



BIG 12 CONFERENCE NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Texas Men and Texas A&M Women Crowned Big 12 Champions

Lincoln, Neb. – The Texas men and Texas A&M women's teams were crowned champions of the 2008 Big 12 Indoor Track & Field Championships in the final day of competition at the Bob Devaney Center in Lincoln, Neb. The Texas men's squad scored 106 points to edge out Nebraska (104) that came down to the final event of the day. The Texas A&M women's team scored the high point total of 119.25 on the weekend.

The high point scorer featured a tie on both the men's and the women's side for the first time since 1998. Julian Reid (Texas A&M) who placed first in the long jump and shot put champion Nate Englin of Missouri both finished with 15 points for the men while longjump and triple long jump champion Crystal Manning (Kansas) and last year's high point scorer Sally Kipyego of Texas Tech who won this year's 3,000 meter and mile run finished with a total of 21.50 points.

Texas A&M's Porscha Lucas tied a Big 12 meet record and currently has the top time in the world in the 200-meter dash with her 22.86 second sprint. The men's and women's mile was just another one of the meet's highlights as Sally Kipyego (Texas Tech) defended her mile crown with a Big 12 championship record of 4 minutes, 36.31 seconds and Leonel Manzano of Texas won his fourth straight title (4:01.39). Kipyego was also crowned champion in the women's 3,000 meter-run (9:17.01) after edging out the 5,000-meter champ Lisa Koll of Iowa State (9:20.87).

The men's high jump competition featured the nation's top two competitors squaring off head to head. Scott Sellers of Kansas State topped Nebraska's Dusty Jonas with a NCAA automatic-qualifying mark and nation-leading leap of 7 feet, 6 inches (2.29m.) Jonas also finished with a NCAA automatic-qualifying mark of 7'-05" (2.26m.).

Missouri's Nick Adcock was crowned champion in the heptathlon with a score of 5,795 points. In the 60-meter hurdles, Shawon Harris of Texas Tech won the title (7.77) while his teammate Julius Walker claimed the 60-meter dash with a NCAA automatic-qualifying time of 6.63. Tevan Everett (Kansas State) took first-place in the 600-yard run in a time of 1:08.56 and LeJerald Betters of Baylor claimed top honors in the 400-meter dash with 46.67.

Kyle Miller of Texas earned the conference title in the 1,000-meter run with a time of 2:26.78, while teammate Jacob Hernandez placed first in the 800-meter run (1:50.26). In the men's 3,000-meter race, Oklahoma State's Ryan Vail took top honors with 8:06.58.

Nate Englin (Missouri) claimed the Big 12 title in the shot put with a throw of 59'-07" (18.16m), while Oklahoma's Shardae Boutte won his first Big 12 title in the triple jump with a NCAA automatic-qualifying distance of 52'-10" (16.10m). Jordan Scott of Kansas won the pole vault with height of 17'-5 1/2" (5.32 m). Scott's mark equals his title-winning vault from last year.

The women's 60-meter dash had three athletes with automatic-qualifying times led by Nickesha Anderson (Kansas) with a time of 7.22. Nebraska's Cheryl Morgan claimed the title in the 600-yard run (1:20.63), while freshman Jessica Beard of Texas A&M won the 400-meter dash title with the nation's second best time (52.61). In the 1,000-meter run, freshman Nicole Jones of Baylor won for the second year in row (2:45.68) and Trisa Nickoley (Missouri) earned her third Big 12 crown in the 800-meter run with a 2:08.46 time. Nickoley is the first three-time champion in a single indoor event in school history.

In the women's field events, Crystal Manning of Kansas won her second title of the weekend in the triple jump with a NCAA automatic-qualifying distance of 43'-09 3/4" (13.35m) and Texas Tech' Patience Knight threw a NCAA automatic-qualifying distance of 56'-04 1/2" (17.18m) in the shot put. Epley Bullock of (Nebraska) earned top honors with her 6 1/2' (1.84m) leap in the high jump.

The Baylor men and the Texas A&M women won the final event of the day in the 4x400 meter relay with times of 3:06.96 and 3:36.45, respectively.

For complete results from the 2008 Big 12 Indoor Track & Field Championship visit www.big12sports.com. The qualifying athletes will travel to the NCAA Indoor Track & Field Championships in Fayetteville, Ark., March 14-15.

MEN'S TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Texas (106), 2. Nebraska (104), 3. Texas Tech (93), 4. Texas A&M (76), 5. Missouri (67), 6. Oklahoma (65.5)
7. Colorado (54), 8. Kansas State (46), 9. Baylor (38), 10. Kansas (37.5), 11. Iowa State (32), 12. Oklahoma State (22)

WOMEN'S TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Texas A&M (119.25), 2. Nebraska (95), 3. Kansas (93), 4. Texas (79), 5. Texas Tech (70.5), 6. Baylor (68.25)
7. Oklahoma (59), 8. Missouri (55), 9. Kansas State (54), 10. Iowa State (30), 11. Oklahoma State (13), 12. Colorado (5)

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