

*An Inside
Look at*

LEHMAN COLLEGE ATHLETICS

Daniel Gurdak Finds Success at Lehman College

The term student-athlete conjures up visions of athletes rushing from class to practice and back to class. While achieving success on the athletic fields, the student-athlete is also striving for success in the classroom. For Lehman College track athlete Daniel Gurdak the pace is a little more chaotic and the level of achievement a bit higher.

Daniel is a sophomore with a double major in biology and environmental science. The oldest son of Polish emigrants Daniel currently has a 3.97 grade point average. Daniel is taking independent studies classes as he is designing his own major, while also being a star runner on the indoor and outdoor men's track team.

After being accepted in the CUNY Honors program, Daniel knew that Lehman was going to be a special part of his life. This past Fall Daniel got his name into the Lehman records book as part of

a record setting distance Medley Relay. This past weekend he was part of a relay team that represented Lehman at the prestigious track event, the Penn Relays.

"Daniel fits right into the team he does his best to work hard, we understand his busy schedule and we work with it," coach Hogg said. "His commitment is outstanding for a student who has many responsibilities, it is a pleasure to have him as part of our program."

Many of those responsibilities involve taking classes at Baruch, Hunter and John Jay in addition to Lehman. With a chaotic schedule such as Daniel's, the sophomore is still able to practice with the team, compete in events, and maintain his academic standards. This past intersession Daniel was part of an exchange program with the Universidad San Francisco de Quito to study the environment of the Galapagos Islands. Daniel was back in time though to help the Lightning men finish third in the CUNYAC Championships.

"Lehman doesn't have an environmental science major so the independent studies program allows me to structure my own major," says Gurdak. "The program gives me the opportunity to attend other colleges to take courses that aren't offered at Lehman." How did Daniel become so interested in the environment? Daniel was a boy scout and loved hiking. In his spare time, Daniel is the assistant scoutmaster of Troop 728.

"I have found that Lehman College has a lot of resources that enable me to be successful in everything that I do," said Gurdak. "I am very appreciative of the opportunities which are here for me to take advantage of."



Daniel Gurdak excels both in the classroom and on the Lehman College Track team.



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