

9:00 a.m. - Sprint Medley Relay - CD Women Final

Champion- Wayland Baptist- 3:58.27

Alexis Browner, Sr., Rochene Smith, Fr., Bianca Farrington, Jr., Monique McPherson, Fr.

McPherson, Anchor

On winning:

"We were the team to beat and I played my part."

9:20 a.m. - Sprint Medley Relay- CD Men Final

Champion- Oklahoma Baptist - 3:25.07

Blake Bartlett, So., Kenneth Combs, Jr., Travis Hinton, Sr., Clay Shepperson, Sr.

Shepperson, Anchor

On his performance:

"Well... I was feeling a little sick this morning. They pulled us up to the line and the guy on the line says to me 'Are you okay?' and I said 'Nope' and he said 'You make the call' and I'm like I'm going to run. I'm not going to run and it turned out okay."

9:35 a.m. - 4x800 Meter Relay- HS Girls Final

Champion - Assumption- 9:20.99

Julia Schumacher, Fr., Christine Rohlf, Sr. Mallory King, Jr., Joy Ripslinger, So.

Ripslinger, Anchor

On the conditions:

"It was a little difficult to stay warm, the rain wasn't a factor, it was more the temperatures."

On the race:

"Throughout the beginning of the race, we were there, and I had confidence in our girls that we would make our way up there. As the anchor, I knew I had to get in there and finish it out."

9:50 a.m. - 4x800 Meter Relay - HS Boys Final

Champion - Pleasant Valley, 7;53.84.

Karson Sommer, Jr., David Zimmer, Sr., Jack Moss, Sr., Andrew Dixon, Sr.

Andrew Dixon, anchor

"It was awesome. Everybody ran really well and ran smart. Jack (Moss) put us in good position on the third leg. I knew we were going to win. I knew we had a great chance to win, but it wasn't a priority to win today. "We wanted to set a school record, but getting the W, that was awesome. I can't be anymore happier for my team."

10:00 a.m. - Triple Jump- UD/CD Women Final

Champion

LeAnna Morrison, Unattached, 41-1.25

On if the conditions negatively affected her.

"I'd say physically, yeah it did. I had to constantly keep warming up so I think I got tired toward the end. But mentally, I just stayed positive and kept telling myself I was warm."

On where this ranks on personal best.

"This would actually be my outdoor personal best, but not my overall personal best. For this condition, I'll take it."

10:00 a.m. - Pole Vault- UD/CD Women Final

Champion

Stephanie Richartz, Senior, University of Illinois, 14-1.25

How do you feel about being a Drake Relays champion?

"I am really excited because I didn't do well the last time i was here, so it was really nice to come out and perform at a high level."

What was going through your head while you were competing?

"I was glad that we moved inside because of the rainy weather outside, and I was just looking forward to an outdoor PR and aiming for a stadium record."

10:00 a.m. - Sprint Medley Relay- UD Women Final

Champion - Arkansas - 3:43.64

Regine Williams, SO, Daina Harper, SO, Taylor Ellis-Watson, JR, Chrishuna Williams, SR

R. Williams, Leg 1

On how she felt handing the baton off:

"It felt a lot better than I expected, honestly. I thought I would be really stiff and tight, but that was not the case."

Harper, Leg 2

On how it feels to be a Drake Champion:

"It feels amazing. I love my teammates and we work hard for it. So, to see the hard work come forth, its all worth it."

Ellis-Watson, Leg 3

On what she was thinking during the race:

"I was just thinking, get to the break first, because I had someone a little ahead of me on the outside."

C. Williams, Anchor

On breaking the Drake Relays record:

"On the last home stretch I heard them talking, and I saw the time. I just thought, I need to go for it. At that point, my legs were really numb so I just said, let's finish it. And as I looked at the clock, we broke the record!"

10:20 a.m. - Sprint Medley- UD Men Final

Champion- University of Illinois- 3:18.85

Molefi Watkins, Fr., Brandon Stryganek, Sr., DJ Zahn, Sr., Joe McAsey, Jr.

McAsey, Anchor

What was going through your head today during the race?

"Just get it to DJ," Brandon Stryganek, second leg, laughed. "The weather was really cold but seeing the good position we were in, and everybody's adrenaline is going, you just want to do good for your team."

How would you describe the atmosphere of the Drake Relays?

"The atmosphere here is awesome, the fans are always crazy, the stands are always packed. It's always a really good atmosphere, it always pushes you to run."

Stryganek, Leg 2

Did the weather have any effect on your race?

"No, we're used to this weather, this wasn't that bad for us."

10:40 a.m. - 3,000-Meter Steeplechase- UD/CD Women Final

Champion

Maddie Van Beek, Sr., North Dakota State, 10:15.03

Asked about the cold and rainy conditions

"You get wet anyway. I'm from the Midwest. I'm use to it. I'm from North Dakota. We deal with crappy weather all the time. I led most of the race after the first couple of laps."

10:53 a.m.-3,000-Meter Steeplechase- UD/CD Men Final

Champion

Dylan Lafond, JR, Illinois, 8:56.64

On the race.

"About at 600 meters, I just kept looking at the jumbotron seeing where I was in contention for the win. I felt really comfortable, it felt like a really controlled race. At the 400, I took off, and luckily I could hold off Claxton."

On being a Drake Champion

"Its great. I just transferred here to the University of Illinois. Its my first win in uniform so I feel really blessed to be here and in this position. It was a good day."

11:05 a.m. - 4x800 Meter Relay- CD Women Final

Champion - Lincoln - 8:57.14

Willomena Williams Sr., Jhevere Hall, Jr., Ebony Rose, Jr., Monique Thompson, Sr.

Lincoln was the Drake Relays 4x800 returning champs

Williams, Leg 1

What was your mindset starting the race off?

"To win. I just wanted to get my teammates in first place."

Hall, Leg 2

On the weather:

"It was cold! I had to rub my legs to stay warm before receiving the baton."

Rose, Leg 3

On returning to the Drake Relays

"It means a lot to be here because we won the 4x800 last year so it was important for us to win again."

Thompson, Anchor

What was your mindset on the final leg?

"I was thinking that my teammates worked really hard so I had to maintain the lead and compliment it with a championship."

11:17 a.m. - 800 Meters- Masters Women Final

Champion

Alisa Harvey, RIAD, 2:22.61

Note: Harvey won same race back in 2013 with record time of 2:17.78 which still stands.

"The weather was the biggest factor. I ran smart and kind of being safe. I had some challenges on the back stretch. I said just go and try to win and run smart. I'm coming back next year. My daughter Virginia Hill runs on the Drake track team."

12:00 p.m. - Hammer- UD/CD Men Final

Champion

Chukwuebuka Enekeuchi, Jr., Purdue, 222-5

On being a Drake champion:

"It's awesome. I got second twice, last year and the year before. It's good to be a champion. I always want one of these flags."

On the atmosphere

"Great atmosphere, good competition, good support, and a really nice facility; where the crowd looks down on you guys, so you get to hear all of them go rowdy."

12:10 p.m. - Shuttle Hurdle Relay- HS Girls Final

Champion- Waukee- 1:03.55

Hannah Schau, So., Lauren Nelson, So., Mary Gray, So. Danielle Modrell, Jr.

Grey, Leg 3

On their expectations for today:

"At the beginning of the season, we were just hoping on running a 1:05 or under because that was what would help us get through. I mean a 1:03, for us, is outstanding for this year! That was our best by about three seconds. It was awesome."

Schau, Leg 3

On what was different in the finals as compared to the prelims earlier that morning.

"In the finals, I thought we had more motivation because we knew we could do better than we have done before, and the competition was there to help us."

Modrell, Anchor

On their performance.

"We just had so much adrenaline going, and we just really wanted it from last year. We just really were motivated to win it."

12:15 p.m. - Shuttle Hurdle Relay- HS Boys Final

Champion - Waukee - 56.62

Kalen Renshaw, Jr., Pat Gray, Sr., Justin Brown, Sr., Nick Wessels, Jr.,

Wessels, Anchor

On winning the Relays

"I'm happy to continue our tradition, winning it for third year in a row."

"I'm really happy to compete out here. I've been waiting for this for a long time. I missed Drake the last two years because of a sprained ankle and a hip flexor."

12:20 p.m.- Shuttle Hurdle Relay- UD/CD Women Final

Ohio State- 54.35

Alexis Franklin, Jr., Jasmine Glover,Jr., Alexandria Johnson,Sr., Chantel Ray, Fr.

Glover, Leg 2

"The main reason we came to Drake was to win this race. It was exciting to do that. We had a few problems when we came out here, but we just wanted to win the race. It is getting toward the end of the season and we had a lot of races here. We were trying to keep fighting and coming back."

On beating Big 10 Rival Purdue:

"They are our competitors and we always want to stay in front of them."

Ray, Anchor

On the race:

"I have never been on a shuttle hurdle relay before. It was lots of fun."

12:25 p.m. - Shuttle Hurdle Relay - UD/CD Men Final

Champion- Nebraska- 56.28

Andrew Neal, Fr., Antoine Lloyd, Fr., Sean Pille, Jr., Oladapo Akinmoladun

Neal, Leg 1

On running the race:

"I was a little frustrated with my leg, didn't really get out great and I tried to make up ground towards the end. These guys did a lot of good work to make up for me, just blessed to be able to run with these guys."

On coming back to Drake Relays:

"I was here last year too and this year I really wanted to run the shuttle because we've always had enough guys but have just never been able to pull a team together"

"Coming back here is always fun because you get to watch the professionals at night and it gives me motivation to keep doing it."

On being a Drake champion

"It feels great to win, I don't know how many times you are going to get that times in college so it feels great."

Pille, Leg 2

On the race:

"It was my first time running the race so I was a little confused on how the race went, but I thought it was good because we ended up winning, can never be mad with a win."

Lloyd, Leg 3

On the weather:

"This morning during the prelims it was real hard to take our gear off and then try to run while it was rainy and freezing cold. We had a headwind going during the first and third leg, so it was rain it your faces so it was pretty difficult to push yourself and run fast."

On his first Drake Relays:

"It's been pretty great so far, I ran a couple events yesterday and it felt great to make it to the finals here today and I have a one more race today so it's been a great Drake Relays and I'm happy to get a championship with all my teammates my first time through."

12:30 p.m. - Distance Medley Relay - UD Men Final

Champion – Oklahoma State- 9:42.91

Chad Noelle, Jr., Brandon Singleton, Jr., Matthew Fayers, So., Kirubel Erassa, Sr.

Noelle, Leg 1

How important was it for you to get out quick and go with Iowa State?

"Yeah, we definitely wanted to get the lead and run free and hold people off to maintain our lead. I was watching out for the Iowa State runner during the race because we know what he is capable of."

Erassa, Anchor

What was the strategy going into the anchor leg?

“Coach and I talk about just sitting and having confidence in my kick. I just relax and do a good job, with the goal in mind to win.”

12:45 p.m. - 1,500 Meters- HS Girls Final

Champion

Stephanie Jenks, Jr. Linn-Mar, 4:31.09

On the race:

“Pretty happy about today’s performance. There was a moment in the race where my mom yelled that I gotta go. It was hard to push myself with 300 meters to go. I still had too much in the tank.”

12:52 p.m.- 1,600 Meters- HS Boys Final

Champion

Ryan Schweizer, Jr., Dowling Catholic, 4:18.18

On the race:

“When Thomas Pollard dropped out of the race, it changed my whole game plan. It kind of threw me back a little bit. The first lap I decided to sit back and see what the pace was. It was a little slow, so I decided to take the lead. I guess I led the rest of the way.”

On winning three Drake events:

“On Thursday I came in with no flags. Two days later to have three is crazy. After I won two my parents told me to start looking for the next one.”

1:00 p.m. - Triple Jump- UD/CD Men Final

Champion

Phillip Young, SR, Mississippi, 52-8.75

On being a Relays Champion:

It’s a good feeling. I wish I could have performed a little but considering the conditions I’m pleased overall.

On the conditions:

They kept me a little tighter, I didn’t get a chance to loosen up the way I would have liked to. I probably could have wore a couple more layers which is my own fault.

On experience:

As a matter of fact, this is my first time at the Drake Relays. I really love the intensity the crowd had and I was able to get them to go with me. It helped me jump what I did jump today.

1:00 p.m. - Triple Jump- Elite Men Final

Champion

Will Claye, Nike, 55-7

On his performance:

“It was good, opening up the season with the top jumpers in the world. I went out there and did what I had to do.”

About his preparation for the event:

“You can’t get ahead of yourself. August is when it really counts. This is a stepping-stone and I have things to work on.”

1:00 p.m. - Distance Medley Relay- UD Women Final

Champion- Oklahoma State - 11:15.03

Ingeborg Loevnes, FR, Savannah Camacho, SO., Summer Fields, FR, Kaela Edwards, SO

Ingeborg Loevnes, Leg 1

On her performance:

"I just tried to stay in it. We wanted me to be in the top two when I finished my leg."

Savannah Camacho, Leg 2

On how it feels to be a Drake Champion:

"It's unbelievable. This crowd is awesome and so supportive. Our whole team excitement really kept me going through that last 200m."

Summer Fields, Leg 3

On how it feels to be a Drake Champion:

"It felt really really good. The whole atmosphere and the all around crowd just had me feeling like I was at home."

Kaela Edwards, Anchor

On the atmosphere at the Drake Relays:

"It's so exciting. It's just awesome having everyone be so supportive no matter what. And our guys team did really good, so we just wanted to carry that on."

1:13 p.m. - 400-Meter Hurdles - UD/CD Men Final

Champion

Cam Viney, Jr., University of Illinois, 50.87

On the race:

"I was just trying to run my best, give God the glory. I'm running for a higher power, so that's mainly what I was thinking."

On the conditions:

"The wind was in the backstretch, so it was pretty hard. You had to kind of pick it up a little bit, faster than I normally run on the backstretch, so that was a little rough."

1:25 p.m. - 400-Meter Hurdles- HS Girls Final

Champion

Sarah Plock, Senior, Iowa City High, 1:01.22

Plock claimed her third Relays championship after winning the 400-meter hurdles.

On winning a third Relays title:

"It's awesome. It's an awesome feeling to come out here and race against these amazing girls and run in this atmosphere."

1:30 p.m. - Shot Put- UD/CD Men Final

Champion

JC Murasky, Jr., Ohio State, 19.68m,

On his winning a Drake Relays title:

"I won my first throw of finals. I got the juices flowing and it just kind of worked out. This was my first time at the Drake Relays. It was a nice first time out. I was honored to be a part of a storied competition. It is always easy to throw when there is a lot people yelling."

1:33 p.m. - 400-Meter Hurdles- HS Boys Final

Champion

Jacob Smith, Jr., West Burlington- Notre Dame, 52.55

On winning a Drake Relays title:

"I looked up at the screen and had a big smile. This is one of the happiest moments of my life right now and hopefully there is more to come. I am very blessed to be in this situation. I have an incredible coach, Corey Lamm. I would not be here if it was not for him. I set high goals for myself. I am very happy how things turned out. I worked very hard through the off season."

1:40 p.m. - 800 Meters- UD/CD Men Final

Champion

Clayton Murphy, So., Akron, 1:47.81

On how it feels to be a Drake Relays champion:

"This is actually my first time ever being at Drake, so it was a great opportunity. Especially coming down the home stretch and hearing the big crowd. And then after you're done it's even bigger applause, and you get the Drake flag. It was pretty cool."

On the atmosphere at the finish:

"I zone a lot of things out when I run. I mean, the crowd was great. I could hear the crowd. It's hard to tell just because I was so focused on running, but the last 100 I was able to open up, and really hearing the crowd really helped."

1:45 p.m. - High Jump- BWCP Women Final

Champion

Doreen Amata, 6-2.75

On coming to the Relays:

"It's exciting to be here, its my third time here."

How the weather had an affect on her performance:

"It did a lot, because I was so cold and just tried to keep warm."

1:48 p.m. - Mile- Special Men Final

Champion

Leo Manzano, Hoka One One, 4;00.5.

On his strategy:

"Every race is kind of its own. It is its own little world. It appeared to be a fast race with the rabbits. My goal was to have a good race and come out with the win. Hats off to Matt (Centrowitz) and the other competitors. We train every day,70-to-80 miles a week."

On his history on the Blue Oval:

"My 2008 race at the NCAA meet, I won the 1500 meters and I led from start to finish."

Second Place

Matthew Centrowitz, 4:00.54

On his race:

"I definitely didn't feel great going into the race. Midway through I realized I couldn't keep the pace that the rabbits were pushing. So at that point I was just worried about competing and not the time. I felt back a little bit but I was happy how I fought that last lap."

2:02 p.m. - 400-Meter Hurdles- BWCP Women Final

Champion

Cassandra Tate, 55.68

On what was going through her mind through the race:

"I just wanted to make sure that I executed my race to the best of my ability, considering the conditions, and thats what I did."

On if the conditions affected her:

"Not much at all. My coach always tells me to only worry on the the things I have control over, and I can't control the weather. I can only control my performance."

On the Drake Relays atmosphere:

"Oh I love it here! Its a great meet, the fans are amazing. The hospitality is great!"

Second Place

Georganne Moline, Nike, 55.74

On finishing second:

"The hope is always to win. But I definitely learned some things. Cassandra (Tate) is an amazing finisher and she took me out. This is just one and I have so many more so I'm excited about this year."

On how she felt throughout the race:

"I felt great. It was more a mental thing debating whether I should switch when I know I don't switch to the ninth hurdle but still thinking in my mind...it's cold...it's windy...just thinking too much in the race was my downfall but that's what I learned."

Third Place

Tiffany Williams, Nike, 56.41

On her race:

"I got out good and was in lead but I hit the tenth hurdle. So that is something I have to focus on. This was just my second race and I was more aggressive. I ran 55.68 in my opener and I would have run faster than that today if I didn't hit the last hurdle."

2:07 p.m. - 100 Meters- UD/CD Women Final

Cierra White, Texas Tech, Sr., 11.43

On being a Drake Champion:

It feels really good. It's my first time here and it was fun even though the weather wasn't that great."

On Drake Relays atmosphere:

"It's fun, I haven't really been able to watch other races but it's fun seeing the fans and the crowd."

2:12 p.m. - 100 Meters- UD/CD Men Final

Champion-

Jalen Miller, Mississippi, Jr., 10.29

On the race:

"I just wanted to come out and have a good race. From the beginning it was a good clean start, pushing, doing what my coach told me to do, and close out the race."

On competing at the Drake Relays:

"I love Drake, it's my first time here, fans are amazing and I'm just glad to come away with a championship."

2:15 p.m. - Pole Vault- BWCP Men Final

Co-Champions

Sam Kendricks, Nike, 19-1

Shawn Barber, Akron, So., 19-1

Sam Kendricks

On competing indoors:

“They moved it inside because when you have the French National Champion, the British National Champion, and the American record holder and all the best pole vaulters in the world, you want to give them the best shot. So they moved it inside so that everybody could do their best, and they did.”

On the competition:

“As the competition progressed, everybody was doing great until we got to the 18-foot bar, and then everybody started to peel off because the runway wasn’t as far as it needed to be for some guys. But in vaulting whether it’s outdoors or indoors, it’s all about adapting to the conditions, so when Shawn (Barber) and I are able to jump against each other, we always jump against each other.”

On ending the competition in a tie:

“It came down to the 5.87/19-2 bar, and he passed the final two bars and I two passed until a bar that was his PR. We were tied on misses at 19. But neither of us wanted to jump-off because we were both at the end of our games anyway. We’ve been jumping together so long that we were able to become co-champions.”

Shawn Barber

On competing indoors:

“It was a good day of jumping. It was kind of strange jumping indoors. As we got pushed back, we had to jump in a strange indoor facility, but you just kind of have to do what you have to do to make some bars and come out and jump well.”

On where this jump puts him going into the rest of the season:

“This ranks really, really high up there for me. It’s just a good test for the middle of the outdoor season. This is pretty much the middle of my outdoor season, so it’s a good test for that and it just give me an idea for where I am compared to a lot of world-class athletes. For that, I am very grateful.”

2:18 p.m. - 100-Meter Hurdles- UD/CD Women Final

Champion

Cindy Ofili, Jr., Michigan, 12.96

On the race:

“My goal wasn’t to have a great time, it was just to win.”

On being a Drake Relays champion:

“It feels great. That was my goal today. I just wanted to come out here and win, so I’m happy with it.

On the Drake Relays atmosphere:

“I love the crowd. It’s always nice to see people who love track and field as much as I do.”

2:24 p.m. - 110-Meter Hurdles- UD/CD Men Final

Champion

Omar McLeod, So., Arkansas, 13.21

On the race:

“Today is my birthday as a matter of fact and we just got here and coach said it was too cold, let’s go home but I’m like no coach, I want to race. I did three races yesterday, just for like training and I was ready and I said no coach, I’m not going home, I want to run. So I came out here with the focus to just go out there and execute a great race and I did just that and I’m happy.”

On Drake Relays:

“Its great, the crowd is great. I tried to feed off the crowd and use it to the best of my ability and I did my thing.”

2:30 p.m. - 100-Meter Hurdles- BWCP Women Final

Champion

Jasmin Stowers, Nike, 12.40, new meet record

About the race:

"I was definitely nervous, facing the top hurdlers in the world. I knew if I had a good start, I would have a good chance of winning. I couldn't believe I won. The time was crazy to me. My previous best was 12.71. Dawn Harper. Queen Harrison and the others were all great competitors. I knew if I stayed focused on my race I would be fine."

Second Place

Dawn Harper-Nelson, 12.71

On her race:

"I was really trying to focus on my start when the gun went off. I was executing really well through the first hurdle and I was extremely happy. The ending of my race isn't quite there yet. But it was a clean race for me. It was my fourth time going over hurdles this year, so I'm really excited. I'm happy with that race."

On Stowers' race:

"Jasmin (Drake Relays champ Stowers) had a great indoor season. So I knew she would be revved up and ready to go. It was great for her to be able to execute in this weather so I was really happy for her. It means its going to be a h-o-t year."

2:40 p.m. - Shuttle Hurdle Relay- Special Men Final

Champion- 52.94

Jason Richardson, USA, Aleec Harris, adidas, Aries Merritt, Nike, David Oliver, USA

Jason Richardson, first leg

On starting the race:

"I ran first leg, so it was an easier leg in regards to the chaos of the shuttle hurdles. It is a little difficult to navigate the event, but I couldn't imagine being on a better team, and I'm happy to come out with a win."

On competing in a unique event like the shuttle-hurdle relay:

"It's definitely another chance to get the competitive energy and let you know what the competition outlook is for the remainder of the season. I was able to stay competitive in the race even though I made mistakes, and it helps me get back into my old form. Im excited to get back into the outdoor season, and Drake Relays has played a part in that."

Aleec Harris, second leg

On his leg:

"It was actually a horrible leg. Thank God for Aries (Merritt) and these guys because I went from a crouch position. I forgot to come up with a set, so my team carried it through and we got the W."

Aries Merritt, third leg

On winning the event:

"It was fun race. We came out with the win and a World Record, so it was really fun and I enjoyed it. I had a really good time."

On running a shuttle hurdle relay:

"I think it's really very fun. It's definitely unique to be able to put all this depth on the same team. We have Olympic champions and World champions. We have Olympic medalists and up and coming stars on the same team, so it's a sight to see."

David Oliver, anchor

On his finish:

"It was a good run. It's just fun. The real season doesn't really start until around the championships, so you just want to

get a good rhythm, stay healthy and just compete and work on things. We've only got about two months until it really, really matters. As long as I stay healthy, I'll be straight."

2:47 p.m. - 1,500 Meters- UD/CD Women Final

Champion

Hannah Fields, SR, Oklahoma Baptist, 4:17.59

On her race:

"This is such a huge event so I knew I would have great competition. My goal was to just tuck in behind and use what I had in the last 100 meters or so."

On being a Relays Champion:

"It feels amazing. I've been a relay champion with my 4x8 team but never an individual one so it's pretty special. I've been coming to Relays for four years but this is the first time I've run an individual event."

2:55 p.m. - 1,500 Meters- UD/CD Men Final

Champion

Will Crocker, Jr, Missouri, 3.43.93

On the race:

"I was expecting a slow pace up front, but they put a rabbit in there to make it an honest pace. I'm pretty confident in my kick, so I knew if I could just hang in until a quarter to go that I'd have a good chance of winning."

On being a Drake Relays Champion:

"This is such a historic meet and it's awesome to be a part of anyone who's won."

On goals for the rest of the season:

"Just go out and compete these next few weeks, be competitive at conference, going to the regional meet and work hard and try to make nationals."

3:05 p.m. - 400 Meters- BWCP Women Final

Champion

Francena McCorory, Adidas, 50.13

On what it means to get the win:

"It means a lot. I've really been training for this particular meet, and it's kind of a big confidence-booster... There are still little things to work on but it means a lot--I'm very happy with my race today."

On what it was like stacking up against an elite field this early in the outdoor season:

"I was a little nervous because usually I will do a 400 before a big race but I didn't do that this year. But I'm happy--I executed my race the way my coach told me to and it worked."

Second Place

Sanya Richards-Ross, 51.09

On how her race felt:

"I'm still working through the middle part of my race, the back stretch and turn. I felt stronger coming home which was good for me. My training is going very well so I know I will be ready when it counts."

On competing at early season meets like the Drake Relays:

"When you've been training all year it gets monotonous. So I'm glad I came here to run to get back into the rhythm of the 400. I always want to compete well and I think I did. I will go to the Bahamas from here for the World Relays (4x400). Then I will run two 400s in Jamaica and Doha. Then go back and regroup and get some good training before the U.S. Nationals."

3:12 p.m. - 4x100 Meter Relay- UD Women Final

Champion - Mississippi - 44.80

Nicole Henderson, So., Khadijah Suleman, Sr., Shannon Ray, Fr., Jhordan Hunter, Sr.

Jhordan Hunter, anchor

On winning a Relays title:

"My team prepared for this so much at practice. It felt good to win. I was trying to be as positive as possible and think that I am better than the circumstances, the weather and wind. To run as a time for the first time and have so much success is awesome."

On competing at the Drake Relays:

"Mississippi is kind of quiet. We don't get this atmosphere. It was nice."

3:20 p.m. - 4x100 Meter Relay- UD Men Final

Champion- Arkansas - 39.78

Omar McLeod, So., Jarrion Lawson, Jr., Kenzo Cotton, Fr., Marqueze Washington, Jr.

Marqueze Washington, anchor

On winning a Relays title:

"It feels good to win. We gave it all. The conditions were not that good. Coach said to come out and execute and hold onto the baton in the bad weather."

3:25 p.m. - 4x100 Meter Relay- CD Women Final

Champion- - Wayland Baptist, 45.22

Kesley Gittens, Jr., Alexis Browner, Sr., Gregria Higgs, Sr., Rochene Smith, Fr.

Kesley Gittens, first leg

On starting the race:

I wasn't really nervous. I was trying to get out, get out hard and run fast because this is the first we could ever win this against Lincoln. They are good, but we beat them.

Alexis Browner, second leg

On being a Relays champion:

"It feels good to be a champion, this is our third relay that we have won this weekend so it feels good to win again."

Gregria Higgs, third leg

On race:

"I know that Lincoln was on our tails so we had to get out there. I just wanted to get it to the anchor so that we could win the race."

Rochene Smith, anchor

On her leg of the race:

"It was a tough leg because the other team was coming but we came out victorious. It was a tough one but I held it on."

3:30 p.m. - 4x100 Meter Relay- CD Men Final

Champion- Minnesota State- Time

Richard Wilhite Jr., Cyron Stewart Sr., Anthony Gustfson Jr., Emmanuel Matatti Jr.

Anthony Gustfson, anchor

On winning at the Drake Relays:

"It was amazing, we have two seniors here and it was amazing to do it in front of everyone and represent Mankato, Minn."

Emmanuel Matatti, second leg

On the atmosphere:

"This is probably the loudest we've crowd we've run in front of."

3:35 p.m. - 4x100 Meter Relay- HS Girls Final

Champion- Cedar Rapids Jefferson- 47.55

Lucy Schneekloth, Sr., Abilene Ranschau, Jr., Morgan Meese, Sr., Jasmine Blue, Jr.

Morgan Meese- 3rd leg

On tying the Drake Relays record:

"We were happy to tie the Drake Relays record and set the school record. This was our first time going under 48 seconds. Hopefully we can come back at state and run an all-time Iowa best."

On her coach, Bill Calloway:

"He has put his whole life into us being here. He does everything he can think of for us to do. He dedicates so much and this race was for him."

Jasmine Blue- anchor

On finishing the race:

"I saw the finish line and knew I had to get there that much quicker than Waukee and everyone else. We always say we don't run for ourselves, but everyone in the program."

3:40 p.m. - 4x100 Meter Relay- HS Boys Final

Champion - W. Burlington/ND - 42.87

Timmy Williams, Brant Wrede, Isaiah Trousil, Xavier Williams

Xavier Williams, Anchor

On his leg of the race:

"We thought we were gonna win this all day, we've been thinking this all year because we're a fast team and we've had this team since last year and just got faster through the year, showed it, and we won."

Brant Wrede, Leg 2

On his leg of the race:

"It's pretty nerve-wracking because it's right at the start."

On the sacrifice they made over the winter:

"We were in there three, four, sometimes even five days a week lifting, doing sprint work. It wasn't super fun, but it's always fun in the end because you know you're building muscle and getting stronger and faster than some other schools that don't do that."

Isaiah Trousil, Leg 3

On his leg of the race:

"My teammate Brant was coming through in third place around there, and that's usually a really good sign. I'm pretty speechless right now."

Timmy Williams, Leg 1

On his leg of the race:

"I was just so hyped just to be on Drake's track, just to be in the finals. I was kind of scared and kind of nervous that we were gonna mess up the handoffs, but everything worked out; we pulled it through."

3:45 p.m. - 4x400 Meter Relay- UD Men Final

Champion - Arkansas, 3:31.35

Brianna Swinton, So., Daina Harper So., Chrishuna Williams, Sr., Taylor Ellis-Watson, Jr.

Ellis-Watson, Anchor

On winning the sprint medley then winning the 4x400:

"That was our goal. We definitely went out confident and expecting to win both. It was fun, it was my first Drake Relays, so to win two is pretty awesome."

3:52 p.m. - 4x400 Meter Relay- UD Men Final

Champion - Illinois, 3:06.23

Joe McCasey (3rd leg), Junior, Camron Byrum (1st leg), Junior, David Kinzeria (2nd leg), Sophomore, D.J. Zonner (anchor), Senior

D.J. Zonner, anchor

On being a Drake Relays champion:

"This was the first time winning a team title and it's been awesome"

On the crowd at Drake Stadium:

"There was a lot of energy in the crowd and it was cool to have people rooting for us despite not being affiliated with illinois."

4:00 p.m. - 4x400 Meter Relay- CD Women Final

Champion - Wayland Baptist - 3:40.78

Bianca Farrington, Sr., Alexis Browner, Sr., Kelsey Gittens, Jr. Monique McPherson

Monique McPherson, anchor

On her leg:

"I felt great in the anchor. I knew my teammates would give the baton where I could win. I was real confident that my three teammates had this. It was a good competition and we came out victorious."

4:07 p.m. - 4x400 Meter Relay- CD Men Final

Champion - Augustana - 3:10.25

Isaac Smith, So., David Davore, Sr., Jeff Swanson, Fr., David Volland, Sr.

Isaac Smith, first leg

On the race:

"I've ran relays a few times now and I'm always excited to be here. It's fun to make sure I put everyone else in a good position."

David Davore, second leg

On the race:

"To be quite honest, I usually don't think much, I just let instinct take over. The big thing I know going into it is I can rely everything on these other guys. I just knew that I just had to take that lead. I try to hit the curb as hard as I can to position myself well."

Jeff Swanson, third leg

On the race:

"I saw Isaac and David do their thing and knew that they were gonna get me in a good spot. I was really just focused on staying relaxed. I knew the second I hit the backstretch, it was just everything I could to get it to David; it feels pretty good giving it to this guy."

David Volland, anchor

On the race:

"When I run, one thing I like to do is chase people because it helps me stay at a good pace and keep some energy for the end. I was pretty confident that we would have the race by the end; having that extra confidence certainly helped a lot, too."

4:15 p.m.- 4x400 Meter Relay- HS Girls Final

Champion - Pleasant Valley- 3:55.49

Carly Donahue, Jr., Emma Whigman, Sr., Maddie Banks, Fr., Abby Swanson, So.

Carly Donahue, first leg

On her leg:

"I felt pretty good about the race. I didn't think too much about the other events we ran this weekend. Just knowing that it was our last one I wanted to leave it all out there. I was on the past two Pleasant Valley teams that have won this event so it feels great to win it again."

Emma Whigman, second leg

On being a Relays champion:

"It feels amazing. I'm so proud of these girls. This is my first time experiencing track and my first time going out for track. These girls really push me and we are in the best position we can be right now."

Maddie Banks, third leg

On being a Relays champion:

It feels great to be a champion for it being my first year here at Drake. I really found my pace in this race. Being with these girls through practices and the way they took me under their wings as a freshman helps a lot. I'm really excited to share this win with the girls.

Abby Swanson, anchor

On her leg:

It was really close, and it was really close last year but I did it once so I can do it twice. We knew if we laid our hearts out there and it would work and it did just as we expected.

4:22 p.m. - 4x400 Meter Relay - HS Boys Final

Champion - Waukee- 3:19.94

Ross Vogel, Sr., Trevor Allen, Sr., Koy Schneiter, Sr., Pat Gray, Sr.

Pat Gray, anchor

On what was going through his mind during final leg:

"I know how hard these guys worked and I didn't want to let them down. That's basically the only thing that I was thinking about. These guys are my brothers and I just didn't want to let them down."

On winning his second Drake Relays title of the day

"It feels really good that the hard work paid off."

Trevor Allen, second leg

On his second leg performance giving his team the lead:

"I can't say I'm not happy because obviously we got the flag, but I feel like I could have run better. The wind was strong but we all had it so I can't complain. We ran good."

2015 Drake Relays Presented By Hy-Vee
Competitor Quotes
Saturday, April 25, 2015

