

GATOR BITES

THE SAGE COLLEGES' ATHLETICS YEAR IN REVIEW--2009

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SPORTS INFORMATION

Sports Information Director: Ann King
Office Phone: 518.244.4767
Home Phone: 518.357.3474
Fax: 518.720.3007
kinga2@sage.edu



Athletic Web Site:
www.SageGators.com

MEN'S BASKETBALL.....2

Overall Record: 2-6

Skyline Conference Record: 1-3

The Sage Colleges men's basketball team took to the court finally in 2009 after a much-anticipated launch as an NCAA Division III program. Rookie Head Coach **Brian Barnes** was tapped to direct the program. He is a former team tri-captain for the University at Albany Great Danes and a former assistant men's basketball coach at nearby Division III RPI.

Hired in June of 2008, Barnes was very busy laying the foundation for the first Gator Division III men's team as the former Sage Junior College at Albany played for several years in the ranks of the National Junior College Association until the 2002-2003 season. Barnes is joined on the bench by **Michael Foust**, who has spent the past year helping to build the Gators' basketball program with his hard work on the recruiting scene. A former assistant with Barnes at RPI, Foust is familiar with the Capital Region basketball landscape, both scholastically as well as with AAU. Barnes and Foust recruited an enthusiastic and talented class that includes a pair of transfers and 15 freshmen.

It did not take long for a number of program firsts. On November 20, the Gators racked up their first win as they beat Albany College of Pharmacy, 100-60. Just 11 days later, Sage accomplished two more program firsts. The Gators beat Bard College 77-73, marking both the program's first win over an NCAA Division III opponent as well as a Skyline Conference foe.

Sage stands at 2-6 overall and 1-3 in the league in 2009.

Sage's junior guard **Garret Bishop's (Saratoga, NY/Saratoga Springs)** has taken over the lead in the Gators' scoring race. Bishop has a 13.3 ppg average in six starts, which is eighth best in the conference. He is also ranked amongst the conference leaders in free throw percentage, shooting 83.3% (15-18). He has played an average of 30.0 minutes per game on the year as well, which also leads the team.

On the year, freshman forward **Matt Farbotko (Rouses Point, NY/Northeastern Clinton)**, continues to pace the Gators with his team-leading 92 points, but is second in points per game with an 11.5 per game average. He ranks 14th in the conference in scoring and fourth in rebounding with his team-best 7.4 per game average. He leads the team in field goal percentage as he has hit a blistering 58.2% of his shots which is fourth best in the league. He has made 39-of-67 shots attempted and leads the team with his seven blocks, also good enough for fifth in the conference (0.88).

- Rookie guard **Mervin Springer (Copiague, NY/Copiague)** has a 10.3 ppg with a 3.9 rpg average with 14 steals. He ranks 10th in the league in steals per game (1.75) and 10th in FT% (77.3%).

- Junior guard **Ryan Harris (Hudson Falls, NY/Glens Falls)** has six starts under his belt. He has an 11.0 ppg on the year in 22.1 minutes a game. He leads the team with his 20 three-point field goals, good enough for third in the conference (2.5 pg). He also ranks 10th in three-point FG% (20-52).

- **Matt Lee (Ballston Lake, NY/Shenendehowa)** has a 6.6 ppg average and also is shooting 43.8% from the floor. He also has a 4.9 rpg average on the season.

- Forward **Mason Horne (Albany, NY/LaSalle Institute)** owns a 6.5 ppg average and is shooting 52.8% from the floor, while adding 2.4 rpg.

- **Jeff Stopera (Scotia, NY/Scotia Glenville)** ranks first in the league in steals having picked off 23 thus far (2.88 per game) and is also averaging 2.6 ppg.

- Forward **Alex King (Saratoga Springs, NY/Saratoga Springs)** has a 7.1 ppg and 4.9 rpg average in seven games played with six starts. He has nine assists and 11 steals to his credit.

- Rookie guards **Sigbert Guy (E. NY, NY/Transit Tech)** and **Steven King (Rensselaer, NY/Columbia)** have also seen some action for Sage.

2009-2010 SEASON HONORS

Skyline Conference Players of the Week

Alex King, Men's Basketball Player of the Week, November 16, 2009.

Mervin Springer, Men's Basketball Rookie of the Week, November 16, 2009.

Matt Farbotko, Men's Basketball Rookie of the Week, November 30, 2009.



WOMEN'S BASKETBALL.....3

2008-2009 Overall Record: 4-14

Skyline Conference Record: 2-10

Over the course of the 2008-2009 campaign, Sage's women's basketball team racked up a 4-14 record with a 2-10 effort in conference play. By season's end, the team was rewarded for the second straight year with a selection as the recipient of the Skyline Conference Sportsmanship Award.

Along the way in 2008-09, sophomore guard **Liz Donk (Phelps, NY/Midlakes)** averaged 8.9 ppg and 5.8 rpg. She was the team's high scorer on seven occasions, including 24 points in the season finale. She handed out a team-high 103 assists, good enough for a 4.68 per game average, which was third best in the Skyline Conference last year. She also ranked 10th in the conference in free throw percentage after hitting 81-of-126 (64.3%).

As a junior, **Carlin DeMarinis (Saratoga Springs, NY/Saratoga Springs)** was the team's leading scorer a year ago with a 10.5 ppg average. DeMarinis was the leading scorer 10 times as a junior and ranked 18th in the conference in scoring, while ranking eighth in the league with her accuracy from three-point range as she shot 32.9% and was fourth in the conference averaging 2.24 three-point field goals per game.

Another junior, **Amber Muir (Schenectady, NY/Notre Dame Bishop Gibbons)** averaged 5.1 ppg with 5.4 rebounds per contest. She also led the Gators with 11 blocks and was a leader on the floor, shooting 40.3%.

Amanda Crans (Watkins Glen, NY/Watkins Glen) added a strong performance in her junior season after averaging 3.6 ppg while playing 17.4 minutes a game.

As a sophomore, **Jaime Handford (Berlin, NY/Berlin)** played in just 11 games and had a pair of starts.

As a rookie, **Kelsey Frament (Waterford, NY/Catholic Central)** made six starts and played in 21 games as a forward. She averaged 16.9 minutes a game and finished with a 4.9 ppg and 3.1 rpg average. She also shot well from the floor, shooting 40.0% (34-85).

14.8 ppg average with 133 points. She ranks 10th in the conference in scoring, while ranking third in field goal percentage (50.0%). She also has a 6.8 rpg on the season.

Frament leads team with her 8.8 per game average. She ranks ninth in the conference in rebounding and now has a 7.1 ppg average in nine starts.

Rookie forward **Kara Hackett (Peru, NY/Peru Central)** is averaging 10.7 ppg thus far having started all nine games on the year. She is second on the team in rebounding with 70 boards and a 7.8 per game average. She ranks 20th in the Skyline Conference in scoring as well. She ranks eighth in the league with her steady shooting hand as she owns a 46.3% field goal percentage (38-82). She has nine blocks as well, which is good enough for fifth in the conference, while she is the team-leader with 25 steals.

Donk has a 9.2 ppg average, while handing out a team-high 40 assists. She is also averaging 5.0 rpg average. Donk ranks fifth in the conference in assists, having handed out 4.4 per game. She also ranks sixth in the conference with her 0.70 assist to turnover ratio.

For the 2009-10 year, **DeMarinis** has played in every game, connecting on a 6.3 ppg average. She leads the team having made 12 three-point baskets, which is ninth best in the league. She is averaging 2.4 rpg in her 23.0 minutes played per game.

Crans is averaging 5.3 ppg with 22.9 minutes played per game. She leads the team with an impressive three-point field goal percentage as she has a 31.3% (12-34), which is sixth highest in the league. She has started every game for the Gators.

Veteran forward, **Muir** has connected for 4.7 ppg and rpg having played in every game thus far.

2009-2010 SEASON HONORS

Skyline Conference Players of the Week

Jessica Byerwalters, Women's Basketball Player of the Week, November 16, 2009.

Kara Hackett, Women's Basketball Rookie of the Week, November 23, 2009.



2008-2009 SEASON HONORS

Skyline Conference Women's Basketball All-Star Honors

Sage, 2008-2009 Skyline Conference Sportsmanship Award

2009-2010 Overall Record: 4-5

Skyline Conference Record: 2-2

Sage's women's basketball team has already equalled the victory total from a year ago. Now in her fifth season with the Gators, Head Coach **Jackie Luszczyk** has directed this season's squad to a quick 4-5 overall record, while owning a 2-2 mark in the league.

Junior forward **Jessica Byerwalters (Coeymans Hollow, NY/Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk)** leads the team with a

SOFTBALL.....4

Overall Record: 7-29

Skyline Conference Record: 3-11

The 2009 season saw Sage's softball team christen a new home field, while garnering numerous awards and honors over the course of the campaign. By year's end, Sage produced a 7-29 overall record with a 3-11 mark in Skyline Conference play under the guidance of Head Coach **Lindsay Sawyer**.

Early in the year, Sage hosted Southern Vermont College on March 25 in the inaugural contests at the Robison Field.

In the first contest of the doubleheader, Sage cruised to a 13-5 win in five innings. In the nightcap, the Gators found themselves down 0-4 in the top of the third inning, but broke out with four runs in the bottom half to tie it up. The Gators scored three runs in both the fourth and fifth inning, to take a 10-6 lead heading into the top of the sixth inning. Sage held the Mountaineers to just one run over the final two innings to secure the 10-7 win and the pair of wins on the new field.

Along the way, Sage softball players earned numerous honors for their play in 2009.

The Gators placed three student-athletes on the Skyline Conference Second Team as **Jen Ahearn (2B; Cohoes, NY)**, **Kellie Jones (SS; Troy, NY/Troy)**, and **Maria Pasquarelli (C; Amsterdam, NY/Amsterdam)** were all honored.

Jones led Sage at the plate batting .400 on the season, with a slugging percentage of .686. She hit four homeruns, had 14 doubles, with 26 RBI's on her 42 hits. She was also aggressive on the base paths stealing 11 of 12 bases attempted on the year.

Ahearn was also a threat offensively for the Gators, batting .333 on the season. She added 31 hits, four of which were homeruns, and batted in 21 runs. She was 12-13 on stolen bases in 2009 and had a .527 slugging percentage.

Pasquarelli added 27 hits, including six triples and two homeruns. She recorded 14 RBI's in 34 starts for the Gators.

Jones also received an honorable mention pick for the 2009 NFCA Atlantic Region Team. She was the lone member of the Skyline Conference to be recognized.

Members of The Sage Colleges softball team were also recognized by the National Fastpitch Coaches Association (NFCA) girls got game/NFCA All-America Scholar-Athlete Team. Sage placed five student-athletes on the 2009 team after they excelled in the

classroom, achieving a 3.5 of higher grade-point-average.

Headlining the team for the Gators were 2009 class valedictorian, senior **Rebecca Gregory (Hudson, NY/Hudson)**, junior co-captain **Jones**, sophomore co-captain **Allison Bishop (Troy NY/Lansingburgh)**, sophomore **Jaime Handford (Berlin, NY/Berlin)**, and freshman **Ashley Eberle (Delmar, NY/Bethlehem Central)**.

In addition to earning recognition from the NFCA, each player also earned a spot on the 2009 Skyline Conference Scholar-Athlete Team last spring.

Gregory, who returns this season as a graduate student, majored in mathematics at Sage as an undergraduate. She earned acclaim for her excellence in the classroom as a Dean's List student and is also a former softball representative to Sage's Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC).

Bishop, who is a member and vice president of Sage's Student Athlete Advisory Committee, is a business and communications major at Sage. She batted .291 a year ago with 13 extra-base hits and started all 34 games for the Gators. She led the team with her 110 at bats and racked up a .967 fielding percentage.

Eberle is a math education major at Sage and batted .250 last spring with 26 starts. Jones, who is a two-sport student-athlete for the Gators where she also served as a tri-captain on Sage's 2009 women's volleyball team. She is majoring in physical therapy.

Handford is a pre-med major at Sage and batted .226 last year with 17 appearances and 16 starts in the Gators' outfield.

2009 SEASON HONORS Skyline Conference Players of the Week

Kellie Jones, Player of the Week, March 30, 2009.

Jennifer Ahearn, Honorable Mention Honor Roll, March 30, 2009.

Jennifer Ahearn, Rookie of the Week, April 13, 2009.



WOMEN'S LACROSSE.....5

Overall Record: 1-9

Skyline Conference Record: 1-6

After almost a 20-year absence, The Sage Colleges had a women's lacrosse team competing in the NCAA Division III ranks as well as the Skyline Conference in 2009.

Andrea Hanley entered her first season as the head women's lacrosse coach at The Sage Colleges this past year. Hanley took over the club lacrosse program at Sage in the Spring of 2008 and helped elevate the program into it's first year as a NCAA Division III Program.

Tapped as the team captains for the Gators in 2009 were graduate student **Kathryn Baird** (Caroga Lake, NY/Johnstown) and **Jessica Hankle** (Wynantskill, NY/Averill Park).

The Gators kicked off their inaugural season in Reading, Pennsylvania with a pair of games against Wilkes University and Alvernia University, respectively.

Rookie attacker, **Brianna Thompson** (Mason, OH/William Mason) earned Skyline Conference Rookie of the Week honors in the program's first week of competition. She scored a goal and picked up four ground balls against Wilkes in the program's first game. She contributed three goals, three ground balls, and four draw controls the following day in a 19-8 loss to Alvernia.

Thompson finished the season as the team's top scorer after racking up 20 goals with an assist for 21 points.

The Gators also earned the program's first win as they knocked off Skyline Conference foe, NYU-Poly on April 21, 12-8.

Junior **Amber Winslow** (Averill Park, NY/Averill Park) led all players in the contest as she finished with five goals.

Rookie **Ginelle Butler** (Malta, NY/Ballston Spa) added three goals in the contest, while Baird was the goalie of record as she made six saves in the game for the win.

By year's end, Winslow finished as the team's second-leading scorer with her 11 goals and three assists, while sophomore **Kathryn Saulsbery** (Albany, NY/Colonie, Central) netted nine goals and an assist to finish with 10 points and was third in the team's scoring race.

Sage was named the recipient of the 2009 Skyline Conference Team Sportsmanship Award.

Thompson was tapped for the 2009 Skyline Conference All-Star Second Team for her play on attack.

2009 SEASON HONORS

Brianna Thompson, Skyline Conference Rookie of the Week, March 16, 2009

Brianna Thompson, Skyline Conference All-Star Second Team

Sage Gators, 2009 Skyline Conference Sportsmanship Award



MEN'S TENNIS.....6

Overall Record: 0-8

The Sage Colleges men's tennis opened their inaugural season as an NCAA Division III varsity team on Saturday, March 21 when they travelled to Farmingdale State College.

The 2009 Gator squad was comprised of six student-athletes and was led by **Head Coach Cedric Gaddis**. Gaddis's troupes were led by junior **Zach Reiff (Troy, NY)** in the number one slot for singles and Reiff paired up with rookie **Alejandro Cabrera (Kingston, NY)** to make up the number one position for doubles.

Over the course of the campaign, the Gators took to the courts eight times, but did not record a win, a goal most certainly on the team's wish list for 2010.

Along the way, Sage got consistent play from players such as junior **Mark Ferussi (Albany, NY)**, sophomore **Josh Hewitt (Albany, NY)**, sophomore **Alex Milkman (Chester, VT)**, and junior **Hussnain Hussain (Albany, NY)**.

With all six players scheduled to return in 2010, Gaddis is confident the wins and success will be in the cards for the Gators in the very near future. In 2010, Sage will compete as a member of the Skyline Conference in men's tennis after playing several league opponents last year, but not competing as a league member.



MEN'S GOLF.....7

Tapped to direct Sage's men's golf program, **Luke Scala** has arrived on campus with an extensive background and resume as a Class A, P.G.A. Golf Professional with more than 25 years of experience. Scala has worked at some of the most prominent clubs in upstate New York and Westchester County.

Throughout the 2009 spring and fall, the Gators made significant strides and improvements. By season's wrap in October of 2009, The Sage Colleges men's golf team made their most impressive showing when they competed in a meet hosted by Cazenovia College at Cazenovia Country Club. The host Wildcats won the event with a team score of 351, while Sage would take second with a 377. The round was the lowest team score recorded by Sage this year as well.

Sage's senior captain **Mike Triscari (Troy, NY/LaSalle Institute)** turned in his second straight under 100 score as the senior shot a season-best 89. All told, Sage had four golfers shoot under 100, a program first. Gators' graduate student **Elias Ruhland (Nassau, NY/Columbia)** added a 94, while junior **Brian Steele (Ballston Spa, NY/Ballston Spa)** was next with a 97.

Rookie **Adam Marmuscal (Duanesburg, NY/Duanesburg)** added a 97 as well for the Gators. Sophomore **Joshua Weaver (Sandlake, NY/Averill Park)** shot a 100 to complete the team's competitors for the day.

Sage head coach **Luke Scala** said of the team's performance, "I was excited to see the team's hard work pay off as they really played well today, despite the early rain that had affected the course."



WOMEN'S SOCCER.....8

Overall Record: 9-9-1

Skyline Conference Record: 5-4

Over the course of the 2009 campaign, Sage would garner post-season appearances in both the Skyline Conference Tournament as well as the Eastern College Athletic Conference Upstate Division III Tournament. The Gators also won the program's first post-season contest in the Skyline Conference Tournament and earned their second-straight ECAC bid, wrapping the year with a 9-9-1 overall record and a 5-4 mark in league play, all under the keen guidance of veteran Head Coach, **Barry Balkwell**.

The Sage Colleges women's soccer team was rewarded for the player's successful season with the announcement of the first Eastern College Athletic Conference Metro Division III Women's Soccer All-Star Team as three players earned acclaim, and with the release of the 2009 Skyline Conference Women's Soccer All-Star Team, a program-first had unfolded with the selection of four players to the First Team.

Named to the 2009 ECAC All-Star Team from Sage were junior goalie **Brittany McDonald (Schenectady, NY/Schalmont)**, junior midfielder **Ashley Allain (Stillwater, NY/Stillwater)**, and sophomore forward **Rebecca Marszalek (Adams, MA/Hoosac Valley)** as each was placed on the Second Team.

Headlining the 2009 Skyline Conference selections for the Gators were McDonald, junior back **Samantha DeFoe (Galway, NY/Galway)**, Allain, and Marszalek.

In her first season with Sage, McDonald was outstanding in net. She would collect six solo shutouts and one shared shutout this season. She led the Skyline Conference with her shutouts (0.32) and ranked third in the league with her .855 saves percentage, third in saves with 141, and fourth in goals against average (1.30). She earned player of the week honors from both the Skyline Conference and the ECAC this past season and was named to the 2009 Skyline Conference All-Star First Team.

DeFoe would connect the game-winning goal in the Skyline Tournament as she converted a corner kick for a score to lift the Gators past Mt. St. Mary, 1-0. The goal was the third of the year for DeFoe, played in 18 games and finished with seven points from her defensive position on three goals and an assist.

A team tri-captain for the Gators, Allain led the team and the league with her 0.59 assists per game average. Allain finished with four goals, 10 assists

and 18 points this past fall, which was second best on the 2009 squad and led the conference in assists per game as well. She was also tapped for the 2009 Skyline Conference All-Star First Team, which was a repeat honor for her as she was also chosen in 2008 after connecting on 11 points with her three goals and five assists. As a rookie, she was named to the Second Team in 2007, Sage's first season in the Skyline Conference after connecting on 17 points off five goals with seven assists. Allain now has 12 career goals with 22 assists, good enough for 46 career points in her three campaigns with Sage.

Rounding out the team's ECAC All-Stars was the team's leading scorer on the 2009 season, Marszalek. She racked up a personal-best 32 points on 15 goals and two assists. She surpassed her totals from her rookie season (14g, 3 a, 31 pts.) and now has 29 goals, five assists and 63 points. She currently ranks third all-time with her career goals and is fourth on the career point list as well in just 36 games played as a Gator. Marszalek finished the season ranking fourth in the conference with her 1.68 points per game average, while her 0.79 goals per game ranks third highest amongst the players in the conference. She led the league with her five game-winning goals (0.26 per game).

2009 SEASON HONORS

Skyline Conference Players of the Week

Ashley Allain, Skyline Conference Player of the Week, October 19, 2009

Brittany McDonald, Skyline Conference Player of the Week, September 28, 2009

ECAC Division III Metro Players of the Week

Ashley Allain, ECAC Division III Metro Offensive Player of the Week, October 19, 2009

Brittany McDonald, ECAC Metro Division III Defensive Player of the Week, September 28, 2009



WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL...9

Overall Record: 13-23

Skyline Conference Record: 7-2

The Gators advanced to the Skyline Conference Championship match for the third straight year. Unlike the previous two seasons, Sage would have to settle for a second place showing after a tough five-set match in the championship finals against top seeded, NYU-Poly.

Middle hitter **Nicole Corbett (East Greenbush, NY/Columbia)**, was a candidate for the ESPN The Magazine Academic All-District Team in 2009 as well as the AVCA All-America Team. Over the course of the year, she earned four selections to the Skyline Conference weekly honor roll and was tapped as the Player of the Week once. She closed the 2009 regular-season with a spot on the Vassar College Invitational All-Tournament Team. She was the Gators' team leader with her .291 attack percentage this fall. She added 275 kills with a total of 117 blocks. For the 2009 Skyline Conference Tournament, she average 3.18 kills per set with 1.27 blocks with a .382 attacking percentage. She finishes the season ranked second all-time in career total blocks with 378. She is just 61 blocks shy owning the career record. She is also currently in fourth place on the career kills list with 905 as moved ahead of Elizabeth St. Dennis (903, 2004-06). Overall on the year, the junior started all 124 sets and her 117 total blocks ranks fourth in single-season performance at Sage.

Sage's senior middle hitter **Kellie Jones (Troy, NY/Troy)** connected on 257 kills this fall with 355 digs in 2009. In the Skyline Tournament, she added 24 digs with 29 kills. Overall on her Sage career, she stands among the leaders in several categories. She racked up 675 kills, which is seventh best in program history. She added 1,198 career digs which is fourth best. She added 182 career serving aces, which is fourth best as well. On her 2009 campaign, she added 50 serving aces in 124 sets played and started. Earlier this season, she was named to the Union College Invitational All-Tournament Team and was selected the Skyline Conference Volleyball Player of the Week on September 21.

Sophomore setter **Kristin Buonincontra (Shelton, CT/Shelton)** finished the season as the team leader with her 847 setting assists (6.83 per set), which seventh best on the Gator Single-Season performances. She added team-high 68 serving aces, which is seventh best at Sage. She racked up 181 digs with 49 kills in 124 sets started. She is looking to crack into the career serving aces top 10 list next fall after compiling 107 thus far in her two years with the Gators.

Junior outside hitter **Sarah Peacock**

(**Duanesburg, NY/Duanesburg**), another of the Gators' 2009 ESPN The Magazine Academic All-District candidates, led the team with 276 kills, good enough for a 2.23 kills per set average. She added 29 serving aces this fall with 417 digs. In her two seasons with Sage, Peacock now has 839 career digs with 413 career kills.

Junior **Michelle DeNisco (New Hampton, NY/Goshen)** added 112 kills with 35 serving aces, 66 digs and 48 total blocks, including 23 solo blocks. She was a starter in every set this season.

Sophomore libero **Kelsey Wilson (Schenectady, NY/Bishop Gibbins)** led the Gators with 458 digs and a 3.69 digs per set average. She has added 28 serving aces as well. On her young Gator career, she already has 764 digs and should move into the top ten in her junior season. Her 2009 digs total ranks 11th best all-time for Gator single-season marks.

Junior **Cheryce Harvey (Utica, NY/Thomas R. Proctor)** played in all 124 sets as well this fall. She contributed 260 digs with 29 total blocks, and 47 kills.

Sage's Head Women's Volleyball Coach, **Lisa Gallagher** earned acclaim for her efforts as well in 2009. She has directed the Gators to numerous post-season appearances and considerable success during her career and now owns a 167-145 career record in nine full seasons at the helm of the program. Gallagher is the program's winningest coach (.535 win percentage) and holds the mark for most career victories as well.

2009 SEASON HONORS

Skyline Conference Players of the Week

Kellie Jones, SKyline Conference Women's Volleyball Player of the Week, September 21, 2009

Nicole Corbett, SKyline Conference Women's Volleyball Player of the Week, November 2, 2009

2009 Skyline Conference All-Star Team

Nicole Corbett, SKyline Conference Women's Volleyball All-Star First Team

Kellie Jones, SKyline Conference Women's Volleyball All-Star Second Team

Lisa Gallagher, 2009 Skyline Conference Women's Volleyball Coach of the Year

Sage Gators, 2009 Skyline Conference Women's Volleyball Sportsmanship Award



WOMEN'S TENNIS.....10

Overall Record: 9-4

Skyline Conference Record: 6-2

The 2009 Sage Women's Tennis Team earned the program's second consecutive post-season appearance over the course of the fall and also produced the Skyline Conference's Women's Tennis Player of the Year. Head Coach **Cedric Gaddis** wrapped his third season as the program's coach after guiding the team to a 9-4 overall record with a 6-2 mark in the league. He now owns a 23-19 record with the women's program.

The Sage Colleges women's tennis player, senior **Christina Gray (Clifton Park, NY/Shenendehowa)** was named the 2009 Skyline Conference Women's Tennis Player of the Year. The selection was a repeat award for the Gators' top singles and doubles player.

Joining Gray on the 2009 Skyline Conference First Team was Sage's sophomore **Erica Fitzgerald (Queensbury, NY/Queensbury)**.

Since breaking on the scene in the Skyline Conference, Gray has never lost a singles match in conference play as she now owns a record of 17-0 in her two seasons on the team, while also owning a record of 14-2 in conference doubles action.

Gray did not drop a single game in either her singles or doubles matches and finishes the season riding a seven-match win streak in singles play as well as a seven-match win streak in doubles action.

Gray would lead the team with a 13-2 overall record in singles play, including a 12-0 record in dual action. Overall on her singles career as a Gator, she is 24-3, while owning a 22-4 record in doubles.

Fitzgerald would post an impressive record of 9-5 in singles this fall at second singles. She also added an 11-3 record in the lineup at first doubles.

Gray and Fitzgerald became the first Sage women's tennis players to compete at the prestigious ITA Northeast Women's Small College Championship when they took to the courts in October.

Sage's junior captain **Kathryn Saulsbery (Colonie, NY/Colonie Central)** went 7-4 in singles action on the year. She also went 7-5 in doubles, including a 3-0 record when playing at first doubles. Saulsbery is now 20-17 on her career in singles play, while owning a 22-18 record in doubles play. She owns a combined career record of 42-35 as a Gator for a .545 career win percentage.

Sophomore **Briana Bixler (Highland, NY/Highland)** added a record of 9-4 this fall in singles play, while having produced a 4-6 record in doubles action.

• Junior **Devin Money (Syracuse, NY/Corcoran)** added a 5-1 record this season in singles play. She also teamed with rookie **Julia DeMarco (Duanesburg, NY/Duanesburg)** for success at doubles. Money went 5-1 overall this fall with a 3-1 record with DeMarco.

DeMarco went 2-0 in singles action and 4-1 in doubles play this season.

Junior **Ashley Brennan (Loudonville, NY/Colonie Central)** went 2-8 in singles and 4-5 in doubles action this fall.

Rookie **Megan Holmes (West Camp, NY/Saugerties)** has also contributed for the team to a 4-7 record in singles with a 6-4 record in doubles play.

2009 SEASON HONORS

Skyline Conference Players of the Week

Christina Gray, Player of the Week, Sept. 8, 2009.

Briana Bixler, Player of the Week, Sept. 21, 2009

Christina Gray, Player of the Week, Oct. 19, 2009.

2009 SEASON HONORS

Skyline Conference All-Star Team

Christina Gray, Women's Tennis Player of the Year

Erica Fitzgerald, Women's Tennis All-Star First Team



SAGE NEWCOMERS.....11

ANDY SMITH, HEAD MEN'S VOLLEYBALL COACH

The Sage Colleges Athletic Director, Dani Drews announced the selection of **Andy Smith (Scotia, NY)** to serve as the new coach of the men's volleyball program at the college in 2009. Smith will lead Sage's new program with competition in the North East Collegiate Volleyball Association (NECVA) and the Skyline Conference in January of 2010.

With the addition of men's volleyball at Sage, the Gators will become the only Division III Men's Volleyball program in the Capital region and Smith hopes to tap into a wealth of local talent to begin the building process. "The Capital District is rich with talented men's volleyball players." Smith continues, "I am excited for the opportunity to showcase these players close to home in the Sage program."

Smith is a 2006 graduate with a bachelor of science degree in physical education from SUNY Cortland. He previously served as a graduate assistant coach for the highly-successful Red Dragon women's volleyball program since 2005, while also serving as the head coach of the McGraw High School girls' varsity team since 2006. He earned his masters' degree in teaching (health education) in 2008. As a student-athlete, he played on the Cortland Men's Volleyball Club team that won New York State Championships in both 2007 and 2008, while also qualifying for the national championships three times (2005, 2007, and 2008). "Andy is a great example of a terrific young coach that will help Sage improve and expand our athletics program," said Sage's Athletic Director, Dani Drews. "He learned the ropes as a player and coach in one of the top programs in the Northeast and we are confident that he will be able to translate that experience into building a strong, men's volleyball program at Sage."

JIM BOWLES, HEAD MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY COACH

The Sage Colleges also announced the selection of **Jim Bowles (Amsterdam, NY)** to serve as the inaugural coach of the men's cross country program at the college with competition commencing in the fall of 2010. Bowles comes to the Sage Colleges serving the past ten seasons at Siena College.

When asked about Bowles addition to the department, Drews said, "With Jim Bowles at the helm of our new men's cross country team, we have been able to not only secure a head coach with over 20 years of head coaching experience, but a gentleman who lives and breathes the sport." Drews added, "We couldn't have found a better person to start a program and make us contenders in just a few years."

Bowles is still an active runner himself and very involved within the sport having served as the Elite Athlete Coordinator for the Freihofer's Run for Women as well as a member of the Capital District Track and Field Officials organization. He will begin building his cross country program immediately for the Sage Gators and will have an entire year to build his program in advance of the first competition in the Fall of 2010.

During his tenure at Siena, Bowles led both the men's and women's programs that have progressed in size and he helped develop hundreds of quality student-athletes. The women's team topped Siena's 18 Division I sports in the 2007-08 academic year with a 3.49 team GPA. The men's team was also one of 12 teams to post a 3.0 GPA or better (3.19).

Both the men's and women's teams were named National Academic Squads multiple times during Bowles' tenure, often earning the recognition with distinction. Bowles' student-athletes also have competed in America's premier road races, including the Boston and New York Marathons.

Siena's top finish in the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference championships under Bowles came in 2002 and 2003 when the women's team finished in third place. This past fall, the women finished eighth and the men finished ninth in the MAAC Championships which were held in Orlando, Florida.

Bowles is a 1979 graduate of the University of California at Sacramento, having earned his bachelor of science degree in history and sociology. He earned a Masters' degree in 1981 from the University of Ohio-Dayton in aerospace engineering and a Masters' degree in operations management from the University of Arkansas-Jonesboro in 1983.

KYLE CLANCY, HEAD MEN'S SOCCER COACH

Sage also tapped **Kyle Clancy (Walden, NY)** to serve as the inaugural coach of the men's soccer program at the college. Clancy comes to the Sage Colleges having most recently served as the assistance men's soccer coach at SUNY New Paltz since the fall of 2006.

Drews said of Clancy's selection, "Hiring the right coach to lead Sage's new men's soccer program is critical to our ability to build a strong team that reflects all the wonderful qualities of the Sage educational experience." Drews stated that, "Kyle not only brings his strong playing and coaching background with him, he is also a highly motivated, established recruiter in the downstate area that will immediately help us draw prospective student-athletes from the Capital

District to New York City."

Prior to coming to Sage, Clancy was a member of a coaching staff that helped rebuild the New Paltz men's soccer program as an assistant for the past three years. In 2008, he was named the recipient of the Athletic Director's Award. In addition to his responsibilities at SUNY New Paltz, Clancy also served as the event manager. In addition to his experience with the SUNY New Paltz Hawks, he has also trained several Olympic Development Teams and worked with several clubs including Nirvana Soccer and East Hudson Soccer Academy. He holds a National Diploma, which he achieved in 2007 and his advanced National Diploma in 2008.

As a player, Clancy held the school record at Dominican College (NY) for points with 171 points (75 goals, 21 assists) and was named Central Athletic Collegiate Conference Player of the Year in 2005 and 2006. He earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Athletic Training from Dominican College in 2006 and was recognized for his academic accomplishments as a senior having earned the highest grade point average amongst the male student-athletes.

Clancy will have an entire year to establish and build the men's soccer program in advance of varsity competition in the Fall of 2010.

JESSICA HORAN, ASSISTANT ATHLETIC TRAINER

Jessica Horan (Saratoga Springs, NY) returns to her alma mater and was chosen to serve as the new assistant athletic trainer at the college. Horan, a 2005 Sage College graduate, joins head athletic trainer Sharon Brodie, becoming the first assistant athletic trainer for the growing athletic department that now includes 12 varsity teams.

Drews said of Horan's hiring, "We are delighted to have Jessica return to Sage as our new assistant athletic trainer." She added, "This is an exciting part of our athletics expansion and we could think of no one better than a former Russell Sage valedictorian to fill the role."

Horan returns to her alma mater after earning her bachelor of science degree in athletic training in 2005, before attaining her masters' degree in exercise science and health promotion with a specialization in rehabilitation science from California University of Pennsylvania in 2006. In addition to being a NATABOC certified athletic trainer, Horan also holds her certification in strength and conditioning through the National Strength and Conditioning Association.

Horan said of her selection, "It is very exciting to return to Sage and be a part of the growing athletic department." Horan added, "I can already see how far athletics has come and I feel honored to be a part of the continued expansion!"

Prior to returning to Sage, Horan served as an

assistant athletic trainer at Siena College from 2005-2006 before serving as the athletic trainer at Gresham SportsCare Physical Therapy and head athletic trainer at Gresham High School (Gresham, OR) from 2006-2008. She returned to Siena College in 2008, serving as part-time assistant athletic trainer for the Saints, while also working most recently as the part-time strength and conditioning trainer at the Athletic Republic in Clifton Park, NY from 2008-2009.

Horan has also worked as a student athletic trainer at South Colonie High School (NY), the College of St. Rose (Albany, NY) as well as with the Albany Conquest Arena 2 Football program and with the Thomas Nicolla Physical Therapy Center.

In 2005, she was named the valedictorian of her graduating class at Russell Sage College and has also been recognized for her excellent work with the Eastern Athletic Trainers' Association Undergraduate Scholarship Award and the NATA and NASM Pursuit of Excellence Award in Athletic Training Scholarship.

ANN KING, SPORTS INFORMATION DIRECTOR

Ann King joined the staff as The Sage College's first full-time Sports Information Director (SID).

King brings 23 years of experience as an SID to the expanding athletic department. Prior to Sage, she was the SID at The College of New Jersey for 17 and a half years. While at TCNJ she was responsible for over fifty NCAA regional and fifteen national championship events. Before TCNJ, King was the SID for her alma mater Drew University for six years.

King's professional accomplishments include her being inducted into the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) Hall of Fame in 2006, becoming the only College Division female honoree. In 2003 she was the recipient of the CoSIDA Warren Berg Award, which is awarded to the nation's top college division SID. She has been a member of CoSIDA since 1988 and served on the Board of Directors from 1999-2002, only the tenth female named to CoSIDA's board. She has also served as the President on the ECAC-SIDA Board of Directors from 2003-2004, in addition to being the Secretary from 1995-2002. King is one of the founding member of FAME, Female Athletic Media Executives, and was named the groups first President in 2008.

"I'm excited to have the opportunity to serve as the first full-time sports information director at The Sage Colleges. The coaches and administrators are so energetic and passionate about the college and its student-athletes, and I can't wait to join the Sage team," said King about her addition to the Sage athletic department.

King received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Drew University in 1986.