

Division II track nationals

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Barnes' pace at 50.75 for third place.

St. Aug's captured another first in the high jump as Darrin Moore prevailed with a 7-1 3/4 effort. Morehouse's Kenneth Brown was second at 7-0 1/2.

The long jump saw the Falcons swoop in to place four people among the top eight. Carpenter was second (25-4 3/4); Xavier Donaldson, fourth (24-11 3/4); Mark Mason, fifth (24-9) and Tracey Johnson, eighth (23-8 1/4).

In the triple jump, Donaldson was second (52-1). Hampton's Thomas Brown placed third (50-4 3/4), while Morehouse's Richard Williams (49-3 3/4) and Tim Abram (48-6 3/4) finished sixth and seventh respectively. Lincoln University's Andre Townsend placed eighth (48-6 3/4).

The Falcons got another boost in the throwing events, events which black colleges usually don't finish among the final eight. Michael Jennings garnered points with a sixth place finish in the shot put (53-2 1/4).

But while St. Aug's had made its statement in the team standings, Brokenburr figured had something to prove after coming up empty in the individual sprints. As it turned out, the relays would be his opportunity to get a measure of revenge.

In 4 x 100, Brokenburr, Johnson, Carpenter and Trevor Williams put a smooth race together, winning in 40.04, to stave off an Abeline Christian team that clocked 40.21. Morehouse was third (40.24), Hampton placed sixth (40.75) and Lincoln finished seventh (40.91).

The 4 x 400 was a masterpiece with the Falcons proving superior. Brokenburr, Williams, Morrison and Donovan Callum streaked to victory in 3:04.44, besting New York Tech's foursome that turned in a time of 3:04.50.

Hampton came in with a strong third place effort (3:08.12) and Virginia State finished fourth (3:09.02).

WOMEN'S EVENTS

In the women's competition, Norfolk State was the major story in terms of black colleges. However, Alabama A&M (56 points -- fourth place) and St. Aug's (44 points -- sixth place) also fared well.

The Lady Spartans reigned supreme in both relays. In the 4 x 100, NSU (Cynthia Royster, Judith Lawrence, Bertha Knox, and Charlene Robb) won fairly easily in 45.20. St. Aug's was second (45.60) and Hampton was third (45.91).

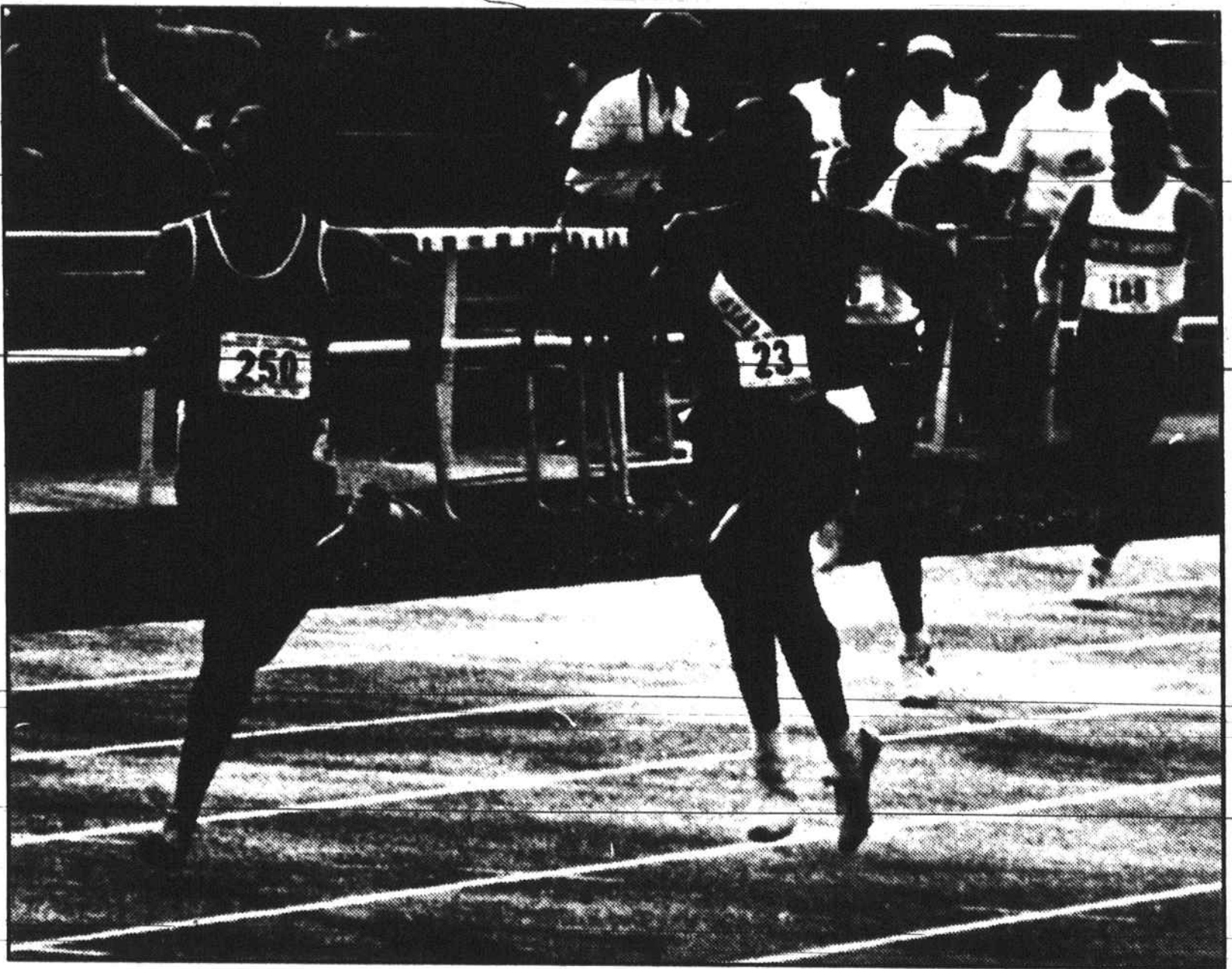
In the 4 x 400, Joesetta Royal teamed with Lawrence, Knox and Royster to win by a comfortable margin over Abeline Christian in 3:40.93. Alabama A&M, last year's champ, placed fifth (3:46.79).

Aside from the relays, black college women fared well in the sprinting events. The 100 saw NSU's Royster finish second (11.86), with A&M's Carolyn Nwajei placing third in 11.88. Hampton's Kima Edwards was fifth in 11.99 and Tameka Hutchins of Alabama A&M placed sixth (12.05).

The same scene unfolded in the 200 as Royster was again second (23.83), followed by Lawrence (23.97) and Nwajei (24.02) in third and fourth place. Others in the top eight were: L'Tanja Hall of St. Aug's (sixth place -- 24.35) and Charmaine Welsh of Alabama A&M (seventh place -- 25.02).

The 400, however, was Lawrence's show. She blitzed to victory in 54.04, besting teammate Royal (54.20), who was second. Welsh was third at 54.42.

Lawrence wasn't the only national champion in the women's division. Cynthia Badgett of St. Aug's won the long jump for the second straight year (20-6 1/4), winning a tight contest vs. Hutchins of A&M (20-4 1/2). Irish Holmes of St. Aug's finished fourth at 19-11 and teammate



Hall was seventh (18-8 3/4). Norfolk's Angela Williams was eighth (18-5 1/2).

Holmes, by the way, recorded the highest finish for black colleges in the triple jump. Her 41-0 1/2 effort was good enough for third place. Virginia State's Chelsea Wicks ended up in the No. 5 position at 40-4, and NSU's Williams was seventh at 39-7 1/4.

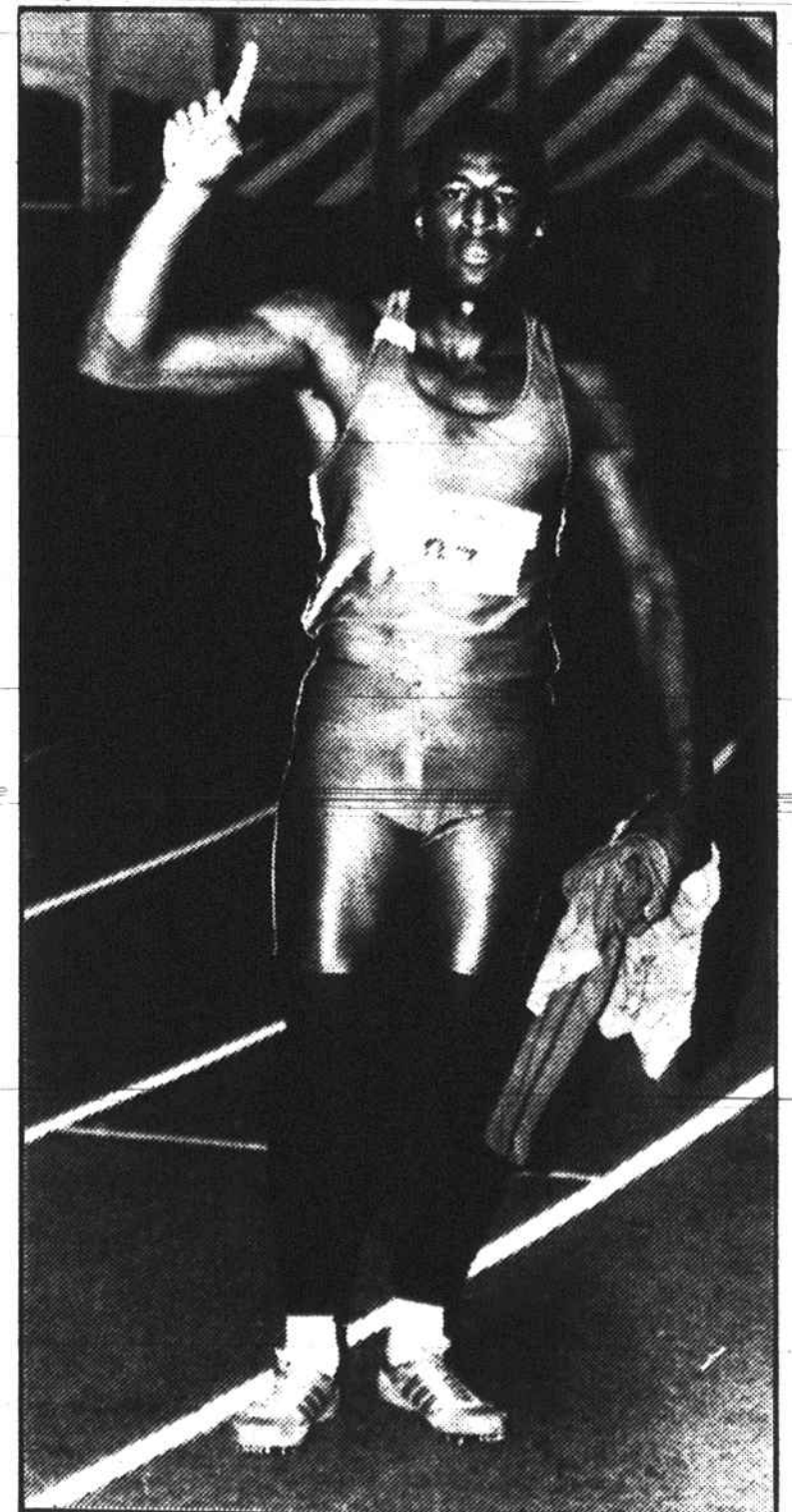
The 100-meter hurdles produced some top performances from black college women. A&M's Taiwo Aladefa was second with a clocking of 13.77 and Melleasenah Williams of Hampton was third (13.91). Rechina Johnson of St. Aug's placed sixth (14.25).

Other top finishes in the track events came in the 800 where Alabama A&M's Gloria Morgan placed third for the second straight year (2:07.12). Gladys Milton placed third in the 400 intermediate hurdles for St. Augustine's with a time of 1:00.16.

Aside from the intermediate hurdles, Milton had a busy schedule at the nationals. She finished eighth in the heptathlon with 4,680 points.

In the throwing events, Esther Ikomi of Alabama A&M pushed eventual victor Leather Green (Ashland College) to the brink in the shot put. Ikomi was second (48-10 1/4). Green's winning effort was 49-2 1/4. NSU's Denise Taylor was sixth in the discus (138-4).

-Walton Dunn



Photos by Usher Moses
At the top of the page, Norfolk State's Joesetta Royal (250) and Alabama A&M's Charmaine Welsh (23) battle down to the wire in the women's 400. At right, Hampton's Terrence Warren signals that he is indeed No. 1 after winning the men's 200 final.