

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**ADDED OLYMPIANS ATTRACTION AT CSM FRIDAY:
OLYMPIAN SUZY POWELL WANTS HER AMERICAN RECORD BACK -- SO
PA USATF WILL HOLD OLYMPIC DEVELOPMENT TWILIGHT DISCUS
THROW AT CSM FRIDAY;
TOP MEN WILL THROW TOO**

SAN MATEO -- Two-time Olympic discus thrower Suzy Powell of Modesto wants to reclaim the American record that reigning Olympic champion Stephanie Brown Trafton took away in Maui last week.

Powell is scheduled to make her first attempt to get it back on Friday at CSM's world-famous discus ring in a special twilight competition starting at 5:30, immediately upon completion of the day-long Northern California Community College Championship meet.

She expects to face Yanbo Yang of China, No. 11 on the current world list, and American contender Rachel Longfors.

TOP U.S.A. MEN'S OLYMPIC CANDIDATES TO THROW: Two-time Olympian Ian Waltz, the reigning U.S. Olympic Trials champion, and current U.S. leader Russ Winger head an elite men's field.

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. Last week In Maui last week, Brown Trafton finally improved upon that mark, hitting 222-3 to erase Powell's American Record of 222-0 set in 2007.

Four-time world shot put champion John Godina has arranged with CSM and USATF's Pacific Association to conduct the Olympic Trials qualifying competition for top American throwers Godina, also a 2-time Olympic medalist, now runs the World Throws Center academy in Northern California and Phoenix. Powell is one of his athletes.

Powell finished ahead of Brown Trafton at the 2008 U.S. Olympic Trials. But Brown Trafton lofted the winning throw in Beijing on her first attempt and it held up for the USA's first women's discus gold medal in 76 years.

--Both Brown Trafton and Powell are both expected at CSM on Memorial Day weekend for a pair of discus duels in USATF's Pacific Championships, Saturday and Sunday, May 26-27.

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On stage at the Northern California Community College Championships, which run from 10 a.m. to 5:25 p.m. on Friday at CSM:

--Laney College sprinter Aston Purvis, who was the Gatorade national high school track and field athlete of the year in 2010 at St. Elizabeth's in Oakland. The double high school state champion leads the Eagles' quest for Northern California and state community college titles.

--Sprinter Diondre Batson of defending state men's track champion American River has the "A" standard in the 200 meters for the U.S. Olympic Trials and beat a nationwide field in both the 100 and 200 to win the invitational 100 and 200 at last month's Stanford Invitational last month. He has a world-ranking 10.13 in the 100 meters that was wind-aided, so still needs a legal time to make the Trials in that event.

(Purvis made it a community college sweep of the women's and men's sprints against nationwide Division I NCAA and open competition at Stanford.)

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