

Sports

ONGOING COMPETITION

Swimmers continue season into the summer

John Olson
Pilot staff

Gardner-Webb swimmer April Knowles took a total rest period of four days following the Southern States Conference Championships on February 13-15. Gardner-Webb finished second at the championships.

The Nassau, Bahamas native continued training in order to obtain a qualifying time for The Pan American Games. The games are scheduled to take place from August 11-16 in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.

"April is the first swimmer for Gardner-Webb to compete at the international level and at such a prestigious event as the Pan Am's," said head coach Mike Simpson.

Gardner-Webb's swimming program has been in existence for a short four years. The first graduating class consists of Becky Henninger, Kourtney Hamilton, Cheryl Horne, Hannah Lawrence, and



Knowles

Melissa Smith.

Knowles, a religion student, started swimming around age five and has been swimming every since. The freshman posted a qualifying mark in the 400 individual medley before spring break. In order for Knowles to reach the qualifying standard the event took place in a long course pool. A long course pool is marked in meters compared to the short course pool



Bishop

that is marked in yards.

Even though April qualified in the 400 IM she is also preparing to qualify (Pan Am's) in the 200 IM and 200 Fly.

Knowles competitors at the games include highly developed Olympic athletes. April's father, Andy is a former Olympic coach and swimmer. "I am going for the experience," said Knowles. "I have no expectations because it is a gift from God to go."

In preparation for the games April is training with her brother Jeremy Knowles at Auburn University this summer. Jeremy is a rising

senior at Auburn. The last time the two competed together occurred four years ago.

Jennifer Bishop is also continuing her swimming season beyond the normal collegiate season with her club team, The Berkeley Baracudas. Bishop's club coach is Kevin Rosepapa.

"The college team is a lot more like an actual team," said Bishop. "A club team is more individualized, where you swim for time, compared to a college team where the goal is to help the team win."

GWU SCORES AT CONFERENCE

Track posts solid results at ASun Conference

John Olson
Pilot staff

Gardner-Webb's track & field team competed at the Atlantic Sun Conference championships April 17 and April 18 in Orlando, FL on the campus of University of Central Florida.

The women's team finished second with 104 points to UCF's 124. On the men's side GWU finished fourth with 59 points. Troy State ended up with the men's team title with 261 points.

Lindsey Sutherland led the ladies squad with an individual win in the shot put. Sutherland threw a school record distance of 41-11.50.

"It was a great experience to go to conference and as a freshman to win," said Sutherland. "I am looking forward to regionals and doing better." Else Wilcox of UCF finished second with a throw of 41-07.75.

Margo Robinson gave the ladies team their second individual win after leaping 19-02.75 in the long jump.

Natilee Dawkins scored 16 points for the ladies team following a third place finish in the 100-meter hurdles, a second place finish in the triple jump, and a fifth place finish in the long jump.

Senior Soyini Thompson's time of 56.73 seconds in the 400-meter dash was good for a third place finish. Distance ace Sylvia Chelimo finished second in the 800-meter event, third in the 1500-meter run and third in the 10,000-meter race while scoring 18 team points.

Lisa Britt and Kathryn Phillips finished tenth and twelve, respectively in the 800. Finishing 11th in the 10,000 for Gardner-Webb was junior Amanda Hofacker. Abbie Crago also competed in the 10,000 for GWU.

Tamara Stephenson's second place finish time of 59.67 in the 400-meter hurdles was good for a new school record. The women's 1600-meter relay team finished fourth in 3:54.20. Tara Stephenson brought in a second place fin-

ish for Gardner-Webb after clearing 5-03.00 in the high jump. Kelly Roloff of UCF came away with the individual title after clearing 5-05.00.

Becky Walter finished second in the pole vault for Gardner-Webb. Meagan

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— Lindsey Sutherland

Miller and Amanda Olsen also had solid performances for GWU.

On the men's side, Pat Barron came away with a win after clearing 14-5.50. Barron's closest competitor, Mark Holmes of Samford cleared 13-11.75. "It's great to go down and compete against the best in the conference," said Barron. "I wanted

to go in and make noise and do well for the team."

Lamar Ingram finished third in the 100-meter dash finals after crossing the line in a personal best time of 10.96 seconds. Peter Augusta finished sixth in the 100 finals. Tommy Menya finished second in the 400-meter dash after crossing the line in 48.86 seconds.

Ingram, Barron, Menya, and Augusta finished second and set a school record time of 41.67 in the 4x100-meter relay event. Craig Norman cleared 6-09.75 in the men's high jump behind Eric Bergemann of Campbell. Norman qualified for regionals two weeks ago after clearing 6'10.25" in the high jump at home.

Leading Gardner-Webb in the men's 800-meter dash was veteran Chip Carter. Carter ran 2:02.42 along with running a personal best of 4:04.47 in the 1500-meter event.

Adam Stewart doubled in the 5,000-meter race and 10,000-meter event with

times of 16:18.62 and 33:53.02, respectively. Stewart covered the 10,000 distance with teammates Jonathan Dameron, Matthew Dameron, and Steven Olsen. Jonathan Dameron and Shawn Pendergrass also competed in the 5000 for the men's team.

Adam Gaske finished second in the 3000-meter steeplechase in 9:43.76. Mike Earle captured the win in the steeplechase for Campbell. GWU's Andrew Howard finished with a time of 11:04.29 in the steeplechase.

Two-year field athlete Gabe Donaldson finished eighth for GWU in the men's javelin after throwing a best of 142-06, one inch behind seventh place finisher Michael Heck of Troy State.

Sutherland, Robinson, and Barron qualified for NCAA regionals after capturing individual conference wins. Gardner-Webb travels to The University of Georgia this weekend for the Georgia Invitational.