

Track and field wins NE10 again



PHOTO | WILLIAM GAGNE

The track and field teams celebrate after winning the NE10 Championship on Saturday, May 2.

By Draven Dabrowski
Sports Writer

The Owls' track and field programs continued their dominance at the NE10 Championships. Both the men's and women's teams captured conference titles this past weekend.

The women won their third consecutive NE10 Championship while the men extended their historic run to nine straight, a standard the athletes have come to expect.

"Winning the NE10s is an expectation," Uliana Pokutnia, a sophomore, said.

The women's team left little doubt, piling up 269 points to finish more than 100 points ahead of second place, Saint Anselm College.

The university's depth showed across the board, with strong performances on the track, in the field and in relays fueling the title run.

Darla Jagrosse, a senior, led the way in the field events, earning Most Outstanding Field Performer honors after winning the discus and finishing second in the shot put.

Kayla Johnson, a sophomore, added a first place finish in the shot put while Pokutnia captured gold in the triple jump. The Owls consistently placed multiple athletes near the top.

On the track, Patricia Mansfield, a senior, delivered a standout performance, winning the 100-meter hurdles in a personal record time

that ranks among the top marks in Division II. Mansfield also ran a leg on the first-place 4x100-meter relay team.

That relay group, which included Ella Maclean, a graduate, Avery Winters, a senior, and Paige Wilks, a freshman, set a new NE10 Championship record.

"Having such a good group of teammates and coaches makes a difference," Winters said. "They really help you win and boost your confidence."

Maclean and Winters were key contributors throughout the meet. Maclean won the 100-meter and finished second in the 200-meter. Winters took gold in the 400-meter and added another medal in the 200-meter. Distance runners al-

so played a major role. Courtney Henschcliffe, a senior, won the 5,000-meter. McKenzie David, a sophomore, and PJ Dauphinais, a junior, each earned podium finishes.

In the heptathlon, Bella Sorrentino, a junior, secured gold with a dominant performance, winning multiple events and finishing comfortably ahead of the field to add to the Owls' scoring total.

The men's team matched that dominance with 291 points, more than doubling the total of second-place Franklin Pierce University.

Their success was highlighted by a mix of individual standouts and strong relay performances.

Osaretin Osagie, a

graduate, was named Most Outstanding Track Performer after winning both hurdle events and anchoring the first-place 4x400 relay team. His time in the 400-meter hurdles not only broke the meet and program records but also ranked among the best in Division II this season.

Chris Amy, a freshman, earned Most Outstanding Field Performer honors after winning the shot put and finishing second in the discus.

Jayden Brown, a freshman, added another first-place finish in the discus to give the university a strong presence in the throwing events.

On the track, Marquis Ward, a sophomore, captured gold in the 100-meter race and added

two more medals.

Jack Mulcunry, a junior, won the 800-meter with a personal record performance. Sam Sandler, a sophomore, and Max Musial, a junior, each contributed with strong finishes in the winning 4x400 relay team.

In the multi-events, Aidan Lanciault, a sophomore, claimed the decathlon title by a wide margin, adding another gold to the university's total and continuing the team's trend of strong performances across every event group.

With both teams once again atop the conference, the Owls continue to set the standard in the NE10, showing dominance that has defined their run of success.

Softball splits senior day double header

By Draven Dabrowski
Sports Writer

The Owls closed out the season by splitting a doubleheader with Assumption University at Pelz Field on Saturday, May 2.

Both games were nail-biters, with the Owls dropping the first game but winning the second to end the season off strong.

"This season was great," Head Coach Kate Bowen said. "We had some really big conference wins and a couple really close games, but I am really proud of everyone's fight."

The doubleheader also served as Senior Day,

adding extra emotion to the regular-season finale as the Owls honored their graduating class prior to first pitch.

The opener turned into a pitcher's duel, with pitcher Ashley Lewis, a senior, delivering a steady outing in the circle. Lewis went 6 1/3 innings, allowing two runs on six hits.

After three scoreless innings, the Greyhounds broke through in the fourth. Taking advantage of a hit and a pair of errors, Assumption pushed across two runs to grab a 2-0 lead.

The Owls answered in the bottom of the sixth when infielder Gi-

anna Iaquinto, a graduate, reached on an error to spark the rally.

Infielder Christina DeNovellis, a junior, followed with a pinch-hit single before third baseman Samantha LaFemina, a senior, drove a ball through the right side, scoring Iaquinto and cutting the deficit to one.

The seniors played a key role throughout the doubleheader, delivering key moments across both games.

Game two flipped the script. Pitcher Giselle DeLutri, a sophomore, was dominant.

DeLutri tossed a complete game, allowing just

one run on three hits while striking out four to earn her eighth complete game of the season.

The university wasted little time providing run support. Infielder Izzy Ingersoll, a sophomore, drew a leadoff walk in the first and came around to score, giving the university an early 1-0 edge.

Second baseman Nadia Cestari, a senior, and right-fielder Cheyenne LaTouche, a sophomore, opened the inning with back-to-back singles in the second inning.

It was Cestari's last regular season game for the Owls.

"My last four years here

were a dream," Cestari said. "I wouldn't have had it any other way with this team, this program, this university. Today was a perfect way to end it."

Assumption was able to respond with a run in the third, but the university answered back in the fourth.

LaTouche singled to lead off the inning and later scored when Austin lined another RBI single to center, pushing the advantage to 3-1.

From there, DeLutri took over. She retired hitters efficiently and limited the Greyhound hitters down the stretch, closing the door to secure

the split.

Austin finished the day with three hits and two RBIs across both games; LaTouche tallied three hits. DeLutri's strong outing capped a good performance by the pitching staff that kept both games within reach.

Through all the ups and downs, one thing remained constant: the bond this team shared.

With the season now complete, the Owls send off their senior class with one final win at Pelz Field.

"This season was one of the best ones," Lewis said. "We played for each other. We played together as a team and family."

Champions, standouts and award winners from the athletic year

By Julian Markese
Sports Editor

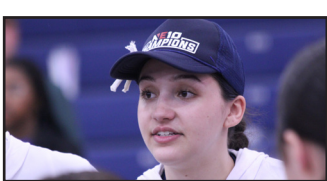
Women's Basketball

The women's basketball team went 25-6 and 16-2 in the conference on their way to winning the NE10 Championship.

They hosted the NCAA East Regional Tournament, where they were knocked out in the semifinals by Holy Family University.

Forward Tish Blackwood, a freshman, was the NE10 Freshman of the Year.

Guard Hope Fox, a senior, and guard Jillian Martin, a graduate, were both named to the NE10 All Academic Team. Forward Rheyna Steinauer, a senior, was recognized nationally as a 2026 All American Honorable Mention.



Swimming & diving

The women's swimming and diving team won their sixth straight NE10 conference title. They did so in honor of their beloved coach, Tim Quill, who unexpectedly died during the season.

Quill was the coach of the year in the NE10. The posthumous honor was his 28th Coach of the Year award.

Swimmer Molly Kennedy, a junior, was the NE10 Swimmer of the Year. Kennedy swam at the Division II National Championship. She placed top 30 in the nation in the 100-yard freestyle.



Cross Country

Both the men's and women's cross country teams won the NE10 Championship and the NCAA East Regional tournament.

The men's team won the NE10 for the third straight time and the East Region for the fourth straight time.

Both Head Coaches John Wallin and Melissa Stoll Funaro won an NE10 Coach of the Year award. Jonathan Volpe and Courtney Henschcliffe, seniors, were the NE10 runners of the year.

Track and Field

The track and field teams won the NE10 indoor and outdoor championships. The men have won the last nine indoors.

The 2026 margin of victory was the largest in conference history.

It was the second time that the Owls won in both cross country and track.



Men's Soccer

The men's soccer team made it to the quarterfinals of the NE10 Championship, where they lost to Adelphi University. The team compiled a record of 4-2-3 in the conference.

Midfielder Ryad Benmessao, a freshman, and defender Eddie Mensah, a graduate, were named to the NE10 All-Conference Second Team.

Goalkeeper Diego Flores, a freshman, made the NE10 Academic All-Conference Team and the NE10 All Rookie Team. Longtime Head Coach Kevin Anderson departed.

Volleyball

The volleyball team lost in the NE10 Championship Semifinals after hosting and beating Saint Michael's College in the quarterfinal. The win against Saint Michael's was their first playoff win since 2012.

The team's records of 16-8 and 6-3 were their best since 2021. Setter Kimi Mitchell, a freshman, was the NE10 Rookie of the Year, a first for the program.

Right-side hitter Sydney Bennett, a senior, and outside hitter Kerrigan Habing, a sophomore, were named to the All-NE10 Second Team.



Field Hockey

The field hockey team lost in overtime to Adelphi University in the NE10 Quarterfinals. It was the first time since 2013 that the team participated in the postseason.

Midfielder Taylor Leckey, a senior, was named to the NE10 All Conference Team. She was also recognized nationally, named to the National Field Hockey Coaches Association Division II All-American Second Team and Senior Team.

The team finished 6-6 in the conference, with the most wins since 2010.

PHOTOS | JULIAN MARKESE, SCSU ATHLETICS, MARKESE, MARKESE, SCSU ATHLETICS

From left to right: Forward Rheyna Steinauer, a senior, celebrates the title; late swimming and diving Coach Tim Quill during a meet; midfielder Ryad Benmessao, a freshman, at a game; outside hitter Kerrigan Habing, a sophomore, readies to return; midfielder Taylor Leckey, a senior, hits the ball.