



View from the Hill

CHARGER SPORTS

Chin Receives Prestigious Gold Key Award

UNH Director of Athletics Deborah Chin received the Gold Key Award from the Connecticut Sports Writers' Alliance at the 66th Gold Key Dinner in April. The Gold Key Award is the highest sports honor in the state, recognizing those who have made significant contributions to athletics in Connecticut.

Chin has been both a coach and pioneer for women's sports

at UNH, has served as Director of Athletics since 1993, and has been one of the most active athletic administrators in the Northeast. She was inducted into the American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) Hall of Fame in 2006. A 1968 graduate of SUNY-Cortland, she came to UNH in 1975 as coordinator of women's athletics, responsible for building athletic programs for women, including four that she coached: volleyball, basketball, tennis and softball. In 1979

she was promoted to associate director of Athletics, stepping down as coach of basketball, tennis and softball, and

became the athletics director. She oversees seventeen athletic programs at UNH.

Internationally known for her clinician skills in volleyball, Chin led the Chargers to ten NCAA Division II tournaments (and three Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women tournaments), and UNH was ranked in the top five four times. Six times she was named Northeast Region coach of the year, and eight times she was named New England College Conference coach of the year. In ten of her final eleven seasons, Chin led the Chargers to at least the Sweet Sixteen, including four trips to the Elite

Eight. She has also served as an official at the national level numerous times.

Charger Greats Named to Athletic Hall of Fame

In April, four Charger greats were inducted into the UNH Athletics Hall of Fame in a ceremony at Race Brook Country Club.

David A. Beckerman '66 was recognized. A 56,500-square-foot Recreation Center that



Left to right, Jesse D. Showerda '97, David M. Galla '99, Deborah Chin, David A. Beckerman '66, Jo-Lynn M. Cimino '98



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will bear his name is currently under construction on campus and due to open in December. This year, David was the Broward County (Florida) Boys High School Basketball Coach of the Year. (See related story on Recreation Center on page 4.)

Jo-Lynn M. Cimino '98 is the only All-American in UNH softball history. As a sophomore in 1995, the pitcher won twenty games and threw sixty-one straight scoreless innings. During her career, she had a 1.36 ERA in more than six-hundred-twenty-three innings, seventy complete games and six-hundred-fourteen strikeouts.

In his first season at UNH,

David M. Galla '99 hit .426 to earn First Team All-Region honors. In 1998, he hit .389 and drove in forty-six runs as the team made a run to the College World Series for the final time under Coach Vieira. He is among UNH's all-time top ten in batting, home runs and RBIs.

Jesse D. Showerda '97 led UNH football to a 17-4-1 record in two seasons as a starter. The quarterback completed 59.9 percent of his passes for five thousand-seven hundred-three yards, fifty-seven touchdowns and seventeen interceptions. He is still the D-II record holder with two hundred-eighty straight passes without an interception. In 1996, Showerda was the NCAA passing efficiency leader and an All-American. For more information on the inductees, visit www.newhaven.edu/athletics/news.

Leadership Results in NCAA Play for Women's Soccer

Over the past two seasons, the women's soccer program has soared to

ECC Player of the Year Ashley Hilton on defense against Molloy College



UNH's Desirée Guenther heads down the field

new heights. The Chargers reached the NCAA Championships for the first time in the program's thirteen-year history, making back-to-back appearances. UNH has been ranked nationally during both seasons.

Two individuals in particular illustrate why the program has become so successful. Senior Desirée Guenther '07 is the type of student-athlete coaches would love to have in their corner. And the man who brought her to UNH, Brendan Faherty,

is the type of head coach student-athletes love to play for.

"Desi is the standard against which all future players will be judged," Faherty says.

Guenther, who transferred from a junior college in her home state of California, is one of the team's most dedicated players and piled up awards over two years at UNH.

This fall, three of her four goals were game winners, and she was named All-East Coast Conference after unselfishly changing positions to help the team deal with an injury. She was honored for her work in the classroom, becoming the first-ever UNH women's soccer player to be named Second Team *ESPN the Magazine* Academic All-American. She posted a higher-than 4.0 GPA in business administration with a concentration in Sport Management and is interning at ESPN.

"She's very involved on cam-

SCORE BOARD

WINTER SPORTS

Women's Basketball
25-6, NCAA Tournament

Men's Basketball
9-19

Men's Indoor Track
ECC 2nd place

Women's Indoor Track
ECC 3rd place

Men's Volleyball
7-15





UNH's Cassius Chaney drives the lane against C.W. Post

pus," Faherty said. "She's active on the SAAC and A-Team, and showed leadership last spring by helping to raise \$3,000 with a flag football tournament."

Guenther was the ECC Women's Soccer Scholar-Athlete of the Year. She received the ECC's Outstanding Academic Award, and was on the NSCAA/Adidas Scholar All-East team, an honor spanning all three NCAA Divisions. She credits her coach with helping to make it all possible. Without him, she probably wouldn't have ever stepped on to the Dodds Stadium grass.

"Brendan took this program to a new level," Guenther said.

Before coming to UNH, Faherty was a four-year starter, three-year captain and MVP at Northeastern University. He also spent a year coaching in England while earning a postgraduate degree in football industries at Liverpool University.

Along with his soccer acumen, Guenther thinks her coach's off-the-field efforts are just as important to the program's rise. "Keeping nineteen women happy all the time can't be an easy job," she says with a laugh. "He makes the time to get to know us as more than a number on a jersey and devotes a lot of effort to developing a family-type atmosphere. He genuinely cares about his players having the best four years, both on and off the field. He has a passion for winning and for improving his community. Brendan's from Guilford, and loves Connecticut soccer. We run a lot of clinics for free, exposing area youth to college athletes."

Guenther said she would not have chosen UNH if not for the soccer program. "I couldn't have left my family and the San Diego sun without knowing that I'd have a closely-knit team and a coach who cares this much," she says.

UNH's First Annual Alumni Weekend

Fireworks Light Up the Sky
June 8–June 11

Tour the new campus facilities

Shop the crafts fair

Watch demonstrations of Smart Classroom technology

Set sail on the famed New Haven Schooner

Enjoy lunch at the Sage American Grille

Reconnect with former classmates at a barbecue outside the German Club

Marvel at UNH's first fireworks display!

Experience Summer Breeze, a holistic approach to a healthy lifestyle

Tee off at The Charger Classic Golf Tournament
June 11

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17th Annual Charger Classic

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The University of New Haven & the Department of Athletics would like to extend a big

Thank You

to everyone who has supported the Athletics Department in its most important fundraiser of the year Monday, June 11, 2007 at Woodbridge Country Club

