

Krueger places ninth in 100-meter in 2A

Written by Kyle Arnoldy

Coming in to the state track meet ranked 16th in 2A for the 100-meter dash, the odds were against Jacinda Krueger placing, but Krueger was up for the challenge.

With a time of :13.21, Krueger earned a ninth-place finish Saturday, May 18 at the 2A State Track & Field Championships at JeffCo Stadium in Lakewood.

Holyoke athletes Krueger and Carlos Diaz knew they had to have one of their best performances of the year to have a chance at placing among the top competitors in 2A. Both Dragon tracksters matched or achieved new personal bests at the meet.

Twice in the meet Krueger ran her fastest times in the 100-meter dash and Diaz was able to tie his best height in the high jump.

Krueger was the first to compete as she lined up for the 100-meter dash Thursday, May 16. Despite a nagging quad injury that has caused problems for nearly a month, Krueger still was able to record a new personal best time of :13.30, placing her among the top nine sprinters in 2A and qualifying her for the final heat.



Jacinda Krueger and Carlos Diaz represented Holyoke during the 2A State Track & Field Championships Thursday-Saturday, May 16-18 at the JeffCo Stadium in Lakewood. Krueger finished in ninth place for the 100-meter dash.

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She returned to the track Friday, May 17 to run the 300-meter hurdles. Coach Luke Thomas said her quad injury seemed most problematic during this particular race, especially on the last 150 yards. With a time of :48.94, Krueger was less than a half of a second slow of qualifying for finals.

Saturday morning Krueger laced up her track spikes for her last event, the final round of the 100-meter dash. Again she rose to the occasion, posting yet another personal best time as she finished in :13.21 for a ninth-place finish.

After patiently waiting through all of Thursday's, Friday's, and the majority of Saturday's events, Diaz finally had the opportunity to compete.

Thomas noted that Diaz, who was still relatively new to the event this season, was clearing 6' but his foot was coming down just a little bit early, causing the bar to fall.

Thomas also pointed out that Diaz was clearly one of the shortest jumpers competing.

Diaz finished with a cleared height of 5'10", just two inches short of placing heights. The jump tied his personal best mark in the event.

"They performed well," Thomas said of his two state athletes. "They were excited. They both tied personal bests or beat it and that's what you want to see. They both performed beyond expectations."

Thomas also expressed the importance of the fact that both Krueger and Diaz are just juniors and will have another year to compete. If they stay healthy, and weather allows them to practice and improve, Krueger, Diaz and a number of other kids on the track team could make their mark at next year's state meet.

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