

Ackermann Sticks To Family Tradition at SU

by Sam Atkinson '00



(From left) Linda '05 and Sue '08 Ackermann

The map Sue Ackermann used to get to Salisbury University offered detours to go south and play Division I women's lacrosse, but the glitz and glamour to play on a bigger stage took a back seat to family tradition. Distance away from her hometown of Sykesville, MD, playing time and, in the end, her family played a huge role in her decision.

Four years later it is a decision she has never regretted.

"I knew if I didn't want to play Division I lacrosse I would chose Salisbury no matter what," said Sue. "Plus, the fact that my parents are able to make it to every game was important."

Sue became the third sister to graduate from SU this May—she with a degree in exercise science. She will join her mother Barbara Michel Ackermann '74, her aunt Lorraine Michel '75, her uncle William Michel '78 and sisters Christine Ackermann '03 and Linda Ackermann '05 as proud Sea Gull graduates. Lorry Michel was the first-ever woman trainer to graduate from SU. She works at Georgetown University where she is the head trainer for the nationally ranked men's basketball program.

For one season, Sue and Linda played side-by-side on the field together for SU in 2005 where the Sea Gulls fell in the national championship game. Linda completed her four-year career with 134 goals, 47 assists and 181 points. The two sisters have earned the CAC Player of the Year award, Linda in '05 and Sue in back-to-back seasons ('07, '08). Sue is currently second all-time in school history with 155

goals, 137 assists and 292 points through 19 games in 2008. Sue

also excels in the classroom where she has a 3.91 GPA and was recently named the female recipient of the SU Scholar Athlete Award. She is also a member of several honor societies including Phi Kappa Phi, Phi Eta Sigma, Phi Epsilon Kappa and Omicron Delta Kappa.

Last season, Ackermann scored a season-high 119 points as the Gulls fell in the 2007 national title game. At the time of this magazine's printing, Salisbury, the current top-ranked team, is trying to write history as the Gulls attempt to capture their first-ever national championship in women's lacrosse.

FUN FACT: Sue's sister Chris lives in San Diego but is able to follow Sue's home games through SU's Live Stats on www.suseagulls.com



2007-08 SU Athletics by the Numbers

Enjoy these fun facts and figures from the 2007-08 SU athletic seasons

300 – wins accumulated at Salisbury University by men’s soccer coach **Gerry DiBartolo** and men’s lacrosse coach **Jim Berkman**. DiBartolo notched his 300th win on October 20, 2007, with 6-0 shutout of Hood College. Berkman earned his 300th win at the University on February 16, 2008, with a 20-7 win over Virginia Wesleyan College.

37 – members of the SU football team named to the Atlantic Central Football Conference Academic All-Conference team after the fall semester. Those student-athletes had to have a 3.0 grade point average of higher to make the team. SU had the highest amount of representatives in the conference.

26 – game hitting streak by SU baseball’s **Randy Boyle**. The second baseman got a hit in the first 26 games played by the Sea Gulls this season, a new school record.

9 – Capital Athletic Conference championships won by the Sea Gulls through the completion of the 2007-08 season. Field hockey and men’s cross country repeated as the CAC best in their respective sports while men’s soccer and volleyball won conference titles for the first time since 2004 during the fall. In the spring, the Sea Gulls repeated as champions in baseball, men’s lacrosse, men’s track and field, softball and women’s lacrosse.

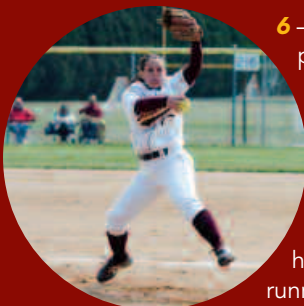
8 – members of the SU field hockey team named to the 2007 National Field Hockey Coaches Association Division III National Academic Squad. Those student-athletes are **Jennifer Bandy, Lauren Correll, Christina Craddock, Angela DiFabio, Katie Foster, Megan Maloney, Ashley Spencer** and **Alex Yarbrough**.

7 – years it took an SU swimmer to win an event at the Capital Athletic Conference championships. Sophomore **Mike Ferrari** broke the drought with a first-place finish in the 200-yard backstroke.



6.35 – seconds it took men’s track star **Delannie Spriggs** to become the first-ever Indoor Track & Field

All-American in school history. Spriggs finished fourth overall at the 2008 NCAA Division III national championships in the 55-meter dash.



6 – innings SU softball pitcher **Stacy Davis** needed to throw a perfect game against Catholic University. The Sea Gulls won 8-0 as Davis did not allow a hit, run, walk or base runner the entire game.

She struck out seven batters in her first-ever complete game.

3.24 – cumulative GPA by the women’s cross country team which earned them a spot on the 2007 NCAA Division III U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association Women’s Cross Country All-Academic Team.



1 – volleyball All-American in school history. Junior **Stacey Krebs** became the first-ever SU volleyball player to earn All-American status when she was named to the third team at the end of the 2007 season.

New Sports Web Site

In January, the new and improved SU Athletics Web site www.suseagulls.com debuted with a new design, more functionality, and more interactive tools and features for Sea Gull fans everywhere. SU partnered with PrestoSports on the project and debuted Live Stats in the fall semester. Fans are able to subscribe to sport-specific press releases, view photo galleries, player and coach bios and much more. Plus visitors to the new site can learn more about Sea Gulls being champions on and off the field.



Winter Teams at a Glance

TEAM	RECORD	HIGHLIGHT
Men’s Basketball	.7-20	Reached CAC semifinals, one All-CAC second team selection
Men’s Swimming	.7-4	Placed third overall in CAC championships, All-CAC in four events
Women’s Basketball	.12-15	Start of Charisse Mapp era, reached CAC semifinals, one All-CAC first team selection
Women’s Swimming	.6-5	Placed fourth overall in CAC championships, All-CAC in two events

Honoring Bobby Richards

by Paul Cantrell

The weekend of December 7-8 saw several generations of Sea Gull football players and fans gather to reminisce and remember a special member of the SU football family—Bobby Richards. “Bobby’s boys” gathered to recall wonderful moments, renew old friendships and preserve the memory of a 5’9”, 175 pound defensive tackle whose life ended all too soon, but whose desire, attitude and determination lives on through the Bobby Richards Award.

The fun kicked off with a social event that included a presentation remembering Bobby, the 1977 team and the award winners. Attendees also watched a film of the 1977 game vs. Towson, while enjoying each other’s company.

The attendees then enjoyed the 2007 Sea Gull football banquet, where team awards were handed out including the 2007 Bobby Richards Award winners, David Leonard and Daniel Bullock, who received their honors to a standing ovation, the first of the night.

After David and Daniel returned to their seats, David Kirchoff ’78—one of the first Richards Award recipients—came up to the podium and spoke about a person who was long overdue in receiving the award: Caroline Richards, Bobby’s mother and the person who has shaken the hand of the winners of her son’s award, became the newest member of this fellowship of the ring, to a very emotional standing ovation.

The celebrations continued the next day at a special brunch held at The Globe



restaurant in Berlin and continued with men’s and women’s basketball games later in the day. It was a terrific weekend where friends came together to celebrate, reminisce and remember.

The Bobby Richards Award is given annually to the football player(s) who display the same character as Bobby. The award—a ring—symbolizes the determination, dedication, school pride and love toward their program and Sea Gull teammates that the recipient has shown the SU football program. A secondary part of the award is a t-shirt with Bobby’s retired jersey number 88 on them. These shirts are given out annually to the members of the football program to welcome them to the SU football family and to becoming one of “Bobby’s boys.”

Thirty years of awards have taken a financial toll on the Bobby Richards Memorial Award account. We hope that you will consider helping us endow the Richards Award so that Bobby’s memory and zeal for Salisbury University will live on. If you are interested in donating, contact me at pecantrell@salisbury.edu or 410-677-5069.

A Varsity Club ‘House’

The SU Varsity Club moved to its new home at 103 Power Street in March. Pictured below (from left) are Varsity Club Treasurer Tony Sarbanes, Maryland Delegate D. Page Elmore and Varsity Club Coordinator Paul Cantrell. The Varsity Club supports SU’s NCAA Division III athletics teams. For more information visit <http://varsityclub.salisbury.edu>.



A Season of Firsts For Ice Hockey Club

The SU Men’s Ice Hockey Club held its first Past-Present-Future Weekend March 28-30. The recruiting weekend attracted over 30 potential SU students from throughout the Mid-Atlantic.

The weekend featured skills and conditioning training and a scrimmage with current players. Alumni Sean Cullinan ’99 and Doug Wheeler ’99 also revived the annual alumni game.

This season, the Gulls clinched their division in the Mason Dixon Collegiate Hockey Association (MDCHA)—12-8-2—suffering a semi-final loss to eventual champions Gettysburg College. Congratulations to Andrew Cloherty, Craig Pfeifer, Paul Schmitz, Michael Espejo, Champ Frye and Michael Dougherty for being selected to the MDCHA All-Star Game.

Another first was the hiring of Coach Ben Hammock. His recruiting efforts sent the Gulls into the off-season with high hopes for next year!



Those in attendance included: Caroline Richards and Julie (Richards) Apfel and family; Louis ’78 and Bridget Amabeli; Bart ’78 and Cairn Boucher; Mike ’98 and Kelly ’99 Brouthers; Harry Butsko ’90; Eric Crapster ’96; Mitchell David ’95; Dr. Norman, Garnett and Sally Crawford ’79; Vance ’92 and Lynn Fitzgerald; Nick Good-Malloy ’05; Peter ’80 and Donna ’85 Hanulak; Al Holiday ’85; Dr. Tom Jones; David Kirchoff ’78; Marylane and Patrick McGlinchey; M.P. Minton; Bob Moyle ’78 and his daughter Missy; Keith ’78 and Cheryl O’Neal; Joe Pino ’81; Dallas Phillips ’78; Mike Phillips (former high school teammate of Richards); Preston Phillips ’81; Peter Pratt ’80; Brendan Riley ’04; Dan ’76 and Sarah Ring; Mark Schnackenberg ’80 and his son; Tim Trott ’79; Mike Walter ’78; Jerry West ’80; and Coaches Ed Vickers and Dick Yobst.