

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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--USATF'S PACIFIC CHAMPIONSHIP MEET AT COLLEGE OF SAN MATEO IS LAST CHANCE TO SEE T&F OLYMPIANS IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA
--GOLD MEDALIST STEPHANIE BROWN TRAFTON VS. FORMER AMERICAN RECORD HOLDER SUZY POWELL IN *OFFICIAL USATF NATIONAL OLY. DEV. SHOWDOWN*
--USA'S TOP HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS TRACK RUNNER OF 2011 TRINITY WILSON TO MAKE COMEBACK AT CSM SUNDAY
--AMONG THE LARGEST EVER T&F MEETS IN SAN MATEO COUNTY HISTORY – MORE THAN 500 ATHLETES EXPECTED FOR OPEN & MASTERS CHAMPS

SAN MATEO -- The final major pre-Olympic track and field competition in Northern California takes place Memorial Day weekend at College of San Mateo, featuring the defending Olympic women's discus throw gold medalist and a high school super star on Sunday.

The USA Track & Field national development Pacific Championship meet will have a full schedule of open and master's competition Sunday, starting at 8:30 a.m. The event is open free to the public.

In the spotlight:

--The USA's top girls track and field athlete of 2011, Trinity Wilson of St. Mary's (Berkeley), is scheduled to return to competition in her first 100 meter hurdles race in nearly two months on CSM's fast Mondo track.

--Former American discus record holder Suzy Powell-Roos will face new record holder and Olympic gold medalist Stephanie Brown Trafton for the first time since Brown Trafton took the record away in Maui at the beginning of the month. Also entered in the international field is Yanbo Yang of China, ranked among the top dozen throwers in the world.

--Two-time Olympian Ian Waltz, the reigning U.S. Olympic Trials champion, and current U.S. leader Russ Winger head a large elite men's field.

MORE ON WILSON:

Sidelined almost two months with a toe injury, Wilson hopes to begin a late comeback on Sunday, despite missing all of her high school's championship competition.

The 2011 World Youth Champion and top track athlete on USA TODAY's 2011 All-USA high school team, posted a then national-leading time of 13.41 seconds in the 100 meter hurdles in the prelims of the Stanford Invitational in early April. The injury kept her out of a finals match-up, however, with eventual winner and training partner (at Laney College) Sasha Wallace, a junior at Holy Names (Oakland, Calif.).

Wilson's best time of 13.15, as a junior, was an age 16 record and is an Olympic Trials "B" qualifier. (Her final race against high school competition will likely be at the Golden West (national) Invitational in Folsom, Calif., on June 9.)

NOTES: Wilson and Wallace are coached by Curtis Taylor of Laney College and train together at the Oakland campus along with 2010 national girls track and field athlete of the year Ashton Purvis – who led Laney to the California Community College Athletic Association Championship last week.

Wilson has been running and conditioning regularly but had not been able to hurdle until this week. "She went over her first flight of hurdles on Wednesday," said Taylor. "She was rusty."

CSM A FAVORITE PLACE FOR THOWERS:

CSM's international throwing ring on the far side of College Heights Stadium captures "perfect" quartering winds off the hill and has long been a favorite of world-ranked athletes. Brown Trafton got her

previous personal best of 217 feet, 2 inches at CSM in 2009, following her tremendous upset victory at Beijing in 2008. In Maui this month, Brown Trafton finally improved upon that mark, hitting 222-3 to erase **Powell's American Record of 222-0** set in 2007.

Powell finished ahead of Brown Trafton at the 2008 U.S. Olympic Trials to make her third **Olympic team. But Brown Trafton lofted the winning throw in Beijing on her first attempt for the USA's first women's discus gold medal** in 76 years.

Sunday's entrants hold five of the top eight USA marks this season: 1. Brown Trafton (222-3), 2. Gia Lewis-Smallwood (209-10), 5. Summer Pierson (199-4), 6. Suzy Powell-Roos (198-11), 8. Jere Summers (195-6).

--San Mateo's elite facilities have also seen an American Record in the women's javelin throw, by Kim Kreiner.

SUNDAY'S SCHEDULE: Competition gets underway at 8:30 a.m. with the 10,000 meters and in the field with the hammer throw at 9 a.m. Other long throws will follow on a rolling schedule (with **masters' discus throws preceding the open/Olympic Dev. Competition**). The morning program also includes steeplechase races and a racewalk.

The **1,500 meter races are scheduled for 11:20 a.m., followed by men's and women's high hurdle races** and the 400 meters to complete the morning schedule.

Afternoon program begins at 1:15 p.m. with 100 meter sprints.

SPECIAL ADDED SATURDAY THROWING COMPETITION:

Most of the elite discus throwers will compete twice. A special USATF-sponsored throwing competition will take place on Saturday, May 26, at 3:30 p.m. in order to take advantage of the usually excellent conditions at CSM. Among the **more than 20 women's and men's athletes entered are the following:**

Women: Suzy Powell-Roos, Gia Lewis-Smallwood, Summer Pierson, Jere Summers, and Yanbo Yang of China.

Men: Ian Waltz, Jarred Rome, Russ Winger, Jason Young, Lance Brooks, Aaron Neighbour.

All except Waltz are scheduled to also throw on Sunday. Stephanie Brown Trafton will only throw on Sunday.