

SPC Track and Field Continues Success on Second Day of NJCAA Championships

May 22, 2009

The SPC track and field teams continued to be successful on day two of the NJCAA Championships. Through the first two days of competition the Texans and Lady Texans have three NJCAA champions, five runner-up finishes, and one third place finish. Kyron Blaise (triple jump), Kelly Close (shot put) and Kelsey Wilson (pole vault) are the NJCAA champions, while Jordan Coffman (decathlon), Dellon Williams (triple jump), Tallam Kipruto (3,000 meter steeplechase), Colleen Felix (triple jump & heptathlon) all finished second, and Kia Wansley (triple jump) finished third.

Jordan Coffman, entering the second day of competition in third place in the decathlon, began the day with the 110 meter hurdles, and won the first section in 16.44 seconds, adding 684 points to his score. He then finished second in the decathlon field in the discus with a throw of 112-02.00 (547 points), a season best by over 6-feet. Thirty minutes after the completion of the discus, Coffman began competition in the pole vault where he set another season best, this time by 1-foot when he cleared 14-05.25 for 731 points. In the javelin portion of the decathlon competition, Coffman set his third season best of the day with a throw of 169-08.00. Coffman then completed the competition with the 1,500 meter run and again bettered his previous best mark by crossing the line in a time of 4:50.38 and scoring 616 points. Coffman finished with a total of 6,818 points to finish second in the competition.

Day two of the women's heptathlon had Colleen Felix competing in the long jump, javelin throw, and 800-meter run. Felix began the day nicely with a season best jump of 18-02.50, finishing third in the field and scoring 715 points. She then attained another season best and a new school record in the javelin when she threw the spear 149-10.00 to break her previous record of 148-04.00 set May 7th at Texas Tech. Her record throw was good for 777 points. In the final event, the 800 meter run, Felix set her third season best mark of the day as she crossed the line in 2:46.61, adding 499 points to her score. When all the points were tallied, Felix finished second overall in the heptathlon competition with a total score of 5,178 points, crushing her previous record of 4,747 points set in April.

Felix's day was not over as she returned to competition at 1 p.m. for the women's triple jump and led three Lady Texans to season best jumps. Felix jumped 41-09.25 to finish second place and score 8 team points, while her teammate Kia Wansley finished right behind in third place with a mark of 41-08.75 for 6-points. Shaneika McRae finished sixth with a jump of 39-05.25 to add three points. Felix, Wansley, and McRae combined for a total of 17-points for the Lady Texan team score.

The Texans swept the top two spots in the men's triple jump with Kyron Blaise leading the way with a leap of 51-07.75 to claim the NJCAA Championship. Dellon Williams took runner up honors with a jump of 51-04.50. Austin Delaney just missed the award stand when he finished in ninth place. The Texans score 18 points in the event.

Michael Carter, the NJCAA champion in the indoor shot put in March, scored 5 points for his team when he finished in fourth place with a throw of 51-11.00.

Kelly Closse and Shatoya Brown just missed sweeping the field in the women's shot put as Closse took top honors and Brown finished third. Closse's toss of 52-08.25 just missed breaking her own school record, but did smash the NJCAA Outdoor championship meet record by over 4-feet. Brown's third place finish came from a toss of 43-08.50. Destiny Collier finished in 12th place in the event.

Kelsey Wilson added the NJCAA outdoor pole vault championship to go along with the indoor championship she won in March when she outdueled Lauren Cruzan of Paradise Valley in a jump-off. The two were tied after each cleared 11-08.50, but Wilson won the added competition, the title, and the coveted 10-points for her team.

The women's 4x800 meter relay team of Crystal Dickinson, Lorianne Pattee, Melicia McCloyen, and Shakeeri Cole finished in 8th-place and earned a point.

Anthony Pequeno, Joshua Mwangi, Chicanel Cole, and Fred Samoei teamed up to earn four points in the men's 4x800 meter relay as they finished in fifth place.

In the women's 4x100 meter relay, Edina Brooks, Nicquel Thomas, Shawna Anderson, and Allysha Wilson got the baton around the track cleanly in 45.29 seconds to win the second of two sections and will head into the final tomorrow with the second fastest time.

Sean Troop, Latoy Williams, Rodney Campbell, and Bryce Brown broke the 40-second barrier for the second time this year when they crossed the line in second place in the second of three sections. The group will take the fifth fastest time into the final tomorrow.

Gladys Chumba qualified for the final of the women's 1,500-meter run when she ran a season best time of 4:48.10 and the third fastest time in the race overall.

Fred Samoei ran 3:59.71 to qualify for the final of the 1,500-meter run to be contested at 1:25 p.m. tomorrow.

Running out of lane two in the third of three sections in the women's 400 meter dash, Edina Brooks qualified for the final with a time of 55.60 seconds, which was the seventh fastest time of the preliminary.

The Texans qualified two athletes for the final of the men's 400 meter dash as Latoy Williams and Calvin Dascent swept heat one with times of 47.02 and 47.41 seconds, respectively. Williams will enter the final with the third fastest time and Dascent the eighth.

Bryce Brown, who won the 55 meter hurdle race at the 2009 indoor championships, ran a season best of 13.98 seconds in the 110-meter hurdles to qualify for the final as the fourth fastest qualifier.

Shawna Anderson and Nicquel Thomas took the first and third spots in the second section of the women's 100 meter dash and both qualified for the final by posting times of 11.59 and 11.91 seconds. Anderson's time ranks her second heading into the final scheduled for 2:10 p.m. tomorrow, while

Thomas is eighth. Allysha Wilson just missed making the final as she finished in ninth position with a time of 11.92 seconds.

Shakeeri Cole and Lorianne Patte will represent the Lady Texans in the final of the 800 meter run after posting times of 2:20.83 and 2:19.32 in the preliminaries. Cole won heat one while Pattee finished fifth in heat two.

Of the nine qualifiers in the men's 800 meter run final, three of them will represent South Plains College as Fred Samoei, Marcelis Lynch, and Sharif Webb all advanced. Samoei (1:52.19) and Lynch (1:52.98) qualified from the first section, while Webb (1:52.85) qualified from section two.

Bryce Brown and Stephon Beckford will represent SPC in the final of the 400 meter hurdles as Brown qualified by winning his section in 52.33 seconds and Beckford finished fourth in his with a time of 53.72 seconds. Brown enters the final as the second fastest qualifier while Beckford sits as the seventh.

Shawna Anderson and Nicquel Thomas, both qualifiers in the women's 100 meter dash, also qualified for the final of the women's 200 meter dash by posting time of 24.01 and 24.13 seconds.

Rodney Campbell snuck into the final of the men's 200 meter dash after posting a season best time of 21.08 seconds, and was the final qualifier.

Tallam Kipruto picked up eight big points in the men's 3,000 meter steeplechase when he finished second, smashing his previous season best by 14-seconds, crossing the line in 9:13.54. Mitchell Driver was also in the race and finished tenth in 9:41.47.

Angelle Miranda, Deandra Knowles, Melicia McCloyen, and Edina Brooks advanced the Lady Texan 4x400 meter relay team to the final when they crossed the line in 3:44.85. The time is nearly six seconds faster than the next fastest time heading into the final.

Running out of the first section in the men's 4x400 meter relay Damon Douglas, Sharif Webb, Calvin Dascent, Latoy Williams ran away from their competition in 3:11.79 and enter the final with the second fastest time.

The Texans and Lady Texans return to action tomorrow morning at 9 a.m. with the women's javelin throw and are scheduled to conclude competition at 4:30 p.m. with the men's 4x400 meter relay.