foot, 160-pound guard from Lake Grove, N.Y. (Our Savior New American School).

# University at Albany Sports Information Office Fax Cover Sheet

To: Sports Department

Organization: Albany Times Union

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Office: Athletic Media Relations

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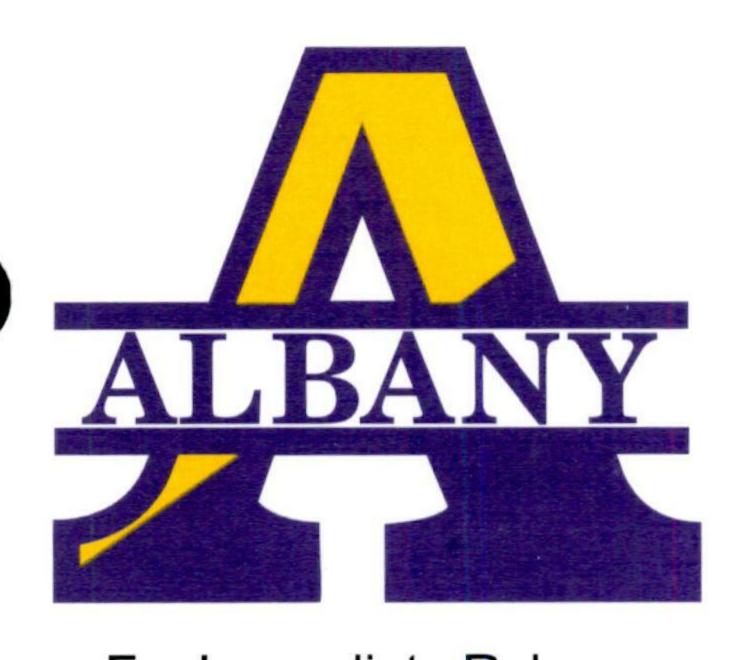
Comments: COLLEGE SPORTS

## UALBANY'S TONY VALLONE EARNS LOUISVILLE SLUGGER HONOR

Tucson, Ariz. – University at Albany's **Tony Vallone** (Greenwich) has been chosen as a 2002 *Louisville Slugger* Freshman All-America honorable mention selection as announced today by the *Collegiate Baseball Newspaper*.

Vallone, an All-America East Conference second-team selection, was one of 45 freshman outfielders in Division I and one of nine players from his conference to be honored by the publication. The freshman right fielder also earned a spot on the conference All-Rookie Team as he led the Great Danes with a .351 batting average, which placed fourth among the America East's top hitters. Vallone missed a 13-game stretch due to a dislocated left thumb early in the season, but recovered with 18 RBI in 27 contests after the return.

Albany completed its first season in the America East Conference with a 20-30 overall record and an 8-14 mark in league play.



# DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS & RECREATION

Contact: Brian DePasquale (518) 442-3072

## For Immediate Release Wednesday, June 5, 2002

# TICKETS FOR GIANTS TRAINING CAMP EVENTS ON SALE JUNE 24 Phone Orders Now Being Accepted For Fan Rally Event and Meet the Giants Party

ALBANY, N.Y. – Ticket sales for New York Giants training camp events begin on Monday, June 24 at the University at Albany Athletic Ticket Office, as Director of Tickets and Promotions Kevin Frattura announced today. The Exhibition Program & Fan Rally (July 27), Meet the Giants Fan Party (July 31), and parking decals for all practice sessions will be available.

UAlbany's Athletic Ticket Office is located in the Recreation and Convocation Center Lobby, and will be open Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., beginning June 24. Phone orders are currently being accepted, at 518-442-4683.

The Exhibition Program & Fan Rally is scheduled for Saturday, July 27 at 6:00 p.m. UAlbany's University Field is the site for this fan-friendly evening that features Giants practice, entertainment, fan contests and Giants prizes. Tickets are \$10.00 for reserved seating, and \$8.00 for general admission (prices include parking). The FanFest Barbecue, also on July 27, begins at 4:00 p.m.. The ticket package is \$35.00 per person, and includes a picnic menu and a reserved seat for the exhibition program and fan rally.

The Meet the Giants Fan Party is slated for Wednesday, July 31 from 5:00-7:30 p.m. at University Gymnasium on campus. The price is \$50.00 for adults and \$25.00 for youth (16 and under). Proceeds benefit the Capital District Student Scholarship Fund sponsored by the New York Giants, *Albany Times Union* and University at Albany. Fans have an opportunity to meet Giants players and coaches, obtain autographs, join in a prize raffle, and participate in activities and contests. Food and beverage stations, along with music, will be provided.

Giants Training Camp parking decals (non-transferable) for all practice sessions are priced at \$10.00. The daily parking fee is \$5.00 per session. Dutch Quad lot will again be used as the primary parking facility for the public.

GIANTS CAMP NOTES: Media Day for New York Giants Training Camp is scheduled for Wednesday, July 24 at Dutch Quad Field on campus ... UAlbany is the Giants Training Camp site for the seventh consecutive summer ... the first practice sessions will be held on Thursday, July 25, while camp is scheduled to end on Friday, August 23 ... there will be no intrasquad scrimmage this year due to the addition of a fifth preseason game ... the Giants are playing the Houston Texans on Monday, August 5 in the AFC-NFC Hall of Fame Game in Canton, Ohio (ABC, 8:00 p.m. ET) ... the Giants Training Camp schedule can be accessed through the University's athletic web site (www.albany.edu/sports/giants.html) ... the New York Giants Fan Information Line is 518-442-7369 ...





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Comments: COLLEGE SPORTS

# **UALBANY'S MIKE GRASSO SELECTED IN MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL DRAFT**

Albany, N.Y. – University at Albany's **Mike Grasso** (Bishop Maginn/Albany, N.Y.) was chosen in the 11th round of the Major League Baseball Draft by the Atlanta Braves on Tuesday afternoon. Grasso, a junior second baseman, was the draft's 335th pick overall and 13th selection by the Braves. He will report to the organization's Appalachian League (R) affiliate in Danville, Virginia.

"This is a dream come true for me," said Grasso, who hit .344 from the leadoff spot in the lineup this season. "I have worked extremely hard over the last three years to achieve this goal. I am very excited about the opportunity to continue playing baseball at the next level. It is an honor to even be selected. I hope to be playing for the Atlanta Braves some day."

Grasso, the third UAlbany player to be drafted in the program's history, was a first-team All-America East Conference selection and led the Great Danes in stolen bases (28), runs (44) and hits (63). He finished second among the America East stolen base leaders, and his total shattered the program's single-season standard. Grasso, the second-highest America East player selected in this year's draft, placed among the top-eight in four conference offensive categories.

Steve Checksfield was drafted in the 26th round of the 2001 Major League Baseball Draft by the Houston Astros, while Terry Kenny, a native of Albany, N.Y. and a graduate of Bishop McCloskey High School, went in the ninth round of the 1974 draft to the San Francisco Giants.

# UAlbany Major League Baseball Draft Choices

2002: Mike Grasso (Atlanta Braves), 11th round

2001: Steve Checksfield (Houston Astros), 26th round

1974: Terry Kenny (San Francisco Giants), 9th round

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Comments: College Sports

# UALBANY'S EDDIE SCOTT NAMED TO VERIZON ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICA BASEBALL TEAM

Stamford, Conn. – University at Albany's **Eddie Scott** has been named to the Verizon Academic All-America University Division Baseball Team, as announced today in voting by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA). Scott, a third-team national selection, has a 3.65 cumulative grade point average in psychology with a minor in sociology.

A senior captain from Kingston, N.Y., Scott was a first-team All-America East Conference center fielder. He posted a .339 batting average with 27 RBI, nine doubles and two home runs. Scott was second on the Great Danes in runs (38), total hits (58) and stolen bases (15), while tying for the team lead with three triples.

Scott finished his career among the school's all-time leaders in stolen bases (52), total hits (154), runs (111), doubles (24) and RBI (76). His .330 batting average ranks tenth on the all-time list.

A three-time Verizon District I All-Academic choice, Scott received the school's Presidential Scholar-Athlete Award and an ECAC Merit Medal as the top senior male student-athlete. He earned the Spellman Award for four years and won the Top Honoree Award with the highest GPA for an African-American in his class. He served as a member of the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, and has worked with the Whitney Young Reading Program.

Scott is the second UAlbany athlete to be voted to a Verizon national academic team at the University Division level. Football's J.T. Herfurth was a member of the national first team in 2000.