

Clark track and field athletes finish strong at NWAACC

Cadogan, Mercer win individual events at meet

College notebook

By TIM PYLE

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In their last hurrah as Clark College athletes, La-keesha Cadogan and Breanna Mercer won events at the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges track and field championships Monday and Tuesday in Spokane.

Cadogan, a sophomore who will compete for the Eastern Washington program next year, earned her second consecutive NWAACC title in the long jump. She soared 18 feet, 4½ inches, which ranks fourth on the Penguins' all-time list.

Mercer, a sophomore who is headed to Western Oregon, was fastest in the 5,000 meters with a time of 19 minutes, 56.70 seconds.

Cadogan also placed second in the triple jump (36-11), and Mercer was second in the 10,000 (43:34.00), leading the Clark women to a fourth-place team finish.

The Penguin men finished fourth of eight teams as well, fueled by the efforts of freshmen Jon Brown, a Skyview graduate, and Kyle Ulrey, a Fort Vancouver alumnus.

Brown placed in four individual events and ran legs for two placing relay teams. He took sixth in both the 100 (11.16) and 200 (22.40), was seventh in the long jump (21-8¾) and eighth in the pole vault (20-4¼).

Ulrey placed twice as an individual and also was part of the Clark relays. He was second in the 400 (48.56, fifth all-time at Clark), and he sprinted to eighth in the 200 (22.77).

Clark's relays also included sophomore James Hardy and freshman Mike Rush, a Skyview graduate.

In the 1,600, the Penguin men's foursome clocked a 3:16.44 to take second place and record the third-fastest time in program history. In the 400, they were fourth to the finish line (42.73).

"That's the second straight year we've placed four in the men's 400," Clark coach Dave Caldwell said. "We're really starting to define ourselves as a good sprint college, I think."

Other Penguins highlights included: Prairie graduate Todd Anderson, a sophomore, earning fourth in the men's javelin with a throw of 189-6, seventh all-time at Clark; and the 1,600 women's relay team of Lindsey Buttrey, Kristi Skreen, Charlonda Fielder and Cece Nixon grabbing third place in 4:13.19.

In addition to Cadogan and Mercer, Hardy (Eastern Washington), Buttrey (Eastern Washington) and Skreen (Western Washington) will continue their track careers at a higher level.