



SPORTS WEEK



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MAY 5, 2016

Bowman looking to close out career in grand fashion

BY CRAIG T. GREENLEE
FOR THE CHRONICLE

Even though Jahnae Bowman's vision of attending college on a track scholarship has come to pass, she's not about to sit back and admire her handiwork as Parkland's top sprinter and long jumper.

Bowman still has some business to tend to. The Mustangs senior aims to put the icing on a stellar career with best-ever performances in the upcoming Midwest 4-A regionals next week. With a top-four finish, she will advance to the state outdoor championships on May 21.

There's a distinct tone of excitement in coach Antwan Hughes' voice when he talks about Bowman, who is one of Parkland's most

"Jahnae is still hungry, and that's great."

—Antwan Hughes, coach

versatile track athletes. "Jahnae is still hungry, and that's great," said Hughes. "Sometimes seniors get relaxed and they're not as motivated as they should be. But this young lady still has some goals, which are very reachable for her."

Bowman, who transferred from Winston-Salem Prep a year ago, is viewed as a solid favorite to medal at the state meet in two weeks. In the NCRunners state rankings for Class 4-A,

she's No. 5 at 100 meters and eighth in the 200-sprint event. In the long jump, she's not in the top 10 (her 17-foot, 5 3/4 inches leap is 17th in most recent rankings), but she's capable of cracking the top six.

This spring, the goals for Bowman in the sprints are to run 11.8 seconds in the 100 and 24.8 in the 200. There's strong evidence that she'll emerge as a viable contender at the regional meet.

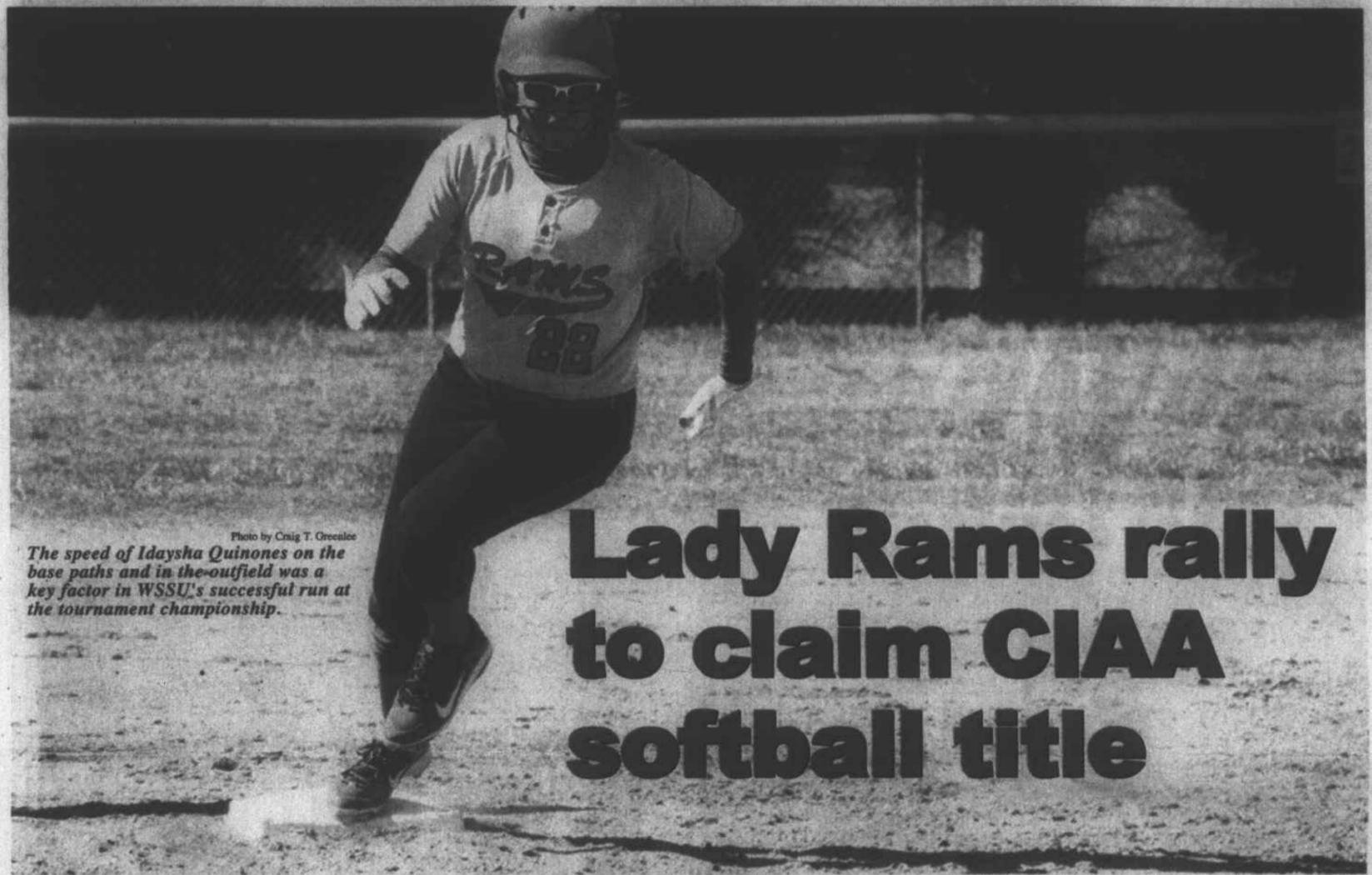
Earlier this season, Bowman clocked 12.2 (100) and 25.2 (200) in heavy rains at the prestigious Arcadia Invitational in California. At the Brent Invitational, she ran 12.36 with a headwind in her face. At the Blue Ridge Classic two weeks ago, she ran 12.15 in the 100 for a sec-



Photo by Craig T. Greenlee

Bowman

See Close out on B2



Lady Rams rally to claim CIAA softball title

Photo by Craig T. Greenlee
The speed of Idaysha Quinones on the base paths and in the outfield was a key factor in WSSU's successful run at the tournament championship.

BY CRAIG T. GREENLEE
FOR THE CHRONICLE

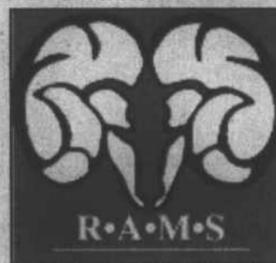
It's been an on-going process for Winston-Salem State's softball team to fully accept the notion that it can be one of the best in school in history. Coach LaTaya Hilliard-Gray has taken special care to constantly drill that message home to her troops this season.

Not only did the Lady Rams listen, but they responded in grand fashion by winning the CIAA championship last Saturday. Victory, though, did not come easy. It took a late-game rally for WSSU to pull off a 5-4 comeback win over Chowan

in the tournament final. Rebecca Demko slapped a single to left field — her first hit of the day — to bring home Katherine Zimmer with the game-winning run in the bottom of the seventh inning.

As league tournament champs, the Lady Rams earned an automatic bid to the NCAA Atlantic Regional which begins today (May 5).

Eighth-seeded WSSU will play West Virginia Wesleyan, the No. 1 seed, in an



opening-round match-up in Buckhannon, W.Va. Game time is 2:30 p.m. Like the conference tournament, the NCAA regionals are double elimination.

"With all the struggles we had during the season, it all came together for us today," said Hilliard-Gray. "The players have finally embraced the idea that it takes a total team effort to win a championship. They realize that it takes contributions from everybody, not just a few indi-

viduals. Talent-wise, this is one of the best teams that I've had during my time here [13 seasons].

"Keep in mind that this is a young team with no seniors. Now that they have won key games in pressure situations, there's no telling how much better they can be as they continue to grow and mature."

In the CIAA final, Winston-Salem State (30-21) led 3-2 after six innings. But Chowan, the pre-season pick to win the conference, bounced back to go up 4-3 in their half of the seventh. The Lady Rams, who entered the title game undefeated,

See Rams on B2

WSSU chancellor appointed to NCAA Division II Presidents Council



SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Winston-Salem State University Chancellor Elwood L. Robinson has been appointed to serve as the representative from Region 2 on the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division II Presidents Council. Dr. Robinson's appointment will begin immediately.

"I am honored to be selected to represent the CIAA and all the colleges and universities in Region 2," said Chancellor Robinson. "Our athletics program is well-respected among our peers and is a very important part of the WSSU experience. I am looking forward to helping chart the future of Division II sports and to helping the NCAA achieve its goals for Division II athletics."

The Presidents Council is Division II's highest governance office. According to the NCAA, its members are charged with setting the strategic direction of the division in all areas, including the division's financial affairs and championships administration. The Council is comprised

See WSSU on B2



WSSU photo

Chancellor Elwood Robinson on campus in spring 2016

