

SPC Off To Quick Start at NJCAA Championships

May 21, 2009

HUTCHINSON, Kan. – The South Plains College track and field teams competed well on day one of the NJCAA Track and Field Championships held at Gowans Stadium on the campus of Hutchinson Community College. The Texans and Lady Texans had competitors in each of the events contested on day one.

Colleen Felix began the women's heptathlon competition at 9 a.m. with the 100 meter hurdles and finished second overall with a time of 14.31 seconds, scoring 935 points in the event. She then cleared a season best of 5-03.25 in the high jump for 747 points. Felix crushed her competition in the third event of the competition, the shot put, with a throw of 42-00.75 (715 points), also a season best and nearly five feet better than her nearest competitor. Felix then closed out the day finishing second in the 200 meter dash in 26.08 seconds, good for 790 points, and finished day one in second place overall with 3,187 points and trails by 100 points.

Jordan Coffman began his day by finishing sixth in the decathlon's first event, the 100 meter dash. Coffman's time of 11.46 seconds was good for 761 points and was the only event he did not set a season best in. Thirty minutes later Coffman stepped on the long jump runway and popped off a season best jump of 22-09.75 (802 points), improving his season best by nearly 10 inches. Unsatisfied, Coffman then entered the shot put ring and improved his season best in the event by nearly 5-feet with a throw of 36-04.75 (551 points). In the high jump Coffman cleared 6-07.00 for 813 points and closed out day one of the decathlon with a time of 52.59 seconds in the 400 meter dash. Coffman sits in third place heading into the second day of competition.

Zach Morgan and Dillon Welch got the Texans on the scoreboard in the first final event of the championship as Morgan finished fourth (5 points) with a throw of 152-04.00 and Welch finished fifth (4 points) with a throw of 149-01.00. The duo went entered their final three throws in seventh and eighth place, but continued to compete well and fought for a strong finish. Their teammate, Daniel Rodriguez, narrowly missed the award stand as he finished ninth (144-11.00).

Melinda Bendik put 5-points on the board for the Lady Texans as she finished fourth in the women's discus with a throw of 145-08.00.

Tallam Kipruto added four more points to bring the day one total to 13 for the Texans as he finished fifth in the 10,000 meter run.

Coffman and Felix will continue their multi-event competitions at 9 a.m. tomorrow morning, and the men's triple jump and shot put competitions will follow at 10 a.m.