

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL IN THE ATHLETICS ALUMNI HALL OF FAME

Shirley Bacon-Malek '97

- One of the first All-America honorees in the storied history of New Haven women's volleyball, Shirley Bacon-Malek earned a Second Team nod from the AVCA in 1988 as the Chargers posted a 44-2 record and advanced to the Elite Eight.
- Also a CVCA Honorable Mention All-America performer in 1985, she helped lead the Chargers to three national quarterfinals in her career while accumulating 1,195 kills, 196 service aces, 551 digs and 241 blocks.
- In addition to her All-America accolades, Bacon-Malek was the New England Collegiate Conference Most Valuable Player in 1985 and 1988 and a three-time First Team All-NECC selection.

Ann Marie Bahantka '05

- Ann Marie Bahantka was a key contributor to three New Haven women's volleyball teams that reached the NCAA postseason, including trips to the Elite Eight in both 1985 and 1988.
- A four-year starter, she earned All-New England Collegiate Conference honors three times and a pair of AVCA All-Region nods.
- The Chargers went 141-38 during Bahantka's four-year career with four NECC Championships. She finished her career with 1,515 assists, 704 kills, 519 digs and 205 blocks.

Jenine Berry '93

- She led the team in practically every category both seasons she wore a New Haven uniform, registering over 800 kills, 200 total blocks, and 400 digs. Her best season came in 1986 in which she recorded 464 kills in 45 matches, a .381 hitting percentage and 103 total blocks.
- Berry became only the third New Haven volleyball player to earn All-America status, receiving the award in 1986. She also received All-New England Collegiate Conference and All-Region honors in 1985 and 1986.
- During her four-year career, Berry helped New Haven post a 72-15 record and earn two NCAA tournament bids.

Cathy Chu '94

- A star on both the volleyball court and the softball diamond, Cathy Chu led New Haven in both sports during her playing career.
- Chu was a four-year performer for the women's volleyball team, helping the club advance to three postseason tournaments and captaining the 1981 squad that recorded a school-record 47 wins en route to the EAIAW quarterfinals.
- As a two-year member of the softball team, she was among the UNH leaders in batting average, extra-base hits and earned run average as a pitcher and third baseman.
- Two years after graduation, Chu returned to New Haven as an assistant volleyball coach for three seasons.

Jackie Cipollini '86

- Jackie Cipollini was an award winner for New Haven softball and women's volleyball. She was team MVP on the softball diamond in 1976 and 1978 and earned Most Improved Player honors in 1977 on the volleyball court for Head Coach Deborah Chin.
- Cipollini also played softball for the Raybestos Robins and, while she never played basketball at UNH, was a member of the semi-pro "All-American Chicks" squad that competed against both men's and women's competition.

Arnetha Eaddy '93

- Arnetha Eaddy was one of the first stars of the University of New Haven basketball program and became only the second player to score 1,000 career points, reaching the mark in 1985.
- Eaddy also enjoyed success as a volleyball player, spending four seasons with the program. She earned All-NECC honors in her senior season and was named the team's co-captain the same year.
- During that campaign, Eaddy posted her best statistics with 204 kills, 42 solo blocks, 10 service aces and a team-high 275 digs.
- Eaddy's leadership and play helped the Chargers receive their first two NCAA tournament bids in 1983 and 1984.

Jane Grant-Griffith '03

- One of the all-time greats for New Haven women's volleyball, Jane Grant-Griffith currently ranks (as of Jan. 2016) first all-time with 389 service aces, second in career kills with 1,895 and second in blocks with 612 from 1993-96.
- In addition to her 1,895 kills, Grant-Griffith collected 1,240 digs, making her one of seven student-athletes to corral at least 1,000 kills and 1,000 digs as a Charger.
- Grant-Griffith was twice recognized as an All-American by the American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA), including being named New Haven's first-ever All-America First Teamer.
- During her four-year career, New Haven advanced to the NCAA Division II Elite Eight in all four seasons and compiled a record of 160-11 (.935) during that span.

Shirley Hoyte-Boyce '12

- A four-year member of the Charger women's volleyball program, Shirley Hoyte-Boyce ranks as one of the greatest all-around players in the program's history.
- She anchored the Chargers to four-straight NCAA Division II Elite Eight appearances from 1993 to 1996 and etched her name all over the UNH record books.
- During her tenure, the women's volleyball program recorded a remarkable 160-11 record and four-straight NCAA Division II Northeast Region Championships.
- She left as the all-time leader in digs, while ranking second in kills and blocks.
- She finished her illustrious career with 1,654 kills (currently fourth most), 1,387 digs (currently fifth most), 574 total blocks (currently third most) and 185 aces (currently eighth most).

Sandra Lautz '98

- Sandra Lautz was a two-sport standout during her time at New Haven, excelling in volleyball and softball.
- She was a four-year starter on the volleyball team, holding down the setting position for three of those years. She is second on UNH's all-time assist list with 3,324 assists, one of only five New Haven setters to collect more than 3,000 assists in a career.
- Overall for her career, she was a three-time New England Collegiate Conference (NECC) First team honoree, while playing on teams that qualified for the NCAA Tournament and advanced to the Sweet 16 each of her four seasons.
- Lautz finished her career with a 144-31 record and won four NECC titles.

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Geraldine Mattaur '91

- The first All-America honoree for New Haven women's volleyball, Geraldine Mattaur helped lead the Chargers to new heights earning the programs first NCAA post-season appearances and first Elite Eight appearance during her standout career.
- Over her four years at New Haven, the Chargers won three New England Collegiate Conference Championships, while amassing an overall record of 156-46. In addition to her All-America recognition, Mattaur was a two-time All-NECC selection and the conference's Most Valuable Player.
- In her 1984 All-America campaign, she recorded 300 kills, 1,077 assists, 191 blocks and five service aces as the Chargers went 36-5 en route to an NECC Championship, NCAA Regional Championship and the program's first trip to the NCAA Elite Eight.

Marcia McNeil-Major '88

- A two-sport standout at New Haven, Marcia McNeil was an offensive leader who helped build the foundation for both the women's basketball and women's volleyball programs.
- A four-year star on the volleyball court, she was one of the top hitters for Head Coach Deborah Chin as the Chargers reached the postseason in each of her four seasons.
- McNeil captained the volleyball squad during her senior campaign, helping build a foundation of excellence as New Haven won its first of nine straight New England Collegiate Conference Championships.

Erica Meninga '15

- A rare four-year All-Conference honoree, Erica Meninga (Corstange) is the only women's volleyball player to record more than 1,500 assists in a single-season – a mark she crossed three times in her illustrious career at the University of New Haven from 1995-98.
- A member of three teams that advanced to the Elite Eight, the Chargers posted a remarkable 155-25 record with the Portage, Mich. native at the setter position.
- She currently ranks fifth on the NCAA Division II all-time matches played list with 179 and 15th in Division II with 6,138 career assists – both numbers that rank her tops all-time at UNH.
- The only player to record 1,000 career assists and 1,000 career digs, she also ranks in the top 10 at New Haven in service aces.
- Her career assist number of 6,138 will likely never be touched as she stands more than 2,000 ahead of her peers.

Gina Paolillo '85

- The first ever recruit for Coordinator of Women's Athletics Deborah Chin, Paolillo was a member of the inaugural softball, women's basketball and women's volleyball teams and was an avid runner.
- Combined among her three primary sports, Paolillo finished with a career record of 146-133 which included the Chargers first ever women's postseason appearance by the 1978 volleyball team.
- Also a summa cum laude student in the classroom, Paolillo helped to lay the foundation for three teams that rose to national prominence following in her footsteps.

Lisa Reza '11

- In two seasons with the New Haven women's volleyball program, Lisa Reza solidified herself as one of the most successful all-around players in UNH history. Reza excelled as a hitter and a setter for the Chargers during the 1988 and 1989 seasons.
- She played in nearly 100 matches, recorded 808 kills, 1,652 assists, 246 service aces and 629 digs.
- She grabbed the single-season service aces record in 1988 with 141 and ranks among the top 10 in career service aces (4th, 246) and career assists (10th, 1,672).
- Reza helped lead the Chargers to a pair of NECC Championships, two NCAA Regional appearances and a 77-17 overall record during her two years.

Trisha Shea '99

- A 1999 AVCA All-American, Trisha Shea graduated with 1,957 kills which remains the most in the history of women's volleyball at New Haven and was the 13th most in NCAA Division II history at the time of her graduation.
- Over her career, Shea helped lead the Chargers to 148 wins and four-straight appearances in the NCAA Division II Championship, advancing to the Final Eight in three of her four seasons. Additionally, the Chargers won three New England Collegiate Conference Championships.
- In addition to being the all-time leader in kills, she is one of just eight players to finish their career with the Blue and Gold reaching the 1,000 plateau in both kills and digs. She is currently seventh all-time with 1,307 career digs and seventh in program history with 189 service aces.

Kim Schmidt '08

- The Wallingford, Conn. native was a defensive specialist for the women's volleyball team, playing three seasons (1984-86) under then-head coach Deborah Chin.
- Schmidt helped UNH to a combined 107-21 record during that time for an astounding .836 winning percentage, playing in the back row as the Chargers made a pair of NCAA Elite Eight appearances and one Sweet Sixteen berth.
- As a catcher in softball, Schmidt was a four-time all-conference selection and earned all-region honors as a senior.

Kate Whalen '10

- Three-sport college athletes are rare, but Kate Whalen not only competed but excelled in her three athletic ventures at the University of New Haven. She competed four seasons on the softball field, three seasons on the volleyball court and one season on the tennis court.
- In an era when volleyball statistics were rarely kept, Whalen totaled 421 kills and 457 digs in her final two seasons on the court.
- Whalen was also inducted into the Connecticut Softball Hall of Fame in 2004. Her career softball statistics rank her third all time at UNH with 338 assists.