

The Norfolk State track and field team christened its new Norfolk State Track and Field Complex by finishing first in 17 different events in the first ever Norfolk State Invitational Relays.

"It felt good to host a meet in our own backyard," said Chris Duncan, a freshman majoring in architectural engineering. "It made us run faster because we were the first to use the field."

Senior Chandra Sturrup and sophomore Ruchelle Thomas finished first and second in the 100 meter dash.

Junior Karen Sinclair finished first in the 800 meter dash. The standout completed the race in 2:18.10 beating the second place runner Angela Beji by almost four seconds. Sinclair also finished first in the 400 meter hurdles.

The Norfolk State runners responded to the field well and observed a difference with their new complex in comparison to others nationwide.

"It was one of the best tracks I have ever ran on. The track felt real good," Duncan said.

The mens team spread the wealth on their new track field. Eight different members of the mens track and field team finished first in individuals events.

Sophomore Andrew Berry topped his openets in the 100 meter dash while junior Byron Robinson finished first in the 400 meter race.

In the 800 meter race Calvin Graham dominated. The junior finished the run in 2:01.50 surpassing the second place

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major*

runner by 19 seconds.

Junior Robert Gerrard was the first to cross the finish line for the 5000 meter run. Gerrard completed the run in 16:36.50.

The track was not the only thing the participants enjoys.

"The board was real springy. I got a lot of spring off the board," said Angela Villman, a junior accounting major.

Villman used the new board to finish second in the triple jump.

...Next up, the CIAA Relays

The Norfolk State Track and Field Complex will be the site for the CIAA Outdoor Track and Field Championship.

The two day meet will begin Friday April 21 at 12 p.m., and it will feature all the schools in the CIAA.

"I think it is going to be the peak in competition," Duncan said. "It's the

championship and everyone wants to do their best at the championships."