

# State champion sprinter sues CIF for stripping her 2025 title

## News service reports

A year after having her state track and field 400-meter title stripped from her, and three days after gaining a measure of redemption by reclaiming that title on the track, former North Salinas High sprinter Clara Adams is suing the California Interscholastic Federation.

The Adams family has filed a federal civil rights lawsuit in the U.S. District Court of Fresno against the CIF for stripping her of the 400 state title after the race in 2025. The CIF disqualified her for what was deemed an excessive celebration after she took a fire extinguisher and sprayed her shoes on the infield, away from her competitors. She was also disqualified from running the 200 later that evening.

The lawsuit was announced on Tuesday in Los Angeles in a 35-minute press conference. It accused the CIF of denying Adams her due process and First Amendment rights. The lawsuit seeks restoration of her 2025 CIF 400-meter title, correction of the records and expungement of the disciplinary action, damages and legal costs.

"Clara's celebration was harmless, brief and rooted in the history of the sport," said family civil rights attorney Adante Pointer of Oakland's Pointer & Buelna of Oakland. "You humiliated a teenage girl who had just won the greatest victory in her career."

Adams and her father have since moved to Long Beach, where she attends Long Beach Wilson. Saturday, the 17-year-old won state track and field titles in the 200 and 400, and ran a leg on the state-winning 1,600 relay team.

"Today was about bringing back something that shouldn't be hidden," Adams said. "I'm really happy with my performance this past week. But at the end of the day, it doesn't hide the fact of what happened last year. While I feel better and winning those titles take a lot of weight off me, there is still something I'm missing, and that's my first state title.

I want that recognized and reinstated."

Because Adams was disqualified from the meet in 2025 after winning the 400, she was not able to run the 200, where she was among the favorites during her sophomore season at North Salinas.

"She'll never get that race back," said Adams' father David. "This is for the people before us and after us. It shook my child and it shook me. That's a problem."

Repeated attempts to reach the CIF for comment were not successful. The CIF has not publicly commented on the situation.

Adams' celebration was a tribute to former U.S. Olympic sprinter Maurice Greene, who used a fire extinguisher to spray his shoes after winning the U.S. Olympic Trials in 2004.

## NFL

Former Cal safety Ashytn Davis signed a one-year deal with the 49ers, who released running back Jermar Jefferson in a corresponding move.

Davis, a Santa Cruz native, was a 2020 third-round pick of the Jets and started 22 of 69 games played in his first five seasons there. A 12-game starter last season with the Miami Dolphins, Davis will compete with incumbent safeties Ji'Ayir Brown, Malik Mustapha and Marques Siple.

■ While the Los Angeles Rams would never close the door on Aaron Donald's possible return to the NFL, coach Sean McVay confirms it's entirely up to the superstar defensive tackle to open that door if he wants to play alongside Myles Garrett.

The possibility of Donald's return from two seasons in retirement became a hot topic almost immediately after the Rams swung their blockbuster trade Monday to acquire Garrett from the Cleveland Browns. Now 35 years old, Donald walked away in March 2024 after a prolific 10-year career spent entirely with the Rams.

When McVay was asked about Donald during Garrett's introductory news conference, the coach gave no indication Donald would make the decision to return

— but he didn't exactly tamp down the speculation, either.

"Aaron is a guy that I stay really close in touch with, and I know the respect that he has for Myles," McVay said. "Talked to him about the opportunity to be able to bring (Garrett) on board. If Aaron decides he wants to dust them off at the age of 35, I bet you he could still do it at a pretty high clip."

■ The reigning Super Bowl champion Seattle Seahawks and linebacker Derick Hall have agreed to a three-year contract extension, according to his agents.

The contract carries a \$42 million base, and Hall could earn as much as \$46.9 million in a deal that could keep him in Seattle through the 2029 season.

## MEN'S SOCCER

A record 1,248 players representing 48 nations are on the final World Cup rosters released by FIFA.

The rosters include Lionel Messi of Argentina, Cristiano Ronaldo of Portugal and Guillermo Ochoa of Mexico, who will be competing in the World Cup for a record sixth time.

Of the players in 104 matches in Canada, the United States and Mexico, 357 have competed in at least one previous World Cup while about 891 players are in the event for the first time.

The rosters reflect a wide range of ages, with more than 25 years separating the oldest and youngest player. Scotland's Craig Gordon is 43 years, 162 days old. Mexico's Gilberto Mora is 17 years, 240 days old as one of 22 players in the field younger than 20. Seven players are 40 or older.

Four nations — Cape Verde, Curaçao, Jordan and Uzbekistan — are competing in the World Cup for the first time.

According to FIFA regulations, replacements to the rosters are permitted only due to serious injury or illness up to 24 hours before a team's first match.

## COLLEGE SOFTBALL

Nijaree Canady and Texas Tech have performed well under pressure at the Women's College World Series.

The 11th-seeded Red Raiders won three elimination games, including two against top-seeded Alabama on Monday to earn a return trip to the finals.

Canady, who transferred from Stanford, saved her best for last, pitching a complete-game two-hitter as Texas Tech defeated Alabama 2-0 in the second semifinal matchup of the day.

"I don't have any doubt that was her best performance of the year, and that's a great confidence builder for our team and NiJa to go into the finals with that effort," Texas Tech coach Gerry Glasco said.

Canady is the only active pitcher in college softball with more than 100 wins and 1,000 strikeouts and the first with multiple shutouts at multiple schools (Stanford) in NCAA history.

The only achievement eluding the senior righthander is a national championship.

Texas Tech (61-8) will play No. 2 seed Texas (51-12) today in Oklahoma City to begin a best-of-three series. The Longhorns won the 2025 national championship after beating the Red Raiders in three games. It will be the first championship series rematch in WCWS history — with the previous rematches coming in one-game finals.

Texas and ace Teagan Kavan traveled a similar path to the final series by winning four elimination games — two of them coming against seventh-seeded Tennessee on Monday.

## MEN'S COLLEGE GOLF

NCAA champion Preston Stout halved the par-5 18th hole with a bogey to hold on for a 1-up victory over Matthew Kress as Oklahoma State edged Florida in Carlsbad to keep alive its hope for a second straight NCAA title.

Next up for the fifth-seeded Cowboys was Auburn, the No. 1 seed and 2024 NCAA champion. Jackson Koivun, the No. 1 amateur in the world, lost the leadoff match for the Tigers, who otherwise had little trouble eliminating Stanford.

Stanford's Nathan Wang defeated Koivun, 2 up.