



NCAA Division I Indoor National Championships – Athlete Quotes from Day 1

Men's Shot Put

Ryan Whiting, Arizona State, Sophomore

21.73 meters (71-3.5) – collegiate record; No. 3 in the world in 2008

“I had a good practice earlier this week. I came here to have fun and I did. I would rather see the team win than to get this individual award. I have two more years to do this.”

(On preparation)

“I went camping (in Mount Lemon in Tucson) to get my mind relaxed. I just hung out for two days. Then on Monday, I threw 71 feet in practice and I was ready for competition.”

Women's High Jump

Ebba Jungmark, Washington State, Freshman

1.89 meters (6-2.25)

“Coming into the event, I just wanted to win. I didn't have a specific mark I was trying to set. I didn't know what the other girls jumped, so I just tried to jump my best and hoped it would be good enough to win. “

Women's Weight Throw

Brittany Riley, Southern Illinois, Senior

25.34 meters (83-1.75)

“I'm glad I won , but I could have done better. (On second place being so far behind) It's been that way all year. I wanted to win again (is defending champion) and really wanted it. It was a season-high, but I felt I could have thrown farther.”

Men's Long Jump

Reindell Cole, Northridge, Freshman

8.12 meters (26-7.75)

(On being a freshman)

“It was fun and an exciting day for me. Everybody was talking and competing, and it was fun. I was anxious and really did want to win and worked hard.”

(Washington senior Norris Frederick was second and had the best time coming in).

“He beat me to get that, so that was motivation. I like that I will have a target on my back. It will make me work harder.”

Men’s 5,000-Meter Run

Shadrack Songok, Texas A&M-Corpus Christi, Junior

“I thought I ran a good tactical race overall. It is hard to predict how the races will go, but I thought it was a good race with a nice pace to it. I wanted to make sure I stayed with the lead pack and was able to do so throughout the race. With about a mile left, I was still in contention and decided to make my move in the last 400 meters. Fortunately, it worked out for me and I won the race.”

Men’s 60-Meter Hurdles

Drew Brunson, Florida State, Senior

Set a school record of 7.527

“It’s been four long years, and I went out on top. I just stayed very focused—extra, extra focused, and a lot of prayer. (On two false starts bothering him) Not at all. I knew if I was going to win it would have to be a record. (His time of 7.527 is a school record). (On finish) It was exciting. I visualized the race and knew someone was going to have to push me. I knew the win would come down to the end.”

Women’s 60-Meter Hurdles

Tiffany Ofili, Michigan, Junior

7.94 seconds – fastest time by a collegian this year

“I’m definitely happy about winning and setting a personal record. I’m more excited about that than having the fastest time by a collegian. I was pretty confident going into the race, but I knew I had to stay focused on my lane in order to win.”

Women’s 5,000-Meter Run

Sally Kipyego, Texas Tech, Junior

“I was very glad to win this year and defend my title. It was a blessing, and I was very excited and happy. I’ve been under the weather and wanted to run a good race. I didn’t know how my body would

feel, but I felt good. I wanted to run a 37 split at the 200 and expected a set of girls with me. No one was with me, so it came down to me doing it myself. It's not as hard to run by yourself as it looks."

Men's 200-Meter Dash

Rubin Williams, Tennessee, Senior

"All in all, it was a really good and competitive race. I got off to a good start which was crucial so I was hoping for a really good time at the end. It was a personal record for me so I would have been happy even if I would have lost because I would have known I ran as well as I could. It's a good feeling to go out on a high note like that."

Women's 200-Meter Dash

Bianca Knight, Texas, Freshman

22.4 is NCAA, Collegiate and Tyson record

"There was a plan for me and my teammate Alexandria Anderson to finish one-two. We put our faith in each other, and if I didn't get it done, she was to get it done. I wanted to spice things up, and I don't know if a freshman has ever won nationals, but if not I wanted to be the first."

Men's Pole Vault

Rory Quiller, Binghamton, Senior

"Honestly, I think I got a little lucky today. Not necessarily because I won, but because none of the other guys beat my height. I'm disappointed that I was not able to clear 18-8, but fortunately no one else could either so my mark was able to stand. It feels good to get the victory as a senior, but I was going for height today and I didn't do as well as I could have done."

Men's Distance Medley Relay

Anchor Leo Manzano, Texas, Senior

"Last year was a disappointment in the event for our team, so it is nice to put together a complete race today and get the victory. It was a strong all-around effort by everyone on the team. We were thrown off a little bit going into the race because we had to change our order. The guy that was supposed to run the 1200-meters got injured pretty badly in the mile, so we had to change it up quickly and still run our race. Fortunately it didn't affect our performance and we won the race."

Women's Triple Jump

Brittney Reese, Ole Miss, Junior

"It didn't go the way I wanted. I wasn't getting good off the board, but I went out and did the best I could. I was nervous and just trying to get my first win. I was happy to get it."

Women's Distance Medley Relay

Sarah Bowman, Texas, Junior, anchor leg

(Was behind when took baton) "My coach talked to me and told me not to get too excited because I can do that. I probably should have taken the lead early, but I felt the pack come up. When I took it, I wanted to take it for good. I had to pass on the corner, but I'm pretty confident in my kick."