

Webb Tops Nation In Pole Vault, Qualifies For Nationals

Written by Whitney Noble

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Junior Evan Webb (Salisbury, N.C.) posted an NCAA provisionally qualifying mark of 4.90 meters to win the pole vault competition and pace the Lees-McRae College men's track and field team

the Appalachian State University Invitational on Saturday afternoon in the Holmes Convocation Center.

Webb won the pole vault by three tenths of a meter, easily eclipsing the provisionally qualifying mark for nationals of 4.63 meters with a vault of 4.90 meters, which currently ranks first in the nation. Malcolm Peeler (Shelby, N.C.) turned in a fine weekend of his own in the triple jump and the long jump, finishing seventh in the triple jump and 12th in the long jump with marks of 13.33 and 6.49 meters, respectively.

Eric Cloy (Ball Ground, Ga.) put together a pair of strong performances in the triple jump and long jump as well, placing 10th in the long jump and 11th in the triple jump with marks of 6.54 and 12.66 meters, respectively. Justin Floyd (Newton, N.C.) also placed 20th in the long jump with a mark of 5.86 meters.

Devante Scott (Hopkins, S.C.) placed 12th in the triple jump with a leap of 12.42 meters, as Dwight Gilzeen (Charlotte, N.C.) finished 19th in the shot put with a toss of 12.47 meters and Devan Mackey (Hickory, N.C.) placed 20th in the weight throw with a mark of 12.39 meters. Corbin Pickett (Arden, N.C.) placed 23rd in the shot put with a mark of 11.32 meters.

Freshman Matthew MacPhail (Spartanburg, S.C.) shined in his debut, finishing fifth in the one-mile run with a time of 5:02.55 as Jordan Meyer (Inman, S.C.) placed 12th with a mark of 5:27.42. Richard Lane (Concord, N.C.) finished ninth in the 55-meter hurdles with a mark of 8.22 seconds, as Razhede Highsmith (Gastonia, N.C.) placed 10th in the 55-meter dash and 19th in the 200-meter dash, posting times of 6.70 and 23.91 seconds respectively.

Jarrett Gibson (Marietta, Ga.) placed 12th in the 200-meter dash and 14th in the 55-meter dash, posting times of 6.72 and 23.56 seconds, respectively, as Kevin Dever (Leesburg, N.J.) finished 18th in the 55-meter dash with a mark of 6.76 ticks. Travis Burton (Newberry, S.C.) finished 12th in the 400-meter and 13th in the 200-meter dashes, posting times of 52.07 and 23.57 seconds, respectively, while Tyler Dunn (Jasper, Ga.) placed fifth in the 3,000-meter run with a mark of 9:09.52.

Josh Soto (Aiken, S.C.) finished 15th in the 200-meter dash with a time of 23.64 seconds, as Gabriel Tobias (Lenoir, N.C.) placed ninth in the 800-meter run with a mark of 2:07.14 and Ian Harned (Pine Level, N.C.) finished 15th in the 400-meter dash with a time of 52.72 seconds. The quartet of Burton, Lane, Gibson and Harned posted a sixth-place performance in the 4x400-meter relay with a time of 3:36.54, while MacPhail, Tobias, Highsmith, and Soto placed 12th in the 4x400 with a mark of 3:47.60.

Lees-McRae returns to action on January 18, 2013 when the Bobcats travel to Boone, N.C. for Appalachian State's Mountaineer Open at the Holmes Convocation Center.

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Photo Courtesy: Evan Webb, LMC Athletics