

For Immediate Release
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Brockport sweeps conference basketball crowns

With the number eight men's seed in Oswego and number four women's seed in Cortland, Brockport celebrated two State University of New York Athletic Conference basketball championships on Saturday. For the women's team, this is their second straight conference title, while for the men this is their first title since 2001-02 season.

Home was not an easy place to be this weekend, with both host schools falling in the semifinal round Friday night. Oswego, the number three seed in the men's tournament, fell to Brockport 84-70. Brockport beat out Geneseo, the number one seed in the quarterfinals Tuesday night, 78-64, at Geneseo. In the finals, Brockport upset the number five seed, Fredonia, when the Golden Eagles won 64-59, despite a late comeback attempt by the Blue Devils.

The Blue Devils were led by **Brad Cooper** (Monticello/Monticello), who had 17 points, four rebounds, and four steals in the final game. Cooper was named to the All-Tournament team for his performance and was joined by teammate **Julius Bryant** (Buffalo/Hutch Tech) who had 10 points, 11 rebounds and three steals. The Blue Devils beat number seven seed Cortland Friday night, 56-55, and number four Oneonta on Tuesday to make it to the final game.

Also making the All Tournament team was Cortland's **Carson Niehoff** (West Islip/West Islip), Oswego's **Chad Burridge** (Hannibal/Hannibal), and Brockport's **Joe Clarke** (Liverpool/Liverpool). Niehoff had 21 points, five rebounds, and three steals in the semifinal game against Fredonia. Burridge had 13 points and 15 rebounds in 39 minutes in the semifinal game against Brockport. Clarke played 36 minutes in the final game, and scored nine points and had two steals. **Mychal Wilkes** (Newark/Newark) of Brockport was named the tournament MVP for his performance in the tournament, including his 27 points in the final game against Fredonia.

On the women's side of the tournament, Brockport was the number four seed, having to beat fifth seed Oswego 66-43 in the quarterfinals and third seed Oneonta 56-54 in the semifinals. Potsdam was the seventh seed, winning against number two New Paltz 62-61 in the quarterfinals and upset number one seed Cortland on their home court Friday night 64-59. Potsdam's first trip to the SUNYAC finals ended in heartbreak though, as Brockport won 57-51.

Brockport's **Whitney Smith** (Webster/Webster-Thomas) scored 23 points in the final game and was named the tournament MVP. **Brenlyn Campbell** (Williamsville/Lewiston-Port) and **Jen Buskus** (Orchard Park/Orchard Park) joined Smith as Brockport's representatives on the all-tournament team. Campbell and Buskus had great defensive games for the Golden Eagles. For Potsdam, **Rachel Graf** (Elbridge/Jordan-Elbridge), **Hannah Fairchild** (Brushton/Brushton-Moira) and **Kelsey Shoen** (Madrid/Madrid-Waddington) earned all-tournament team honors. Graf led the Bears with 15 points in the finals, while Fairchild had 14 points, four rebounds and Shoen had ten points, six rebounds, two blocks, and two steals.

Brockport's men will face Carnegie Mellon on Friday in the first round of the NCAA, while their women will face Mount Saint Mary of New York. Cortland's women received an at-large bid to the tournament and will face St. Lawrence.

Men's All Tournament Team

Carson Niehoff, Cortland
Chad Burrige, Oswego
Julius Bryant, Fredonia
Brad Cooper, Fredonia
Joe Clarke, Brockport
MVP – Mychal Wilkes, Brockport

Women's All Tournament Team

Jen Buskus, Brockport
Brenlyn Campbell, Brockport
Rachel Graf, Potsdam
Hannah Fairchild, Potsdam
Kelsey Shoen, Potsdam
MVP – Whitney Smith, Brockport