

Poindexter, Thornton, Webb pace Bobcats at Mountaineer Open

Written by Whitney Noble
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Sophomore Meagan Thornton (Millville, N.J.) won the 55-meter hurdles and finished second in the 400-meter dash, while Iesha Poindexter (Jetterville, Va.) won the 200-meter dash to lead the Lees-McRae College women's track and field team

to a strong performance at Appalachian State University's Mountaineer Open on Saturday. Jamara Cook (Claremont, N.C.) and Genay Miller (Woodstock, Ga.) kicked off the weekend for the Bobcats with the weight throw on Friday, finishing sixth and seventh, respectively, with marks of 11.83 and 11.79 meters.

Kortnie Curry (Lexington, N.C.) continued her strong season with a fifth-place finish in the high jump, posting a mark of 1.55 meters, as Auburn Lowe (Swain County, N.C.) placed fifth in the long jump with a leap of 4.11 meters. Taryn Moorhead (Deer Park, Wash.) turned in a seventh-place performance in the pole vault with a mark of 2.56 meters, as Rachelle Cleveland (Moyock, N.C.) and Kayla Frazier (Chesterfield, S.C.) placed sixth and eighth, respectively in the shot put.

Thornton followed with a win in the 55-meter hurdles, crossing the line first with a time of 8.94 seconds as Miesha Thompson (Orlando, Fla.) finished third with a mark of 10.16 seconds. Poindexter won the 200-meter dash with a time of 27.68 seconds, while Thornton capped her day with a second-place finish in the 400-meter dash, crossing the line with a mark of 1:03.28. Junior Evan Webb (Salisbury, N.C.) set a school record and move to third in the national standings in the pole vault on Saturday afternoon, becoming the first student-athlete in program history to clear the five-meter mark while leading the Lees-McRae College men's track and field team to a strong performance at Appalachian State University's Mountaineer Open.

Devan Mackey (Hickory, N.C.) kicked off the weekend on Friday with a personal-best in the weight throw, finishing seventh with a mark of 12.58 meters, as Eric Cloy (Ball Ground, Ga.) placed third in the triple jump at 12.71 meters. Cloy followed with a sixth-place performance in the long jump, posting a mark of 6.27 meters as Travis Burton (Newberry, S.C.) finished fifth in the high jump with a leap of 1.88 meters.

Webb turned in the performance of the weekend in the pole vault, tying the top national qualifying mark with a vault of 5.00 meters to win the competition and set a new program record. The junior nearly became the first vaulter in the nation to clear the automatic qualifying mark of 5.11 meters, coming up just short.

Bobcats assistant coach came in second vaulting unattached, posting a mark of 4.76 meters as junior Kevin Dever (Leesburg, N.J.) placed third with a vault of 4.61 meters. Dwight Gilzeen (Charlotte, N.C.) finished seventh in the shot put with a mark of 12.65 meters, as Dever tied the program record in the 55-meter dash with a time of 6.65 seconds en route to a seventh-place finish.

Brandon Williams (Raleigh, N.C.) turned in a personal best with a third-place finish in the 55-meter hurdles, posting a time of 7.94 seconds, as Burton won the 300-meter dash with a personal-best mark of 36.63 seconds. Michael Davis (Independence, Va.) finished third in the mile run with a strong time of 4:38.64, while Ian Harned (Pine Level, N.C.) placed eighth in the 400-meter run with a mark of 52.88 seconds.

Lees-McRae returns to action on Friday, February 1 when the Bobcats travel to Winston-Salem,

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N.C. to participate in the JDL Invitational.

Photo Courtesy: Megan Thornton, LMC Athletics