How much success can one team enjoy in one season? For Lehman College track and field coach Lesleigh Hogg, he hopes the success from his first ever CUNY women’s cross country championship and his men’s team’s second place finish can carry over to his indoor track season.

After a disappointing 2004-05 indoor track season, the women’s squad has reloaded, and are primed and ready for a chance to compete for a CUNY championship. The Lightning long distance team will be anchored by five members of the Cross Country championship team. Leading the way will be junior sensation Amy Ruston. Ruston, who finished 41st in the NCAA Division III national championships will anchor a familiar group which features teammates Lianne and Olga Torres, Ana Ortiz, and Joy Browne. This group will automatically give the Lightning credibility in the distance events.

“Having a group together that has achieved success is important for any team looking to compete for a championship,” said coach Hogg. “The experience these young ladies have gained from the CTC’s will be very instrumental in our team’s success.

Following an outstanding rookie season, sophomore Victoria Bailey looks forward to continuing her dominance in the CUNY conference. The 2005 Rookie of the Year has a very good off-season and is ready to continue her pursuit of perfection.

Newcomers to the Lightning squad this season are junior college transfers Stacy Mohammed (Queensborough CC), and Carlyn Jean-Baptiste (Bronx CC). The duo will bring experience to a young lightning squad. Another runner to keep your eye on is, freshman Mobria Small from Walton High School.

Indoor Track Opens Season With 6th Place Finish

West Haven, CT: The Lightning opened a very promising Indoor season at the CTC Relay Carnival held at Southern Connecticut State University. Picking up where the Lady Lightning left off the cross country season the talented group set to school records.

In the distance medley relay the team of Olga Torres, Victoria Bailey, Lianne Torres and Amy Ruston ran 13:39.76 to finish third. They broke the record of 13:54.86 that was set at the CUNYAC Championships in 2003 (Allen, Finnigan Cuevas, Castro). Taking the stick in sixth place Amy Ruston ran a blistering 5:06.96 for her 1600 meter leg to cross the finish line in third behind Sacred Heart University and Trinity College.

Just fifteen minutes after the DMR the Ladies were on the track again in the Sprint Medley Relay with even more impressive results. The team of Stacy Mohammed, Victoria Bailey, Mobria Small and Ruston finished first and broke one of the older records in the Lehman archives.

With a time of 4:20.76 they broke a twenty-six year old record of 4:45.7 held by Marcia Fredericks, Merle Montgomery, Linda Williams and Veronica Johnson.

Again Ruston was the star bringing the stick from third to first (2:20.45 for 800 meters). “It feels good to get off to a start like this, the team is real positive about what we can do. Running well in the 4x800 was the team of Carlyn Baptiste, Lianne Torres, Stacy Mohammed and Olga Torres finishing seventh.

Junior Amy Ruston

Sophomore Victoria Bailey

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