

THE DECATHLON ASSOCIATION

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DOUBLE 81 for DOUBLE Z 8044 for Ehrhardt, Big Scores at Clay

Hello Again.....A name change did not affect either the quality or quantity of the annual decathlon efforts at Azusa Pacific University. For two generations the Azusa Multis were a combo of the adopted Mount Sac Relays and the home-grown California Invitational. With a movement of the Relays to another site during construction projects at Mount Sac this year's CE meet took its title from its most illustrious alumnus, Bryan Clay. Clay was on hand for dec/hept entries that reached triple figures including 51 decathlon starters. New Azusa coach Jack Hoyt staggered four groups and officials had two busy days (18th/19th) of action (see Results Page).

Olympian Zach Ziemek, a volunteer assistant at alma mater Wisconsin, actually found himself in third place at the break but he used a dec PR in the hurdles, solid throws and vault and a near 1500 PR to post a winning 8181 score. Protege Trent Nytes, a junior from Kaukauna, WI led after five events thanks mostly to an eye-opening 2.19m/7-2¼ high jump, the highest ever by an 'American' collegian. The US collegiate record belongs to Hungarian Attila Zsivoczky of Kansas State (2.22m/7-3¼)

Canadian soph Nathan Mechler of Houston (7722) and Nytes (7683) were 2nd and 3rd with career best totals. A point back in 4th (7682) was Stanford junior Harrison Williams (Memphis, TN) showing marked improvement in the long jump, shot and discus while completing his first ten-eventer



Olympian Zach Ziemek opened his outdoor season with a 8181 win at the Bryan Clay meet.

in two seasons. Iowa senior William Dougherty (Menville, IA) PR'd at 7673 for 5th. Nine surpassed 7000.

In Group # 3 Minnesota junior Teddy Frid (St. Paul, MN) prevailed with a 7269 PR effort. D II Central Washington senior Kodiak Landis posted a startling 47.87 one lapper to finish 2nd at 7187. The major story here was the terrific work by Wisconsin's



Wisconsin junior Trent Nytes provided the highlight at Clay, a 2.19m/7-2¼ leap in the high jump.



23 year old Michigan State senior Tim Ehrhardt became the 80th American to surpass 8000 points while winning The U of Virginia Challenge.

Green Bay soph Zach Lorbeck (4117 1st day) until derailed by a vault ‘nh.’

Group # 2 was won by JC frosh Jonathan Ply of Central Arizona and Group #1 by UC-Davis junior Tom Grossman at 6986. In all 51 started, 42 finished with 15 over 7000 points..... a heckuva meet.

In other notable meets Michigan State senior Tim Ehrhardt (Addison, IL) prevailed at the Virginia Challenge in Charlottesville over teammate Nick Guerrant (Portage, MI) while former indoor qualifier John Seals (senior, Springfield, VA) of George Mason dnf'd. Ehrhardt strung together career bests in the 100m, shot, 400m and discus, javelin and 1500 and cruised to a gaudy 8044 score, becoming the 80th American to score 8000. Wow!

In the vault he opened at 5.00m/16-4³/₄ and got by after one miss and then went on to clear 5.20m/17-³/₄. He'll make the NCAA I meet very interesting. Guerrant improved his career best by over 600 points notching a sure NCAA qualifying 7549 total.

Nebraska Freshman Zach Podrasza captured the Kansas Relays crown (6753) over Will Daniels of Central (IA), Daniel's 6673 leads NCAA III scores. Seth Getz, a senior at Oregon Tech, won the Cascade

Conference meet at 6895 in Ashland, OR, the top seasonal NAIA score.

In all there were 19 week/weekend meets. Next week's major attraction will be the annual Drake Relays decathlon in Des Moines.



Harrison Williams/Stanford (l), Nick Guerrant /Michigan State (c) and William Dougherty/ Iowa all produced scores over the weekend substantial enough to earn a trip to the NCAAs in June.