

WOMEN'S INDOOR TRACK

... and Alabama A&M nets its first-ever



In its first-ever appearance at the indoor track nationals, Alabama A&M walked off with the team title at the Division II women's championships last month, thereby completing what proved to be a black college sweep for indoor track. St. Augustine's won the men's title (see page 6).

The Lady Bulldogs' 67 points gave them a comfortable cushion over No. 2 Abeline Christian (25 points). Cal State-Los Angeles tied for second with AC and Norfolk State was third with 32 points. North Carolina Central was the only other black college team placing among the top 10 (the Lady Eagles finished in a three-way tie for eighth place in the team race with 10 points).

Coach Joseph Henderson's team won this meet with some very credible performances on the track, as four A&M ladies won national titles. The following is a description of how the action unfolded in Michigan.

The Lady Bulldogs owned the open 400 as four women finished among the final eight. Omotayo Akinremi led the way by hitting the tape in first place with a 55.75. Omolade Akinremi wasn't far off that pace in second place at 55.88. Taiye Akinremi finished fifth

(56.10) and Shelly Beckford was sixth at 56.63.

A&M's Taiwo Aladefa emerged

as the queen of the sticks with her victory in the 55-meter hurdles. Aladefa's 7.71 established a new

meet record. North Carolina Central's Cassandra Adams finished second and was the only other hurdler to break eight seconds (7.94). Other black collegians placing in the finals were Robin Turner of Norfolk State (fourth place — 8.17) and Evangela Booker of North Carolina Central (eighth place — 8.29).

Track Queens

At left are four prime reasons why Alabama A&M won this year's Division II Women's Indoor track title. Kneeling (from extreme left) are Taiye Akinremi and Gloria Morgan. Standing (from extreme left) are Omotayo and Omolade Akinremi.

Photo by Isaac Corker

In the 800, Gloria Morgan emerged as the ultimate victor, finishing in 2:10.70, besting Edinboro's Marty Marczak (2:11.17). Hampton University's Lola Ajayi came through with a fourth place finish (2:13.60) and Booker ran 2:14.13 to finish in fifth place.

The remaining track events didn't produce any national champions from black colleges. Nevertheless, black collegians garnered a hefty share of All-American finishes.

In the 55-meter dash, five black college women attained All-American status. Aladefa was second (6.98); Norfolk's Chandra Sturup was third (7.06); Carlene Robb, fifth place (7.13); St. Aug's Valeska Brown, sixth (7.17); and Hampton's Jeannet Pusey, seventh (7.26).

Similar things happened in the 4 x 400 relay. Alabama A&M (Morgan plus the Okinremis — Omolade, Omotayo and Taiye) came in second at 3:48.09; The Hampton foursome of Ajayi, Christiane Zeze, Mariska Stubbs and Tamika Bazemore covered the distance in 3:51.71 for fourth place; and Norfolk State (Robb, Sturup, Turner and Tanya Lawrence) finished sixth with a time of 3:55.10.

The field events saw an A&M athlete set another meet record. Long jumper Tameka Hutchins set a new standard with a 20-5 effort. Sturup was the national runner-up at 19-6 1/2.

In the triple jump, black colleges held up well in the competition. Norfolk State's Angela Williams finished second at 39-8 3/4 and teammate Natasha Johnson (38-3 1/4) placed sixth.

— Stanton Blackwell

Women's All-America list

Listed below are black collegians who earned All-American status in the NCAA Division II Indoor Track & Field Championships. All-America status is attained by finishing among the top eight in the respective events. The asterisk (*) denotes national champion in that event.

Alabama A&M

Taiwo Aladefa — 55 meter hurdles*, 55 meters
Omotayo Akinremi — 400 meters*, 4 x 400 relay
Omolade Akinremi — 400 meters, 4 x 400 relay
Taiye Akinremi — 400 meters, 4 x 400 relay
Shelly Beckford — 400 meters
Gloria Morgan — 800 meters*, 4 x 400 relay
Tameka Hutchins — Long jump*

Norfolk State

Chandra Sturup — 55 meters, 4 x 400 relay, long jump
Carlene Robb — 55 meters, 4 x 400 relay
Robin Turner — 55 meter hurdles, 4 x 400 relay

Tanya Lawrence — 4 x 400 relay
Angela Williams — High jump, triple jump
Natasha Johnson — Triple jump

North Carolina Central

Cassandra Adams — 55 meter hurdles
Evangela Booker — 55 meter hurdles, 800 meters

Hampton University

Jeannet Pusey — 55 meters
Lola Ajayi — 800 meters, 4 x 400 relay
Christiane Zeze — 4 x 400 relay
Mariska Stubbs — 4 x 400 relay
Tamika Bazemore — 4 x 400 relay

St. Augustine's

Valeska Brown — 55 meters