

## ALL-SPORTS AWARDS

# Southern's Jags are undisputed champs

The recent conclusion of athletic competition for this term in the Southwestern Athletic Conference was just the beginning of Southern University's claim as the elite power of the eight-team league.

The Jaguars captured all three of the league's top all-sports awards for '91-'92, including the inaugural Commissioner's Trophy, symbolic of overall athletic supremacy in both men's and women's competition. Additionally, Southern won both the men's and women's all-sports trophies, finishing second ahead of Texas Southern in each.

"It's a great feeling to know your program is as well rounded as the Commissioner's Trophy indicates," said Marino Casem, Southern's athletic director. "It's a real tribute to what our people are doing. We have some great coaches and athletes. It's a reward for all of the hard work, time and dollars we put into our program. Southern's back to where it was in the past and we're proud of that. It makes us very happy."

Southern captured the Commissioner's Trophy with 107 points after winning four men's championships and one women's crown. Three SU women's teams finished second in their respective races.

Following Southern were Texas Southern (91.5 points), Mississippi Valley State (71.5), Grambling (68.5), Jack-

son State (59.5), Alabama State (55), Alcorn State (53) and Prairie View A&M (53).

In the battle for the men's all-sports award, Southern was virtually unchallenged, garnering 61 points to Texas Southern's 50. The Jaguars won titles in baseball, tennis, outdoor track and cross country while finishing third in basketball, football and golf.

Trailing Southern and Texas Southern in the men's all-sports ratings were Mississippi Valley State (37.5), Alabama State (36), Jackson State (34.5), Alcorn State (34), Grambling (34) and Prairie View A&M (22).

The race for the women's all-sports trophy was a close battle between Southern and Texas Southern. The Lady Jaguars edged the Lady Tigers by just 4.5 points. Southern won only one women's championship (cross country) compared to TSU's three titles, but while Southern picked up eight points for second place in tennis, the Lady Tigers received no points because they did not field a full squad in the conference championship competition last month.

Grambling (34.5 points), Mississippi Valley State (34), Prairie View A&M (31), Jackson State (25), Alabama State (19) and Alcorn State (19) rounded out the field of contenders for the women's all-sports trophy.

## SWAC Commissioner's Trophy Rankings

SCHOOL	WOMEN'S POINTS	MEN'S POINTS	TOTAL POINTS
Southern University	46	61	107
Texas Southern	41.5	50	91.5
Mississippi Valley State	34	37.5	71.5
Grambling	34.5	34	68.5
Jackson State	25	34.5	59.5
Alabama State	19	36	55
Alcorn State	19	34	53
Prairie View A&M	31	22	53

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end, winning in 57.84. Gueldo crossed the line at 57.88.

Taiye, in the meantime, provided A&M with additional points (58.91 for fourth place). Norfolk's Robin Turner finished seventh (1:02.02) and Omataya was eighth (1:05.43).

Gloria Morgan secured A&M's final gold in an individual track event. Morgan and Carrie Luis of Cal State-Stanislaus staged a serious duel in the finals of the 800. The outcome wasn't determined until the race's late stages as Morgan prevailed with a 2:07.19, nudging Luis who finished at 2:07.78.

A&M fully expected to get its hands on more gold in the 100 hurdles. Aladefia, after all, won the indoor title this year and was the defending outdoor champ. But it just wasn't going to happen that way this time. Aladefia finished second (13.53) and Cassandra Adams of North Carolina Central was fourth (13.70).

The relay events belonged to A&M, to the point that it wasn't even close. In the 4 x 100, Kimberly Golden, Tameka Hutchins, Germaine Crocker and Aladefia ran 45.55 to dust off the second-place Norfolk team (Turner, Chavela Lee, Robb and Sturrup) that clocked 48.85.

Hampton (Christiane ZeZe, Methella James, Danez Lyons and Jeannet Pusey) was fourth at 46.0 and St. Augustine's (Vernetta Evans, Catina Jordan, Tamora Powell and Brown) placed sixth with a 46.93.

The 4 x 400 was even more of a blow-out than the 4 x 100, which is what should have happened anyway. That's not a knock on the competition. But when you finish 1-2-4 in the open event, it means that other teams are hard matched to come up with an equalizer to be fairly competitive.

Morgan and the three Akinremis, blasted the field in 3:35.61. Cal State-LA made a gallant effort, but all they could manage was a 3:40.03 for second place. Hampton (Juliana McKenzie, Tanoka Bazemore, Mariska Stubbs and ZeZe) ran 3:45.38 for fifth place.

In the heptathlon, Chikwelu tallied 5,181 points for second place based on her efforts in the javelin and shot put. Among heptathletes, she had the best distance in the javelin (158-6 1/4) and was second in the shot (39-9 3/4). Chikwelu also competed in the regular javelin and finished fourth (151-4), missing third place by seven inches.

The long jump was decided by less than a foot — six inches to be precise. But Sturrup got the best of it with a 20-9 on what would have been her next to last jump. She opted to pass on her final jump and her mark held up. Seattle Pacific's Karin Greisson made a strong run, but came up a bit short at 20-8 1/2 and had to settle for the silver medal. NCCU's Adams (19-8 1/4) and Norfolk's Robb (19-7 3/4) finished fourth and fifth respectively.

Arlene Knowles of Hampton University earned All-America honors in the high jump (5-4 1/2 for seventh place). Knowles, however, wasn't that far from the pack. Of the top nine jumpers, those finishing fourth through ninth all jumped 5-4 1/2. Final placing was based on fewer misses at that height.

— Craig T. Greenlee

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