

Hunter leads Hornet women to MEAC title

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. — Sophia Hunter of Delaware State scored 32.5 individual points, captured individual titles by setting Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference records in two events and was named the Most Outstanding Performer in helping the Hornet women capture the team title at the MEAC Indoor Track Championships Saturday.

The Hornet men's team finished second with 118 points. Howard, led by Most Outstanding Athlete Richard Louis, captured the team title with 122 points. South Carolina State was third with 111.

Delaware State successfully defended its women's title with 147 points. The Hornets were followed by South Carolina State with 98, Howard with 95 and Maryland Eastern-Shore was fourth with 62 team-points.

Hunter set MEAC standards in the 60-yard hurdles (8.06 seconds) and the 440-yard run (56.12). Hunter also placed second in the high jump with a leap of 5 feet, 4 inches, was fourth in the long jump (18-5¼) and ran a leg of DelState's third-place mile relay squad.

Tanya Bynes of DelState captured three first places. Bynes won the mile run in 5:35.3, the 1,000 in 2:49.7 and added a title in the two-mile run in 11:54. DelState's Gayle Gleaves set a MEAC record in the shot put with a heave of 44-3 and Jacqueline Carmichel was first in the high jump at 5-6 for the Hornets. Kim McCollum had second place finishes in the mile and two-mile run, while adding thirds in the

high jump and 1,000. McCollum ran a leg on DelState's second-place two-mile relay team.

Byers scored 32 individual points, while McCollum, who has recovered from an injury, had 28 individual points.

"The athletes performed just beautifully," said DelState's second-year coach Fred Sowerby, who was named Most Outstanding Coach. "They gave all they had in each event. Byner, McCollum and Hunter were exceptional."

DelState's men set three MEAC records. Rickey Meekins set a record in the mile run in 4:26.7, Cai-phus Vilakazi won the two-mile run in 9:44.0 and Leroy Dixon set a standard by winning the 1,000 in 2:19.6. DelState was the two-time defending champion.

"The kids gave all they had and we were right there until the final event," said 13-year Hornet men's coach Joe Burden. "It would have been nice to win the MEAC championship three years in a row."