Okafor Runs Provisional Time in 400 at Middle Tennessee Classic

January 31, 2004 · MT Media Relations

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. - Middle Tennessee junior Rosemary Okafor ran an NCAA provisional qualifying time in the 400-meters to win the event, leading the track squads at the Middle Tennessee Classic Saturday at Murphy Center. The event was the second in two weeks at home for the Middle Tennessee track team and the second of four this indoor season. Okafor's NCAA provisional time of 54.29 in the 400-meters was the top time in the event and her first race in the event this season. Freshman Tiffany Owens placed fifth in the event in 58.55, while sophomore Kerry Barrow was eighth. In the 200, freshman Nicole Marcus was the top collegian and second overall with a time of 24.88, followed by junior Kishara George in third (25.27), Barrow in fifth (25.58) and freshman Contrena Brown in sixth (25.95). George placed second in the 55 in 7.25, her first try at the event in her career. Freshman Karina Francis was sixth in the event in 7.50. The Lady Raiders placed 1-3-5 in the 55 hurdles, with newcomer Jessica Anderson winning in 8.35. Sophomore Candice Robertson was third in 8.35 and senior Jerkita McClorin finished fifth in 8.69. The women's 4x400 relay also finished third in a time of 4:09.12. In the field events, McClorin was second in the high jump with a mark of 5-0, with freshman Jennifer Thomas following in third (4-10). Junior KeKe Deckard won the long jump with a season-best 19-1.25. Senior Letitia Eady was fifth (18-2.5) and McClorin placed eighth (17-1). In the triple jump Eady was first with a season-best 40-0, the top mark in the Sun Belt thus far this season. Deckard placed second with a mark of 37-7. Newcomer Laetitia Florimond won the shot put with a mark of 44-8, with Meaghan Byrd placing third (41-4) and Kelly Enoch fifth (39-0). Senior Katie Mirgliotta was second in the weight throw with a mark of 45-3, with Byrd fourth in the event (42-7.5). For the Blue Raiders, Xavier Darden was the top collegian in the 55 with a time of 6.30, finishing behind former Blue Raider Christian Nsiah (6.25). Junior Wesley Dupar-Scott was fourth (6.43) and sophomore Pedro Holiday finished fifth (6.46). Holiday was the top collegian in the 200, finishing fifth in 21.63. Nsiah won the 200 as well in 21.05, with former Blue Raiders Godfrey Herring (3rd, 21.53) and DJ Spann (4th, 21.61) ahead of Holiday. Darden placed

sixth in the 200 in 21.70, with junior Victor Okorie seventh (21.76). Former Blue Raiders Brad Orr and Omar Ali were eighth and ninth, respectively, in the event. Herring was the 400-meter winner in 47.50, with Okorie right behind in 48.18. Orr finished sixth and senior Tim Hicks placed seventh in 49.83. Freshman Tony Carufe finished seventh in the 800 in 1:59.39, while freshman David Hughes was fourth in the 3000 in 9:11.52. In the 55-meter hurdles, sophomore Linnie Yarbrough edged senior Garland Martin for first, with Yarbrough winning in 7.41 and Martin just one one-hundredth of a second behind. The Blue Raider 4x400 relay of Martin, Carlos Gonzales, Carufe and Yarbrough placed third in 3:25.78. In the field events, freshman Bryan Anderson cleared 6-0 in the high jump to place second, while sophomore JJ Sturm was also second in the long jump with a mark of 23-10. Sophomore Greg Jones finished second in the triple jump with a mark of 49-1. In the shot put, sophomore Willie Parker won with a mark of 49-11.5, with James Thomas second (44-1). Thomas won the weight throw with a mark of 51-3.5, just half-an-inch short of last week's school record, while Parker placed third with a mark of 40-8.5. Both squads will take part in the Indiana Invitational in Bloomington, Ind., next Friday and Saturday. Blue Raider All-American Mardy Scales will take place in the Millrose Games at Madison Square Garden in New York next Saturday.

Printed on December 12, 2013
Original URL: http://www.goblueraiders.com/content.cfm/id/2617