

Lees-McRae To Host Conference Carolinas Championships This Weekend

Written by Staff Reports
Tuesday, 17 April 2012 06:50

Lees-McRae College is set to host the Conference Carolinas men's and women's track and field championships for the fourth consecutive year on Friday and Saturday, and this weekend's event promises to be perhaps

the most competitive meet in league history. Lees-McRae, which has hosted the meet in each year of its existence, has put together a sensational outdoor season, with a pair of athletes provisionally qualifying for the national championships in May and six student-athletes establishing new program records.

Sophomores Nazaire Saintine (Douglasville, Ga.) and Kortnie Curry (Lexington, N.C.) have each posted provisionally qualifying marks in the high jump, as Saintine set a school record with a qualifying mark of 2.06 meters this past weekend at the Appalachian State Invitational, and Curry established a new program mark with a qualifying jump of 1.69 meters at the same meet. Rookie Meagan Thornton (Millville, N.C.) is primed to make a run at the Conference Carolinas Freshman of the Year honors, establishing a pair of school records in the 400-meter dash (59.74 seconds) and the 400-meter hurdles (1:03.32). Thornton is within striking distance of a provisionally qualifying mark in both events, needing to shave roughly one second off of her time in the 400-meter hurdles.

The conference as a whole features several nationally qualifying athletes, including a pair of provisional qualifiers in both the men's and women's high jumps. North Greenville University's Jared Watkins sits atop the conference rankings in the men's high jump with a provisional qualifying mark of 2.08 meters, as Saintine ranks second at 2.06 meters. Curry leads the pack on the women's side (1.69 meters), followed closely by King College's Shelbie Burchfield (1.68 meters).

Queen University of Charlotte's Klmone Hewitt owns a provisionally qualifying mark of 2:10.40 in the women's 800-meter run, as the Royals' Felix Duchampt has provisionally qualified in the men's 5,000-meter run with a time of 14:19.06. Emilia Skolubowicz of Queens has provisionally qualified for nationals in the 3,000-meter steeplechase with a time of 11:04.21, while Limestone College's Scott DiCrescenzo owns a provisionally qualifying mark of 59.29 meters in the javelin. Competition at the 2012 Conference Carolinas Track and Field Championships is slated to begin on Friday at 3 p.m. at the Arthur, Laurensen and Sanders Track and Field Complex with the high jump and javelin events. For more information, including general information and the meet schedule, please visit Lees-McRae's official athletic website at lmc bobcats.com, and click on the track and field link on the left-hand side of the page.