

# 2014 DRAKE RELAYS NOTES

**SATURDAY, APRIL 26**

**Attendance:** 14,504

**Total Attendance:** 40,795



PRESENTED BY **HyVee**

**Weather:** Low - 47, High - 76

Start - 60 degrees, clear, Wind - 6 mph, NE

Noon - 76 degrees, overcast, Wind -5 mph, NE

4 p.m. - 76 degrees, sunny, Wind - 10 mph, SSE

## DRAKE RELAYS RECORDS BROKEN

### Thursday

- High school girls 3000 -- Stephanie Jenks, Linn-Mar, 9:26.87
- High school boys 3200 -- Albert Meier, Boone, 8:46.46

### Friday

- Invitational 110 hurdles -- Hansle Parchment, Jamaica, 13.14
- Invitational high jump -- Derek Drouin, Nike, 7-10 1/2
- High school boys sprint medley relay -- Linn-Mar, 3:26.89
- High school girls 100 hurdles -- Mary Young, Urbandale, 14.30
- High school boys 800 -- Carter Lilly, Sioux City East, 1:54.62

### Saturday

- Invitational women's 100 hurdles -- Kristi Castlin, USA, 12.58
- Women's college sprint medley relay -- Oklahoma Baptist, 3:47.03
- High school girls shuttle hurdle relay -- Urbandale, 1:02.41
- High school boys 1600 -- Josh Evans, Linn-Mar, 4:10.76.

## FAST TIMES AT DRAKE STADIUMS

- Aman Wote, Ethiopia, men's mile, 3:53.39 -- No. 1 in the world this year
- Kristi Castlin, USA, women's 100 hurdles, 12.571 -- No. 1 in the world this year
- Chaunte Lowe, Nike, and Inika McPherson, unattached, women's high jump, 6-5 -- Matched No. 1 in the world this year
- Renaud Lavillenie, Nike, and Steve Lewis, adidas, men's pole vault, 18-8 1/4 -- Matched No. 1 in the world this year
- Brianna Rollins, Nike, women's 100 hurdles, 12.576 -- No. 2 in the world this year
- Kellie Wells, Nike, women's 100 hurdles, 12.68 -- No. 4 in the world this year
- Tiffany Ross-Willaims, adidas, women's 400 hurdles, 55.53 -- No. 2 in the world this year
- Nickiesha Wilson, Jamaica, women's 400 hurdles, 55.68 -- No. 4 in the world this year
- Lashinda Demus, Nike, women's 400 hurdles, 55.97 -- No. 5 in the world this year
- USA WHITE, men's shuttle hurdle relay, 53.77 -- No. 4 in the world all-time, No. 1 in the world this year
- Jamaica, men's shuttle hurdle relay, 53.83 -- No. 5 in the world all-time
- Wisconsin-Milwaukee, university-college men's shuttle

- hurdle relay, 56.39 -- No. 1 among collegians this year
- North Dakota State, university women's sprint medley relay, 3:47.73 -- No. 5 among collegians this year, No. 8 in Relays history
- Arkansas, university women's sprint medley relay, 3:48.25 -- No. 7 among collegians this year
- Georgia, university men's sprint medley relay, 3:18.22 -- No. 3 in the U.S. this year
- Illinois, university men's sprint medley relay, 3:18.38 -- No. 4 in the U.S. this year
- Purdue, university men's sprint medley relay, 3:18.76 -- No. 8 in the U.S. this year
- Purdue, university-college women's shuttle hurdle relay, 54.85 -- No. 3 among collegians this year
- Illinois, university-college women's shuttle hurdle relay, 54.95 -- No. 4 among collegians this year
- UTEP, university men's distance medley relay, 9:35.45 -- No. 5 among collegians this year
- Washington, university women's distance medley relay, 11:09.59 -- No. 6 among collegians this year
- Stephanie Jenks, Linn-Mar, high school girls 1500, 4:28.72 -- No. 3 all-time
- Urbandale, high school girls shuttle hurdle relay, 1:02.41 -- No. 2 all-time
- Sarah Plock, Iowa City High, girl 400 hurdles, 1:02.38 -- No. 6 in Relays history

## REPEAT CHAMPIONS

- Georgia, men's university sprint medley relay (third straight)
- Wisconsin-Milwaukee, men's university-college shuttle hurdle relay
- UTEP, men's university distance medley relay
- Lincoln, women's college 4x800 relay
- Lincoln, women's 4x400 relay
- Vanier Joseph, Illinois, university-college men's 110 hurdles
- Sam Penzenstadler, Loyola, Ill., university-college men's 1500
- Carly Hamilton, Georgia, university-college women's 1500
- Waukee, high school boys shuttle hurdle relay
- Sarah Plock, Iowa City High, girls 400 hurdles
- Jack Bergstrom, Johnston, high school boys 400 hurdles
- Josh Evans, high school boys 1500

## BIG JUMPS

American record holder Chaunte Lowe, a Relays crowd favorite, matched the best mark in the world this year in clearing 6-5 to win the World Championships Rematch

women's high jump. Runner-up Inika McPherson, a two-time U.S. indoor champion, also cleared 6-5, with Lowe getting the title on fewer misses. Lowe cleared six straight heights on her first attempt before she and McPherson missed three tries each at 6-6 1/4, which would have been a Relays record. Lowe holds that record at 6-6.

## A RACE WITH MERRITT

World record holder Aries Merritt helped the USA WHITE gain a spot on the all-time world list in the men's subtle hurdle relay. The team of Jeff Porter, Dominic Berger, Merritt and Ty Akin finished in 53.77 seconds, the fourth best time ever run in the event. A Jamaican team featuring Hansle Parchment, who won the World Championships Rematch 110 hurdles on Friday night, was second in 53.83, which ranks fifth all-time. The USA RED team was knocked out of the race when Spencer Adams crashed.

## SURPRISE HURDLE WINNER

Former U.S. indoor champion Kristi Castlin sped to a surprising victory in the World Championships Rematch women's 100 hurdles, beating a field that included reigning world champion and American record holder Brianna Rollins, whose 19-race winning streak was snapped, and 2008 Olympic champion Dawn Harper-Nelson. The loaded field produced the two fastest times in the world this year. Castlin ran 12.571 out of lane eight to move up to No. 1 on the world list and break the Relays record. She barley edged Rollins, who ran 12.576 for the No. 2 mark. Kellie Wells, the 2012 Olympic bronze medalist, was third in 12.68, which is fourth in the world. Harper-Nelson finished seventh in 12.87. Rollins had not lost since the 2012 Olympic Trials.

## NEW MILE LEADER

Aman Wote of Ethiopia is the new world leader in the mile after winning the invitational event in 3:53.39. Wote was the world indoor silver medalist in the 1500 this year and competed at Drake for the first time. Nick Willis of New Zealand, an Olympic silver medalist in 2008 and the Relays champion last year, was second in 4:00.71. Wote's mile was the second fastest in Relays history, trailing only the 3:51.71 that Alan Webb ran in 2007.

## HURRYIN' HURDLERS

The World Championships Rematch in the women's 400 hurdles produced three of the top five times in the world so far. Winner Tiffany Willaims, a silver medalist at the 2006 World Indoor Championships, won in 55.53, which ranks second in the world this year. Jamaican Nickiesha Wilson, who won the NCAA championship in Des Moines in 2008, was second in 55.68, which ranks fourth on the world list. Third-place finisher Lashinda Demus, the 2011 world champion and 2012 Olympic silver medalist, ran 55.97 for the fifth best time on the world.

## SOLID EFFORT FOR SMOCK

Baylor freshman Trayvon Bromell's college career is off to a sizzling star. Bromell broke the Texas Relays record in

the men's 100 earlier this month. Now he has Drake Relays title to add to his collection. Bromell won the race in 10.19, beating Big 12 Conference rival Ronnie Baker of TCU and Georgia's Johnathan Smith. Bromell has the world's second best time in the 100 this year at 10.01. An hour after winning the 100, Bromell anchored Baylor to a victory in the university 4x100 relay.

## FABULOUS FROSH

The first final event of the day produced a Relays record, thanks to a strong run by Oklahoma Baptist in the women's college sprint medley relay. The Bison, anchored by NAIA champion Hannah Helker, won in 3:47.03 to break the old mark of 3:49.11 set by Nebraska-Omaha in 2010. It was the second victory of the meet for Oklahoma Baptist, which won the men's college 4x800 on Friday.

## QUICK RECORD

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## FIRST SECTION UPSET

Slow section? Not in the men's college sprint medley relay. Running in Section One, Iowa Western Community College posted a time of 3:24.67 and that stood up through the final two sections for the victory, the school's first at the Drake Relays. Lincoln was second in 3:24.81 out of Section Three. Nearly seven hours later, Iowa Western capped its day by winning the college 4x400.

## BISON THUNDER

In a field that included the likes of Arkansas, Baylor, Ohio State, Iowa and Washington, it was North Dakota State ahead at the end in the university women's sprint medley relay. North Dakota State finished in 3:47.73 with indoor All-American Paige Stratoti on the anchor. Arkansas took second and Baylor was third. North Dakota State's time ranks No. 5 on this year's collegiate list. Arkansas stands seventh with its time of 3:48.25.

## THREEPEAT FOR THE BULLDOGS

Georgia became just the third school to win the university men's sprint medley relay three years in a row, crossing the line in 3:18.22 to nip Illinois and Purdue. Oklahoma (1976-78) and Illinois (1943-45) are the only other schools to accomplish that feat. Georgia's time ranks third in the U.S. this year, Illinois' time of 3:18.38 ranks fourth and Purdue now stands eighth with its time of 3:18.76.

## A BOILERMAKER DOUBLE

Purdue captured its second women's relay title of the weekend when it sped to a 54.85 clocking in the university-college shuttle hurdle relay. That's the No. 3 collegiate time in the country this year. The Boilermakers nipped Illinois, which ran 54.95 -- that's No. 4 on the collegiate list. Purdue won the women's 4x800 relay on Friday and got a victory from Dani Bunch in the women's shot put.

## THEY'RE NO. 1

Milwaukee ran the nation's fastest collegiate time in winning the men's university-college shuttle hurdle relay in 56.39. That's the fifth fastest time in Drake Relays history and the Panthers' second straight victory in the event.

## MINERS ON THE MOVE

NCAA champion Anthony Rotich anchored UTEP to one of the fastest times of the year in the men's university distance medley relay. The Miners ran 9:35.45, which ranks No. 5 on this year's collegiate list. Rotich covered the final 1600 in a swift 3:59.4. He also anchored UTEP to a victory in last year's race.

## HALF A HY-VEE CUP

In the second year of the Hy-Vee Cup, a tie occurred in the men's standings between Arkansas and Illinois, which each scored 34 points. Heading into the final event, the 4x400-meter relay, only two points separated the teams, with the Illini holding the advantage. The race came down to the wire, with Arkansas posting the winning time of 3:03.89, just ahead of the Illinois relay.

## BALANCED BAYLOR WINS HY-VEE CUP

Baylor won its first Hy-Vee Cup, running away with the title with a score of 38 points. The Bears finished in the top-three of all five of the Hy-Vee Cup events, winning the 4x400, finishing second in the distance medley relay and the 4x800 and third in the sprint medley relay and the 4x100.

## BLUE OVAL EXCELLENCE

The Jim Duncan Track at Drake Stadium brings out the best in Katie Flood. Flood, a former West Des Moines Dowling Catholic standout, anchored Washington to its second relay victory of the meet, carrying the Huskies to the title in the university women's distance medley. That came after she anchored the Huskies' win in the 4x1600 on Thursday. Washington ran 11:09.59, which is the No. 6 collegiate time this year, with Flood covering the final 1600 in 4:39.0. Flood won the NCAA 1500 at Drake in 2012, was a 13-time high school champion on the Drake track and won eight Drake Relays titles while in high school.

## KNIGHTS DOMINATE PREP RELAYS

Davenport Assumption turned in one of the most dominant performances in recent memory in the high school girls relays. The Knights started the weekend by winning the sprint medley relay on Friday, then followed that with wins in the 4x800, 4x200 and 4x100. Rose Ripslinger, Emma Bassier, Maddie Irmen and Markel Momsen ran on the 4x100, 4x200 and sprint medley teams.

## RARE REPEAT

Johnston's Jack Bergstrom joined an elite group with his second straight victory in the high school boys 400 hurdles. Only three others have won consecutive titles in the race. Greg Offerman of Charles City won three in a row from 2003-05, Ethan Holmes of Clinton won in 2008 and 2009 and Shaun Benefield of Mason City won in 1990 and 1991. The race has been run at the Relays since 1978.

## HURDLE REPEAT

Iowa City High's Sarah Plock became just the second runner to win back-to-back titles in the high school girls 400 hurdles. Plock won the race in 1:02.38, the sixth fastest time in Relays history. The only other girl to win consecutive championship was Sara Boisen of West Des Moines Valley in 2002 and 2003.

## LINN-MAR ACES SHINE

Linn-Mar distance aces Stephanie Jenks and Josh Evans both earned their second victories of the meet. Jenks just missed the Relays record in the girls 1500, winning in 4:28.72. That's the second-fastest time in Relays history. Jenks set a meet record in the 3200 on Thursday. Evans broke his own Relays record in the boys 1600, sweeping past Boone's Albert Meier and Gilbert's Thomas Pollard to win in 4:10.67. Evans anchored the Lions to a victory in the sprint medley relay on Friday.

## ONE FOR THE LITTLE GUYS

In a race traditionally dominated by the large schools, Monticello struck a blow for the little guys. Monticello's first three runners gave anchor Michael Melchert a nice lead and he held it to give the Panthers a victory in the high school boys 4x800. Monticello, a Class 2A school, finished in 7:51.46 as Melchert ran his leg in 1:57.1 to hold off fast-closing Josh Evans of Linn-Mar. Thirteen of the 16 schools in the race are in Class 4A.

## HERE AND THERE

- Lincoln won the women's college 4x100 relay for the third time in four years and also won the 4x400 and 4x800
- Baylor won the women's university 4x400 for the ninth time, all since 1994
- Baylor won the men's university 4x100 for the fourth time since 2007
- Arkansas won the men's university 4x400 for the first time
- Oklahoma Baptist sprinter Jura Levy had a busy day, win-

ning the college women's 100, running a leg on the winning college sprint medley relay team and running a leg on the second-place 4x100 relay team.