

Photo by Jody Stewart

Carver's boys track and field squad looks poised to win a state title this weekend. Here, the squad celebrates a regional track championship.



Carver's boys run through region

BY ANTHONY HILL
THE CHRONICLE

The Carver men's track and field team ran around A.L. Brown's track as if it were David Lash Stadium over the weekend. The Yellowjackets seemed to make themselves at home en route to capturing the Midwest 3-A Regional title in Kannapolis last Saturday.

Yellowjacket standout Bryce Sherman won the 100 and 200 meter races. The speedster who recently committed to run track at the University of South Carolina, also helped the Yellowjacket 4x100 and 4x200 relay teams capture gold. Carver finished with a total of 89 points. CHS was followed by Kannapolis Brown (52), Wadesboro (50), Parkland (49), Reagan (48), S.W. Guilford, High Point Andrews and Glenn. The Parkland girls ran past Ragsdale to win the region on the girls side.

Sherman got things going after winning the 100 with a time of 11:04. He beat out team-

mate James Raley (11.24), Reagan's Reggie Scales, Glenn's George Richardson. The 200 meter race looked a lot like the 100, with Sherman leading the way past Raley, Scales and Richardson.

"I'm real happy for the team that we won regionals," Sherman said. "We had a few people come up short that we counted on but we're still looking good. For states, we're looking good too. We have only one team to compete with overall. And, we are very strong this year. I think we should win it. Far as my events, I have a little competition this year. More than last year. I'm coming in with the sixth fastest time. So I'm ready for Friday. And the states is probably going to come down on James Raley. But he can handle it and he will do well."

Carver head coach James McMillan added: "I wouldn't say that he's going to have a lot

of pressure on him because he handles pressure well. But James is definitely going to be important for us. He has been all season. He's been one of our biggest surprises. With him, we have a chance of finishing one and two in the 100 and 200. That would be big for us. He's the type of kid that can make that happen for us."



McMillan

Carver received much needed points from Brandon Hairston (49.24), after he finished second in the 400. The 4x100 team of Dominique Tate, Jibril Mohammed, Sherman and Raley skated past the competition for a first place finish. They finished with a time of 42.87. The Yellowjacket 4x200 also blazed the track in Kannapolis for a first place finish. Raley, Mohammed, Brandon Hairston and N.C. A&T football signee McKinley Morning won that

race for the Yellowjackets in a time of 1:28.90.

The Yellowjacket 4x400 relay team didn't get outdone, finishing first also. The team consisted of the same four from the 4x200. They finished with a time of 3:20.79. Parkland (Rashad Wilkerson, Reyshawn Council, D'Ray Hall, Jarrell Elliott) finished second.

Jibril Mohammed cleared 21-7.75 in the long jump for a third place finish. Navy signee Collin Sturdivant picked up a third place finish in the shot put after tossing the shot put 46-8.5.

"Everybody is focused," concluded McMillan. "I'm confident that everyone of our kids will perform well. I'm a little worried about the competition. We're going against a tough field. Mooresville is going to be tough. White Oak is going to be good. I don't want them to take some of the points that we're going to need. If we do our part then we should win it. I definitely believe that we can do something special this weekend. I hope we do."

Jones collects honors

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

N.C. A&T fifth-year senior Jeremy Jones is ending his career with some reminders.

The reminders start with nudging people's memories on why he will be remembered as one of the best hitters to ever wear an North Carolina A&T baseball uniform and they end with recollections of him hitting .402 in 2005 as a sophomore.

Last week, Jones was 6-for-12 at the plate and hit four home runs to earn MEAC Player of the Week and Black College Baseball Player of the Week honors. Jones' week helped the Aggies go 3-1 during a week that included the Aggies beating the No. 3 team in Black College Baseball two out of three over the weekend. It also included the Aggies defeating cross-town rival UNC Greensboro, marking the first time in 17 years the Aggies have defeated the Spartans twice in one season.

Jones' MEAC honor marked the second straight week he earned the honor.

"You start to run out of adjectives for Jeremy," said head coach Keith Shumate. "He is a special young man on the field, but he is an even better person off it. I just can't start to describe what he has done for this program."



Photo by Charles Watkins

A&T's Jeremy Jones.

Going into Tuesday's game against N.C. State, Jones was on a 15-game hitting streak. He is batting .395 on the season with a career-high 13 home runs and a career-high 62 RBIs. His power numbers are better than they were when he won MEAC Player of the Year honors in 2005 and if he remains hot at the plate he could top his batting average from 2005. He and teammate C.J. Beatty lead the MEAC in home runs.

Jones' third home run of the game against Jackson State last Saturday gave him 300 for his career. He now joins former teammate Charlie Gamble as the only two players in the history of the program to compile 300 or more hits. He needs just five hits to pass Gamble all the school's all-time hits list.

The hot streak for Jones comes at the right time. N.C. A&T is the No. 2 seed heading into this week's MEAC Tournament. The Aggies will face fifth-seeded Norfolk State today at 2 p.m. from Marty L. Miller Stadium on the campus of Norfolk State. Last season, Jones was just 4-for-24 in the MEAC Tournament.

He is slowly reminding observers, however, that those numbers were probably a fluke.

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