



2006 Big 12 Conference Outdoor Track & Field Championships

Hart-Patterson Track & Field Complex ♦ Baylor University ♦ Waco, Texas

CHAMPION QUOTES - May 14

Mary Davies, Oklahoma State - Women's 3,000-Meter Steeplechase, 5,000 Meters

"It's pretty amazing - I was just hoping to do well in the 10,000, run well in the other events and make a go at it. I didn't even realize what time I was running until I looked up on the last lap."

Pete Janson, Colorado - Men's 3,000-Meter Steeplechase

"It feels pretty good, because Texas has gone 1-2 the past two year in a row and I was really disappointed after last year. Billy Nelson (teammate) and I didn't have a showing. I PR'ed by eight seconds. I thought I was in shape to do it and it was such a good race and great conditions. The race went well for me. I was lucky to go straight to the front and not have anyone challenge me. Everyone kind of let me take the lead and take them through, which is good because there was a lot of jostling behind me. Had not been out front, it might not have gone as well as it did."

Kayla Wilkinson, Nebraska - Women's Javelin

On winning on her final attempt:

"I just saw (Texas A&M's Michelle Inocencio) throw 50 (meters), and that really made me mad because it put me in fourth place. I got back there and got into the mindset that I'm going to do it on the last throw. I had to give it all I had. I fixed one minor detail and it really worked."

On where the throw ranks in her career:

"I'm just so happy that I threw 177, but I'm more happy that I won the competition. I didn't care what I had to throw to win, I just wanted to repeat as Big 12 champion. I'm very excited that I did throw well, because the last few weeks have been kind of a struggle."

Daniel Roper, Nebraska - Men's Triple Jump

On winning on his final jump:

"I was talking to (NU school record holder) Sheldon Hutchinson and he told me, "You can do it. Just go out there, stay calm and stay relaxed." The last two jumps, Coach Pepin was coaching me really good, I felt good on the runway and took care of business."

On rebounding from last year's eighth-place outdoor finish:

"I learned last year that it's harder to repeat (indoors and outdoors). It just felt good to go from eighth place to first place."

Marianne Schlachter, Kansas State - Women's Triple Jump

On today's performance:

"I felt good for the most part. I was a little injured entering today's competition, so I was a little scared going in. I felt that I couldn't go full, I was just a little hesitant."

On the winning jump:

"I fought myself on the approach, all the way up to the board. The jumps felt good though, but I didn't think it was that far. My coach (Cliff Rovelto) critiqued me the most on that jump."

Amanda Bales, Missouri - 800 Meters

On the race:

"I never want to leave a race with effort not used, and when I pushed to the line I didn't know if I had won, but I knew I had, at one point, leaned in front of her."

On having three Missouri runners in the finals:

"It's so great to be able to come to the Big 12 Championships and have two of your teammates running right alongside. To be able to score 17 points in the event is awesome, I'm so proud for us."

On winning her first individual Big 12 crown:

"I've been in this conference for five years now, and it seemed I kept getting second and third in these races, you never forget that. I knew with it being my last year it gave me that extra push I needed."

Marlon Odom, Texas Tech - Men's 110-Meter Hurdles

"This race was a lot rougher than last year - I hit a few more hurdles. The weather wasn't really a factor because NCAAs was worse last year. I'm glad I got this race out of the way and I'm looking forward to and concentrating on Regionals and Nationals."

Stephen Pifer, Colorado - Men's 1,500 Meters

"It feels great," Pifer said. "I would have liked to have the other two big hitters in the Big 12, just to know that I am the best guy in the Big 12, but you race the competition that shows up that day and I gave it the best I could and came away with the win. It feels good (to break the stadium record). That guy (Todd Harbour) also holds the Big 12 indoor record in the mile, which is 3:55, so he's obviously one of the best milers in Big 12 history. So to take out his record is definitely a big honor."

Althea Chambers - Women's 800 Meters

"If you lack confidence in yourself, you are twice defeated in the race of life. With confidence, you have won even before you have started."

Christian Smith - Men's 800 Meters

"I am pretty happy with my time. My PR is in that area from a couple years ago and I am glad I have gotten there again."

Reggie Witherspoon, Baylor - Men's 400 Meters

"I saw the guys from Texas Tech coming up on me at 200 and coach is always telling us to work that second curve, so that's what I did and I was able to hold on at the end. It's the best feeling in the world to be able to win in front of your home crowd with the people who support you cheering you on."

Marshevet Hooker, Texas - 100 Meters, 200 Meters, Long Jump

"I feel great about the way the team performed this weekend. I couldn't do what I do without my teammates, so winning another title with them is really special to me. It's so much fun having my whole family here. My parents were in the stands and my sister is here competing along side me. I think we motivate each other because we both want each other to be as good as we can be."

Destinee Hooker, Texas - High Jump

"I thought I performed really pretty well. It felt good today. I was able to clear a collegiate best, but I think I can still go a little farther. Competing in college is different than high school, but I've had a lot of support from my coaches and teammates. My sister told me not to get down during the season and I used that to be able to come out here and win the event."

Jamaal Charles, Texas - 100 Meters

"I've been doing it all my life (running track and playing football), so I know what to do. I just stayed focused on running and I don't worry about anybody else."

Brian Robison, Texas - Discus, Shot Put

On such a big throw:

"I was excited, shocked, tired, happy, proud - a lot of emotions rolled into one. When you put all of that hard work and effort into something and you break a school record, your emotions just come out."

Priscilla Lopes, Nebraska - 100-Meter Hurdles

On her school-record time:

"I wanted to come out and maybe run a 12.70. When I looked at the time I kind of had to take a double-look. I surprised myself. I was pushed by a really good field."

On approaching Gail Devers' collegiate record:

"I'm really excited, because she's a stud. To be close to her, I know I'm on point. There are more good things to come."

On the race:

"I felt like I got out good and in between I was clean. Yesterday I hit at least four hurdles, maybe five. It felt amazing, almost like I was in the zone."

Becky Breisch, Nebraska - Women's Discus

On breaking the Big 12 meet record:

"It was good to win, especially since this is my last year. I had the previous record, so being able to break that again is just leaving something behind, which I really enjoy."

Mark Harrison, Nebraska - Men's 400-Meter Hurdles

On winning his first Big 12 championship in his last opportunity:

"It feels good after getting second (in the 600-yard run) indoors last year. I knew it would come if I got another chance. I just kept working and it happened."

On the race:

"I couldn't see anyone (from lane six) and I didn't want to run all out, so I just stayed relaxed and when I felt them coming I just started running."

Nate Probasco, Nebraska - Men's 200 Meters

On the race:

"I knew going in that it was going to be tight. I figured that if I could be ahead at the corner I'd be in good shape, because I'm usually strong at the end."

On matching his 2005 Big 12 indoor title:

"It feels great. I wasn't really pleased with the time, but any time you come out with a victory against this tough of competition you know you did something right."

Clora Williams - Women's 400 Meters

"I went out hard for the first 100 meters and then maintained for the next 100 meters, and then I tried to take it home," Williams said. "It was the first time I've ever run a 51, so I'm very excited about that. I knew I was going to PR (set a personal record), but I didn't know what the time was going to be."