

## **Men, Women Skiers Both Look to Bring Home First National Championship**

NEW LONDON, N.H.- March 4, 2008 - The Colby-Sawyer men's and women's alpine ski teams are headed to the United States Collegiate Ski and Snowboard Association (USCSA) National Championships at Sunday River, Maine this coming weekend. Both the men's and women's teams are making their 11th straight appearance at the USCSA Nationals. The women's best result was in 2005 where they tied for 2nd place, the men's top finish was also 2nd at the 2001 National Championships. Both teams are looking to improve on last years results when the women's team finished 3rd, and the men ended up in 8th place. Many individual Charger athletes saw success last year, as six achieved All-American status in slalom, giant slalom and the combined.

The women, coming off of last weekend's sweep of the Eastern College Ski Conference (ECSC) Regional Championships, have high expectations. Freshman Victoria Canelas (Easton, N.H.) had an impressive day as she won both runs and the individual title as the giant slalom champion. Also leading the way for the Chargers are sophomore Montana Molyneux (Inglewood, Ontario) and senior Allyson Newell (Bethlehem, N.H.). Both athletes finished in the top 5 in the slalom event, and top ten in giant slalom. Lauren D'Allesandro (Kingston, Mass.), Anna Hosmer (Ovid, N.Y.), Danielle Shannon (Conway, N.H.), and Michele Spear (Sodus Point, N.Y.) will also be competing for the Chargers.

The Colby-Sawyer men's alpine ski team finished 3rd at the ECSC Championships. Leading the way for the Chargers is senior Jake Palmer (East Wakefield, N.H.) who finished 8th in slalom and 11th in giant slalom at Regionals. Andrew Smith (Okemos, Mich.) notched a 7th place finish in the slalom event. Marc Gelabert (Barcelona, Spain) is looking to make an impact after placing 13th in giant slalom and 15th in slalom. Sean Wheeler (West Falls, N.Y.) and Ben Burns (Yarmouth, Maine) will also be competing for Colby-Sawyer on the men's side.

The USCSA National Championship is set to take place March 2-8. The women's giant slalom, originally scheduled for Wednesday, March 5, has been postponed to March 6.

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Mitch Capelle  
Sports Information Director  
Colby-Sawyer College  
Office: 603-526-3783  
Cell: 603-454-5700  
Fax: 603-526-3435  
[http://www.colby-sawyer.edu/athletics/Sports\\_Information.html](http://www.colby-sawyer.edu/athletics/Sports_Information.html)