



### Carin Gabarra Head Coach • 15th Season at Navy 2006, 1996 Patriot League Coach of the Year

Carin Gabarra is a proven winner. Not only was she a success as a forward on the UC-Santa Barbara soccer team and later in her career playing for the United States National

Team, but Gabarra also had the golden touch to lead others by example.

It is the gift of leadership which has led her to become one of the household names within the collegiate coaching ranks. Not because she was an eight-time All-American (four in high school and four at UC-Santa Barbara), and not because she was a member of the 1996 Olympic gold-medal winning U.S. National Team, but because she has developed the Navy soccer program from ground level to one of the most competitive teams in the Mid-Atlantic Region.

Since taking over the Navy program in 1993, she has taken the Midshipmen from a club-level organization to a team who has claimed at least a share of the Patriot League regular-season title six times and earned an NCAA Tournament bid twice in the last four years.

#### Building from the Beginning

Gabarra arrived at Navy in 1993, and led the Mids to a 2-5 mark in their first season as a varsity sport. In the process, Navy gained valuable playing experience before beginning Patriot League competition in 1994. The Mids showed great progress in their inaugural season in the league, as they missed the Patriot League playoffs by one game and finished with a 7-9-2 record. The improvement continued in '95 with Navy boasting a record of 10-7-1. With a third-place regular-season finish that season, the Mids made their first Patriot League Tournament appearance, falling in the championship contest. The team's success didn't stop there. The '96 squad produced an 11-6-2 record, finished fourth in the league and was invited to appear in its first postseason tournament with a game against Monmouth in the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC)

Tournament. Gabarra guided the 1997 team to a 10-8 record and a third-place finish in the Patriot League, registering a 4-2 mark. Six Mids earned All-Patriot League recognition, including Defensive Player of the Year and Academic All-America honoree, Nicole Aunapu.

The 1998 season fulfilled dreams of many, as Gabarra led the Mids to a school-record 17 wins, 14 shutouts, 52 goals and Navy's first regular-season Patriot League title. Navy also knocked off Colgate for the first time in its history and broke the Red Raiders' 16-game winning streak versus league foes. In addition, an unprecedented nine Mids earned all-league honors, including eight first-team members. Justine Fisher earned rookie-of-the-year accolades, while Aunapu was dubbed Defensive Player of the Year for the second-consecutive season. Aunapu was just the sixth player in league history to earn First-Team All-Patriot League recognition all four years and concluded her season as an Academic All-American.

In 1999, Navy again made a run at the league crown, as the Mids shared the regular-season title with a 5-1 Patriot League mark. The Mids scored 51 goals on the season, nearly doubling their opponents' total of 26. In league action, Navy scored 17 goals, while holding its opponents to just two and without an assist in six games. While making a return trip to the Patriot League Tournament Championship contest, six Mids were dubbed all-league, including Fisher who became Navy's first player to be honored as the Patriot League Offensive Player of the Year.

The year 2000 brought Fisher her third all-league honor, as the Mids captured a 10-9-2 record and earned a bid to the Patriot League Tournament for the sixth-consecutive season. Meanwhile, two rookies showed a glimmer of greatness to come in the likes of Amelia Sheveland, who tied the school record for goals in a game with four, and Stacy Finley who started 17 games and played virtually every position.

Just one win shy of the school record, the 2001 team found its share of success as it claimed a share of the Patriot League Regular-Season title with a 16-5-1 overall mark and 6-1 league record. Fisher became Navy's

all-time leading scorer, while Gabarra claimed her 100th-career victory all in one eventful day — Oct. 28, 2001, against George Mason. Navy swept the all-league honors, as Finley earned the offensive player-of-the-year title, Kate Macfarlane was deemed the defensive player of the year and Xochitl Piedra was co-rookie of the year. Meanwhile, both Macfarlane and Fisher garnered Academic All-America recognition.

The Mids posted the program's first undefeated regular season at 16-0-4, before American upset Navy in the Patriot League Tournament to leave the only blemish on the Mids' 2002 record. Navy was the only Div. I school that finished the 2002 season without a loss in regular-season play. Finley garnered her second-straight Patriot League Offensive Player-of-the-Year award after setting single-season school records with 45 points and 19 goals. Defensively, Kim Bonafede was among the top three in the nation throughout the year in goals-against average, setting the Navy record at 0.36. Nadia Sheikh earned First-Team All-Patriot League recognition after breaking the Navy assist record with 27 in her last game of her career.

In 2003, Navy claimed its first Patriot League Tournament title and became the first Naval Academy women's team in any sport to earn a bid to play in the NCAA Tournament. En route to their 17-5-1 record, the Mids owned the nation's longest regular-season unbeaten streak (35 games) before dropping a one-goal decision to eventual national champion North Carolina. Over 6,500 fans witnessed the game, breaking the NCAA single-game attendance record. Stacy Finley was named First-Team All-Patriot League after becoming the Mids' all-time leader in career scoring, goals scored and shots taken. Classmate Amelia Sheveland garnered Patriot League Tournament MVP recognition, finishing her career as Navy's fourth-leading scorer all-time.

The year 2004 was a year of rebuilding on the offensive side of the field. Its two marquee players came into the year having undergone knee surgeries, and Molly Burd missed the entire season with a broken foot. Navy dropped its opening-three games in Patriot League play, but responded by winning four straight. Defender Xochitl Piedra closed out her career by being named to the Patriot League First Team, just the third player in Academy history to be named all-league all four years. Meggie Curran and Stephanie Parker were named to the first team, while midfielder Sarah Hessinger and keeper Kim Bonafede garnered second-team recognition.

Injury was the common theme in 2005 for the Mids, but for junior Meggie Curran, she finally was healthy and it showed on the playing field. A First-Team All-Patriot League selection, Curran paced the league with 32 points on nine goals and a school-record 14 assists. Junior midfielder Molly Burd and sophomore defender Lauren Griebel also garnered all-conference recognition, as both were named to the second team.

The four members of the Class of '07 began and concluded their playing careers at the Naval Academy in the same fashion, by leading the Midshipmen to the NCAA Tournament. The 2006 campaign far-exceeded what the preseason prognosticators had envisioned for the Mids. By years end, Navy had won a school-record 21 games, earned its sixth Patriot League regular-season crown, claimed its second Patriot League



The Gabarra Family: Tyler, Carin, Abigail, Jim and Talia



**Gabarra's Career Coaching Ledger**

School	Record
Westmont College (1987-88)	6-10-0
Navy (1993-present)	172-84-18
<b>Career Record</b>	<b>178-94-18</b>

**Gabarra at Navy**

Year	Overall		Patriot League	
	Record	Pct.	Record	Pct.
1993	2-5-0	.286	NA	
1994	7-9-2	.444	3-4-0	.429
1995	10-7-1	.583	2-3-1	.417
1996	11-6-2	.632	3-2-1	.583
1997	10-8-0	.556	4-2-0	.667
1998	17-3-1	.833	5-0-1	.917
1999	14-8-0	.636	5-1-0	.833
2000	10-9-2	.523	3-2-1	.583
2001	16-5-1	.750	6-1-0	.857
2002	16-1-4	.857	4-0-3	.786
2003	17-5-1	.761	6-1-0	.857
2004	11-8-1	.575	4-3-0	.571
2005	10-8-2	.550	2-5-0	.286
2006	21-2-1	.896	6-1-0	.857
	<b>172-84-18</b>	<b>.661</b>	<b>53-25-7</b>	<b>.665</b>

**D-I All-Time Winningest Coaches (by %)**

1. *Anson Dorrance, UNC	629-28-18	94.5
34. *Kathy Brawn, Colgate	192-100-22	64.6
<b>35. *Carin Gabarra</b>	<b>178-94-18</b>	<b>64.5</b>

\* Active, min. 10 yrs.

**D-I All-Time Winningest Coaches (by Wins)**

1. *Anson Dorrance, UNC	629
34. *Alex Crozier, Cal Poly	185
<b>35. *Carin Gabarra</b>	<b>178</b>

\* Active, min. 10 yrs.

**D-I Winningest Active Coaches (by %)**

1. Anson Dorrance, UNC	629-28-18	94.5
37. Kathy Brawn, Colgate	192-100-22	64.6
<b>38. Carin Gabarra</b>	<b>178-94-18</b>	<b>64.5</b>

\* min. 5 yrs.

**D-I Winningest Active Coaches (by Wins)**

1. Anson Dorrance, UNC	602
31. Alex Crozier, Cal Poly	185
<b>32. Carin Gabarra</b>	<b>178</b>

\* min. 5 yrs.

**Coaching Accolades**

- 2006, 1996 Patriot League Coach of the Year

**Playing Accolades**

- 2003 U.S. Olympic Hall of Fame (1996 team)
- 2003 American Youth Soccer Organization Hall of Fame
- 2001 National Soccer Medal of Honor
- 2000 National Soccer Hall of Fame
- Stars of the Century Team
- 1996 Olympic Games-gold medal
- 1987, '92 United States Soccer Female Athlete of the Year
- 1987, '92 United States Olympic Committee Player of the Year
- 1991 Golden Ball recipient
- UCSB's all-time leading scorer
- Four-time Collegiate All-American
- UCSB Woman Athlete of the Decade
- UCSB Hall of Fame

Tournament title and made its second NCAA Tournament appearance in the last four years. Nestled in there was Navy's first win over a nationally-ranked program, a 1-0 victory over ninth-ranked Penn State in front of a standing-room only crowd at the Glenn Warner Soccer Facility. Navy won 19-consecutive games before losing its regular-season finale by a goal. The Mids led the nation in goals-against average (.372), shutout percentage (.790) and save percentage (.918), while setting school records in points (219), goals (70), assists (79), shutouts (19), and goals-against average (.370). Senior Meggie Curran was named the Patriot League Offensive Player of the Year, while also becoming the program's first All-American. Rookie Shelly Moeller was named the league's co-defensive player of the year and claimed Patriot League Tournament MVP kudos.

**A Star in the Making**

A native of Palos Verdes, Calif., Gabarra graduated from California at Santa Barbara in 1987 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in business management. A standout forward for the Gaucho soccer team, she became the NCAA's all-time leading scorer with 102 goals and 60 assists. She held that post until 1993 when fellow Olympian Mia Hamm broke the record. Gabarra was a four-time All-America honoree and UC-Santa Barbara's Woman Athlete of the Decade in 1987, as well as Scholastic Athlete of the Year. In October of 1991, she was inducted into the UC-Santa Barbara Athletic Hall of Fame. She remains the record holder in every individual category at Santa Barbara excluding goalkeeper records — most goals in a game, season and career; most assists in a season and career; most points in a season and career; most shots in a season and career; and most

games played in a career.

A standout at Palos Verdes High School, she led the nation in scoring from 1980-83 by netting 226 goals and garnered high school All-America accolades four times.

**Coaching Roots**

Gabarra began her coaching career in 1987 as the head coach at Westmont College in Santa Barbara. There she guided the Warriors to a 6-10-0 record. She moved on to Harvard in 1988, serving as an assistant coach.

**Pride of the United States**

While coaching at Harvard, Gabarra continued competing on the international level where she led the U.S. to its first-ever World Championship title in 1991 by scoring six goals and was the recipient of the "Golden Ball," presented to the outstanding player of the championship. She garnered United States Soccer's Female Athlete-of-the-Year honors in 1992, after winning the award for the first time in 1987. She was also tagged the 1987 and '92 United States Olympic Committee Player of the Year. Though retired from professional soccer these days, Gabarra was named to the Stars of the Century Team in the summer of 1999. The role call includes the best 11 players in the history of women's soccer in the United States — Gabarra, Michelle Akers, Brandi Chastain, Joy Fawcett, Julie Foudy, Mia Hamm, April Heinrichs, Kristine Lilly, Tiffeny Milbrett, Carla Overbeck and Briana Scurry. Gabarra and her 1996 gold medal-winning teammates were inducted into the U.S. Olympic Hall of Fame last June.

In addition to her coaching duties at Navy, Gabarra is active with the Olympic Development Programs that

scout prospective national team players and is a member of the U.S. Soccer Athlete Advisory Council. She serves on the Athlete Advisory Board Project 2012 and is a member of the U.S. Olympic Committee Athlete Advisory Council. Additionally, Gabarra is a member of the Maryland Physical Fitness Council. She is also an honorary member of Habitat for Humanity: Women Building a Legacy.

**The Legacy Continues**

Despite retiring from international competition in late 1997, Gabarra's legacy continues to live on. The first U.S. player to be named MVP of the Women's World Cup, Gabarra, along with former New York Cosmos superstar Giorgio Chinaglia, were inducted at a public ceremony Oct. 28, 2000, at the National Soccer Hall of Fame in Oneonta, N.Y. She is just the second woman player to be inducted, as former World Cup teammate April Heinrichs was the first to be enshrined in 1998.

**The Gabarras**

While her decision to leave the playing realm of soccer, the sport would remain an integral part of her future. In 1992, the former Carin Jennings married Jim Gabarra, no stranger to the soccer world, and incorporated her competitive spirit both as a player and now a collegiate coach. A former captain of the U.S. Indoor National Team, Jim played on the 1988 Olympic team, was a member of the 1990 World Cup-qualifying team and competed in the '89, '92 and '96 Futsal World Championships. He served as the head coach of the WUSA's Washington Freedom. The couple resides in Arnold with their son, Tyler (10), and daughters, Abigail (8) and Talia (6).



**Rob Blanck**  
**Assistant Coach • 13th Season at Navy**

In his 13th season, Rob Blanck has been alongside head coach Carin Gabarra from nearly day one in building Navy's women's soccer program. Blanck came to the Academy in 1995, just two years after the

Navy women's soccer team was elevated to Division-I status.

Blanck knows nothing other than winning, having been a member of the Williams College varsity soccer team that produced a winning record all four years in which he played, while in his 13 years as a coach, all of his teams have posted winning records.

Blanck's background as an All-America goalkeeper has been a key element in developing Navy's corps of goalkeepers. Under his tutelage, Navy has produced five all-league goalkeepers — three-time All-Patriot League honoree Amy Hakola, two-time all-league selection Sarah Wilson, 2001 Patriot League Defensive Player of the Year Kate Macfarlane, three-time all-league Kim Bonafede and 2006 Patriot League Goalkeeper of the Year Lizzie Barnes. Hakola, Navy's all-time saves leader (479) was a four-year starter (1994-97), while Wilson's 11.5 shutouts in 1998 stood as the Mids' single-season record until this past fall when Barnes broke it. Macfarlane played just two seasons for the Mids, but ended her career with a 1.00 goals-against average and 10.1 shutouts. Bonafede scorched the Navy record books in 2002 with her 0.36 GAA, and set the Mids' all-time shutouts record with 22. Barnes, meanwhile, set program records for single-season GAA (0.29), save percentage (.933) and shutouts (13) in 2006.

Over the last nine seasons, the Navy defensive unit has held its opponents to just 177 goals (19.67 goals per

year) and produced a 0.59 goals-against average. In 1998, Navy set the tone with a then record-breaking 14 shutouts. Twice in the last five years, Navy's defense has held its opponents to single-digit goals for the entire season (8 in 2002 & 9 in 2006).

Blanck was also instrumental in recruiting Justine Fisher, a four-time All-Patriot League selection, as well as developing Nicole Aunapu, the first women's soccer player to garner all-league recognition all four years.

In the summer of 2003, Blanck was selected to coach the United States in the CISM World Military Games in Germany. He guided the team, which included three former Naval Academy standouts — Cristina Esposito ('98), Tara Refo ('00) and Sarah Wilson ('01), to a bronze medal with a pair of wins over neighboring Canada.

Prior to his arrival in Annapolis, he served as an assistant coach at Boston College — three years with the women's soccer team and two seasons with the men. During his stay in Chestnut Hill, he helped guide the Eagles to postseason play three-consecutive years, while Boston College also appeared in the national rankings.

A native of Weston, Mass., Blanck graduated from Williams College in 1989, where he captained the soccer team to two regional titles and earned First-Team All-America honors after setting four national goalkeeping records. Blanck compiled a 46-4-0 record as a college goalkeeper. He also played baseball and received the Fox Award (in honor of a Navy pilot killed in the Korean War) for recognition of achievements of character and sportsmanship.

Prior to coaching full time, Blanck worked for the Boston Red Sox for two years and completed his Master's Degree in sports management at the University of Massachusetts. He received a second master's in business administration from Babson College. Blanck has received his NSCAA advanced national diploma and his USFF "A" coaching license. He has also served on the staff for the Maryland Olympic Development Program for five years.

Blanck and his wife, the former Kristin Buckley, were married on July 29, 2006, and are the parents of an infant son, Caden, born last May.



**The Blanck Family: Kristin, Caden and Rob**

**Navy Soccer Support Staff**



**Gregg Calhoun**  
**Athletic Trainer**



**Prof. Rebecca Chavez**  
**Faculty Representative**



**John Latteri**  
**Marketing and Promotions**



**Brian Maddox**  
**Equipment/Operations**



**Lt. Walter Manuel**  
**Officer Representative**



**Stacie Michaud**  
**Sports Information**



**Carl Tamulevich**  
**Senior Associate Athletic Director**



**Rett Warren**  
**Strength and Conditioning**