

# ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE

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## Outdoor Track & Field



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**Current records – Men: 0-0 Overall, 0-0 MAC; Women: 0-0 Overall, 0-0 MAC**

### OUTDOOR SEASON OPENS WITH TOP RESULTS AT BAMA

With the arrival of spring in many parts of the country, the University at Buffalo's men's and women's track teams opened the outdoor season with the Alabama Relays at Sam Bailey Track in Tuscaloosa, AL. Although the meet consisted of several events, only the relays were scored as UB's women finished tied for 10th in a 23-team field with 14 points while UB's men scored its lone relay team, placing 20th of 24 with five points.

The top result posted by the Bulls in Saturday's competition was by men's senior thrower **Keith Gentes (Warwick, RI/Bishop Hendricken)**. Gentes, who sat out the 2001-02 as a redshirt, returned to outdoor action with a victory in the men's hammer throw. Gentes' toss of 172-0 (52.42m) was nearly four feet better than the second and third place finishes of throwers from Mississippi and Louisville. Joining Gentes near the top of the hammer results was senior **Byron McKinney (Amherst, NY/Sweet Home)**, who placed sixth at 161-1 (49.10m).

Women's multi-event competitor **Meagan Rogers (Courtenay, BC/George P. Vanier)** opened the outdoor season with a record-setting performance in the heptathlon. Rogers bettered her school-record point total in the seven-event competition with 4,832 points to eclipse the total of 4,793 set at the 2002 MAC Championships. Rogers solidified her record by winning the competition's final event, the 800 meters, in 2:22.82. She also finished third in the heptathlon shot put at 39-8.50 (12.10m).

Other top UB men's results included freshman **Todd Joki (Saratoga Springs, NY/Schuylerville)** taking second in the 400 hurdles in 54.15. He also finished ninth in long jump at (6.87m). Fourth-place finishes were turned in by distance runner **Rick Stewart (West Seneca, NY/West Seneca West)** in the 5,000 meters in 14:46.06 and pole vaulter **Dan Simpson (Rochester, NY/Gates-Chili)** at 14-7.25 (4.45m).

UB's women were paced in the 200 meter dash by **Jennelle Callender (Brooklyn, NY/Brooklyn Tech)** taking fifth in 24.72 and **Bianca McFarland (Binghamton, NY/Binghamton)** placing seventh in 24.88. **Allison Laske (Canandaigua, NY/Canandaigua Academy)** finished seventh in the 800 meters in 2:13.30 with **Mindy Gorniak (Erie, PA/McDowell)** racing to a 12th-place finish in 2:15.88. In the throws, junior **Faith Thompson (Niagara Falls, NY/Niagara Falls)** was eighth in the shot put at 43-0.50 (13.12m) while sophomore **Beverly Weyer (Castalia, OH/St. Mary's Central Catholic)** finished ninth in discus at 139-3 (42.45m). **Christina DeSantis (Port Crane, NY/Windsor)** placed sixth in the collegiate pole vault at 10-0.50 (3.06m).

Three records were set on Sunday, two individually and one relay mark. McKinney established a new mark by winning the shot put with a toss of 55-9.75 (17.01m). The throw improved the record that he had shared from last season with **Joe Loiacono (Rochester, NY/Greece-Olympia)** by three-quarters of an inch. McKinney qualified for NCAA regional competition later in the year with the throw and won the event by more than two feet over the second-place finisher.

**Laura Olson (Lyons, NY/Lyons)** tied for second place in the invitational pole vault with a new school-record height of 12-6 (3.81m) to better last season's record by nearly a foot. The pole vault competition at the meet consisted of two divisions, the collegiate, held on Saturday, and the invitational, on Sunday. McFarland turned in a third-place finish in the triple jump at 40-7 (12.37m) while Thompson also finished third in the hammer throw at 157-3 (47.93m). Olson and McFarland also qualified for the NCAA Regionals with their performances on Sunday.

The UB women also set a new record in the sprint medley relay, an event usually only run at large-scale relay meets. UB's foursome of Callender, **Krystal Seiling (Lewiston, NY/Lewiston-Porter)**, Gorniak and Laske turned in a 4:00.47 clocking to shave nearly two seconds off the old record set in 2000 and finish second in the race. UB's men's sprint medley relay team of **Gary Asbach (Grand Island, NY/Grand Island)**, Joki, **Joe Clark (Amherst, NY/Sweet Home)** and **Pete Zaccariello (Staten Island, NY/Tottenville)** missed a school record with their 3:28.25 mark, just .14 seconds shy of the record set last season, and finished fourth.

The women's team of Callender, Seiling, Gorniak and McFarland also turned in a third-place finish in the 4x400 relay with a 3:49.00 showing.

UB's squads head for the Raleigh Relays, hosted by North Carolina State University, this weekend.

### 2003 SCHEDULE AND RESULTS

#### March

Thu.-Sun., 20-23 at Alabama Relays M: 20th of 24\*  
W: (t) 10th of 23\*

(only relay events scored)  
Fri.-Sat., 28-29 at Raleigh Relays All Day

#### April

Sat., 5 at McDonald's Invite 9:30 am

Fri.-Sat., 11-12 at Sea Ray Relays All Day

Sat., 19 CHANCELLOR'S CUP 10:00 am

Thu.-Sat., 24-26 at Penn Relays All Day

#### May

Fri.-Sat., 2-3 at Akron Invite TBA

Thu.-Sat., 15-17 at MAC Championships TBA

Fri.-Sat., 30-31 at NCAA East Regional TBA

#### June

Wed.-Sat., 11-14 at NCAA Championships TBA

All times Eastern Home meets in **BOLD CAPS**