



***2004 REVIEW***

***Jamie Fishencord***

# NEW MEXICO TRACK & FIELD 2006



## 2005 TOP INDOOR RESULTS

	<u>TIME/MARK</u>	<u>MWC RANK</u>	<u>MEET</u>	<u>DATE</u>
<b>60 Meters</b>				
W - Kristan Matison	7.77*	T10th	MWC Championships (prelims)	Feb. 26
M - Ahmed Raji	7.00*	9th	MWC Championships (prelims)	Feb. 26
<b>200 Meters</b>				
W - Kimilia Davis	25.21	11th	Mountain T's Invitational	Feb. 5
M - Ahmed Raji	21.90	7th	MWC Championships (finals)	Feb. 25
<b>400 Meters</b>				
W - Ariel Burr	56.75	11th	MWC Championships (prelims)	Feb. 25
M - Jarrid Solomon	49.34	11th	MWC Championships (prelims)	Feb. 25
<b>800 Meters</b>				
W - Riann Lucy	2:14.02*	8th	Mountain T's Invitational	Feb. 5
M - Cameron Clarke	1:52.34*	4th	Mountain T's Invitational	Feb. 5
<b>Mile</b>				
W - Jacquelyne Gallegos	5:05.57*	14th	Mountain T's Invitational	Feb. 5
M - Shadrack Kiptoo-Biwott	4:06.49*	6th	Mountain T's Invitational	Feb. 5
<b>3,000 Meters</b>				
W - Jacquelyne Gallegos	9:45.99	2nd	Tyson Invitational (unseeded)	Feb. 11
M - Matt Gonzales	8:11.96*	4th	MWC Championships	Feb. 26
<b>5,000 Meters</b>				
W - Jacquelyne Gallegos	N/A (due to lap error)		MWC Championships	Feb. 25
M - Matt Gonzales	13:45.72	1st (8th NCAA)	NCAA Championships	March 11
<b>60-Meter Hurdles</b>				
W - Amber Nolte	9.52*		MWC Championships (prelims)	Feb. 26
M - Derek McDonald	8.59*	12th	Mountain T's Invitational (finals)	Feb. 5
<b>4x400m Relay</b>				
W - Mills, Pritchard, Davis, Burr	3:54.31	7th	Mountain T's Invitational	Feb. 5
M - McCain, Solomon, Henry, Burgener	3:19.47*	5th	MWC Championships	Feb. 26
<b>Distance Medley Relay</b>				
W - Gallegos, Burr, Lucy, Hall	12:26.83*	7th	MWC Championships	Feb. 25
M - Kiptoo-Biwott, Clarke, McCain, Gonzales	9:46.26*	2nd	MWC Championships	Feb. 25
<b>High Jump</b>				
W - Stefany Setliff	5-02.25		MWC Championships	Feb. 28
M - Derek McDonald	6-05.50	8th	Air Force Invitational (heptathlon)	Jan. 21
<b>Pole Vault</b>				
W - Whitney Johnson	13-00.25	3rd (29th NCAA)	MWC Championships	Feb. 25
M - Derek Mackel	17-05.50	4th (T28th NCAA)	MWC Championships	Feb. 26
<b>Long Jump</b>				
W - Stefany Setliff	16-10.00		Air Force Invitational (pentathlon)	Jan. 21
M - Derek McDonald	23-01.75	5th	Air Force Invitational (heptathlon)	Jan. 21
<b>Triple Jump</b>				
W - Jai McBride	37-07.75	8th	MWC Championships	Feb. 26
M - Dominic Meadows	46-02.00	8th	MWC Championships	Feb. 26
<b>Shot Put</b>				
W - Amanda Barnes	49-04.50	3rd	MWC Championships	Feb. 26
M - Gary Hoodless	47-02.50		Air Force Invitational	Jan. 22
<b>Weight Throw</b>				
W - Amanda Barnes	60-10.75	3rd (44th NCAA)	MWC Championships	Feb. 25
M - Gary Hoodless	46-11.00	12th	MWC Championships	Feb. 25
<b>Pentathlon/Heptathlon</b>				
W - Stefany Setliff	3,069	16th	MWC Championship	Feb. 24-25
M - Derek McDonald	4,966	5th	MWC Championships	Feb. 24-25

\* Indicates altitude adjusted time

# NEW MEXICO TRACK & FIELD 2006



2006 TOP OUTDOOR RESULTS

	<u>TIME/MARK</u>	<u>MWC RANK</u>	<u>MEET</u>	<u>DATE</u>
<b>100 Meters</b>				
W - Kristan Matison	11.86*	4th	Modrall Sperling Don Kirby Invitational	April 30
M - Ahmed Raji	10.76	4th	MWC Championships (prelims)	May 13
<b>200 Meters</b>				
W - Kimilia Davis	24.38*	6th	Modrall Sperling Don Kirby Invitational	April 30
M - Ahmed Raji	21.46*	3rd	MWC Championships (prelims)	May 13
<b>400 Meters</b>				
W - Ariel Burr	54.11*	3rd (15th Midwest)	MWC Championships (finals)	May 14
M - Jarrin Solomon	47.05*	2nd (22nd Midwest)	MWC Championships (finals)	May 14
<b>800 Meters</b>				
W - Riann Lucy	2:10.36	8th	Mt. SAC Relays (Olympic Development)	April 15
M - Shadrack Kiptoo-Biwott	1:50.76*	5th	MWC Championships (finals)	May 14
<b>1,500 Meters</b>				
W - Jacquelyne Gallegos	4:47.68		Willie Williams Classic	March 19
M - Matt Gonzales	3:43.31	2nd (4th Midwest)	Stanford Invitational	March 26
<b>5,000 Meters</b>				
W - Jacquelyne Gallegos	17:01.83	5th	Stanford Invitational	March 26
M - Matt Gonzales	13:40.57	1st (2nd Midwest)	Mt. SAC Relays (Invitational)	April 15
<b>10,000 Meters</b>				
W - Lindsay Barr	37:57.34*	10th	MWC Championships	May 13
M - Matt Gonzales	28:17.46	1st (6th NCAA)	Cardinal Invitational	May 1
<b>100/110-Meter Hurdles</b>				
W - Stefany Setliff	15.59*		MWC Championships (prelims)	May 13
M - Mark Lamb	14.91	6th	Mesa Track & Field Classic	April 15
<b>400-Meter Hurdles</b>				
W - Haily Lee	1:03.80*	15th	Modrall Sperling Don Kirby Invitational	April 30
M - Mark Lamb	54.79*	9th	MWC Championships (prelims)	May 13
<b>3,000-Meter Steeplechase</b>				
W - Stasia Ploskonka	12:06.25	14th	Mesa Track & Field Classic	April 15
M - Nate Clem	9:53.80*	16th	MWC Championships	May 13
<b>4x100- Meter Relay</b>				
W - Davis, Burr, Shaw, Matison	46.38*	4th	Modrall Sperling Don Kirby Invitational	April 30
M - White, Laws, Solomon, Raji	41.21	3rd	UC San Diego Triton Invitational	April 23
<b>4x400-Meter Relay</b>				
W - Mills, Davis, Lucy, Burr	3:48.92*	5th	Modrall Sperling Don Kirby Invitational	April 30
M - McCain, Solomon, Henry, White	3:12.29*	2nd	MWC Championships	May 14
<b>High Jump</b>				
W - Tiyana Peters	5-07.00	T6th	UTEP Springtime Invitational	April 2
M - Alfred Neale	6-10.75	3rd (T16th Midwest)	UTEP Springtime Invitational	April 2
<b>Pole Vault</b>				
W - Whitney Johnson	12-11.50	T3rd (T8th Midwest)	Texas Relays (Section A)	April 9
M - Derek Mackel	17-08.50	4th (8th Midwest)	Texas Relays (Section A)	April 9
<b>Long Jump</b>				
W - Stefany Setliff	16-01.50		MWC Championships	May 13
M - Derek McDonald	23-02.00	4th	UTEP Springtime Invitational	April 2
<b>Triple Jump</b>				
W - Jamie Padilla	33-03.25	16th	Modrall Sperling Don Kirby Invitational	April 30
M - Willie Yuen	46-10.75	7th	Modrall Sperling Don Kirby Invitational	April 30
<b>Shot Put</b>				
W - Amanda Barnes	52-09.50	2nd (4th Midwest)	UC San Diego Triton Invitational	April 23
M - Jordan Parker	55-03.00	5th (25th Midwest)	Willie Williams Classic	March 19
<b>Discus</b>				
W - Amanda Barnes	166-11	4th (12th Midwest)	Modrall Sperling Don Kirby Invitational	April 30
M - Jordan Parker	171-00	5th (24th Midwest)	Modrall Sperling Don Kirby Invitational	April 30
<b>Hammer Throw</b>				
W - Jamie Fishencord	192-06	3rd (6th Midwest)	Modrall Sperling Don Kirby Invitational	April 30
M - none				
<b>Javelin</b>				
W - Veronica R. Gonzales	150-07	2nd (14th Midwest)	UC San Diego Triton Invitational	April 23
M - Matt Keeran	211-05	2nd (11th Midwest)	MWC Championships	May 14
<b>Heptathlon/Decathlon</b>				
W - Stefany Setliff	3,986		MWC Championships	May 11-12
M - Dan Feltman	7,278	1st (18th NCAA)	MWC Championships	May 12-13

\* Indicates altitude adjusted time

# NEW MEXICO TRACK & FIELD 2006



## 2005 SEASON REVIEW

The 2005 track and field season proved to be one of the best in head coach Matt Henry's five-year tenure. New Mexico unveiled its new state of the art indoor track at the Albuquerque Convention Center and went on to a record setting winter season. During the outdoor campaign, school records continued to fall and the UNM men and women had their best combined performance at a conference championship meet in 15 years. The year concluded with senior Amanda Barnes (Carlsbad, N.M.) and juniors Dan Feltman (Deming, N.M.) and Matt Keeran (Albuquerque La Cueva) giving New Mexico its largest contingent at the NCAA Outdoor Championship meet since 1991. It also marked the first time in twenty years that three in-state products represented the Lobos at the national meet.

During the indoor and outdoor seasons, Lobo athletes combined to earn all-Mountain West Conference honors 22 times and win four gold medals at the MWC Championships. Senior Matt Gonzales, meanwhile, capped his remarkable career by earning All-America honors in the 5,000 meters in his NCAA Indoor Championships debut. Following the season, 37 men and women earned a spot on the MWC Academic all-conference team, including 18 who were given MWC Scholar-Athlete Awards for posting a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher.

### **LOBO ALL-AMERICAN 2.36 SECONDS AWAY FROM NATIONAL TITLE**

Matt Gonzales proved once again to be one of the most underrated distance talents in the nation as he knocked off six higher-ranked runners in a fourth place finish in the men's 5,000 at the 2005 NCAA Indoor Championships at the Randal Tyson Indoor Track Center. In his final national championships appearance, the University of New Mexico senior improved his own school and Mountain West Conference records with a time of 13:45.72 in just his second career indoor 5K. He finished less than three seconds behind Stanford senior Ian Dobson, who won the race in 13:43.36. A native of Santa Fe, Gonzales earned All-America honors for the third time in his track career, snapping a 15-year drought for the Lobos indoors.

After completing a near wire-to-wire victory (13:49.06) in his first indoor 5,000-meter race the previous week at Notre Dame, Gonzales stayed back in the middle of the 15-man pack for much of the race before making a late charge. Although he passed a pair of runners in the final 400 meters, including top-seeded Matt Tegenkamp of Wisconsin, UNM head coach Matt Henry said the leaders had pulled a bit too far away for the tenacious 5-5 Gonzales to catch.

"It's not typical of the way he normally races, but we thought we'd try to sit back this time and see what we could do," Henry said. "I know we both wish we could do it over again tomorrow, but he showed how special he is once again tonight and I couldn't be more proud of his performance."

Dobson, an eight-time All-American, won his first career national title. Arizona junior Robert Cheseret of Kenya finished second (13:44.51), while Wisconsin sophomore Chris Solinsky was third (13:45.34).

"This was a very, very good field," Henry said. "Just to get in this race in the final week of the season was something special."

Gonzales, who was the first UNM man to compete at the NCAA Indoor Championships since 1993, became New Mexico's first indoor All-American since weight thrower Darren Crawford in 1990 and the first Lobo to earn All-America honors inside on the track since Ibrahim Hussein finished third in the 1,000-yard run in 1984.

Already a two-time honoree for UNM during the fall in cross country, Gonzales earned All-America honors for the third time on the track, including twice outdoors in the 10,000. He was the first men's runner in Mountain West Conference history to earn All-America honors in the indoor 5,000 and never finished lower than fourth in his three career national championship races on the oval.



**MATT GONZALES**  
5,000m All-American  
MWC 3,000m Champion

# NEW MEXICO TRACK & FIELD 2006

**THE ROAD TO ARKANSAS:** Gonzales came from out of nowhere to make a run at the national title. He did not compete at all during the 2005 indoor regular season before making his debut at the Mountain West Conference Championship meet.

After running the anchor leg mile for the Lobos' runner-up distance medley relay team on day two of the meet (Feb. 25), Gonzales came back less than 24 hours later to win the 3,000 in his first individual race of the year. He clocked a career-best altitude-adjusted time of 8:11.96 en route to, remarkably, his first career indoor conference victory.

A week later (March 4), Gonzales travelled with a group six Lobos to Notre Dame's Alex Wilson Invitational last chance meet and stunned the field in his first career indoor 5,000-meter race. Leading nearly from start to finish, he won the event with a NCAA automatic qualifying time of 13:49.06, at the time setting both UNM and MWC records in the process.

## ZIA PRIDE

Since taking over at his alma mater in the summer of 2000, UNM head coach Matt Henry has made New Mexico's finest high school track and field athletes the cornerstone of his up-and-coming program. This year, over 80 percent (74 total) of Henry's Lobos hailed from the Land of Enchantment, including 31 former New Mexico high school state champions on the men's and women's roster. Former prep champs Amanda Barnes (shot put - 5A Carlsbad HS), Dan Feltman (5 events - 4A Deming HS) and Matt Keeran (javelin - 5A Albuquerque La Cueva HS) represented UNM at the 2005 NCAA Outdoor Championships, marking the first time in 20 years that three New Mexicans have donned the cherry and silver at the NCAA Championships. In 1985, Albuquerque natives Ted Crouch (hammer), Carole Roybal (3,000m) and Pam Posey (100m) were among the five UNM men and women to qualify for the national meet.

## MWC OUTDOOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

**FORT COLLINS, COLO.** - The UNM men and women earned all-conference honors 14 times en route to their best combined performance at a conference meet in 15 years. Juniors Dan Feltman (decathlon) and Matt Keeran (javelin) took home MWC titles, while rookies Ariel Burr (400), Kristan Matison (100), Shadrack Kiptoo-Biwott (800 & 1,500) and Jarrin Solomon (400) were among the all-MWC honorees. The New Mexico men scored 107.5 points to finish fourth, while the women tallied their best score since 2000, to finish sixth (64.5 points).

The men surpassed the 100-point plateau for the second time in the past four years, under fifth-year head coach Matt Henry. It was the team's second-highest output since 1990, only behind the 125.5 points scored by Henry's 2002 team. Prior to Henry's arrival, the Lobos had gone 11 straight years without reaching the century mark. The New Mexico women moved up two spots from the previous year to earn their best place in the standings since 2001. The Lobos finished just 1.5 points behind of fifth place UNLV.



**AMANDA BARNES**  
NCAA Woman of the Year nominee  
NCAA Shot Put Qualifier  
Three-time all-MWC



**DAN FELTMAN**  
NCAA decathlon qualifier  
MWC decathlon champion



**MATT KEERAN**  
NCAA javelin qualifier  
MWC javelin champion



2005 SEASON REVIEW

# NEW MEXICO TRACK & FIELD 2006



The men and women combined for 172 points over the four-day meet, the best combined scoring output since 1990 when the men finished third in the Western Athletic Conference Championships and the women were the runners-up in the High Country Athletic Conference.

## MWC INDOOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

**COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo.** - The New Mexico men enjoyed their best scoring output in 15 years at the Mountain West Conference Indoor Championships, finishing fifth with 67 points, just 11 points shy of fourth place Wyoming. The Lobo women finished with 31 points, an eight-point improvement on their 2004 score, but dropped one spot from the previous year, placing seventh overall.

The two squads combined to earn all-MWC honors in eight events, including conference titles in the 3,000 and 5,000 by Northern New Mexico distance stars Matt Gonzales and Ben Ortega. Four years after winning his first league title as a true freshman, Ortega found himself standing atop the medals podium once again after running a career-best time of 14:06.95 en route to an upset victory in the 5,000.

## MWC ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

University of New Mexico senior Amanda Barnes and junior Derek Mackel each won their first Mountain West Conference Athlete of the Week awards during the 2005 outdoor season.

Barnes received the award after her record-breaking 52-09.50 throw on April 23 at the UC San Diego Triton Invitational. The throw shattered the MWC record, set in 2001 by Colorado State's Liz Toman, by over eight inches.

Mackel's third-place finish in the Section A pole vault at the Texas Relays on April 9, earned him his first Athlete of the Week award. The Albuquerque native's personal-best mark of 17-08.50 was the second-best mark in Lobo history, behind three-time All-American Simon Arkell's 1991 mark of 18-02.00. Mackel surpassed his personal-best mark by almost eight inches as he defeated two of the nation's top-ten pole vaulters.

## INDOOR RECORDS CONTINUE TO FALL

Under fifth-year head coach Matt Henry, the Lobos have rewritten the UNM indoor record book. Since Henry took over the program in 2001, an amazing 13 winter records have been set, including five in 2005. Junior Jacquelyne Gallegos had one of the more impressive record-setting performances as she opened the season with the best 3,000-meter race in UNM history at the Air Force Invitational.

Two years removed from a near career-ending auto accident, Gallegos secured her status as one of the finest distance runners ever to compete at the University of New Mexico. The Pojoaque, N.M. native won the seeded 3K event with an altitude adjusted time of 9:54.07, besting Kelly Dix's (now Kelly Dunbar) 1993 record by 0.3 seconds. Dunbar, who is currently a volunteer assistant coach for the Lobos, still owns the UNM indoor 5,000-meter record which she also recorded in 1993.



**VERONICA GONZALES**  
All-MWC javelin  
NCAA Regional Qualifier

Senior Amanda Barnes reclaimed her weight throw record from teammate Jamie Fishencord with a throw of 60-10.75 at the Mountain West Conference Championships and also improved her own standard in the shot put with a toss of 49-04.50. On the men's side, senior Matt Gonzales clocked a record time of 13:45.72 in his All-America run in the 5,000-meters at the NCAA Championships. Teammate Ben Ortega had set the previous mark with an altitude-adjusted time of 14:08.70 before Gonzales' late season surge. Gonzales also teamed with freshman Shadrack Kiptoo-Biwott, senior Cameron Clarke and sophomore Randle McCain to smash the UNM distance medley record with an altitude-adjusted time of 9:46.26 at the MWC meet.

## RECORD-SETTING WOMEN

Five women's records were set this spring, bringing the total to seven since head coach Matt Henry took charge of the program in 2001.

# NEW MEXICO TRACK & FIELD 2006

Senior Amanda Barnes bettered her own mark in the shot put on April 23 in San Diego with a toss of 52-09.50, while junior Jamie Fishencord surpassed her hammer throw record with a mark of 192-06 at home in Albuquerque. Barnes also recaptured the discus record from Fishencord with a throw of 166-11 in Albuquerque.

True freshman Stasia Ploskonka became the third UNM woman ever to compete in the 3,000-meter steeplechase this year and went on to break the four-year old school record in event with a time of 12:06.25 at the Mesa Classic. Fellow rookie Ariel Burr capped the year by breaking the 2001 record in the 400 with an altitude adjusted time of 54.11 at the MWC Championships in Fort Collins.

## DANDY DUO

For the first time in program history, two New Mexico men were ranked among the Trackwire Dandy Dozen in their respective events during the outdoor season. Senior Matt Gonzales was the first Lobo to be ranked in two events (5,000 and 10,000 meters) in the first Dandy Dozen rankings of the year, and was joined in early April by junior pole vaulter Derek Mackel, who earned a national ranking for the first time in his career. Gonzales was listed as high as fourth in each event, while Mackel climbed as high as seventh. Former pole vaulter and current volunteer coach Branden Bennett was the only other Lobo man to be ranked by Trackwire early in the 2003 season.

## THE QUALIFIERS

During the spring, 16 New Mexico athletes earned qualifying marks for either the NCAA national or regional championship meets. Three UNM runners qualified in the men's 5,000 and two qualified in the 1,500. The Lobos also had a pair of regional qualifiers in the men's pole vault and women's javelin. Seniors Amanda Barnes (shot put & discus), Ben Ortega (5,000 & 10,000) and Jordan Parker (shot put & discus), and freshman Shadrack Kiptoo-Biwott (1,500 & 5,000) all attained qualifying

times/marks in two events.

During the 2004 outdoor season, 12 Lobos earned qualifying marks for either the national or regional meets. UNM athletes qualified in four different women's events and seven men's events last year. Matt Gonzales (10,000) and Mark Johnson (decathlon) represented New Mexico at the 2004 national championship meet. The following is a look at the 2005 qualifiers:

### NCAA Automatic Qualifiers

*(1 in 1 men's events)*

#### **Sr. Matt Gonzales**

10,000m • 28:17.46 • Cardinal Invite - Stanford, Calif. (May 1)

### NCAA Provisional Qualifiers

*(2 in 2 men's events)*

#### **Jr. Dan Feltman**

Decathlon • 7,278 pts. • Mt. SAC Relays - Azusa, Calif. (April 13-14)

#### **Sr. Ben Ortega**

10,000m • 29:10.34 • Stanford Invite - Stanford, Calif. (March 25)

### NCAA Midwest Regional Qualifiers

*(15 in 8 men's and 6 women's events)*

#### **Sr. Amanda Barnes**

Shot Put • 52-09.50 • Triton Invite - San Diego, Calif. (April 23)

Discus • 166-11 • Don Kirby Invite - Albuquerque, N.M. (April 30)

#### **Fr. Ariel Burr**

400m • 54.11 • MWC Championships - Fort Collins, Colo. (May 14)

#### **So. Robert Caldwell**

Pole Vault • 17-00.75 • Texas Relays - Austin, Texas (April 7)

#### **Sr. Jamie Fishencord**

Hammer • 192-06 • Don Kirby Invite - Albuquerque, N.M. (April 30)

#### **Sr. Matt Gonzales**

1,500m • 3:43.31 • Stanford Invite - Stanford, Calif. (March 26)

5,000m • 13:40.57 • Mt. SAC Relays - Walnut, Calif. (April 15)



**JORDAN PARKER**  
All-MWC discus  
NCAA Regional Qualifier



# NEW MEXICO TRACK & FIELD 2006



**Sr. Veronica R. Gonzales**

Javelin • 150-07 • Triton Invite - San Diego, Calif. (April 23)

**Fr. Whitney Johnson**

Pole Vault • 12-11.50 • Texas Relays - Austin, Texas (April 9)

**Jr. Matt Keeran**

Javelin • 211-05 • MWC Championships - Fort Collins, Colo. (May 14)

**Fr. Shadrack Kiptoo-Biwott**

1,500m • 3:46.53 • Don Kirby Invite - Albuquerque, N.M. (April 30)  
5,000m • 14:03.32 • Stanford Invite - Stanford, Calif. (March 25)

**Sr. Derek Mackel**

Pole Vault • 17-08.50 • Texas Relays - Austin, Texas (April 9)

**Jr. Jessica McIntyre**

Javelin • 144-10 • Willie Williams Classic - Tucson, Ariz. (March 18)

**Sr. Alfred Neale**

High Jump • 6-10.75 • Springtime Invite - El Paso, Texas (April 2)

**Sr. Ben Ortega**

5,000m • 14:13.85 • Mt. SAC Relays - Walnut, Calif. (April 15)

**Sr. Jordan Parker**

Shot Put • 55-03.00 • Willie Williams Classic - Tucson, Ariz. (March 18)  
Discus • 171-00 • Don Kirby Invite - Albuquerque, N.M. (April 30)

**Fr. Jarrin Solomon**

400m • 47.05 • MWC Championships - Fort Collins, Colo. (May 14)

## LOBOS, DUKE CITY ATHLETES CELEBRATE RETURN OF INDOOR TRACK

**ALBUQUERQUE, N.M.** – The University of New Mexico track and field team and a large, enthusiastic group of friends gathered at the Albuquerque Convention Center on Jan. 15 to welcome back indoor track competition after an 18-year absence from the Duke City. The collegiate athletes, which included the host Lobos and representatives from Oklahoma State, Adams State and Western State, were joined by over 300 athletes of all ages from the community.

Albuquerque mayor Martin Chávez and city council president Brad Winter were also on hand for the meet's opening ceremonies. Chavez was the official starter for the first running event of the day, a celebrity 4x200-meter relay race between the Albuquerque Fire Department and Albuquerque Police Department. Winter later competed in the men's pole vault, tying for first in the second flight with a height of 11-06.25.

The city of Albuquerque's first indoor track meet since the 1987 Western Athletic Conference Championships was a rousing success as competitors from ages 3 to 82 enjoyed the city's state-of-the-art Mondo track. While meet directors did not have enough time to secure NCAA Division I certification, several Lobos turned in impressive early season results in the exhibition meet.

Senior Amanda Barnes opened the day with a fine performance in the shot put, winning the event with ease with a mark of 47-04.50. Fellow seniors Jaime Hall and Cameron Clarke, meanwhile, swept the 800 meters in the first event on the oval. Hall clocked a time of 2:19.56, while Clarke was just off his personal record with a time of 1:55.62.

Jacquelyne Gallegos, a junior in indoor eligibility, ran a sizzling time of 10:13.68 to take second in the 3,000. Had results been official, her approximate altitude adjusted time would have been a personal best 9:51. In the men's race, fifth-year senior Ben Ortega would have also shattered his PR with his runner-up finish. Ortega clocked a time of 8:31.05, which would have translated to an altitude adjusted time of about 8:12.

"This is the best indoor track I've ever seen," said Ortega after his race. "The banks (of the indoor track) were so perfect, I hardly noticed them. I just felt like I was floating out there and I only wish we could move the conference meet here this year so I could have one more chance to run on this surface."



**BEN ORTEGA**  
MWC 5,000 Champion

Perhaps the best performance of the day came in the meet finale, when New Mexico's Derek Mackel, a junior, flew a career-best 17-00.75 to win the men's pole vault. Mackel, who set his official indoor career-best of 16-01.25 last winter, just missed on his final three attempts at 17-06.

"I'm really excited about what happened today," said UNM head coach Matt Henry. "I'm excited about the performances and that so many of our athletes were able to get an early start on the 2005 season. This facility is an outstanding step forward for track and field in the state of New Mexico. I've already had calls from about 15 universities asking if they can come and compete here next year. This was a special day and the future is only going to get better."

# NEW MEXICO TRACK & FIELD 2006

From its inception in 1999, the Mountain West Conference has been committed to excellence in intercollegiate athletics, while promoting the academic missions of its member institutions. Progressive in its approach, the MWC continues to cultivate opportunities for student-athletes to compete at the highest level, while fostering academic achievement and sportsmanship. Now in its seventh year, the MWC has been assertive in its involvement with the NCAA governance structure and has taken a leadership role in the overall administration of intercollegiate athletics.

The Mountain West Conference is noted for its geographic diversity. Some of the most beautiful terrain and landscapes in the nation can be found within Mountain West Conference boundaries, including the majestic Rocky Mountain range, which borders four MWC schools (Utah, BYU, Air Force and Colorado State). The high plains of Wyoming (elevation 7,220 feet – the highest Division I campus in the nation) contrast with the desert city of Las Vegas (the fastest growing metropolitan area in the West) and the Pacific Ocean locale of San Diego State. The southwestern flavor of New Mexico complements the western heritage and culture of Fort Worth, Texas, home of the MWC's newest member TCU.



Mountain West track and field information is available on the official website of the MWC:

**www.TheMWC.com**

## 2005 MOUNTAIN WEST CONFERENCE RECAP

### 2005 INDOOR CHAMPIONSHIPS (Colorado Springs, Colo.)

#### WOMEN (score)

1. BYU (188.5)
2. Colorado State (172)
3. Wyoming (80)
4. Utah (57.5)
5. San Diego State (54)
6. UNLV (51)
7. **New Mexico (31)**
8. Air Force (29)

#### MEN (score)

1. BYU (207)
2. Colorado State (203.5)
3. Air Force (94.5)
4. Wyoming (78)
5. **New Mexico (67)**
6. Utah (6)

### 2005 OUTDOOR CHAMPIONSHIPS (Fort Collins, Colo.)

#### WOMEN (score)

1. BYU (218)
2. Colorado State (171)
3. Wyoming (92.5)
4. San Diego State (88)
5. UNLV (66)
6. **New Mexico (64.5)**
7. Air Force (59)
8. Utah (58)

#### MEN (score)

1. BYU (280)
2. Air Force (168)
3. Colorado State (150.5)
4. **New Mexico (107.5)**
5. Wyoming (64)
6. Utah (33)

## WHERE ARE THEY?

- U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY**  
COLORADO SPRINGS, COLO.
- BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY**  
PROVO, UTAH
- COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY**  
FORT COLLINS, COLO.
- UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO**  
ALBUQUERQUE, N.M.
- SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY**  
SAN DIEGO, CALIF.
- TCU**  
FORT WORTH, TEXAS
- UNLV**  
LAS VEGAS, NEV.
- UNIVERSITY OF UTAH**  
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH
- UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING**  
LARAMIE, WYO.



MOUNTAIN WEST CONFERENCE

# NEW MEXICO TRACK & FIELD 2006



MOUNTAIN WEST CONFERENCE



## **CRAIG THOMPSON**

### **COMMISSIONER**

In the ever-changing world of intercollegiate athletics, Craig Thompson is poised to make sure the Mountain West Conference assumes its proper place within the Division I-A ranks. As the MWC embarks on its seventh season of athletic competition, Thompson enters his eighth year as the league's commissioner.

In the six-plus years at the helm of the Mountain West Thompson has been instrumental in negotiating nearly \$230 million in television revenue. Thompson has guaranteed greater levels of television exposure for all MWC sports in the years ahead with the advent of the league's partnership with College Sports Television (CSTV). A new era begins in the fall of 2006 as CSTV becomes the official television partner for the Mountain West Conference. Thompson spearheaded the league's potential 14-year agreement with CSTV, giving the fastest-growing independent cable network exclusive rights to football and men's basketball, plus coverage for all other MWC sports. The agreement incorporates all Conference-related media and marketing rights, including all television, national over-the-air and satellite radio, video-on-demand, and online and broadband rights. The multi-media partnership also includes the MWC Television Network, the first-ever regional sports network dedicated solely to an intercollegiate athletic conference.

Thompson recently navigated the Mountain West through the ever-changing landscape of intercollegiate athletics when he announced in January 2004 that TCU would become the league's ninth member beginning with the 2005-06 athletic season. As realignment swept through several NCAA Division IA conferences, Thompson remained focused on the MWC's mission and objectives, and strengthened the league's membership for the road ahead.

As Thompson looks toward the future, there is no more important issue facing the Mountain West than gaining access to college football's lucrative Bowl Championship Series. Thompson has been instrumental in the ongoing BCS discussions, and is considered a driving force in the negotiations for greater access. Following the expiration of the current Bowl Championship Series contract after the 2005 season, the new BCS structure will give the champion of the Mountain West Conference a legitimate chance of playing in a BCS game every year.

Through its first six years, the MWC has participated in 18 bowl games, with seven of the conference's eight teams having made bowl trips. The Mountain West was the only conference playing multiple bowl games in the 2000 season to go undefeated, posting a 3-0 mark. In 2004, the Conference won the ESPN Bowl Challenge Cup by Cooper Tires after going 2-1 and recording the highest winning percentage of all Division I-A conferences.

During his career, Thompson has served as a member of the Executive Committee and the Director's Cup Committee of the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics (NACDA), as well as the governing NCAA Council and various Council subcommittees. He has also played a prominent role in hosting numerous men's and women's NCAA postseason basketball tournaments in St. Louis, Atlanta, New Orleans and Denver.

The Iowa native spent his formative years in Minnesota and graduated from the University of Minnesota with an undergraduate degree in journalism. Following graduation, Thompson spent two years as assistant sports information director at Kansas State University, earning numerous CoSIDA publication awards. He then spent three years as director of public relations and promotions for the NBA's Kansas City Kings.

Thompson and his wife, Carla, reside in Monument, Colo., and have two children, Ted and Emma.

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