DECATUR, ILL. – SUNY Cortland freshman Christina Acquaviva (Utica/Proctor) is currently in eighth place out of 18 competitors after the first of two days of the heptathlon at the NCAA Division III Outdoor Track and Field Championships. The meet is being hosted by Millikin University.

Acquaviva, Cortland's lone female national qualifier, has 2,647 total points through four of seven events. Julie Hoch of Wisconsin-Oshkosh is the leader with 2,925 points. Acquaviva is 88 points or less away from the three competitors above her in the standings, and she is 96 points ahead of the person currently in ninth place. The top eight finishers after the completion of the heptathlon Friday will earn All-America honors.

One of only two freshmen in the field (the other is currently 15th), Acquaviva opened with a fifth-place finish in the 100-meter hurdles (15.55 seconds) for 770 points. She tied for sixth in the high jump (5' 1") for 678 points, but struggled in the shot put for an 18th-place finish (27' 4.75") and only 422 points. She rebounded, however, to win the 200-meter dash (26.24 seconds) for 777 points.

Friday's competition will feature the long jump, the javelin and the 800-meter run.

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