

THE DECATHLON ASSOCIATION

DECA Newsletter

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OUTDOOR SEASON UNDERWAY

Eaton's Spear Lands 66.64m/218-8 Away at CP-SLO

Alaskan Wins at Northridge

Hello Again....The 2013 outdoor campaign is underway with a smattering of meets by mid-March. The 3rd weekend in March news comes from San Luis Obispo where Olympic champ Ashton Eaton opened the outdoor campaign at a small meet with a big toss, 66.64m/218-8 in the javelin, a significant PR (old best was 61.96m/203-7 in London). Series: 60.65m/198-11, 62.98m/206-7 PR and 66.64 PR. His new PR is *virtually twice as far* as his first deca jav mark, a 33.65m/110-4 toss at the Jim Click meet in Tucson in March, 2007! He'll soon be history's first decathlete to *double his PR distance* over a career.

Eaton will do individual events during the spring and deca open in Götzis in late May.

NB: For the statistically conscious (read: obsessed) observers: Eaton's PRs now add to 9445 points, 2nd on all-time list and 127 shy of Dan O'Brien's world/career leading 9572 points.

Ashton also ran 13.76 (wind +2.4mps) in the highs and relayed 400m in 46.26 (22.26 at the furlong for splits of 22.26/24.00).

The most engaging decathlon meet was held, in two sections, at Cal State-Northridge on March 14-15. Cody Thomas/Alaska-Anchorage, the GNAC indoor winner and a soph from Blenheim, NZL, scored 6781, 1008 more than the UAA school record.

Rarely does decathlon news come out of Alaska...so rare I think that I've never mentioned the state in 38 years and over 1000



Olympic champ Ashton Eaton has nearly doubled his javelin PR since becoming a decathlete in 2007.

editions of this newsletter. The UAA Seawolves (in their 12th year at T&F) have no home meets and travel to the US a dozen times per year for meets, piling up as many frequent flyer miles as decathlon points. Alaskan decathlete?!?

The nation's initial meet started in February(!), in Chico, CA. Locals J Patrick



J. Patrick Smith/Chico State (left) won the season's first ten-eventer and Alaska-Anchorage decathlete Cody Thomas (right) set a state record in Northridge.

Smith, last year's D-II winner, and Theodore Elsenbaumer went 1-2, both with 7K scores. Angelo State's Seth Pearson won at the ASU Spring Break meet and Utah Valley State's Michael McPherson won the Aztec Invt in San Diego.

Five decathlons were conducted in the Southeast, some in wet conditions: Keron Stoute/Bethune-Cookman was the Hurricane Invt in Miami; Nathan Saliga/Michigan Tech was victorious at the Shamrock Invt in Myrtle beach, SC; and veteran Tim Wunderlich's 6660 score, mis-featuring a 20.88 hurdles race, was tops at the 49er Classic in Charlotte, NC. Bo Ackerson-Gilroy/Samford topped teammate Stephen Bastien at the Samford Multis.

By March 16 the US had ten decathlons in the books.