

DelState men win MEAC track

SALISBURY, Md. — Senior Duane Henry set a meet record in the 55-meter dash with a time of 6.25 seconds to lead Delaware State College to the team championship at the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference 3rd Annual Indoor Track and Field Championship at the Wicomico Civic Center Saturday.

It was the first time the Hornets have won the MEAC championship since 1976.

Henry edged teammate Charles Branch, who was second in 6.30 seconds, and broke the previous MEAC meet record of 6.4 seconds. The Hornets had first-place finishes from Clyde Hunt and Newton Davidson, and Coach Joe Burdon was named as the Outstanding Coach of the men's meet. DelState won the team title with 144 points and easily outdistancing Howard University, which placed second with 84 team points.

In the women's competition, Howard University captured the team championship with 88 points

and narrowly edged Florida A&M who finished second with 87 points. DelState's women, the defending MEAC champions, and South Carolina State finished tied for third place with 75 points.

Nine meet records were set in the women's competition, and four were established in the men's division during the two-day MEAC championships.

"Our men and women did a real good job, said 12th-year Hornet Coach Joe Burden, who also took over the women's team for the departed Walter Tullis, who left DelState to play football for the New Jersey Generals of United States Football League this season. "They have worked hard all year. I just can't single out enough people. I really like the idea of winning the outstanding coach award. I guess that's what goes with winning sometimes."

DelState sophomore Donna Ray was voted the Outstanding Female Athlete of the meet with two first

place finishes, including a meet record in the 1500-meter run with a time of 5:1.70.

Ray edged out Angela Vickers of South Carolina State at the wire in the mile run. Ray's time erased the 5:24.4 record set by DelState's St. Dorcus Turner in last season's championship meet, won by the Hornets. Ray added a first-place finish in the 1,000-meter run with a time of 3:13.00.

DelState's Clyde Hunt won the 55-meter hurdles in 7.38 seconds, and Mike Burke placed second in 7.44. Newton Davidson was first in the 1,000-meter dash with a time of 2:41.85. Newton crossed the finish line 3/100ths of a second before Anton Skerritt of Howard.

Lorraine Dortch placed first in the 800-meter run with a time of 2:24.35, and Sharice Smaw won the shot put event with a toss of 41-8¾ for the Hornets.

In the men's competition, David Charlton of Howard was named Outstanding Men's Performer.