

Unicorns Dash Their Way to Top Finishes at State Championships

By COURTNEY APPLEWHITE

The NCSSM men's and women's track teams traveled to North Carolina A&T University on May 15th to compete in the North Carolina 1A State Track Championship. Overall, the women's team placed 3rd out of 43 teams and the men's team placed 21st out of 37 teams statewide in the 1A division.

The women's team of Courtney Applewhite, Colleen McGuire, Frances Dougherty, Brianna Frye, Ashley Baker, Callie Turlington, Stephanie Schwemlein, Maddie Roberts, Ayana Littlejohn, Olivia Richardson, and Chelsea Lineberger traveled to Greensboro hungry after their Regional Championship on May 9th.

On the podium for the women was Colleen McGuire who placed 4th in the 400 meter dash.

McGuire faced controversy at the Regional meet when track directors claimed she did not run the 400 meter race in which she placed first and were going to deny her a gold medal and a bid to states. The debate was settled when videotapes confirmed her win and was even more affirmed when she placed 4th at the State level.

Also attaining medal finishes were Frances Dougherty placing 2nd in the 3200 meter run and 4th in the 1600 meter run, Maddie Roberts with a 4th in the high jump, and two relay teams (4 x 200 meter - Applewhite, McGuire, Littlejohn, and Richardson and 4 x 800 meter - Baker, Turlington, Dougherty, and Schwemlein) both placing 4th overall.

Other awards went to Ashley Baker for 6th in the 800 meter run, Callie Turlington for 8th in the 1600 meter run and 6th in 3200 meter run, Maddie Roberts for finishing 7th in the 300 meter hurdles, and Chelsea Lineberger with 14th and 10th in the shot put and discus respectively.

The 4 x 400 meter relay team of Roberts, Applewhite, Baker, and McGuire placed 5th and broke the school record and set their personal best time.

The men's team traveled to



A & T with fewer athletes than the women, but was still able to make some noise coming off a strong showing at Regionals with a 5th place finish.

On the men's side, participants included Max Ammons, Mike Jones, Chris Maynor, Paul Hammer, and Antonio Kornegay.

All of the men left with competitive finishes in distance races and throwing events. Max Ammons placed 7th in the 800 meter run and helped the 4 x 800 meter relay team of Jones, Hammer, Ammons, and Johnson take the highest place finish for the Uni men with a 5th. Mike Jones finished 7th in the 3200 meter run with Christian Johnson not far behind to take an 11th place finish.

Antonio Kornegay threw his way to an 8th place in shot put, barely coming short of his school record of 44'8" thrown at Regionals.

Several school records

were broken on the blue A&T rubberized track with many athletes setting personal bests. Future NCSSM women 1600 meter runners have a challenge ahead with a blistering record set by Frances Dougherty.

In the 300 meter hurdles Maddie Roberts set a new school record and made a great showing as track captain converting between high jump and hurdles throughout the day. All three female relay teams, the 4 x 200 meter relay 4 x 400 meter relay, and 4 x 800 meter relay also shattered standing school records.

Regarding the season, senior Maddie Roberts commented, "It has been a privilege to captain such a great group of people. I've seen everyone really grow as runners and our team grow closer over the season. I really appreciate this team helping me make my track senior year one of the best ones yet."

Junior Callie Turlington worked really hard and brought added, "I think the season their times down. These nerds went really well. Everybody can run!"



Colleen McGuire races in the 400 meter final.

Basketball Finals Finish Out IM Sports for the Year

By VLAD KROKHMAL

With the finals closing in, and the excitement of the end of the year apparent on students' faces, 4th Bryan and 2nd Bryan battled for the title of School Girls' IM Basketball Championship. The odds were far from even, with 2nd Bryan's participation undermined by the women's soccer team, while 4th Bryan put out a sizable and skilled opposition.

Nevertheless, the match was a remarkable demonstration of the athletic abilities of NCSSM students. With a few players that were actually experienced, the two halls were able to play an exciting match.

"The game was clean but plagued by inconsistent calls" said Raya Taylor, a representative of the 2nd Bryan team. Both sides clearly enjoyed the game, as it offered a chance for nonacademic competition as well as temporary relief of stress. Even though 4th Bryan emerged victorious, both teams trained and worked very hard. 2nd Bryan held special sessions where they practiced dribbling and passing. Thus both halls deserve recognition for their astounding achievement and effort.

THE BATTLE OF THE TITANS - BOYS' IM BASKETBALL FINALS

The school might as well have charged a \$5 admission to the boy's finals, as the two teams exhibited an astonishing and skilled basketball match, not seen in IM sports in quite a while.

The two halls, both filled to the brink with basketball stars, battled for the Championship, with the gallant 3rd West taking on the IM favorites 1st Hill. 3rd West, which defeated another one of the favorites, 1st Hunt, earlier this season, put up quite a performance, with the scores going up to the 40s.

This was without a doubt a major ego boost to both halls, as they showed off impressive ball handling skills combined with ridiculous shots and lay-ups.

It was also a major achievement for 3rd West, as they shined against one of the most favored IM halls.

In the end, 1st Hill emerged victorious, but the match was definitely something that alleviated after-class stress for students and marked an amazing end of the year for both halls.