

Photos by The Magnificent Eye Kenny Brokenburr brought the crowd to its feet with some breathtaking performances for St. Aug's. At far left, "The Blur" turns on the jets in the 4x400 relay. Above (in white jersey), he gets ready to zip past Morehouse's Rodney Miller in a qualifying heat of the 4x100 relay.

Photo by Max Dunhill Hampton's Vivienne Spence was physically drained at the end of the meet after competing in five events on the final day of competition.



Photo by Max Dunhill

Alabama A&M wasn't as strong in this year's nationals as in the past. But Dionne Bruff gave the Lady Bulldogs a lift in the high jump and 4x400 relay.

COVER STORY

ANATOMY OF A COUP

Falcons solidify reputation as the lords of NCAA Division II track

George Williams knew he had a solid relays, sprints and jumping events. squad. But what he didn't know was that 1989 would be the year of the Falcon.

And what a year it turned out to be. Coming off of a brilliant indoor season when they claimed the men's NCAA that code. Division II indoor team title in March, St. Aug's pulled a double by winning their lead the pack, followed by Angelo State

Hampton University. This year marked points), and perennial powerhouse triple jump (50-9). Morehouse's Richard the first time that a predominantly black Abeline Christian (37 points). However, Williams and Tim Abram placed fifth (49college had hosted an NCAA national the victory wasn't a cakewalk. championship of any kind.

The Falcons put their personalized

and 4 x 400. They had three high jumpers mare for the Falcons in the relay heats. who have cleared 7 feet, four long jumpers who have cracked the 26 feet bar- his team in good position. But as he rier, and at least four sprinters who fig- approached Trevor Graham, he lunged ured to finish among the top three in the and the baton fell to the track and it 100, 200 and 400.

So what happens?

al indoor champ and record holder in the runners passed by. long jump, pulled up lame after running in the 100 meters preliminaries. Carpenter Aston McCatty whittled down more diswas a no go after that and had to discon- tance as anchorman Kenny Brokenburr tinue his efforts in the long jump. In additook the baton. Down by 12 meters, Brotion, he was lost to the 4 x 100 relay and a likely spot in the 100 finals.

sour in the high jump. Only Darrin Moore only qualified for the finals, but won in a finished near the top -- a third place finish sparkling 40.29. at 7 - 0 1/4. Actually, Moore reached the same height as winner Walt Stewart (Cal went down," said Williams. "But when I State - Northridge) and runner-up Bob saw Mark reach nearly 26 feet in the long Sundell (Northwest Missouri State), but jump, I knew he had to be the one to fill fell to the No. 3 spot on fewer misses. in." Reid White bowed out at 6-8 3/4 and placed eighth.

As all of this transpired, Williams was bewildered by the chain of events. well, our running really gets going."

The long jump wasn't a total bust by any means. Guyana freshman Mark under very trying circumstances, having Mason came to the rescue to win the title to run in the relay just after the long jump in 25-9 1/2. Teammate Earl Randolph had been completed. To top that off, St. placed second at 25-4 1/4. Xavier Donald- Aug's had been assigned the inside lane son, last year's indoor and outdoor champ, never got in the groove and showed the wound up eighth.

"Earl and I kept pumping each other up," Mason said, referring to Carpenter

Last September when track practice stamp on the championships by using and Donaldson's misfortunes. "Tarrell was started for St. Augustine's College, coach interchangeable parts that dominated the in agony and "X" (Donaldson) either kept hitting the board bad or scratching. Going In some cases, the team didn't place in, we thought we could finish 1-2-3. As as high as they figured, but they still got for myself, I wasn't sure about my chances points. In the battle for the team trophy, for being No. 1. I had been injured earlier every point counts. St. Aug's adhered to this year. So I guess that with me winning, things have started turning around for The Falcons tallied 107 1/2 points to me."

Randolph grabbed more points for the first ever outdoor title in late May at (84 points), Cal State - Los Angeles (39 Birds with a second place finish in the 4 1/2) and eighth (48-8 1/4) respectively.

Mason's performance in the long Based on previous performances during the season, St. Aug's figured to win by jump prompted Williams to tab him as a more substantial margin. They pos- Carpenter's replacement in the 4 x 100. sessed the top relay teams in the 4 x 100 But the move almost turned into a night-

Mason ran the lead-off leg and had appeared that the Falcons were out of it. However, Graham retrieved the baton on a For starters, Tarrell Carpenter, nation- Lady Luck type of bounce once the other

Graham began to cut into the lead and kenburr blasted out of the curve to overtake Morehouse's Rodney Miller with 40 In other developments, things went meters left to the tape. The Falcons not

"It didn't help matters when Tarrell

Williams used some advice from track coaching legend Leroy Walker in adjusting to Carpenter's absence. The wisdom is that anyone new to the quartet "There's always that concern," he said. should run the lead leg so the three other "We didn't do as well as we planned in the people who are already familiar with one jumps. For our team, once the jumpers do another on baton exchanges won't be hin-

Mason became a part of the 4 x 100 and Mason ran in long jumper's shoes.

"All I was hoping for was that I effects of coming back from knee surgery. would be able to fit in and not have my Carpenter finished seventh and Donaldson legs tie up on me," said Mason. "After about 80 meters during my run, I started

Please See Page 11

June 1989 - Page 9