

ALBANY GREAT DANES

Albany, New York
Enrollment: 13,100

Bob Ford (Career 247-174-1)
42nd Year at Albany (39th at varsity level)
Ford's varsity record at Albany 238-153

POSITION OUTLOOK FOR 2011

QB's - For 3 seasons the QB position was a constant as Vinny Esposito finished as the team's #2 all-time passer and totaled 5,692 yds and 38 TD passes. LY the only exp they had returning was Dan Di Lella who threw 4 passes in '09. Di Lella (720, 51.5%, 3-4) started the first 6 games. He was replaced by the more mobile rFr Buddy Leathley (748, 53.6%, 4-5) who rushed for 178 (3.4) while starting the final 5 games. Both return giving them exp and options with 2 ret str's.

RB's - While the QB position had to replace a 3 yr str LY the RB's needed to replace the school's all-time leading rusher David McCarthy (934, 4.2 in '09) and their #2 (471, 4.3). The leading returnee was Andrew Smith who led LY with 724 (4.5) while adding 119 (9.9) rec. True Dillon Romain was #2 with 547 (4.2) and earned NEC Off ROY. Both are back as is the #3 RB Ben Misseikis (163, 4.7) making this a vastly improved unit.

Rec's - Tim Bush departed after finishing #1 & earning 1st tm NEC honors in both '08 and '09. LY they also lost their #3 rec then '09's #2 Jason Poore only had 5 rec. Ryan Kirchner, who was #4 in '09 (186, 11.6) as a rFr, led with 504 (10.1). Nick Hutcherson came over from the D and was #2 with 169 (8.9), Jameel Gay (139, 7.7) was #3 and TE Paul Booker (106, 10.6) was #4. The top 9 all return TY and will have a much greater influence on the offense.

O-Line - In 2009 the Danes lost 3 str's incl an AA and a pair of All-Conf players and the numbers fell to 160 ypg and 3.8 ypg. LY despite returning 4 str's (lost 1st tm NEC) they slipped to 151 ypg (3.7). TY they lose 3 str's incl their C and LT. Kyle O'Keefe is back as a 2Y str at LG while Keith Peifer is a 3Y str at RT but will move to RG. All 3 projected new str's were full-time backups LY in C Justin Anderson, RT Kadeem Williams and LT Jordan Migliore. They have three fewer str's but with the RB's being a strength they should stop their 3Y slide.

D-Line - If you talk about Albany football, defense is the main topic. Despite losing all 3 str's in '08 the unit still allowed only 119 ypg rush (3.3). In '09 they lost an AA but the numbers were consistent as they allowed 118 ypg (3.2). LY they lost 1 str (2nd tm NEC) and

switched to a 4 man front so the slight drop to 134 ypg and 3.8 ypg was to be expected but only gathering 12 sks was a shock. This year they lose 2 str's in 1st tm NEC DT Trevor Anderson (#7 tklr, 3 tfl) and 2nd tm DE Mike Kelly (#5 tklr, 2 sk, 6 tfl). Returning are 2x 2nd tm NEC DE Eddie Delaney (#9 tklr, 4.5 tfl) and DT Zach Gallo (32 tkl, 2.5 tfl). There's exp stepping in with DT Ocieka Bakou (1 st, 24 tkl, 2 tfl) and DE Marc Wargo (17 tkl, 2.5 tfl). Now in the second season of scheme changes I expect a bounce back to more typical numbers.

LB's - In '09 Albany ret'd just 1 str to the 4 man group and kept opponents under 20 ppg for a 5th straight season. LY Albany lost all 4 str's (#1, #3, #4 & #5 tklr's) and that surely had something to do with the change to a 4-3. They allowed 23.2 ppg but excluding the 59 vs SFA in week #2, UA only allowed 19.6 ppg. They lose 1 str TY in OLB Chris Blais (47 tkl) who will be replaced by Raymon Dorcelly (26 tkl, 2 tfl). Back in the middle are LY's #1 and #2 tklr's who were both soph's in Dave Plungas (3 tfl) and Jon Morgan. The Great Danes just keep churning out quality players who produce great numbers.

DB's - In '09 they ret'd intact but slipped to allowing 195 ypg (60%). LY they lost 3 str's incl a 1st tm NEC FS and the drop to 216 ypg was expected but they improved and only allowed 53.3% despite a much weaker pass rush. TY they return 3 str's and the safeties tied as the team's #3 tacklers in Justin Hassan (2 int, 5 pbu) and Jake Ciccarello (2 int, 2 pbu). Leon Saddler (41 tkl, 4 pbu) is back at one corner with Randall Exantus (1st, 20 tkl, 6 pd) filling the void. NEC QB's will have a tough time against this defense.

SPECIAL TEAMS - Herb Glass had a below avg '10 season hitting 8-19 (long 45) but he enters TY just 4 pts away from being the all-time scoring K here. P Paul Layton avg'd 40.1 but with only a 32.3 tm net (11.1 PRD) as a rFr. The leading returners are back in KR Dillon Romain (15-25.1) and PR Ryan Kirchner (27-10.4) making this a quality and experienced unit.

COACHES - Joe Paterno is to the FBS as Bob Ford is to the FCS. He is #1 among active FCS coaches with



DE Eddie Delaney
see page 233

2011 SCHEDULE

9/3	at Colgate
9/10	
9/17	Maine
9/24	at Columbia
10/1	at St Francis PA
10/8	Duquesne
10/15	Robert Morris (HC)
10/22	at Central Conn St
10/29	at Wagner
11/5	Bryant
11/12	at Monmouth
11/19	Sacred Heart



2010 RECORD:

(6-5)

RETURNING STARTERS:

OFFENSE: 8*

DEFENSE: 7

LETTERMEN:

Returning: 52 (24,25,3)

Lost: 14 (6,7,1)

2010 AVG ATTENDANCE:

3,024 (#111)

NORTHEAST

247 career wins and this is his 39th varsity season at Albany. Ryan McCarthy is in his 10th season here and 4th as OC. Mike Simpson continues on as the DC and this is his 26th season here in that role.

FORECAST - While a 6-5 record was UA's worst in 5 seasons, it was an incredible job of coaching in a total rebuilding season with only 9 str's back. All 5 of their losses were to opponents who finished with winning records including 2 FCS playoff tms. In their opener they kicked a 1Q FG and both teams combined for 496 yds in a 3-0 win vs Maine. They were overmatched vs SF Austin and in a 3rd straight road game were -3 in TO's in a loss to Duquesne. A big ST performance incl a blk'd P td led to the win vs Yale to get them to 2-2. They got a 48-0 shutout over St Francis but 7 days later were shutout 38-0 at Robert Morris. They led Cent Conn ('09 Champ & '10 co-Champ) 24-6 at HT but allowed a 74yd/8pl td drive with :36 left and lost in OT. They split road games at Bryant and Sacred Heart to stand at 4-5. Fr RB Romain set a freshmen rushing record with 193 yds in the win over Wagner and in the ssn finale they led 21-19 and got a 21 yd FR td for a winning season. They return a league leading 15 starters and 79% lettermen. They also get 3 of the 4 teams I rank directly below them in my NEC forecast in Albany where they are 15-3 S/'07. HC Bob Ford is #1 among FCS coaches in wins and he'll bring another NEC title home this season.

STADIUM: UNIVERSITY FIELD (5,000) (#110) PLAYING SURFACE: GRASS

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	9Yr Total
Straight Up	8-4	7-4	4-7	5-6	7-4	8-4	9-3	7-4	6-5	61-41
Home	6-0	4-1	2-3	2-2	3-2	3-1	5-0	4-1	3-1	32-11
Away	2-4	3-3	2-4	3-4	4-2	5-3	4-3	3-3	3-4	29-30
Playoffs	1-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	1-0
Conf	6-1	6-1	4-3	4-3	5-2	6-0	7-0	6-2	4-4	48-16
Non Conf	2-3	1-3	0-4	1-3	2-2	2-4	2-3	1-2	2-1	13-25

2010 STATISTICAL LEADERS

	ATT	GAIN	LOST	NET	TD	AVG	PLAYER	TKL	SKS	TFL	PBU	INT
RUSHING												
Andrew Smith	162	753	29	724	7	4.5	Dave Plungas	71	0	3	1	0
Dillon Romain	130	560	13	547	6	4.2	Jon Morgan	54	0	0.5	2	1
Buddy Leathley	53	263	85	178	2	3.4	Justin Hassan	51	0	0.5	2	2
Ben Misseikis	35	165	2	163	2	4.7	Jake Ciccarello	51	0	0	2	2
Tramaine Wilson	25	60	8	52	0	2.1	Mike Kelly	49	2	6	1	2
Everett Tune	5	24	3	21	0	4.2	Chris Blais	47	0	1	3	2
Nick Hutcherson	1	14	0	14	0	14.0	Trevor Anderson	45	2	1	3	0
Kevin Chillis	5	31	18	13	0	2.6	Leon Saddler	41	1	0	4	0
PASSING												
Buddy Leathley	125	67	53.6	748	4	5.9	Eddie Delaney	41	0	4.5	0	0
Dan Di Lella	167	86	51.5	720	3	4.3	Ross Bertrand	38	0	2	4	2
RECEIVING												
Ryan Kirchner	90	504	10.1	1	36		Zach Gallo	32	1	1.5	0	0
Nick Hutcherson	19	169	8.9	0	34		Said Gaida	26	0	1	2	0
Jameel Gay	18	139	7.7	1	17		Rob Cervini	26	0	0.5	2	0
Andrew Smith	12	119	9.9	1	46		Raymond Dorcelly	26	0	2	0	0
Paul Booker	10	106	10.6	1	22		Ocieka Bakou	24	1.5	0.5	1	1
Kevin Chillis	6	105	17.5	1	49		Justinian Exantus	20	0	2	5	1
John Lullen	11	100	9.1	1	23		Chris Wilk	18	1	1.5	1	0
Ben Carl	2	58	29.0	0	55		Marc Wargo	17	2.5	2	0	0
Justin Petersen	8	44	5.5	0	16		Dean Mercuris	15	0	0	0	0
PUNTING												
Paul Layton	62	2485	40.1	10	32.3(t)	2	Chris Van Zelfden	12	0	0	0	0
KICKING												
Herb Glass	28-29	3-6	2-5	3-7	0-1	8-19	PUNT RETURNS	NO	YDS	AVG	TD	
							Ryan Kirchner	27	280	10.4	1	
							KICK RETURNS	NO	YDS	AVG	TD	
							Dillon Romain	15	376	25.1	0	

OFFENSE - LAST 7 YEARS - DEFENSE

RET	STTS	PTS	TOTAL	OFF	YPC	OFF	PASS	PASS	%	OFF	YPP	SKS	TOTAL	VS	2010	RET	STTS	DEF	PTS	TOTAL	DEF	YPC	DEF	PASS	%	DEF	YPP	SKS	BY
6	20.5	289	151	3.7	138	52.4	14.1	21	+	2010	3	23.2	350	134	3.8	216	53.3	15.1	12										
7*	26.5	341	160	3.8	182	56.9	12.9	25	0	2009	7	19.4	313	118	3.2	195	59.5	16.2	25										
6*	26.1	363	201	4.3	163	59.9	12.8	34	+	2008	6	18.2	301	119	3.3	182	56.7	17.2	41										
6*	28.4	363	209	4.4	154	55.1	13.4	9	+	2007	5	19.4	334	118	3.2	216	60.1	18.5	28										
10	20.4	273	167	4.1	106	50.7	14.7	14	0	2006	7	13.0	241	90	2.4	151	53.0	17.3	32										
4	17.1	251	143	3.3	108	50.8	18.5	26	+	2005	8	17.6	305	113	3.0	192	57.2	14.0	26										
5	18.0	333	255	5.0	78	46.8	12.9	17	-	2004	6	25.5	356	126	3.3	230	53.1	16.2	22										

OFFENSE

UA 2010	ATT	OPPONENT	FD	Rush-YDS	AVG	CO-ATT	YDS	SKS VS	FD	Rush-YDS	AVG	CO-ATT	YDS	SKS VS	TURN
7,610	at Maine	17	45-133	3.0	16-33	117	2	11	33-134	4.1	12-30	112	0	+1	
9,483	at SF Austin	16	41-106	2.6	25-41	189	1	23	18-67	3.7	35-53	396	0	0	
1,287	at Duquesne	13	33-92	2.8	14-37	116	1	14	44-138	3.1	13-22	242	4	-3	
9,862	at Yale	14	43-116	2.7	16-25	160	1	17	22-81	3.7	21-47	231	1	+1	
6,624	St Francis (PA)	24	53-218	4.1	19-27	199	2	3	24-52	2.2	6-16	29	1	+2	
3,078	at Robert Morris	7	20-39	2.0	14-35	93	2	21	56-255	4.6	10-18	143	0	-2	
2,058	Central Conn St	20	45-215	4.8	12-19	101	1	22	48-237	4.9	14-29	154	0	-1	
3,756	at Bryant	15	39-112	2.9	13-29	179	5	19	46-228	5.0	15-31	181	1	-2	
1,296	at Sacred Heart	18	40-231	5.8	9-19	127	2	26	23-51	2.2	36-61	414	1	+1	
1,634	Wagner	16	46-228	5.0	8-15	150	1	19	36-132	3.7	20-32	256	0	+1	
1,780	Monmouth	12	44-172	3.9	9-16	83	3	21	38-102	2.7	20-40	219	4	+3	
TOTALS		172	449-1662	3.7	155-296	1514	21	196	388-1477	3.8	202-379	2377	12	+1	
AVERAGES		15.6	41-151	3.7	14-27	138	1.9	17.8	35-134	3.8	18-35	216	1.1	+0.1	

DEFENSE

PRE-RK	OPPONENT	SCORE	POST-SCORE
-	at Maine	26-29	3-0
-	at Stephen F Austin - #12	7-44	14-59
-	at Duquesne	20-16	17-28
-	at Yale	22-9	23-20
-	St Francis (PA)	27-6	48-0
-	at Robert Morris	55-10	0-38
-	Central Conn St (OT)	20-17	27-30
-	at Bryant	35-10	7-24
-	at Sacred Heart	29-31	35-23
-	Wagner	10-13	24-14
-	Monmouth	41-28	28-19

2005 RESULTS

OPPONENT	SCORE
Hofstra	7-36
at Massachusetts	0-40
at Central Conn St	13-14
† Maine	7-31
Stony Brook	3-7
Sacred Heart	21-7
at St Francis	25-16
at Wagner	38-10
Robert Morris	20-17
at Monmouth	13-16
at Fordham	41-0

2006 RESULTS

OPPONENT	SCORE
at Lehigh	17-16
Fordham	7-9
at Delaware	17-10
at Central Conn St	19-14
at Cornell	21-23
at Stony Brook	21-33
at Sacred Heart	24-13
St Francis	48-0
Wagner	34-0
at Robert Morris	16-6
Monmouth	0-19

2007 RESULTS

OPPONENT	SCORE
at Colgate	11-13
at Fordham	23-20
Hofstra	13-28
at Montana	14-35
Stony Brook	24-23
Sacred Heart	38-7
at St Francis	58-21
at Wagner	24-10
Robert Morris	45-17
at Monmouth	21-3
at Central Conn St	49-14
at Dayton	21-42

2008 RESULTS

OPPONENT	SCORE
at Massachusetts	16-28
at Hofstra (OT)	22-16
at New Hampshire	24-32
at Delaware	7-38
at Duquesne	33-23
Central Conn St	24-22</