

[Print this article](#)

## Wolverines make tracks at state meet

**Jennifer Birkland**, Brentwood Press

Published 06/06/2008 - 8:00 a.m. PDT

In her fourth and final appearance at the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) state track and field championships, Deer Valley High School senior Jasmine Cox brought home two medals and helped power her varsity teammates to a 13th-place finish. Cox was one of five Wolverines to place in the top 10 at the state meet held last week at Cerritos College.

Her 4x400 meter relay team, comprised of Chizoba Okodogbe, Raven Fox and Unique Marshall, placed third with a time of 3 minutes, 46.45 seconds. "We're really close," said Cox, the team's anchor. "We've really bonded. We did cross country together and we just all connect really well. We all trusted each other a lot."

Cox went on to place fourth individually in the 400 meters, clocking in at 54.52 seconds. "I've been trying to get (my time down to 53 seconds) all year, but I just ended up getting a 54," she said. "But this year's been great. It was exciting – a nice way to end."

This fall, Cox will compete for Cal State Northridge on a full track scholarship.

All season, sophomore Chizoba Okodogbe has been trying to chase Cox, her friend and training partner, and all season she's come close.

Okodogbe was three places behind Cox in the 400 at state, placing seventh with a time of 55.91 seconds.

"It's very motivational to train with Jasmine," Okodogbe said. "I try to get to her in the open floor in practice. I've been trying to catch her all season. She's a great training partner."

Senior Josh Winfield was Deer Valley's only male competitor to advance to state. Despite just two years of track experience under his belt, Winfield placed fifth in the 400 in 47.76 seconds. "I could have done better. I slowed down in the back stretch and I got discouraged," Winfield said. "It seemed like I was catching (the runner in front). But then I looked away, and when I looked back I saw that he got more distance on me. I should have just run harder. But I psyched myself out."

Last season, Winfield anchored the varsity boys 4x400 relay team, which finished third. He also placed 18th individually in the 200 meters.

Liberty junior Wyatt Landrum made his first appearance at the state track championships this year, finishing 15th in the 3,200 meters with a time of 9:15.63. Landrum also placed 25th at the state cross country championships in the fall.



The Deer Valley track and field team placed five members in the top 10 at the state meet. From left are Jasmine Cox, Josh Winfield, Chizoba Okodogbe, head coach Bernard Stephens, Ese Ntekume and Raven Fox.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Jennifer Birkland**

**Email:**

[jenniferb@brentwoodpress.com...](mailto:jenniferb@brentwoodpress.com)