

THE DECATHLON ASSOCIATION

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DECATHLES WEATHER WEEKEND

Cancelled Meets and Sub-Standard Results

Hello Again.....A dozen collegiate decathlons were scheduled for the final weekend of March 2011 but the major story was....the weather. Conditions were sub-optimal at virtually every site but Santa Barbara and San Angelo. The final scores indicated just how tough conditions were. For example, two meets were simply cancelled, the most noteworthy being the 2nd day the Cal's Multis section A (the afternoon group). There strong winds and heavy rain at Edwards Stadium forced the cancellation of most of day two. Those in Group B started in the morning and actually completed all ten events although conditions worsened as the day lengthened and the winning total was under 5300 points. By the time the pole vault rolled around the rains were heavy and only 4 of 14 could hold onto the vaulting poles to even clear a height. The bar opened at 2.15m/7-1/2 where 4 were successful. One athlete went to to clear 2.45m/8-1/2 and that was it! The remaining ten athletes no heighted. The result was the lowest average vault clearance for any major American decathlon (2 feet, 2 inches!!) in US history. The rain came down so heavily that meet organizers simply cancelled the 2nd day.

In Group A comebacking Chris Randolph was a clear leader after five with 3947 points while SLO vaulter Corbin Duer and former Portland State star Nick Trubachik in the hunt. They will have to wait another day for USA or NCAA qualifying scores.



It rained so hard at Edwards Stadium that the highest vault clearance for one group was just over 8 feet at the annual Cal Multis in Berkeley.

Mike Morrison of the host school no marked in the long jump and then no heighted in the high jump.

Ex Alabama star Keith Baker won the Alabama Relays with 7320 points. The weekend's top collegiate score came from Central Missouri junior Brent Vogel, 20, Jefferson City, MO (6-2, 175) who won the gold division at Angelo State's Spring meet with a PR 7238 over CMU volunteer coach Todd Wildman. Both have indoor reputations

(Vogel the NCAA II indoor heptathlon runner-up, Wildman last year's NCAA III indoor pentathlon champ while at Trinity U in Texas). Wildman's 7065 score was also a lifetime best. As a matter of fact the Mules ruled in San Angelo as Central Missouri soph (Murrieta, CA) Carl McCargo won the blue division at San Angelo with a PR 6628 effort.

The only other significant weekend score came on Westmont College's new track in Santa Barbara. There UCSB soph Derek Masterson became the first (and only!!) D-I athlete to score over 7000 points in the month of March. March Madness? His winning effort of 7159 points (a PR) was historically significant since at least one US collegian had produced a March 7000 effort in every year since 1971. In other words it has been 40 years since March scores were so low. This must have something to do with the extended (and very successful) US indoor season. But to characterize the current season as 'slow starting' would be an understatement. Let's hope that April brings a raining of good scores and not just rain.



Derek Masterson (left), a UCSB soph, Placerville, CA, finds himself atop the D-I list. Central Missouri's Brent Vogel (right), 20, Jefferson City, MO, leads the D-II list.