

For Immediate Release
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Cortland men, Buffalo State women win at SUNYAC Indoor Track and Field Championships

GENEVA – The Cortland men’s indoor track and field teams claimed their third straight title, while the Buffalo State women won their first ever title at the State University of New York Athletic Conference Championships at Hobart and William Smith Colleges. The men scored 117 points to hold off Geneseo (104.50). The Bengals (124) outperformed Brockport (118).

Oneonta’s **Eric Thiess** (Saratoga Springs/Saratoga Springs) was named the meet’s Most Outstanding Male Track Athlete, while teammate **Mike DeVasto** (Hastings/Hastings) was the Most Outstanding Male Field Athlete. On the women’s side, **Melissa Scorse** (Pittsford/Mendon) of Brockport was the Most Outstanding Track Athlete while Fredonia’s **Julia Hopson** (Poughkeepsie/Arlington) was the Most Outstanding Field Athlete. Cortland coach Steve Patrick was the Men’s Coach of the Year and Brockport’s Mark Krueger was the Women’s Coach of the Year.

The Cortland men recorded four individual wins and one relay victory. The distance medley relay team of **Kyle Fitzpatrick** (Washingtonville/Washingtonville), **Eric Graber** (Lansingburgh/Lansingburgh), **Caleb Olsen** (Bellmore/JFK Bellmore), and **Andrew Brusso** (Elmira/Elmira Southside) set a new meet record with a time of 10:38.95. Also winning for Cortland were Olsen in the 800m run (1:56.56), **Josh Henry** (Truxton/Homer) in the 5000m (15:05.42), **Joe Keleher** in the 55m hurdles (7.81), and **Jake Zanetti** (Saratoga Springs/Saratoga Springs), who achieved an NCAA provisional qualifying height of 4.68m on the pole vault.

Also setting a meet record was Thiess in the 400m (49.19), which was also an NCAA provisional qualifying time. The Oneonta men’s 4x400 of **Joe Reyes** (Ronkonkomer/Connetquot), **Fred Romer** (Garrison/Walter Pannas), **Sean Wren** (Delanson/Duanesburg), and Thiess set a meet record (3:22.73).

Additionally, **Cevon Carver** (Bronx/Dewitt-Clinton) of Brockport won the long jump event with an NCAA provisional qualifying distance of 7.00m. Teammate **Ryan Lund** (Thiells/North Rockland) won the weight throw with a distance of 17.61m, also an NCAA provisional distance.

Also winning track events were Oneonta's **Joe Reed** (Rome/Rome Free Academy), who won the 55m in a time of 6.48, Buffalo State's **Keith Henry** (Galveston, T.X./Galveston Ball) won the 200m (22.19), Geneseo's **Mark Streb** (Brockport/Brockport) won the mile (4:17.26), and **Mike Heymann** (Tully/Tully) of Plattsburgh won the 3000m (8:40.21).

Winning field events were Buffalo State's **Willie Jones** (Cheektowaga/Amherst), who won the high jump (1.92m), DeVasto won the shot put with a distance of 14.38m, and **Mike Kelly** (Geneseo/Geneseo) of Fredonia won the triple jump with a distance of 13.99m.

On the women's side, Brockport claimed four individual titles, including Scorse's two wins in the 55m (7.18) and the 200m (25.99). Scorse's time in the 55m set a meet and conference record, and was also an NCAA provisional qualifying time. Also winning for Brockport were **Amanda Elias** (Belmont/Genesee Valley), who won the 800m (2:20.31) and **Shannon O'Keefe** (Boston/Springville-Griffith), who won the triple jump with an NCAA provisional qualifying distance of 11.49m.

Also winning multiple events was Cortland, who won three individual events. **Lisa Holt** (Phoenix/John C. Birdlebough), who won the 3000m (10:30.88), **Kristen Serikstad** (Oyster Bay/Oyster Bay), who won the high jump (1.61m) and **Keri Laviska** (Binghamton/Susquehanna Valley) won the pole vault with an NCAA provisional qualifying height of 3.45m.

Winning the relays were Oneonta in 4x400 and Geneseo in the distance medley relay. Oneonta's team of **Liz Maziejka** (Fort Edwards/Hudson Falls), **Lauren Brunetto** (Fishkill/Beacon), **Kristen Stein** (Gloversville/Gloversville), and **Janine Sacca** (Guilderland/Guilderland) ran a time of 4:05.27. Geneseo's team of **Laura Iafrati** (Hilton/Hilton), **Brittany Frankel** (Pine Plains/Stissing Mountain), **Samantha Legere** (Scotia/Niskayuna), and **Erin Marks** (Massapequa/Massapequa) set a new meet record of 12:50.40.

Also winning track events were **Mahalia Ewers** (Ewing, N.J./Ewing) of Plattsburgh who won the 400m (59.54), Geneseo's **Alyssa Smith** (Rochester/Brighton) won the mile (5:07.54), Iafrati won the 5000m (17:53.06), and Fredonia's **Katie Brett** (Webster/Webster-Schroeder) won the 55m hurdles (8.61).

Buffalo State's **LaVonne Barfield** (Rochester/Wilson Magnet) won the long jump with a distance of 5.28m. Hopson won the shot put (12.86m) and also set a new meet and conference record and scored an NCAA automatic qualifying distance in the weight throw with a distance of 17.62m.