

ESTRADA BECOMES USA CITIZEN

Diego Estrada has become an American citizen. The Mexican-born athlete who became a permanent resident of the United States in 2000 and ran for Northern Arizona during his NCAA career, was sworn in at a ceremony in Phoenix, Ariz., last Friday, Nov. 18.

Estrada will compete in the NCAA Division I Cross Country Championships in Terre Haute, Ind., today, then go to San Jose, Calif., to make his pro road racing debut at the Applied Materials Silicon Valley Turkey Trot 5-K on Thursday, November 24. Estrada, 21, hopes to represent the United States in international competition. He never competed internationally for Mexico.

"Thinking about wearing the Team USA logo just gives me chills," Estrada told the Northern Arizona sports information office.

Estrada has a 5000m personal best of 13:26.94 and finished fifth in that event at the NCAA Division I Championships last June. He finished seventh at the NCAA Division I Cross Country Championships on Monday, November 21, 2011. Last year, Estrada ran with the leaders early in that race, but faltered in the second half and finished 16th.

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