



# Janee' Kassanavoid

Comanche Tribe:  
First Native American woman to medal at  
the World Athletic Championships



# Indigenous Woman Makes Sports History

As a professional track and field athlete for Team USA, it is a great honor to represent myself as a Native American and an Indigenous woman in sport. Making history as the first Native American woman to medal at the World Athletics Track & Field Championships symbolized the strength and the resilience that I have carried throughout my career.



Jenee' Specializes in the Hammer Throw



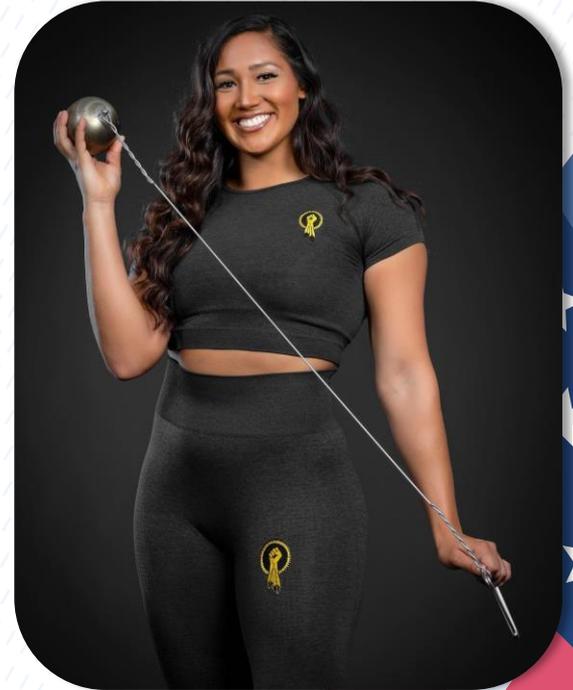
# Reconnecting With Comanche Heritage

Being a world-class athlete has allowed me to reconnect with my Comanche heritage. It has allowed me to listen and learn from my family, and to hear the stories my ancestors have passed down. Additionally, it has allowed me to give thanks to the creator, and honor the land, the water and all necessary things for life itself.



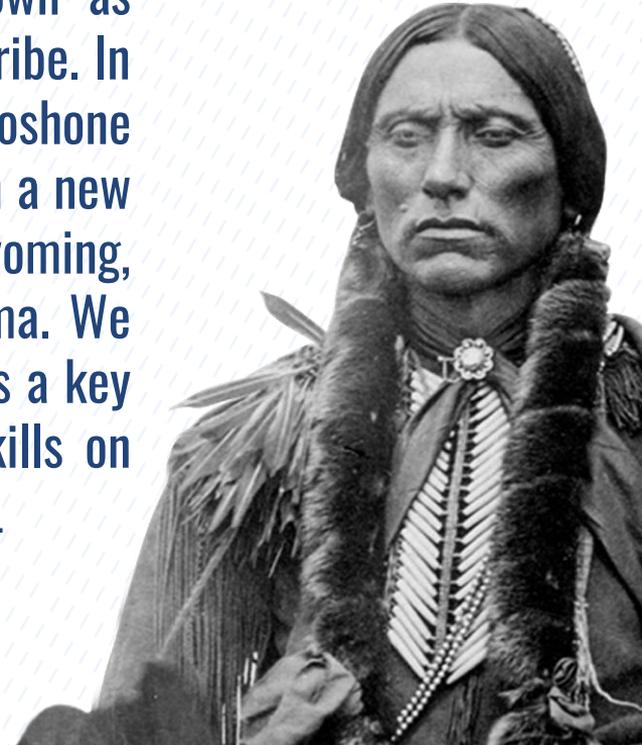
# Culture Embodies **Beauty Strength & Resilience**

I am honored and humbled to share my journey towards making history. But I can only hope that this is the beginning. I hope to continue breaking barriers, educating and promoting awareness for my community. It is a culture that embodies such beauty, strength and resilience. We are still here. Thank you, Team USA fans, for all your support. And I look forward to open conversations or questions that you may have for myself, or my journey, as a Native American woman in the track and field community.



# We Are the **Comanche Nation**

We are the Comanche Nation and in our native language “Namanuu” (NUH-MUH-NUH) which means, “The People”. We are known as “Lords of the Plains” and were once a part of the Shoshone Tribe. In the late 1600’s and early 1700’s we moved off from our Shoshone kinsmen onto the northern Plains and then southerly in search a new homeland. We Migrated across the Plains, through Wyoming, Nebraska, Colorado, Kansas, New Mexico, Texas and Oklahoma. We ultimately settled here in Southwest Oklahoma. The horse was a key element in Comanche culture. The people mastered their skills on horseback and gained a tremendous advantage in times of war.





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Accomplishments



**Multimedia Content**

A DAY IN THE LIFE  
of a professional  
HAMMER THROWER