

Will Alexander accept Ohio St. job?

By RICK SCOPPE
Associated Press Sports Writer

COLUMBIA, S.C. -- South Carolina State basketball coach Cy Alexander says he isn't "actively" seeking a new job, but that doesn't mean he would turn down the head coaching job at Ohio State if he was offered it.

"It's a situation I would have to think through very, very carefully," Alexander said Thursday. "I have a good situation at South Carolina State. Any institution I would consider leaving South Carolina State for would have to offer me a great deal of financial security along with upward mobility as far as the type of confer-

ence and those type of things." Alexander (a native of Winston-Salem), who recently signed a new three-year contract with S.C. State, said a six-person committee interviewed him for about 1 1/2 hours on Wednesday in Columbus, Ohio; but he wouldn't comment on specifics about the interview.

"It went very well -- according to them," Alexander said in a telephone interview from Florida, where he is vacationing with his family. "They are very committed to their athletic program, and they're committed to being a high-quality basketball program. It's a very good program."

But Alexander said the committee

didn't give him any indication when the school hoped to select a coach to replace Gary Williams, who resigned June 13 to become head coach at Maryland.

"They just said they'd get back in touch with me," he said.

Alexander is one of several candidates to replace Williams. Others being mentioned as possible replacements include former Tennessee coach and Ohio State graduate Don DeVoe, Arkansas' Nolan Richardson and Evansville's Jim Crews.

Alexander, 35, is in his third season at the Orangeburg school, which is about 40 miles south of Columbia. The Bulldogs finished 16-13 in his first season -- the school's first winning record in a decade. S.C. State was 25-8 this past season, winning the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference title and earning the school's first NCAA Tournament berth.

S.C. State lost to Duke in the first round of the NCAA Tournament.

Alexander was an assistant at Howard for 11 years before replacing Chico Caldwell and turning the program at S.C. State around. That success has led Alexander to be mentioned as a possible candidate for the coaching jobs at Maryland and Indiana State.

"I'm honored that the people around the country have taken an interest in me," he said. "It's a direct tribute to my coaching staff and to my players that we've got the respectability of institutions around the country."

Regardless of Ohio State's decision, Alexander said the publicity that's been generated can do nothing but help S.C. State.

"It's added visibility to South Carolina State College because any time my name is in the paper across the nation they're trailing it back to South Carolina State," he said.



Cy Alexander

Staff Photo

Roadrunners' Jones wins regional gold

By Chronicle Staff

Vida Jones of the Winston-Salem Roadrunners continued his winning streak in summer track by winning the 100 and 200 at the Region III TAC Championships last weekend in Raleigh.

Jones, who competes in the intermediate boys division (15-16), won the 100 in 11.20 and grabbed a gold medal in the 200 with a 22.3. He has yet to lose a race in TAC competition. Jones' performance qualifies him for the TAC Nationals which are to be held July 26-30 at Spokane, Wash.

Jones was the lone Roadrunner to qualify for the nationals.

Aside from Jones' showing, other Roadrunners team members fell on a bit of misfortune in other events. The senior girls (16-17) 4 x 100 relay team didn't qualify for the nationals because of their fourth place finish. Only the top three at

the regionals qualify for the nationals.

Injuries took their toll on that foursome as both Jerryeen Woods, who normally runs anchor, and Monte Jackson were both slowed by injuries. As a result, the Roadrunners didn't get four strong splits that they needed to crack the top three.

Jackson, who also plays basketball and volleyball, has been dealing with a nagging foot injury that flared up during track season.

In the intermediate girls 4 x 100, the Winston team was again sidelined, but not because of injuries. In the finals of that event, a dropped baton dashed any hopes they had of qualifying for Spokane.

In the midget boys division, Darren Greenlee didn't qualify for the nationals, but he did make the finals in all of his events, placing fifth in the 400 (1:02.0), eighth in

the 100 (13.5), and seventh in the 200 (27.5).

This was Greenlee's first year of organized track competition.

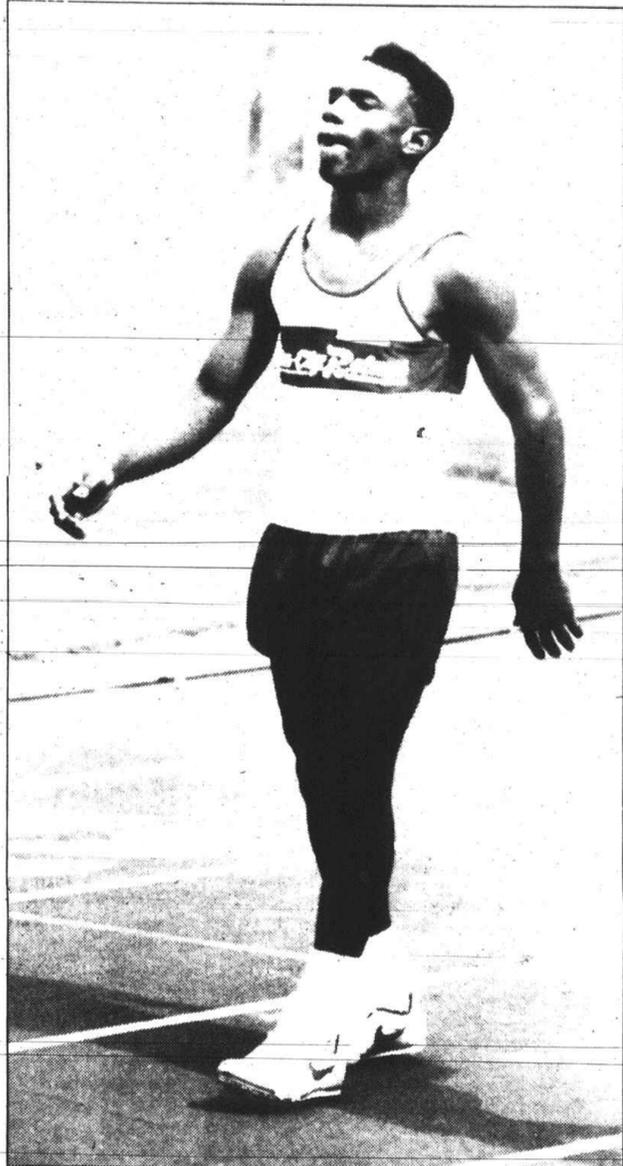


Photo by Craig T. Greenlee

Relays' sprinter Darius Brewington has excelled on the oval this summer. He has proven to be among the best in the country. He's already qualified for the TAC nationals but may not be able to go if there are no funds for transportation and lodging. The club wants to send their qualifying youngsters to the TAC nationals in Spokane, Wash., July 26 to 30 and the AAU nationals in San Antonio, Texas., Aug. 8 to 12. Area businesses are asked to show their support by helping track club members meet their travel expenses for those national meets. For more information, contact the Relays at 767-9383 or 725-7642.

TAC Track

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the 100 in 11.1 and burned the 200 in 22.31.

The quick stepping Darius rocked onlookers at the North Carolina State track when he anchored the 4 x 100 relay team. TC won in 46.95 (actually they were second, but the Waters team was disqualified for running a 15 year old athlete).

When Brewington received the baton, TC was positioned in last place. Darius was so anxious to get his hands on the stick that he didn't use the normal procedure for getting the baton in a sprint relay.

He waited on his man and stopped to grab the baton much like runners do in a mile relay. Then he put on a furious burst and erased a 15 meter lead so quickly that the crowd continued to buzz for the remainder of the meet. Brewington is joined by Aaron James, Kendrick McClain, and Greg Millner on the 4 x 100.

Kendrick McClain continues to demonstrate his value on the oval and in field events. McClain took the triple jump (39-10) and placed third in the open 400 (54.12). Greg Millner enjoyed a satisfying day by placing third in the triple jump (37-8 1/2) and the high jump (5-4).

Another solid individual performance was turned in by Sonny Weaks in the young men's division

(17-18). Weaks blazed a 10.59 in the 100 to tie the Region III record in the semi-finals. However, he finished second in the finals at 10.92.

Weaks was the catalyst for the 4 x 100 relay as the lead runner. Weaks, along with Julius Reese, Spencer Brown, and Curtis Johnson put a big damper on the highly favored East Coast Classic squad out of Raleigh, winning in a blistering 41.42.

Weaks made up the stagger on the field before he ended his leg. Reese extended the lead, Brown held his ground, and Johnson blasted the final 100 to put the issue to rest. Dave Adair made the final three in the 200, ending up as No. 3 with a 21.82.

Stephon Torrence reigned as the king of the pits by capturing the long jump title at 23-10. Torrence continues to work out his problems on his approach. According to reports, he should easily surpass 24 feet once he becomes consistent at hitting the board properly.

In the intermediate division (14-15), Derrick Spears placed third in the 100, clocking 11.3. TC's 4 x 100 team for this age group earned a trip to the nationals with a second place finish. Spears, Maurice Brown, Pablo Smith and Tralane Wilson combined to turn in a time of 43.12.



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