



## National Champs

The SU men's lacrosse team delivered its 10th national championship title against the State University of New York at Cortland in a 14-10 victory. This is the seventh perfect season for the men's program. In fact, Salisbury is the only team other than Nazareth College, which won in 1996, to go undefeated and claim the ultimate crown. The record-breaking crowd got their money's worth as the Sea Gulls and Dragons kept the game close, with no team leading by more than two goals at the end of a quarter. Entering the fourth, Salisbury led by a narrow, 10-9 margin. Quick back-to-back goals by each team moved the score to 11-10, but from there, Salisbury's offense took control while the defense stymied the Dragons. Senior attackman Sam Bradman received the Most Outstanding Player Award for the second time in a national championship



game. This back-to-back honor was the first in NCAA history. The Canton, NY, native led SU with six goals and one assist. Defensively, freshman goalie Alex Taylor saved eight shots throughout the contest. The men's lacrosse team had company as a champion titleholder; junior shot put thrower Chelsea Tavik (above) made school history in the NCAA Division III Indoor Track & Field Championships. Tavik claimed SU's first-ever individual national championship by a female student-athlete with a throw of 46' 10.75". Tavik's best effort was matched by Wartburg College's Sarah Hoffmann, which, under NCAA tie-breaking rules, was then determined by each competitor's next best throw. Tavik had Hoffmann beat by a foot in a preliminary-round throw of 46' 8.5", good for a national title.



## Academic Champions

Salisbury athletics saw many successes on the field as well as in the classroom. Senior thrower Jennifer Houghton (below) was named by the College Sports Information Directors of America as a Capital One Academic All-American. The honor marked the 19th Academic All-American for SU and is the first for a cross country/track & field student-athlete. Houghton, who was named Salisbury's Female Scholar Athlete of the Year, finished her academic career with a 4.00 grade-point average as she earned communications and marketing degrees. She was honored nine times by the Capital Athletic Conference with All-CAC recognition and had a strong senior season, breaking a seven-year-old school record in the hammer throw, and was an All-CAC second-team honoree in three events. Many other student-athletes collected academic honors, as seven were named to their respective sports Capital One Academic All-District team. Of those seven athletes, SU's baseball, football, women's and men's track & field (2), softball (2) and volleyball teams were represented. The maroon and gold also took home seven team academic awards as Salisbury's men's and women's cross country teams, men's soccer, women's swimming, women's track & field, women's lacrosse and field hockey all claimed honors. Salisbury placed 181 student-athletes on the 2011-12 Capital Athletic Conference All-Academic Team; this is the first time since the 2006 season that SU claimed the top spot over second-place York (PA) College (176 selections).



## Football's New Empire

The 2011 season marked Salisbury football's first year in the Empire 8 conference. The season became what was arguably one of the best in program history. The Gulls made their deepest run into the NCAA tournament in 25 years, facing defending-national-champion University of Wisconsin-Whitewater in the NCAA quarterfinals. SU won 11 games, the most for a Salisbury team coached by Sherman Wood in his 13 years. SU claimed the Empire 8 title with its eighth consecutive Regents Cup victory over Frostburg State University, 49-7. The points against FSU helped set a school record for points in a season at 459, a total that grew to 584 by season's end. SU topped Western New England University in the first round of the NCAA tournament, 62-24, in SU's first home tournament game since 2004. Salisbury then survived a triple-overtime thriller against Kean University in the second round, 49-47, to advance to Wisconsin. Wood was named American Football Coaches Association (AFCA) Region I Coach of the Year for the first time in his career. Guard Alex Smith earned AFCA and d3football.com All-American honors. Six players were d3football.com All-Region, and 12 were All-Conference selections.

## Directors' Cup Rankings

With such great success on the field, Salisbury placed as one of the top teams in Division III athletics as the National Association of College Directors of Athletics revealed the final Directors' Cup standings. The Sea Gulls finished 13th out of 317 institutions. The men's lacrosse team captured the school's 16th team national championship to earn 100 points, while junior Chelsea Tavik's national title awarded another 57 points toward its total of 643 points. Both the football and field hockey teams' advanced to the national quarterfinals, while women's lacrosse (below) collected 90 points for the team's run to the national championship game.



## Athletics At A Glance

FALL SPORTS	RECORD	HIGHLIGHT
Men's Cross Country	--	CAC Third Place
Women's Cross Country	--	CAC Champions
Field Hockey	18-2	NCAA Quarterfinalist, CAC Champions
Football	11-2	NCAA Quarterfinalist, Empire 8 Champions
Men's Soccer	13-3-4	NCAA First Round
Women's Soccer	13-6-2	NCAA First Round, CAC Champions
Volleyball	32-4	NCAA Second Round, CAC Champions

WINTER SPORTS	RECORD	HIGHLIGHT
Men's Basketball	12-13	Atkins Academic All-District
Women's Basketball	15-11	CAC Semifinals
Men's Swimming	4-6	CAC 4th place
Women's Swimming	3-7	CAC 5th place

SPRING SPORTS	RECORD	HIGHLIGHT
Baseball	34-9	NCAA Regional Finalist, CAC Champions
Men's Lacrosse	23-0	CAC Champions Tenth national championship in program history
Women's Lacrosse	22-1	NCAA Finalist, CAC Champions
Softball	37-7	NCAA Regional Finalist, CAC Champions
Men's Tennis	11-12	CAC Finalist
Women's Tennis	11-10	CAC Finalist
Men's Track & Field	--	CAC Champions Drenner sets hammer record six times
Women's Track & Field	--	CAC Champions Tavik claims national indoor title in shot put

