

University at Albany

Sports Information Fax Cover Sheet

To: Sports Department
Organization: Albany Times-Union

From: Brad Wilson
Office: Athletic Media Relations
Phone: (518) 442-3072
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E-Mail: bdepasquale@uamail.albany.edu

Date: 12-29-99 (Wednesday)
Pages w/cover: 2

Comments: Women's College Basketball

Robert Morris 69, Albany 57

Moon Township, Pa. – Senior forward **Elise James** scored 20 points and grabbed a career-high 25 rebounds to lead Robert Morris to a 69-57 victory over Albany Wednesday evening at the Sewall Center. The Great Danes have lost seven straight games after opening the season with two wins.

Albany, who shot just 30 percent from the floor, jumped out to a 10-2 lead with just three minutes-and-32 seconds elapsed. **Megan Buchanan** sank two of her four three-point baskets during that stretch. Robert Morris (3-6) then went on a 25-2 run over the next seven minutes to take a 27-12 lead. The Colonials led 45-23 at the intermission.

The Great Danes outscored Robert Morris 34-24 in the second half. Buchanan led Albany with 21 points, including 15 in the second period. **Liz Tucker** tallied her sixth career double-double with 11 points and 10 rebounds.

Robert Morris shot 60 percent from three-point range (6-of-10) and outrebounded Albany 56-34.

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Sports Information Office Fax Cover Sheet

To: Sports Department
Company: Associated Press

From: Brian DePasquale
Company: Athletic Media Relations
Office Phone: (518) 442-3072
Fax: (518) 442-3139

Date: 12-22-99 (Wednesday)

Pages with cover page: 2

Comments: College Basketball (MEN)

Akron 81, Albany 55

Albany, N.Y. -- **Cheryl Bowles** had 19 points and 10 rebounds and all five starters scored in double figures, as Akron swept past Albany, 81-55, on Wednesday evening at the Recreation and Convocation Center.

Akron (2-6) reeled off 10 unanswered points to break a 24-24 tie in the first half. Senior **Abby Hoy**, who had 17 points, 10 rebounds and eight assists, hit a pair of free throw to give her team the lead for good. **Terrah Yeager** tallied the final six points in that run.

The Zips, who held a 39-30 halftime advantage, used another 10-0 spurt in second half to post an insurmountable lead. Hoy canned a three-pointer to begin that stretch, before **Katie Hank** (11 points) buried another three-point shot from the left corner for a 53-36 cushion.

The Great Danes, who were coming off a 13-day layoff due to final exams, looked rusty as evidenced by 35-percent shooting and 27 turnovers. Albany (2-6) dropped their sixth straight.

Erica Glover had 12 points, while Yeager scored 10 for the Zips, who ended an eight-game road losing streak that dated back to last February. Albany's **Liz Tucker** led her team with 14 points and nine rebounds. **Megan Buchanan** and **Lauren O'Brien** tallied 12 and 11, respectively.

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Date: 12-22-99 (Wednesday)
Pages w/cover: 1

Comments: College Sports

THREE ALBANY PLAYERS ON FIELD HOCKEY ALL-ACADEMIC SQUAD

Glen Allen, Va. – The University at Albany placed three players on the 1999 National Field Hockey Coaches Association Division I National Academic Squad. **Mariah Martin**, a junior tri-captain, leads the group with a 3.91 cumulative grade point average. She has a major in business administration with a minor in economics. **Amy DiMicco** (3.77, business administration) and **Sonia Savino** (3.72, psychology) were also selected.

Martin, who played on a defense which allowed 1.79 goals per game, led the Great Danes to an 11-4 record in their inaugural Division I campaign. She was a regular in all 15 contests, and scored two goals.

DiMicco, a sophomore forward, was third on the team with 26 points, including 11 goals and four assists. She established the school's single-season freshman scoring record one year ago. Savino, a sophomore, posted a 3.28 goals against average as a reserve goalkeeper.

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Date: 12-15-99 (Wednesday)
Pages w/cover: 1

Comments: College Football

BILLY VAN JURA NAMED TO ECAC DIVISION I-AA ALL-STAR TEAM

Centerville, Mass. – University at Albany's **Billy Van Jura** has been chosen to the ECAC Division I-AA All-Star Football Team as announced today by the conference office. Van Jura, a senior offensive lineman, was a second-team selection.

Van Jura, a 6-foot-1, 280-pound lineman, made 32 consecutive starts at left guard in his three seasons as a regular. An All-Northeast Conference choice, Van Jura blocked for an offense that ranks 13th in scoring at 37.0 points per game and 26th in total offense (424.1 yards/game) among the national leaders.

FIVE FOOTBALL PLAYERS NAMED TO NEC ACADEMIC HONOR ROLL

Piscataway, N.J. – Five Albany football standouts have been selected to the Northeast Conference's Fall Academic Honor Roll. Junior offensive lineman **J.T Herfurth**, a two-year starter at left tackle, leads the list with a 3.84 cumulative grade point average in sociology. The conference recognized 248 student-athletes at member institutions.

Other Great Danes chosen were senior linebacker **Ryan Tumbry** (3.43, business administration), junior fullback **Ben Kelcey** (3.53, mathematics), senior roverbak **Greg Green** (3.31, finance/management information systems), and senior defensive tackle **Brian Campe** (3.38, business administration).

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To: Sports Department
Company: Glens Falls Post-Star

From: Brian DePasquale
Company: Athletic Media Relations
Office Phone: (518) 442-3072
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Date: 12-13-99 (Monday)
Pages with cover page: 2

Comments: College Basketball (MEN)

Albany 77, Green Mountain 57

Albany, N.Y. -- **Matthew Haggarty** and **Antione Johnson** each had 14 points to lead Albany to a 77-57 victory over Green Mountain on Monday evening at the Recreation and Convocation Center.

Green Mountain (6-4) built a 22-17 lead in the first half, before Albany (3-7) reeled off 14 unanswered points to pull ahead. Haggarty, who scored six in that run, canned a three-point field goal to put his team ahead, 23-22, with 7:04 left in the period. **Sam Hopes** finished off that scoring spree with a bank shot in transition for a 31-22 advantage.

The Great Danes, who had lost four of their last five starts, pushed out to a 46-32 lead in the second half, when **Will Brand** (11 points) converted a fastbreak layup. **Cabar Luchie**, who led all scorers with 21 points and grabbed seven rebounds, brought Green Mountain within 48-40 on a tip-in with 12:05 left.

Albany, which forced 26 turnovers and held the visitors to 37.5-percent shooting, responded with 12 straight points to end the threat. Haggarty started the run with a 3-pointer, and **Joe Vukovic** finished that stretch off with a conventional three-point play in the lane for a 60-40 lead.

Kunta Norwood had 11 points, while **Sean Forget** added 10 for the Eagles. Sophomore center **Karim Ouattara** scored 10 for the Great Danes, who are off for final exams until traveling to Long Beach State on Dec. 29.

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Date: 12-11-99 (Saturday)
Pages w/cover: 2

Comments: College Men's Basketball

Monmouth 61, Albany 49

West Long Branch, N.J. -- **Rahsaan Johnson** scored 17 points and freshman **Kevin Owens** added a season-high 15 to lead Monmouth past Albany, 61-49, on Saturday evening at Boylan Gymnasium.

The Great Danes, who trailed by seven points on two occasions in the first half, rallied to take a 32-27 lead early in the final period. Albany (2-7) still led 34-33, when the Hawks tallied 13 of the game's next 15 points to go ahead for good. Sophomore guard **Raheem Carter** hit all three of his 3-point field goal attempts in that stretch. His long-range jumper finished off that decisive run, and handed his team a 46-36 lead with 8:01 to play.

Todd Cetnar, Albany's leading scorer, was held to nine points, but he canned a three-point shot to bring his club within 48-43. However, Monmouth (2-5), reeled off eight straight points to end the threat. Owens, a 6-foot-10 center, hit consecutive follow shots to finish off that spurt.

"Monmouth did a very good job on the offensive backboards," said Albany coach **Scott Hicks**, whose team was outrebounded 39-25. "They had three or four chances on several occasions. Owens has good feet, and he held his position well in the lane."

Quin Hayes was the third Hawk in double-figures with 10 points, while Carter ended up with nine. **Antione Johnson** scored a season-high 16 for the Great Danes and **Matthew Haggarty** had 14, including 12 in the second half.

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Pages w/cover: 1

Comments: College Sports

(Track and Field)

Boston, Mass. – Sophomore **Jamie Rodriguez** (Christian Brothers Academy) won the 3,000-meter run to lead Albany to a second place finish among five schools on Saturday at the Boston University Armory.

Rodriguez broke the tape with a personnel best time of 8:34.39. **Jeffrey Brooks** (8:49.83) and **Andy Rickert** (8:56.56), Guilderland High School graduates, placed second and third, respectively, to complete an Albany sweep in the event. **Ronald Edmundson** placed second, while smashing his own school-record with a jump of 48 feet, 7.50 inches in the triple jump.

Northeastern was the meet champion with 90.50 points. Albany scored 54.50 points, and was followed by Boston University (40 points), Central Connecticut State (21), and Bentley (13).

On the women's side, **Andrea Viger** (Granville Central H.S.) placed first in the 3,000 (10:33.62) as Albany was second in the five-team field. Viger was followed closely by teammate **Nicole Herring** (Academy of the Holy Names), who was second with a time of 10:33.89. **Flavia Cass** won the weight throw with a toss of 45-6.50.

The Great Danes finished with 58 points; just eight points behind meet champion, Northeastern. Central Connecticut was third (55 points), Boston University was fourth (46), and Bentley was fifth (5).

-agate-

MEN: 1. Northeastern 90.50, 2. Albany 54.50, 3. Boston University 40, 4. Central Connecticut 21, 5. Bentley 13.

WOMEN: 1. Northeastern 66, 2. Albany 58, 3. Central Connecticut 55, 4. Boston University 46, 5. Bentley 5.

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Date: 12-9-99 (Thursday)
Pages w/cover: 2

Comments: College Basketball

WOMEN

Buffalo 71, Albany 57

Albany, N.Y. – **Tiffany Bell** had 19 points and **Nisha Wilson** added 17 points and 10 rebounds, as Buffalo rallied in the second half for a 71-57 victory over Albany on Thursday evening at the Recreation and Convocation Center.

The Bulls, who won their fifth straight after a season-opening loss to Niagara, erased a 36-34 halftime deficit with 15 unanswered points to begin the final period. Wilson, a 5-foot-8 junior, netted eight points in that scoring spree. Senior guard **Sonia Ortega** (8 points, 10 assists) capped the run with a layup off one of her seven steals for a 49-36 lead with 16:33 remaining.

Albany (2-5) closed within 53-47, when **Lauren O'Brien** hit a jumper to finish off a string of nine consecutive points. However, Buffalo (5-1) pushed the lead back to double figures over the next two minutes. Bell, the nation's fifth-leading scorer, canned a baseline shot and two free throws, before Ortega converted a layup off another steal for a 12-point advantage.

Liz Tucker led Albany with 16 points, while **Marlana Wheelwright** and **Jess McGinlay** each scored 10. The Great Danes, who committed a season-high 29 turnovers, played without the services of injured point guards **Dawn DiMicco** (knee) and **Chris Gray** (foot). **Tara Perrier** and **Colleen Tabor** had 11 and 10 points, respectively, for Buffalo.

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Date: 12-7-99 (Tuesday)
Pages w/cover: 2

Comments: College Women's Basketball

George Washington 95, Albany 46

Washington, D.C. – Senior **Elisa Aguilar** scored 20 points to lead five players in double-figures as No. 30 George Washington cruised to a 95-46 victory over Albany on Tuesday evening in front of a crowd of 1,017 at the Charles E. Smith Center.

Lauren O'Brien (8 points) made a lay-up for Albany (2-4) to tie the game at 11-11 with 14:54 left in the first half, but George Washington (4-2) quickly responded with 11 straight points over the next minute and 31 seconds to take a 22-11 advantage. **Cathy Joens** scored seven of her 12 points during that run. **Erica Lawrence** scored 11 of her 12 points in the opening half as GW pulled away to a 50-28 lead at the intermission.

Leslie Carlson scored a career-high 16 points, including 12 in the second half. **Petra Dubovcova** added 10 points for the Colonials, who shot 47 percent from the floor (40-of-85). GW dominated the boards out rebounding Albany 51 to 28.

Megan Buchanan, who led the Great Danes with 19 points, moved to ninth on Albany's all-time scoring list with 806 career points. Albany (2-4), who suited just eight players for the game, scored only 18 second half points.

"You always want to go into a game like this in full strength, and when you don't it really hurts you in the second half," said Albany coach **Mari Warner**. "It was a great experience to play a top-30 team and it gives us something to shoot for down the road."

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Date: 12-7-99 (Tuesday)
Pages w/cover: 1

Comments: College Women's Basketball

BUCHANAN NAMED DIVISION I INDEPENDENT PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Stony Brook, N.Y. – University at Albany's **Megan Buchanan** has been named the Division I Independent Player of the Week, as announced today by the Independent Women's Basketball office at the University at Stony Brook.

Buchanan, a senior forward from Arkport, N.Y., averaged 28 points in two games last weekend at the Cornell Classic in Ithaca, N.Y. Buchanan tied a career-high with 33 points in a 75-72 loss to Cornell in the opener on Friday and added 23 more as the Great Danes fell to Bucknell, 89-65, in Saturday's consolation game. Buchanan's performance earned her all-tournament honors. In addition, her 33 points against Cornell tied for second on Albany's all-time single-game scoring list. Buchanan had previously established that mark last season, as did Lisa Parish in 1987.

Buchanan also scored 11 points in a 74-56 loss to Manhattan on Nov. 30. She is second in scoring among Division I independents with 19.6 points per game heading into a contest at George Washington tonight.

Albany is one of six Division I women's basketball independents this year, along with Belmont, Centenary, Stony Brook, Texas A&M-Corpus Christi, and Texas-Pan American.

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Date: 12-4-99 (Saturday)
Pages w/cover: 2

Comments: College Men's Basketball

Albany 75, Liberty 59

Lynchburg, Va. – **Todd Cetnar** (Amsterdam H.S.) scored 26 points and **Matthew Haggarty** added 17 as Albany knocked-off previously unbeaten Liberty, 75-59, on Saturday evening at Vines Center.

Albany (2-5) twice scored 10 unanswered points in the first half to gain control of the game. The Great Danes, who shot 52 percent, and made a season high 12 three-point field goals, reversed an early 10-5 deficit. **Antione Johnson**, who scored a season-best 11 points, hit a 3-pointer to begin the first run. Haggarty burried two long-range jumpers in the second spurt that gave his team a 33-19 advantage.

The Great Danes, who led 37-24 at halftime, upped their lead to 54-33 with 10:57 remaining on another three-point field goal by Johnson. Albany's defense, a 2-3 zone, forced their opponent to shoot just 30.8 percent from the floor, and make just 3-of-15 three-point shots.

Senior **Carl Williams**, who had 23 points, helped Liberty (4-1) close to within 12 points with 3:31 left, but Cetnar and Haggarty each canned a 3-pointer to end any threat.

"I am so proud of this team," Albany coach Scott Hicks said. "We played with intensity and confidence. The two-zone slowed them down, and we handled the ball fairly well against their full court pressure."

Kenneth Anaebonam had 11 points and 12 rebounds for the Flames. Albany's **Will Brand** added nine points, 11 rebounds, and four blocked shots. The Great Danes, who ended a five-game road losing-streak that dated back to last year, travel to Syracuse on Tuesday, Dec. 7.

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Date: 12-4-99 (Saturday)
Pages w/cover: 3

Comments: **College Sports** (w. basketball, track & field) *m. basketball box will be sent later*

(Women's Basketball)
Cornell Classic (Consolation Game)
Bucknell 89, Albany 65

Ithaca, N.Y. – Freshman guard **Molly Creamer** scored 21 points as Bucknell posted a 89-65 win over Albany in the consolation game of the Cornell Classic on Saturday at Newman Arena.

Albany (2-3) trimmed Bucknell's lead to 45-41 with 17:24 remaining in the second half on a **Megan Buchanan** 3-pointer. Buchanan had 23 points, while shooting 9-of-17 from the field, including three 3-pointers. She totaled 56 points in two tournament games.

Bucknell (4-1) quickly responded with a 19-4 run over the next six-minutes to advance its lead to 64-45. Creamer scored seven points, while **Lyndsay Earhart** scored eight of her 11 points during that Bison run.

Bucknell jumped out to an early 26-11 lead that was capped on a driving lay-up by **Lori Houck**, who scored 11 of her 17 points during the opening half. **Dawn DiMicco** than scored all of her eight points in a 22-14 Albany run that closed Bucknell's lead to 40-33 at the intermission.

Vicki Quimby had 17 points, while adding 15 rebounds for the Bison, who out-muscled Albany, 59 to 37 on the boards. **Liz Tucker** had 17 points, eight rebounds, and six assists for the Great Danes.

****more****

Albany Sports 2-2-2-2 (12-4-99)

(Track and Field)

Hamilton, N.Y. – Sophomore **Jamie Rodriguez** (Christian Brothers Academy) won the 3,000-meter run and freshman **Rob Garren** (Fonda-Fultonville) won the pole vault as the Albany men's track team won a quadrangular meet on Saturday at Colgate's Charles H. Sanford Field House.

Rodriguez crossed the finish line with a time of 8:46.34, while Garren cleared the pole vault bar at 14 feet, 5.25 inches. Albany's **Ronald Edmundson** won the triple jump (47-4.25) and qualified for the IC4A Championships on March 4-5 in Cambridge, Mass. **Luis Soto** returned after missing all of last season to win the long jump (21-11.75), and **Rudy Volcy** and **Charles Young** tied for first in the 55-meter high-hurdles (7.98). The Great Danes totaled 177 points to narrowly defeat Buffalo (173 points). Colgate was third (123) and Canisius placed fourth (76).

On the women's side, sophomore **Nicole Herring** (Academy of the Holy Names) won the 3,000-meter run (10:41.21) and sophomore **Onieka Randall** placed first in the 400-meter dash (1:00.66) to lead Albany to a second place finish with 162.50 points. Buffalo won the meet (227 points), while Colgate was third (75) and Canisius placed fourth (63.50).

MEN: 1. Albany 177, 2. Buffalo 173, 3. Colgate 123, 4. Canisius 76.

WOMEN: 1. Buffalo 227, 2. Albany 162.50, 3. Colgate 75, 4. Canisius 63.50.

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Date: 12-3-99 (Friday)
Pages w/cover: 2

Comments: College Basketball (Women)

Cornell Classic (First Round)
Cornell 75, Albany 72

Ithaca, N.Y. – Senior forward **Kristie Riccio** scored 19 points as Cornell posted a 75-72 victory over Albany in the opening round of the Cornell Classic on Friday evening at Newman Arena. Hofstra upended Bucknell, 87-74, in the other first round contest. Albany will meet Bucknell in tomorrow's consolation game at 5 p.m.

Riccio converted on 7-of-10 field goals, and knocked down 4-of-7 three-point shots as the Big Red improved to 5-1 for its best start in school history.

Cornell jumped out to a 24-6 lead with 12:20 left in the first half, but Albany (2-2) went on an 11-2 run over the next four minutes to cut the margin to 26-17.

Albany's **Megan Buchanan**, who tied a career-high with 33 points, scored five points at the end of the opening half as Cornell's lead was trimmed to 38-36 at the intermission. Buchanan moved to 12th on Albany's all-time scoring list with 764 points.

"I thought the team started a little slow, but we relaxed and started to play better," said head coach **Mari Warner**. "Megan (Buchanan) had a great game and shot the ball very well. We were in a game with a very good Division I team that is well coached."

Albany took a 51-50 advantage, its only lead of the game, on a basket by Buchanan with 13:05 left. Riccio responded by nailing a three-pointer to put the Big Red back in front, 53-51.

With Albany trailing 73-69, Buchanan was fouled attempting a three-point shot and converted on all three free throws to narrow Cornell's lead to 73-72 with 17.8 seconds remaining. The Big Red's **Deborah Stevens** and **Jumana Salti** each went 1-of-2 from the free throw line down the stretch giving Cornell the 75-72 win. Stevens ended the game with 14 points, while Salti had a game-high 16 rebounds and added nine points. Albany's **Liz Tucker** had 19 points.

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Date: 12-2-99 (Thursday)

Pages with cover page: 2

Comments: College Basketball (MEN)

Vermont 72, Albany 61

Albany, N.Y. -- **Craig Peper** had 14 points and 11 rebounds, and **Ryan Driggers** came off the bench to score 14 in leading Vermont to a 72-61 victory over Albany on Thursday evening at the Recreation and Convocation Center.

Vermont (1-4) picked up its first win of the season after a rugged early schedule which featured the likes of nationally-ranked Connecticut and Ohio State. Albany fell to 1-5 in its first season as a Division I program.

The Great Danes led 45-44 with 13:23 remaining, but Vermont countered with 10 unanswered points. **Tobe Carberry**, who had 12 points, hit a baseline jumper and a slam dunk off his steal during the run, before point guard **David Roach** canned a three-point field goal for a 54-45 lead.

Albany closed with 61-57 on a basket by **Will Brand**, who had 10 points and eight rebounds. But **Matt Sheftic** scored in the lane and guard **Tony Orciari** (13 points) converted a fastbreak layup to keep the Catamounts clearly in front.

The Great Danes built a 31-23 first-half cushion, as freshman **Sam Hopes** had 10 of his season-high 14 points in the period. However, Vermont battled back to take a 35-34 halftime lead, when Peper beat the buzzer with a fastbreak layup. Peper, a 6-foot-8 forward, scored 12 points in the opening half.

Albany's **Todd Cetnar** finished with 13 points, and became the 22nd player in school history to score 1,000 for his career.

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Comments: College Football

Mike Grever Named Northeast Conference Defensive Player of the Year Five Albany Football Players on All-Conference First Team

Piscataway, N.J. -- University at Albany's **Mike Grever** was chosen as the 1999 Northeast Conference Defensive Player of the Year in football, and was among five Albany players selected to All-NEC first team as announced today by the conference office.

Grever, a senior linebacker, led the Great Danes with 88 tackles, including seven for losses and 1.5 sacks, and added three interceptions, five pass break-ups and two blocked kicks. A 5-foot-11, 215-pound defender, Grever spearheaded a defensive unit that ranked 15th among the Division I-AA national leaders in scoring at 17.3 points per game. He finished his career as the school's all-time tackles leader with 351, and had 24 career games with double-figure tackles.

Joining Grever on the first team were split end **Chris Phillis** (Saratoga Springs H.S.), tight end **Steve Checksfield**, right tackle **Jason Barra** and free safety **Samson Brown**.

Phillis, who was also an All-NEC second-team return specialist, caught 33 passes for 635 yards and six touchdowns, and led the Great Danes in all-purpose yards with 902 in his first season as a regular. Brown, a redshirt freshman, had 62 tackles and six pass break-ups. Barra was a three-year starter for a offensive unit that was among the nation's leaders in scoring (37.0 ppg) and total offense (424.1 yards/game). Checksfield, a junior, had 14 receptions for 299 yards and four touchdowns.

MORE

Albany Football 2-2-2-2

Senior tailback **Greg Garrett** and five other Great Danes were named to the All-NEC second team. Garrett rushed for 725 yards and eight touchdowns, and also caught three scoring passes. He completed his career as Albany's all-time leader in rushing (2,958), all-purpose yards (3,562), scoring (204 points) and touchdowns (33).

Also picked by the conference's coaches to the second-team unit were cornerback **Jelani Dandles** (Bishop Maginn H.S.), left tackle **J.T. Herfurth**, left guard **Billy Van Jura**, outside linebacker **Robert Anderson**, and defensive tackle **Chris Wilgosz**.

Albany finished its first season at the NCAA Division I-AA level with a 7-2 record, and placed second in the conference with a 6-1 mark.