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SPC Track Competes Well at Sooner Invitational

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NORMAN, Okla. – The South Plains College track and field team had another stellar weekend when they traveled to Norman, Oklahoma for the Sooner Invitational held April 23-24. The meet saw SPC break four school records, take four first place finishes and improve upon seven NJCAA qualifying marks.

Kelly Closse reset the first school record of the day when she broke her own mark by over one foot with a throw of 158-03, good for sixth place.

Erynn Young later tied Asiya Iskakova's 2008 high jump record of 5-07.00 when she finished second in the field.

In the women's 800 meter run, Lisa Forsberg broke a seven year old SPC record when she dominated the race in a time of 2:08.20 to dip under the previous record of 2:08.57 set by Akeh Mwanbi in 2003. Angelle Miranda was also in the race and finished eighth in a season best time of 2:16.55.

The women's 4x400 meter relay team of Shakeeri Cole, Jura Levy, Angelique Lykes and Janelle Redhead then capped the meet by shattering the previous school record of 3:38.46 set last year when they crossed the line in 3:34.63, easily outdistancing Texas Tech University.

Before tying the high jump record, Young placed third in the women's long jump with a leap of 19-04.75, her second best of the season. Colleen Felix was not far behind in fifth when she jumped a season best of 18-08.00.

Felix later finished third in the triple jump (41-04.50).

In the men's long jump, Kyron Blaise finished fourth overall when he recorded a leap of 24-10.00. Dellon Williams (24-07.25) was sixth, but later earned third in the triple jump when he measured a season best jump of 51-09.25.

Closse, the defending NJCAA champion in the shot put, finished behind the third and sixth ranked throwers in NCAA division I when she threw the shot put 52-08.75 for a third place finish.

Quincy Wilson's first throw of 54-01.00 was good enough for second place overall in the competition.



Anthony May finished second after recording his best high jump clearance since the Texas Relays with a jump of 6-08.75.

The Lady Texan 4x100 meter relay team of Lykes, Redhead, Nicquel Thomas and Jura Levy crossed the line third overall with a time of 45.68 seconds. The Texan team of Niko Williams-Richey, Rondell Bartholomew, Isaiah Gill and Devin Hill also finished third with a time of 40.60 seconds.

The defending NJCAA champion in the women's 800 meter run, Shakeeri Cole, competed in the 400 meter dash over the weekend and just missed her season best when she crossed the line with a time of 55.07 seconds to finish fifth.

Troy Faulkner won the men's 400 meter dash with a time of 47.00 seconds, defeating former Olympic 800 meter runner Jonathan Johnson and former Baylor star Reggie Witherspoon along the way.

In the men's 100 meter dash, Devin Hill just missed his season best as he was the second competitor crossing the line in 10.50 seconds. Anton Kokorin made his season debut in the 100 meter dash and finished sixth with a time of 10.74 seconds.

SPC took three of the top five spots in the men's 800 meter run led by sophomore Marcelis Lynch who won the event with a time of 1:54.69. Robert Castanon and Elijah Rollock finished fourth and fifth with times of 1:55.82 and 1:56.64, respectively.

Entering the meet, Chante'sean White had run four consecutive races over the 400 meter hurdles in which she improved her time. That streak came to an end Saturday, however, she still finished second with a time of 1:02.92.

Lykes improved upon her time in the 200 meter dash to post a NJCAA qualifying time when she finished 10th overall and clocked a time of 24.59 seconds.

Tallam Kipruto and Anthony Pequeno finished second and third in the men's 3,000 meter run. Kipruto recorded a time of 8:46.26 and Pequeno was right behind in 8:48.91. The distance running duo were the first two collegians as the winner ran unattached.

In the final event of the night, Faulkner, Isaiah Gill, Kokorin and Bartholomew obliterated their NCAA competition when they turned in a time of 3:04.39 and just missing the school record of 3:03.74 the same four athletes turned in three weeks ago at the Texas Relays.

The Texans and Lady Texans will look to make more history on May 1 when they travel to Albuquerque, New Mexico for the New Mexico Invitational. The meet will be the



final tune up before South Plains College hosts the Region 5 track championships on May 8 in Levelland.