PURDUE MEN'S TRACK & FIELD NOTES

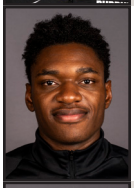
Big Ten Outdoor Championships (May 15-17, 2026 in Lincoln, Nebraska)

All rankings are this season unless noted otherwise

VICTORY ACHAKPOEKRI
Junior | Sprints
Nigeria
Hussey College
Southeast Louisiana

- 400m (45.88), 4x400m (3:02.15)
- Leadoff leg for the #5 4x400m team nationally (3:02.15)
- Southland outdoor bronze medalist in the 400m in 2025 while at Southeastern Louisiana
- In the Purdue outdoor rankings (2): #1 4x400m, #3 400m

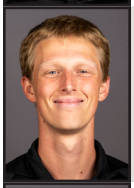
NCAA RANKINGS
#5 4X400M (3:02.15)
OTHER RANKINGS
#5 400m (2026 Nigeria)
#27 400m (NCAA East)



PRAISE ANIAMAKA
Graduate Student | Jumps
Surrey, British Columbia
Pacific Academy

- Triple jump (SB - 16.01m / 52-06.50, PB - 16.49m / 54-01.25)
- 4x All-American and three-time Big Ten Champion in the triple jump
- 2x point scorer at an NCAA Championship, with his highest finished fifth indoors in 2025
- Won back-to-back B1G outdoor titles in the triple jump (2023-24)
- Has medaled in all six of his career B1G Championship appearances
- Holds the Canadian U23 national record (16.94m on 8/26/25)
- In the Purdue outdoor rankings (1): #2 triple jump
- In the Purdue indoor rankings (1): #4 triple jump

NCAA RANKINGS
#20 Triple Jump (16.01m)
OTHER RANKINGS
#1 Triple Jump (2026 Canada)
#5 Triple Jump (NCAA East)



KIEFER Bell
Senior | Distance
Oxford, Ohio
Talawanda

- 3000m steeplechase (SB - 8:53.53, PB - 8:49.66)
- 2025 NCAA East First Round qualifier in the 3000m steeplechase
- Has scored points four times at Big Ten Championships
- In the Purdue outdoor rankings (1): #4 mile
- In the Purdue indoor rankings (1): #6 3000m steeplechase

DOUGLAS BUCKERIDGE
Junior | Sprints
Melbourne, Australia
Northcote
University of Melbourne

- 3000m steeplechase (SB - 8:50.56, PB - 8:50.19), 5000m (SB - 14:13.02, PB - 13:56.33)
- Holds Purdue's school record in the 10,000m (28:51.46) set in 2025
- NCAA Cross Country Championships 43rd place finisher in 2024
- 3x Great Lakes All-Region selection in cross country
- 2x NCAA East First Round qualifier in 2025 (3000m steeplechase and 10,000m)
- In the Purdue outdoor rankings (4): #1 10,000m, #3 5000m, #5 1500m, #7 3000m steeplechase
- In the Purdue indoor rankings (2): #5 3000m, #5 5000m

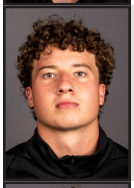
REGIONAL RANKINGS
#40 3000m SC (8:50.56)

JAX COLEMAN
Freshman | Sprints
Ocean Springs, Miss.
Ocean Springs

- 2026 Big Ten Indoor Championships silver medalist in the 4x400m (3:04.97)
- Earned B1G Freshman of the Week (1/21/26)
- In the Purdue indoor rankings (1): #2 4x400m

CONNOR CZAJKOWSKI
Senior | Sprints
West Lafayette, Ind.
William Henry Harrison

- 4x100m (SB - N/A, PB - 39.36)
- 3x All-American with one Second Team honor in 2025 (indoor 4x400m)
- 2025 Big Ten Indoor Champion in the 4x400m
- 2x Big Ten Outdoor bronze medalist in the 4x400m (2024) and 4x100m (2023)
- In the Purdue outdoor rankings (4): #3 4x400m, #4 4x100m, #9 4x100m, #9 4x400m
- In the Purdue indoor rankings (2): #1 4x400m, #5 4x400m



JOEL GATES
Sophomore | Throws
Fishers, Ind.
Fishers
Tennessee

- Discus (54.35m / 178-04), shot put (18.15m / 59-06.75)
- 2025 NCAA East First Round qualifier in the discus while at Tennessee

REGIONAL RANKINGS
#27 Shot Put (18.15m)
#42 Discus (54.35)

BODE GILKERSON
Junior | Jumps
Monrovia, Ind.
Plainfield

- High jump (SB - 2.10m / 6-10.75, PB - 2.18m / 7-01.75)
- 2025 Second Team All-American outdoors in the high jump after finishing 13th
- Has three consecutive fourth-place finishes at B1G Championships (two indoors, one outdoors)
- In the Purdue outdoor rankings (1): T-#10 high jump
- In the Purdue indoor rankings (1): T-#6 high jump

ZYAN GREENE
Junior | Sprints
Bensalem, Pa.
Bensalem
Coffeyville CC

- 400m (SB - 46.69, PB - 46.32), 4x400m (3:02.15)
- Anchor leg for the #5 4x400m team nationally (3:02.15)
- 2026 Big Ten Indoor Championships silver medalist in the 4x400m (3:04.97)
- 3x NJCAA All-American in 2025 at Coffeyville CC
- NJCAA Indoor Championships runner-up and outdoor bronze medalist in the 4x400m (2025)
- In the Purdue outdoor rankings (2): #1 4x400m, #8 400m
- In the Purdue indoor rankings (2): #2 4x400m, #3 400m

NCAA RANKINGS
#5 4x400m (3:02.15)
REGIONAL RANKINGS
#4 4x400m (3:02.15)

TONY MILLER
Head Coach
2nd Season HC
3rd Season Overall

JAMAAL BARNES
Assistant Coach
Sprints/Jumps
2nd Season

REBECCA RICHTMAN
Assistant Coach
Distance
3rd Season

PAUL ZALEWSKI
Assistant Coach
Jumps/Multis
2nd Season

RICHARDO PAGE
Assistant Coach
Throws
4th Season Overall

PASHEN LEWIS
Assistant Coach
Sprints
1st Season

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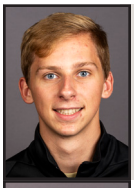

HUGH JACOBSMEYER
Sophomore | Distance
Lewis Center, Ohio
Olentangy

- 800m (1:47.29), 1500m (SB - 4:01.35, PB - 3:46.53)
- Broke Purdue's outoor 800m record that stood since 1983 with his 1:47.29 in Purdue's last meet
- Set Purdue's indoor 800m record this season (1:48.37), a record that stood for 33 years
- Has scored points in each of his first two Big Ten Indoor Championships in the DMR
- In the Purdue outdoor rankings (2): #1 800m, #9 1500m
- In the Purdue indoor rankings (1): #1 800m

REGIONAL RANKINGS
#35 800m (1:47.29)

CHIDOZIE KALU
Junior | Jumps
Umuahia, Nigeria
Community
Virginia Tech

- Triple jump (SB - 15.61m / 51-02.75, PB - 16.01m / 52-06.50)
- Big Ten Indoor Championships silver medalist in the triple jump this season
- Second Team All-American outdoors in 2024 in the triple jump while at Virginia Tech
- Earned bronze at the 2024 ACC Indoor Championships for the Hokies
- In the Purdue indoor rankings (1): #5 triple jump

OTHER RANKINGS
#1 Triple Jump (2026 Nigeria)
#20 Triple Jump (NCAA East)

SEAMUS MALASKI
Redshirt Freshman | Throws
Crown Point, Ind.
Crown Point

- Discus (56.04m / 183-10), hammer throw (67.73m / 222-02)
- Shot put (SB - 19.13m / 62-09.25, PB - 19.32m / 63-04.75)
- 2026 Second Team All-American indoors in the weight throw after finishing
- Bronze in the weight and fifth in the shot at the B1G Indoor Championships
- 2026 Indoor Big Ten All-Freshman Team
- In the Purdue outdoor rankings (3): #4 hammer throw, #5 shot put, #8 discus
- In the Purdue indoor rankings (2): #2 weight throw, #4 shot put

NCAA RANKINGS
#17 Hammer (67.73m)
#19 Shot Put (19.13m)

REGIONAL RANKINGS
#5 Hammer (67.73m)
#10 Shot Put (19.13m)
#31 Discus (56.04m)

LEO MAXWELL
Senior | Throws
Guilford, Ind.
East Central

- Hammer throw (64.15m / 210-05)
- Has qualified for the NCAA East First Round in the hammer throw in back-to-back seasons (2024-25)
- In the Purdue outdoor rankings (1): #9 hammer throw

REGIONAL RANKINGS
#31 Hammer (64.15m)

ZACH MYLENEK
Sophomore | Sprints
Pontiac, Mich.
Notre Dame Prep

- 4x400m (3:02.15)
- Third leg for the #5 4x400m team nationally (3:02.15)
- 2026 Big Ten Indoor Championships silver medalist in the 4x400m (3:04.97)
- Has scored points three times at Big Ten Championships
- In the Purdue outdoor rankings (2): #1 4x400m, #5 4x400m
- In the Purdue indoor rankings (1): #2 4x400m

NCAA RANKINGS
#5 4x400m (3:02.15)

REGIONAL RANKINGS
#4 4x400m (3:02.15)

WARNER PAPILLION
Freshman | Multis
Brentwood, Tenn.
Lipscomb Academy

- Decathlon (6,771 points)
- In the Purdue outdoor rankings (1): #8 decathlon
- In the Purdue indoor rankings (1): #8 heptathlon

ELLIOT RYBA
Redshirt Freshman | Jumps
Greenfield, Ind.
Greenfield

- High jump (2.16m / 7-01.00)

NCAA RANKINGS
#22 High Jump (2.16m)

REGIONAL RANKINGS
#11 High Jump (2.16m)

SAMUEL VESSAT
Junior | Sprints
Paris, France
TD Prep
Edward Waters

- 400m (44.94), 4x400m (3:02.15)
- Leads European runners in 2026 in the 400m (44.94)
- Third-fastest time ever by a French runner
- Second leg for the #5 4x400m team nationally (3:02.15)
- Finished sixth at the NCAA Indoor Championships in the 400m
- Set the French short track national record the 400m (45.30)
- Played basketball and ran track at Divison II Edward Waters (2023-25)
- In the Purdue outdoor rankings (3): #1 400m, #1 4x400m, #6 200m
- In the Purdue indoor rankings (2): #1 400m, #2 4x400m

NCAA RANKINGS
#5 4X400M (3:02.15)
#6 400m (44.94)
#29 200m (20.48)

OTHER RANKINGS
#1 400m (2026 Europe)
#1 400m (French Short Track)
#3 400m (French All-Time)
#29 400m (2026 World)

NATHAN WALKER
Graduate Student | Distance
Fremont, Mich.
Fremont

- 5000m (13:58.07), 10,000m (29:14.15)
- Earned cross country Great Lakes All-Region honors this season
- Two-time cross country All-Big Ten Second Team honoree
- Has twice scored points at Big Ten Outdoor Championships in the 5000m (2023-24)
- In the Purdue outdoor rankings (2): #5 5000m, #5 10,000m
- In the Purdue indoor rankings (2): #4 5000m, #9 3000m

REGIONAL RANKINGS
#43 10,000m (29:14.15)