

Support The Sea Gulls Through The Varsity Club

Interested in becoming a supporter of Sea Gull Athletics? Join alumni, parents, corporations and friends in the SU Varsity Club and support the University's intercollegiate athletics program through memberships and special events. While providing this support, all NCAA, conference and University regulations are followed.



To learn more, visit <http://varsityclub.salisbury.edu>, or contact club coordinator Ralph Murray at 410-677-5069 for a free brochure.



Sweet Success!

Field Hockey Claims Second National Championship

ALSO INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Men's Soccer Captures CAC Crown
- Football Places 14 on All-ACFC Team
- Three Earn Volleyball Honors
- Hall of Fame Inductees

Salisbury Claims Its Second Field Hockey National Championship

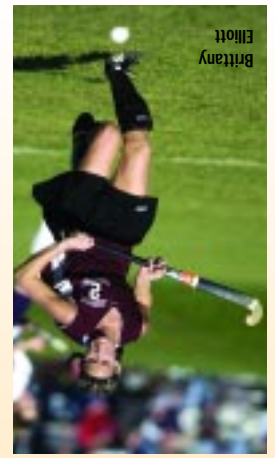


Even before the 2003 season began, few could argue against including Salisbury University among the most tradition-rich and successful field hockey programs in NCAA Division III history. After all, the accomplishments of the Sea Gulls over the past two decades are a bit overwhelming.

Appearances in 19 of the last 20 NCAA Championship Tournaments, seven final four berths, 11 visits to the final eight, numerous number one rankings in the NFCA poll, 34 national All-Americans and 74 all-region selectees. The only thing that seemed to elude the Sea Gulls through the years was a second national championship to match the crown they won in 1986.

Enter 2003. With a dominating 4-1 victory over undefeated Middlebury in the national championship game on November 22 in Annville, PA, Salisbury claimed that elusive second national championship and further secured its position among the nation's elite. The Sea Gulls closed the year with 11 straight wins and finished 20-1 on the season.

Even Head Coach Dawn Chamberlin, who has piloted the Gulls for the past 17 years and has been the architect for much of the success, had difficulty expressing her emotions following the championship game. "This is great and words can't express how we feel." "We played lots of tough games this year and had a difficult bracket against stiff competition in the tournament, so we really earned it. It's a very emotional and overwhelming feeling to win the championship. We've been so close so many times before and finally break through."



Brittany Elliott

Following a 1-0 win over perennial champion College of New Jersey in the national semifinal, Salisbury seized quick control of the championship game against the Panthers. Freshman Tracey Loyd scored unassisted just 5:22 into the contest to give the Sea Gulls a lead they wouldn't lose. Sophomore Brittany Elliott then tallied the first of her two goals, assisted by junior Erin Budd at 11:14, to push the advantage to 2-0.

Second half goals by sisters Brittany and Lindsey Elliott added insurance as Salisbury left no doubt that the title would return to Maryland's Eastern Shore. "We knew they would score," said Chamberlin on Middlebury. "We just knew we needed to score more. Having a 4-1 lead in the second half took a little of the pressure off."

Lead by seniors Sara Saubier, Megan Bailey and Kelly Murphy, the Sea Gull defense allowed few Middlebury challenges over the final 25 minutes. Senior goalie "I thought we took control of the game right from the start" - Head Coach Dawn Chamberlin

Hall of Fame Adds Three

The Athletics Hall of Fame added three new members during Homecoming Weekend festivities in October. The 2003 inductees are:

Doug Mock '91, a standout on the cross country and track teams, was a three-time all-conference and all-region runner in cross country and the school-record holder in the 1,500-meters in track. Mock was a two-time qualifier for the NCAA Track National Championship, competing in the 1,500-meters and 5,000-meters.

Wicki Miller Titus '92, a two-sport athlete, earned All-America honors in field hockey and set several school records in basketball. Titus was a two-time field hockey team captain and named to the All-America first team as a midfielder in 1990. As a basketball point guard, she finished her career as the program's all-time leader in steals and second in career assists.

Mike Esham '93, a three-time, first team All-America defenseman in lacrosse, was the USILA's national defenseman of the year in 1991 and 1993, and led the Sea Gulls to their first national championship game appearance in 1991. A four-year starter during his career, including 40-4 during his last three seasons.

The Hall of Fame was initiated in 1985 to honor those who have made outstanding contributions to Salisbury's athletic heritage. The addition of these three inductees brings the Hall's membership to 79. To be eligible, an individual must have graduated from the University at least 10 years earlier or be retired as a coach.



Mike Esham, Wicki Miller Titus, Doug Mock

Gulls Place 14 on All-ACFC Football Team

Coming off a 7-2 campaign and a second-place finish in the Atlantic Central Football Conference, the football team had 14 players recognized on the all-conference teams. The Sea Gulls placed six players on the all-Atlantic Central Football Conference first team and eight players on the second team.

Three Sea Gulls also claimed individual honors from the conference. Junior linebacker Brad

DeHaven was selected as the ACFC's co-Defensive Player of the Year in addition to being named to the first team. DeHaven finished tied for first in the nation in tackles for loss per game (2.8) and led the Sea Gulls with 77 total tackles. Junior punter Rick Nistler was selected as the ACFC's Special Teams Player of the Year. Nistler set a new Salisbury record with a season average of 39.5 yards per punt, rank-

ing 14th in the nation. Salisbury's Sherman Wood was named the ACFC's co-Coach of the Year.

Salisbury placed one player on the conference's first team offense: sophomore lineman Brett Wehnert, who helped Salisbury's offense average 207.9 yards per game rushing and 337.4 yards per game in total offense.

In addition to DeHaven, other Sea Gulls named to the first team defense were junior defensive tackle Brandon Fields and junior cornerback Chris Barr. Fields finished the year with 49 tackles, including 14 tackles for loss, and anchored a unit that finished seventh in the nation in total defense and eighth in the nation in rushing defense. Barr finished with 37 tackles, two interceptions and a team-leading nine pass breakups.

Nistler was joined on the special teams first team by Sea Gull placekicker Brock Boland, who converted 7 of 10 field goal attempts and scored 42 points this season.

Salisbury players named to the second team were: sophomore QB Dustin Johnson, senior RB Rishawd Watson, junior WR Lesley Wills, junior OL Brendan Riley, sophomore DT Andrew Deming, junior DE Nick Good-Malloy, senior DE Justin Dominick and freshman DB James Jones.

Despite missing out on individual awards, senior TE Kyle Acker also attracted a fair share of attention during the season. Scouts from 28 NFL teams visited the campus throughout the season to personally evaluate Acker's potential to play professionally. The 6'3", 255-pound senior has apparently left a favorable impression with most of the visitors. "All of the scouts have told us that he has a legitimate chance to play at the next level," said Wood.



Brad DeHaven



Kyle Acker

Three Earn All-CAC Women's Soccer Honors

After finishing first during the Capital Athletic Conference's regular season with a 5-1-1 league mark, the Salisbury women's soccer team had three players recognized on the all-conference squads. Sophomore midfielder Brandi Sproul and junior back Rachael Cerza were selected to the first team, while sophomore goalie Katie Hendrickson was named to the second team. The Gulls posted their 10th straight winning season in 2003, finishing with a 9-8-2 final record, and recorded nine shutouts during the campaign. SU carried a six-match unbeaten streak into the postseason and advanced to the semifinal round of the CAC Tournament.

For the second straight year, assistant coach Wayne Gorrow was also recognized as one of the national Assistant Coach of the Year award winners. Gorrow, who has served as an assistant with the women's program since its inception in 1994, was presented the award prior to SU's Homecoming Day game against Eastern.

Men Win CAC Cross Country Championship

For the second straight year and third time in four years, the men's cross country team captured the Capital Athletic Conference championship, while the women placed second. In addition to the team title, SU also claimed the men's individual champion as junior Tristan Gilbert registered a winning time of 25:38 over the 8K course.

Salisbury had eight men's runners among the top 15. Gilbert, Will Detwiler (5th, 26:25), and Will Murdoch (6th, 26:25) earned first team all-CAC honors, while Steve Jacobs (9th, 26:47), Brad Ellis (10th, 26:52), Daryl Lee (13th, 27:03), Greg Cooke (14th, 27:03) and Matt Vetter (15th, 27:10) earned second team honors.

Gilbert was named the CAC's Male Athlete of the Year and SU's Jim Jones was selected by his peers as the CAC's Men's Coach of the Year.

Salisbury had two women among the top 15. Sophomore Lauren Bragg earned first team CAC status by finishing fifth overall in 23:36, and freshman Ruth Hedrick earned second team honors, placing 10th in 23:59.

The CAC title was the second championship win of the season for the men's squad. Salisbury also captured first place honors at the Maryland State Championship. Gilbert once again paced the Gulls in that event, finishing third overall and first among the non-Division I runners in the field. Gilbert and sophomore Will Murdoch were co-winners of the team's MVP award, while Bragg was selected as the women's team MVP.



Men's Soccer Advances to Elite Eight

Despite losing six starters and 11 seniors from last year's championship squad, the men's soccer team barely missed a beat, winning its fourth Capital Athletic Conference championship and making a deep run in the national playoffs in 2003. The Sea Gulls finished with a 16-3-3 record and, for the second time in team history, advanced to the final eight of the NCAA Championship Tournament. Salisbury recorded its 12th straight winning season and its sixth straight campaign with at least 15 victories.

"The season was a tremendous success, especially when you consider that we played numerous freshmen and sophomores throughout the lineup," said Head Coach Gerry DiBartolo, who was selected by his peers as the South Region's Coach of the Year. "All of the team's success this year is a direct result of how hard the players worked and how unselfish they were. We feel good about the future of the program."

After starting the season with a 4-2-2 record, the Gulls embarked on a 12-match winning streak, tying the school record. The streak included a 3-1 victory over York that secured SU's fourth confer-

ence crown in the last five years. Six players earned all-CAC honors, including CAC Player of the Year Dan Meehan. Joining Meehan on the first team were senior forward John Muto and sophomore goalie Jason Cranford. Sophomore Chris Mills, junior Dan Lader and junior Markus Hunkeler were named to the second team.

Meehan, Cranford and Lader were also selected to the NSCAA's All South Region teams. Meehan then capped his outstanding senior campaign by earning a spot on the 12-player All-America first team, becoming the seventh Sea Gull player to earn the national award. Head Coach Gerry DiBartolo was also recognized by the NSCAA as the South Region's Coach of the Year, winning the award for the second straight season and third time overall.

In addition, both Meehan and Muto were named to CoSIDA's National Academic All-America soccer team. Meehan, a business management major with a 3.95 GPA, was one of 11 student-athletes named to the national first team. Muto, an information systems management major with a 3.96 GPA, was named to the national second team.

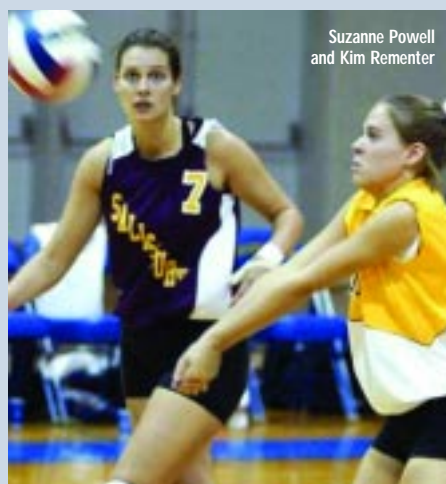


Tim Lane

Powell, Lawson Receive CAC Volleyball Honors

Senior middle hitter Suzanne Powell and junior outside hitter Lindsay Lawson both earned all-conference first team honors for their play during the 2003 season, while freshman setter Abbey Petrecca was selected as the CAC's Rookie of the Year. The Sea Gulls enjoyed another record-setting campaign in 2003, finishing with a 26-7 record that also included a new school-record 16-match winning streak.

Powell, the team's only senior in 2003, received all-conference recognition after finishing the year among the CAC leaders in hitting percentage (.264) and blocks (86). The four-year letter winner concluded her career ranking among Salisbury's all-time leaders in blocks (sixth with 184) and service aces (seventh with 131).



Suzanne Powell and Kim Rementer

Lawson, who joined the Sea Gulls as a junior transfer in 2003, led the team with 323 kills and 1,006 attempts in 2003, while also finishing fourth on the team with 237 digs.

Petrecca finished third in the conference in assists in 2003 with 8.41 per game.

In addition, junior defensive specialist Kim Rementer earned All-District 2 First Team Academic honors. A psychology major, she was one of six players from all NCAA Division II and III schools in the region to earn first team honors.

The Sea Gulls finished 6-1 during the Capital Athletic Conference's regular season and secured the number one seed for the CAC Tournament. SU ended the year with a 3-2 loss to eventual conference champion Gallaudet in the tournament's semifinal round.

Tennis Earns Preseason Rankings

The men's and women's tennis teams are well represented in the ITA 2004 preseason rankings.

The Sea Gull men begin the season ranked sixth in the Atlantic South Region, with four players also ranked in either singles or doubles. Meanwhile, the SU women are seventh in the Atlantic South and included among the teams "also receiving votes" in the national Top 30 poll.

Individually, senior Nick Peel begins the 2004 spring campaign ranked fifth in the Atlantic South and 27th in the nation in singles. Sophomore transfer Ryan Finlayson is 17th in the region and senior Scott Mayberry is 23rd. Peel and Mayberry are also ranked fourth in the region and 10th in the nation in doubles.

On the women's side, senior Cassie Meyer is ranked 27th in the region in singles. The doubles team of senior Samantha Coldren and freshman Erika Mitry is ranked 13th in the regional poll.