

2014 Simplot Games, Pocatello Idaho, February 13-15, 2014

The largest high school indoor meet in the US with more than 1900 athletes participating from 18 US states, 3 Canadian provinces and one team from Mexico.

Alberta was well represented as always, and the Calgary Warriors were represented by Madison Evans, Charlotte Terek, Morgan Kravtsov, Rachel Mathieson, Katelyn Slessor and Katie Yackel.

Because of the many entries, there are three finals in the individual running events, two in the relays and one in the field events. All heats are performed in flats and without starting blocks, except hurdles where spikes are allowed.

We started on Friday with the qualifications, and the 4x200 team, existing of Katelyn, Morgan, Katie and Charlotte, qualified for the final on Saturday running 1:48.34, good for the ninth spot.

Rachel tried to qualify in the long jump. She had to jump 5.10m to make it to the final, but didn't succeed. It went better in the afternoon with her qualification for the triple jump, she had to surpass 10.50m to move on to the final, what she did in her second jump (no measurements taken).

Madison Evans qualified for the 200m final, placing 15th (out of 132 athletes!) and Charlotte Terek ran a personal best in the 400m. Her 59.62 was good for an eleventh place and a new junior indoor club record.

In the 60m hurdles both Katie (9.28) and Morgan (9.24) moved on to the finals. The hurdles are junior height (.84m), so personal bests for both at this height. Katelyn didn't succeed making it to the finals.

Morgan and Katie had to do their triple jump qualification after a long wait in the hurdles (our girls ran in heat 11, 12 and 13), and that doesn't help for your accuracy. Katie had a really big jump that she just faulted, but there is so much promise here!

Saturday is the big day, with finals in all events.

Madison started off for our team with the 200m. She was very motivated and had a marvelous run, producing a new Personal Best of 26.03, a new junior indoor club record and an eleventh place overall.

Next up was Charlotte in the 400m, she had to run the difficult inside lane and didn't get away as well as the day before. Her time of 1:00.22 was good for 15th place.

Rachel competed in the triple jump final, had some trouble getting on the board and finished in 14th spot with a distance of 34-08.25. Yes, you have to get used to those feet and inches, it doesn't mean a lot if you are not used to it. Translated: 10.57m.

Hurdle finals: Morgan ran the best race of her life, clocking 9.16, good for 12th spot. Katie finished 13th in 9.29.

One of the high points for me was the 4x200m final. Madison, Morgan, Katie and Charlotte improved upon the time of the heats by more than 3 seconds, winning the B final in the great time of 1:44.85, an average of about 26.2 per runner. That gave them 7th place overall.



Some remarkable Albertans: Isaac Penner winning the 800m (1:54.87), Scott Chalupiak from Airdrie, making it as the only grade 9 athlete to the 800m finals, and running a personal best of 1:59.56 after an impressive solo race in the C final, finishing 8th overall. Tiana Pisoni, third in the triple jump (11.90m). Ryan Smeeton, 5th in the 1600m (4:23.66).

To give an impression of the quality of the field, some of the winning girls performances: 8.20 in the 60m hurdles, 4:46.97 in the 1600m, 23.77 in 200m, 3.73m pole vault, 16.36m shot put...

An impressive showing for our team, well done everyone! And it was a lot of fun.

Pictures: <https://picasaweb.google.com/calgarywarriors/2014SimplotGames>

Results: <http://simplotgames.com/category/results-2/2014-girls-results/>

Videos: http://simplot-games.runnerspace.com/?do=videos&video_id=104425

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