



New Paltz Athletics

ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

January 2009

2008 ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME INDUCTS TWO TEAMS



1965 Men's Soccer

The SUNY New Paltz department of Intercollegiate Athletics and Wellness and Recreation inducted two teams into its Sports Hall of Fame on Friday, October 17, 2008 in the Student Union multipurpose room as part of the college's Homecoming festivities.

The 2008 class included the 1962 men's cross country team and the 1965 men's soccer team.

The 1962 cross country team, led by Coach Doug Sheppard, was a perfect 8-0. This marked the first time in SUNY New Paltz history a team finished a season undefeated. Members of the team included: Joe Barr, Kenny Barr, Carl Crittenden, Jerry Guldenpfeing, Bill Marinaccio, Frank Miata, Ondeki Nyamanga, Jason Nyariki and Ed Szymanski.

Team captain Szymanski spoke about his teammates and commented on Nyariki, who they all called the "Kenyan

Komet". He said the Komet was unbeatable. But yet, Coach Sheppard told Szymanski to try his hardest to try and beat Nyariki. In the second to last meet of the year, Szymanski



1962 Cross Country

and Nyariki were stride for stride through the course until the final 100 yards, when Nyariki turned it into full gear and left his teammate in the dust. Szymanski and his teammates celebrated after that win, knowing they were going to be undefeated, something no one else had done.

The 1965 men's soccer team is one of the most accomplished teams in the history of SUNY New Paltz athletics. Led by Coach Al Miller, the Hawks finished with a record of 12-1-0 and a perfect 6-0 in conference play. The team won the SUNYAC Conference title and the NCAA College

Division Atlantic Coach Championship.

Members of the team included: Heinze Ahlmeyer, Keith Ashby, Allan Bell, Frank Coletta, Vince Coletta, Rob Davis, Daryl Didio, William Doon, Joe Facciolli, Cary Gluck, Gerald Hawkins, Howard Hayes, Solomon Iyasere, Richard Lotze, Gary Maasch, Robert Mountz, William Parment, Allan Pomponio, Jack Ridolph, Bryan Schmalz, Robert Spadoni, Ron Van Kampen, Eugene Ventriglia, Daniel Zipkin and assistant coach Dee Winter.

Miller was a young coach, not much older than the players



on the team, and he had an idea for an off-site training camp to foster team unity.

He said, 'they came as boys and individuals to camp, but left as men and a team.' He

commented that one

of the greatest games if not the greatest game he ever coached was the 4-3 come-from-behind victory over SUNYAC rival Cortland. Eugene Ventriglia scored three times in the final three minutes to tie the game before Rick Lotze won the game with a goal in overtime.

Maybe it was the training camp, or maybe it was "the hill" that made this team unstoppable but the 1965 team was a "team of destiny". Their destiny was to win and when the Hawks stepped onto the field each time that year, they knew they had what it took to be winners.

At the conclusion of the evening, Miller presented Athletic Director Stuart Robinson with a piece of art work, to be displayed through the years. It was a piece of textile art that Dee Winter handcrafted himself for Miller, which was the Greek symbol for soccer.



After listening to the teams reminisce about their glory days as a Hawk athlete, it is evident that their success in athletics carried over into their own lives by the proof of who they each have become.





REMEMBERING 'SHEP'



SUNY New Paltz unveiled a bench on Saturday, November 1st, 2008 in the lobby of its Athletic and Wellness Center on campus honoring longtime professor, coach and administrator Doug Sheppard.

The memorial bench

contains a plaque which reads, "Douglas Sheppard: Educator, administrator, coach, mentor & friend 1961-1992." The date range corresponds to Sheppard's time of employment at SUNY New Paltz.

Sheppard was named to The College of New Paltz Hawk Hall of Fame on October 12, 1996 for his contributions while at New Paltz and his continued support after he left. Sheppard was a professor of Health, Physical Education, Athletics and Recreation during his time at New Paltz. His career started in 1961, when he was named cross country, tennis and men's basketball head coach. Starting in 1962, he served as head coach for the golf team for 32 years and served as the Director of Athletics for ten years.

Sheppard was a mentor to many students during his time at New Paltz, which continued well after the students graduated. He was a friend to many in the community, he was involved with his church, he was a member of The Paltz Club, and he served on the Miron Scholarship Committee and the Ulster County Gold Championship Committee.

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL HAS RECORD BREAKING SEASON IN 2008

The women's volleyball team highlighted the 2008 season with their first ever appearance in the NCAA Tournament and a trip to the Elite Eight. New Paltz fell to La Verne in the round of eight and ended their season with a 32-10 record, the highest win total in the history of the volleyball program. The Hawks received an at-large bid into the tournament after falling in the conference championship match to Fredonia. New Paltz defeated Hunter 3-0 in the first round, Union 3-1 in the second round and avenged the loss to Fredonia with a 3-2 victory in the sweet 16.

Junior middle hitter Brittany Coyle led the Hawks with 375 kills and 118 blocks on the season. She earned first team all-



conference honors, was selected to the SUNYAC and Regional All-Tournament teams, and garnered NCAA New York Region honorable mention. Coyle led the conference in hitting percentage (.369). First year outside hitter Melinda DiGiovanna was named the Regional Tournament MVP, first-team all-SUNYAC and conference all-tournament recognition as she finished the season with 302 kills, 332 digs and 48 blocks.

Junior setter Stephanie Bova garnered first team all-conference honors and was selected to the regional all-tournament team. Bova centered the attack with 1,267 assists, 276 digs and a team high 42 aces. Bova ranks second on the season assist chart, falling two assists short of the record set by Katie Becofsky in 2007 (1269). Senior Nicole Mercadante highlighted her career by becoming the all-time career dig leader with 1,707. She finished the season with 543 digs and earned first team all-SUNYAC honors. Senior outside hitter Samantha Prudente earned second team all-conference honors as she registered 255 kills, 299 digs, 38 aces and 24 blocks. The team led the conference in hitting percentage (.258%) and ranked second in assists (10.53), kills (11.83) and digs (15.66).



Melinda DiGiovanna

FALL SPORTS RECAP

Women's Tennis

In 2008, the team finished the dual match season with a record of 6-3 and finished second at the SUNYAC Championships.

Senior Dana Lim was named the recipient of the Peter J. Cahill Award (SUNYAC MVP) after winning the first singles title for the third consecutive year and reaching the semifinals in first doubles at the 2008 SUNYAC Tennis championships. Lim finished the season with a record of 7-2 at first singles and teamed with Stephanie Schara to post a 5-4 record at first doubles.



Dana Lim

Junior Kerri Serkes won the SUNYAC title at fifth singles and advanced to the finals in third doubles with Calder-Mills Lexvold.

Schara lost in the second singles final and Ingrid Maryansky lost in the fourth singles final. Lyndsey Lovinger and Juliette Brandon each fell in the semifinals of their singles flight at the Championships and Lovinger paired with Lindsay Trifiletti at second doubles where they advanced to the semifinal round.





Women's Soccer



Sarah Boccard

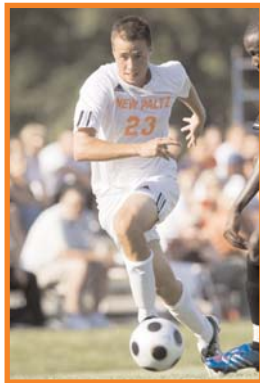
In 2008, the team finished with a 10-8-1 record. The Hawks posted a record of 5-4-1 in SUNYAC and were defeated in the first round of playoffs by Geneseo. Senior goalkeeper Sarah Boccard posted 0.99 goals against average, including seven shutouts, in playing 1732 minutes. Boccard finished her career with 448 saves and 28 shutouts to rank first all time in career saves and shutouts.

Senior Jennifer Anselmi, who has been the staple of the Hawks

midfield for the past four years, earned her fourth consecutive All-SUNYAC pick garnering second team recognition. Anselmi finished the season with four goals and three assists. Senior Kate Addiss was named to the All-SUNYAC second team. Addiss added 13 points on five goals and three assists. First year Elana Jaroff led the team in goals (9) and points (21), while Rebecca Devlin and Emily Bucker each added 10 points and eight points, respectively.

Men's Soccer

The SUNY New Paltz men's soccer team finished the season with a 7-8-4 overall record and 3-6-1 in conference play. The Hawks finished with a 3-1-2 record over the last six games and look to carry over the success to the 2009 season. The Hawks finished the season with four more wins than the 2007 season and scored more goals than allowed. Freshman midfielder *Tommy Garafola* was the lone Hawk selected to All-Conference Honors, earning a Third Team Honor. Garafola led the team in assists with seven and tallied four goals for 15 points. Freshman James Altadonna led the team with 25 points (12 goals and one assist). His 12 goals stood atop the conference charts. Junior Sean Reminick and sophomore Lucas Natel each added 11 points on the season for the Hawks. Reminick tallied three goals and five assists, while Natel netted four goals and three assists. Junior Anton Shipman paced the defensive unit and registered three goals and one assist. Senior Patrick Carlucci posted a 7-7-4 record in goal, making 118 saves with a .803 save percentage in 1614 minutes of play.



James Altadonna

Field Hockey

In 2008, New Paltz ended their season with a 3-13 record. Sophomore Jess Moore led the team in goals (6) and points (15), earning All-SUNYAC first team honors. Sophomore Sarah

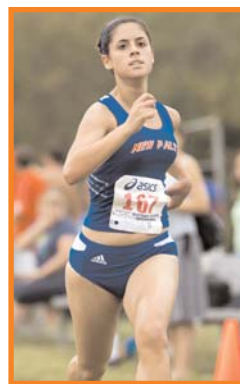
Schloss was named to the All-SUNYAC second team as she finished the season with three goals and a team-high four assists. Lauren Nicomini added four goals and one assist on the year. Junior Ann Marie Rudd and sophomore Kristy Amendola were the staples on the defensive line, combining for five defensive saves.

Elizabeth Tong went from the third string goalie to earning the starting position by the end of the season and posted a 2-4 record in the cage, allowing 2.89 goals against average with a .744 save percentage over 342 minutes of play. Sophomore Grace Watson made 69 saves in 559 minutes of play and Elizabeth Dini appeared in seven games for 228 minutes.



Sarah Schloss

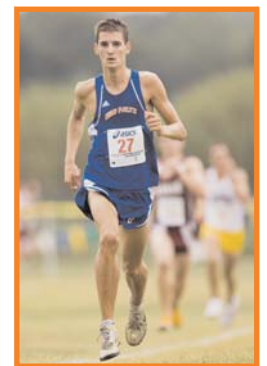
Cross Country



Lisa Cassaro

In 2008, the teams ended their season at the NCAA Cross Country Regional held at St. Lawrence University in Canton, NY. The women's team established their best finish at the Williams College Purple Valley Classic coming in third place. Lisa Cassaro had a tremendous year for the Hawks. Cassaro accomplished a record breaking time in school history of 23:56 in the 6K Run at SUNYACs. Senior captain Stephanie Albinski provided stability for the Hawks in 2008. Albinski had her best 5K Run 21:54 in 2008. Sophomores Danielle Harmon and Olga Stulov gave the Hawks some momentum this season. In the 5K Run Harmon collected a time of 21:58 and Stulov 21:43 for their personal best in 2008.

The men's season had their best finish at the Vassar Invite placing second. Sophomore Joe Gentsch turned some heads as he made school history with a time of 26:53 in the 8K at SUNYACs up in Geneseo. Junior captain Nick Avello came in with a 27:33 time in the 8K in SUNYACs, making school history. Freshman Mike Zelensky stepped up in 2008 with his highest time of 18:19 in the 5K and a time of 28:19 in the 8K. Zelensky was consistently right behind Avello this season as this young star will make a huge impact down the road for the Hawks.



Joe Gentsch





SERKES EARNS SUNYAC CHANCELLOR SCHOLAR ATHLETE AWARD

The State University of New York Athletic Conference (SUNYAC) announced the winners of the SUNYAC Scholar-Athlete Awards for the fall 2008 season. The student-athlete from the All-SUNYAC first or second team for their respective sport with the highest grade point average over at least three semesters is the recipient of these awards. Junior Kerri Serkes garnered the award for women's tennis for the second time. Serkes won the SUNYAC individual title at fifth singles and earned first team all-conference. She majors in Elementary Education and English and carries a 3.72 grade point average.

NEW PALTZ ATHLETIC TEAM BLOGS LAUNCHED

The SUNY New Paltz Department of Athletics has added a new feature to their website – Blogs! The blogs are intended for prospective student-athletes, alumni, family, friends and anyone else interested in learning about what the SUNY New Paltz athletic teams are up to! Each team has their own page where you can find a variety of posts by coaches and current student-athletes. To view the blogs and keep up to date on the happenings of each team visit: <http://gohawks.newpaltz.edu/>.

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DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS
State University of New York at New Paltz
1 Hawk Drive
New Paltz, NY 12561-2443