

An University at Albany

Athletic Media Relations Fax Cover Sheet

To: Sports Department
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E-Mail: bdepasquale@uamail.albany.edu
Date: 2-4-03 (Wednesday)
Pages w/cover: 2
Comments: College Sports (Men's Basketball)

Albany 64, UMBC 60

Baltimore, Md. – Freshman guard **Jon Iati** scored 22 points as Albany held off UMBC to break a seven-game losing streak en route to a 64-60 America East Conference victory on Wednesday evening at RAC Arena.

Albany (4-16, AE 2-9) broke a 22-all tie in the opening period with eight of the game's next 10 points. **Jerrad Knotts**, who had nine points off the bench, hit two baskets in that run, before Iati sank a jumper in the lane for a 30-24 lead.

The Great Danes, who had lost 11 of their last 12 outings, still led by six at halftime, but began the final period with an 8-1 outburst. **Aquawasi St. Hillaire**, who had 12 points, made three consecutive baskets in that span. Iati, whose scoring total was one off his career high, scored in the lane off a dribble move for a 41-28 advantage with 16:49 to play.

UMBC (6-14, AE 3-8) still trailed 58-47 with 3:10 remaining but the Retrievers would rally behind the play of **Kareem Washington**, who had 13 points and six rebounds. Washington, a 6-foot-3 senior, scored eight consecutive points, and his back-to-back three-pointers sliced the deficit to 59-57 with 1:05 left. The Great Danes held off the comeback attempt at the free throw line. Knotts calmly buried two foul shots with 39 seconds remaining for a 61-57 lead. UMBC never got closer than three the rest of the way.

"We finally finished a game even though it wasn't pretty," Albany coach Will Brown said. "It's tough to put it away with three freshmen on the floor. We did a pretty good job defensively and it was nice to see Knotts to make two big free throws."

Sophomore **Levi Levine** was the third Albany player in double figures with 10 points and seven rebounds. UMBC's **Corey McJimson** and **John Zito** scored 11 and 10, respectively.

"The adrenaline was going with all those people here tonight," explained Iati, who had 180 fans travel from his hometown of York, Pa. to the game. "We finally put 40 minutes together and everyone on the team contributed. We cut down our turnovers by being aggressive with the ball and staying focused."

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Date: 2-4-03 (Saturday)
Pages w/cover: 2
Comments: College Sports (Women's Basketball)

Albany 75, UMBC 58

Baltimore, Md. – Senior **Sarah Sweetland** scored 19 of her career-high 27 points in the first half as Albany defeated America East Conference opponent UMBC, 75-58, on Wednesday, Feb. 4 at the RAC Arena.

Albany (6-12, AE 3-6) trailed 18-17 with 6:36 remaining in the first half before scoring 18 unanswered points to take the lead for good, 35-18, with 1:44 left on the clock. Junior **Danielle Hutcherson**, who finished with 19 points on 8-of-11 shooting, ignited the run with a turnaround jumper from the right block. Sweetland tallied 14 points in that span, including three 3-pointers, a conventional three-point play and a fastbreak layup as her team took a 37-24 lead into halftime.

UMBC (1-17, AE 1-8), which trailed 46-27, scored 11 of the contest's next 14 points to pull within 11 with 12:52 to go. Junior **Anastasia Goncharova**, who added 10 points and five assists, keyed the spurt with a three-pointer, while freshman **Courtney Doughman**, who finished with a team-high 22 points, knocked down one of her seven 3-pointers from the baseline to make it 49-38.

The Great Danes, who held their largest lead of the game at 19 at the 16:53 mark, used a 5-0 run to extend their advantage to 62-46 with 6:25 remaining in the contest. The closest the Retrievers got was 67-56 at 3:32 mark before UAlbany ended the game on a 8-2 run for its biggest victory over an America East opponent since joining the league in the 2001-02 season.

"To have Sarah have this type of game at this point in the season was something our team needed," said Albany coach Trina Patterson, whose team recorded a season-low eight turnovers. "We had been struggling offensively but tonight may have jumpstarted us for the rest of the season. Tonight's victory was a complete team effort."

Junior **Alicia Learn** grabbed a team-high eight rebounds and matched her career-high with six assists as the Great Danes held a 35-29 rebounding advantage. Sophomore **Maria Brown** hauled down a team-best six boards and added 16 points for the Retrievers.

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Date: 2-5-04 (Friday)
Pages w/cover: 1
Comments: Men's Basketball

New Hampshire 43, Albany 38

Boston, Mass. – **Griffin Walker** scored the go-ahead basket with 4:06 remaining and New Hampshire went on to post a 43-38 victory over Albany in the first round of the America East Conference Tournament on Friday evening at Boston University's Walter Brown Arena.

Albany (5-23), the tenth seed, built a 30-23 lead with 16:22 remaining when **Levi Levine** scored in the lane. New Hampshire (10-19), the no. seven seed, erased that deficit with nine consecutive points. **Damione Liddell** tied the contest on a fastbreak layup, and then hit a turn-around in the lane for a 32-30 advantage with 11:34 left.

The Great Danes would later go ahead 36-34 with 6:25 to play on a basket by **Aquawasi St. Hillaire**, who recorded his fifth double-double of the season with 18 points and 12 rebounds. But UNH came back with nine unanswered points to go ahead for good. Walker hit a drive from left of the lane for a 38-36 lead. Freshman **Blagoj Janev**, who had a team-high 11 points, made a pair of free throws for a four-point margin. Albany never got any closer, as the Great Danes shot 23.8 percent in the second half and had just two field goals over the last 16 minutes.

"We didn't have much tonight and missed several free throws that really hurt us in the second half," said Albany coach **Will Brown**, whose team made just 13 of 42 field goal attempts. "We didn't make any shots or stretch their defense. We blew an opportunity to advance in this tournament."

Chris Wyatt had eight of his 10 points in the opening period, as Albany held a 24-21 halftime lead. Leading-scorers **Jon Iati** and Levine combined for just seven points. UNH's **Jermaine Anderson** totaled nine points, seven rebounds and six assists as his team will meet no. 2 Vermont in the quarterfinal round.

"We didn't do the little things we need to do to win close games," Levine commented. "We were tired, but tonight came down to hustle plays and they made more of them."

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Pages w/cover: 1
Comments: College Baseball

UALBANY SWEEPS PREVIOUSLY UNBEATEN LEHIGH IN ATLANTIC CITY

Atlantic City, N.J. – **Jason Martin** and **Tony Vallone** (Greenwich Central) each had three RBI to lead UAlbany past Lehigh, 7-4, in game one of a non-conference doubleheader on Sunday afternoon at The Sandcastle, home of the minor league Atlantic City Surf. The Great Danes, who are off to their best start since upgrading to the Division I level in 2000, swept the Mountain Hawks by taking the nightcap, 8-7.

Albany (5-1) got on the board in the opener when Martin, a senior catcher, led off the top of the second with a double and would later come home on Vallone's two-run homer. **Brendan Chiavaro** doubled in **Derek DeGrazio** to give the Great Danes a 3-0 lead later in the inning.

Martin singled in **Dan Schoonmaker** and **Joe Lamb** in the third to give **Steve Emmerthal**, who pitched 5.2 innings to earn the win, all the run support he would need. **Shawn Ryan** (Stillwater) collected his third save of the season by striking out two in the seventh to seal the decision for the Great Danes.

In game two, **Pat Delaney's** three-run home run was part of a second inning in which UAlbany scored five times to erase a 2-0 deficit. Lehigh (6-2) responded with five runs of their own in the top of the third, thanks in part to five Albany errors, in regaining the lead at 7-5.

The Great Danes rallied to tie the contest at seven apiece in the fourth, when Schoonmaker lined a RBI-triple of the center field wall. Martin plated the winning run in the sixth with a sacrifice fly that chased home Vallone, who had walked. **Adam Kroft** (Shenendehowa), who came on in relief, picked up the win. Ryan pitched the seventh, giving up no hits and striking out two, to pick up his fourth save in four chances this season.

-agate-

(Game 1)

Albany	032	000	2	-	7	8	1
Lehigh	000	020	2	-	4	11	3

Albany: Steve Emmerthal, Roman Dubiel (6), Shawn Ryan (7) and Jason Martin.

(Game 2)

Lehigh (6-2)	205	000	0	-	7	5	1
Albany (5-1)	051	101	x	-	8	10	5

Albany: Kyle Thomas, Nick Murphy (3), Adam Kroft (6), Shawn Ryan (7) and Jason Martin.

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Comments: College Sports

BOSTON UNIVERSITY EARNS NO. 1 SEED FOR AMERICA EAST TOURNAMENT

Boston, Mass. – Boston University has earned the top seed for next weekend's Choice Hotels America East Conference Men's Basketball Championship. The Terriers, who finished with a 23-4 overall record, including 17-1 in conference play, won the regular-season title for the second straight year.

The America East tournament's first three rounds will be held at Boston U.'s Walter Brown Arena on March 5, 6 and 7. The championship final will be played at the highest remaining seed's home arena on Saturday, March 13.

UAlbany (5-22, AE 3-15) is seeded tenth and will meet No. 7 New Hampshire (9-19, AE 5-13) in first-round action on Friday evening at approximately 9:30 p.m. Stony Brook, the No. 8 seed, and UMBC, the ninth seed, are paired in the first game at 7:00 p.m. Albany and New Hampshire split their regular-season series by winning on the other team's home floor. The Great Danes posted a 57-52 victory on Jan. 8, while UNH returned the favor with a 60-54 win on Feb. 7.

Albany's Levi Levine is among America East's top scorers (14.6 ppg) and rebounders (6.1 pg). Freshman guard Jon Iati averaged 14.5 points and 3.0 assists, plus logged 40 or more minutes in 20 games this season.

Vermont, the No. 2 seed, finished second in the conference standings with a 19-8 overall record and a 15-3 mark in the league. The Catamounts will face the UAlbany-New Hampshire winner on Saturday at 6:00 p.m. in the quarterfinals.

-agate-

2004 Choice Hotels America East Conference Men's Basketball Championship

(Boston University's Walter Brown Arena, Boston, Mass.)

Friday, March 5

First Round

Game 1 - #8 Stony Brook (8-19, 5-13) vs. #9 UMBC (7-20, 4-14), 7:00 p.m.

Game 2 - #7 New Hampshire (9-19, 5-13) vs. #10 Albany (5-22, 3-15), approx. 9:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 6

Quarterfinals

Game 3 - #4 Maine (18-9, 12-6) vs. #5 Binghamton (14-15, 10-8), 12:00 p.m.

Game 4 - #1 Boston U. (23-4, 17-1) vs. Game 1 winner, approx. 2:30 p.m.

Game 5 - #2 Vermont (19-8, 15-3) vs. Game 2 winner, 6:00 p.m.

Game 6 - #3 Northeastern (19-10, 13-5) vs. #6 Hartford (11-16, 6-12), approx. 8:30 p.m.

Sunday, March 7

Game 7 – Winner Game 3 vs. Winner Game 4 (AE-TV), 12:00 p.m.

Game 8 – Winner Game 5 vs. Winner Game 6 (AE-TV), approx. 2:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 13 -- Championship

(At Higher Remaining Seed's Home Arena)

Game 9 – Winner Game 7 vs. Winner Game 8, (ESPN), 11:30 a.m.

Choice Hotels International America East Men's Championship

March 5-7, 2004
Walter Brown Arena
at Boston University (Boston, Mass.)



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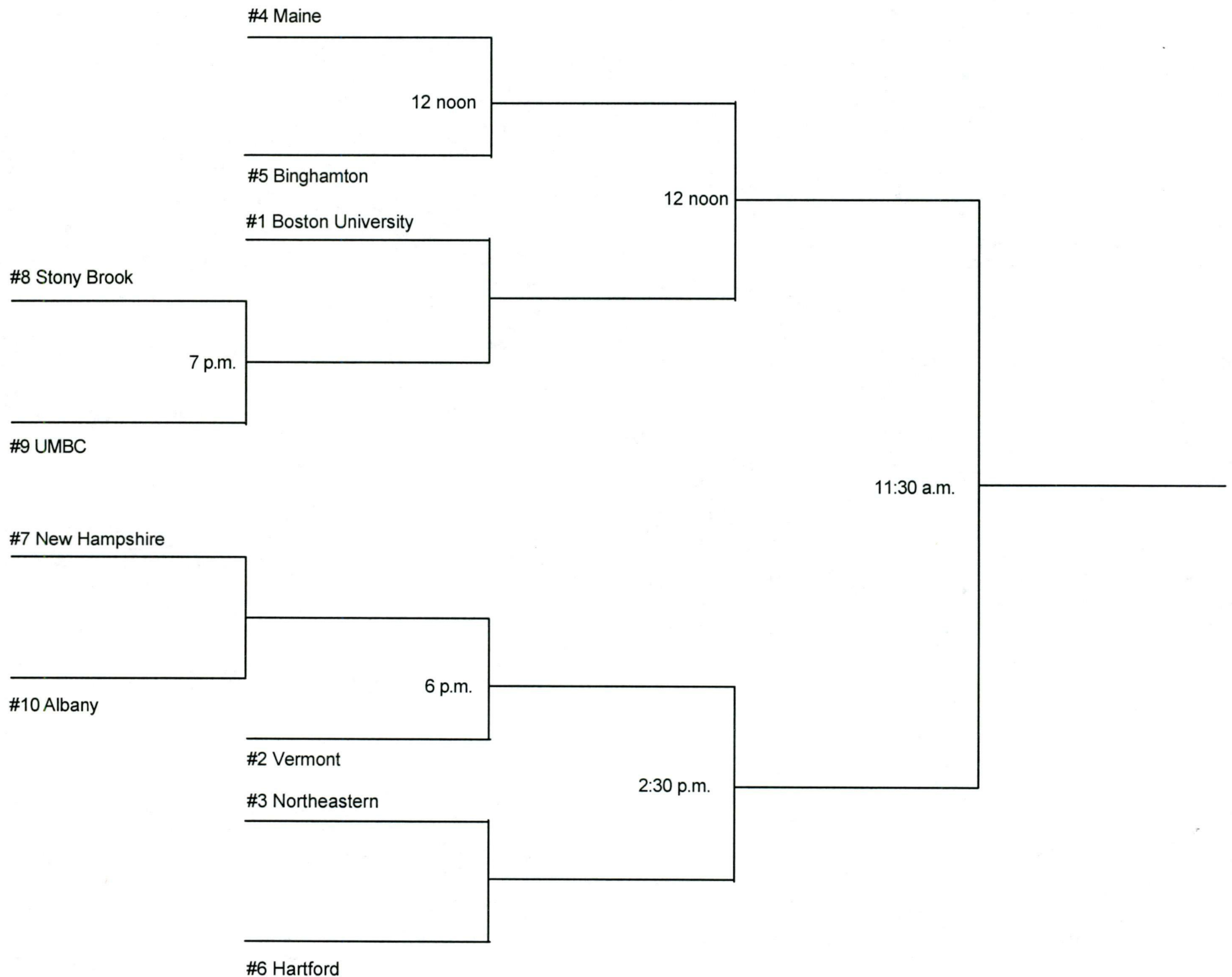
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First Round
Friday, March 5
Walter Brown Arena

Quarterfinals
Saturday, March 6
Walter Brown Arena

Semifinals
Sunday, March 7
Walter Brown Arena
(AE TV)

Championship
Saturday, March 13
at higher remaining seed
(ESPN)



NOTE: Second game of a session begins 30 minutes after the first game is completed.

Seeds will be placed in bracket following the completion of regular-season play on Sunday, February 29.

First round games include #7 vs. #10 and #8 vs. #9 seeds.

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Comments: College Softball

UALBANY SOFTBALL DROPS THREE IN FINAL DAY OF CSU INVITATIONAL

Charleston, S.C. – College of Charleston's **Brooke Flowers** drove in the winning run in the eighth inning to lift the Cougars to a 5-4 come-from-behind victory over Albany in the final day of the Charleston Southern Softball Invitational at the Gahagan Softball Complex on Sunday afternoon. Earlier in the day, the Great Danes were defeated by IUPU-Ft. Wayne, 2-1, and fell to Charleston Southern, 5-4, late Saturday night.

Senior **Andee Lindgren** hit a sacrifice fly to center with one out to plate **Jen Nolette** in the third to give Albany an early 3-0 lead. In the fifth, **Liz Wieboldt** led off the inning with a single, advanced to second on a wild pitch and went to third on **Katrina Dunning's** single. Lindgren followed with her second sac fly to score Wieboldt to make it 4-0.

College of Charleston tied the contest at four-all in the seventh as **Darcy Johnson** knocked in **Katie Ballard**, who was walked, on an RBI single. **Amanda Cone** hit a one-out homer earlier in the inning. In the eighth inning, **Mallory Davis** was placed on second due to the international tie-breaker rule and went to third on **Leshe Russell's** sacrifice. Flowers followed one out later with her game-winning single.

Candice Wilburn earned the win, allowing one earned run on two hits with eight strikeouts and two walks in six innings of work. Lindgren was credited with the loss, pitching five and a third with two hits, two runs, nine strikeouts and five walks.

In game one against IUPU-Ft. Wayne, Albany held a 1-0 lead in the second as **Maegan Larsen** laid down a squeeze bunt to score Lindgren, who reached base on her double to left.

Korin Maciulski led off the fifth with a single and two batters later, **Laura Randolph** hit the eventual game-winning homer to give IUPU-Ft. Wayne a 2-1 advantage.

Mindy Mason tossed a complete game, allowing one run on 10 hits with two strikeouts and one walk. Albany's **Casey Halloran** also went the distance, giving up two runs on seven hits and struck out five.

In last night's contest, Charleston Southern broke a 4-4 tie in the top of the seventh as **Dorothy Page** singled in the game-winning run with one out.

Tessa Miller pitch two and a third innings of relief to earn the victory, giving up one hit with two strikeouts and one walk for the Buccaneers. **Danielle Buyea** was handed the loss, allowing one run with a strikeout and walk in two innings of work.

--agate--

Charleston Southern Softball Invitational

Game Three (Feb. 28)

Charleston Southern (4-8)	022	001	0	-	5	10	1
Albany	110	020	0	-	4	7	0

Alison McAteer, Tessa Miller (5) and Kelly Backert

Laura Gremillion, Casey Halloran (3), Danielle Buyea (6) and Ali Meacham

Game One (Feb. 29)

IUPU-Ft. Wayne	000	020	0	-	2	7	1
Albany	010	000	0	-	1	10	1

Mindy Mason and Jenna Beachy

Casey Halloran and Ali Meacham

Game Two (Feb. 29)

College of Charleston	000	020	21	-	5	6	0
Albany (3-9)	021	010	00	-	4	5	3

Rachael Stern, Candice Wilburn (3) and Brittany Pohlen

Andee Lindgren, Casey Halloran (6) and Ali Meacham

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Comments: College Basketball

MEN – Northeastern 80, Albany 62

Albany, N.Y. – Sophomore guard **Jose Juan Barea** scored 18 of his 25 points in the first half in leading Northeastern to an 80-62 America East Conference victory over Albany in the regular-season finale for both teams on Sunday afternoon at the Recreation and Convocation Center.

Northeastern (19-10, AE 13-5) raced to a 24-7 lead at the start, as Barea and **Marcus Barnes** each canned a pair of three-point field goals. Freshman forward **Bennett Davis**, who had four of his 11 points in that outburst, hit a turnaround jumper to give his team a 17-point cushion.

Albany (5-22, AE 3-15) clawed its way back into the contest behind the play of sophomore forward **Levi Levine**, who had a team-high 20 points. Freshman **Todd Martin** hit a three-pointer from the left wing to get the Great Danes within 33-28 with 4:20 left. However, Barea, who made 8-of-12 field goals, made a 25-foot, fadeaway 3-point shot, and later connected on a short jumper from left of the lane to push the lead back to double digits. The Huskies, who shot 61.5 percent in the period, led 43-34 at the break.

The Great Danes, who have dropped six of their seven outings, made another move at the lead early in the second half. **Courtney Johnson**, a freshman guard who had 10 points, buried two free throws, as his team sliced the deficit to 44-41 with 18:34 remaining.

Northeastern still led 52-47 six minutes later, but then pulled away for good with eight unanswered points. Barea, the conference's second-leading scorer, sank a pair of foul shots and converted a driving layup, before Barnes, who finished with 14 points, added two free throws for a commanding 60-47 advantage with 11:12 left.

"Their offensive firepower and bench strength wore us down," said Albany coach Will Brown, whose team made just 9-of-28 shots in the second half. "I thought we did a good job of recovering from that start, but (Jose Juan) Barea made too many big-time plays in the second half. They have the ability to score in many ways."

Senior swingman **Javorie Wilson** was the fourth player in double figures with 10 points for the Huskies, who have won eight of their last 10 games to end the schedule with the program's highest single-season victory total since 1994-95. Albany's **Chris Wyatt** scored a season-high 13, while teammate **Aquawasi St. Hillaire** totaled seven points, nine rebounds and six assists.

"It was a game of runs and they made more than we did," said freshman guard **Jon Iati**, who had his 12-game, double-figure scoring streak snapped with seven points. "We expended a lot of energy to get back into the game. We can't get down by that much and expect to win."

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Comments: College Softball

UALBANY SOFTBALL DEFEATS EASTERN ILLINOIS, FALLS TO BOSTON COLLEGE

Charleston, S.C. – Freshman **Kelly Ogden** drove in both UAlbany runs as they defeated Eastern Illinois 2-1 in day one of the Charleston Southern Softball Invitational at the Gahagan Softball Complex on Saturday evening. Earlier in the day the Great Danes fell to Boston College 2-1. All of Friday's action was postponed due to rain.

Ogden drove in **Jen Nolette**, who had singled and stole second and third, on a two-out single to tie the game at one in the bottom of the third inning. Nolette and **Katrina Dunning** led off the sixth with singles. Nolette was later thrown out trying to steal third, however Dunning was successful in her swipe of second. Ogden then plated Dunning giving Albany, who improves to 3-6 on the season, the lead for good at 2-1.

Andee Lindgren pitched a complete-game five-hitter, giving up no earned runs and striking out six for the Great Danes. **Andrea Darnell**, who had the lone RBI for the Panthers, pitched six innings allowing two runs on eight hits.

In game one, **Jenna Macchi** drove in the go-ahead run in the bottom of the second, which proved to be the game-winner, as Boston College defeated Albany 2-1.

Albany scored in the top of the first on Dunning's single to right field, which plated Nolette. Boston College (5-6) scored both of its runs in the second inning on back-to-back RBI singles by **Kimmy Hopkin** and Macchi, plating **Ashley Obrest** and **Lisa Field**.

Britney Thompson went the distance for the Eagles, giving up one run on three hits, and struck out six. **Kristin Couris** pitched four innings for the Great Danes, allowing two runs on three hits and **Carisa Marcucci** gave up two hits in two innings of work.

The Great Danes will take on Charleston Southern tonight at 10 p.m. and tomorrow will square off against IUPUI-Ft. Wayne at 9 a.m. and UNC Greensboro at 1 p.m. in the final day of competition.

--agate--

Charleston Southern Softball Invitational

GAME ONE

Albany	100	000	0	-	1	3	0
Boston College (5-6)	020	000	x	-	2	5	1

Kristin Couris, Carissa Marcucci (5) and Ali Meacham
 Britney Thompson and Lisa Field

GAME TWO

Eastern Illinois	001	000	0	-	1	5	1
Albany (3-6)	001	001	x	-	2	8	1

Andee Lindgren and Leanne Tillman
 Andrea Darnell and Sandyn Short

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Comments: College Sports

WOMEN'S LACROSSE DROPS NON-LEAGUE GAME WITH DUQUESNE IN OHIO

Athens, Ohio – Junior midfielder **Ginger Flocco** scored five goals, as Duquesne won its season opener with a 13-6 victory over Albany on Saturday afternoon at Ohio University's Pruitt Field.

The Dukes, who finished 9-7 overall as a member of the Atlantic 10 Conference last season, led 6-4 at halftime. Flocco and **Kelly Mulford**, a pair of all-league selections, who led their team in scoring last year, each found the net early in the second half for a four-goal lead.

Albany (0-2) closed within 9-6 midway through the final period, when senior midfielder **Alexis DiDomenico** scored for the third time off a feed from **Jenn Rajczak** (Scotia-Glenville). DiDomenico posted her first three-goal effort since last March 25th.

However, Duquesne responded with four goals in a period of three minutes and 11 seconds late in the contest to seal the verdict. **Krista Mann** tallied one of her two goals in that stretch, while Flocco scored unassisted, her fifth of the day, for a 12-6 lead with 3:12 remaining.

Duquesne's **Laura App** finished with two goals and one assist. Sophomore attacker **Nikki Donohue** had one goal and one assist for the Great Danes, who return to the field on Friday, March 5 against Towson.

-agate-

Albany (0-2)	4	2	-	6
Duquesne (1-0)	6	7	-	13

Albany – Alexis DiDomenico 3-0, Nikki Donohue 1-1, Courtney Hill 1-0, Sarah Spillet 1-0, Jenn Rajczak 0-2, Elizabeth Michalenko 0-1; Goalkeeper(s): Beth Daly (60:00, 14 saves, 13 GA).

Duquesne – Ginger Flocco 5-0, Laura App 2-1, Krista Mann 2-0, Becca West 1-1, Kelly Mulford 1-1, Courtney Tamasitis 1-0, Carolina Gallagher 1-0, Meredith Williams 0-1, Margaret Cloutman 0-1, Stacie Pollock 0-1; Goalkeeper(s): Sarah Pacini (60:00, 7 saves, 6 GA).

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Comments: College Basketball

WOMEN – Albany 58, Northeastern 56

Boston, Mass. – **Alicia Learn** had 16 points and **Danielle Hutcheson** added 11 points and 12 rebounds, as Albany held off Northeastern, 58-56, in America East Conference action on Saturday afternoon at Solomon Court.

Northeastern (11-14, AE 5-11) took a 31-29 lead with 12:11 remaining on a three-point field goal by **Melissa Kowalski**, who finished with 11 points. Albany (11-14, AE 8-8) responded with 12 of the game's next 15 points. Hutcheson, a 6-foot-4 junior who recorded her ninth double-double of the season, canned a pair of free throws to put her team ahead for good at 33-31. Hutcheson would later find a wide-open **Jen Schumacher**, who drilled a 3-pointer, and hit a jump hook in the lane for a seven-point advantage.

The Great Danes, who have won six of their last eight outings to remain in fifth place in the conference standings, increased the margin to 50-38 with 4:44 left. Schumacher drained another long-range jumper, before **Maree Jones** converted a layup.

However, the Huskies, who dropped their fifth straight, would make a run at the lead in the final two minutes. **Joi Jefferson**, who scored 12 points, fueled the outburst with a three-pointer from the top of the arc. **Francesca Vanin**, who had a team-high 13 points and grabbed nine rebounds, made two free throws to close the gap to 55-51 with one minute remaining.

Jefferson, a 5-foot-9 senior, sank two more foul shots 20 seconds later to bring her club within one possession at 56-53. But Hutcheson, who did all of her scoring in the final period, made two of four free throw attempts in the stretch, before Northeastern's **Jody Burrows** banked in a 3-point shot with one second left that produced the final score.

"Today we used our three C's, courage, character and confidence," said Albany coach Trina Patterson, whose team held Northeastern to 25.5-percent shooting, a season-low by an opponent. "These are the things that helped us win. I am proud of their ability to bounce back after a bad first half."

Both teams struggled on offense in the opening stanza, as Northeastern led 16-15 at halftime. The Great Danes, who committed a season-high 29 turnovers overall, shot 26.3 percent in the period, while the home team was just 3-of-21 from the field.

Sophomore guard **Becky Ayers** was the third player in double figures with 12 points for the Great Danes, who avenged a 73-52 home loss to Northeastern on Jan 10. Learn, a 6-foot-1 junior who produced her highest scoring total in conference play this season on 7-of-12 shooting, added nine rebounds.

"I thought rebounding was the difference," commented Hutcheson, whose team held a 44-35 edge on the glass. "Everyone contributed on the offensive and defensive end, and we kept them off balance by switching defenses. We also kept our composure in the final minutes. We told ourselves we are not leaving here without the win."

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UALBANY'S BURNS AND MATTHEWS SET SCHOOL MARKS AT NYU INVITE

New York, N.Y.- UAlbany's **Gered Burns** (Guilderland) broke his own school mark in winning the 800-meters and **Diane Matthews** set a school standard by capturing first in the 1,000 at the NYU Last Chance Invitational on Friday evening at the New York City Armory.

Burns, who had already qualified for the IC4A Championships earlier this season, lowered his NCAA provisional time by clocking in at 1:49.50, four seconds ahead of the second-place finisher. Matthews broke Jessica Walton's school mark when she crossed the line in an ECAC-qualifying time of 2:53.20.

Teresa Covert took home first in the 60-meter hurdles in a season-best time of 8.63, which also places her in the ECAC Championships. **Meghan Howell**, who set the school record in the 3,000 two weeks ago at the Armory Collegiate Invitational, was also a first-place finisher for the Great Danes as she won that event.

Kamar Elliott, who will compete at the IC4As, took second in the triple jump with a leap of 48-feet, 2.5-inches, while freshman **Ray Gilman** (Berne-Knox-Westerlo) qualified for the IC4As with a triple jump of 47-feet, 1.75-inches, which was good for fourth place.

The UAlbany men's and women's track and field squad will participate at the IC4A/ECAC Championships on March 6-7 in Boston, Massachusetts.

University at Albany

Athletic Media Relations Fax Cover Sheet

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Comments: College Lacrosse & Baseball

WOMEN'S LACROSSE FALLS TO OHIO, 16-4, IN 2004 SEASON OPENER

Athens, Ohio – Senior midfielder **Lynz Keys** and freshman **Dana Dobbie** each scored three times in leading Ohio University to a 16-4 victory over Albany in the season opener for both teams on Friday afternoon at Pruitt Field. The Great Danes will meet Duquesne in this same facility on Saturday at 2:00 p.m.

The Bobcats, who compete in the America Lacrosse Conference, leaped to a 4-0 lead in the opening 15 minutes of play. Dobbie, who added an assist in her first game as a collegian, scored a pair of goals, while Keys and **Molly Wurdack** added single tallies.

Albany's **Kim Reny**, a scholastic high school All-American, put her team on the scoreboard when she converted a free-position shot. However, Ohio answered with four consecutive goals. Dobbie struck for a third time at 20:38, before the Bobcats hit the net three times in a 44-second span. **Becky Oxman**, who had two goals and two assists, scored once and assisted on another in pushing her team's lead to 8-1 at halftime.

Alexis DiDomenico, **Sarah Spillett** and **Courtney Hill** each scored second-half goals for the Great Danes. Freshman goalkeeper **Beth Daly** had 10 saves. Ohio's **Kristen Gombeski** and **Melissa Menna** each scored twice.

-agate-

Ohio 16, Albany 4

Albany (0-1)	1	3	-	4
Ohio (1-0)	8	8	-	16

Albany – Alexis DiDomenico 1-0, Sarah Spillett 1-0, Kim Reny 1-0, Courtney Hill 1-0, Jenn Rajczak 0-1; Goalkeeper(s): Beth Daly (60:00; 10 saves, 16 GA).

Ohio – Dana Dobbie 3-1, Lynz Keys 3-0, Becky Oxman 2-2, Kristen Gombeski 2-0, Melissa Menna 2-0, Allison Brennan 1-1, Molly Wurdack 1-0, Courtney Santelli 1-0, Caitlin Link 1-0, Tiffany Smith 0-1; Goalkeeper(s): Jen Cassidy (51:30, 6 saves, 4 GA), Jayme Levy (9:30, 2 saves, 0 GA).

NORTHEASTERN TOPS AMERICA EAST BASEBALL PRESEASON COACHES' POLL

Boston, Mass.- Northeastern University is the preseason favorite to repeat as the conference baseball champion this year, according to a vote of the head coaches. The Huskies received four of a possible eight first-place votes and 59 points overall. University of Maine was picked to finish second, garnering four first-place votes as well with 57 points.

Stony Brook University was third with 46 points as University of Vermont followed with 39 points. University at Albany (27) and league newcomer UMBC (27) were knotted for the fifth spot, with Binghamton University (18) and Hartford (15) rounding out the poll.

The top four teams in the conference will advance to the America East Championship, held at Mahaney Diamond in Orono, Maine on May 27-29, with the winner of the tournament receiving an automatic bid to the NCAA Championship.

MORE

ALBANY SPORTS 2-2-2

The Huskies (27-24 overall, 12-10 in America East) won their third America East title last year, their first since 1997. Northeastern advanced to the NCAA Regional in Baton Rouge, La. after routing Stony Brook, 11-0, in the America East Championship game. The NCAA appearance was the Huskies' third in program history.

Junior third baseman Tim Bush, a second-team choice, was second in the conference in hitting (.353) last season and led NU in RBIs (36) and slugging percentage (.540), while posting a .950 fielding percentage. Chris Emanuele, a second-team and all-rookie selection, started all 51 games in the outfield as a freshman last season and was named to the All-Region team at the NCAA Regionals. He led Northeastern during the 2003 campaign in runs scored (36) and hits (59). The ace of McPhee's pitching staff is expected to be senior Justin Hedrick. The 6-3 right-handed pitcher led America East in strikeouts per game (11.44) last year, while posting 7-2 record with a 3.47 earned run average.

Maine (38-18, 17-7 in America East) returns two all-conference selections and two all-rookie members from last season, highlighted by 2003 America East Rookie of the Year sophomore pitcher Greg Norton. In his freshman campaign, the 6-3 right-handed pitcher compiled a 7-1 record with a 2.97 ERA. Senior outfielder Simon Williams, a first-team selection, tallied just one error in the field through 44 games played last season (.982 fielding percentage). Aaron Izaryk, a junior catcher, was a second-team pick that posted an impressive .995 fielding percentage as he started 52 of 56 games. Izaryk also hit .310 with a team-best 36 walks.

The Seawolves posted their best mark last season in America East play (33-21, 15-9) since joining the conference in baseball for the 2002 season. Stony Brook knocked off Maine in the conference championship for the second consecutive season before losing in the championship game to Northeastern. Junior shortstop Matt Devins, a second-teamer, returns to anchor the infield. Devins hit .307 during his sophomore season, while posting the most doubles (20) in the league. An all-rookie selection Matt Restivo will look to improve upon his successful freshman season this year. Restivo made a league-best 24 appearances and recorded the most saves in the conference (4), while posting a 3.34 ERA and a 6-4 record.

The 2003 Coach of the Year Bill Currier leads a Vermont team that returns 17 letterwinners from last year's squad that went 32-14, won UVM's first-ever America East regular season championship and set a new school record for victories. Eight of the nine regulars in the batting order are back, as well as four of the top seven pitchers. The 2003 America East Player of the Year, Bobby Tewksbary returns as the top Catamount. Tewksbary, a shortstop, led the league in hitting (.357), had a .561 slugging percentage, 11 doubles, five homers and 30 RBI. Also back is First Team All-Conference first baseman Barry Chamberland who was third in the conference in hitting at .346, second in homers with 11 and led the Catamounts with 41 RBI.

An Albany team that missed the four-team America East Championship by just two games last season returns 22 letterwinners and all nine starters from a year ago. The Great Danes, still a young team with 18 underclassmen on their roster, will look to seniors Dan Schoonmaker and Steve Emmerthal, both second-team all-conference selections, to lead the club. UA also returns all-rookie selection Kyle Thomas.

UMBC enters its first season of America East baseball after finishing fourth overall in the Northeast Conference a season ago. The Retrievers will return Kevin Brooks who hit .356 last year, along with Jay Long and Zach Clark who hit .325 and .314 respectively. The Retrievers also return starter Eric Butkiewicz who had a 3.95 ERA and 60 strikeouts in 2003.

Binghamton, which finished seventh in the America East standings a year ago, returns first-team outfielder T.J. Kowalchuck and second-team outfielder Joe Costello. Kowalchuck hit .298 and drove in 41 runs, while compiling a .543 slugging percentage for the Bearcats in 2003. Costello banded out a .313 average to lead the Bearcats.

Hartford finished sixth in the 2003 conference standings. Head coach Harvey Shapiro will return two top hitters in junior outfielder Josh Topp and junior first baseman Ryan Cuscovitch, who was a first-team selection as a freshman in 2002. Both Topp and Cuscovitch tied for sixth in the conference in hitting last year, each sporting a .333 batting average.

University at Albany

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UALBANY WOMEN'S LACROSSE OPENS THIS WEEKEND IN ATHENS, OHIO

Albany, N.Y.- The University at Albany is looking to get back on track after a 3-13 campaign. The Great Danes tied for third in the America East Conference standings, but were kept from the postseason tournament due to the league's tiebreaker formula.

Head coach **Dennis Short** lost three all-conference players, including the school's all-time scoring leader. But the Great Danes have 10 letterwinners back and a promising freshman class that feature three high school All-Americans.

Senior midfielders **Jenn Rajczak** (Scotia-Glenville) (14 goals, 5 assists) and **Alexis DiDomenico** (13 goals, 5 assists) are the top returning scorers. Rajczak is a career 46-percent shooter, while DiDomenico ranks sixth among the program's all-time leaders with 67 goals. **Ashley Heilmann** (7 goals) and **Elizabeth Michalenko**, who had 20 ground balls, are experienced players.

Nikki Donohue, **Domenica LoRe** and **Courtney Hill**, a trio of sophomores, were also double-digit point-producers in their first year with the program. Donohue (14 goals, 4 assists) scored a career-best four goals in her team's win over Binghamton in the season finale. Hill added 13 goals and two assists on the season. Defender **Kristen Mathias** (38 ground balls) also had a solid freshman campaign.

The Great Danes may have a program-changing class with nine newcomers. **Kim Reny**, a first-team All-American on the scholastic level, scored 203 career goals. **Sarah Spillett** and **Krissy Rajczak** (Scotia-Glenville) earned honorable mention All-America honors. Spillett had 44 goals and 59 assists as a senior, while Rajczak tallied 84 goals and 24 assists. **Jen Daly**, a first-team all-conference choice, should step right in at goalkeeper.

UALbany will face Ohio University on Friday, February 27 at 1:00 p.m. and Duquesne University on Saturday, February 28 at 2:00 p.m. Both games will be played in Athens, Ohio.

GREAT DANES PICKED THIRD IN AMERICA EAST CONFERENCE SOFTBALL PRESEASON POLL

Boston, Mass. - Defending America East Champion Boston University has been chosen to repeat as conference champion in a vote of the softball coaches. The Terriers received all eight first-place votes and 64 points overall.

MORE

University of Maine was chosen second with 48 points, followed by University at Albany (47), University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) (41), Stony Brook University (31), Binghamton University (27), University of Hartford (16) and University of Vermont (14).

The top four teams in the conference will advance to the America East Championship with the winner of the tournament receiving an automatic bid to the NCAA Softball Championship.

The 2003 America East Champion Terriers return six of nine starters this season. Junior shortstop Jamie Haas, a first-team all-conference choice and Player of the Year for the past two years, will lead a potent offense that ranked number one in the conference last season. Haas hit .312 and was third in the league in hits (56) and second in stolen bases (23). First-team designated player DeKenya Williams, second-team and all-rookie selection Erin McDonald, second-team outfielder Abbey Pauley, second-team selection Jennifer Shields and Josey Mendez, a second-team and all-rookie selection at third base, all return for the Terriers.

The Black Bears return first-team outfielder Jess Brady, who led Maine to a third-place finish in 2003. Brady was third in the conference in hitting at .354 and was first in stolen bases per game with .48 (23 in 48 games). Pitcher Jennifer Merchant and shortstop Brittany Cheney, both second-team and all-championship team selections, return for Maine, along with pitcher Sarah Bennis and designated player Amy Kuhl, who were all-rookie selections. Merchant finished second in the conference in strikeouts with 153, second in appearances with 34, and second in saves (3).

In just their second year in America East, the Great Danes put together their best overall season at the Division I level, amassing a 34-10 record (17-4 in America East) and finishing second in the conference in 2003. This year Albany returns 14 of 17 players including America East Pitcher of the Year Andee Lindgren and Rookie of the Year Maegan Larsen. Lindgren finished last season with a record of 20-6 and a conference leading earned run average of 1.18 while Larsen finished sixth overall in hitting with a .331 average. Senior outfielder Jen Nolette, a first-team selection, sophomore Katrina Dunning, a second-team choice, and sophomore Ashley Rios, who was a second-team and all-rookie choice, all return for head coach Chris Cannata, who was named the America East 2003 Coach of the Year.

The Retrievers enter their first year in America East play after posting a 40-22 record last season in the Northeast Conference (NEC). The Retrievers will feature seven rookies on the roster this year after losing six starters. Sophomore pitchers Lauren Nicholson and Amy Sadowl will both return this season. Nicholson's ERA of 2.26 was good for third in the NEC while Sadowl had an ERA of 2.65 and recorded 22 complete games. Junior Kristie Pickeral, the school record holder in single season RBI, will return at third base and senior Sarah Crowell will return to right field.

The Seawolves finished the 2003 season in fourth place in America East. Stony Brook head coach Megan Bryant returns one first-team selection in Kristen Brust at second base. Brust finished the season fourth in batting with an average of .347, first in home runs with 13 and first in runs batted in with 37.

Binghamton finished the 2003 season fifth overall in the conference. Head coach Holly Brown returns a number of top players including catcher Jessica Chellis and pitcher Michelle Weeks, both first-team choices and Maria DeStasio, a second-team

MORE

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utility player selection. Chellis hit .246 and had a slugging percentage of .395, while serving as the battery-mate for the Bearcats pitching staff, which ranked second in ERA (1.79). In the circle, Weeks ranked second in the conference in pitching with an ERA of 1.34, held the lowest opponents batting average at .174 and amassed 143 strikeouts in 22 games for the Bearcats.

Hartford, which finished sixth in the 2003 standings, returns two all-conference selections in Liz Borawski, a first-team third base choice, and Samantha Morrison, a second-team outfielder. Borawski led all players in batting with a .400 average, was first in slugging percentage (.650) and ranked second in on base percentage (.469).

Vermont, which finished seventh in America East in 2003, will return second-team catcher Samantha Chase, who batted .253 a year ago.

The America East Championship will be held May 13 to 15 at Kessock Field in Orono, Maine.

--agate--

2004 America East Conference Softball Preseason Poll

1. Boston U. (8) 64
2. Maine 48
- 3. Albany 47**
4. UMBC 41
5. Stony Brook 31
6. Binghamton 27
7. Hartford 16
8. Vermont 14

University at Albany

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Comments: College Basketball

WOMEN – Vermont 66, Albany 62

Albany, N.Y. – Senior **Theresa LaRocque** led four players in double figures with a team-high 21 points as Vermont defeated Albany, 66-62, in America East Conference action on Wednesday, Feb. 25 at the Recreation and Convocation Center.

Vermont (11-12, AE 5-10) broke a 58-all tie with 2:30 remaining in the second half to take the lead for good, as the Catamounts converted eight free throws down the stretch. Junior **Lani Boardman** connected on her two attempts, while LaRocque, who handed out six assists with five rebounds, converted all six free throws to give her team a 66-60 advantage with 6.4 second left on the clock.

Albany (10-14, AE 7-8) snapped a 39-39 tie, reeling off 13 of the game's next 16 points to take its largest lead, 52-42, with 9:51 remaining. Junior **Maree Jones**, who finished with 13 points and 10 rebounds, highlighted the run with a conventional 3-point play as she was fouled on her jumper in the paint.

The Catamounts, who were perfect from the charity stripe (22-22), rallied with seven unanswered points to cut the deficit to 52-49 at the 6:59 mark. Sophomore **Ashleigh Cuncic** ignited the run on a 3-pointer from the top of the key, and senior **Aaron Yantzi**, who recorded a double-double with 12 points and a team-high 10 rebounds, finished the sequence with a turnaround jumper in the lane.

The Great Danes, who held a 42-34 rebounding advantage, trailed 23-18 with 8:12 left in the first half before exploding with a 14-0 run to take their first lead of the contest. Senior **Sarah Sweetland**, who added 13 points with six assists, sparked the run on a 3-pointer from the baseline. Jones followed with a 3-point play as she was fouled on her drive to the basket. Sweetland gave her team a 32-23 lead with 3:04 on the clock, as she sunk two free throws.

Vermont responded with a 7-0 run to end the first half. Cuncic knocked down a long 3-pointer from the left side, while Yantzi converted a one-and-one to make it 32-30 at intermission.

"Vermont played a great game tonight," commented Albany coach Trina Patterson. "They had the hunger and wanted it more than we did. Our kids were not aggressive on the court, the more aggressive team won tonight."

Albany was led by junior **Danielle Hutcheson's** eighth double-double of the year with 17 points and career-high 21 rebounds. Cuncic finished with 14 points off the bench, while LaRocque dished out six assists and grabbed five rebounds for Vermont.

University at Albany

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UALBANY'S JENNIFER AUBIN WINS ECAC FIELD ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Centerville, Mass. – University at Albany's **Jennifer Aubin** (Saratoga Springs) was named the ECAC Division I Women's Field Athlete of the Week as announced today by the conference office.

Aubin broke her own school mark in winning the triple jump with a leap of 40-feet, 1.75-inches at the America East Conference Indoor Track and Field Championships on February 21. She also finished fourth in the long jump with a distance of 17-feet, 7-inches in helping her team to its best-ever finish at the championships. The Great Danes placed second in the team standings.

This is the second time this season that Aubin has eclipsed the record. She set the previous mark in 2003. The senior will be competing at the ECAC Championships held in Boston, Massachusetts at the Reggie Lewis Center on March 6-7.

University at Albany

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Comments: College Basketball

DANIELLE HUTCHESON NAMED AMERICA EAST CO-PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Boston, Mass. – University at Albany's **Danielle Hutcheson** has been chosen as the America East Conference Co-Player of the Week in women's basketball as announced on Monday by the conference office. She earned the honor for the second time this season by averaging 16.5 points, 8.5 rebounds and 1.5 steals in a pair of wins, while shooting 68.2 percent from the floor.

Hutcheson, a junior center from Phoenix, Ariz., recorded her seventh double-double of the season and 26th overall with 21 points and pulled down a team-best 12 rebounds in leading the Great Danes to its second overtime victory this year, an 80-73 win over Stony Brook on Feb. 18. The 6-foot-4 co-captain followed with a 12-point, five-rebound effort in Albany's 61-48 win over Hartford last Saturday.

UAlbany (10-13, AE 7-7) posted back-to-back season-series sweeps over conference opponents, marking a program first, and have won seven of its last 10 contests.

Hutcheson, who has scored in double figures in seven straight games, is the team's leading rebounder (8.9 rpg) and is second in scoring at a 13.1 clip. Albany entertains conference-foe Vermont on Feb. 25. Tip-off is slated for 7:00 p.m. at the Recreation and Convocation Center.

UALBANY'S IATI EARNS AMERICA EAST ROOKIE AWARD FOR SEVENTH TIME

Boston, Mass. – University at Albany's **Jon Iati** has been selected as the America East Conference Rookie of the Week in men's basketball as announced today by the league office. Iati, a 5-foot-9 freshman, received the award for the seventh time this season.

Iati, who owns an 11-game, double-figure scoring streak, averaged 20.0 points and 4.5 assists as his team split a pair of conference contests. He scored 14 points and matched a career-high with six assists in last Saturday's 77-59 victory over Hartford. Iati had just one turnover in 40 minutes of play. He also scored a career-best 26 points on 11-of-20 shooting while competing in all 50 minutes in an 81-74 double-overtime loss to Stony Brook on Feb. 18.

A native of York, Pa., Iati is tied for fifth among the America East scoring leaders at 14.8 points per game. He is also fifth in assists (3.0 pg) and fourth in three-point field goals made (2.6 pg). Iati has played 40 or more minutes in 19 games this season, and leads the conference in that category at 40.2 per contest.

University at Albany

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Comments: College Baseball

UALBANY BASEBALL SPLITS TWO GAMES AT BEACH BLAST TOURNAMENT Great Danes Upend Previously Unbeaten Missouri, 5-3, in the First Game

Conway, S.C – **Dan Schoonmaker** had an RBI double and scored in the pivotal eighth inning to push UAlbany past previously unbeaten Missouri, 5-3, at Coastal Carolina's Beach Blast Tournament on Sunday afternoon at Watson Stadium. In the second game, Coastal Carolina handed Albany (3-1) its first loss with a 10-6 triumph.

UAlbany, who won its opening three games for the first time since 1986, grabbed a 2-1 lead in the top of the fourth on a two-run homer by senior outfielder **Kirt Zimniewicz**, which also plated Schoonmaker. Missouri (6-1), who was off to its best start in 17 years and receiving votes in some national top-25 polls, responded in their half of the fourth when **Josiah Holst** singled in **James Boone** to tie contest at 2 apiece.

In the eighth, Schoonmaker hit a one-out double to right field scoring **Joe Lamb**, who reached on a fielder's choice. Zimniewicz then reached on a fielder's choice, which plated **Tony Vallone** (Greenwich Central) and advanced Schoonmaker to third. He would be driven in from third on **Brendan Chiavaro's** ground ball to the pitcher, who attempted a second-to-first double play, but could only manage the force-out at second.

Sophomore right-hander **Nick Murphy** (Christian Brothers Academy) went 7.1 innings, giving up one earned run on five hits to earn his second collegiate win. **Shawn Ryan** (Stillwater) came in, following a leadoff walk in the ninth, and closed out the game by striking out the side to record his second save in three days.

Coastal Carolina (5-2) reversed a 3-0 deficit in the third with eight runs over the next four innings. Shortstop **Brent Grandstrand** lined a two-run double to center field that put his team ahead, 4-3, for good in the fourth. **Adam Pernasilici**, who went 3-for-4, slugged his third home run of the season, a two-run blast to left field, in the fifth.

The Chanticleers, who like Missouri made the NCAA Tournament field last year, also got three hits from leadoff man **Ryan McGraw**. Albany's **Derek DeGrazio** doubled and drove in a pair of runs, while shortstop **Joe Lamb** and third baseman **Pat Delaney** each added two hits.

MORE

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2004 Coastal Carolina Beach Blast Tournament

(GAME 1)

Albany	000	200	030	-	5	8	2
Missouri (6-1)	001	100	010	-	3	5	4

Nick Murphy, Mark Suchowiecki (8), Shawn Ryan (9) and Fred Estes
Nick Admire, Dustin Braud (4), Nathan Culp (4), Max Scherzer (8) and Brad Flanders

(GAME 2)

Albany (3-1)	102	000	201	-	6	9	2
Coastal Carolina (5-2)	002	231	11x	-	10	16	4

Steve Emmerthal, Ethan Vaiana (5), Nick Ragone (7), Scott McGovern (8) and Jason Martin
Andy DeLaGarza, Brian Mansfield (6), Mike Andreas (9) and Chad Oxendine

University at Albany

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Comments: College Basketball

MEN – Albany 77, Hartford 59

Albany, N.Y. – Sophomore forward **Levi Levine** scored 22 points and grabbed 10 rebounds, as Albany snapped a four-game losing streak with a 77-59 America East Conference victory over Hartford on Saturday evening at the Recreation and Convocation Center.

Albany (5-20, AE 3-13) led 32-28 at halftime, but then began the final period with 13 unanswered points. Levine, who recorded his first double-double since the season opener, ignited the run with one of his three 3-point field goals. Freshman **Jon Iati**, who had five of his 14 points in that span, later buried another long-range jumper, before **Courtney Johnson** connected a conventional three-point play. Johnson was fouled as he scored on the right baseline, and his free throw gave the Great Danes a commanding 45-28 margin.

Hartford (9-15, AE 4-11) would trail by as much as 19 points on two occasions in the final period, before using an 11-3 spurt to get back into the contest. Sophomore guard **Aaron Cook**, who had a team-high 19 points, made a three-pointer in that stretch. **Bo Taylor**, a 6-foot-4 freshman, converted an offensive rebound off his own miss to slice the deficit to 60-53 with 5:07 remaining.

The Great Danes, who ended a string of eight straight home losses, would regroup with six straight points to push their lead back to double digits. Levine, who made 8-of-13 from the field and added four assists, sandwiched a follow shot in the lane and a layup off a steal around Iati's two free throws.

"We handled their pressure well by attacking it and scoring, plus we kept our composure," said Albany coach Will Brown, whose team won a home conference game for the first time this year. "(Jon) Iati is starting to grow and mature as a young point guard, and it was nice to see Levi (Levine) get back on track."

In the first half, Albany trailed 22-19 after **Rich Baker**, who had 11 points, made a three-point field goal from the top of the arc and **Louis Bosley** split a pair of free throws. The Great Danes, who had lost four straight in this series, went back in front for good on back-to-back 3-pointers by Levine and freshman **Todd Martin**.

"We did a good job on the defensive end, and for the first time in a while put two halves together," said Albany center **Chris Wyatt**, who totaled nine points, five rebounds and four blocks. "This could give us some momentum. Now we need to see if we can carry it over into the final part of the season."

Albany's **Aquawasi St. Hillaire**, a 6-foot-6 junior, had 12 of his 17 points in the second half. The Great Danes posted their second-best shooting performance of the season at 54.3 percent.

University at Albany

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WOMEN – Albany 61, Hartford 48

Albany, N.Y. – Junior **Alicia Learn** scored 12 points and pulled down a team-best seven rebounds in leading Albany to a 61-48 win over Hartford in America East action on Saturday, Feb. 21 at the Recreation and Convocation Center.

Albany (10-13, AE 7-7) used a 6-0 run to take a 19-10 with 7:42 remaining in the first half. Sophomore **Jen Schumacher** ignited the run as she stole the ball from Hartford's **Erika Messam** and converted a fast-break layup, as Learn capped off the spurt on a turnaround jumper on the wing.

Hartford (17-8, AE 8-6) pulled within six with 2:43 left on the clock as freshman **Ikea Witt**, who finished with a team-high 13 points and pulled down five rebounds, converted a jumper to make it 22-16. Junior **Danielle Hutcheson**, who added 12 points and five boards for the Great Danes, knocked down a jumper in the paint to give her team a 24-16 halftime lead.

The Great Danes, who shot a season-high 56.8% from the floor and 66.7% from long-range, built upon their lead in the second half as the Hawks' offense continued to struggle. Albany opened the final period, scoring nine of the contest's next 11 points. Senior **Sarah Sweetland** and Learn tallied four points each in that span, while junior **Maree Jones** converted a conventional three-point play as she was fouled underneath the basket.

Albany capitalized on Hartford's 27.6% shooting from the field, as the team scored six unanswered points to push its lead to 18 on Schumacher's free throw, 46-28, with 8:55 on the clock. The Great Danes held a 56-38 lead on Hutcheson's layup with 2:10 left as Hartford closed out the game scoring 10 of the final 15 points.

"We know Hartford is a good defensive team and not a strong offensive team," commented Albany coach Trina Patterson. "We were ready for them defensively and it showed as we held them to 27% shooting for the game. We stayed up for the entire game, which is a confidence builder for us."

Sophomore **Becky Ayers** added nine points and three assists for Albany, who recorded its second season-series sweep in America East play. **Jess Clark** grabbed a team-high six rebounds with eight points, while **Jenna Gale** added eight points for Hartford.

University at Albany

Athletic Media Relations Fax Cover Sheet

To: Sports Department
From: Brian DePasquale
Office: Athletic Media Relations
Phone: (518) 442-3072
E-Mail: bdepasquale@uamail.albany.edu
Date: 2-21-04 (Saturday)
Pages w/cover: 2

Comments: College Track & Field

UALBANY WINS AMERICA EAST MEN'S INDOOR TRACK & FIELD TITLE

Boston, Mass. – University at Albany's **Gered Burns** (Guilderland H.S.) won the 1,000-meter run in a school-record time and was a member of the winning 4x800-meter relay, as his team won its second consecutive indoor conference title at the America East Conference Indoor Track & Field Championships. Albany scored 140.50 points to win the crown on Saturday afternoon at Boston University's Track and Tennis Center. The Great Danes came from behind to defeat Northeastern, who was second with 128.50.

Burns went 2:26.50 in the 1,000 to break the previous school standard by more than one second. He also ran the anchor leg on the first-place 4x800 relay that also set a UAlbany mark with a time of 7:39.67. **Sam Gonzalez** (Fonda Fultonville), **Noel Campbell** and **Rich Villanueva** were also members of a team that eclipsed the old record of 7:43.51 set two years ago.

Kamar Elliott, a defensive back on the UAlbany football team, became the team's third individual champion when he leaped a personal-best 49-feet, 3-inches in the triple jump. His jump was just one-and-a-half inches off the existing school record, and beat the field by exactly three feet. **Fred Frese** (Scotia-Glenville) and **Naron Stewart** picked up second-place finishes in the heptathlon and high jump, respectively. **Paul Roche** (Niskayuna), who won the long jump on the first day, placed second in the 55-meter hurdles (7.67) and fourth in the heptathlon.

In the women's competition, Albany finished second in the team standings to champion Northeastern. The Great Danes, who totaled 128 points, were third in this championship last year. **Jennifer Aubin** (Saratoga Springs) broke her own school standard in the winning the triple jump with a leap of 40-feet, 1.75-inches. Aubin, who was second in this event in 2003, was fourth in the long jump on Friday evening.

Teresa Covert, who became the first UAlbany athlete to qualify for the NCAA outdoor championships last spring, was second in the 55-hurdles (8.04) and fourth in the 55-dash (7.19). **Diane Matthews** set a UAlbany record in the 800-meter run, as she finished third in 2:13.59. **Alyssa Lotmore** (Bishop Maginn), **Tequirra Cox** and **Joy Williams** were also third in the 1,000-meter run, 200-meter dash and shot put, respectively.

MORE

ALBANY 2-2-2

-agate-

2004 America East Conference Indoor Track & Field Championships
(Boston University Track and Tennis Center, Boston, Mass.)

Final Results

MEN – 1. Albany 140.50, 2. Northeastern 128.50, 3. UMBC 117.50, T4. Boston U. 95,
T4. New Hampshire 95, 6. Binghamton 86, 7. Maine 84.50, 8. Stony Brook 30, 9.
Hartford 1.

WOMEN – 1. Northeastern 179, 2. Albany 128, 3. New Hampshire 109, 4. Maine 93, 5.
Boston U. 75, 6. Binghamton 55, T7. Stony Brook 46, T7. UMBC 46, 9. Vermont 42, 10.
Hartford 6.

University at Albany

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Pages w/cover: 1
Comments: College Baseball

UALBANY BASEBALL DEFEATS RIDER, 14-10, AT BEACH BLAST TOURNAMENT

Conway, S.C. – Senior **Kirt Zimniewicz** drove in five runs, including a grand slam in the sixth inning, to help give UAlbany a 14-10 victory over Rider in third day action at Coastal Carolina's Beach Blast Tournament on Saturday, Feb. 21 at Watson Stadium.

Rider (1-2) trailed 6-3 in the top of the sixth inning before **Scott Knazek** hit a lead-off homer to make it 6-4. **Tom Letizia** singled through the left side to plate **Bryan Wagner**, who reached base on a throwing error, making it a one-run game.

Albany (2-0) responded in the bottom half of the sixth as **Brad Daniels** was hit-by-a-pitch to lead off the inning. **Joe Lamb** singled to the right side and stole second, while **Dan Schoonmaker** reached on a fielder's choice as Daniels was forced out at third on the play. **Tony Vallone** hit a sacrifice fly to left to plate Lamb, making it 7-5. **Brendan Chiavaro** was issued a walk to load the bases for Zimniewicz, who's homer gave the Great Danes an 11-5 advantage.

The Broncs countered back with four runs in the seventh as **Eric D'Alessandro** and **Casey Kernan** were issued back-to-back walks. **Gene Crimoli** singled up the middle to score D'Alessandro. **Scott Knazek** followed with a walk to load the bases with no outs. Wagner singled to center to score Kernan, while Crimoli crossed the plate on **Mike Poalise's** single to the pitcher to make it 11-8. **Tom Letizia** grounded out to second to plate Knazek to cut the deficit to two.

The Great Danes added three insurance runs in the eighth to take a 14-9 lead. **Derek DeGrazio** homered to left with two outs, while Lamb knocked in two runs on a double to the gap in right center. Albany starter **Kyle Thomas** picked up his first win of the season with six innings of work, allowing four earned run on 10 hits.

The Great Danes return to action on Sunday morning as they face Missouri at 10:00 a.m. and later take on host Coastal Carolina at 4:00 p.m. in day four of the Beach Blast Tournament.

--agate--

2004 Coastal Carolina Beach Blast Tournament

Rider (1-2)	100	022	401	-	10	15	3
Albany (2-0)	400	205	03X	-	14	14	2

Mike Dyszel, Evan Garcia (5), Erik Holck (6) and Scott Knazek

Kyle Thomas, Giorgio Fuda (7), Roman Dubiel (7) and Jason Martin

University at Albany

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To: Sports Department
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Date: 2-20-04 (Friday)
Pages w/cover: 2

Comments: College Track & Field

UALBANY'S PAUL ROCHE WINS LONG JUMP AT AMERICA EAST INDOOR MEET

Boston, Mass. – University at Albany's **Paul Roche** (Niskayuna H.S.) won his second consecutive conference indoor long jump title and is the midway-leader in the heptathlon after the first day of competition at the America East Conference Indoor Track & Field Championships on Friday evening at Boston University's Track and Tennis Center. The two-day meet concludes on Saturday.

Roche took first in the long jump with a season-best leap of 23-feet, 2.50-inches. He won the event on his sixth and final attempt to overhaul second-place finisher Rafiq Umar of Binghamton, who went 22-09.25. The UAlbany senior leads the heptathlon after four events with 2,880 points. The Great Danes' **Fred Frese** (Scotia-Glenville) is second with 2,789. Eleven athletes competed in the 55-meter dash, long jump, shot put and high jump on the first day.

Eric Opuana and **Jonathan Jones** recorded a pair of fourth-place finishes. Opuana threw 54-08.75 in the weight throw, while Jones posted 22-03 in the long jump. The Great Danes, who captured last year's championship, are fourth in the tightly bunched team standings.

In the preliminary round, **Nelson English** (Guilderland) sprinted a school-record time of 21.94 seconds in the 200-meter dash to qualify for the final. He broke a mark set by Alix Rodriques in 2001. **Aggrey Morris** reached the 400-meter final with a time of 48.50, while Roche ran the second-fastest qualifying time (7.77) in the 55-meter hurdles.

Albany is third in the women's team standings after the first day with 40 points. Northeastern and New Hampshire lead the way with 50 and 42, respectively. **Ricshara Knight** placed second in the pentathlon with 3,401 points, while teammate **Patty Diedrich** was fourth with 3,265. **Natasha Bermudez** (51-05) and **Joy Williams** (50-08.75) took third and fourth in the weight throw. **Jen Aubin** (Saratoga Springs) garnered fourth in the long jump with a mark of 17-07.

The Great Danes also finished second in the distance medley relay by shattering the school standard by more than 26 seconds. **Alyssa Lotmore** (Bishop Maginn), **Diane Matthews**, **Anisha Andrews** and **Adanna Andrews** were clocked in 11:48.28.

Teresa Covert, who became the first UAlbany athlete to qualify for NCAA nationals at the Division I level last spring, had a busy day in qualifying. Covert posted the fastest preliminary time in the 55-hurdles when she sprinted 8.07 seconds. She also qualified in the 55-dash (7.24) and placed seventh in the long jump final (17-01.50).

MORE

ALBANY 2-2-2

-agate-

2004 America East Conference Indoor Track & Field Championships
(Boston University Track and Tennis Center, Boston, Mass.)

First-Day Results

MEN – 1. Binghamton 41, 2. New Hampshire 34, 3. Northeastern 30.50, 4. Albany 26.50, 5. Maine 20.50, 6. Boston U. 18, 7. UMBC 12.50, 8. Stony Brook 11, 9. Hartford 0.

WOMEN – 1. Northeastern 50, 2. New Hampshire 42, 3. Albany 40, 4. Maine 25, 5. Binghamton 21, T6. Boston U., T6. Vermont 18, 8. Stony Brook 16, 9. UMBC 3, 10. Hartford 0.

University at Albany

Athletic Media Relations Fax Cover Sheet

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Date: 2-20-04 (Friday)
Pages w/cover: 1

Comments: College Baseball

UALBANY BASEBALL TOPS EVANSVILLE, 9-8, IN SEASON OPENER

Conway, S.C – First baseman **Dan Schoonmaker** drove in four runs, including a game-tying three-run home run in the seventh inning, to lead UAlbany past Evansville, 9-8, in the season opener for both teams at Coastal Carolina's Beach Blast Tournament on Friday afternoon at Watson Stadium.

Evansville (0-1) added to its 4-3 lead in the top half of the seventh when **Erik Lis** hit a two-run homer to right-center plating **Mike Serafini**, who reached on leadoff double. Later in the inning, **Cody Strait** scored on a fielding error giving the Purple Aces a 7-3 advantage.

Albany (1-0) responded in its half of the seventh as **Brad Daniels** led off with a walk and later scored on **Brendan Chiavaro's** single to left. Schoonmaker, a second team All-America East Conference selection last season, then hit a three-run shot down the left field line that tied the contest by pushing across **Joe Lamb**, who also singled, and Chiavaro.

The Great Danes, who won their opening game for the first time since 1998, loaded the bases in eighth on a single by **Derek DeGrazio** followed by walks to Lamb and Daniels. With the bases loaded, Albany went ahead, 9-7, as Schoonmaker and **Jason Martin** were both issued free passes by reliever **Kip Simon**.

Albany closer **Shawn Ryan** (Stillwater) earned a save in the ninth in relief of **Mark Suchowiecki**, who picked up his fourth career win. Ryan forced a groundball double play and struck out Strait swinging to end the contest. **Adam Kroft** (Shenendehowa) got the start and went six innings giving up five earned runs on nine hits.

The Great Danes return on Saturday afternoon as they take on Rider in day three of the Beach Blast Tournament. First pitch is slated for 4:00 p.m.

--agate--

2004 Coastal Carolina Beach Blast Tournament

Evansville (0-1)	001	201	301	-	8	11	1
Albany (1-0)	011	001	42x	-	9	9	3

Adam Rogers, Mitch Prout (7), Kip Simon (8) and Dustin Knight.

Adam Kroft, Mark Suchowiecki (7), Shawn Ryan (9) and Jason Martin.

University at Albany

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To: Sports Department
From: Sean Carroll
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Phone: (518) 442-4511
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Date: 2-19-04 (Thursday)
Pages w/cover: 1
Comments: **College Baseball & Basketball**

UALBANY BASEBALL TO OPEN SEASON AT BEACH BLAST TOURNAMENT

Albany, N.Y.— The University at Albany baseball team will open its 2004 season against Evansville at Coastal Carolina's Beach Blast Tournament on Friday, Feb. 20. Rider and Missouri will also participate along with the host school in the four-day event.

Head coach **Jon Mueller**, the former Albany-Colonie Diamond Dogs standout, begins his fifth season at the helm of the UAlbany program. He led his team to a 20-32 record, including 10-12 in America East Conference play, last year, and narrowly missing out on the program's first trip to the postseason conference tournament. The Great Danes have recorded back-to-back 20-win seasons for the first time in Division I play.

A pair of seniors return to this year's squad. First baseman **Dan Schoonmaker** and pitcher **Steve Emmerthal** each earned second-team All-America East honors last season. Emmerthal, the ace of the UAlbany staff, led the team in wins (5), ERA (3.94) and strikeouts (73) in 2003. Joining him in the rotation will be sophomore **Kyle Thomas**, who was named to the conference's all-rookie team.

The Great Danes saw their power numbers increase last season compared to 2002. The club hit 34 home runs, 14 more than the previous spring, and drove in 246 runs. Leading the way was Schoonmaker, who had team-highs with a .336 average, seven homers and 34 RBI, while **Kirt Zimniewicz** and **Joe Lamb** added six long-balls apiece. Junior **Derek DeGrazio** and senior **Brendan Chiavaro** contributed 31 and 30 RBI, respectively.

UAlbany will take on Evansville at 1:00 p.m. at Watson Stadium in Conway, South Carolina on Friday. The Great Danes square off against Rider on Saturday at 4 p.m. and then battle Missouri (10 a.m.) and Coastal Carolina (4 p.m.) on Sunday.

UALBANY'S JEN SCHUMACHER NAMED TO DISTRICT I ALL-ACADEMIC SECOND TEAM

Albany, N.Y. – University at Albany's **Jen Schumacher** has been voted to the CoSIDA University Division District I Academic All-America second team in women's basketball, as announced on Thursday, Feb. 19.

Schumacher, a sophomore guard, has a 3.86 cumulative grade point average in computer science. She is averaging 8.9 points and 2.6 rebounds per game for the Great Danes, who are currently 9-13 overall and fifth in America East Conference standings with a 6-7 record.

Schumacher, a native of Lisle, N.Y., leads the team in three-point field goal percentage (.404) and free throw percentage (.889), while shooting 44.7% from the floor. A Presidential Scholar and member of the UAlbany Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, Schumacher is ranked ninth in the America East in three-point field goals made at 1.64 per contest.

Albany returns to action on Saturday, Feb. 21 as the Great Danes host third-place Hartford at the Recreation and Convocation Center. Tip-off is scheduled for 5:00 p.m.

University at Albany

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To: Sports Department

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Date: 2-18-04 (Wednesday)
Pages w/cover: 2

Comments: College Basketball

WOMEN – Albany 80, Stony Brook 73 (OT)

Stony Brook, N.Y. – Junior forward **Maree Jones** put her team ahead in overtime with a three-point play in leading Albany to an 80-73 America East Conference victory over Stony Brook on Wednesday evening at SBU Indoor Sports Complex.

Albany (9-13, AE 6-7) trailed 60-53 with 5:06 remaining in regulation before scoring 13 of the game's next 17 points to go ahead. Senior guard **Sarah Sweetland** and sophomore **Jen Schumacher** each canned a three-point field goal to ignite the run. Sophomore **Becky Ayers**, who had a career-high 26 points, knocked down one of her six 3-pointers to give her team the lead at 66-64.

Stony Brook (6-16, AE 5-8) tied the contest at 66 apiece, as **Bojana Bogetic**, who had 12 points and eight rebounds, sank a jumper in the paint with 42.9 seconds left. Ayers, who later stole the ball off **Sherry Jordan**, made two free throws to put the Great Danes back in front. Freshman **Mykeema Ford**, who had 21 points for the Seawolves, then made an 18-foot jumper at the buzzer to send the game to overtime.

In the extra period, Jones, who had 12 points and nine rebounds, was fouled as she scored on a dribble-move in the lane with 1:18 remaining. Her conventional three-point play snapped a 73-all tie. The Great Danes made four of six free throws to stay on top in the stretch.

"We refused to lose tonight," said Albany coach Trina Patterson, whose team recorded its first season-series sweep in America East play. "We were persistent and relentless on the court. The difference was that we had the attitude that we wanted to win."

The Seawolves trailed 50-43 midway through the second half, but then reeled off 14 unanswered points. Ford made back-to-back three-pointers in that span, while Bogetic added six markers.

Albany's **Danielle Hutcheson**, a 6-foot-4 junior, registered her seventh double-double of the season with 21 points and 12 rebounds. Sweetland added a career-best 10 assists to go with seven points for the Great Danes, who have won four of their last five starts. Stony Brook's **Jessica Smith** had 14 points and 11 rebounds, while **Kelly Watson** was the fourth player in double figures with 12.

University at Albany

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To: Sports Department
From: Brian DePasquale
Office: Athletic Media Relations
Phone: (518) 442-3072
E-Mail: bdepasquale@uamail.albany.edu
Date: 2-18-04 (Wednesday)
Pages w/cover: 2

Comments: College Basketball

MEN – Stony Brook 81, Albany 74 (2OT)

Albany, N.Y. – **D.J. Munir** scored seven of his season-high 31 points in the second overtime to lead Stony Brook to an 81-74 America East Conference victory over Albany on Wednesday evening at the Recreation and Convocation Center.

Stony Brook (8-16, AE 5-10) rallied from an eight-point deficit with just over two minutes left in regulation to force extra periods. Albany (4-20, AE 2-13) built a 60-52 lead with 2:43 remaining, when freshman guard **Jon Iati**, who scored a career-high 26 points, hit a running one-hander in the lane.

The Seawolves, who used full-court pressure to get back into the contest, ran off seven straight points to close within 60-59 on a free throw by freshman **Mike Popoko**, who had 16 points and six rebounds. Albany's **Levi Levine** sank a pair of foul shots to give his team a three-point margin with 5.8 seconds left. But Munir buried a 22-foot jumper from the top of arc that beat the buzzer, and sent the game to overtime tied at 62 apiece.

In the first extra session, the Great Danes went ahead 67-64 on a jumper by Levine, who finished with 13 points and seven rebounds. Stony Brook would draw even at 67 apiece, as **Cori Spencer** split a pair of free throws. Spencer, a 6-foot-7 junior who recorded a double-double with 15 points and 12 rebounds, missed a potential game-winner on a follow shot in the lane with three seconds to play.

Stony Brook took control early in the second overtime, as Popoko made a conventional three-point play when he was fouled on a offensive-rebound basket. Munir, a 6-foot-3 senior who made 9-of-19 from the floor, then canned one of his five 3-pointers from left of the key for a 73-67 advantage. Albany's Iati later connected on a driving layup to cut into the lead at 77-74, but Munir hit two free throws to seal the verdict with 17.9 seconds remaining.

"We made careless mistakes at crucial times during the game," said Albany coach Will Brown, whose team dropped its fourth straight. "(D.J.) Munir made a big shot at crunch time at the end of regulation. It was a staggering shot. Stony Brook's defensive intensity rose up, and gave them a chance in the last couple of minutes."

Freshman **Mitchell Beauford** had 12 points for the Seawolves, who also won this year's first meeting in overtime, 65-61, back on Jan. 21. Albany's **Courtney Johnson** and **Chris Wyatt** scored 13 and 10, respectively.

"This really hurts," offered Iati, who made 11-of-20 field goal attempts, "We just did all the things that you don't want to do in late-game situations with turnovers and bad decisions. We should have closed this one out long before Munir made that shot."

University at Albany

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Pages w/cover: 1
Comments: **College Track & Field**

UALBANY'S GERED BURNS CHOSEN ECAC TRACK CO-ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Centerville, Mass. – University at Albany's **Gered Burns** (Guilderland H.S.) has been named the ECAC Division I Men's Track Co-Athlete of the Week for a second time this season as announced by the league office on Tuesday, Feb. 17. The sophomore sprinter shared the honor with Navy's Erik Schmidt.

Burns won the 800-meter run with a NCAA-provisional time of 1:50.15 at the fourth annual New Balance Armory Collegiate Invitational on Sunday, Feb. 14 in New York City. He beat a 54-athlete field, including the second-place finisher by more than three seconds.

The Altamont, N.Y. native, eclipsed Kristof Molnar's school standard mark of 1:50.33 which was set last January at Boston U.'s Terrier Invitational. Burns' time provisionally qualifies him for the NCAA Championships on March 12-13 in Fayetteville, Ark.

UALbany will compete at the America East Conference Indoor Track & Field Championships on Feb. 20-21 in Boston, Mass. The Great Danes are defending conference champions.

University at Albany

Athletic Media Relations Fax Cover Sheet

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Date: 2-16-04 (Monday)
Pages w/cover: 1
Comments: College Softball

UALBANY SOFTBALL SWEEPS BIRMINGHAM-SOUTHERN IN DOUBLEHEADER

Birmingham, Ala. – **Julie Gannon** hit her first collegiate grand slam with no outs in the top of the third inning in leading UAlbany to a 7-3 come-from-behind victory over Birmingham-Southern in game one of the doubleheader on Monday, Feb. 16 at the BSC Softball Park.

Birmingham-Southern (1-3) took a 2-1 lead in the bottom of the second inning on **Kerri Owens'** one-out single up the middle that plated **Kristen Furhmann**, who reached first on a fielding error.

Albany (2-5) started its rally in the third with a lead-off single to center by **Katrina Dunning**, who finished 3-for-7 at the plate. **Leslie Busch** and **Andee Lindgren** were both issued walks to load the bases for Gannon, who went 2-for-4 with five RBI.

Lindgren earned her first victory of the year, tossing a complete-game with eight strikeouts and allowing no earned runs.

In the nightcap, **Casey Halloran** hurled a one-hit complete-game shutout for her first collegiate win. **Liz Wieboldt** scored the first run of the game on a throwing error by the catcher. **Jess Kostenblatt** walked and later scored on Busch's single to the gap in right center to take a 2-0 lead in the second.

The Great Danes return to action on Friday, Feb. 27 as they face UNC Greensboro at 12:00 p.m. and Charleston Southern at 4:00 p.m. in opening day action of the Charleston Southern Tournament.

-- agate --

(Game 1)

Albany	014	200	0	-	7	12	3
Birmingham Southern	110	001	0	-	3	10	1

Andee Lindgren and Leanne Tillman

Dawn Treadwell (2), Ami Rodgers, Tifani Talbert and Shannon Cantrell

(Game 2)

Albany (2-5)	020	001	0	-	3	4	0
Birmingham Southern (1-3)	000	000	0	-	0	1	2

Casey Halloran and Ali Meacham

Kristina Villavicencio and Raquel Sanfiel

University at Albany

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Date: 2-15-04 (Sunday)
Pages w/cover: 1
Comments: College Softball

UALBANY SOFTBALL FALLS TO EASTERN KENTUCKY, 2-0, AT BAMA BASH

Tuscaloosa, Ala. – **Kelli Bromley** singled home two runs in the bottom of the third inning to lead Eastern Kentucky past UAlbany, 2-0, in the consolation game of the Hampton Inn Bama Bash on Sunday afternoon at the University of Alabama Softball Complex. Alabama, ranked sixth nationally, beat Lipscomb, 7-0, in the championship.

Eastern Kentucky (3-2), who defeated the Great Danes, 3-2, in round-robin play on Friday, loaded the bases in their half of the third. Bromley singled through the right side to plate **Jennifer Christiansen** and **Alysha Jones**.

Andee Lindgren doubled to lead off the top of the seventh for Albany, who drops to 0-5 on the season. **Danielle Buyea**, a pinch-runner for Lindgren, advanced to third on a wild pitch, but was left stranded when **Maegan Larsen** and **Ashley Rios** each struck out to end the game.

Eastern Kentucky's **Kelsey Anderson** tossed a complete-game four-hit shutout to earn the win, while **Laura Gremillion** pitched 2.1 innings giving up both runs and received the loss.

The Great Danes return to action on Monday, Feb. 16 when they travel to Birmingham Southern to take part in a doubleheader. First pitch for game one is set for 6:00 p.m. (ET).

--agate— 2004 Bama Bash- Day Three

(Consolation Game)

Albany (0-5)	000	000	0	-	0	4	0
Eastern Kentucky (3-2)	002	000	x	-	2	8	0

Laura Gremillion, Andee Lindgren (3) and Ali Meacham
Kelsey Anderson and Suzie Schaefer

University at Albany

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Date: 2-14-04 (Saturday)
Pages w/cover: 2
Comments: **Women's College Basketball**

Maine 69, Albany 44

Orono, Maine – Senior **Heather Ernest** led three players in double figures with 14 points and grabbed seven rebounds in keeping Maine undefeated in America East Conference play with a 69-44 victory over Albany on Saturday evening at Alfond Arena.

Maine (17-5, AE 12-0) led 34-28 with 16:31 remaining in the second half before using an 8-0 to breakaway. Senior guard **Kim Corbitt**, who finished with 12 points, scored six in that span by converting a conventional three-point play and hitting a three-pointer from the top of the key to give her team a 42-30 lead.

Albany (8-13, AE 5-7) pulled within 46-37 with 9:19 remaining. Freshman **Tanya James** made a layup, while sophomore **Jen Schumacher**, who added seven points off the bench, converted a jumper in the lane to slice the lead to single digits.

However, the Black Bears, who shot 45.6-percent from the field, would gradually pull away over the next five minutes. Maine, which has strung together 12 consecutive victories, increased their margin to 67-42 on **Missy Traversi's** layup at the 3:10 mark.

The Great Danes trailed 11-9 with 10:56 remaining in the first half before scoring five unanswered points. Schumacher's layup tied the game at 11 apiece, while senior **Sarah Sweetland** knocked down one of two from the charity stripe to give her team a 14-11 lead with 9:30 on the clock.

Junior **Danielle Hutcheson**, who recorded her fifth double-double of the year with 10 points and 11 rebounds, kept her team close throughout the period. Maine used a 5-0 run to take a 25-20 lead with 1:25 left before intermission on **Ashley Underwood's** three-pointer from the right side. Albany freshman **Lyndsay Clark's** jumper in the lane at the buzzer made it 28-24 at halftime.

"We could not score tonight," said Albany head coach Trina Patterson. "I give credit to Maine for coming out in the second half and exploding. It was hard to slow down the tempo."

Underwood scored 11 points for Maine, who snapped Albany's three-game winning streak. **Monica Peterson** grabbed a team-high eight rebounds to go with four points off the bench. Sophomore **Becky Ayers** chipped in seven points for the Great Danes, who held a 41-38 advantage on the boards but shot a season-low 25.5-percent from the field.

University at Albany

Athletic Media Relations Fax Cover Sheet

To: Sports Department
From: Brian DePasquale
Office: Athletic Media Relations
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E-Mail: bdepasquale@uamail.albany.edu
Date: 2-14-04 (Saturday)
Pages w/cover: 2

Comments: College Track & Softball

BURNS WINS 800-METER RUN AT NEW BALANCE COLLEGIATE INVITATIONAL

New York, N.Y. – University at Albany's **Gered Burns** (Guilderland H.S.) won the 800-meter run with an NCAA-provisional time of 1:50.15 to highlight the University at Albany's performance at the fourth annual New Balance Armory Collegiate Invitational on Saturday afternoon. The two-day meet was held at the Armory Track & Field Center.

Burns, a sophomore, beat the 54-athlete field by shattering Kristof Molnar's school record. Molnar set the UAlbany standard of 1:50.33 at Boston University's Terrier Invitational on Jan. 25, 2003. Burns' effort bested second-place finisher Chris Haag, of Army, by more than three seconds. His time provisionally qualifies him for the NCAA championships on March 12-13 in Fayetteville, Ark.

Kamar Elliott, a cornerback on the UAlbany football team, finished third in the triple jump with an IC4A-qualifying and personal-best leap of 48-feet, 7.25-inches. The Great Danes were 16th in the team standings with 16 points.

In the women's competition, UAlbany produced three top-four finishers on the meet's second day. The Great Danes tied for seventh in the team standings with 29.5 points, as more than 60 schools were in the Collegiate Invitational's University Division.

Freshman **Alyssa Lotmore** (Bishop Maginn) was third in the mile run with an ECAC-qualifying time of 5:00.04. Lotmore, who posted the No. 2 performance in school history, will compete in two events at ECACs as she made the 1,000-meter field one week ago. **Teresa Covert** was third in the 60-meter high hurdles by sprinting 8.69 seconds. **Jennifer Aubin** (Saratoga Springs) took fourth in the triple jump with a mark of 38-09.50. Covert and Aubin each qualified for the ECAC meet with their respective efforts.

-agate_

Fourth Annual New Balance Armory Collegiate Invitational

WOMEN – 1. Essex County College 96, 2. James Madison 53, 3. Buffalo 45.50, 4. Northeastern 43, 5. North Carolina A&T 35, 6. Saint Augustine's 31, T7. Albany 29.50, T7. Morgan State 29.50, 9. St. John's 27, 10. Manhattan 26. 11. St. Joseph's 24.50, 12. Tulane 22, 13. Williams 21.50, 14. Temple 19, T15. La Salle 15, T15. Rutgers 15, 17. Army 11, T18. Lehigh 10, T18. East Stroudsburg 10 ...

MEN – 1. Saint Augustine's 74, 2. Manhattan 48, 3. Duke 43, 4. North Carolina A&T 34, 5. Buffalo 32.50, 6. St. Joseph's 30, T7. Army 29, T7. La Salle 29, 9. UMBC 28.50, 10. Maryland 26.50, 11. Hampton 14.50, 12. Columbia 19, 13. Northeastern 18, T14. Lehigh 17, T14. James Madison 17, 16. Albany 16, T17. Lincoln 14, T17. Stony Brook 14, 19. Morgan State 19.50, 20. Rutgers 13, 21. North Carolina Central 13 ...

MORE

ALBANY SOFTBALL FALLS TWICE TO ALABAMA ON DAY TWO OF BAMA BASH

Tuscaloosa, Ala. – **Jackie McClain** drove in two runs and **Capper Reed** scored twice as Alabama defeated UAlbany, 5-1, in round-robin action at the Hampton Inn Bama Bash on Saturday afternoon at the University of Alabama Softball Complex. The Crimson Tide beat Albany later in the day, 12-0, in the tournament bracket play.

Alabama (7-1) grabbed an lead early when Reed drilled a first-inning home run off the scoreboard in left field. Albany's **Leslie Busch** singled home **Liz Wieboldt** in the top of the third to get her team within 2-1. However, Reed would score again on McClain's homer in the bottom of the inning to give the Crimson Tide a three-run advantage.

Erin Wright pitched a complete-game three-hitter to earn the win, while **Danielle Buyea** picked up the loss despite giving up just two earned runs. Albany (0-4) committed seven errors in the contest, which contributed to two unearned runs.

Alabama's **Angela Wright** had five RBI in the second meeting of the day with the Great Danes. **Jennifer Wright** tossed a complete-game two-hit shutout to advance the Crimson Tide, who are ranked sixth in the nation, into Sunday's championship. UAlbany will play either Eastern Kentucky or Lipscomb in the consolation, beginning at 12 noon ET.

--agate--

2004 Bama Bash – Second Day

(Game 1)

Albany	001	000	0	-	1	3	7
Alabama	112	100	x	-	5	9	0

Danielle Buyea, Carisa Marcucci (4) and Ali Meacham

Erin Wright and Kellie Deska

(Game 2)

Albany	000	00		-	0	4	3
Alabama	025	5x		-	12	13	0

Casey Halloran, Kristin Couris (5) and Laura Tillman

Jennifer Wright and Kellie Deska

University at Albany

Athletic Media Relations Fax Cover Sheet

To: Sports Department
From: Brian DePasquale
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Date: 2-14-04 (Saturday)
Pages w/cover: 2

Comments: College Basketball

MEN – Maine 48, Albany 36

Albany, N.Y. – **Freddy Petkus** scored 12 points and **Mark Flavin** added 10, as Maine came from behind for its fifth straight win with a 48-36 America East Conference victory over Albany on Saturday afternoon at the Recreation and Convocation Center.

In a defensive struggle, Albany (4-19, AE 2-12) rallied from an 11-point first-half deficit to take a 30-29 lead with 10:45 remaining. Freshman guard **Jon Iati**, who scored a team-high 12 points, hit a 16-foot jumper from left of the lane to put his team ahead for the first time.

Maine (16-7, AE 10-4) regrouped with eight unanswered points to go back in front for good. Notre Dame transfer **Chris Markwood** converted a follow shot off a missed jumper, before **Ludmil Hadjisotirov** canned a three-point field goal from the top of the circle. Flavin, a 6-foot-10 senior who added eight rebounds and three blocked shots, then made a conventional three-point play. He was fouled as he scored in the lane for a 37-30 advantage with 4:22 left.

The Black Bears, who held the home team to 26.8-percent shooting and its lowest scoring total since 1973, used the free throw line to hold its margin. Petkus was a perfect 6-of-6 from the charity stripe over the final two minutes.

“This is tough to swallow when you give up 48 points and lose,” said Albany coach Will Brown, whose team has dropped three in-a-row and 10 of its last 11 games. “Maine did a solid job defensively, but we had plenty of easy opportunities. Even though we didn’t execute, we still missed layups, second-chance shots and foul-line jumpers.”

Albany’s **Aquawasi St. Hillaire** recorded his fourth double-double of the season with 10 points and 11 rebounds. The Black Bears, who did not shoot much better at 29.5 percent from the field, have now won all six meetings in this series. Maine remained in a tie for third in the conference standings with Northeastern.

“Both teams did a good job on defense,” commented St. Hillaire, who played with three teammates who went all 40 minutes. “We turned the ball over and struggled to put the ball in the basket when we had chance to take the game over in the second half. We don’t have a lot of guys who can get their own shot, so we have to set good screens and look for each other.”

University at Albany

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To: Sports Department
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Date: 2-13-04 (Friday)
Pages w/cover: 1

Comments: College Track & Field

UALBANY TRACK TEAMS COMPETE AT ARMORY COLLEGIATE INVITATIONAL

New York, N.Y. – University at Albany's **Meghan Howell** set a school record in the 3,000-meter run and **Stephen Evans** ran an IC4A-qualifying time in the 500-meter dash to highlight their team's performance at the New Balance Armory Collegiate Invitational on Friday evening. The two-day meet concludes on Saturday at Armory Track & Field Center.

Howell finished seventh in the 3,000 with a time of 10:02.40 to shatter the existing school standard by more than eight seconds. Andrea Viger set the old mark of 10:10.52 in 2000. **Nicole Susser** (Colonie Central) ran a personal-best 2:59.81 to place sixth in the 1,000-meter run. Other top-10 finishers on the competition's first day were **Joy Williams**, who was fourth in the shot put (45-01.00), and **Ricshara Knight**, who tied for sixth in the high jump with a leap of 5-feet, 3-inches. The Great Danes are 10th in the team standings with 12.5 points.

Evans, a sophomore, sprinted 1:04.50 to finish fourth in the 500. He qualified for the IC4A Championships to be held in Boston, Mass. on March 6-7. More than 60 schools, including UAlbany, Syracuse, Temple, Columbia and Fordham, are competing in the Collegiate Invitational's University Division.

University at Albany

Athletic Media Relations Fax Cover Sheet

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Date: 2-13-04 (Friday)
Pages w/cover: 2

Comments: College Softball

UALBANY SOFTBALL DROPS BOTH GAMES IN DAY ONE OF BAMA BASH

Tuscaloosa, Ala. – **Kelli Bromley** singled in the winning-run in the bottom of the seventh inning to give Eastern Kentucky a 3-2 come-from-behind victory over UAlbany in game one of the Bama Bash on Friday afternoon at the University of Alabama Softball Complex.

Eastern Kentucky (1-0), who twice came back from a one-run deficit, got a one-out double from **Alysha Jones** in their half of the seventh and she would later score the winning run on Bromley's single to right field. **Kelsey Anderson** picked up the win, pitching a complete-game six-hitter allowing two earned runs.

Albany (0-1) got on the board in the top of the first as **Katrina Dunning's** sacrifice fly plated **Jen Nolette**, who reached on a leadoff single. The Great Danes would later take a 2-1 lead in the fourth when **Andee Lindgren**, the 2003 America East Conference Pitcher of the Year, singled home **Carly Isaacs**, who was pinch-running for Dunning. Lindgren received the loss, despite only giving up two earned runs in 6.2 innings of work.

Besty White doubled home the winning-run in the top of the sixth to lead Lipscomb University past Albany, 3-2, in game two of the Bama Bash on Friday afternoon.

Lipscomb (3-0) trailed 2-1 heading into the fifth, but scored two runs to give **Sara Meek**, who tossed a complete-game allowing no earned runs, the win. **Laura Gremillion**, who was making her UAlbany debut, also went the distance for the Great Danes, allowing three earned runs on seven hits, picking up the loss.

Albany (0-2) will take on Alabama, who is ranked sixth nationally, tomorrow in day two of the Bama Bash. Game time is 2 p.m. (eastern).

--agate— **2004 Bama Bash**

(Game 1)

Albany	100	100	0	-	2	6	1
Eastern Kentucky	001	100	1	-	3	7	1

(two outs when winning run scored)

Andee Lindgren and Ali Meacham

Kelsey Anderson and Suzie Schaefer

(Game 2)

Lipscomb	010	011	0	-	3	7	4
Albany	000	200	0	-	2	8	0

Sara Meek and Alysha Forsythe

Laura Gremillion and Laura Tillman

University at Albany

Athletic Media Relations Fax Cover Sheet

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Date: 2-11-04 (Wednesday)
Pages w/cover: 1
Comments: College Basketball

WOMEN – Albany 60, Binghamton 57 (OT)

Albany, N.Y. – Sophomore **Becky Ayers** knocked down one of two foul shots after the Binghamton bench was awarded a technical foul with five seconds remaining in overtime to give Albany its third straight victory with a 60-57 overtime thriller over Binghamton in America East action on Wednesday, Feb. 11 at the Recreation and Convocation Center.

Binghamton (11-8, AE 6-5), which trailed 50-43, scored eight of the contest's next nine points to send the game into overtime. Senior **Kate Townley** ignited the spurt on a layup under the basket, while senior **Leala Wegwerth**, who finished with a double-double with 12 points and 10 rebounds, converted a layup with 11 seconds left in regulation to tie the contest at 51-all.

Albany (8-12, AE 5-6) trailed 55-53 with 2:56 remaining in overtime before reeling off a 6-0 run to take the lead for good. Sophomore **Jen Schumacher** sparked the run on a layup under the basket, and junior **Danielle Hutcheson**, who added 18 points and a team-best nine rebounds, buried a turnaround jumper to give her team a 59-55 lead with 18 seconds remaining.

The Great Danes, who recorded their first overtime win since Dec. 5, 2001 at Army, scored seven unanswered points to take a 27-26 lead into halftime. Ayers, who finished with a team-high 19 points, knocked down one of her four 3-pointers from the top of the key and sunk both free throw attempts in that span. Freshman **Tanya James'** fastbreak layup off a Schumacher steal gave Albany the halftime advantage.

After exchanging baskets to start off the second period, Albany used a 7-0 run to take a 39-32 lead. Ayers' converted a 3-pointer from the left side, while junior **Alicia Learn** highlighted the run with a jumper in the lane with 14:02 on the clock.

"This is a great win for us," said Albany coach Trina Patterson, whose team moved into a three-team tie for fifth place in the league. "This is a tough win against a good Binghamton team. We hit some key shots down the stretch and I thought Becky's 3-pointers put a dent into them."

Schumacher chipped in eight points and four rebounds off the bench for the Great Danes, who won three straight America East contests for the first time in the program's history. Sophomore **Rachel Laws** recorded a double-double with 11 points and 11 rebounds, while junior **Kristin Hibler** added 13 points and seven boards. Sophomore **Jen Blues** finished with 12 points for the Bearcats, who held a 46-35 advantage on the glass.

University at Albany

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Date: 2-11-04 (Wednesday)
Pages w/cover: 1
Comments: **Men's Basketball**

Binghamton 58, Albany 46

Vestal, N.Y. – **Alex Adediran** and **Nick Billings** each had 17 points, as Binghamton pulled away in the second half for a 58-46 America East Conference Victory over Albany on Wednesday evening before 3,476 fans at the Events Center.

Albany (4-18, AE 2-11) battled back from a 10-point deficit in the first half to draw even at 25 apiece early in the final period. **Levi Levine**, who led all scorers with 18 points, tied the contest on a jumper in the lane with 17:06 remaining. Binghamton (11-13, AE 7-6) regrouped with 12 of the games next 14 points. Freshman **Troy Hailey** buried a three-point field goal to give his team the lead for good. Billings, a 7-foot center, hit a turnaround on the left baseline for a 37-27 lead with 12:37 left.

The Bearcats, who shot 52-percent from the field in the second half, were still ahead 39-31, but then blew the game open with 12 unanswered points. Adediran, who did all of his career-high scoring after halftime, and grabbed nine rebounds, had eight points in that run. Billings, who added a game-high ten rebounds and four blocks, hit a jumper and sank two free throws during that stretch.

“Those two guys play well together,” Albany coach **Will Brown** commented. “They are a tough match-up because they are big and strong. Binghamton’s players put great defensive pressure on our perimeter and did a great job of containing **(Jon) Iati**.”

Iati, a 5-foot-9 freshman, was the only other player in double figures with 10 points. He made two three-pointers in the opening period, as his team trailed 24-21 at the intermission. Both teams struggled offensively in the stanza, as each shot less than 34-percent from the floor.

“**(Brandon) Carter** is a good defender because he’s strong and can put the clamps on you,” said Iati, whose team has lost seven straight in this series dating back to 1999. “We had trouble scoring in this game. But the difference was we didn’t get the stops in the second half like we did in the first.”

University at Albany

Athletic Media Relations Fax Cover Sheet

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Date: 2-11-04 (Wednesday)
Pages w/cover: 1
Comments: **Women's Softball**

UALBANY'S SOFTBALL SEASON GETS UNDERWAY THIS WEEKEND IN ALABAMA

Albany, N.Y. - The University at Albany softball team will kick off its 2004 campaign this weekend when it travels to Tuscaloosa, Alabama to take part in the four-team Bama Bash. The season-opening tournament will start on Friday, Feb. 13 and run through Sunday, Feb. 15. Aside from Albany and Alabama, which is currently ranked sixth in the country, other teams scheduled to play are Eastern Kentucky and Lipscomb.

UALbany is coming off the most successful Division I season in its history after winning a school-record 34 games compared to only 10 losses. The Great Danes went 17-4 in the America East Conference to finish in second place, before losing to Boston U. in the championship game of the postseason tournament.

Fourteen of the 17 letterwinners from last year's squad return, including America East Pitcher of the Year **Andee Lindgren**, who went 20-6 with a 1.18 ERA and a school record 171 strikeouts. In addition, the second team All-Northeast Region player hit .297 with one home run and 17 RBI while scoring 18 runs. Also among the returnees is America East Rookie of the Year **Maegan Larsen**, who led the team with a .331 batting average, plus had two homers, 24 RBI and a team-high nine doubles. Larsen and Lindgren are two of three returning players who earned first team all-league honors in 2003. Joining them was senior outfielder **Jen Nolette**, who hit .294 with five doubles, three triples, a home run and 15 RBI, while also stealing 18 bases and scoring 25 runs.

UALbany also saw current sophomores **Katrina Dunning** and **Ashley Rios** earn second-team all-league honors as well as being apart of the America East's all-rookie team. Dunning, a second baseman, hit .252 with nine doubles and 12 RBI and scored 18 runs. Rios, who split time between first base and as the designated player, had a .253 batting average with eight doubles and 18 RBI, while also being hit by pitch a team-high 12 times.

Chris Cannata, who is the reigning America East Coach of the Year, begins her 10th season at the helm. She has amassed a record of 237-126 for a winning percentage of .653, which ranks first on the school's all-time list. Cannata, who played both softball and basketball before graduating from Albany in 1985, has posted back-to-back 30-win seasons.

The Great Danes open play at the Bama Bash at 11:00 a.m. on Friday when they take on Eastern Kentucky. They follow that contest with a 1:30 start against Lipscomb. On Saturday, Albany takes on the host Crimson Tide, who are coming off an NCAA College World Series appearance in May. The top two teams in the round-robin format will play for the championship on Sunday at 1:00 p.m.

University at Albany

Athletic Media Relations Fax Cover Sheet

To: Sports Department
From: Brian DePasquale
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E-Mail: bdepasquale@uamail.albany.edu
Date: 2-9-04 (Monday)
Pages w/cover: 2

Comments: College Basketball & Youth Lacrosse Clinic

DANIELLE HUTCHESON NAMED AMERICA EAST PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Boston, Mass. – University at Albany's **Danielle Hutcheson** has been selected as the America East Conference Player of the Week in women's basketball as announced on Monday by the conference office.

Hutcheson, a junior from Phoenix, Ariz., averaged 21.5 points, 8.5 rebounds and 3.0 steals in a pair of America East wins last week, plus shot 73.1 percent (19-26) from the floor. She recorded her fifth double-double of the season and 24th overall in leading the Great Danes to its first-ever victory over New Hampshire, 73-54, on Feb. 7. The 6-foot-4 center scored a career-high 24 points and added a team-best 11 rebounds. Hutcheson also had 19 points and six rebounds in a 75-58 triumph over UMBC on Feb. 4. UAlbany posted back-to-back conference victories for a second time this season as the team improved to 7-12 overall and 4-6 in league play.

Hutcheson, who has scored in double figures in three straight games, is the team's leading rebounder (8.9 pg) and is second in scoring at 12.5 points per game. Hutcheson, who captured player of the week honors for the second time in her career, ranks sixth on the school's all-time rebounding list with 593.

Albany hosts conference-rival Binghamton on Feb. 11, and the contest will be televised on the America East TV Network. Tip-off is slated for 7:06 p.m. at the Recreation and Convocation Center. The game can be seen locally on Empire Sports Network.

JON IATI NAMED AMERICA EAST ROOKIE OF THE WEEK FOR SIXTH TIME

Boston, Mass. – University at Albany's **Jon Iati** has been chosen the America East Conference Rookie of the Week in men's basketball, as announced today by the conference office. Iati, a 5-foot-9 freshman from York, Pa., earned the weekly award for the sixth time this season.

Iati averaged 19.0 points and 2.5 assists in two games last week. He scored 13 of his game-high 22 points in the opening period in leading UAlbany to a 64-60 victory at UMBC on Feb. 4, as his team ended a seven-game losing streak. The first-year point guard tallied a team-high 16 points in last Saturday's 60-54 loss to New Hampshire. Iati has scored in double figures in seven straight games.

Iati, who has played 40 or more minutes in 15 of 22 games this season, ranks seventh among the America East scoring leaders at 14.6 points per game. He is also fourth in three-point field goals made (2.7 pg) and fifth in assists (3.0 pg).

MORE

ALBANY SPORTS 2-2-2

TOP DOG LACROSSE CLINIC SCHEDULED FOR MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16

Albany, N.Y. – The Top Dog Lacrosse Clinic will be held at the University at Albany Bubble on Monday, February 16, from 6:00-9:00 p.m. The President's Day clinic will cover individual skills and team concepts for boys, ages 8-18. Admission is free, but helmets and gloves are required. Parking will be available in the Recreation and Convocation Center's South Lot.

UAlbany men's lacrosse coach **Scott Marr** will conduct the clinic, along with his assistants John Svec and Brian Van Derlofske. Coach Marr led the Great Danes to the 2003 America East Conference championship and the school's first-ever NCAA Tournament appearance. Current UAlbany players will also be in attendance. For more information, contact the lacrosse office, at 518-591-8570.

University at Albany

Athletic Media Relations Fax Cover Sheet

To: Sports Department
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Date: 2-8-04 (Sunday)
Pages w/cover: 1
Comments: Track and Field (Men's and Women's)

UALBANY WOMEN'S TRACK AND FIELD WINS COLGATE INVITATIONAL

Hamilton, N.Y.- **Diane Matthews** placed first in the 1,000-meters and ran the 1,200-leg on the winning distance medley relay to help the University at Albany women's track and field squad capture the team title at the Colgate University's Class of '32 Invitational. The senior co-captain posted a meet record and ECAC-qualifying time of 2:55.25 in the 1,000 and garnered Female Athlete of the Meet honors. The Great Danes finished well ahead of runner-up Cortland in points, 247-128, at Charles H. Sanford Field House.

Joy Williams was a double-winner for UAlbany with a meet record shot put of 44-feet, 4.75-inches and a weight throw mark of 46-feet, 11.75-inches. Senior **Jennifer Aubin** (Saratoga Springs) had an ECAC-qualifying and meet record mark of 39-feet, 5-inches to win the triple jump, plus placed second in the long jump with a leap of 17-feet, 11.5-inches.

UAlbany's 4x400-relay squad of **Anisha Andrews**, who placed second in the 500, **Adanna Andrews**, a winner in the 800, **Ricshara Knight**, a third-place finisher in the high jump, and **Eliana Durko** won in a Sanford Field House-record time of 3:55.44. Matthews was joined by **Heather Angel**, **Nicole Susser**, who placed third in the one mile, and **Alyssa Lotmore** (Bishop Maginn) on the winning distance medley relay.

Tequirra Cox and **Anna-Kay Campbell** finished one-two in the 55-dash with times of 7.26 and 7.47, respectively. **Patricia Diedrich** crossed the line in 8.36 to capture the 55-high hurdle title, while Durko finished second. Senior **Meghan Howell** took home first in the 3,000, while Lotmore had an ECAC-qualifying time of 2:57.38 in the 1,000.

On the men's side, junior **Wagner Samaniego** placed third in the 500-meter dash for the Great Danes, who sent a partial team to the competition. Junior **Shahpour Fuse** and senior **Rob Caracciolo** had fourth-place showings in the 400 and 3,000, respectively.

-agate-

Colgate University Class of '32 Invitational

WOMEN - 1. Albany 247, 2. Cortland 128, 3. St. Lawrence 87.5, 4. Colgate 87, 5. Hartwick 57.5, 6. New York University 46, 7. Oneonta 30, 8. Union 7, 9. Hamilton 6.

University at Albany

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To: Sports Department
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Date: 2-7-04 (Saturday)
Pages w/cover: 1

Comments: College Basketball

MEN – New Hampshire 60, Albany 54

Albany, N.Y. – **Marcus Bullock** scored 16 of his 19 points in the first half, as New Hampshire snapped a five-game losing streak with a 60-54 America East Conference victory over Albany on Saturday evening before a season-high crowd of 3,721 at the Recreation and Convocation Center.

New Hampshire (6-16, AE 2-10) snapped a 31-31 deadlock early in the final period with seven unanswered points. **Ioannis Karalis** buried a three-point field goal from the top of the arc off a screen to put his team ahead for good. **Griffin Walker** added two free throws, before **Craig Walls**, a 6-foot-7 junior, canned a baseline jumper.

Albany (4-17, AE 2-10) trailed by as much as nine points on three occasions in the half, including 55-46 with 2:37 remaining. The Great Danes tried to rally with six straight points. Freshman guard **Jon Iati**, who scored a team-high 16 points, hit a jumper in the lane, and was followed by **Courtney Johnson's** two free throws in making it a one-possession game.

Still leading 55-52, New Hampshire pulled away, as Walls, who had eight points and seven rebounds, put back **Ronnie Dennis'** missed layup on the left baseline. **Blagoj Janev** (9 points) then sank two foul shots for a 59-52 lead with 21.7 seconds left.

"We struggled on offense and New Hampshire played a lot of zone knowing that we have just one perimeter shooter," Albany coach Will Brown said. "It was disappointing because the crowd tried to help us. We were very flat, plus we gave both Bullock and Karalis too many open looks."

The Wildcats, who held their opponent to 35.5-percent shooting and forced 18 turnovers, used a 20-2 run to build a 26-12 lead in the opening stanza. Bullock, a 6-foot senior who made 7-of-10 field goals, scored 11 of his game-high total in that span.

Albany closed the gap to 31-29 at halftime by making six of its last eight shots before the break. Iati fired in two 3-pointers in that stretch, before Johnson drove the length of the floor and connected on a bank shot at buzzer. **Levi Levine and Aquawasi St. Hillaire** scored 14 and 10 points, respectively, for the Great Danes, who have dropped eight of their last nine contests.

"We didn't execute or defend; we just ran up and down the floor," offered Iati, who was limited to 6-of-18 shooting. "For some reason we were sluggish. The fans were really involved, but we just didn't make our own energy."

University at Albany

Athletic Media Relations Fax Cover Sheet

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Date: 2-7-04 (Saturday)
Pages w/cover: 2
Comments: College Basketball & Women's Tennis

WOMEN – Albany 73, New Hampshire 54

Albany, N.Y. – Junior **Danielle Hutcheson** recorded her fifth double-double of the season with a career-high 24 points and pulled down a team-best 11 rebounds in leading Albany to its first-ever win over New Hampshire, 73-54, in America East Conference action before its largest home crowd of 1,173 fans on Saturday, Feb. 7 at the Recreation and Convocation Center.

Albany (7-12, AE 4-6) was trailing 15-11 before scoring five unanswered points to take the lead for good with 13:21 remaining in the first half. Hutcheson sparked the run with a layup underneath the basket, while junior **Alicia Learn** converted a conventional three-point play as she was fouled on her baseline jumper to give the Great Danes a 16-15 advantage.

New Hampshire (9-10, AE 5-5) pulled within one, 23-22, on sophomore **Kate Poulin's**, who dished out a team-high six assists and grabbed seven boards, baseline 3-pointer with 8:34 on the clock. The Great Danes followed with a 12-4 run ignited by sophomore **Becky Ayers'** long-range jumper on the baseline. Senior **Sarah Sweetland**, who added 10 points and a team-high five assists, capped off the run with a 3-pointer from the left side to extend her team's lead to 35-26 at the 1:56 mark.

Albany, who had four players in double figures, continued to build on its double-digit lead in the second half after taking a 38-28 advantage into halftime. Sweetland's fast-break layup gave the Great Danes a 12-point cushion with 10:21 left in the contest.

New Hampshire never got closer than nine, 51-42, as freshman **Ray Williams**, who recorded a double-double with 12 points and 12 rebounds, knocked down a three-point play at the 9:55 mark. Albany scored 19 of the game's next 27 points to take its largest lead of the contest, 70-50, with 1:38 remaining. Ayers, who finished with 11 points and four assists, scored eight points in that span.

"This may be our best performance of the year and we're very proud of it," commented Albany coach Trina Patterson, whose team shot 47.5% from the field. "We put together a great offensive and defensive game tonight. We have been working in practice on lowering our number of turnovers and I think it has shown in the past two games."

Learn chipped in 12 points and posted a career-high six steals as Albany recorded its largest margin of victory over a conference opponent. Sophomore **Ebony Woods** added 11 points, while **Danielle Clark** finished with 10 points for the Wildcats.

MORE

Albany Sports 2

FAIRFIELD DEFEATS ALBANY IN WOMEN'S TENNIS SEASON-OPENER

Albany, N.Y. – **Taylor Barvoets** and **Andrea Suriano** won both their single matches and later teamed up to defeat Albany's tandem of **Krista Babiarz** and **Lisa Fund**, 8-1, in number one doubles to pace Fairfield to a 7-0 victory in women's tennis on Saturday, Feb. 7 at the bubble on Albany's campus. It marked the season-opener for both teams as the Stags swept all six singles and three doubles matches.

Babiarz highlighted Albany's efforts, as she dropped a 6-2, 6-0 decision to Fairfield's **Diana Webb** at number one singles. Sophomore **Kerry Levis** was topped by the Stags' **Erin Reeves** in number four singles, 6-0, 6-1.

-agate-

Fairfield 7, Albany 0

Singles:

- #1 Diana Webb (Fairfield) def. #1 Krista Babiarz (Albany), 6-2, 6-0
- #2 Taylor Barvoets (Fairfield) def. #2 Lisa Fund (Albany), 6-0, 6-0
- #3 Andrea Suriano (Fairfield) def. #3 Amanda Brown (Albany), 6-0, 6-0
- #4 Erin Reeves (Fairfield) def. #4 Kerry Levis (Albany), 6-0, 6-1
- #5 Megan Stauffer (Fairfield) won by forfeit
- #6 Ann Mallowney (Fairfield) won by forfeit

Doubles:

- #1 Taylor Barvoets/Andrea Suriano (Fairfield) def. Krista Babiarz/Lisa Fund (Albany), 8-1
- #2 Megan Stauffer/Ann Mallowney (Fairfield) def. Kerry Levis/Amanda Brown (Albany), 8-0
- #3 Diana Webb/Erin Reeves (Fairfield) won by forfeit

University at Albany

Athletic Media Relations Fax Cover Sheet

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Comments: Track and Field (Men's)

UALBANY MEN'S TRACK & FIELD WINS TITLE AT BOSTON U. INVITATIONAL

Boston, Mass.- **Nelson English** (Guilderland) and **Aggrey Morris** captured titles in the 200 and 400-meter dashes, respectively, to help lead the University at Albany men's track and field squad to a first-place finish at the Boston University Five-Way Invitational on Saturday afternoon at the Boston University Track and Tennis Center. The Great Danes, who posted five individual champions and won the 4x400-meter relay, outdueled Northeastern, 81-70, in the team scoring.

English's time of 22.19 seconds and Morris' finish of 48.76 qualified them for the IC4A Championships in March. They also teamed up with **Stephen Evans**, who posted an IC4A-qualifying time of 1:04.5 in the 500, and **Gered Burns** (Guilderland), who took home gold in the 800, to win the 4x400-relay and qualify for the IC4A's in a time of 3:15.03.

Kurt Campbell, who is the starting roverback on the Great Danes' football squad, broke the tape in 6.58 to win the 55-meter dash, while **Ray Gilman**, a freshman, won the triple jump with a leap of 45-feet, 5.75-inches.

Senior **Paul Roche** (Niskayuna) finished second in the 55-hurdles and third in the long jump, while **Jonathan Jones** and **Sheldon Gomes** had second-place showings in the long jump and triple jump, respectively.

UALbany's other top finishers included Gilman and **Naron Stewart**, who tied for second in the high jump, and **Eric Opuana** in the 35-pound weight throw.

-agate-

Boston University Five-Way Invitational

1. Albany 81, 2. Northeastern 70, 3. Boston College 42, 4. Boston U. 41, 5. Providence 19.

University at Albany

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Pages w/cover: 1
Comments: Men's Track and Field

UALBANY'S GERED BURNS NAMED ECAC TRACK CO-ATHLETE OF THE WEEK
Centerville, Mass. – University at Albany's **Gered Burns** (Guilderland) has been named the ECAC Division I Men's Track Co-Athlete of the Week as announced today by the league office. The UAlbany sophomore shared the honor with LaSalle University's **Ryan Fennelly**.

Burns set a meet record in the 800-meter with a time of 1:50.46 at the Adidas Boston Indoor Games on January 30. He was a member of the winning 4x400-meter relay team that finished in 3:16.32 at the same event. He ran his 400m leg in 48.8 seconds.

Earlier this season, the Altamont, N.Y. native took home a gold medal in the 800 and was part of the winning 4x800-relay team to garner top male performer honors at the Great Dane Classic. He also won the 1,000 and was part of another winning 4x800 squad at the Cornell Challenge on January 24.

Burns will be competing at Boston University on Saturday, Feb. 7. The meet will include Boston College, Boston U., Northeastern and Providence.

University at Albany

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Pages w/cover: 1

Comments: College Basketball

UALBANY'S JON IATI NAMED AMERICA EAST CONFERENCE ROOKIE OF THE WEEK

Boston, Mass. – University at Albany's **Jon Iati** has been chosen as America East Conference Rookie of the Week in men's basketball, as announced today by the conference office. He earned the weekly honor for the fifth time this season.

Iati, a 5-foot-9 freshman, averaged 15.5 points, 2.5 rebounds and 2.5 assists in two games. He scored 16 of his game-high 18 points in the final period against league-leader Vermont on Jan. 28. Iati added 13 points and matched a pair of career-highs with four rebounds and two steals at Boston University on Feb. 1. He played 40 or more minutes for the 13th time this season in that contest.

Iati is eighth among the America East scoring leaders at 14.2 points per game, plus is fourth in three-point field goals made (2.6 pg) and tied for fifth in assists (3.0 pg). He has scored in double figures in 16 of 19 games.

BIG PURPLE GROWL SCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7

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

The Ferocious Feast is slated from 4:00-7:00 p.m. in University Gymnasium on campus. The menu includes turkey, pasta, salads and desserts. The night's activities include promotions and loads of giveaways and prizes. Big Purple Growl T-Shirts will be distributed during the two games. Fans will have a chance to shoot for a pickup truck courtesy of Gendron's Truck Center. Students will be involved in the CDTA Shot for Tuition and Housing Lottery for the 2004-05 academic year. For more information, contact the UAlbany Athletic Ticket Office, at 518-442-4683.

At halftime of the men's game, UAlbany's Department of Athletics and Recreation will dedicate the men's basketball locker room in the name of former captain **Stephen Mulderry**, who was among the missing in the World Trade Center tragedy of Sept. 11, 2001. Mulderry, a Bishop Maginn High School graduate, was a co-captain on the 1989-90 UAlbany squad which posted a 20-9 record and reached the NCAA Division III East Regional Tournament.

Time Warner Cable (Albany) will televise Saturday's men's game with New Hampshire. Time Warner Cable, which serves more than 320,000 area customers, will air the contest on Channel 3 in the Capital Region, Channel 11 in Pittsfield, Mass. and Channel 14 in the Ticonderoga/Schroon Lake area. UAlbany's radio broadcast team of Rodger Wyland and Doug Mortman, from Fox Sports Radio AM 980, will provide the play-by-play coverage. Greg Bobbitt will produce the broadcast for Time Warner Cable.

University at Albany

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Comments: Men's Basketball

Boston U. 67, Albany 55

Boston, Mass.- **Rashad Bell** scored 14 points and grabbed seven rebounds to pace four players in double figures, as Boston University posted its fourth straight victory with a 67-55 America East Conference victory over Albany on Sunday afternoon at Case Gymnasium.

Boston U. (15-4, AE 9-1) led 28-26 at halftime, but then opened the final period with 13 of the game's next 15 points. The Terriers, who made 8-of-10 three-point field goals in the second half, burried three consecutive long-range jumpers for a 41-28 lead with 14:36 remaining. **Shaun Wynn**, who had 11 points, nailed a three-pointer from the right wing, and was followed by 3-point shots by **Matt Turner** and **Jason Grochowalski**.

Albany (3-16, AE 1-9) closed to within 41-35 on a three-pointer by freshman guard **Jon Iati**, who had 10 of his 13 points in the first half. But the Terriers, who have made NCAA and NIT appearances the last two years, slammed the door shut with 13 unanswered points over the next three minutes. Bell, a 6-foot-8 junior, tallied the final eight points in that decisive spurt. He was fouled as he scored on an in-bounds pass, and his three-point play gave Boston U. a commanding 54-35 lead.

"We controlled the tempo in the first half," said Albany coach Will Brown, whose team dropped its seventh straight. "Their pressure was the difference in the game. They're one of the best teams in the league, and they don't beat themselves. We can't help them by providing points off turnovers."

The Great Danes, who shot 52.6-percent in the first half, jumped out to a 19-14 lead on a reverse layup by **Aquawasi St. Hillaire**. Albany still led 23-19 with 3:38 left in the stanza, but the Terriers went ahead with nine consecutive points. **Chaz Carr**, a 6-foot senior who had 10 points, made his team's first three-pointer of the game, as BU went ahead for good. The Terriers, after opening the season with three losses have now won 15 of their last 16 contests.

"We were not aggressive against their zone pressure," Iati commented. "We didn't space well on the floor, and gave them a chance to guard two of us with one of their players. They did a good job of getting into the passing lanes."

Levi Levine led all scorers with 18 points on 6-of-13 shooting. The sophomore forward added five rebounds, four steals and three assists.