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SPRINTERS SHINE FOR WKU AT COMMODORE INVITATIONAL

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – WKU’s Hilltopper and Lady Topper sprinters combined for four victories and a pair of top times in program history Saturday at the Commodore Indoor Invitational, which was hosted by Vanderbilt in its Recreation Center.

Sophomore Carrol Hardy tied her own program record in the 60-meter dash and clocked the 11th fastest time in the NCAA this season with a winning time of 7.41 seconds. Hardy’s time equaled her school record she set as a freshman at the 2014 Sun Belt Conference Indoor Championships.

A pair of young Hilltopper sprinters, Julius Morris and Emmanuel Dasor, turned in impressive showings in their first meets of the 2014-15 indoor campaign.

Dasor, a 2014 First-Team All-American, blazed his way to victory in the 400-meter dash with a clocking of 47.29 seconds. The sophomore sprinter’s time was a personal best, ranks fifth in the NCAA as of results entering Saturday and stands as the fifth-fastest time in WKU history. Fellow sophomore sprinter Ventavius Sears wasn’t far behind, finishing second in the race at 47.42 seconds.

Dasor and Sears also ran legs of WKU’s victorious 4X400-meter relay along with Lemanuel Mosley and Ja’Karyus Redwine. The quartet beat out Mississippi State, Memphis and Belmont in the relay with a clocking of 3:11.01.

Morris, a freshman, won the 60-meter dash at 6.82 seconds to edge out Redwine, who was runner-up at 6.83 seconds. Morris, who is believed to be the first Montserrat native to compete in the NCAA in 20 years, was also impressive in the 200-meter dash with a second-place finish in 21.90 seconds.

Jenessa Jackson was a force for the Lady Toppers Saturday, registering her first-career wins with triumphs in the shot put and weight throw. Jackson, a sophomore from Marietta, Ga., posted a personal record in the shot put with a winning toss of 48-feet-2.5 inches (14.69m) and took home top honors in the weight with a heave of 56-feet-3 inches (17.14m). Senior teammate Janie Brunett placed second behind Jackson with a weight throw of 55-feet-7.5 inches (16.95m).

The Hilltoppers also received a winning performance from sophomore distance runner Peter Agaba, who outpaced the field by 15 seconds to win the 5,000-meter run in 15:14.22.

It was a solid day for the pole vaulters on both sides as senior Karleigh Parker and freshman Ria Mollers both hit 12-feet-7.5 inches (3.85m) for the Lady Tops while Hilltopper rookie Dylan Cornwell hit 14-feet-7.25 inches (4.45m) for the second-straight week.

Both teams return to action next weekend at Vanderbilt again for another indoor invitational hosted by the Commodores. For more information on WKU Track and Field, follow the program on Twitter at @WKUTrackField. - @WKUSports -
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Track and Field / Contact: Jeremy Brown, WKU Athletic Communications/Media Relations

BLAZING PERFORMANCES LEAD TO C-USA HONORS FOR WKU’S DASOR AND HARDY

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. – For the second-straight week the WKU Track and Field program has had two athletes honored by Conference USA as the league named Emmanuel Dasor its Male Track Athlete of the Week and Carrol Hardy its Co-Female Track Athlete of the Week on Tuesday afternoon.

The sophomore sprinters turned in two of the top times in the NCAA this season and etched their names into the WKU record books with their winning performances at the Commodore Indoor Invitational last weekend in Nashville.

Dasor’s clocking of 47.29 seconds on his way to victory in the 400-meter dash was the sixth-fastest time in the NCAA this indoor season, leads Conference USA and ranks fifth all-time in WKU’s rich sprinting history. The Ghana native, who was a member of WKU’s 4X400-meter All-American relay in 2014, also anchored the Hilltoppers’ 4x4 to the top time in C-USA this season (3:11.01) as it beat out Mississippi State in a tight race.

Hardy tied her own school record in the 60-meter dash with a winning time of 7.41 seconds, which bested the field by .29 seconds in the short sprint. Her clocking ranks 22nd in the nation this season and equaled her program record she set at last year’s Sun Belt Conference Indoor Championships.

Dasor and Hardy join WKU sophomore athlete Ventavius Sears and senior pole vaulter Karleigh Parker as C-USA weekly honorees this season. Their selections give WKU 31 player of the week honorees for the athletic program as a whole in 2014-15, which leads Conference USA as of Tuesday.

Both Dasor and Hardy return to action with their Hilltopper and Lady Topper squads this weekend in Nashville at the Vanderbilt Indoor Invitational. For more information on WKU Track and Field, follow the programs on Twitter at @WKUTrackField.

- @WKUSports -
WKU Track and Field athletes Ventavius Sears and Karleigh Parker have been named Conference USA Athletes of the Week following their winning performances at the Gene Edmonds Invitational last weekend, the league announced Tuesday afternoon.

Sears, a sophomore, was tabbed as the league’s Co-Male Athlete of the Week after winning the long jump with a leap of 24-feet-1 inch (7.34m) and running the third leg of WKU’s runner-up 4X400-meter relay. Sears’ jump was nearly a foot farther than the field and ranks as the top jump in Conference USA this season. His Athlete of the Week honor is the first of his career.

Parker re-established her own indoor pole vault record at 12-feet-11.75 inches (3.96m) in route to C-USA Female Athlete of the Week accolades and her 11th career victory. The senior has now re-set the WKU standard in the pole vault in four-consecutive seasons. Parker’s mark is the highest in Conference USA this season and ranks 13th nationally.

Both Sears and Parker return to action with their Hilltopper and Lady Topper squads this weekend in Nashville at the Vanderbilt Indoor Invitational. For more information on WKU Track and Field, follow the programs on Twitter at @WKUTrackField or visit WKUSports.com.