

Track and field teams place top-5 at regionals

By Matt Smith
Sports Editor

Karlos Jordan led the Black and Gold men's track and field team to a fourth place finish April 24 at the NCAA Division II Southeast Regional Championships in Hickory, N.C., taking home first place finishes in the 100-meter and 200-meter dash to lead the Braves.

The men's team joined the women's team in the top-5, as the Lady Braves earned a third place finish at the event behind an impressive effort from junior Jessica McDowell.

Overall, the men's team recorded 25 individual top-10 finishes, with Jordan leading the pack in the short distance events. The Braves had 10 personal best efforts, showing well in both sets of events.

On day one of the competition, the Black and Gold men's team posted six top-10 finishes, with senior Daniel Lynn pacing UNCP with a first place finish in the hammer throw with a toss of 46.18 meters. Teammates Jonathan Wing and Pat

Bowles also picked up top-10 finishes in the event, finishing fifth and six, respectively.

Lynn also had a season best throw of 42.85 meters in the javelin throw for a fifth place finish.

Daniel Yeakley posted a fourth place finish with a time of 34:00.32 in the 10,000 meter run and freshman Darel Crook posted a jump of 1.9 meters in the high jump to finish in fifth to round out the first day's action.

In the second day of competition, the men's team continued their dominant run, posting 19 more top-10 finishes.

Davis takes first

Jordan was joined in the top-5 in the 100 meter dash by teammate Tyrie Webb with a time of 11.37 for fourth place overall. Webb also placed ninth in the 200 meter dash with a time of 22.81 and freshman Devan Cureton used a time of 22.89 to finish 10th in the event.

UNCP also showed well in the 800 meter run, having three competitors take home top-5 finishes. Jon Williams, Darius Brantley and Cedric

Wilson placed second, third and fourth, respectively, with times of 1:58.67, 1:59.52 and 1:59.95.

Sophomore A.J. Davis Jr., used a personal-best throw of 41.77 meters to take home first in the discus toss.

Women place top-3

The Black and Gold women's track team also had an impressive showing at the event, posting 23 top-10 finishes at the event.

McDowell and sophomore Kye Tennyson led the Black and Gold individually, with Tennyson placing first in two events and McDowell earning top honors in four competitions.

McDowell used a personal-best time of 12.54 to take home top honors in the 100 meter dash, while also placing first in the 200 meter dash and the 100 meter hurdles. McDowell rounded out the day with a first place finish in the long jump with a leap of 5.46 meters.

Tennyson led the Lady Braves with a personal-best time of 57.29 meters in the 400 meter dash and placed first in the high

jump.

Junior Nicole Hill placed fifth in the hammer throw with a toss of 31.22 meters, and the Lady Braves had three competitors place in the top-10 in the discus throw. Hill finished fourth overall in the event with a throw of 31.02 meters. Teammates Katherine Davis and Diricka Mitchell also placed in the top-10 for the Black and Gold, with a first place and sixth place finish, respectively.

Relay wins

The women's team had two top-5 finishers in the shot put, with Davis and Mitchell taking first and third, respectively, with throws of 11.47 meters and 10.72 meters.

On the track, the UNCP 4x400 meter relay team took home first place with a season-best 4:07.44 and junior Bonnie MacDonald used a time of 20:26.55 in the 5000 meter run to take home top honors.

Both the men's and women's teams will next be in action May 1, as the UNCP teams travel to Wallace Wade Stadium in Durham, N.C., to take part in the Duke Twilight.



UNCP freshman Cedric Wilson competes in the 800 meter. Wilson placed fourth in the event.



Jamila Guy runs through her competition in the 400 meter dash. Guy finished ninth overall in the event.

UNCP places high in Charlotte

By Nick Phillips
Asst. Sports Editor

UNCP junior Maurice Eubanks set a new personal best time at the UNC-Charlotte Invitational on April 17 to lead the men's team, while sophomore Kye Tennyson led the women's team with her first place finish in the high jump.

Eubanks 100-meter dash time of 10.51 gave him third place at the event, while it also improved his NCAA provisional qualifying time. As a team, the UNCP men

took home 15 top-10 finishes.

The men's Darel Crook was the highest finisher on the day for the Black and Gold, as the freshman tied for first in the high jump with a 1.95-meter clearance.

Junior Pat Bowles finished in sixth place in the shot put and 10th in the discus, with throws of 13.23-meters in the shot put and 36.67-meters in the discus. Bowles tallied new personal bests with both of those distances.

The men's 4X100-meter team consisting of

Brandon Eaddy, Karlos Jordan, Tyrie Webb, and Eubanks finished with a tie of 41.02 seconds to earn third place. UNCP sent two groups out for the 4X400-meter race, with the 'A' team of Devan Cureton, Jon Williams, Eubanks and Webb finishing fourth. The 'B' team of Greg Byrd, Darius Brantley, Cedric Wilson and Maurice Dula finished right behind in fifth, just over a second later.

Tennyson cleared 1.65-meters to take the top spot in the high jump

as part of 16 top-10 finishes for the Lady Braves.

The women's 4X100-meter team of Chantalle Williams, Tennyson, Montreal Barnette and Jessica McDowell also took home top honors with a time of 49.74 to give them their second fastest time of the season.

Junior Katherine Davis also broke personal bests on the day. Her 11.65-meter distance in the shot put gave her fourth place, while a 40.08-meter toss in the discus gave her a third place finish.

Tennis comes from near and far

Continued from 1B

Winterbottom was quick to say that DiNunzio and Quintero Prieto are her "two closest friends here" and that they all "get along really well, it's the three foreigners that do things a bit differently."

Northern neighbor

DiNunzio hails from Toronto, Ontario, Canada, but is a frequent visitor of Florida and has also been to Georgia, New York, South Carolina and Virginia.

DiNunzio said that it was an honor to be recruited by UNCP, knowing that she was "about to start my new future studying at a great school, but also thrilled knowing how privileged I was to have this opportunity."

The Taddlecreek Academy graduate was redshirted this year but gained valuable practice time while adjusting to college.

She was nervous about being away from home, family and friends, but also was excited to be on her own and having to take responsibilities on

that she never thought about before.

DiNunzio echoed Winterbottom's opinion of the trio's friendship.

"We all get along great. It's hard to find a relationship with someone that you spend from morning to night with and not get sick of them, but with these girls it's very unique. We are all very close," she said.

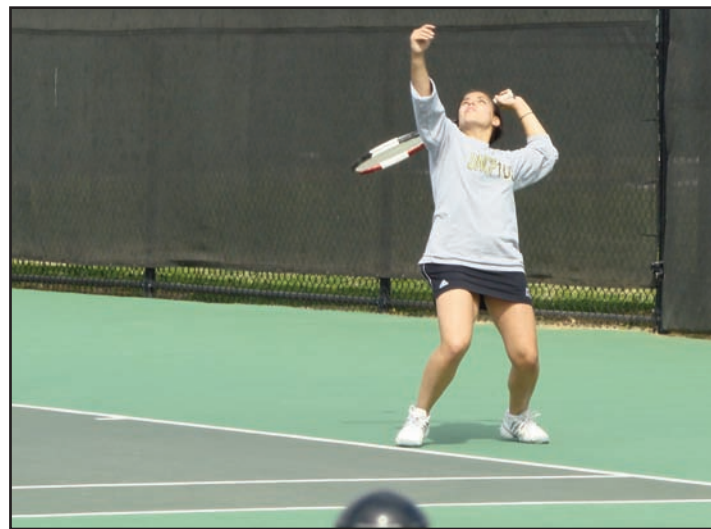
DiNunzio added that "although we were all raised in different environments, with different cultures and morals, we are very similar. We all share similar personalities with a great sense of humor," she said.

The town of Pembroke and the local community was different for DiNunzio, calling it a 'culture shock.'

"I never really pictured myself living outside of the city but I needed a change. When I came here as a recruit I knew Pembroke was the right choice for me."

Another agreement was that a major difference in America is that there are tons of fried food options.

"I've never seen so many things fried, and the



Mia Winterbottom tosses up a serve.

Photo by Matt Smith

size of everything. Back home, you could only get fried chicken at KFC. Here, they fry everything from pickles to mushrooms," Winterbottom said.

DiNunzio added that "Canadian and American culture is quite similar," but that she had to get used to all the fried food. While their accents remain intact, the three are becoming 'Americanized' every day they are on campus.

Winterbottom's Australian lingo peeks through when she said that she's "gained heaps of friends," adding that "everyone is really nice and welcoming here."

Tennis teammates and

other students are all friends that DiNunzio has gained, saying that her "teammates are like sisters" and that she has also "made friendships with many people outside the tennis team" who she is close with.

If you are walking around campus one day, chances are you will run into DiNunzio, Quintero Prieto and Winterbottom somewhere.

Take time to talk and get to know them. You will gain new friends while learning about their culture. More importantly, they will be exposed to another aspect of American culture in their journey as international students here at UNCP.

Tennis finishes the season with 9-0 rout of Chowan

By Jared Leblanc
Asst. Sports Editor

The Black and Gold tennis team came out motivated for the last match of the season April 4, in Murfreesboro and the Braves dominated Chowan 9-0.

The win moves the Braves record to 11-14 on the season and it was their second win in a row. The loss moves Chowan's record 9-12 overall and their fourth loss in their last five games. This was also the first time the two teams have met in women's tennis.

Dominant doubles

The Black and Gold dominated competition from the first set. In doubles play Jenna McGary and Janna Oxendine picked up the 8-0 win in No. 1 doubles, while Maricel Quintero-Prieto and Christian Minnick also won 8-0 in No. 3 doubles. The closest match of the day was in No. 2 doubles where

Meredith Pierson and Mia Winterbottom were able to pick up the 8-3 win.

In singles play much of the same domination occurred. McGary, Oxendine, Quintero-Prieto, Minnick and Winterbottom each picked up their wins in overwhelming fashion (6-0, 6-0). Pierson also came up with a win (6-0, 6-1) over Jennifer Mitchell.

With another win in singles competition Janna Oxendine made it 16 wins in singles play this season and she inched closer to UNCP's single season record for singles victories.

The Braves ended the regular season on a two game win streak, with a win against regional rival Fayetteville State in their previous game.

UNCP ended the year with five players posting double digit wins in single action with Oxendine leading the way. Quintero-Prieto was second on the team with 11 wins.