

## 2007 BIG TEN WOMEN'S INDOOR TRACK AND FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS PREVIEW

**BIG TEN WOMEN'S INDOOR TRACK & FIELD CONTACT**  
Valerie Todryk, Robert Hammel Communications Intern  
E-Mail: vtodryk@bigten.org  
Work: (847) 696-1010 ext. 146 • Cell: (608) 206-0275

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1500 West Higgins Road • Park Ridge, IL 60068-6300 • Phone: (847) 696-1010 • Fax: (847) 696-1110 • Website: www.bigten.org

### BIG TEN WOMEN'S INDOOR TRACK AND FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS

February 24-25 • University of Illinois • Urbana-Champaign, Ill. • Armory Track

Big Ten women's track and field opens its postseason this weekend at the 2007 Big Ten Indoor Track and Field Championships at Armory Track on the University of Illinois campus. The field includes four teams ranked in the Trackwire Top 25, including No. 1 Michigan. Minnesota (No. 9), Penn State (T-13) and host Illinois (T-16) also represent the conference in the national rankings.

Illinois has finished second in the last two championships and looks to make the jump to the top behind the strong veteran leadership of athletes like Yvonne Mensah and LaNeisha Waller. Mensah was a three-time winner at the 2006 indoors, taking home gold in the 60-meter dash, long jump and triple jump while Waller took first in the 60-meter hurdles.

Hoping to improve upon last year's 10th-place finish, Indiana is led by seniors Stacey Clausing and Lorain Price. Clausing has qualified provisionally for the NCAAs in the 200- and 400-meter dashes while Price was named the Big Ten's Track Athlete of the Week on Jan. 9.

Junior Kineke Alexander leads Iowa into the championships with an NCAA title under her belt having won the 400 meters at the 2006 national event. Alexander was a double winner at last year's Big Ten Championships with first-place finishes in the 200 and 400 meters, setting the meet record in the 400-yard event (52.31).

Michigan looks to become just the second team in conference history to win three consecutive championships having taken home the team titles in 2005 and '06. For the first time in program history, the Wolverines are ranked No. 1 in the Trackwire Top 25 while junior Nicole Edwards is ranked No. 2 in the mile and sophomore Tiffany Ofili is second in the 60-meter hurdles.

Michigan State looks to move up from its 11th-place finish in 2006 with the help of senior Erica Bailey, who placed seventh in the shot put at the 2006 championships, and junior Jackie Walton, who finished eighth in the 60-meter hurdles.

Minnesota is still looking for its first conference crown and rests its 2007 hopes upon Liz Roehrig and Heather Dorniden, back-to-back Freshman of the Year honorees in 2005 and '06, respectively. Each has been named Track Athlete of the Week once this season while senior Liz Alabi has received Field Athlete of the Week honors twice.

2006 All-American Jessica Stringer leads Ohio State into Armory Track as a returning champion having won the high jump at least year's event. The 2006 All-Big Ten honoree will be joined by Veronica Jatssek (weight throw), Jenna Harris (400 meters) and Ayrizonna Favours (400 meters), who have each qualified provisionally for the NCAAs.

Despite losing 2006 Athlete of the Year Jennifer Leatherman to graduation, Penn State remains a major contender in the title run. Junior Shana Cox has already qualified automatically for the NCAAs in the 400 meters, and she and teammate Lena Bettis have received weekly honors from the conference this season.

Purdue brings a balanced attack into the championships, boasting three NCAA provisional track times and two provisional field scores. Corrie Whisner has qualified provisionally in the mile and 3,000 meters while Mallory Peck owns a provisional jump in the pole vault, for which she received Field Athlete of the Week honors on Jan. 30.

Wisconsin athletes have captured four NCAA provisional marks including Melissa Talbot, whose score of 4,048 in the pentathlon came two points away from an automatic qualification. Talbot was named Big Ten Field Athlete of the Week on Jan. 30 for her efforts. The Badgers own seven team titles, trailing Michigan by one for a share of the conference record.



### 2007 BIG TEN CHAMPIONSHIPS SCHEDULE

#### Saturday, Feb. 24

9:00 a.m. Pentathlon 60-meter hurdles  
9:45 Pentathlon high jump  
11:30 Pentathlon shot put  
12:30 p.m. Pentathlon long jump  
1:30 3,000 meters - unseeded section (final)  
2:00 Pentathlon 800 meters  
Pole vault (trials & finals)  
2:30 Shot put (trials & finals)  
2:50 One mile (trials)  
3:15 400 meters (trials)  
Long jump (trials & final)  
3:35 60 meters (trials)  
3:45 800 meters (trials)  
4:10 60-meter hurdles (trials)  
4:20 600 meters (trials)  
4:35 200 meters (trials)  
5:00 3,000 meters - seeded section (finals)  
5:20 Distance medley relay (finals)

#### Sunday, Feb. 25

10:00 a.m. Weight throw (trials & finals)  
12:45 p.m. Triple jump (trials & finals)  
1:00 High jump (trials & finals)  
5,000 meters - unseeded section (finals)  
One mile (finals)  
2:00 400 meters (finals)  
2:10 60 meters (finals)  
2:25 800 meters (finals)  
2:30 60-meter hurdles (finals)  
2:40 600 meters (finals)  
2:50 200 meters (finals)  
3:00 5,000 meters - seeded section (finals)  
3:30 4x400-meter relay (finals)  
3:50 Team Awards Presentation

### TRACKWIRE 25 POWER RANKINGS

(Released Feb. 13, 2007)

1	<b>MICHIGAN</b>	43
2	Arizona State	41
3	Stanford	35
4	Georgia	34
5	South Carolina	33
6	LSU	26
	Tennessee	26
	Auburn	26
9	<b>MINNESOTA</b>	25
10	Texas A&M	21
11	Texas Tech	19
	Texas	19
13	<b>PENN STATE</b>	15
	Hampton	15
	Washington State	13
16	<b>ILLINOIS</b>	12
	Georgia Tech	12
	Arkansas	12
19	UCLA	11
	North Carolina	11
21	Villanova	10
	Southern Illinois	10
	Kansas	10
	Duke	10
	USC	10

### CHAMPIONSHIPS CONTACTS

#### University of Illinois

Anastasia Harold, Women's Indoor Track & Field Contact  
Phone: (217) 244-5045  
Cell: (217) 493-9216  
Fax: (217) 333-5540  
aharold2@uiuc.edu

#### Big Ten Conference

Valerie Todryk, Women's Indoor Track & Field Contact  
Phone: (847) 696-1010 ext. 146  
Cell: (608) 206-0275  
Fax: (847) 696-1110  
vtodryk@bigten.org

#### Media Coverage

Updates, summaries and live results will be available daily on the Big Ten website at www.bigten.org. Live results and summaries can also be found on the Illinois website at fightingillini.com

# 2007 BIG TEN WOMEN'S INDOOR TRACK & FIELD

## FINAL BIG TEN TRACK AND FIELD ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

### TRACK ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Ayrizonna Favours, Ohio State

So., Columbus, Ohio/Eastmoor Academy

Favours set an NCAA provisional qualifying mark in the 60-meter dash at the Buckeye Invitational with a time of 7.43. The mark ranks fifth all-time in the Ohio State record books.

Last OSU AOW: Shelaine Larson (2/22/06)

### CO-FIELD ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

Peaches Roach, Iowa

Sr., Kingston, Jamaica/Alpha Academy

James won the high jump at the Iowa Invitational with a leap of 6'00.00." The mark was an NCAA provisional qualifier and was less than half an inch short of an automatic qualification. Roach's leap also tied a facility record.

Last IOWA AOW: This is Iowa's first weekly indoor honor

Veronica Jatsek, Ohio State

So., Walton Hill, Ohio/Trinity

Jatsek recorded winning distances in the weight throw and shot put over the weekend at the Buckeye Invitational. Jatsek's mark of 68'01.5" in the weight throw was an NCAA provisional qualifying score while her toss of 49'07.75" in the shot put was her season best.

Last OSU AOW: Shelaine Larson (2/22/06)

## WOMEN'S BIG TEN INDOOR TEAM CHAMPIONS

TM	I	T	F	R		
8	46	25	12	6	Michigan	1983-94-98-99-02-03-05-06
7	82	58	12	13	Wisconsin	1982-84-85-86-87-90-97
5	68	31	22	11	Illinois	1989-92-93-95-96
3	52	33	15	4	Indiana	1988-91-00
1	38	8	22	9	Purdue	2001
1	12	3	10	1	Penn State	2004
0	43	20	23	1	Ohio State	
0	31	23	5	3	Michigan State	
0	24	16	5	1	Iowa	
0	15	3	11	1	Minnesota	

TM - team titles

I - total individual/relay titles

T - track

F - field (includes pentathlon)

## 2006 ALL-BIG TEN WOMEN'S INDOOR TRACK & FIELD TEAMS

### FIRST TEAM

Yvonne Mensah, ILL  
LaNeisha Waller, ILL  
Kineke Alexander, IOWA  
Katie Erdman, MICH  
Nicole Edwards, MICH  
Geena Gall, MICH  
Amber Hay, MICH  
Erin Webster, MICH  
Alyson Kohlmeier, MICH  
Heather Dorniden, MINN  
Liz Roehrig, MINN  
Jessie Stringer, OSU  
Aleesha Barber, PSU  
Dominique Blake, PSU  
Shana Cox, PSU  
Jennifer Leatherman, PSU  
Briene Simmons, PSU  
Blair Luethmers, WIS

### SECOND TEAM

Nina Henson, ILL  
Cassie Hunt, ILL  
Carlene Robinson, ILL  
Krista Anderson, IOWA  
Meghan Armstrong, IOWA  
Ashley Granger, IOWA  
Tiffany Johnson, IOWA  
Lindsey McCalla, IOWA  
Shannon Stanley, IOWA  
Tiffany Ofili, MICH  
Bettie Wade, MICH  
Rebecca Walter, MICH  
Christin Kingsley, MINN  
Liz Roehrig, MINN  
Andrea Smith, MINN  
Keturah Lofton, OSU  
Janine Zylinski, OSU  
Shuntia Lucas, WIS

### Athlete of the Championships:

Yvonne Mensah, ILL

### Athlete of the Year:

Jennifer Leatherman, PSU

### Freshman of the Year:

Heather Dorniden, MINN

### Coach of the Year:

James Henry, MICH

## ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

Jan. 9: T: Lorain Price, Sr., IND  
F: Jacqueline Coleman, Fr., IND  
Jan. 16: T: Tiffany Ofili, So., MICH  
F: Lena Bettis, Jr., PSU  
Jan. 23: T: Liz Roehrig, Jr., MINN  
F: Liz Alabi, Sr., MINN  
Jan. 30: T: Shana Cox, Jr., PSU  
F: Mallory Peck, So., PUR  
F: Melissa Talbot, Sr., WIS  
Feb. 6: T: Tiffany Ofili, So., MICH  
F: Heather Dorniden, So., MINN  
F: Liz Alabi, Sr., MINN  
Feb. 13: T: Nicole Edwards, Jr., MICH  
F: Mariesa Greene, Jr., ILL  
Feb. 20: T: Ayrizonna Favours, So., OSU  
F: Peaches Roach, Sr., IOWA  
F: Veronica Jatsek, So., OSU

## 2006 TEAM RESULTS

Place		Score
1.	Michigan *	126.67
2.	Illinois	112
3.	Minnesota	104.83
4.	Penn State	85
5.	Wisconsin	71
6.	Ohio State	61
7.	Iowa	57.5
8.	Purdue	49
9.	Indiana	19
10.	Michigan State	16

\* Big Ten Champion

## CHAMPIONSHIPS HONORS

### ATHLETE OF THE CHAMPIONSHIPS

1988 Bridgette Tate, OSU  
1989 Suzy Favor, WIS  
1990 Suzy Favor, WIS  
1991 Amy Legacki, IND  
1992 Tonja Buford, ILL  
1993 Tonja Buford, ILL  
1994 Molly McClimon, MICH  
1995 Carmel Corbett, ILL  
1996 Kathy Butler, WIS  
1997 Kathy Butler, WIS  
1998 Tania Longe, MICH  
1999 Jenelle Deatherage, WIS  
2000 Donica Merriman, OSU  
2001 Donica Merriman, OSU  
2002 Katie Jazwinski, MICH  
2003 Rachele Boone, IND  
2004 Connie Moore, PSU  
2005 Lindsey Gallo, MICH  
2007 Yvonne Mensah, ILL

# 2007 BIG TEN WOMEN'S INDOOR TRACK & FIELD

## BIG TEN INDOOR CHAMPIONSHIPS RECORDS

Event	Record	Record Holder	Year	Site
60-meter Dash	:07.21	Rachelle Boone, IND	2003	Bloomington, Ind.
200-meter Dash	:23.44	Consuella Moore, PSU	2004	Iowa City, Iowa
<b>400-meter Dash</b>	<b>:52.31</b>	<b>Kineke Alexander, IOWA</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>Madison, Wis.</b>
600-meter Run	1:27.99	Amy Wickus, WIS	1994	West Lafayette, Ind.
800-meter Run	2:06.02	Rachel Sturtz, MICH	2003	Bloomington, Ind.
1,000-meter Run	2:50.31	Tina Parrott, IND	1986	Bloomington, Ind.
1,500-meter Run	4:19.21	Cathy Branta, WIS	1985	Columbus, Ohio
One-mile Run	4:35.97	Suzy Favor, WIS	1988	West Lafayette, Ind.
3,000-meter Run	9:08.42	Stephanie Herbst, WIS	1986	Bloomington, Ind.
5,000-meter Run	15:50.10	Katie Ishmael, WIS	1985	Columbus, Ohio
60-meter hurdles	:07.98	Donica Merriman, OSU	2001	West Lafayette, Ind.
		Perdita Felicien, ILL	2002	University Park, Pa.
4x400-meter Relay	3:40.44	Indiana, (Carruthers, Towns, Richmond, Boone)	2002	University Park, Pa.
4x440-yard Relay	3:41.96	Michigan State, (J. Sedwick, Boeman, Burkett, Brown)	1983	Madison, Wis.
4x880-yard Relay	8:44.34	Wisconsin, ((Metz, Watson, C'ote, Wickus)	1993	Bloomington, Ind.
4x800-meter Relay	8:48.43	Wisconsin, (Mattes, Sherman, Schlitz, Gentes)	1990	Madison, Wis.
<b>Distance Medley Relay</b>	<b>11:25.50</b>	<b>Michigan, (Kohlmeier, Hay, Gall, Erdman)</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>Madison, Wis.</b>
High Jump	6'02.75" (1.89m)	Nicole Forrester, MICH	1999	Columbus, Ohio
Long Jump	21'03.25" (6.45m)	Rose Richmond, IND	2003	Bloomington, Ind.
Triple Jump	44'01.50" (13.44m)	Chi-Chi Aduba, PSU	2003	Bloomington, Ind.
Shot Put	55'02.00" (16.81m)	Ja'Nai O'Connor, PSU	2004	Iowa City, Iowa
<b>Pole Vault</b>	<b>13'01.75" (4.00m)</b>	<b>Ebbie Metzinger, PUR</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>University Park, Pa.</b>
		<b>Blair Luethmers, WIS</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>Madison, Wis.</b>
<b>Weight Throw</b>	<b>74'10.50" (22.82m)</b>	<b>Jennifer Leatherman, PSU</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>Madison, Wis.</b>
Pentathlon	4181	Corissa Yasen, PUR	1996	Madison, Wis.

Records set at the 2006 Big Ten Championships in **bold**.

## RETIRED RECORDS

Event	Record	Record Holder	Year	Site
55-meter Dash	:06.73	Celena Mondie, ILL	1989	Champaign, Ill.
60-yard Dash	:06.86	Odessa Smalls, MSU	1987	Ann Arbor, Mich.
300-yard Dash	:33.83	Diane Dixon, OSU	1983	Madison, Wis.
300-meter Dash	:38.52	Odessa Smalls, MSU	1985	Columbus, Ohio
440-yard Dash	:54.03	Judi Brown, MSU	1983	Madison, Wis.
500-meter Dash	1:10.18	Adriane Diamond, IND	1986	Bloomington, Ind.
600-yard Run	1:20.43	Gretchen Grier, ILL	1983	Madison, Wis.
880-yard Run	2:07.30	Jacqui Sedwick, MSU	1983	Madison, Wis.
1,000-yard Run	2:28.26	Suzy Favor, WIS	1987	Ann Arbor, Mich.
Two-mile Run	9:52.77	Cathy Branta, WIS	1984	Champaign, Ill.
Three-mile Run	15:19.70	Katie Ishmael, WIS	1984	Champaign, Ill.
55-meter Hurdles	:07.69	Dawn Riley, ILL	1996	Madison, Wis.
60-yard Hurdles	:07.78	Bridgette Tate, OSU	1987	Ann Arbor, Mich.
4 X 220-yard Relay	1:41.26	Michigan State (Brown, Burkett, Brennan, J. Sedwick)	1982	Bloomington, Ind.