



## 2024 MEET NOTES

# NEW MEXICO CROSS COUNTRY

WISCONSIN PRE-NATIONALS • OCT. 19<sup>TH</sup>



## 2015 & 2017 NCAA WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONS

19 WOMEN'S NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP APPEARANCES  
11 MEN'S NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP APPEARANCES



## 22 MOUNTAIN WEST XC CHAMPIONSHIPS

15-TIME MW WOMEN'S CHAMPIONS (2008-2022)  
7-TIME MW MEN'S CHAMPIONS (2009-2014, 2023)

## UNM 2024 XC SCHEDULE

DATE	MEET	RESULT
Aug. 31	Lori Fitzgerald Open Las Cruces, N.M. (New Mexico State)	M: 1st   W: 4th
Sept. 14	Lobo XC Invitational Albuquerque, N.M. (New Mexico)	W: 1st
Sept. 28	Cowboy Jamboree Stillwater, Okla. (Oklahoma State)	M: 2nd   W: 1st
Oct. 19	Wisconsin Pre-Nationals Madison, Wisc. (Wisconsin)	9/9:40 a.m. MT
Nov. 1	MW Championships Colorado Springs, Colo. (Air Force)	
Nov. 15	Mountain Regionals Reno, Nev. (Nevada)	
Nov. 23	NCAA Championships Madison, Wisc. (Wisconsin)	

## UNM COACHING STAFF



### DARREN GAUSON

Head Coach / Director of Track & Field  
and Cross Country (2nd season)  
Alma Mater: Butler

### JARED BERRYMAN

Director of Operations (2nd season)

### BRIAN MATY

Assistant Coach (2nd season)

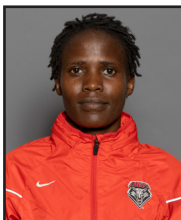
### JENNA SCHWARTZ

Assistant Coach (1st season)

## UNM ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS

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## LOBOS TO WATCH



### PAMELA KOSGEI

- Individual champ by nearly 45 seconds in her collegiate debut at Cowboy Jamboree (19:50)  
- Sister of World Marathon Record Holder Brigid Kosgei



### NATALIE BITETTI

- D-III National Runner-Up in 2023 (Claremont-Mudd-Scripps)  
- Ran 16 seconds shy of PR at OSU on a much tougher/hillier course as UNM's second finisher (4th, 20:46.3)



### HABTOM SAMUEL

- 5-time All-American and NCAA 10,000m Champion as a true freshman in 2023-24.  
- Individual Runner-Up at Cowboy Jamboree in his season opener (23:03.6)



### RIKUS VAN NIEKERK

- The Lobos' fifth point-scorer at OSU -- where he finishes in Madison likely determines the Lobos' ceiling.  
- CBU transfer with three seasons of XC experience.

## 2024 NEWS

• New Mexico Men's and Women's Cross Country head to Madison, Wisc. this week to get a preview of this year's NCAA Championship Course against even more nationally-ranked competition at Wisconsin Pre-Nationals on Saturday.

• After a strong showing at the Cowboy Jamboree that saw the women knock off No. 16 Oklahoma State and the men beat No. 22 Oregon and No. 24 Texas while finishing second behind No. 1 Oklahoma State, both squads will get a significant step up in competition at Zimmer Championship Course. Saturday's "A" races will feature 20 women's teams and 19 women's teams ranked in the most recent USTFCCCA National Polls, with 10 women's teams and five men's teams that received votes last week in the mix.

## HOW TO FOLLOW

Results will be posted to all Lobo XC social accounts @UNMLoboXCTF, as well at GoLobos.com/XCResults.



@UNMLOBOXCTF

nationally this week after passing their first test in Stillwater last month.

• **Habtom Samuel** will be in the hunt for his first individual win of the fall after finishing as runner-up at the Cowboy Jamboree -- he won an NCAA title in the outdoor 10,000m in June and has racked up four more MW titles and four more All-American trophies since the conclusion of the 2023 XC Season.

• The UNM women had their unprecedented streak of 14 consecutive Mountain West titles snapped with a fourth-place finish at conference championships and narrowly missed out on a team qualification to nationals in 2023, but they're climbing in the polls and could pick up momentum with another big showing.

• **Pamela Kosgei** put the nation on notice with a blistering runaway win (19:50.0) in Stillwater that won her MW Athlete/Freshman of the Week honors -- she'll be racing against even better competition this time around and gunning for a course record.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

# NOTES, CONTINUED...

## UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO

LOCATION	Albuquerque, N.M.
FOUNDED	1889
ENROLLMENT	8,800
NICKNAME	Lobos
COLORS	Cherry and Silver
AFFILIATION	NCAA Division I
CONFERENCE	Mountain West
PRESIDENT	Garnett Stokes
DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS	David Williams (Interim)
FACULTY REPRESENTATIVE	Karen Gaudreault
ATHLETIC DEPT. PHONE	(505) 925-5521

## MOUNTAIN REGION RANKINGS

### USTFCCCA: WEEK 3 RANKINGS

MEN'S TEAM	CONF.	LAST WEEK
1. BYU	Big 12	1
<b>2. NEW MEXICO</b>	<b>MOUNTAIN WEST</b>	<b>3 (+1)</b>
3. Northern Arizona	Big Sky	2 (-1)
4. Colorado	Big 12	4
5. Utah State	Mountain West	8 (+3)
6. Air Force	Mountain West	5 (-1)
7. Wyoming	Mountain West	7
8. Montana State	Big Sky	6 (-2)
9. Colorado State	Mountain West	9
10. Texas Tech	Big 12	10

WOMEN'S TEAM	CONF.	LAST WEEK
1. Northern Arizona	Big Sky	1
2. BYU	Big 12	2
3. Utah	Big 12	3
<b>4. NEW MEXICO</b>	<b>MOUNTAIN WEST</b>	<b>4</b>
5. Utah Valley	WAC	5
6. Utah State	Mountain West	8 (+2)
7. Texas Tech	Big 12	12 (+5)
8. Wyoming	Mountain West	6 (-2)
9. Air Force	Mountain West	7 (-2)
10. Colorado State	Mountain West	10

## NATIONAL COACHES' POLL

### USTFCCCA: WEEK 3 RANKINGS

MEN	WOMEN
1. Oklahoma State	1. Northern Arizona
2. BYU	2. BYU
3. Arkansas	3. Washington
4. Iowa State	4. Notre Dame
5. Notre Dame	5. NC State
6. Northern Arizona	6. Utah
7. Wake Forest	7. Alabama
<b>8. NEW MEXICO</b>	8. Stanford
9. Stanford	9. Georgetown
10. Wisconsin	10. Providence
11. North Carolina	11. Florida
12. Alabama	12. Oregon
13. Washington	13. Wisconsin
14. Michigan	14. Furman
15. E. Kentucky	15. Tennessee
16. Colorado	16. North Carolina
17. Princeton	<b>17. NEW MEXICO</b>
18. Butler	18. Gonzaga
19. Villanova	19. Oklahoma State
20. Harvard	20. Virginia
21. Virginia	21. Penn State
22. Oregon	22. Ole Miss
23. Syracuse	23. Syracuse
24. Cal Baptist	24. Boston College
25. Portland	25. Minnesota
26. Georgetown	25. Villanova
27. Florida State	27. Lipscomb
28. Air Force	28. West Virginia
29. Texas	29. Arkansas
30. Utah State	30. Michigan State

## 2024 USTFCCCA NATIONAL XC RANKINGS

	PRESEASON	WEEK 1	WEEK 2	WEEK 3	WEEK 4	WEEK 5	WEEK 6	NCAA
MEN	#8	#8	#8	#8				
WOMEN	#20	#21	#17	#17				

### RANKINGS UPDATE

- The UNM men remained at No. 8 – their highest preseason rank in history and highest weekly rank since the final poll of the 2010 season – with the women moving up four spots to No. 17 in the nation in last week's USTFCCCA Coaches' Poll.
- The reigning Mountain West champions, the UNM men entered the rankings for the first time since 2015 last season, rising as high as No. 13 in the final poll before placing 18th as a team at NCAA Cross Country Championships behind a runner-up individual finish from Mountain Region Athlete of the Year Habtom Samuel.
- 2024 marks the 11th consecutive season in which the Lobo women are ranked in the preseason poll, not counting the 2020 season in which there was no preseason ranking — they opened the 2023 season at No. 21 and were ranked no lower than fourth in the nation in each of the previous seven preseason polls, winning national team titles in 2015 and 2017 along the way.
- In the USTFCCCA Regional Rankings released on Monday, the UNM men moved up to No. 2 in the Mountain Region – matching 2010 for their highest regional ranking in program history -- with the women ranked No. 4. They finished third and seventh at Mountain Regionals in 2023, respectively.

### PAMELA KOSGEI: MW ATHLETE & FRESH-MAN OF THE WEEK

After a dominant run in her collegiate debut last week in Stillwater, New Mexico's Pamela Kosgei has been named Mountain West Freshman & Athlete of the Week, the league announced Tuesday. It's the first cross country conference weekly award of the season won by a UNM athlete.

One of the most highly-touted international recruits to come to UNM in recent memory, the Kenyan national solidified her place in the national conversation in her first cross country race as a Lobo with a runaway victory to lead UNM to a women's team title at the OSU Cowboy Jamboree. Her winning time of 19:50.0 was 43.5 seconds faster than the next finisher as she led a Lobo Top 7 that all packed into the overall Top 20 to beat out No. 16 Oklahoma State in the team score with 34 points to the Cowgirls' 40. The UNM women moved up four spots to No. 17 in the USTFCCCA National Coaches' Poll the following week as a result.

Kosgei took the lead just over a kilometer into the race and didn't relinquish it the rest of the way, posting 3:17.5 and 3:13.8 splits over her final two kilometers -- her time was the 10th-fastest 6K time ever ran by a woman on OSU's Greiner Cross Country Course and fastest there since NCAA Championships in 2022.

### THE STAGE IS SET

In the early 2000's with a significant donation from Badger alum Thomas Zimmer, the University of Wisconsin built a permanent standalone cross country course consisting of rolling hills and switchbacks -- to help spectators enjoy the competition -- paired with lush, green grass suitable for fast times. Over a decade later, the course has become known for the prestigious Nuttycombe Invitational in mid-October -- but this year, since the Wisconsin course will also be the NCAA Championship course, Nuttycombe was moved to earlier in the fall with this weekend slotted for Pre-Nationals.

Annually, at least half of the USTFCCCA ranked teams attend Nuttycombe in mid-October -- in large part, the meet has become almost necessary to secure NCAA

at-large qualifying points. In 2021, there were 19 ranked women's teams out of the 36 teams in attendance with 18 of the 34 men's teams nationally ranked. In each season that it was held, no less than 10 of the teams selected to the NCAA Championship competed at the Nuttycombe earlier in the year.

The UNM women have won Nuttycombe four times, first in 2015 and 2017 -- years the Lobos went on to win an NCAA Championship -- as well as 2021 and 2022, when they went on to finish third and second, respectively.

### LAST TIME AT ZIMMER CHAMPIONSHIP COURSE

Habtom Samuel finished third overall to pace a 14th-place finish for the UNM men while the Lobo women finished 25th in the team total behind a Top-25 finish from Nicola Jansen at last year's Nuttycombe Invitational on Oct. 13, 2023 -- UNM's 14th-place finish in the 8K "A" race was the best finish at Nuttycombe for the Lobo men since 2014, when they finished 12th.

After receiving votes in that week's USTFCCCA National Coaches' Poll, the Lobo men beat 10 teams ranked in the Top 30 nationally and four in the Top 15 in Friday's team score as well as five other teams that were receiving votes this week -- they've been ranked among the Top 25 nationally in every USTFCCCA poll that's been released since.

Samuel hung with eventual champ Graham Blanks of Harvard (23:23.4) and second-place finisher Nico Young of Northern Arizona (23:26.1) the whole way, never dipping lower than seventh place and holding the No. 3 spot from the 6K mark till the finish. Evans Kiplagat (18th, 23:45.5) and Lukas Kiprop (45th, 24:06.1) both rounded out the Lobos' Top Three -- UNM was one of only six teams in the Men's 8K to place three runners in the Top 50. They were followed by Samuel Field (156th, 24:43.9) and Thomas Termote (215th, 25:08.6) to round out the point-scoring.

In the women's 6K, Nicola Jansen placed 21st with a 20:18.8 finish and Klara Dess made it two Lobos in the top 100 with an 86th-place finish (20:56.6). They were followed by Semira Mebrahtu Firezghi (145th, 21:30.8), Sarah Eckel (149th, 21:33.0), Christina Nisoli (186th, 21:54.5), Tyler Schwartz (189th, 21:57.4) and Stefana Purkovic (244th, 23:05.0). The Lobo women's Top 5 collectively picked up 50 places over the final 2,000 meters to move up to No. 25 from No. 27, with Firezghi and Eckel moving up 65 places each over the final 4,000m.

### 2024 OUTLOOK

The Lobo men get back their top three runners from last season went 1-2-3 at MW Championships last season -- NCAA Runner-Up Habtom Samuel, All-American Evans Kiplagat and MW third-place finisher Lukas Kiprop -- and augment their depth with a pair of D-I transfers in Iker Sanchez (Arizona) and Rikus Van Niekerk (CUB) along with the addition of NCAA Track & Field West Regional Qualifier (5,000m & 10,000m) Vincent Chirchir and Kenyan freshman Collins Kiprotich to the mix. With all of their top runners competing for the first time this season in Stillwater, they fared well against solid competition -- Samuel finished as individual runner-up

The UNM women had their unprecedented streak of 14 consecutive Mountain West titles snapped with a fourth-place finish at conference championships and narrowly missed out on a team qualification to nationals in 2023, but they're favored to return to the top this season after adding a variety of newcomers to race alongside





2023 All-American Nicola Jansen, including one of the highest-rated true freshmen in the country in Pamela Kosgei and MW Track All-Conference finishers Hanna Bruckmayer and Mercy Kirarei. Kosgei dominated in her first Even with a women's program that won two NCAA Championships and finished among the Top 10 in the nation 13 years in a row under former coach Joe Franklin, the Lobos have only sent both men's and women's squads to NCAA Championships in the same season six times in their history (2009-2014). This time around, they're racing in Madison in hopes both will be back again in November. "That's our goal – We want to be top 14 for both the men's and women's programs every single year," Gauson told CITIUSMAG earlier in the season. "On my whiteboard, we've got the weeks written down – We're just excited for every week to come along."

#### LOBOS SWEEP NO. 1 SPOTS IN MOUNTAIN WEST PRESEASON POLLS

New Mexico Men's and Women's Cross Country were both voted No. 1 in the Mountain West Preseason Coaches' Poll, the league announced Wednesday – the first time since 2015 that both Lobo squads enter the season as the preseason favorites in the conference. The men earned seven of nine possible first-place votes to clock in at the top spot with 63 points ahead of second-place Air Force, which finished with two first-place votes and 55 points in total. The Lobo women received nine first-place votes to lead the conference with 97 points, outpacing second-place pick and 2023 champs Colorado State (2 first-place votes, 88 points).

#### 2023-24 SEASON RECAP

In Gauson's first year at the helm, the UNM men found a level of success they hadn't enjoyed in nearly a decade, winning a Mountain West title and punching their ticket to NCAA Championships as a team for the first time since 2014 and finishing the season 18th in the nation. Alongside NCAA runner-up and Mountain Region Champion Habtom Samuel, Evans Kiplagat (33rd) also finished as an All-American, with Nicola Jansen (36th) also earning All-American honors as UNM's lone representative in the women's race.

All three will be returning to lead a retooled roster that seeks to get both teams to NCAA's in the same year for the first time since that 2014 season.

"Before I got here, Coach Franklin's [men's] team was sixth in the conference and hadn't made the meet for a number of years," Gauson told CITIUSMAG last week.

"We were able to bring in a few athletes with Thomas Termote, Lukas Kiprop, Evans Kiplagat, and obviously Habtom as a freshman and launched straight into 18th in year one.

"We were hoping for a little bit more," Gauson said. "I think we were sitting in tenth and then Lukas had a little bit of a knee problem ... [he] fell back quite a lot into the hundreds which really killed our team score."

#### THE YEAR OF HABTOM

Since the start of the 2023-24 season, Samuel has racked up accomplishments at a pace unseen by any true freshman in UNM history. Last week, he added his first NCAA title and another All-American finish today to a lengthy resume:

- 2023 Mountain West Athlete of the Year (XC)
- NCAA Runner of the Week (XC)
- USTFCCCA Mountain Region Athlete of the Year (XC)
- Mountain West Champion (XC)
- NCAA Mountain Region Champion (XC)
- NCAA Championship Runner-Up (XC)
- Mountain West Championship RecordHolder (XC)
- UNM Program Record Holder – 5,000m, 3,000m, Mile (Indoor)
- Fastest collegiate mile ever ran at the Albuquerque Convention Center (3:59.12)
- 11th-Fastest 5,000m time in NCAA History (Indoor)
- Mountain West Championship Performer of the Meet (Indoor)
- Mountain West Championship Record Holder – 5,000m, 3,000m (Indoor)
- Mountain West Champion – 5,000m, 3,000m (Indoor)
- USTFCCCA First Team All-American – 5,000m, 3,000m (Indoor)
- No. 2 10,000m time in NCAA History (Outdoor)
- 2024 Mountain West Indoor Track Athlete of the Year
- 2024 Mountain West Outdoor Track Athlete of the Year
- Mountain West Champion – 1500m, 5,000m (Outdoor)
- NCAA Champion – 10,000m (Outdoor)
- USTFCCCA First Team All-American – 5,000m, 10,000m (Outdoor)
- MW Hal Rothman Sportsmanship Award

#### MEN'S COMPETITORS

ATHLETE	YR./EXP.	8K XC PR
<b>Habtom Samuel</b>	So. / 1V	22:57.7
<b>Lukas Kiprop</b>	So. / 1V	23:23.3
<b>Evans Kiplagat</b>	So. / 1V	23:15.7
<b>Thomas Termote</b>	Sr. / 1V	24:27.4
Rikus Van Niekerk	Sr. / TR	23:49.9^
Iker Sanchez	Fr. / TR	24:12.1
Corne De Fouw	Fr. / HS	24:59.1
Vincent Chirchir	Fr. / HS	23:53.3
Collins Kiprotich	Fr. / HS	23:58.0

#### WOMEN'S COMPETITORS

ATHLETE	YR./EXP.	6K XC PR
Pamela Kosgei	Fr. / HS	19:50
Klara Dess	So. / 1V	20:29.1
Sophia McDonnell	Sr. / 1V	21:20.7
Mercy Kirarei	Fr. / HS	21:03.3
Hanna Bruckmayer	So. / TR	21:26.9
Natalie Bitetti	Sr. / TR	20:32.7^
Meadow Drebert	Fr. / HS	22:59.8
Anyia Belisle	Fr. / HS	22:29.1
Tilly Simpson	Jr. / TR	20:46.5^
Jasmine Wood	Jr. / TR	21:34.8
Christina Nisoli	Jr. / 2V	20:58.0
Hannah Taylor	So. / TR	23:16.2
Sylvia Schwedler	Fr. / HS	23:24.4

^ indicates time is from institution prior to UNM.  
**Bold** indicates that athlete competed for UNM at NCAA Championships at least once.



# 2024 RESULTS AND SCORERS

## 2024 MEN'S RESULTS

### AUG. 31 • LORI FITZGERALD OPEN LAS CRUCES, N.M. (NEW MEXICO STATE)

- 3. Iker Sanchez Lopez 14:35.47
- 4. Vincent Chirchir 14:36.12
- 5. Rikus Van Niekerk 14:37.94
- 6. Lukas Kiprop 14:39.12
- 9. Corne De Fouw 14:47.64

#### MEN'S 5K TEAM SCORE

FINISH	TEAM	POINTS
1st	<b>No. 8 New Mexico</b>	<b>27</b>
2nd	Texas Tech	35
3rd	Arizona	110
4th	New Mexico St.	116
5th	El Paso CC	119
6th	UTEP	151

### SEPT. 28 • COWBOY JAMBOREE STILLWATER, OKLA. (OKLAHOMA STATE)

- 2. Habtom Samuel (23:03.6)
- 9. Vincent Chirchir (23:53.3)
- 11. Collins Kiprotich (23:58.0)
- 13. Evans Kiplagat (24:09.7)
- 15. Rikus Van Niekerk (24:11.6)

- 16. Iker Sanchez Lopez (24:12.1)
- 34. Corne De Fouw (24:51.9)
- 40. Thomas Termote (25:09.5)

#### MEN'S 8K TEAM SCORE

FINISH	TEAM	POINTS
1st	No. 1 Oklahoma St.	19
2nd	<b>No. 8 New Mexico</b>	<b>45</b>
3rd	No. 22 Oregon	89
4th	No. 24 Texas	116
5th	Incarnate Word	151

## 2024 WOMEN'S RESULTS

### AUG. 31 | LORI FITZGERALD OPEN LAS CRUCES, N.M. (NEW MEXICO STATE)

- 2. Christina Nisoli 17:22.00
- 9. Anya Belisle 18:08.76
- 25. Stefana Purkovic 18:51.76
- 29. Maleah Goldie 19:06.84
- 33. Hannah Taylor 19:19.81

- 34. Sylvia Schwedler 19:21.35
- 39. Lyla Fedio 19:43.71
- 47. Fiona Holloway 19:57.45

#### WOMEN'S 5K TEAM SCORE

FINISH	TEAM	POINTS
1st	Texas Tech	22
2nd	Arizona	61
3rd	New Mexico St.	76
4th	<b>No. 20 New Mexico</b>	<b>98</b>
5th	New Mexico JC	143
6th	UTEP	175

### SEPT. 14 • LOBO XC INVITATIONAL ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (UNM NORTH COURSE)

- 3. Meadow Drebert (18:16.46)
- 4. Anya Belisle (18:29.72)
- 5. Semira Mebrahtu Firezghi (18:34.73)
- 8. Katrina Endres (18:48.64)
- 10. Hannah Taylor (19:05.18)

- 12. Sylvia Schwedler (19:11.88)
- 13. Maleah Goldie (19:17.37)
- 14. Stefana Purkovic (19:20.59)
- 17. Fiona Holloway (19:49.04)
- 19. Lyla Fedio (20:04.14)

#### WOMEN'S 5K TEAM SCORE

FINISH	TEAM	POINTS
1st	<b>No. 21 New Mexico</b>	<b>22</b>
2nd	New Mexico St.	43
3rd	El Paso CC	69

### SEPT. 28 • COWBOY JAMBOREE STILLWATER, OKLA. (OKLAHOMA STATE)

- 1. Pamela Kosgei (19:50.0)
- 4. Natalie Bitetti (20:48.3)
- 6. Klara Dess (20:56.8)
- 8. Mercy Kirarei (21:03.3)
- 17. Hanna Bruckmayer (21:26.9)

- 20. Tilly Simpson (21:30.0)
- 21. Sophia McDonnell (21:31.1)
- 22. Jasmine Wood (21:34.8)
- 40. Anya Belisle (22:29.1)
- 45. Semira Mebrahtu Firezghi (22:38.6)
- 55. Meadow Drebert (22:59.8)
- 67. Hannah Taylor (23:16.2)
- 71. Sylvia Schwedler (23:24.4)
- 80. Maleah Goldie (23:38.7)

#### WOMEN'S 6K TEAM SCORE

FINISH	TEAM	POINTS
1st	<b>No. 21 New Mexico</b>	<b>45</b>
2nd	No. 16 Oklahoma St.	40
3rd	Lamar	76
4th	NAIA No. 1 St. Mary (Kan.)	158
5th	Incarnate Word	180

# LOBO XC HISTORY

## MEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP HISTORY

### MEN'S ALL-TIME

#### CONFERENCE RESULTS

Year	Finish	Points	Conf.
1999	6th/6	153	MWC
2000	6th/6	153	MWC
2001	5th/6	87	MWC
2002	3rd/6	72	MWC
2003	4th/6	123	MWC
2004	3rd/6	69	MWC
2005	5th/6	119	MWC
2006	4th/6	89	MWC
2007	2nd/6	51	MWC
2008	3rd/6	64	MWC
2009	1st/6	29	MWC
2010	1st/6	40	MWC
2011	1st/6	51	MWC
2012	1st/6	22*	MWC
2013	1st/8	32	MWC
2014	1st/8	26	MWC
2015	5th/8	120	MWC
2016	5th/8	138	MWC
2017	5th/8	97	MWC
2018	6th/8	144	MWC
2019	6th/9	111	MWC
2020*	5th/8	132	MWC
2021	7th/9	175	MWC
2022	6th/9	140	MWC
2023	1st/9	34	MWC

\*Lowest UNM men's point total in conf. championship race in program history

### MEN'S ALL-TIME NCAA REGIONAL RESULTS

Year	Finish	Points
1977	7th	200
1978	9th	260
1979	10th	256
1980	Did Not Compete	
1981	7th	199
1982	4th	125
1983	4th	144
1984	7th	166
1985	10th	280
1986	9th	230
1987	12th	N/A
1988	2nd	103
1989	7th	201
1990	18th	374
1991	7th	175
1992	16th	424
1993	12th	307
1994	12th	319
1995	15th	402

1996	Did Not Compete
1997	Did Not Compete
1998	14th 420
1999	16th 403
2000	12th 298
2001	9th 189
2002	7th 186
2003	13th 313
2004	4th 136
2005	8th 222
2006	11th 243
2007	5th 125
2008	4th 93
2009	3rd 77
2010	1st 45*
2011	4th 178
2012	4th 108
2013	3rd 79
2014	7th 158
2015	9th 254
2016	9th 237
2017	8th 260
2018	10th 256
2019	12th 329
2020*	Canceled (Covid-19)
2021	14th 368
2022	9th 227
2023	3rd 97

\*Lowest UNM men's point total in Regional Championship race in program history

### MEN'S ALL-TIME NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM RESULTS

Year	Finish	Points
1966	11th	311*
1975	14th	352
1988	T-20th	462
2004	9th	330
2009	T-8th	350
2010	16th	376
2011	31st	885
2012	21st	473
2013	11th	334
2014	14th	394
2024	18th	465

\*Lowest UNM women's point total in NCAA Championship race in program history

## WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP HISTORY

### WOMEN'S ALL-TIME CONFERENCE RESULTS

Year	Finish	Points	Conf.
1999	8th/8	185	MWC

2000	7th/8	173	MWC
2001	5th/8	159	MWC
2002	6th/8	173	MWC
2003	5th/8	141	MWC
2004	6th/8	163	MWC
2005	2nd/9	74	MWC
2006	3rd/9	94	MWC
2007	3rd/9	94	MWC
2008	1st/9	31	MWC
2009	1st/9	24	MWC
2010	1st/9	20	MWC
2011	1st/8	30	MWC
2012	1st/9	35	MWC
2013	1st/11	31	MWC
2014	1st/11	33	MWC
2015	1st/11	24	MWC
2016	1st/11	42	MWC
2017	1st/11	22	MWC
2018	1st/11	33	MWC
2019	1st/11	31	MWC
2020*	1st/9	29	MWC
2021	1st/11	15*	MWC
2022	1st/11	24	MWC
2023	4th/11	111	MWC

\*Lowest UNM women's point total in conf. championship race in program history

### WOMEN'S ALL-TIME NCAA REGIONAL RESULTS

Year	Finish	Points
1977	3rd	N/A
1978	2nd	68
1979	6th	163
1980	7th	N/A
1981	1st	N/A
1982	5th	131
1983	5th	123
1984	2nd	79
1985	2nd	88
1986	4th	113
1987	5th	139
1988	5th	158
1989	14th	338
1990	11th	281
1991	10th	289
1992	13th	277
1993	16th	390
1994	16th	405

Year	Finish	Points
1995	11th	287
1996	10th	264
1997	16th	394
1998	13th	318
1999	16th	412
2000	14th	344
2001	12th	332

2002	15th	417
2003	13th	317
2004	12th	306
2005	6th	163
2006	7th	179
2007	6th	202
2008	2nd	70
2009	5th	120
2010	1st	53
2011	T-1st	84
2012	2nd	95
2013	2nd	64
2014	2nd	56
2015	2nd	50
2016	2nd	109
2017	2nd	70
2018	1st	41*
2019	2nd	83
2020*	Canceled (Covid-19)	
2021	1st	62
2022	1st	56
2023	7th	178

\*Lowest UNM women's point total in Regional Championship race in program history

### WOMEN'S ALL-TIME NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM RESULTS

Year	Finish	Points
1976!	9th	N/A
1978!	19th	506
1981	11th	284
1985	14th	296
2008	18th	475
2009	13th	368
2010	5th	227
2011	9th	322
2012	10th	341
2013	10th	301
2014	3rd	188
2015	1st	49*
2016	7th	310
2017	1st	90
2018	2nd	103
2019	4th	168
2020*	6th	274
2021	3rd	130
2022	2nd	140

\*Lowest UNM women's point total in NCAA Championship race in program history  
!AIAW National Championships

## MEN'S ALL-AMERICANS

Year	Athlete	Finish
1975	Lionel Ortega	24th
1979	Kip Koskei	3rd
1981	Ibrahim Hussein	21st
1982	Ibrahim Kivina	25th
2001	Matt Gonzales	30th
2004	Matt Gonzales	2nd
2004	Shadrack Kiptoo-Biwott	14th
2007	Jeremy Johnson	20th
2009	Jacob Kirwa	11th
2010	Keith Gerrard	40th
2012	Luke Caldwell	27th
2013	Luke Caldwell	10th
2020*	Abdirizak Ibrahim	35th
2021	Abdirizak Ibrahim	33rd
2023	Habtom Samuel	2nd
	Evans Kiplagat	33rd

## WOMEN'S ALL-AMERICANS

Year	Athlete	Finish
1976!	Karen Cramond	17th
1984	Carole Roybal	19th
1985	Carole Roybal	13th
1986	Carole Roybal	28th
1988	Gwen Willink	36th
2010	Natalie Gray	15th
	Ruth Senior	33rd
2012	Josephine Moultrie	30th
2013	Sammy Silva	12th
	Charlotte Arter	18th
2014	Alice Wright	20th
	Charlotte Arter	22nd
2015	Courtney Frerichs	4th
	Alice Wright	5th
	Rhona Auckland	13th
	Calli Thackery	15th

Year	Athlete	Finish
2015	Molly Renfer	24th
2016	Alice Wright	19th
	Calli Thackery	28th
2017	Ednah Kurgat	1st
	Weini Kelati	7th
2017	Charlotte Prouse	12th
	Alice Wright	14th
2018	Weini Kelati	2nd
	Ednah Kurgat	5th
	Charlotte Prouse	9th
2019	Weini Kelati	1st
	Ednah Kurgat	9th
	Hannah Nuttall	35th
2020*	Adva Cohen	22nd
	Gracelyn Larkin	25th
2021	Emma Heckel	18th
	Gracelyn Larkin	21st
	Stefanie Parsons	36th
2022	Amelia Mazza-Downie	22nd

Year	Athlete	Finish
2022	Gracelyn Larkin	26th
	Samree Dishon	37th
	Emma Heckel	38th
	Elise Thorner	40th
2023	Nicola Jansen	36th

!AIAW National Championships

# LOBOS IN THE NATIONAL RANKINGS

## MEN'S USTFCCCA CROSS COUNTRY RANKINGS ALL-TIME

Year	PS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	NCAA
<b>2024</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>								
2023			RV	RV	18	19	13					18
2015	21	20	19	17	RV	RV						
2014	17	17	17	15	16	18	13	26				14
2013	19	17	17	21	25	9	11	6				11
2012	24	24	24	21	28	12	16	21				21
2011	21	21	20	21	25	25			RV	RV	28	31
2010	14	14	11	16	10	10	12	12	10	10	5	16
2009	26	24	21	21	19	19	12	12				8
2008	15	29	RV	RV				RV				
2007								RV				
2005	RV											
2004	RV	RV	RV	RV	23	20	19					9
2003	RV											
2002	RV	29	30	27								28

## WOMEN'S USTFCCCA CROSS COUNTRY RANKINGS ALL-TIME

Year	PS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	NCAA
<b>2024</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>17</b>								
2023	21	19	23	26			RV					
2022	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	2				2
2021	4	4	3	3	3	1	2	2				3
2020	2	2	4	5	4	3	3					6
2019	2	2	2	2	4	11	10	7				4
2018	1	1	1	1	3	3	1	1				2
2017	4	3	3	3	3	2	2	2				1
2016	1	1	1	2	11	7	6	6				7
2015	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1				1
2014	11	12	12	12	11	10	9	9				3
2013	15	16	16	15	7	9	8	11				10
2012	RV	24	20	19	19	17	17	17				10
2011	2	2	2	2	7	7	20	20	19	19	11	9
2010	18	18	18	12	8	8	10	10	10	10	5	5
2009	22	25	21	21	20	20	20	25				13
2008	RV	18	27	27	23	23	21	21				18



# ROSTER / PRONUNCIATIONS

## WISCONSIN PRE-NATS MEN'S COMPETITORS

NAME	YR.	HOMETOWN	PREV. SCHOOL(S)
Vincent Chirchir	Fr. (XC) / Fr. (I) / So. (O)	Keringet, Kenya	Keringet Boys School
Corne de Fouw	Fr. (XC) / Fr. (I) / Fr. (O)	Krugersdorp, South Africa	Laerskool Unika
Evans Kiplagat	So. (XC) / So. (I) / So. (O)	Eldoret, Kenya	Friends Bwake Boys HS
Lukas Kiprop	So. (XC) / So. (I) / Fr. (O)	Baringo County, Kenya	A.I.C Moi Academy Esageri
Collins Kiprotich	Fr. (XC) / Fr. (I) / Fr. (O)	Eldoret, Kenya	
Habtom Samuel	So. (XC) / So. (I) / So. (O)	Keren, Eritrea	Al Selef Al Salih
Iker Sanchez	Fr. (XC) / Jr. (I) / Jr. (O)	Aguascalientes, Mexico	CNAR Mexico City / Arizona
Thomas Termote	Sr. (XC) / Sr. (I) / Sr. (O)	Clarensac, France	Lycée Ernest Hemingway / Charleston
Rikus Van Niekerk	Sr. (XC) / So. (I) / Sr. (O)	Kempton Park, South Africa	Die Hoërskool Menlopark / CBU

### PRONUNCIATIONS

Vincent Chirchir - Cheer-cheer	Corne de Fouw - Cornay defoe	Evans Kiplagat - Kipla-got
Lukas Kiprop - Key-prop	Habtom Samuel - Hab-tum Sam-yul	Iker Sanchez - Eeker
Thomas Termote - Toe-ma Tear-moat	Rikus Van Niekerk - Reekis van knee-kirk	

## WISCONSIN PRE-NATS WOMEN'S COMPETITORS

NAME	YR.	HOMETOWN	PREV. SCHOOL(S)
Anya Belisle	Fr. (XC) / Fr. (I) / Fr. (O)	Saratoga Springs, N.Y.	Saratoga Springs HS
Natalie Bitetti	Sr. (XC) / So. (I) / So. (O)	La Crescenta, Calif.	Crescenta Valley HS / Claremont-Mudd-Scripps
Hanna Bruckmayer	So. (XC) / So. (I) / So. (O)	Altotting, Germany	Konig-Karlmann Gym. / Lynn University
Klara Dess	So. (XC) / Jr. (I) / Jr. (O)	Victoria, Australia	Sacred Heart College Geelong / Australian National
Meadow Drebert	Fr. (XC) / Fr. (I) / Fr. (O)	Rimbey, Alberta	Breton HS
Mercy Kirarei	Fr. (XC) / So. (I) / Jr. (O)	Eldoret, Kenya	Saramek Secondary School
Pamela Kosgei	Fr. (XC) / Fr. (I) / Fr. (O)	Elgeyo-Marakwet County, Kenya	St. Agatha Mokpo Girls School
Sophia McDonnell	Sr. (XC) / Sr. (I) / Sr. (O)	Geneva, Ill.	Geneva HS / Bradley
Tilly Simpson	Jr. (XC) / Jr. (I) / Jr. (O)	Sheffield, England	Eckington School / Michigan
Jasmine Wood	Jr. (XC) / Jr. (I) / Jr. (O)	Buckinghamshire, England	St. Clement Danes / Durham University
Christina Nisoli	Jr. (XC) / Fr. (I) / Fr. (O)	Los Alamos, N.M.	Los Alamos HS
Sylvia Schwedler	Fr. (XC) / Fr. (I) / Fr. (O)	Southlake, Texas	Southlake Carroll HS
Hannah Taylor	So. (XC) / So. (I) / Fr. (O)	Aberdeen, Scotland	Ellon Academy / Central Florida

### PRONUNCIATIONS

Anya Belisle - On-ya Belile	Hanna Bruckmayer - Brook-my-er	Klara Dess - Klarr-uh
Meadow Drebert - Dree-bert	Mercy Kirarei - Key-rah-ray	Pamela Kosgei - Cose-ghey
Christina Nisoli - Ni-sole-ee	Sylvia Schwedler - Shwedlur	

# UNM COACHING STAFF



## **DARREN GAUSON**

HEAD COACH / DIRECTOR OF TRACK & FIELD / CROSS COUNTRY

Darren Gauson was named UNM's Head Coach for Track & Field / Cross Country on June 30, 2023.

In his first season at UNM, the Lobo men won their first Mountain West Championship since 2014, and Gauson was named MW Men's Coach of the Year. Led by a Mountain Region individual title by freshman Habtom Samuel, the Lobos finished third at regionals — their best finish since 2013 — and qualified for the NCAA

Championship race as a team for the first time since 2014. They went on to finish 18th in the nation, with Samuel finishing as a national runner-up and Evans Kiplagat also earning All-American honors. Nicola Jansen, a Bradley transfer who followed Gauson to Albuquerque, qualified as an individual and finished 36th at the National Championship race to become the third XC All-American of Gauson's tenure.

In the first meet of the 2023-24 indoor season, Samuel broke the indoor 5,000m record and Lukas Kiprop broke the 3,000m record at the Sharon Danville-Colyear Season Opener. In Gauson's short tenure so far, the Lobos have already seen seven marks that ranked among the Top 10 in their respective events in the indoor all-time list.

### **PRIOR TO UNM**

Gauson has spent the last eight years as the head coach of the track and field and cross country programs at Bradley University in Illinois. He led the Braves to 10 Missouri Valley cross country titles, six by the men and four by the women, including this past year when Bradley swept both the men's and women's titles at the 2022 Missouri Valley Championships. Prior to arriving in Peoria, Gauson was the cross country coach and assistant track and field coach at Lamar University, where he guided the Cardinals to back-to-back Southland Conference men's and women's cross country titles in 2013 and 2014.

"It's an incredible honor to join a storied program and become the next head track & field and cross country coach at the University of New Mexico," said Gauson. "UNM has developed into a championship program and I am excited to build on the tradition established at the school. Albuquerque is a place where athletes dream of coming to train and develop into national champions and Olympians. I want to thank Athletic Director Eddie Nuñez, Deputy Athletic Director David Williams and Senior Woman Administrator Amy Beggin for their faith in me and their desire to continue to elevate the program to new heights. I also want to thank Bradley University for all that they've done for me in my career. I can't wait to get to work at New Mexico and develop high-character student-athletes in the classroom and on the track."

During his time at Bradley and Lamar, in addition to the 14 team conference titles, Gauson has coached 75 conference champions,

14 conference athletes of the year and 15 conference freshman of the year. He has mentored four All-Americans and six conference outstanding track performers.

A 10-time Missouri Valley Coach of the Year and the 2018 USTFCCCA Midwest Region Men's Coach of the Year, Gauson built Bradley into a powerhouse. His teams included a record-setting performance by the men's cross country team in 2019, when the Braves had the top four

finishers at the conference meet to set the modern-day Missouri Valley scoring record with 17 points. A year earlier, Bradley qualified for the NCAA Men's Cross Country Championship for the first time in program history, finishing 24th at the 2018 meet. The Bradley women's team had the second-lowest score in MVC history in 2017, when it had five runners in the top eight en route to the conference title.

On the track, Gauson coached the first individual outdoor and indoor MVC champions for the BU men in 30 and 34 years, respectively, during the 2016 and 2017 championships. Additionally, the Bradley women won their first distance medley relay crown in school history in 2019. Bradley set school records for points scored at the MVC Indoor and Outdoor Championships by both the men and women over the past five seasons. In 2017, Daniel Gagne became the first BU man to qualify for the NCAA Track and Field Championship in 42 years, where he earned second-team All-America honors in the 1,500m run in 2017. In 2021, Wilma Nielsen became the first Bradley freshman to qualify for the NCAA Championship and finished the campaign as the nation's third-ranked rookie in the 800m. Earlier this month, Tiana LoStracco earned honorable mention All-America honors as she qualified for the NCAA Outdoor Championship in the 1500m.

In addition to success on the course and on the track, Bradley also had success in the classroom under Gauson. He has coached seven Academic All-Americans and 11 MVC Elite 17 Award winners. Bradley has earned USTFCCCA All-Academic Team honors in each of year of his tenure. The men ranked as high as fourth nationally in team GPA (2019 and 2021), while the women peaked at fifth in 2017.

Gauson came to Bradley from Lamar University, where he guided both the Cardinals men's and women's cross country programs to consecutive Southland Conference championships in 2013 and 2014. In addition to the championship success of the cross country teams at Lamar, Gauson coached the Cardinals runners to 29 individual Southland Conference championships in cross country and track in just three seasons. Among his star runners, Gauson helped Matt Johnsen to a 33rd-place finish at the 2012 NCAA Cross Country Championship and the first All-America honor for the Cardinals since 1969. Additionally, Sam Stabler posted the second-fastest 5,000m time in the nation in 2015 to go along with Academic All-America honors.

A 2006 graduate of Napier University in Edinburgh, Scotland, with a degree in sport and exercise science, Gauson competed two years at Butler University where he was coached by former UNM head coach Joe Franklin. He earned a master's of science degree in education from Butler in 2008. With the Bulldogs, Gauson earned a Horizon League title in the 1,500m during his final year of eligibility in addition to claiming Scottish national championships in the event in both 2004 and 2005.

Following graduation, Gauson was also an assistant cross country/track and field coach at Butler for four seasons. The Butler men were able to extend their streak of consecutive conference cross country titles to 14 during Gauson's time in Indianapolis and the team finished 29th at the NCAA Championship during his first season on the coaching staff. Butler boasted four All-Americans overall during his tenure at the school.



# UNM COACHING STAFF



## BRIAN MATY

ASSISTANT COACH: DISTANCE

A native of Palos Heights, Illinois, Maty joined the UNM staff in the Summer of 2023. Maty assists with all facets of all six programs, focusing on distance running with both indoor and outdoor teams as well as serving as the assistant cross country coach. In 2022, Maty was part of the staff that led Bradley to a sweep of Missouri Valley Conference titles in men's and women's cross country. Bradley's women basically lapped the field, scoring 22 points to outpace second place Belmont by 53 points. He also coached Wilma Nielsen, who turned in the NCAA's No. 2 time all-time in the 1,000m (2:38.95)

at the Dr. Sander Invitational in New York City. She also earned first team All-American 800m indoor honors. He also coached Tiana LoStracco and honorable mention All American Tiana LoStracco 1500m in Austin, TX

That came after a 2021 season that saw Bradley runners claim nine conference track titles in his first season on campus, while the Bradley women also set school records for most points at the Missouri Valley Conference meet, tallying 70 at the 2022 Indoor Championship

and 84 points at the 2022 Outdoor Championship.

Prior to joining the Braves, Maty spent the 2021 fall semester as a graduate assistant at Eastern Illinois. The EIU men's and women's cross country teams both posted record-setting seasons with Maty's assistance, highlighted by sweeping the Ohio Valley Conference individual cross country titles. The Panthers boasted a total of nine All-OVC performers (six men & three women) in addition to setting school records in the women's 6K and men's 8K. The EIU men's team also claimed the OVC title, with Dustin Hatfield going on to become the first NCAA Championship qualifier from Eastern Illinois in 20 years. On the women's side Lindsey Carlson became the first female all-region performer in school history, following a 20th-place individual finish at the NCAA Midwest Regional Championship.

Maty graduated from Loras College in 2021. He spent the 2020 indoor track & field season as an intern at the University of Portland where he assisted with videography, recruiting, coaching, social media management and home meet setup. Maty's indoor season with the Pilots was highlighted by a school record in the men's mile (3:59.61).

In January 2019, Maty completed an externship under Danny Mackey and the Brooks Beasts Track Club in Seattle, Washington, that featured instruction on running physiology and biomechanics, along with focusing on the facets of marketing such as brand advertising and social media management.



## JENNA SCHWARTZ

ASSISTANT COACH: DISTANCE

Jenna Schwartz joined the Lobo XC/T&F staff as an assistant coach in August of 2024.

Originally from Waterloo, Ill., Schwartz joins the Lobos after a four-year career at Missouri, where she recently completed her Graduate Certificate in Positive Coaching and Athletic Leadership along with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with an emphasis in management. Competing in cross country and track for the Tigers from 2019 to 2024, Schwartz ranks No. 4 in program history in the Indoor 5000m (16:25.20), No. 6 in the

Outdoor 10,000m (33:56.58) and No. 9 in the Outdoor 5000m, earning a spot on the SEC Academic Honor Roll in every semester during her time in Columbia.

"I'm incredibly excited to join such a historic program and work with an incredible staff," Schwartz said. "Albuquerque is an outstanding place to train at an elite level and I'm humbled and grateful to do whatever I can to keep our successes going."



## JARED BERRYMAN

ASSISTANT COACH / DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

Berryman came to UNM in the Summer of 2023 from Bradley, where he was a part of Darren Gauson's staff as an assistant coach.

Among various duties as director of operations for both XC and track, Berryman is UNM's co-meet director along with Kyra Mohns.

During his season in Peoria, the Braves won the Missouri Valley women's cross country championship and had individuals qualify for the NCAA Indoor and Outdoor Track and Field Championships. Berryman spent the 2021-22 season as an

intern at his alma mater, Cal State East Bay, assisting with the program's recruiting, meet management and social media.

A native of Long Beach, Calif., Berryman is a 2022 graduate of CSUEB, where he earned a bachelor's degree in kinesiology with an emphasis in sport nutrition and wellness. He ran three seasons for the Pioneers and was a two-year captain of the Cal State East Bay track & field team.