

# Portager heading to Idaho for Simplot Games



The Graphic Leader

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Erin Owens, No. 6, will travel to Idaho State University next month as part of the Simplot Games. *SUPPLIED*

A Portage la Prairie athlete has been selected to travel to Idaho next month to test her skills against competition from as far away as Australia and New Zealand at the 41st annual Simplot Games.

Portage's Erin Owens is among a handful of Manitoba track and field athletes invited to Idaho State University's Holt Arena in Pocatello, Idaho Feb. 14-16 for the J.R. Simplot Company-sponsored event, which has become one of America's premier high school indoor track and field events since it was first held in 1979.

The event is made up of 2,200 athletes from 19 different states, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. Competitors get the chance to mingle with Olympic legends like Dick Fosbury, Andre Phillips, Willie Banks, Stacy Dragila, and more. The Games also offers recognition for everyone with the Parade of Athletes, a truly Olympic-style event.

Simplot Games is unique because it is an open meet, which means athletes do not need a certain qualifying time or distance to be able to compete. Everyone is welcome at the Games allowing high school athletes from all over the chance to compete and have fun. It truly makes Simplot Games an extraordinary experience for everyone.



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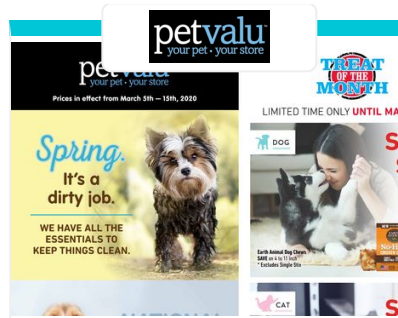
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