



Press Release

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Modesto Junior College & Columbia College

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MJC Women's State Champion Track and Field Team Honored at State Capitol by Assemblymember Alanis

MODESTO, CA. – It's been eight months since the MJC women's track and field team captured its first state championship — but the buzz surrounding that accomplishment still resonates. On Thursday, in Sacramento, the team was honored for its historic achievement by the state Assembly.

"It was an honor to welcome the Modesto Junior College women's track and field team to the state capitol to recognize their victory in the 3C2A state championship," said Assemblymember Juan Alanis (R-Modesto), who presented the team a special resolution. "The team's dedication and hard work have fostered a great sense of pride among the MJC community and across the 22nd Assembly District."

Members of the championship team – Shaylan Roy-Williams, Savannah Brown, Kylie Davis, Jada Orona, Julia Pedretti, and Ava Torres – and coaching staff, along with members of the Modesto Junior College administration, were present for the ceremony.

"It was a very cool experience for of us to be recognized for something we worked so hard for," said Roy-Williams, who paced the Pirates last spring with individual state titles in the 100 (11.47), 200 (24.01), and the long jump (19-7), and was named the Athlete of the Meet in San Mateo. She recently committed to attend Cal starting in fall of 2026. "And then to be able to meet so many important people was incredible."

What's also incredible is that the Pirates, with a bevy of returning athletes, are well-positioned to make another run at the state title in 2026. Four All-Americans – Roy-Williams, Brown, Davis, and Orona – are back for the Pirates.

"We had a pretty dominant freshman group last year, and that gives us a good core to work with," said women's coach Brian Beeman, himself a former MJC track and field athlete. "I think we'll definitely be in the mix again this year."

"We are so proud of this group of young women," said YCCD interim Chancellor Lena Tran, Ed.D, who was in attendance. "Their devotion to their sport and their teammates, their success on the field and in the classroom, is nothing short of awe-inspiring. They truly are deserving of this recognition."



Assemblymember Juan Alanis and members of the championship team

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