

# 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**

### LASKE, OLSON QUALIFY FOR REGIONAL MEET AT NORTH CAROLINA STATE'S RALEIGH RELAYS

The University at Buffalo sent a full contingent of athletes to the 2004 Adidas Raleigh Relays at North Carolina State University's Derr Track. The event consistently fields the best competition from across the east.

Two UB women's athletes earned NCAA East Regional berths for the postseason with their performances in Raleigh. Middle distance runner **Allison Laske (Canandaigua, NY/Canandaigua Academy)** broke the school record en route to a third-place finish in the 800-meter run. Laske finished in 2:09.63 to shave nearly a half-second off Udo Okeke's 2000 mark of 2:10.01. The time also earned Laske a spot in this May's East Regionals in Gainesville, FL.

**Laura Olson (Lyons, NY/Lyons)** earned a regional spot in her first action of the outdoor season. Olson finished second in the pole vault with a height of 12-9.50 (3.90m) behind only Akron's Kira Sims (13-5.25, 4.10m). Both Olson and Sims participated at the NCAA Indoor Championships earlier in the month.

A new school record was also set by UB's 1,600-meter sprint medley relay team. The foursome finished in 3:54.64, breaking last season's 3:56.73.

Other top women's finishers included **Sarah Vance (Lockport, NY/Lockport)** placing 11th in the shot put at 44-2 (13.46m) and 21st in the hammer throw at 149-6 (45.58m). **Beverly Weyer (Castalia, OH/St. Mary's Central Catholic)** finished 13th in the discus at 141-5 (43.11m) and 22nd in the hammer at 147-11 (45.08m). UB's 4x200 relay team finished 19th in 1:41.75.

For the UB men, freshman **Rayshon Higgins (Buffalo, NY/Timon/St. Jude)** took eighth place in the triple jump at 49-0.75 (14.95m). **Dan Simpson (Rochester, NY/Gates-Chili)** placed 13th in the pole vault at 15-7 (4.75m). **Dan McKenna (Liverpool, NY/Liverpool)** took 19th in the 5,000-meter run in 3:57.28 while **Steve Strelick (Rochester, NY/Greece-Athena)** was 17th in the unseeded flight of the 5,000-meters in 4:04.29.

Four UB relay teams also placed within the top 20, led by the 12th-place finish by the 4x800 foursome in 7:27.10. The 4x200 team (1:29.20) and the 1,600-meter sprint medley team (3:32.07) both finished 18th in their respective races. The 4x1,500 relay team was 19th in 16:14.75.

### ESLER BREAKS UB DECATHLON MARK TO WIN FLORIDA RELAYS

UB senior **Steve Esler (Rochester, NY/Aquinas Institute)** broke the school decathlon record with his victory at the Florida Relays, which concluded Thursday. Esler established the mark with a total of 7,019 points in the 10-event competition. The total shattered the previous existing mark of 6,662 points set by Matt Streng in 1999. Although Esler only won one event of the 10, he placed second in five others to claim the overall title. North Carolina's Brad Bailey finished second overall at 6,611 points. Esler's point total also provisionally qualified him for the NCAA Outdoor Championships in June. Esler won the high jump competition with a leap of 6-8 (2.03m), just an inch shy of his own school record in the event. He also placed second in the long jump (21-8.25, 6.61m), shot put (43-11.75, 13.40m), 110 hurdles (15.44), discus (127-3, 38.80m) and the 1,500-meter run (4:32.84).

UB teammate **Carlos Williams (Jamestown, NY/Westfield Academy)** placed 11th overall among 13 entrants in the meet at 5,331 points. Williams won the long jump portion of the decathlon at 21-10.75 (6.67m) and took three third-place finishes, in the shot put (43-4.25, 13.21m), 400-meter run (50.48) and the javelin (173-8, 52.94m).

**Meagan Rogers (Courtenay, BC/George P. Vanier)** placed 10th of 11 entrants in the women's heptathlon with 4,132 points. She had a pair of fourth-place finishes in the 100 hurdles (14.97) and shot put (39-5, 12.01m) for her best marks in the seven-event competition.

#### 2004 SCHEDULE AND RESULTS

##### March

Sat., 20	at Ram Invitational	No team scoring
Wed.-Thur., 24-25	at Florida Relays (multis only)	No team scoring
Fri.-Sat., 26-27	at Raleigh Relays	No team scoring
Wed.-Sat., 31- 3	at Texas Relays (women only)	All Day

##### April

Sat., 3	at McDonald's Invite	9:00 am
Fri.-Sat., 9-10	at Bison Open	All Day
<b>Fri.-Sat., 16-17</b>	<b>UB OPEN</b>	<b>TBA</b>
Thur.-Sat., 22-24	at Penn Relays	All Day

##### May

Sat., 1	at Al Campbell Invite	All Day
Sat., 8	at Akron Open	All Day
Thur.-Sat., 13-15	at MAC Championships	All Day
Fri.-Sat., 28-29	at NCAA East Regionals	All Day

##### June

Wed.-Sat., 9-12	at NCAA Championships	All Day
All times Eastern		

#### WOMEN'S NCAA REGIONAL QUALIFIERS

Allison Laske (800) 2:09.63  
Laura Olson (pole vault) 12-9.50 (3.90m)

#### MEN'S NCAA REGIONAL QUALIFIERS

Rayshon Higgins (triple jump) 49-8.25

#### MEN'S NCAA NATIONAL QUALIFIERS

Steve Esler (decathlon) 7,019 (provisional)