

THE DECATHLON ASSOCIATION

DECA Newsletter

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ABRUPT FINISH at DRAKE

All Quiet on Decathlon Front

Hello Again.....Kurtis Brondyke was cruising. He had taken the lead during the shot put and his 3993 1st day effort was 64 points up on Arkansas redshirt Derek Jacobus under near perfect conditions. He ended day one with a significant 50.06 PR. Brondyke then won the first four events of the 2nd day (hurdles, discus, vault and javelin) and the lead over Jacobus had ballooned to a whopping 580 points.

Brondyke (29, Clinton, IA), the assistant coach at Central Missouri, was well on his way to becoming the 5th to win back-to-back Drake decathlon titles. While a crowd of 7,548 was filtering to the seats, Kurtis started but did not finish the final event, the 1500m. His 9 event score of 7097 held up for 2nd place. Northern Iowa junior Andrew Heitland was 3rd at 6667.

We are unaware if Jacobus was aware of Brondyke's stepping off the track. Derek ran the 1st 300m in 51.6 (in 7th place), 5 seconds back of the leader, and then soldiered on with laps of 77.1, 77.9 and 73.3 to clock 4:39.86 for 4th place. His winning total was 7198 points. 2016 USATF junior champ Hayden Ashely, a soph at Oklahoma Baptist, won the final event at 4:28.20.

Jacobus (23, Palo, IA) is a former Cedar rapids Kennedy HS standout and a four tiume Drake qualifier during his prep career. He was 18th at last year's NCAA D-I meet.



29 year old Kurtis Brondyke, the assistant coach at Central Missouri who runs-jumps-throws for the Other Guys, won six events at the Drake Relays decathlon (1j-sp-110H-disc-pv-jav) and recorded a PR in the 400 but did not finish the 1500m. His 7097 score was good for 2nd.

The weekend's top score came at the Robison Invitational at Brigham Young U where senior Kevin Neilsen (24, Granite Bay, CA) scored an 8-point PR 7475 points, a total that will be on the bubble as an NCAA qualifier.

In week/weekends other meets Ken Mullins of the University of the Bahamas won at Penn with a 6930 score. Cody Williams/Concordia, NE won the Dutcher at Doane, at 6317, likely an NAIA qualifier. At D II Rocky Mountain AC, Colorado Mines soph Hayden Sather was victorious at 6663.

Next week is one of the busiest with more than 40 meets on the docket...it is 'Conference Champs week.'