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Wildcat Track Update: May 2, 2011

WEST WOMEN AND MEN TAKE WESTERN STATE CONFERENCE TITLE

Women Take Back-to-Back Victories & Break Relay Record First Title in 37 Years for Men

Bakersfield, CA - West Los Angeles College swept the Western State Conference Track & Field Championships with both the men and women winning Friday at Bakersfield College.

The men won their first conference championship in 37 seasons, last winning the title in 1974. The women won back to back titles and now have won 3 of the last 4 years. This marks the first time in school history that West LA swept both titles in the same season. The men's team won with a total of 137 points. College of the Canyons placed 2nd with 125 points. The women's team won with a total of 187 points, defeating Glendale by 48 points.

The Wildcats were led by Jonathan Byrd who placed first in the 200 and 400 meters. Byrd also anchored both the 400 meter relay and 1600 meter relay to victory. He teamed up with Terrence Conway, Franz Palacio, and Jevoni Buchanan to take the 400 relay and Conway, Miguel Ruiz, and Johnathan Kelly to win the 1600 meter relay. Kelly and Buchanan were also individual conference champions winning the 400 meter hurdles and 100 meters respectively, along with Patrick Hunter who added a long jump title to his triple jump victory he had last week.

It was a team effort across the board that led to the title for the Wildcats. Other notable men's performances include, Conway who finished runner-up to Byrd in both the 200 and 400 meters, and Buchanan rounded out the Wildcat sweep in the 200 meters. Ruiz placed 2nd in the 800 meters, and Palacio placed 5th in the 100 meters and 8th in the long jump. Jose Gonzalez finished 4th in the 3000 steeplechase, and Tanquary Towns and Cortez Catlin placed 6th and 7th in the 400 meter hurdles. The Wildcats also had three 8th place scoring finishes with Brian McDade, Trevor Martin, and Byrd in the 110 hurdles, triple jump, and 100 meters in that order.

West women were led by the 400 relay team who set the tone for the day after not only winning, but breaking the Western State Conference championship record in the event at 46.87. The relay consisted of Reanna Davison, KeShawna Fisher, Dyneeca Adams, and Selina Collins. The foursome later closed the meet out with the 1600 meter relay title as well, in the event that they are state leaders. That wasn't the only record of the day for Adams though as she won the 800 meters, setting a new school record for the Wildcats in the event with a time of 2:14.40. The former record of 2:14.60 was set by Sherron Rhetta in 2001. In addition to Adams victory, Nijah Leshaw took 1st in the javelin, and Brittney McKinley was victorious in the 100 meter hurdles.

Selina Collins led a 2, 3, 5 finish in the 400 meters with Davison and Cydney Graham. KeShawna Fisher was runner-up in 100 and 200 meter events, and in the later event she had teammates Davison, Collins, and

Graham finish 4th, 5th, and 8th. Kemi Olonade was the runner-up finisher in the long jump and she placed 3rd in the 100 hurdles. Cortney McCoy placed 3rd in the long jump and Summer Griffin placed 5th in the 100 hurdles. In addition, Donetta Rye finished 4th in the long jump, Tunsiiia Cobbins placed 6th in the 400 hurdles, and Tavia Anderson and Asia Williams were 7th and 8th in the 100 meters.

The Wildcats focus now turns to the Southern California Championships which begin this Friday, May 6th at Mount San Antonio College. The top 6 finishers in each event qualify for the Southern California Prelims.

WOMEN'S COMPLETE TEAM SCORES: West 187.5, Glendale 139, LA Valley 82, Santa Barbara 81.5, Moorpark 65, Canyons 55.5, Ventura 53, Bakersfield 40, Cuesta 31, Citrus 28.5, Allan Hancock 16

MEN'S COMPLETE TEAM SCORES: West 137, Canyons 126, Cuesta 107, Ventura 97.33, Moorpark 96.33, Bakersfield 77.33, Glendale 60, Santa Monica 24, LA Valley 22, Santa Barbara 17, Citrus 12, Allan Hancock 4

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