

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 29, 2012

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WILDCATS WIN STATE MEDALS IN TRACK



West Los Angeles College athletes Shawnice Williams and Aundrea Yancy won state titles at the California Community College Athletic Association Track and Field Championships held at Cerritos College on May 19, 2012. Williams won the 800 meter crown while Yancy captured the high jump championship. Other notable finishes include: Alex Amakwah who finished third in the 800 meter race; Kelly Ally who took fourth place in the 100 meters; Brandon Morris who took fifth in the 100 meters; and a fifth place in the men's 4x100 relay. Additionally, the West Wildcats, Men's and Women's Western State Conference Champions for the second consecutive year, set three new school records.

WOMEN'S SQUAD: Williams, named West's female Athlete of the Year, took the lead in the 800 meter with just under a lap remaining. She improved on her school record and improved her national-leading 800 meter time by nearly two seconds with a time of 2:08.31. Yancy's winning high jump was 5 feet, 7 inches, matching the state season best by two others. The lady Wildcats also had a second place finish by freshman, Aysia Smith in the triple jump with a leap of 38-8 $\frac{3}{4}$.

MEN'S SQUAD: Not to be outdone, Amankwah finished third in the 800 with a time of 1:49.75, a personal best that broke the college's record time of 1:49.83 from 1982. Ally placed fourth in the 100 meters with a time of 10.59 seconds into a 2.3 meters per second negative wind. Morris took fifth in the triple jump as he bounded his way onto the podium. Ally, named West's male Athlete of the Year, teamed up with BJ Smith, Donald Drisdorn, and Will Lacy to finish fifth in the 4x100 meter relay with a season best 41.03.

The Wildcats focus will now be finishing out the semester strong in the classroom. The future looks bright for the program as many of the major contributors for the Wildcats are freshman. For the sophomores, they will have to decide which 4 year school they will transfer to in the coming weeks. All-America and All-Conference teams will be announced next week.

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WILDCATS TAKE BACK-TO-BACK WESTERN STATE CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS

For the Ladies it's the 4th Championship in 5 Years



For the second year in a row, the West Los Angeles College men's and women's Wildcats track and field teams took the Western State Conference Championship. For the women's program, this is the fourth championship in just five years. The last three victories were consecutive.

"It was a true team effort as everyone had solid performances all day long. We had personal best's everywhere," said head coach Dan Fitzpatrick.

The final score for the Wildcat was 135 points. College of the Canyons placed second with 116. The ladies final score was 119 points. College of the Canyons was second again with a score of 112. This victory is the first time in West's history where a team has earned three conference championships in a row. A "three-peat" has not been accomplished in the conference since 1998-2000. Twenty-six Wildcats qualified for the SoCal Championships which will take place at San Diego Mesa College May 4 and May 11.

The Wildcat won six individual men's titles, as well as the 4x100 relay. The relay team of sophomores Kevin Ally, Donald Drisdorn and BJ Smith, along with freshman Will Lacy, ran a season best time of 41.15. Ally later won the 100 meter dash title with a time of 10.55 seconds. Teammate Cleshawn Page came in second with a 10.83 second clocking. Ally also placed first in the 200 meters in a time of 21.33. Minutes before his victory in the 200 meter, Alex Amankhaw won the 800 meter run with a time of 1:52.35. He also placed 4th in the 1500 meters. Sophomore Bejon Bryant took the top spot in the 110 hurdles and fourth place in the 400 hurdles, as well. Celestine and Brandon Morris led the jump crew

with victories in both the long and triple jumps respectively. Other scorers for the men's team included Alfonso Price, who took third in the triple jump and fourth in the long jump.

The women won two individual titles and took second in the 4x100 relay. The women were led by Aysia Smith and Shawnice Williams who won the triple jump and 800 meters runs respectively. Smith kicked off the day off with a 1-3-4-6-8 finish in the triple jump along with Aundrea Yancy, Chrystale Miles, Jaime Walker, and Helen Arencibia. Yancy and Smith later finished third and fourth in the high jump. Smith also led a 4-5-8 finish for the Wildcats in the long jump with Arencibia and Yancy. Williams had a huge performance in the 400 meters finishing in 2nd with a time of 55.33. She was also a member of the 4x100 relay team along with Chelsee McCullough, Nicole Turner and Jonika Baker. Their time was 55.33. Baker was everywhere also taking third in the 100 hurdles, sixth in the 400 hurdles, and fifth in the 200 meters. Other notable finishes for the ladies included, Pia Hill, who placed second in the 100 hurdles, and Turner who placed third in the 100 meters.