

ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE

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Cross Country



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Current records – Men: 1-2 Overall, 0-1 MAC; Women: 3-0 Overall, 1-0 MAC

TOP PROGRAMS COLLIDE AT PAUL SHORT MEET

A sixth-place finish by the University at Buffalo's women's cross country team against some of the best programs in the nation highlighted Saturday's efforts at the Paul Short Invitational hosted by Lehigh University.

The Bulls scored 190 points in the women's competition among 26 Division I schools. Southeastern Conference power Tennessee won the team title with 53 points. UB also finished behind Villanova (87), Columbia (89), William & Mary (135) and Georgetown (156). The Bulls placed ahead of Yale (223). All five of those programs, as well as Yale, are ranked in the current national top 40 poll. Villanova is the highest-ranked of the programs at number 10, according to the latest

The UB women placed four runners among the top 40 finishers. UB senior **Jenny Koepfel (Amherst, NY/Amherst)**, last week's Mid-American Conference Women's Runner and Scholar Athlete of the Week, placed seventh overall in the 175-runner field. Koepfel, in her first test at 6K this season, completed the Lehigh course in 20:59.05.

Joining Koepfel among UB's scorers was **Jen Jezorski (Elmira, NY/Elmira Southside)** in 21st at 21:30.32. **Kelli O'Brien (Clifton Springs, NY/Manchester-Shortsville)** finished in 31st at 21:52.79 and **Aleksandra Bykowska (Poznan, Poland/Third High School of Poznan)** placed 38th in 21:58.23. Auburn's Angela Homan won the individual title in 20:27.39, six seconds ahead of second-place finisher Marina Muncan of Villanova.

The UB men finished 16th among 24 Division I entries. UB scored 466 points while Georgetown won the team title with 94 points, holding off second-place Villanova (101).

In the 8K race, **Dan McKenna (Liverpool, NY/Liverpool)** was UB's top finisher in 25:39.48 to place 77th in the 163-runner field. Teammate **Andy Wigton (Rochester, NY/Greece-Athena)** was right behind McKenna in 79th place at 25:40.03. Liberty University freshman Josh McDougal won the individual title in 23:43.53, 10 seconds ahead of Villanova's Robert Curtis, the second-place finisher.

Hot and humid conditions greeted the runners on Saturday unlike last season's meet in Bethlehem that featured cool temperatures and rainy weather. UB's runners adjusted to the conditions with some good footing as those Bulls familiar with the Lehigh course dropped their times from 2003 by considerable margins. UB's two women's finishers last season, Koepfel knocked nearly 40 seconds off last year's 21:38.40 and moved up 11 places individually, while Jezorski shaved a full minute off her mark and moved up 45 places.

"Both groups ran very well," said head coach Vicki Mitchell. "There were a lot of kids who had very consistent results."

The Bulls return to the Keystone State next Saturday for the LaSalle Invitational in Philadelphia. The meet starts at 3:00 pm.

2004 SCHEDULE AND RESULTS

September

Sat., 11	at Tommy Evans Invitational	M: 3rd of 4	W: 1st of 4
Sat., 18	at Central Collegiate Inv.	M: 3rd of 8	W: 1st of 11
Sat., 25	at Paul Short Invitational	M: 16th of 24	W: 6th of 26

October

Sat., 2	at LaSalle Invitational	3:00 pm	Philadelphia, PA
Sat., 9	UB OPEN	11:00 am	Buffalo, NY
Sat., 16	at Penn State Invitational	11:00 am	University Pk., PA
Sat., 30	at MAC Championships	11:00 am	Toledo, OH

November

Sat., 13	at NCAA Northeast Regionals	12:00 pm	New York, NY
Mon., 22	at NCAA Championships	TBA	Terre Haute, IN

Home meets in **BOLD CAPS** • All Times Eastern

TOP FINISHERS

Sept. 11	at Tommy Evans Invitational
	Men (4 miles): Dan Giza 21:42 (7th of 41)
	Women (5K): Jenny Koepfel 18:21 (1st of 40)
Sept. 18	at Central Collegiate Invitational
	Men (8K): Andy Wigton 25:41 (8th of 78)
	Women (5K): Jenny Koepfel 17:49 (1st of 118)
Sept. 25	at Paul Short Invitational
	Men (8K): Dan McKenna 25:39.48 (77th of 163)
	Women (6K): Jenny Koepfel 20:59.05 (7th of 175)