Buffs strong in NAIA tune-up

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Milligan College made a strong showing at Clemson's Orange and Purple Classic over the weekend in its final tune-up for the NAIA outdoor track and field national championships.

Chelsea Leavell narrowly missed qualifying for the nationals in the hammer throw, finishing sixth with a school record throw of 46.87 meters. She was also fifth in the women's discus with a season-best throw of 41.13. Yolanda Migoyo ran her second fastest time of the year in the 200-meter dahs at 26.04 and finished the 400 in 58.38.

Kevin Mowatt lowered his own school record time in the 100 to 10.68, just missing a national qualifying time. He also finished the 200 in 22.11. Fitzroy Harris was eighth in the 400 at 48.69. Tanner Payne was seventh in the discus with a throw of 43.22 and had a season best throw of 48.78 in the hammer.

Milligan also had select athletes compete at the Virginia Tech/Roanoke Twilight over the weekend. Payne won the hammer with a throw of 51.97 and had season-best 38.95 in the javelin. Leavell was first in the shot put at 12.46 and fourth in the hammer at 42.40. Lauren Hubbard finished eighth in the 5,000-meter run clocking 18:46.39.

Milligan's next meet will be the NAIA outdoor championships on May 26-28 in Marion, Ind.