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Up Next For The Bears

June 20-24 USA Championships

The season is complete for Missouri State but several Missouri State track and field alumni will compete at the USA Championships in Indianapolis, Ind. seeking births to the 2007 World Track and Field Championships.

Missouri State Schedules Indoor Track and Field

Date	Event
Jan. 12	Arkansas Invitational (U. of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Ark.)
Jan. 19-20	Razorback Invitational (U. of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Ark.)
Jan. 27	Carle / Health Alliance Invitational (U. of Illinois, Champaign, Ill.)
Feb. 2-3	Husker / Frank Sevigne Invitational (U. of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska)
Feb. 9-10	Iowa State Invitational (Iowa State Univ., Ames, Iowa)
Feb. 23-24	Missouri Valley Championships (S. Illinois University, Carbondale, Ill.)
Mar. 9-10	NCAA National Championships (U. of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Ark.)

Outdoor Track and Field

Date	Event
Mar. 23-24	Spring Classic (S. Illinois University, Carbondale, Ill)
Mar. 30-31	Stanford Invitational (Stanford Univ., Palo Alto, California)
Mar. 30-31	Missouri Relays (U. of Missouri, Columbia, Mo.)
April 6	Missouri State Big Bear Invitational (HOME) (Missouri State, Springfield, Mo.)
Apr. 12-13	Audrey Walton Hept. Invitational (U. of Missouri, Columbia, Mo.)
Apr. 12-14	Sea Ray Relays (U. of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tenn.)
Apr. 21	John McDonnell Invitational (U. of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Ark.)
Apr. 26-28	Drake Relays (Drake Univ., Des Moines, Iowa)
May 11-13	Missouri Valley Championships (Drake Univ., Des Moines, Iowa)
Mar. 26-27	NCAA Mideast Championships (U. of Missouri, Columbia, Mo.)
Jun. 6-9	NCAA National Championships (Sacramento State, Sacramento, Ca.)
Jun. 21-24	USA National Championships (IUPUI, Indianapolis, Ind.)

Ernest Caps Off Stellar Freshman Year

Missouri State freshman Leander Ernest capped off what has been a stellar freshman year in Wednesday's preliminary round of the 800-meter run at the NCAA Division I Outdoor Track and Field Championships in Sacramento, Calif. Ernest finished sixth in her heat and 18th overall with a run of 2:07.57.

Ernest held her own in the preliminary round running on the shoulders of the leaders until the homestretch. She finished just 0.34-seconds from advancing to Thursday's semifinal round. The top three performers in each of the four preliminary heats moved on, as did the runners with the next four best times.



Ernest earned her ticket to the NCAA Championships at the NCAA Mideast Regional in Columbia, Mo., on May 26. She set a new personal best during the preliminary round of that competition, posting a time of 2:06.33 to qualify for the final. The St. Lucia native narrowly missed eclipsing the Missouri State school record, held by fellow St. Lucian Augustina Charles with a top performance of 2:06.30 in 1999.

Ernest's first year at Missouri State has been nothing short of remarkable. Ernest earned all-MVC honors both at the indoor and outdoor track and field championships. At the indoor championship she took the Valley title in the 400-meter dash and anchored the Lady Bear's third place 4x400-meter relay. Outdoor's Ernest took second in the 800-meter run and anchored the second place 4x100-meter relay and the 4x400-meter relay that this time took first in 3:39.59.

The Missouri Valley Conference honored Ernest five times during the indoor and outdoor seasons as conference Track Athlete of The Week. On the MVC best lists Ernest concluded the year owning conference best times in the indoor 400-meters (54.38), outdoor 400-meters (54.30) and the outdoor 800-meters (2:06.33).

Ernest came to Missouri State from Castries, St. Lucia where she was twice named the Sports Woman of the Year in her home country. She was a two-time competitor for St. Lucia at the Carifta Games and prior to joining the Missouri State program she owned personal bests of 55.91 for 400-meters and 2:15.60 for 800-meters.

Alumni Run To Be Held In September

Missouri State's Annual Alumni Run, which is organized and directed by the cross country program, will be held in conjunction with the Missouri State Cross Country Classic in 2007 on September 22nd. Alumni are invited to come see the men's and women's collegiate races at the Missouri State Cross Country Classic and to then compete in a special alumni / community 5K on MSU's new cross country course. The race is open to anyone, regardless of alumni status. Track and field and cross country alumni will then be invited to join the MSU team for a post race event. More information is on BearsTrack.net.



2007 Track and Field Roster

Name	Event	Year	Hometown
Renna Berry	Sprints	Fr.	Normal, Ill.
Liz Blase	Jumps	Fr./So.	St. Charles, Mo.
Corteneé Boulard	Sprints	Fr.	Beaumont, Tex.
April Brooks	Jumps	Fr.	Blanchard, Okla.
Kim Carter	Multi-events	Sr.	St. Philip, Barbados
Tanya Cyrus	Sprints	Sr.	Montreal, Quebec
Leander Ernest	Sprints	Fr.	Castries, St. Lucia
Emily Fletcher	Distance	Fr.	Fort Dodge, Iowa
Mareneika Goffe	Jumps	Fr./So.	St. James, Jamaica
Zaleilka Goffe	Jumps	Fr./So.	St. James, Jamaica
Chloe Key	Distance	Jr.	Springfield, Mo.
Yaneika Malcolm	Sprints	Fr./So.	Montego Bay, Jamaica
Auvia Miller	Distance	Fr.	Willard, Mo.
Staci Nelson	Distance	Fr.	Chatham, Ill.
Lauren Nystrom	Distance	Sr.	St. Charles, Mo.
Alexandria Oembler	Sprints	So.	Nassau, Bahamas
Deandrea Rolle	Throws	Fr.	Nassau, Bahamas
Leneice Rolle	Sprints	Fr.	Nassau, Bahamas
Michelle Simpson	Sprints	Sr.	Chicago, Ill.
Angelique Stephens	Sprints	Jr.	Christ Church, Barbados
Anda Udris	Sprints	Fr.	Liberty, Mo.
Jamie Vest	Distance	So.	Lebanon, Mo.
Carrie Vestal	Distance	So./Jr.	Springfield, Mo.
Genna Williams	Sprints	Sr.	St. Michael, Barbados
Kristin Wolkey	Distance	Fr./So.	Overland Park, Kan.

Ron Boyce, Head Coach / Sprints & Hurdles Coach

Greg Hipp, Distance Coach

Jacob Kingery, Field Events Coach

David Glazer, Volunteer Assistant Coach