Braves cross country garners all-academic honors

By Nick Phillips

Four individual UNCP cross-country student-athletes were recently named to the USTFCCA Division II Cross Country All-Academic teams released by the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCA), while the UNCP women’s cross country team as a whole was named to the USTFCCA 2010 Division II Cross Country All-Academic team.

All-academic status is given to student-athletes for their efforts in both their athletic and on the ath- letic field.

The women’s team, one of only 107 institutions to be named to the team, matched its highest placing of eighth-place finish at the NCAA Southeast Regional Championships last season that saw the Lady Braves set six new top ten times in the record books. Eight of the nine Lady Braves runners also set new personal-best times and UNCP finished in the top three in five of the seven races they competed in this fall, finishing with a 23rd-place finish at the NCAA Division II playoff appearance.

Dougherty, a freshman, notched a personal-best time of 19:40 in the 5K run at the Augsburg meet and also placed third in the Tri-Meet while also contributing to the Lady Braves’ eighth-place regional finish with a time of 24:40.1 for six. Mahaffie, a sophomore, took 24th place with a time of 19:54.9 in the 5K run at the Augsburg meet.

Mahaffie also has two of the top-10 times in school history and helped the Black and Gold to their regional finals, finishing 13th overall in the regional race. In the national final, Mahaffie knocked two minutes off of her previous-best 6K time, finishing with a 23:55.8 mark.

UNCP men’s cross country team members Kevin Clark and parasite Naidoh were two of 182 student-athletes represent- ing 99 institutions from coast-to-coast all-academic team.

Clancy finds his name in the UNCP record books after an even 24:00 time in the 8K run at the Augustana Regional Tri-Meet. Clancy also placed a pivotal role in the Braves second consecutive fifth place finish at the NCAA Division II Regional Championships, as he fin- ished in 33:22.0.

Naidoh broke his own school record at the Ogle- gosta State Tri-Meet with his time of 24:29.7 in the 8K run. He currently holds seven of the top-10 times in Black and Gold school his- tory and led the Braves to their fifth place finish in the regional championships with his fourth place finish over- all, which also set a per- sonal record with time of 30:51.7, to advance to the NCAA Division II National Championships, where he finished 64th overall.