

Webb named Southeast Region Field Athlete of Year

Written by Whitney Noble
Saturday, 02 March 2013 21:15

Lees-McRae College junior Evan Webb (Salisbury, N.C.) has been named the United States Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association Southeast Region Indoor Field Athlete of the Year for the first time in his career, announced

USTFCCCA officials earlier this week. Webb put together an outstanding season for the Bobcats, becoming just the third indoor national qualifier in program history and the eighth overall qualifier since the school began competing in track and field. The junior standout also earned all-region honors from the USTFCCCA earlier in the week, marking the third straight year he has been named to the all-region team.

A native of Salisbury, N.C., Webb has enjoyed a tremendous junior season this winter, surpassing the provisionally qualifying mark in the first meet of the campaign when he finished at 4.90 meters to win Appalachian State University's Indoor Invitational. Webb steadily improved over the course of the season, topping out at a school-record height of 5.05 meters this past weekend at the George Mason University Last Chance Meet.

With his final qualifying height, Webb goes into the national championship meet ranked ninth out of 17 vaulters selected to compete for the 2013 title. Webb is one of 10 athletes in the nation to clear five meters this season.

Webb is the eighth national qualifier in program history – both indoor and outdoor – and the second in the pole vault. Former Bobcat star Jonathan Arthur qualified for outdoor nationals in both 2009 and 2010 in the pole vault, finishing eighth in his second try to earn the program's second NCAA Division II All-American honors.

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The Lees-McRae College men's track and field team placed four athletes on the United States Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association all-Southeast Region team, announced USTFCCCA officials earlier this week.

Seniors Kevin Dever (Leesburg, N.J.) and Brandon Williams (Raleigh, N.C.), and juniors Devan Mackey (Hickory, N.C.) and Evan Webb (Salisbury, N.C.) each earned all-region honors for the Bobcats, as Dever, Williams and Webb garnered region recognition for the third straight season. Dever put together a career indoor season in the Green and Gold this winter, posting personal bests in three events, including a mark of 4.61 meters in the pole vault at Appalachian State University's Mountaineer Open on January 18. The senior also recorded a personal best of 7.17 seconds in the 60-meter dash at the Hilton Garden Invitational, while tying the school record of 6.65 seconds in the 55-meter dash at the Mountaineer Open.

Williams posted a trio of personal bests this season, including a mark of 7.25 seconds in the 60-meter dash at the Hilton Garden Invitational and a time of 8.58 seconds en route to a fourth-place finish in the 60-meter hurdles at the Conference Carolinas Championships. The Raleigh, N.C. native opened the season with a mark of 7.94 seconds in the 55-meter hurdles at the Mountaineer Open.

Mackey enjoyed a career season this winter, besting his top personal performance in the weight throw by more than a meter. The junior thrower won the Conference Carolinas Championship for the second time in his career on February 16, posting a mark of 14.11 meters to nearly establish a new school record. Mackey also placed fourth in the shot put with a throw of 12.42

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The Lees-McRae College women's track and field team placed four athletes on the United States Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association all-Southeast Region Indoor team, announced USTFCCCA officials earlier this week.

Juniors Kortnie Curry (Lexington, N.C.), Persephanie Mcrae (Brooklyn, N.Y.), and Taryn Moorhead (Deer Park, Wash.), and sophomores Sarah Monday (Lexington, N.C.) and Meagan Thornton (Millville, N.J.) each earned a spot on the all-region team, as Curry, Mcrae and Moorhead all garnered region honors for the third straight year.

Curry enjoyed one of the best seasons in program history this winter, surpassing the national provisionally qualifying mark in the opening meet of the campaign with a jump of 1.67 meters in the high jump. The junior capped the season with a win at the inaugural Conference Carolinas Championships with a mark of 1.65 meters.

Mcrae put together a strong campaign in the high jump, finishing third at the conference championships with a personal best of 1.60 meters.

Moorhead finished the season strong, winning the conference championship in the pole vault with a mark of 2.45 meters, after jumping 2.56 meters at Appalachian State University's Mountaineer Open on January 18. The Deer Park, Wash. native also ran the 55-meter dash for the Bobcats, finishing 13th at the Mountaineer Open with a time of 8.21 seconds.

Monday capped her campaign in style, placing second in the pole vault at the conference championships with a mark of 2.30 meters. The sophomore posted her best performance of the season at the Hilton Garden Invitational, vaulting 2.60 meters.

Thornton enjoyed a strong sophomore season with the Bobcats, finishing second in both the 60-meter hurdles and the 400-meter dash at the conference championships. The dual-sport star posted her best performance of the campaign at the Mountaineer Open, placing first in the 55-meter hurdles with a time of 8.94 seconds while finishing second in the 400-meter dash.

Lees-McRae is set to open the outdoor season on Friday, March 15 when the Bobcats travel to Winston-Salem, N.C. to take part in the Wake Forest Invitational.

Photo Courtesy: Evan Webb, LMC Athletics