

Syracuse University Athletics



Djaldi-Tabdi Scores 17 in Win Over Pitt

Women's Basketball

Posted: 1/28/2021 9:29:00 PM

An offensive explosion in the final five minutes allowed Syracuse to cruise to a 80-57 victory against Pittsburgh inside the Carrier Dome on Thursday night. The Panthers (4-5, 2-4 ACC) erased an 18-point first half deficit to cut it to two, 53-51, with under eight minutes to play but Syracuse went on a 20-4 run to regain a comfortable lead down the stretch. *Maeva Djaldi-Tabdi's* season-high 17 points, and career-best three 3-pointers, carried Syracuse back into the win column. With the win, the Orange snap a two-game slide and improve to 8-3 overall and 5-3 in the ACC.

Syracuse jumped out to an early 8-0 lead and never looked back in the opening frame. The Orange shot 58.8 percent (10-for-17) in the first quarter and led by 11, 26-15. Seven different Orange scored in the first 10 minutes of play. Syracuse outscored Pitt 15-11 in the second frame to lead 41-25 at halftime.

Pitt's Dayshanette Harris had a trio of buckets that helped the Panthers cut into the Syracuse lead, 41-32. Djaldi-Tabdi answered with a pair of threes of her own but Pittsburgh would storm back with an 8-0 run into the final frame to pull within two, 53-51, just two minutes into the fourth.

It was all Orange in the final eight minutes, outscoring the opposition 27-6 run to secure the 23-point win. Five players scored in double figures for Syracuse, including *Emily Engstler* who tallied her fifth double double of the season with 12 points, 13 rebounds, three assists, three blocks and three steals. Freshman *Kamilla Cardoso* finished with 11 points, eight rebounds and four blocks, and *Priscilla Williams* and *Kiara Lewis* added 11 and 12 points, respectively.

The Orange shot 46%, hitting 12-of-29 from downtown. Defensively, Syracuse forced 15 turnovers for 17 points and blocked seven Panther shots.

Of Note:

- *Emily Engstler* notched the 100th block of her career, tying Bria Day for the tenth-most blocks in program history
- Engstler's 20th game with 10+ rebounds and she tied her season-high in rebounds (13)
- *Maeva Djaldi-Tabdi* had a career-best three 3-pointers
- *Digna Strautmene*'s five assists ties her career high
- *Taleah Washington* tied a career-high six points

The Orange are back in action on Sunday morning, hosting Notre Dame inside the Dome. Tip-off is set for 11 a.m. on the ACC Network.

Gallery: (1-28-2021) WBB Tames Pitt Panthers

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Syracuse University Athletics



Syracuse Field Hockey Hits the Road Again

Field Hockey

Posted: 10/15/2020 3:16:00 PM

Date	Opponent	Time	Watch	Statistics	Game Notes
Oct. 16	at North Carolina *	6 PM	ACC Network	Live Stats	Syracuse North Carolina
Oct. 18	at Wake Forest *	12 PM	ACCNX	Live Stats	Syracuse Wake Forest
Oct. 19	at Wake Forest	12 PM	ACCNX	Live Stats	Syracuse Wake Forest

Syracuse is headed down south for the third-straight weekend this time to face two-time defending national champion North Carolina and Wake Forest in a trip of road games. The Orange kick off the weekend with a 6 p.m. matchup against the Tar Heels on ACC Network on Friday night and take on Wake Forest on back-to-back days Sunday, Oct. 18 and Monday, Oct. 19 at noon. Sunday's match against the Demon Deacons will be an Atlantic Coast Conference contest.

The Orange are 1-2 this season and are coming off a 4-3 win against Duke last Saturday at the Virginia Beach Sportsplex. The Orange lost their first two games of the season against Virginia, both by one goal. *Florine van Boetzel* leads 'Cuse with three goals this season and was named ACC and NFHCA National Offensive Player of the Week for her efforts in Syracuse's victory over the Blue Devils last week.

Inside the Matchup

This is the 17th meeting in program history Syracuse and North Carolina. The two first played in 1991. The Tar Heels lead the series 10-6 all-time and have won the last three matchups. The 2016 and 2017 contests went to double overtime and overtime, respectively. This will be the two teams' first meeting since October 2019, where UNC earned a 3-1 victory and *Charlotte de Vries* scored the lone goal for the Orange.

Wake Forest and Syracuse have played 11 times with the Demon Deacons holding a 6-5 edge in the series. Last time they met, Syracuse won a back-and-forth battle, 4-2, on October 25, 2019 at J.S. Coyne Stadium.

Scouting the Opposition

North Carolina comes into the weekend 4-1 overall. The Tar Heels, picked as the favorite to win the ACC title, are coming off back-to-back victories over Virginia. UNC opened the season with a win at Wake Forest before their Louisville handed the Tar Heels their first loss since the 2017 Final Four.

Wake Forest (1-3) lost its season opener against North Carolina and have since split a two-game series at Virginia, winning the first game 2-1 but losing the second, 0-1. Most recently, 1-2 loss to Louisville last weekend. Excessive rain and unplayable field conditions canceled the second game of the weekend between Wake Forest and Louisville originally scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 11.

Fans in the Stands

No public admission is allowed at Karen Shelton Stadium, for Friday night's game. Fans are encouraged to watch live on ACC Network.

Wake Forest University is only permitting 50 Demon Deacon fans to attend home games. At this time Wake Forest will not be able to accommodate any other fans. Both games at WFU will be available to stream live on ACC Network Extra via the WatchESPN App.

Up Next

The Orange return home to wrap up the regular season with a conference game against Louisville on Oct. 30 at 2 p.m.

Follow @CuseFH on Twitter and Instagram for in-game updates all season long.

UC San Diego



Tritons in Tokyo: Two Baseball Alumni Selected to Team Israel, Headed to Olympics
Baseball
Posted: 7/12/2021 4:22:00 PM

LA JOLLA, Calif. – Two former UC San Diego scholar-athletes have officially been named to Team Israel's baseball roster and will compete at the 2021 Olympic Games in Tokyo, Japan. Right-handed pitchers [Shlomo Lipetz '05](#) and [Alon Leichman '16](#) initially made the 44-player expanded roster and were just recently selected as part of the 24-man traveling team. Team Israel's General Manager Peter Kurz submitted the list of athletes to the World Baseball Softball Confederation (WBSC) and Olympic Committee.

"We are excited to see Shlomo and Alon represent Israel in this year's Olympic Games," said the head coach of UC San Diego baseball [Eric Newman](#). "They are great ambassadors for the sport of baseball, their country and our program at UC San Diego. We wish them great success!"

Lipetz, the second Israeli ever to play college baseball, began his collegiate career at San Diego Mesa College following his service in the Israeli Defense Forces. Upon transferring to UC San Diego in 2004, Lipetz led the staff with a 5-0 record, posting an ERA of 2.84 with three saves. During his senior season, the Tritons' closer tallied an additional seven saves.

Lipetz remained in the U.S. following graduation and continued to play baseball in the States (semipro teams in New York), but mostly overseas. With Team Israel, he made appearances in the 2008, 2011, 2014, and 2015 European Championship Qualifiers. During the 2008 tournament, Lipetz led his team and the qualifier in wins (2-0) and came in second overall in strikeouts.

Like Lipetz, Leichman has seen success on the field, both in the blue and gold and as a member of Team Israel.

Leichman was the second-youngest player to compete in the 2007 Israel Baseball League, while in 2008, he became the first Israeli to participate in the MLB European Academy. He has represented Team Israel as a pitcher and designated hitter throughout various events and competitions, including the European Championships for multiple years and the World Baseball Classic in 2013.

After three years at Cypress College (2010-13), Leichman transferred to UC San Diego. As a junior, he started in 12 contests on the mound, generating a record of 7-2 with a 3.71 ERA and tallied 37 Ks. In 2016, his senior season in La Jolla, Leichman tossed 68.2 innings, totaling 48 strikeouts in 14 appearances. In his final outing for the Tritons, he helped pave the way for a come-from-behind, walk-off win in the California Collegiate Athletic Association (CCAA) Championship. His 2.1 innings of shut out relief led UC San Diego to a 7-6 triumph over Chico State to keep the season alive.

In addition to his playing career, Leichman has also spent time on the coaching side of the game. He was a bullpen coach for Team Israel in the 2017 World Baseball Classic Qualifiers and was the pitching coach of the South Atlantic League West Virginia Power. Most recently, he became the pitching coach for the Arkansas Travelers – the AA affiliate of the Seattle Mariners.

Both Lipetz and Leichman helped clinched Israel's first-ever Olympic berth in September of 2019 when the team defeated the Netherlands 8-1 at the WBSC Baseball Europe/Africa Olympic Qualifier (Parma, Italy).

Team Israel began its Olympic training back in May of 2021. They just opened a series of exhibition games on the East Coast that will run from July 11-20. The baseball tournament at the Olympic Games will kickoff on Wednesday, July 28 and will be played at Fukushima Azuma Baseball Stadium.

Team Israel Olympic Roster

Pitchers (12): Jeremy Bleich, Jonathan deMarte, Jake Fishman, Alex Katz, Jared Lakind, Alon Leichman, Shlomo Lipetz, Jon Moscot, Joey Wagman, Ben Wanger, Zack Weiss, Josh Zeid.

Catchers (3): Tal Erel, Ryan Lavarney, Nick Rickles.

Infielders (5): Scott Burcham, Ty Kelly, Ian Kinsler, Zach Penprase, Danny Valencia.

Outfielders (4): Blake Gailen, Mitch Glasser, Assaf Lowengart, Robb Paller.

2021 Team Israel Exhibition Schedule

Date	Time	Location	Opponent
Sun, July 11	4 PM	Maimonides Park; Brooklyn, NY	New York's Bravest
Mon, July 12	6:30 PM	Palisades Credit Union Park; Pomona, NY	New York Boulders
Wed, July 14	10:30 AM	Dunkin Donuts Park; Hartford, CT	Bristol Blues
Thurs, July 15	10:30 AM	Dunkin Donuts Park; Hartford, CT	Ocean State Waves
Fri, July 16	10 AM	FNB Field; Harrisburg, PA	Ripken League All-Stars
Sat, July 17	12 PM	Clipper Magazine Stadium; Lancaster, PA	Susquehanna Valley Stars
Sun, July 18	9:13 PM	Shirley Povich Field; Bethesda, MD	Bethesda Big Train
Mon, July 19	6 PM	Leidos Field-Ripken Stadium; Aberdeen, MD	Ripken League All-Stars
Tues, July 20	6:35 PM	Fairfield Properties Ballpark; Central Islip, NY	New York's Finest

About UC San Diego Athletics

After two decades as one of the most successful programs in NCAA Division II, the UC San Diego intercollegiate athletics program began a new era in 2020 as a member of the Big West Conference in NCAA Division I. The 23-sport Tritons earned 30 team and nearly 150 individual national championships during its time in Divisions II and III and helped guide 1,400 scholar-athletes to All-America honors. A total of 84 Tritons have earned Academic All-America honors, while 38 have earned prestigious NCAA Post Graduate Scholarships. UC San Diego scholar-athletes exemplify the academic ideals of one of the world's preeminent institutions, graduating at an average rate of 91 percent, one of the highest rates among institutions at all divisions.

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Syracuse University Athletics



Orange Blanked by Hokies

Softball

Posted: 4/30/2021 5:44:00 PM

Virginia Tech blanked Syracuse, 8-0, on Friday evening in the series opener of a four-game Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) series. The Orange (19-17, 11-14 ACC) will continue the series against the Hokies with a double header on Saturday, May 1. First pitch is set for 1 p.m. on ACCNX through the ESPN app.

Virginia Tech's Keeley Rochard recorded her second no hitter of the season and seventh of her career striking out 16 batters en route to her 12th shutout this season.

Alexa Romero (7-6) had a clean slate through the first two innings but a pair of runs in the third gave Virginia Tech a 2-0 lead. Romero began the fourth, but a leadoff walk resulted in the Orange going to the bullpen for freshman *Lindsey Hendrix*.

Syracuse had its lone baserunner of the game in the third inning when *Rebecca Clyde* drew a walk with a full count but the Orange were unable to capitalize.

Virginia Tech (30-12 overall, 21-11 ACC) tacked on three runs off Hendrix in her first inning of work and two more in the sixth for a 7-0 advantage. The Hokies added an insurance run in the top of the seventh to extend its lead to eight runs.

No fans will be admitted into Skytop Stadium for the weekend series but are encouraged to watch live on ACCNX through the ESPN app.

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Syracuse Drops Third Straight in Overtime Loss to No. 24 Michigan

By Toni Bianco

CitrusTV Women's Basketball Beat Reporter

ANN ARBOR, Mich. – Syracuse Women's Basketball had its largest lead of the game with just under seven minutes to play after a lights-out three-point shooting performance through thirty-three minutes. But, two free throws from Michigan's Michelle Sidor kickstarted a 16-6 run from the Wolverines to push the game into overtime.

The Big Blue then outscored the Orange 13-5 in OT, handing No. 24 Michigan (7-1, 0-0 Big Ten) the comeback win over unranked Syracuse (4-4, 0-0 Atlantic Coast) 84-76 in the Big Ten/ACC Challenge on Thursday. SU now sits at .500 to start the season after a three-game skid.

Michigan head coach Kim Barnes Arico couldn't have drawn up a more perfect strategy in the fourth quarter for a comeback victory. 6'2" Naz Hillmon was face-guarding 5'6" Kiara Lewis in the full-court press. Her size and the tempo tripped up Lewis, causing easy turnovers and easy points for Hillmon. Barnes Arico had purposefully outsized Gabby Cooper and the other SU guards, creating mismatches and causing chaos in the Syracuse backcourt.

SU had a total of 24 turnovers on the night with exactly half coming after the third-period buzzer. The Wolverines even caused seven TOs in the final ten minutes of regulation.

Overall, the Big Blue just became the more aggressive team down the stretch. The Wolverine's defensive conditioning changed the complexion of the game. If a basketball game were a marathon, Michigan went from running a nine-minute mile on mile 18 in the third quarter to sprinting a 6:20 on mile 23 to close out regulation.

Offensively, the Wolverine's finesse in the final frames dominated SU, going to the interior pass finding holes in the defense. A Syracuse guard got caught flat-footed on back-to-back plays, not paying attention as Hillmon fed a backdoor cutter who slipped her defender.

Kayla Robbins led all scorers with 23 point while Hillmon added 16 for the Blue. The 2019 Big Ten Freshman of the Year played with the U19 USA basketball team over the summer and showcased her dominance against Syracuse. The ball consistently found its way to double-zero in white in high pressure situations.

SU had looked promising to start. The Orange came out with an attack-first mindset that had been lacking through the start of the season. The Orange dictated the pace of the game early on with an active 2-3 zone. It caused turnovers on steals that culminated in fastbreak layup conversions, resulting in an up-tempo speed on the court.

Michigan kept it tight throughout the first half, slicing through the SU zone defense. A cross-court pass straight into paint and over the top of the defense led to easy layups for Hillmon and Robbins.

However, Syracuse's efficiency from behind the arc gave them the advantage heading into the locker room. The Orange were 7-18 from three through 20 minutes with freshman Teisha Hyman going 3-3 from deep.

Syracuse then controlled the third quarter with Digna Strautmane nailing back-to-back threes from the left corner. The junior finished the night with 16 points and shooting 4-5 from behind the arc.

Emily Engstler showcased her talent all over the floor, earning her fifth double-double of the season. The New York native stuffed the stat sheet, recording ten points, 14 rebounds, six assists and five blocks. Her court vision is unparalleled on this SU team, making solid decisions on when to drive or when to dish to the opposite block to create easy buckets for Amaya Finklea.

The Orange return to the Dome after a four-game road stretch to host UMBC on Sunday. Syracuse needs to maintain the attack-early mentality and continue its success from behind the arc in order to secure a much-needed non-conference victory at home. Tip-off is at 2 pm.

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Syracuse University Athletics



Orange Trio Earn All-ACC honors

Cross Country

Posted: 10/30/2020 12:11:00 PM

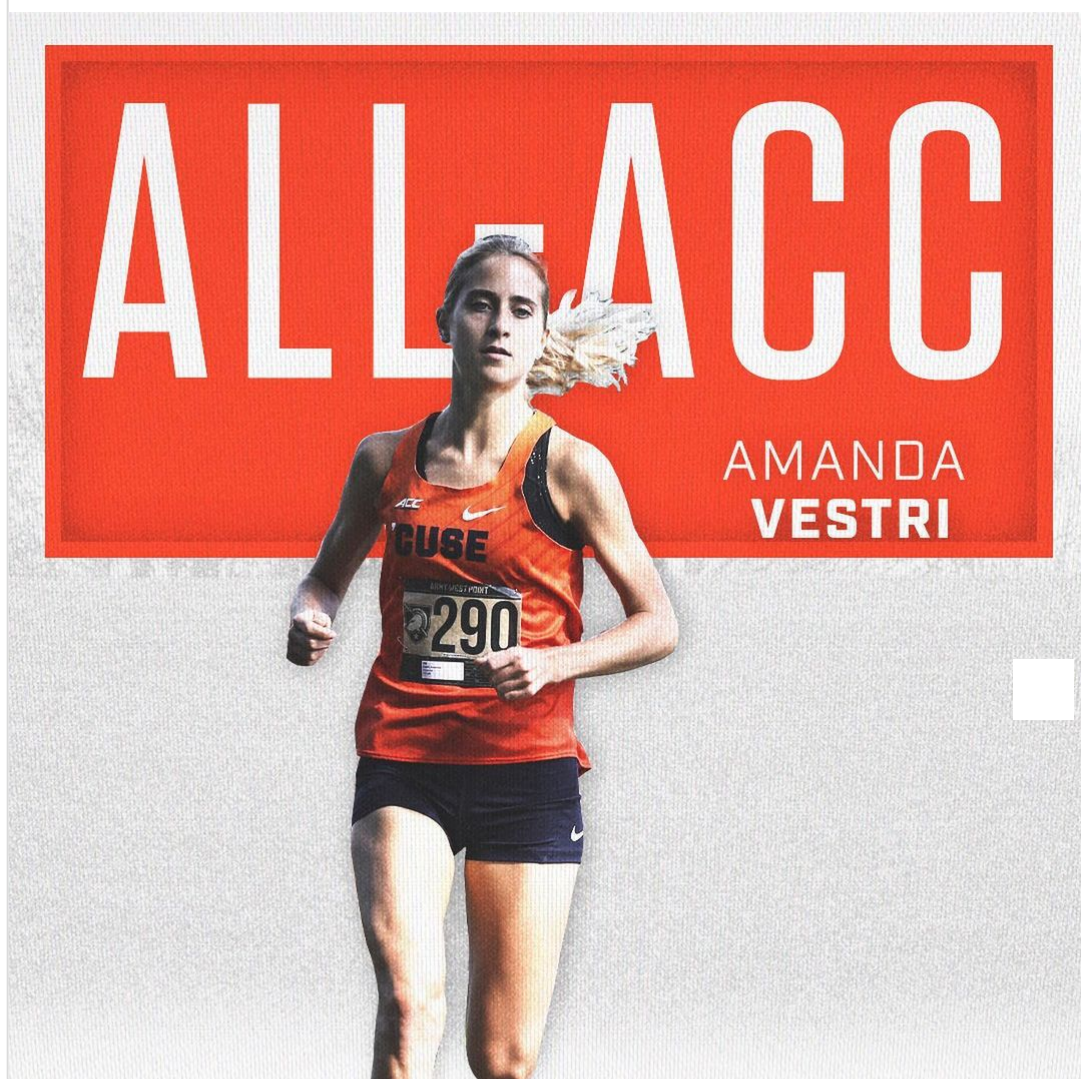
A trio of Syracuse runners earned All-ACC honors for strong performances at Friday's ACC Championship meet.

Senior *Amanda Vestri* finished second overall to earn All-ACC honors. She posted the highest individual finish for an Orange woman since 2017 when Paige Stoner became the first woman in program history to win an individual cross country conference title.



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Vestri was near the front of the race from start to finish, crossing the line in a time of 20:06.1. She was sitting in third place late in the meet behind two NC State runners, then Vestri' strong kick propelled her past the Wolfpack's Hannah Steelman in the final kilometer to earn a decisive second-place finish.

The Orange women finished 8th as a team. Behind Vestri, Freshman *Savannah Roark* finished 43rd overall (21:08), sophomore *Justus Holden-Betts* (21:32.5) took 60th, freshman *Reilly Zink* (21:42.5) placed 69th and freshman *Sarah Connelly* (21:58.8) rounded out the Syracuse scoring in 80th overall.

No. 3 NC State earned both the women's team (47 points) and individual title (Dominique Clairmont). The 'Cuse women scored 237 points.

The Orange men posted a sixth-place finish behind All-ACC finishes from Joe Dragon and *Matthew Scrape*.

Dragon led the way for Syracuse, crossing the finish line 10th overall. He finished in a time of 23:30.0 after a strong final 2k. Scrape was the next runner to cross for the Orange in a time of 23:39.8, which was good for 21st overall. *Silas Derfel* placed 26th (23:48.7), *Nathan Henderson* took 30th (23:52.5) and *JP Trojan* (24:18.4) rounded out the SU scoring in 50th.

No. 6 Notre Dame took the men's team crown led by individual winner Yared Nuguse, with 40 team points. Syracuse scored 135 points.

That concludes the 2020 fall season for the Syracuse men and women's cross country team.