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stentorian@ncssm.edu

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Record season

Track team wins conference, runners place at state competition

By MARY KOHLMANN

The NCSSM track team, under the leadership of head coach Aryano Bush, closed its most successful season yet at the state meet on May 19th.

After a conference championship at which the men's team took first place, the qualifiers arrived at the state meet at Ravenscroft School in Raleigh. NCSSM students placed in thirty events ranging from shot put to hurdles.

In the state 4x800 meter relay seniors Lucas Lankford and Kyle Wopart, along with juniors Philip Curley and Robert Yarbrough placed third. "Standing on the podium and getting recognized for that was pretty amazing," Lankford said. "We cut twenty seconds off our time at one point." Other top three finishers at the state

meet included the male 4x400 meter relay team, which took second place, junior Mark Owalabi, who took second in the 300 meter hurdles, Curley, who took second in the 3200 meter



Photo courtesy of Ruta Slepetic

Kyle Wolpert sprints to the finish line of the 5km run during a cross country meet.

run and Wolpert, who took third in the 1600 meter run. The men's team finished sixth overall out of thirteen, and the women's team finished thirteenth.

Less than a week earlier, the men's team won the conference championship for what Bush said is the first time in its history.

"We're moving to [a public school conference] next year, so it had a finality to it," Bush said. "The conference was on the day of prom, but everyone played their part. Everyone has to carry their load on a track team, but we were good from top to bottom."

A solid team of coaches was instrumental to success, according to Bush. Nick Lehman coached the long distance runners and Matt McKerr oversaw hurdling, while several family members of students pitched in to help. "We really had great assistant coaches," Bush said.

Bush said that it was difficult being a coach and SLI. "It's time-consuming," he said. "I want to have a relationship with [the athletes] as an SLI first, so it's important to let them know that those

things are separate,"

Junior Lizz Moody, who did the 100 meter and 300 meter hurdles, feels that these efforts paid off.

"The coaches are awesome," she said. "They're really funny. They make it fun and not so competitive, which is great, since we're already under so much stress. There wasn't a hurdling coach at my old school, and Matt McKerr was really able to help."

But the students are the most important component in the team's growth, and many have demonstrated an uncommon level of dedication and discipline. Moody described a meet at Elon University at which it was sleeting and snowing. "I'd gotten a great time on the 100 meter, and then nasty stuff started coming out of the sky, but the 300 was still on," she said. "We were really mad, but we finally just said, 'Okay, let's do this,' and we all got out there and started running around warming up—and then they cancelled it. We all got really close lying under the blankets together at that meet."

According to Bush, this level of dedication was common.

"Kyle Wolpert and Philip Curley each ran four miles altogether, and they got first or second in everything," he said of another meet.

Track is an unusual sport, according to Moody, in that it has a team of people participating in individual or small-group events. "Track team is more school pride than anything," said Moody. "You don't get the close-knit thing. You get close to the sprinters or the jumpers or the distance people."

This level of specialization presents problems in coaching as well. "In track," Bush said, "everyone needs an individual coach, so giving everyone enough attention was really difficult—basically impossible. The athletes need to be self-motivated to succeed."



Photo by Luis Zapata

Workers rewire Hunt open-lounges for new rooms.

Second Bryan relocated, Hunt lounges made into new rooms

By HATTIE CHUNG

In 2006-7, the residents of 2nd Bryan will be replaced by members of the opposite sex.

The administration's reasoning behind this decision included liability issues.

"Having one guys' hall in the middle of a girls' building can cause liability issues," said Kevin Cromwell, Director of Student Life Instructors. "Relocating these guys among other guys will decrease the chances of such issues from occurring."

Cromwell believes that moving 2nd Bryan boys to other male buildings with their fellow male peers will allow more freedom to travel around the building after 10:30, as well as provide many other benefits.

"They will have greater access to their peers during study hours," Cromwell said. "It will also keep the campus life at NCSSM more consistent by keeping all the guys together."

This change will require transforming the Hunt open lounges into a double and a triple to create new rooms for those who are displaced. While 2nd Bryan boys are losing their hall and rooms, those residing in Hunt are finding their own losses.

"Second Bryan people are great and all, but they'll have a really tough void to fill. People are people, but a ping pong table is something more," said junior Greg Rubinstein, future RLA for 2nd East. "Not only does it bring great joy with the simple addition of two paddles and people, but a ping pong table also is a great listener to all of your problems. It never insults or annoys you, and it always puts you first. Now, these 2nd Bryan refugees will be an interesting

RELOCATION, continued page 2

Despite opposition, construction of field to begin

By MAX ROSE

Craig Brown and Catherine Constantinou, husband and wife, are residents of a two story brick house on Pennsylvania Avenue, directly across the street from NCSSM. They said that in six years living next to the school, they never once have had trouble with a student.

But they did take issue with the administration's interaction with the neighborhood.

"Every time [NCSSM] gets irritated, they cut off communication," Brown said. "We don't want to wake up one morning and discover [the athletic field] built next to us. We don't think that's too much to ask."

Although negotiations with the neighborhood will continue, funds for building lights and a new athletic field have been secured and construction will begin as soon as possible, according to NCSSM President Gerald Boarman.

Boarman said that the field, to be located behind Hunt Residential Hall on what is now known as the intramural field, is necessary for student "wellness, wholeness and physical activity." He said that the change in athletic conference this

year makes it a necessary step.

"It is not a matter of 'we want to do it,'" Boarman said. "We need to do it."

Junior Bryan Creviston, a member of the varsity soccer team, said that the students deserve the regulation field. "It is not fair to make us play in ninety degree weather at four o'clock in the afternoon," he said.

Creviston said that it would help the team prepare for away games. "It shows that we're outstanding, not just academically, but athletically as well," he said.

Boarman said that he hopes to have the field completed by late August 2006. The lights, he said, will come later, as they are an eight week project. He said that \$288,000 provided by the NCSSM Foundation will cover the cost.

"We're going to have a top-flight field and top-flight lights," Boarman said.

Boarman said that the second phase of the project, a track, is dependent on \$800,000 in funding, which is most likely only possible in four or five years and that a third phase, bleachers,

CONSTRUCTION, continued page 2