

# THE DECATHLON ASSOCIATION

## DECA Newsletter

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### ‘FLAWLESS IN SEATTLE’ Eaton’s 6174 # 2 All-Time College Score

**Hello Again....**Oregon’s 21 year old junior Ashton Eaton may not have sleepless in Seattle this past weekend, but he sure was flawless. When the dust cleared at the University of Washington Invitational Eaton, the NCAA outdoor decathlon champion, stamped himself as the favorite of this year’s national indoor title by posting an eye-opening 6174 point score, the # 2 all time collegiate effort ever.

Only his shot put was sub-standard on day one as he ran up a 3394 score. “Ashton was really focused,” said Ducks coach Dan Steele. Indeed, the first day marks were remarkable: 6.84 60m meters (.01 off PR), 7.59m/24-11, 12.06m/39-6¾ and 2.09m/6-10 ¼ (PR). After 4 events he went unchallenged, but maintained the focus with: a PR 7.91 hurdles, 4.97m/16-3½ indoor PR vault and, a 2 second PR in the 1000m at 2:39.92. he won all three day two contests.

This was one of the best collegiate heptathlon ever,” remarked Steele. Indeed, 11 surpassed 5000 points and three notched NCAA provisional marks.

It was that sort of weekend. After a sleepy season start wherein only 25 5K efforts were posted in the first eight weeks, another 37 5000+ marks were posted within a 30 hour period. National qualifying lists were completely rewritten with Eaton getting the only Div-I auto mark, but another dozen posted provisional marks (A=5650, B=5300). At the Div-II level seven more provisional

marks were posted (Prov = 4500) while at D-III, 3 more efforts were put in the books (prov=3400 pent).



Ten days past his 21<sup>st</sup> birthday, Oregon’s Ashton Eaton, 6-1, 190, junior from Bend, Oregon, scared the indoor heptathlon CR and added 200 points to his PR.

The Jan 28-31 kicked off with some fast sprint clocking at the New York Metro meet at Manhattan College where Fairleigh Dickinson’s Eric Sheppard (6.6h in 60 meters!) won with 5135 points. Even more arresting was the 6.5h sprint by Seton Hall’s John Ramos, arguably the fastest sprint time

#### All Time Collegiate Heptathlon List

[2/1/09]

6208	Trey Hardee	Texas	2006
6174	Ashton Eaton/	Oregon	2009
6136	Donovan Kilmartin	Texas	2004
6004	Maurice Smith	Auburn	2005
5951	Gonzalo Barroilhet	Florida St	2008
5917	Chris Helwick	Tennessee	2006
5909	Jake Arnold	Arizona	2007
5906	Raven Cepeda	Cedar Falls	2008
5891	Chad Smith	Tennessee	1996
5837	Josh Hustedt	Stanford	2007

in the history of indoor multis. We'll look into this. Notre Dame's Justin Schneider won the Findlay (OH) Classic with 5061, but the Findlay pentathlon was captured by U of Windsor's (Ontario) Jamie Adjetney-Nelson (3971), the two time CIS indoor kingpin.

A pair of ACC school hosted multis. At Chapel Hill, NC it was Dan Keller of the host school who raised his game to a 5605 at the Texas Roadhouse-Carolina Classic, while Volunteer soph Michael Ayers won at Clemson, SC with a huge PR 5590 effort.

In the east Jon Buice of Syracuse was a winner at Penn State (5259) while down the road at Bucknell, Eric Broadbent (a West Chester grad) run up a fine 5542 score (initially reported at 5573 but remember there are new 55m/55mH tables in use). Tufts junior Jared Engelking won the pentathlon in Medford, MA with a D-III 3400 total.



Left: Tufts Junior Jared Engelking of Westborough, MA, and (center) Jamie Adjetney-Nelson/Windsor, Ontario were winners. Right: Seton Hall's John Ramos was speedy.

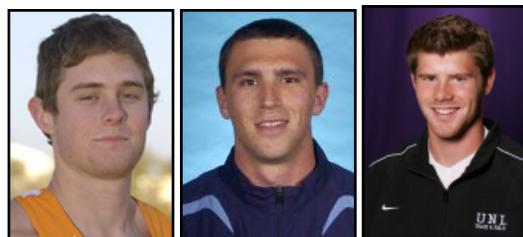
In the Mid-west Northern Iowa's Mat Clark topped frosh teammate Daniel Gooris, 5488 to 5400 at the UNI affair in Cedar Falls. In Manhattan, KS K-States soph Moriytz Cleve, Borcum, Germany, topped vet Chris Helwick and Wake Forest's Brent LaRue, 5606-5516-5429. And Minnesota's former NCAA TJ champion, the springy and speedy Derek Gearman got a 5607 score in Mankato, MN using a 2.18m/7-1¾ hj. It appears that he will make a commitment to combined events. 2000 Olympian Paul Terek returned to the competitive wars in Madison, Wisconsin, testing a knee which gave out at the end of the

2008 indoor season. He tried a trio of events. Verdict: feels just fine.



Former NCAA TJ winner Derek Gearman/unat-ex Minnesota, posted a fine 5607 in Mankato to qualify for the USA indoor CE in Chapel Hill.

The Southwest witnessed three major hepts. In New Mexico defending USATF indoor king Jake Arnold opened with a 5649 win at the Albuquerque Convention center. In Flagstaff, Arizona Lysias 'Bubba' Edmonds, one of the 2008 finds, turned back Andrew Hall at UNA's Mountain T meet. Missouri's Nick Adcock won at Texas A&M with 5508.



A trio of NCAA provisional qualifiers with big scores: left: Michael Ayers/Tennessee (5590), soph from Nashville, TN; Center: Dan Keller/North Carolina, a senior from Roanoke, VA, (5605) and Right: Mat Clark/Northern Iowa, senior from Ames, IA (5488).

In the far west, Eaton shared the spotlight with cadet Joel Nolan/USAFA (5111) who won in Colorado Springs and Utah State's John Strang who used a 2.14m/7-¼ high jump to secure a 5444 mark for the win at Washington State's Cougar Invitational in Pullman.

Earlier in the week Duane Hynes/Princeton won a mini meet at Jadwyn Gym with 5629 hand score.

Whew! This was a heckuva weekend. Consider: 21 meets, more than 250 athletes toed the starting line, the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest collegiate score was posted and the national lists were rewritten. Some of the major collegiate contenders have yet to start a multi so far. For example, defending NCAA champ Gonzalo Barroihlet/Florida State, who vaulted a PR 5.20m/17-¼ at Lincoln, NE on Saturday, has had a low key indoor campaign. But the weekend belongs to Ashton Eaton, the Oregon junior who will be tough to handle at the March NCAA Div-I affair in College Station.



Home meet heptathlon winners included: left: Kansas State soph Moritz Cleve, 6-4, Bochum, GER; (center) Princeton senior Duane Hynes; (right), and USAFA's 6-1 Joel Nolan, a junior from Ypsilanti, MI



Posting PR scores were: (left) Clemson's Miller Moss; (center) Syracuse junior Jon Buice; and (right) Northridge junior Robert Robinson.

As always, check the most recently posted 'Results Page' for meet details and national qualifying lists. As we go to post, one additional weekend heptathlon is being conducted in Aberdeen, SD, at Northern State University.

## Are You Confused ?

We are. A pair of unrelated but look alike decathletes with almost identical names and scores has us scratching our head. First, there is *Tyler Dodds*, a junior at Wake Forest from Hanover, NH with a seasonal hept PR of 4769. Then there is *Tyler Dodd*, a junior at Northern Iowa, Gilmore City IA with a seasonal best of 4888.



Dodds/WFU



Dodd/UNI

In recent years we've had problems identifying a pair of Chris Richardsons and went to designating them I and II. We'll see what happens.