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Cortland Runnerup at NCGA Div. III Championships for Second Straight Year

Danin Squires, Lindsey Marranca Win Individual National Titles; Gary Babjack Chosen as NCGA Division III “Coach of the Year”

EAU CLAIRE, WIS. – The SUNY Cortland women’s gymnastics team finished second out of eight teams for the second straight season at the National Collegiate Gymnastics Association Division III Championships, hosted by the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire.

Wisconsin-La Crosse won its third straight title late Friday night with a score of 183.95, edging Cortland (183.775) by less than two-tenths of a point. Cortland led by more than two points after three events, but La Crosse outscored the Red Dragons 46.075-43.625 on uneven bars to move into first.

Cortland freshman Lindsay Marranca (Kenmore/Kenmore West) won the all-around title with a combined score of 37.025 on Friday. Junior Danin Squires (Syracuse/Solvay) successfully defended her national title on balance beam, tying for first with Wisconsin-Eau Claire’s Lynn Morris with a two-day score of 19.10. Squires posted a 9.675 on Saturday – the best beam score at the meet – after scoring a 9.425 on Friday.

Squires also earned All-America honors in the all-around for the second straight year with a fifth-place score of 36.675 on Friday. The top six finishers in each individual event and top 10 in the all-around are All-Americans.

Freshman Luisa Gutierrez (Rockaway Beach/Stella Maris) and sophomore Janelle Domaradzki (North Tonawanda/Niagara-Wheatfield) earned All-America honors on vault and balance beam, respectively. Gutierrez finished second on vault with an 18.775. She was second after the first day of competition with a 9.45 and maintained her position with a 9.325 on Saturday. Domaradzki was fifth on balance beam with an 18.775. She was tied for 10th on Friday with a 9.225, but shot up to fifth after scoring a 9.55 on Saturday.

In addition to Gutierrez, three other Red Dragons qualified for the vault finals with a top-12 score on Friday. Marranca finished ninth with an 18.525 (9.30 on Friday, 9.225 on Saturday), Squires tied for 11th with an 18.425 (9.175 and 9.25) and sophomore Kristen Marzello (Buffalo/Orchard Park) was 14th with an 18.375 (9.225 and 9.15). Marranca finished 13th on balance beam with a 17.875 (9.30 and 8.575). More than 12 competitors advanced to the finals in those events due to ties. Sophomore Colleen Shanahan (Buffalo/Williamsville East) missed All-America honors by one spot on floor exercise, tying for seventh with a two-day score of 19.075 (9.625 and 9.45). Squires was 12th on floor with an 18.775 (9.675 and 9.10).

Babjack, in addition to leading the Red Dragons to two straight national runnerup finishes, also guided his squad to back-to-back ECAC Division III crowns. He has coached 18 All-Americans, including four national champions in his five years as Cortland’s head coach. Babjack is a native of McKees Rocks, Pa., just outside of Pittsburgh, and is a 1983 graduate of Slippery Rock University.

(Meet summary on following page)
2003 NCGA Division III Women’s Gymnastics Championships
March 28; Univ. of Wisconsin-Eau Claire; Eau Claire, Wis.

FINAL TEAM SCORES:

1) Wisconsin-La Crosse ....................... 183.95
2) Cortland ........................................ 183.775
3) Ursinus ........................................... 181.325
4) Gustavus Adolphus ......................... 180.90
5) Wisconsin-Eau Claire ...................... 180.50
6) Wisconsin-Oshkosh ......................... 178.175
7) Ithaca ............................................ 177.975
8) Brockport ................................. 177.675

Event Results (Top 6 finishers, plus other Cortland)
(top 6 earn All-America honors; top 10 in all-around)

Vault:

1. Alyssa Cox (Gustavus Adolphus) ........ 18.925
2. Luisa Gutierrez (Cortland) ............. 18.775
tie 3. Amanda Parker (Gustavus Adolphus) .... 18.70
tie 3. Alison Eagles (Wis.-Eau Claire) .... 18.70
5. Jordan Christiano (Brockport) ........ 18.625
6. Jessica Bowman (Brockport) ......... 18.60
9. Lindsey Marranca (Cortland) ........... 18.525
tie 11. Danin Squires (Cortland) ........ 18.425
14. Kristen Marzello (Cortland) .......... 18.375
tie 26. Carrie Costello (Cortland) ...... 8.90
tie 37. Megan Powers (Cortland) .......... 8.775

Uneven Bars:

1. Michelle Saxton (Wis.-La Crosse) ....... 19.05
2. Nina Schubert (Wis.-La Crosse) ....... 19.025
3. Megan Hollern (Ursinus) .............. 18.675
4. Lynn Morris (Wis.-Eau Claire) ........ 18.55
5. Jamie Randall (Wis.-La Crosse) ...... 18.50
6. Merritt Tam (MIT) .................. 18.375
14. Trisha Zappala (Cortland) ............ 8.875
tie 15. Kristen Marzello (Cortland) .... 8.825
tie 15. Lindsey Marranca (Cortland) .... 8.825
tie 21. Colleen Shanahan (Cortland) .... 8.70
tie 36. Danin Squires (Cortland) ......... 8.40
52. Janelle Domaradzki (Cortland) ...... 7.85

tie 1. Danin Squires (Cortland) .......... 19.10
tie 1. Lynn Morris (Wis.-Eau Claire) .... 19.10
3. Jennifer Williams (Wis.-Oshkosh) .... 19.05
4. Cassie Johnston (Wis.-Stout) .......... 18.975
5. Janelle Domaradzki (Cortland) ....... 18.775
6. Kristen Grimmel (Ursinus) ............. 18.725
13. Lindsey Marranca (Cortland) .......... 17.875
14. Carrie Costello (Cortland) .......... 9.15
tie 17. Trisha Zappala (Cortland) ...... 9.05

Floor Exercise:

1. Jordan Christiano (Brockport) ........ 19.375
2. Amanda Parker (Gustavus Adolphus) ... 19.275
tie 3. Jenny Struve (Wis.-La Crosse) ... 19.25
tie 3. Leslie Stewart (Wis.-La Crosse) ... 19.25
tie 5. Krystal Kaminski (Ithaca) ......... 19.20
tie 5. Nancy Petersen (Wis.-La Crosse) ... 19.20
tie 7. Colleen Shanahan (Cortland) ...... 19.075
12. Danin Squires (Cortland) .......... 18.775
tie 14. Lindsey Marranca (Cortland) .... 9.60
tie 21. Megan Powers (Cortland) ....... 9.55
tie 26. Carrie Costello (Cortland) ...... 9.50
49. Lauren Mock (Cortland) ............. 8.975

All-Around:

1. Lindsey Marranca (Cortland) .......... 37.025
2. Kristen Grimmel (Ursinus) .......... 37.00
3. Alison Eagles (Wis.-Eau Claire) .... 36.85
4. Megan Hollern (Ursinus) .......... 36.70
5. Danin Squires (Cortland) .......... 36.675
6. Amanda Parker (Gustavus Adolphus) ... 36.45
7. Brianna Lentz (Wis.-Oshkosh) ...... 35.975
8. Tiffany Reber (Wis.-Stout) .......... 35.75
9. Jordan Christiano (Brockport) ...... 35.725
10. Kristina Reitzel (Wis.-Eau Claire) ... 35.50

Full results are online at:

http://www.uwec.edu/athletics/gym/0203/ncga/index.htm