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T&F: Owls Ink Eight in 2014 Signing Class
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By Joseph Feldman



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Director of Track and Field [Andy Eggerth](#) and his staff welcomes Daniel Garcia, Yared Stifanos, and Cameron Gatt on the men's side and Jocselyn Powell, Jordan Gray, Angel Alston, Joyce Mattagliano, and Erica Sergeant on the women's side.

Daniel Garcia, from Barcelona, Spain, is already on campus and has been competing for the Owls during the 2014 Indoor season. So far this season Garcia has competed in the 800m, 1 mile, and 3,000m races. Garcia is currently fifth in the Atlantic Sun in the mile with an adjusted time of 4:16.37 and eighth in the 800m with an adjusted time of 1:56.75 that is three seconds behind the top spot. He will also race on the cross country team in the fall.

"Daniel signed with us as a January admit," Eggerth said. "He has already begun racing for us and is toward the top of both the conference and the school record books. Daniel is also from Spain and is a pleasure to work with. He almost completes our elite 5 to bring us a men's cross country championship, and we're now working on the final player."

Cameron Gatt, from Point Cook, Australia, is another distance runner that specializes in the 3,000m, 1,500m, and the 800m. His PR times are 8:33.04 in the 3,000m, 3:59.71 in the 1,500m, and 1:57.0, in the 800m. Gatt will also race on the cross country team in the fall. He finished 16th in the 2013 8k Australian Cross Country Championships.

"Cameron is from Australia and his high school 3k time puts him right at the top of the conference before even arriving on US soil," Eggerth said. "We're most excited about how Cameron is going to lift the men's cross country program, hopefully restoring our championship tradition!"

Yared Stifanos, from Utrecht, Netherlands, comes in quite decorated as he has competed in four Junior Indoor National Championships, winning in 2013 and grabbing silver two other times. Stifanos has also competed in three Junior Outdoor National Championships. His PR in the 1,500m is 3:54 while his PR in the 3,000 is 8:37. Stifanos will also compete on the cross country team.



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with a time of 8.67. Powell won the Lancaster Gazette Track Athlete of the Year in 2012 and was the team MVP in 2011 and 2013. She was also a junior Olympic Qualifier in 2011 and 2012 in the hurdles.

"Ohio is rich in talent and we were able to steal away one of their stars in Jocselyn Powell," Eggerth said. "Her high school hurdle marks would already place her as a medalist in the A-Sun Championship. Better yet, she has a humility about her and the character to work hard to take it to the next level."

Jordan Gray, from Ball Ground, Georgia, is a multi eventer that will compete in the Heptathlon at Kennesaw State. Gray's personal records are 18'5" in the long jump, 5'4" in the high jump, 101'7" in the javelin and 37'6.75" in the shot put.

"Jordan is an untapped talent from right here in our backyard, and she's just begun the sport," Eggerth said. "People are going to be asking, 'Where did this girl come from!' Jordan is tall, strong, has long levers, and she has some spring. She already has some marks that can score in open events at the A-Sun Championship, so she should be able to be at the top of the heptathlon as well as score in open events. She comes from a background of leadership development, so she fits in perfectly with what we're trying to accomplish throughout our athletic department. Jordan will be an instant difference maker for our women's program!"

Angel Alston, from Fleming Island, Georgia, will compete in the shot put and discus at Kennesaw State. She has thrown the shot 40' and the discus 121'.

"Angel doesn't have outstanding marks yet, but I expect she will develop into a stud very quickly," Eggerth said. "She has a very athletic throwers build and she comes from an athletic pedigree. We are excited to have Angel join the Owl family."

"Her height and wing span will serve her well in the Atlantic Sun Conference," Throws coach Duane Morris added. "Angel will make an immediate impact on our team."



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"Joyce's personal record in the 800m would have ranked her third in the United States last year for all high school athletes," Eggerth said. "Joyce should be able to be a conference champion as a freshman as well as an NCAA qualifier. She also has range and will immediately make our women's cross country team much better!"

Erica Sergeant, from Lake Mary, Florida, is a pole vaulter, and will also make an immediate impact on the team. Her best vault in high school was 12'8", which would've won the A-Sun Championship last year.

"Erica is a joy to be around with an outgoing and edifying personality," Eggerth said. "She will fit in very well with our pole vault crew. She also brings a whole lot of talent with a 12'8" best in the vault as a junior in high school. That mark would have won the indoor championship by 6 inches last year."

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