Lady Raider Sprinters Earn Three Titles at Sun Belt Championships

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JONESBORO, Ark. - Middle Tennessee's men's and women's track and field teams each placed third at the Sun Belt Indoor Championships Monday at Arkansas State. The third place finishes ends a streak of four consecutive Sun Belt titles by both the men and the women.

The Lady Raiders jumped three spots after resting in sixth after the first day to score 96 points in the meet. North Texas' women won the title with 111 points and Western Kentucky was second with 108.5.

On the men's side, the Blue Raiders stayed in the same spot they were in after the first day of action and ended the meet with 76.5 points. South Alabama won on the men's side with 138 points and Arkansas State was second with 124.

Kishara George and Candice Robertson each defended their Sun Belt titles in the final day of action. The Lady Raiders also won the mile relay for the third Sun Belt title of the day for the women.

Kerry Barrow, Shanna-Kay Campbell, Antranette Stringer and George were the four legs on the winning mile relay time. They combined to run a 3:45.53 to win the event.

George won the 400m with an NCAA Provisional Qualifying time of 54.58. She also placed second in the 200m in an NCAA Provisional Qualifying time of 24.63.

Robertson defended her 55m hurdles title, winning the event in a time of 7.96. She had entered the

finals with the best time from the preliminaries of 8.07.

In the weight throw Meaghan Byrd placed second in the event with a heave of 56-1. The mark is a new Middle Tennessee school record, which bests the 50-10 Byrd set at the MT Christmas Invitational last year.

Laetitia Florimond placed third in the shot put for the Lady Raiders. She recorded a throw of 46-5.25.

Junior Linnie Yarbrough placed second in the 55m hurdles for the men. He ran a 7.37 in the finals.

On Sunday, Van Fraley made the finals of the 55m. He placed second overall in the finals on Monday with a time of 6.37. He also placed third in the 200m.

Freshman Stephanie Tamgho placed fourth in the triple jump with a leap of 39-1.25. She also earned points in the long jump placing sixth with a jump of 18-5.

Marjorie Gombert also racked up points for the Lady Raiders in the 800m. In the finals she ran a 2:18.47 to place third. The team of Wesley Dupar-Scott, Fraley, JJ Sturm and Yarbrough ran the mile relay for the men and placed fourth with a time of 3:17.37.

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