

High spirits at annual Colgate Women's Games

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Girls and young women from all over the East Coast recently met at Brooklyn's Pratt Institute to compete in the two or four preliminary meets of the 34th Annual Colgate Women's Games, the nation's largest amateur track and field series.

After suffering an injury over the summer, Colgate Women's Games veteran Whitney Fountain of the Bronx's Pelham Prep returned to win the first High School 55 Meters race in 6.9 seconds. Zoey Russell of Douglass, NY won in both the High School 200 Meters (25.4) and the High School 400 Meters (58.5). Neptune, NJ Middle School newcomer Ajee Wilson took first in two races in her division: the 1500 Meters (4:56.7) and, in a tie with St. Clare's Olicia Williams, the 800 Meters (2:27.7). In college action, Lehman College student Lauren Louurick cleared 5'2" in the High Jump event.

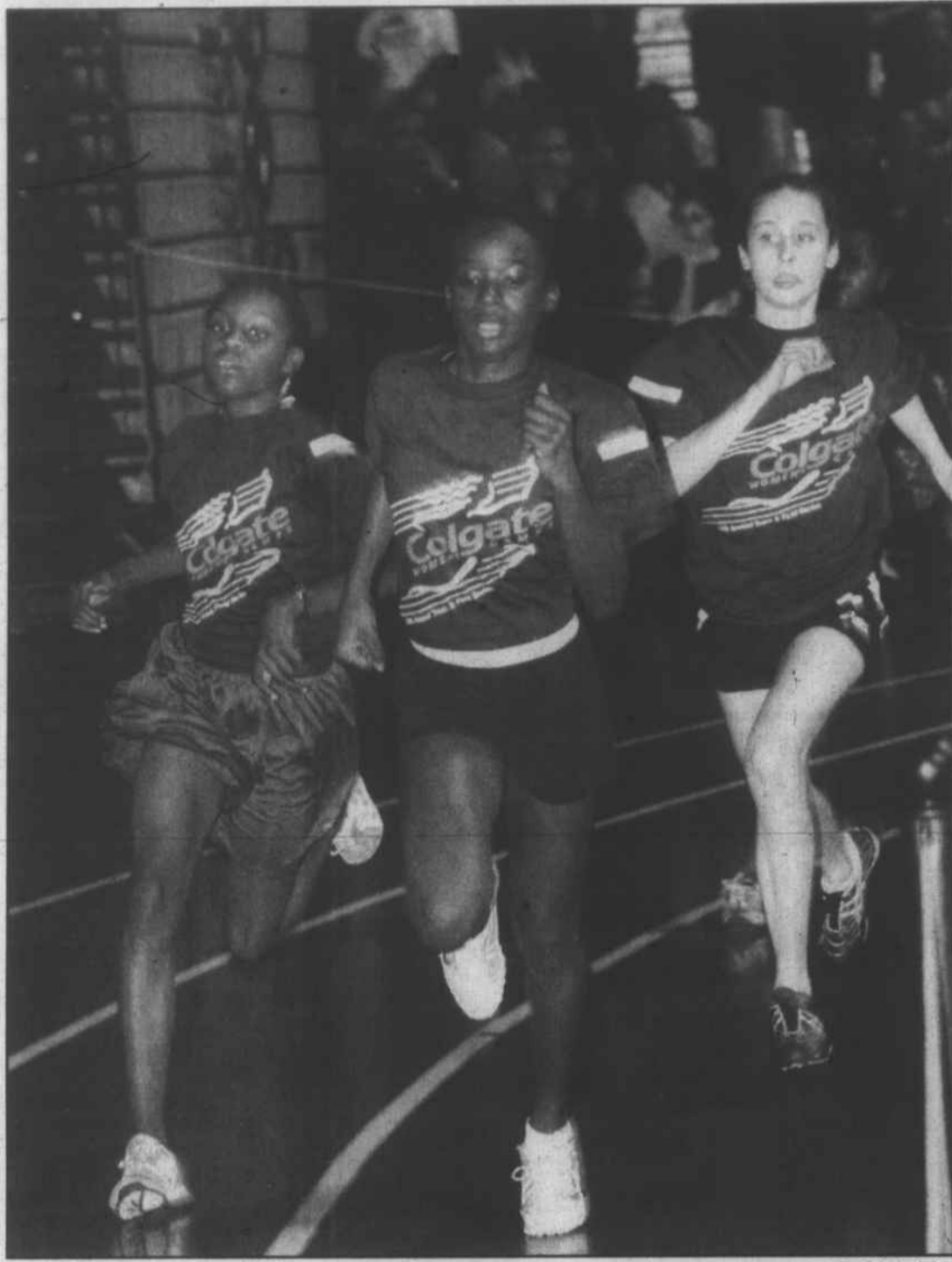
"There's enough energy to light up a city here," said Meet Director Fred Thompson, as excited kindergarten students took their marks in a 200-meter race on Sunday. "It's great to see children excited about sports and physical fitness at such a young age," said Thompson. "We hear so much about childhood obesity on the news. I strongly believe that it's programs like the Colgate Women's Games that combat childhood health problems best."

Adrienne Alexander of Queens, NY broke a series record this past Saturday, throwing 12.11 Meters in the Middle School Shot Put competition at the second preliminary meet of the 34th Annual Colgate Women's Games. Alexander, a student at MS 44, broke Aysha Gregory's 1999 middle school division record of 11.56 Meters. Adrienne's sister Ashlei Alexander, a student at Flushing High School, took first place in this week's High School Shot Put competition, throwing 11.96 Meters.

The Colgate Women's Games attract more than 11,000 participants each year. Every weekend in January, girls and young women, from elementary school through college and beyond compete in sprints, hurdles, distance runs, high jump and the shot put. Athletes compete against peers in one of six divisions: Elementary School A, Elementary School B, Middle School, High School, College and 30 plus.

This weekend was the second of four weekends of preliminaries held at Brooklyn's Pratt Institute's indoor track, that lead up to a semi-finals of all top point scorers. The semi finals determine who will compete at the world's most famous arena, Madison Square Garden, Feb. 2 for trophies and educational grants-in-aid from Colgate-Palmolive Company.

Free tickets to the Madison Square Garden finals are available to the general public by emailing colgategames@aol.com. Ticket requests should include the number of tickets needed and a complete address where tickets should be mailed. Follow scores of all top competitors at www.colgategames.com.



Young middle school runners compete in a preliminary race for the right to compete in the Colgate Women's Games, which will begin Feb. 2.

Former Wake player gets NFL honor

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Matters weren't ideal for former Wake standout Jyles Tucker. The former Deac didn't get drafted on draft day, despite finishing his senior year very strong at Wake Forest.

But Tucker signed with the San Diego Chargers as an undrafted free agent in the offseason. Tucker has made an immediate contribution since making his NFL debut on Nov. 25 against Baltimore. His play during the final week of the regular season earned the former Deacon AFC Defensive Player of the Week honors. In his rookie season from Wake Forest, this is Tucker's first career Player of the Week Award. Tucker is the third Charger to win Defensive Player of the Week honors this season (Antonio Cromartie and Shawne Merriman).

In a bid to secure the third seed in the AFC playoffs, Tucker led the defense with four tackles, a career-high three sacks, two forced fumbles and a fumble recovery for a touchdown as the Chargers defeated Oakland 30-17. Tucker, a 6-3, 258-pound linebacker scored his first touchdown of his career in the third quarter on a fumble recovery in the end zone. The New Jersey native has totaled 3.5 sacks in six games this season.

Tucker and the Chargers will face the Indianapolis Colts this week.



Tucker

Sherman

from page B1

certain criteria in track. I don't have to gain so much weight. I don't have to be a certain height. I just need to post good times. But I'm going to continue to work at fulfilling my dreams in football and track."

Head track coach James McMillan added: "I think South Carolina is a good choice for him. He's getting a chance to run track for a top program, with the option of playing football later. I think Bryce made the right decision. This is also going to give him the opportunity to help that program continue to build. They are kind of down now. But they have a lot of young athletes. Bryce knows a lot of those kids, like Johnny Dutch. And, I feel like he's going to do good things once he gets there. The coach (Curtis Frye) told me that he feels like he



McMillan

got a steal with Bryce because so many people were sleeping on him. I feel the same way."

Sherman's rehabilitation

Sherman is presently focused on getting on the track for the Yellowjackets this outdoor season. He's still suffering from a fractured fibula he

injured during Carver's final football game of the season. Sherman's cast was taken off this past Tuesday. Doctors have told him that full rehabilitation could take up to six months.

"But I heal fast," Sherman said. "Everybody's body heals differently. I'd like to help the team out this season. I really want to race Hunter (Furr) before I get out of here. But I'm not going to go out there unless I am 100 percent."

McMillan added: "I think there's a good chance we could get Bryce back by mid-season. I really do. He's really positive, and I'm hearing some good things. So, I can definitely see him coming back early to mid-season. But we're not going to rush him back. We'll see how everything works out."

Note: Sherman maintains a 3.6 grade point average while taking AP courses.

Comfortable Truth 9:

Nothing brings a family together like not having to sit so close together. Thank you, sectional.



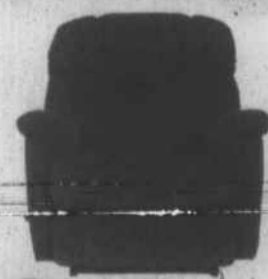
SPECIAL FINANCING AVAILABLE

\$2199 The Rex Sectional

If you put a sofa, a loveseat and a recliner in a blender, the resulting drink would be called a sectional. And it would be delicious.

Too much comfort CLEARANCE

SAVE UP TO 50% THROUGHOUT THE STORE!



\$449 The Lancer Recliner

By reclining, you manufacture comfort. Which means a recliner is essentially an upholstered comfort factory and you are the foreman.



\$899 The Jackson Sofa

No one has ever gotten motion sickness on a motion sofa. Many, however, have been overcome by comfort.



Our comfort experts are trained to help rid your home of discomfort and laziness.

Expedited delivery on in-stock items

Plus... save 20% on select tables, lamps & accessories with any upholstery purchase.

LA Z BOY FURNITURE GALLERIES

Comfort. It's what we do.

700 Hanes Mall Blvd. at the Pavilions
Mon.-Fri. 10am-8pm, Sat. 10am-6pm,
Sun. 1pm-5pm • (336) 765-3336

*Excludes advertised items and special value tags. Financing available W.A.C. See store for details. Excludes prior sales.

Alzheimer's Disease Strikes Another American Family.

When will it end?

Alzheimer's disease is becoming tragically common. This year alone 360,000 Americans will be diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease.

To learn more, contact Alzheimer's Disease Research at 1-800-437-2423 or www.alz.org.

22512 Gateway Center Drive
Clarksburg, Maryland 20871

ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE RESEARCH
A Program of the American Health Assistance Foundation