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UNION COLLEGE DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS

THE BLOCK



REPORT

WINTER 2005

The Official Publication of the Friends of Union Athletics

Seven Enshrined into the Union Athletics Hall of Fame on September 10



Allison

Brown

Francis

Haas, Jr.

McDougall

Rita

Sakala

Seven distinguished individuals were inducted into the Union College Athletics Hall of Fame on Saturday, September 10. The Class of 2005 consists of **Bruce Allison** (Athletic Director and men's lacrosse head coach), **Gary Brown '65** (baseball, basketball and soccer; soccer, basketball and lacrosse coach), **Priscilla Francis (Nellissen) '77** (field hockey and softball), **George Haas '47** (baseball and basketball), **Wayne McDougall '86** (ice hockey), **Alex Rita '87** (baseball and football), and **Dick Sakala** (Athletic Director). The Union Athletics Hall of Fame, which began in 2002, expanded to 24 members with this year's group.

"This is truly a talented array of Union individuals who [entered] our prestigious Athletics Hall of Fame in September," commented Director of Athletics Jim McLaughlin '93. "The Class of 2005 features administrators, coaches, and student-athletes from our superb sports annals. This is just our fourth class, and through the years we will continue to honor extraordinary people from our rich and vast athletic history."

More than 100 people, including interim President James Underwood, attended the festivities to honor the inductees. The day featured a full array of events, including a welcome reception and a luncheon. Tom Gutenberger, V.P. for College Relations, emceed the ceremony. The Union football team opened the 2005 season with a 35-7 win against Springfield College that evening. At halftime of the football contest, the seven new inductees were honored on the field.

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Stephen C. Ainlay Appointed President

Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Stephen Ciesinski '70 notified the campus community in October that Stephen C. Ainlay has been appointed the 18th president of Union College. He will assume the presidency in June 2006.

Ciesinski wrote, "In our interviews with Stephen, he clearly demonstrated that he shares both our strong commitment to the traditional liberal arts and sciences and engineering, and our passion for innovation in education. He is a big believer and supporter of college athletics, and strongly values the integration of intellectual and social life on campus. Throughout his career, he has been a leader in efforts to enhance diversity in campus culture, faculty hiring and student recruitment."

Ciesinski continued, "Stephen was named President-elect by the Trustees at our fall meeting upon the unanimous recommendation of the Presidential Search Committee chaired by Frank Messa '73."

The Department of Athletics extends its congratulations to President Ainlay and looks forward to his arrival in June.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

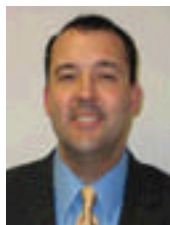
As the fall season comes to an end, we cannot help but be impressed with the individual and team accomplishments of our coaches and student-athletes. Four teams competed in Liberty League Championships while three went on to compete in NCAA Championships. Three coaches were named Liberty League coach of the year, two student-athletes were named Liberty League player of the year, while one was named rookie of the year. Thirty student-athletes were named to the first or second all-league teams. While we are proud of the accomplishments on the field, we take an even greater sense of pride in the accomplishments off the field, which include 31 Liberty League All-Academic Team members, the Division III ECAC female scholar-athlete of the year award winner, two Academic All-Americans and a continued commitment to community service from all of our programs.

Overall it was a great season; academic and athletic excellence will continue to be the primary focus as we move forward. In order to achieve all of our goals and aspirations, we need your support to enhance our programs and provide competitive advantages within the league and beyond. First rate facilities, equipment and funding to recruit and compete nationally are essential in order to sustain the levels that have been set by the fall season.

On behalf of our student-athletes and coaches, I want to thank you for your previous generosity and ask for your continued support by making a contribution to the *Friends of Union Athletics*. If you are donating for the first time, I am confident you will enjoy connecting with the present Union athletics community. Together we make a difference in the lives of our student-athletes who compete valiantly for our institution. Your gift will have an immediate impact on our program and provides us with the additional resources needed to sustain competitive excellence in all of our endeavors. I look forward to seeing all of you at an upcoming event in the future.

With appreciation,

Jim McLaughlin '93
Director of Athletics



Critchlow, Brahler Join Union Head Coaching Ranks

Jessica Critchlow and Bill Brahler were named head coaches of the Union women's lacrosse program in July of 2005 and of the men's and women's tennis program in August of 2005 respectively. Critchlow, the head coach at Utica College since July of 2002, took over the program from interim head coach Lacey French, who serves the College as the head women's field hockey coach.

Critchlow has guided a Utica program that just completed its fifth varsity season in 2005, and coached the Lady Pioneers for the last three seasons. She led Utica to the 2003 New York State Women's Collegiate Athletic Association (NYSWCAA) Lacrosse Championship tournament. Her first two seasons at the program's helm resulted in the team recording its best finish ever in Empire 8 Conference competition, with many individuals garnering conference and national honors. Critchlow's teams continued to excel academically as well, with many of the Lady Pioneers consistently producing a 3.0 or higher GPA.

"I am very excited about coming to Union College, an institution and a program with such a rich history of tradition and excellence," stated Critchlow. "In particular I look forward to work-

ing with a talented core of returning players. I believe there is a great opportunity to build upon solid past success and together, we'll make it happen."

Critchlow began her duties at Utica in August of 2001, serving as an assistant women's lacrosse and women's soccer coach. She took over both the women's lacrosse and women's soccer head coaching duties in July of 2002, and served in both roles until May of 2004. Critchlow was named the Empire 8 Women's Soccer Coach of the Year in 2003, turning the program around with an 11-4-1 mark after a 3-12 record just two years earlier.

A letterwinner in both lacrosse and soccer at the College of Wooster (Ohio), Critchlow captained the Scots lacrosse team her senior year and won the North Coast Athletic Conference's Defensive Player of the Year Award in 2001. She was also selected as a regional All-American and was named to the North Coast Athletic Conference All-Star First Team as a midfielder.

Brahler, who has served as an assistant tennis coach at Union since June of 2004, replaces Wayne Emerick, who had served in the roles

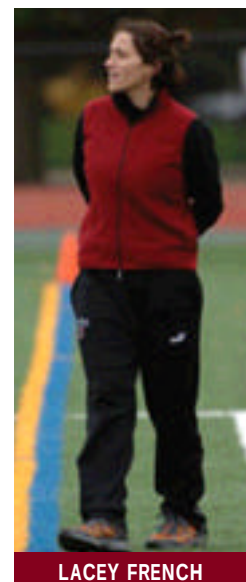
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French Named Liberty League Field Hockey Coach of the Year; Three Players Named to All-Star Teams

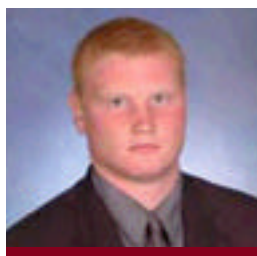
Lacey French, who guided Union's field hockey team to a playoff berth and the most wins in 12 years, has been named the Liberty League Coach of the Year. French guided Union to a fourth-place finish in the league and a tournament playoff appearance. Union posted 10 wins overall in the season. Last year, the program had six wins and in her first season.

Three players were also honored with their selections to the 2005 Liberty League All-Star Teams. Junior defender Emily French (North Andover, MA/Brooks School) was named to the Liberty League First Team. She started in the backfield for all 18 games and has been a major reason why the Dutchwomen have allowed three or less goals in 12 of the 18 games. Union posted three shutouts in the season and has allowed a total of five goals in the last four games entering the tournament. The team has allowed two or less goals in nine games.

Union had two selections to the Second Team: senior forward Kristin Murphy (Branford, CT/Branford) and junior forward Jessica Trotter (St. Louis, MO/John Burroughs). Murphy has started all 18 games and has 17 goals, three assists, 37 points, 103 shots and a 56.3 shot on goal percentage. She led the Dutchwomen in goals, points, shots and game-winning goals (6). She also was named a Liberty League Player of the Week this year. Trotter, who also received a weekly award, has 15 goals and 34 points in 18 games, with a 68.0 shot-on-goal percentage.



LACEY FRENCH

**DEREK WAYMAN**

Wayman Named to 2005 *ESPN The Magazine* Academic All-America® Football Team

Union senior linebacker Derek Wayman (Burnt Hills/Ballston Lake, NY) was named to the 2005 *ESPN The Magazine* Academic All-America® college football teams, as selected by the College Sports Information Directors Association.

Wayman had 51 tackles for the Dutchmen, including 39 solo hits. He also had 7.5 tackles for losses of 50 yards, and five sacks for a total of 40 yards. Wayman also had two pass break-ups, two

fumble recoveries and a forced fumble. He has a 3.85 GPA in Chemistry.

To be eligible, a student-athlete must be a varsity starter or key reserve, maintain a cumulative grade point average of 3.20 on a scale of 4.00, have reached sophomore athletic and academic standings at his/her current institution and be nominated by his/her sports information director. Since the program's inception in 1952, CoSIDA has bestowed Academic All-America honors on more than 14,000 student-athletes in Division I, II, III and NAIA covering all NCAA championship sports.

Eisenhut Named ECAC Robbins Scholar-Athlete Winner for all ECAC Division III Institutions

Erika Eisenhut '06 of Mohawk, NY, who is in her senior year at Union, has been chosen for one of the nation's most prestigious scholar-athlete awards – Division III female representative for the 2004-05 Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Robbins Scholar-Athlete Award.

Only six students, one female and one male from each of the three National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) divisions in the Conference, will receive this high honor this fall.

Phil Buttafuoco, ECAC commissioner, announced the winners in Cape Cod, MA, recently. Sponsored by Robbins Sports Surfaces, the Cincinnati-based sports surfaces company, the awards pay tribute to the outstanding academic and athletics achievements of student-athletes representing ECAC schools in Divisions I, II and III.

Eisenhut and the five other winners, chosen for their "extraordinary achievements in academics, athletics and community service," were recognized during the ECAC Convention at the Honors Dinner on September 25.

A three-sport athlete, Eisenhut was the second player in Division III history to compete in three NCAA championships in the same season (2003-04). A starter on the soccer, basketball and softball teams, she also excelled in the classroom with a 3.82 cumulative grade point average in mathematics and psychology.

Her three sport teams combined for a record of 68-17-1 in 2004-05, good for a winning percentage of 79.7 percent.

She had nine goals and 26 points for the soccer team, which went 19-2-1 in 2004 and won the ECAC Upstate New York Championship.

She started all 28 games for Union's women's basketball team and led the squad in assists (91), steals (73) and blocks (12) while scoring 10.5 points per game. Union finished 19-9 and the Dutchwomen reached the ECAC Upstate Championship Game.

On the softball diamond, Eisenhut hit .315 and led the team with 12 stolen bases while driving in 21 runs. The softball team (30-6) finished with a school record in victories. The Dutchwomen entered the NCAA tournament, their third straight appearance, with a #8 national ranking, the highest in the program's history. Eisenhut is a Big Brothers Big Sisters Volunteer, a Union Peer Tutor and a Girl Scout Troop mentor, and she was a member of the recent Athletic Director Search Committee. She is the sister of Clifford Eisenhut '04.

Former men's basketball forward, Devon Bruce '05 was also honored by the ECAC, along with Eisenhut, as a 2004-05 Robbins Scholar-Athlete Institutional Award winner. Bruce was a co-captain for the men's basketball team last winter, and had a 3.41 GPA in economics. He was a co-captain of the Liberty League Champions, and the 17-12 Dutchmen advanced to the second round of the NCAA tournament. Bruce was named the MVP of the Sig Makofski Tournament hosted by Union, and finished the season with 13.7 points and a team-best 5.9 rebounds per game. Bruce ended his career ranked third all-time in career rebounds at Union with 662, the highest total at the college since 1980. He finished with 1,169 career points to rank 11th all-time.

**ERIKA EISENHUT**

Guinn Named Liberty League Men's Soccer Coach of the Year; Eight Women's Soccer Players Honored

The Union College men's and women's soccer teams received many post-season awards from the Liberty League.

Jeff Guinn guided the Dutchmen to a school record 17 wins and a perfect 7-0 mark in the League in his ninth season, and was named the League's Coach of the

Year. Union was ranked 15th nationally, with a school record 67 goals in 22 games, and Union allowed just 18 goals for the year.

The Dutchmen swept all three major awards, as the Player of the Year is Casey Forek (Bedford, MA/Taft School) and the Rookie of the Year is Rob Kramer (Westport, CT/Staples). Joining Forek and Kramer on the First Team is Ryan McAleese (Walpole, MA/Walpole). Second Team honors went to forward Chris Poey (Amherst, MA/Amherst Regional), midfielder Dane Mellon (Clifton Park, NY/Shenendehowa), midfielder Mark Susco (Short Hills, NJ/Pingry School) and defender Matt Acciani (Cherry Hill, NJ/Cherry Hill East). Honorable Mention honors went to midfielder Wade Cheatham (Edwards, CO/Vail Mountain School).

Union had three players named to the Liberty League Women's Soccer First Team. Forward Erika Eisenhut (Mohawk, NY/Mohawk) joined forward Cassandra Mariani (Boonton, NJ/Morris Catholic) and midfielder Molly Flanagan (Simsbury, CT/Loomis Chaffee) on the Liberty League Women's Soccer First Team.

Five Dutchwomen were named to the All-Star Second Team. Sophomore forward Caitlin Cuozzo (Norfolk, MA/King Phillip Regional), senior midfielder Marissa VanWoeart (Schenectady, NY/Schalmont), senior defender Lindsay Capecalatro (Orange, CT/Loomis Chaffee), freshman defender Sara Wilson (Wilbraham, MA/Minnechaug Regional) and senior goalkeeper Julie Gawronski (Dunkirk, NY/Dunkirk) were all honored.

Freshman midfielder Chelsea Hargis (East Lyme, CT/East Lyme) was named as honorable mention for the Liberty League All-Star Team. Hargis was named Liberty League Rookie of the Week earlier in the season.

**JEFF GUINN**

A Quick Fall Sports Recap As of November 12, 2005

Plus Special NCAA Playoff Updates

WOMEN'S TENNIS

Women's tennis finished up this season with a 4-6 overall record and 2-5 in the Liberty League. The Dutchwomen had strong showings against Clarkson with a 8-1 win, Oneonta 5-4, Hartwick 8-1 and RPI 5-4. Union finished tied for fourth place out of 16 at the NYSWCAA held at Cornell.

Freshman Brittney Miller (Scituate, MA/Scituate) led the Dutchwomen with seven victories while freshman Roni Brumberger (Scarsdale, NY/Scarsdale) won five. In Miller's first state tournament, she made it all the way to the finals in Fourth Singles, while winning the first set 6-4 before losing 7-5 and 6-3 to the #1 seed from Vassar. Miller won in three sets in the first round and then won in straight sets in the quarters. In the semis, she downed the #2 seed from Skidmore 2-6, 7-5, and 6-1. Miller ended the season with seven singles wins and being 4-4 in dual matches.

CROSS COUNTRY

Men's cross country was led by Victor Guaiquil (Astoria, NY/Stuyvesant) who topped the team on three different occasions. Guaiquil ran faster than nearly 50 other competitors with a time of 28:47.60 at the Saratoga Invitational, finished 70th in the meet at Williams, and in the Liberty League Championships, he led the Dutchmen with a 33rd place finish at 29:55.1.

Akousa Dwumfour (Shrewsbury, MA/Shrewsbury) led the women's cross country team a few times this season. Dwumfour took 54th in the field at 21:33 at Williams and in the Liberty League Championships, she finished an impressive 16th out of 65 competitors at 25:10.7. Both the men and women placed sixth in the team scoring at the Liberty League Championships.



FIELD HOCKEY

The Dutchwomen finished 10-9 on the season. Union finished tied for fourth place in the Liberty League Conference with St. Lawrence. This was the first time that Union has brought Field Hockey to the Liberty League Championships with their first 10 win season since 1993. The Dutchwomen had three players honored by the Liberty League All-Star Teams and Lacey French was named Field Hockey Coach of the Year.

Senior Kristin Murphy (Branford, CT/Branford) led the team this season with 17 goals, three assists, 37 points, 110 shots and a .155 shot

percentage. Murphy was named to Liberty League All-Star Second Team along with junior forward Jessica Trotter (St. Louis, MO/John Burroughs). Trotter was right behind Murphy with 15 goals, four assists, 34 points, 67 shots and a .224 shot percentage. Junior defender Emily French (North Andover, MA/Brooks School) was named to the Liberty League First Team. French started in the backfield for all 18 games of the season and was a major reason why the Dutchwomen have allowed three or less goals in 12 of the 18 games. Union posted three shutouts in the season with the help of French.

VOLLEYBALL

The Dutchwomen finished the season with 9 victories. Union had wins over Hunter, Utica, Hamilton, King's, St. Lawrence, Potsdam, St. Michael's, CCNY, and Oneonta. The match vs. Oneonta was the last home game of the season for the seniors which ended in a 3-1 victory for the Dutchwomen.

Freshman Julie LaSpina (Roslyn Heights, NY/Roslyn) led the team with a total of 332

kills and a 2.55 kills per game while senior Charelle Carter (Schenectady, NY/ND-BG) was right behind her with 326 kills and a 2.51 kills per game average. Senior Suzan Barbaitz (Clarence, NY/Clarence) had 1053 assists on the season and a 7.98 assists per game average. Barbaitz also served 45 aces in the season. Danna DeBlasio (Schenectady, NY/Schalmont) led with 547 digs and 4.05 digs per game average.

MEN'S SOCCER



The Union men's soccer team had a tremendous season, with an 17-4-1 record and the first trip to the NCAA's since 1991. The Dutchmen scored a total of 67 goals, which broke the school record of 56 set 21 years ago and the total season (including playoffs) mark of 57 set that same year. The wins record broke the old mark of 13 set 19 seasons ago. Union's Casey Ftorek (Bedford, MA/Taft School) had 44 points, smashing the mark of 38 set in 1975 and tied in 2001.

Ftorek had eight game-winning goals for the Dutchmen this season. He finished with 17 goals, 10 assists, 44 points, and 79 shots, leading the team in each category. Goalkeeper Rob Kramer (Westport, CT/Staples) allowed just 16 goals in the 21 games, finishing with a 0.88 GAA and a 13-4-1 record.

FOOTBALL



The memorable Union football season featured many new records – a season that posted the second most wins in school history (11, trailed only by the 13 by the 1989 Stagg Bowl team). The Dutchmen, finishing 11-1, advanced to the second round of the NCAA's for the first time since

1995. The Dutchmen held on to "The Shoes" with a victory over RPI to end the season, and won the league title and automatic NCAA bid with that 49-42 home triumph. Union defeated Ithaca at home in the NCAA First Round, 55-41, before losing to Rowan at home in the Second



Round, 28-24. John Audino was named the Liberty League Coach of the Year.

Junior RB Tom Arcidiacono (Castleton, NY/Columbia), the Liberty League Offensive Player of the Year, finished the season with 1,954 yards, and his regular season total of 1,616 broke the Dutchmen's regular season rushing record. He will enter his senior year needing just 54 yards to break the Union career rushing record set by George Beebe in 2002 (3,615 yards). Junior WR Steve Angiletta (Plantsville, CT/Southington) finished with a record 1,612 yards for the 2005 season, and had over 100 yards in each of his last four games. Angiletta broke the single season yards and receptions (99) records. Junior QB Anthony Marotti (River Edge, NJ/River Dell) broke a 16-year-old record with a single season total of 3,095 yards, becoming the first Union signal-caller to pass for 3,000 yards in a season. The future bodes well, as each of those three key offensive skill players will be seniors in '06.

WOMEN'S SOCCER



It was another outstanding season for the Dutchwomen. Union reached the NCAA's and finished with an 18-1-3 overall record, including a 7-0-1 mark in the Liberty League. The Dutchwomen won the Liberty League tourney title and NCAA automatic bid with a 3-0 win over Skidmore in the semis and a 2-0 win over William Smith in the championship game. Union defeated Ithaca at home in the NCAA first round game, but Rochester advanced by winning a shootout after a scoreless tie in the second round.

In the 18 games this season, Cassandra Mariani (Boonton, NJ/Morris Catholic) lead the team in goals with 17. Mariani had seven assists, 41 points, 105 shots, and five game-winning goals. Erika Eisenhut (Mohawk, NY/Mohawk) had 13 goals and 10 assists while Molly Flanagan (Simsbury, CT/Loomis Chaffee) lead the Dutchwomen with 12 assists.



Seven Enshrined...

Continued from page 1

BRUCE ALLISON came to Union in 1957 and served the College through 1976. He started at Union as a coach of varsity wrestling, varsity men's lacrosse and freshman football, and also served as a physical education instructor. Allison was named the Director of Athletics and Chairman of Physical Education in 1971. He coached the men's lacrosse program for 19 seasons (1958-1976), and had many memorable victories, including wins in 1966 and 1974 over Syracuse. The 1966 team was 10-1 and ended the season with nine straight victories, while the 1974 team set a school record with 11 wins and reached the ECAC Finals. As the Director of Athletics, Allison established six intercollegiate women's programs. Allison later coached men's lacrosse at the Colorado School of Mines and was inducted into the Colorado Lacrosse Foundation Hall of Fame in 1995. He resides in Golden, CO.

GARY BROWN is recognized as the first three-sport captain in Union athletics history. He received the then-maximum of nine varsity letters, three each in soccer, basketball and baseball, as freshmen were not eligible for varsity teams during his time, 1961-65. In his junior year, Brown was awarded Union's prestigious William A. Pike Trophy for athletic excellence and leadership. His senior season featured Knickerbocker News College First Team All-Star honors in both basketball and baseball. Brown's stellar career ended in a flourish on the baseball diamond, as the Dutchmen posted a 15-2 record in the 1965 season, and he helped lead the squad to the NCAA College Division Atlantic Coach Championship in Yankee Stadium with a three-hit pitching victory over Old Dominion. Brown later coached varsity soccer, freshman basketball and freshman lacrosse at Union. He is a Pittsford, NY resident.

PRISCILLA FRANCIS was affectionately known as "Perky" during her career. She is considered to be one of the pioneers of women's sports on the Union playing fields during her time on the campus. Francis was an original star for both the field hockey and softball programs during their infancy. She was a two-year starter during the first two seasons of varsity field hockey at Union (1975-76), and was a star center-halfback and midfielder. As reported in the school newspaper, the *Concordiensis*, "Perky is easily one of the Players of the Year. Her superiority on the field has clearly won this honor. Many goal (attempts) were stopped by Perky's amazing defensive play in front of the net." Francis also started in each of her three seasons on the softball diamond (1975-77). The Dutchwomen won 73% of their games during her softball career, and in 1976, she capped off her stellar collegiate sports career with a 49-7 softball triumph. Now known as Priscilla Francis Nellissen, she resides in Norwood, MA.

GEORGE W. HAAS, JR. continued a stellar baseball tradition in his family. His father, George W. Haas, Sr., played for the legendary Connie Mack during the American League pennant winning seasons of 1929-31. George Jr. attended Union as a Navy V-12 student, and was an outstanding first baseman with the 1944 Dutchmen. After serving in World War II, George Jr. had a spectacular season in 1947, batting

nearly .500 for the spring. Haas also played basketball for Union. His baseball exploits, featuring a .465 career average, did not go unnoticed. In a game witnessed by many Major League Baseball scouts, Haas went 5 for 5 and soon thereafter signed a contract with the Pittsburgh Pirates. Yet, in his second minor league season, the 6'4" first baseman ran into a fence and suffered a career-ending injury in Waco, Texas. Haas is a resident of LaPlace, LA.

WAYNE McDOUGALL is one of the greatest goaltenders in Union's long and distinguished men's ice hockey history. He played in 86 career games in the net from 1983-86, and still holds the career victories total for a goaltender with 47. McDougall's record of 2,296 career saves still stands. He was the team's Most Valuable Player in his sophomore season and was the Junior Athlete of the Year the following winter. In 1984, McDougall made a career-best 61 saves in a four-overtime win over RIT that put Union in the program's first-ever NCAA final. He played the entire game, 93 minutes, 26 seconds, in the longest NCAA Division III men's ice hockey game in history. McDougall finished his career with a 3.14 goals against average and a save percentage of .900. Upon completion of his collegiate career, he was invited to the Montreal Canadiens mini-camp. McDougall resides in Saratoga Springs, NY.

ALEX RITA was a four-year starter on both the football field and baseball diamond for Union. His 16 career interceptions and his eight from the 1983 season still both rank second all-time in Dutchmen football annals. In 1984 he earned Pizza Hut All-American and Associated Press Little All-American Honorable Mention honors. The defensive back was an ECAC All-Star in his 1985 junior season, and the senior year

featured Pizza Hut and AP Honorable Mention All-American honors. Rita struck out just five times in his four-year baseball career, and the starting centerfielder batted .422 for his career. He hit .426 to lead the team in his 1984 freshman campaign, and batted .463 in his senior season. Rita started in the New York State Div. II-III All-Star Game at Shea Stadium in 1985 and also was selected to the game in 1987. Rita won the Jaffe Award as the outstanding senior male athlete in 1987. He is a resident of Eden Prairie, MN.

DICK SAKALA was the Athletic Director at Union from 1977 until his retirement in 2000. He returned to serve the department during a transitional period in 2004-05. During his tenure, Sakala was the architect of one of the most successful NCAA Division III programs in the East. Union's football and swimming & diving teams were national contenders, while the field hockey, women's volleyball, men's lacrosse, baseball, softball and women's lacrosse teams enjoyed postseason success within the ECAC and NYSWCAA. Union's men's ice hockey team was considered one of the finest in the ECAC and the nation at the Division III level before moving into Division I in 1991. A former president of the ECAC, Sakala served on the ECAC Executive Council and also was a member of the NCAA Division III Football Committee. Sakala was a driving force behind the formation of the Upstate Collegiate Athletic Association (now "Liberty League") in 1995. He oversaw the renovation of numerous Union athletic facilities, and was presented with the Alumni Association's Faculty Meritorious Service Award in 1984. Sakala, a 1962 Columbia graduate and former star quarterback for the Lions, resides in Saratoga Springs, NY.

UNION HOCKEY

FRANK MESSA '73 CHALLENGE

Union College is very proud of both our men's and women's Division I hockey programs. The men's program is now in its 15th year at the Division I level, while the women's team is entering its third season. Both teams have garnered much loyalty and support from alumni, parents, and friends. All of this support is greatly appreciated.

The men's hockey alumni have been extremely generous in the past in giving back to Union College and specifically to our Garnet Blades group. These donations to the Garnet Blades have allowed the team to make enhancements to the program such as locker room upgrades for our student athletes, the purchase of digital video editing software for analysis and teaching opportunities, and funding to play the best teams in the nation such as Colorado College, Ohio State and the University of Minnesota.

The women's team is beginning an effort to allow its hockey alumni and friends the opportunity of giving back to Union College – specifically to the Friends of Women's Hockey. The team competes in the best women's conference in all of college hockey, the ECAC Hockey League. Facing Harvard, Princeton and Dartmouth, as well as Clarkson, and St. Lawrence, the needs for enhancements to the program are great.

It is with great pleasure that we announce an added incentive for your support of our hockey programs. Frank Messa '73, who already donated the funding to restore the ice rink, has put forth a generous challenge; a unique opportunity to build for the future. Messa will match all new and increased gifts to the Union College hockey programs – up to a total of \$25,000. His \$25,000 will establish an endowment to support men's and women's hockey now and in the future.

For more information call 388-6284.

Friends of Union Athletics

Union College
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Schenectady, NY 12308



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Head Coaches...

Continued from page 2

since the 2003 women's tennis fall season. The 1995 Hudson Valley Community College graduate is the head tennis professional at Saratoga Golf & Polo Club.

"Bill is familiar with our program and the student-athletes," commented Director of Athletics Jim McLaughlin '93. "His experience in the tennis community, as well as here at Union, will be a tremendous benefit to our student-athletes."

At Saratoga, Brahler's duties included scheduling tournament events, and providing private and group lessons. He also serves as an independent tennis professional. Brahler was the Director of Tennis at Tri-City Fitness, and the Head Tennis Professional at Schenectady Racquet Club.

In addition to Critchlow and Brahler, nine new assistant coaches have been hired by Union. Men's hockey welcomes Rick Bennett to the coaching staff. Bennett comes to Union after spending the past five years as the assistant coach at Providence College. The 2000-01 Friars squad had its best Hockey East regular season finish in the program's history and was also Runner-Up in the Hockey East Tournament.

A 1990 graduate of Providence, Bennett was a four-year standout for the Friars and ranks 21st all-time in scoring with 134 points (50 goals, 84 assists). He earned Second-Team All-American honors as a junior, and as a senior captain for the Friars earned Second-Team All-Hockey East accolades and was a Hobey Baker Finalist.

Bennett will work with the defensemen and will assist current Union assistant coach Bill Riga with special teams. He will also help with recruiting and team video.

A new women's hockey assistant has been named as well. Jessica Link, a Clifton Park native, who attended Shenendehowa High School, returns home after graduating from Brown this past year with a B.A. in Business Economics along with a host of athletic accomplishments. She was a two-time

All-ECACHL selection and four-time All-Ivy honoree. Link was also named to the ECACHL All-Academic Team three consecutive seasons. She finished fifth on Brown's all-time scoring list with 157 points (83 goals, 73 assists) in 124 games.

Link's responsibilities with the Dutchwomen will include working with the forwards on the ice, recruiting, and talent evaluation as well as budget management. She will also assist with day-to-day practice planning and overseeing the team's academic progress.

Men's basketball has added Todd Cetnar and Duriel Price. Cetnar played at the University at Albany after an outstanding career at Amsterdam High School. He began his coaching career last season at Plymouth State, where the Panthers were 19-10 for the 2004-05 campaign. Cetnar also played professionally for the Albany Wildcats in the USBL and the TV Tigers in the British Basketball League. At Albany, Cetnar became only the second player in school history to record over 1,000 points, 350 assists and 150 steals. He was named to the NCAA Division I All-Independent First Team following his senior season.

Price served as a co-captain at West Virginia during the Mountaineers' 24-11 season this past winter. West Virginia defeated a school-record eight ranked teams during the season that featured an NCAA Elite Eight Appearance. Price played in 11 games for the Mountaineers last season, and the walk-on guard competed in 26 games during his career. He was named to the Big East Academic All-Star Team.

Jessica Meliosky joined the volleyball coaching staff as an assistant coach after having spent the last four years donning a Dutchwomen uniform. Jess graduated in June 2005 with a degree in Biology. Jess's playing career at Union and nearby Amsterdam High School is filled with honors – at Amsterdam High, she was the Big Ten Player of the Year her senior year, and at Union, she earned multiple all-tournament team awards. Jess was an All-League team member during her junior and senior seasons at

Union, a team captain in her senior year, and spent a summer with the Empire State Team Adirondack Open Women's Volleyball Team. In addition, Jess is a Union Volleyball Camp alumnus and spent several summers working with future volleyball players as a camp counselor.

Mike Smith enters his first season on the Union women's basketball coaching staff. He has been actively involved in coaching varsity girl's basketball, as well as AAU and Empire State teams for nearly 30 years. His scholastic teams have won over 300 games, and he has won four league titles and two sectional titles. At the AAU level, Smith helped coach a Junior National and National team and was the head coach of the 2001 Empire State Women's Open gold medal team. Smith graduated from St. Francis in Maine and completed his graduate work at Russell Sage and at Albany. He is completing his 33rd year as an educator in the Cohoes City Schools.

Dan Iozzia began his coaching career at Union this fall after a solid playing career on the campus. He played both running back and defensive back, as well as special teams. Iozzia coached the running backs and was also in charge of offensive quality control. Junior running back Tom Arcidiacono rushed for 1,954 yards and scored 20 rushing touchdowns for the 11-1 Dutchmen.

Laura Morris is the new assistant coach for the men's and women's crew programs. While a member of the Dutchwomen team, Laura was a key member of the boat that finished third at the Dad Vales last spring, and helped lead Union to a second place finish at the New York State Championships in 2005.

Rita Kalmikova joins the men's and women's swimming & diving program as an assistant coach. A former swimmer for Lewis University, Kalmikova is a two-time Olympian and five-time All-American. She competed in the 2000 Summer Olympic Games in Sydney in the 200 breast, and also in the same event in the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta. Kalmikova owns Lewis school records in four events, and is a three-time Central States Champion.

UNION COLLEGE
DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS
ALUMNI GYM
SCHENECTADY, NY 12308-9985

Renovation of Fitness Center to be Completed by Spring

The Department of Athletics and the entire campus community are excited about the new fitness center at Alumni Gym which is being funded through an anonymous \$2 million donation. Renovations for the new fitness center began in early October with a target date of April 1 for completion. The two million dollar project will include an 8400 square foot cardio area located on the second floor which was previously the basketball court in Alumni Gym, a free weight area located in the basement area of the building, a new aerobics/yoga room will be located at the north end of the building also in the lower level of the building. The renovations will include a new heating/cooling system throughout which will provide a climate friendly atmosphere throughout the area, installations of windows on the east wall to replace part of the present brick wall which will allow additional natural light to enter the building as well as to provide an attractive view for our patrons. TV monitors with network choices, a two zone music system, new lighting system, and convenient stairway to the lower level will further enhance the attractiveness of this fitness center.

The cardio area (upper level) will include treadmills, bikes, elliptical machines, steppers, and arc trainers. A full circuit of selectorized equipment (machines that isolate muscle groups with selected resistance opportunities), a stretching and light weight area equipped with exercise and stability balls, a reception desk, as well as other modular machines and functional training stations will be placed tastefully in this area.

The free weight area will include four Olympic power platforms, a stretching and plyometric area, selectorized stations, numerous weight training benches, as well as a full set of dumbbells and racks. This area has been designed to provide a comfortable transition from lighter training to heavy power lifting training. The new construction will more than double the space that our existing free weight area presently offers.

The new aerobics/yoga room (1200 square feet) will have a maple wood floor, an independent sound system, mirrored walls, and a large storage area for teaching aids and equipment. This will enable the department to offer more class opportunities during the prime hours for our students.

SAVE THE DATE

> Jan-Feb

Union Men's Ice Hockey
on Time Warner Cable
CH. 3

Jan. 13 (Clarkson, 7 pm)
Feb. 11 (Yale, 7 pm)
Feb. 25 (Cornell, 7 pm)

> May

FOUA Golf Tournament
Edison Country Club,
Rexford, NY
Monday, May 15

Senior Appreciation Dinner
Glen Sanders Mansion,
Scotia, NY
Wednesday, May 24

> June

Garnet Blades
Hockey Golf Outing
Friday, June 16

Eisenhut Named to *ESPN The Magazine* All-America® Women's Soccer College Division First Team

Senior Erika Eisenhut of Union College was named to the 2005 *ESPN The Magazine* Academic All-America® Women's Soccer College Division First Team.

A mathematics and psychology major with a 3.82 GPA, Eisenhut is a three-sport standout. The Mohawk, New York native was named to the Liberty League First Team this season. As midfielder, she scored 13 goals and 10 assists while leading Union to an 18-1-3 record. Eisenhut also received the prestigious ECAC Robbins Scholar-Athlete Award in September, representing all ECAC Division III female athletes.

The Academic All-America® Teams program honors 816 male and female student-athletes annually who have succeeded at the highest level on the playing field and in the classroom. Individuals are selected through voting by CoSIDA, the College Sports Information Directors of America – a 2,000-member organization consisted of sports public relations professionals for colleges and universities in the United States and Canada.

To be eligible, a student-athlete must be a varsity starter or key reserve, maintain a cumulative grade point average of 3.20 on a scale of 4.00, have reached sophomore athletic and academic standings at his/her current institution and be nominated by his/her sports information director. Since the program's inception in 1952, CoSIDA has bestowed Academic All-America honors on more than 14,000 student-athletes in Divisions I, II, III and NAIA covering all NCAA championship sports.

ESPN The Magazine – winner of the 2003 National Magazine Award for General Excellence – is a provocative and innovative sports publication. Full of insight, analysis, impact and wit, the oversized bi-weekly with a circulation of 1.85 million looks ahead to give fans a unique perspective on the world of sports.

For more information about the Academic All-America® Teams program, including the entire listing of the university and college teams, visit www.cosida.com.