

THE DECATHLON ASSOCIATION

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CONFERENCE SEASON UNDER WAY

Filip, Seals, Knowles Dominate Weekend

Hello Again....Conference Championship season is underway and the third weekend of February witnessed 13 collegiate league meets. Several mid-major leagues produced the headline scores. On Fri-Sat (Feb 17-18) Lehigh junior Trevor Knowles (21, Lebanon, NJ) three-peated as Patriot League champ in Boston with a PR 5447 effort. His former best was 5271 in December. Knowles' margin of victory at BU was over 700 points.

A day later George Mason junior John Seals (21, Springfield, VA), produced a breakthrough and eye-opening 5770 total to win the Atlantic-10 champs in Fairfax, VA. The 2015 A-10 Rookie of Year literally leaped to a likely NCAA qualifying score with 7.11m/23-4, 2.13/6-11¾ and 4.95m/16-2¾ jumping marks. His score stands 10th on the current D-I list (top 16 qualify for the nationals in College Station) and he'll have to wait out an onslaught of scores next weekend when conference qualifying ends.

Noteworthy news came from Birmingham on Sunday as Scott Filip (22, Bloomington, IL) a junior at Rice, captured his 3rd Conference USA crown. After 2015 elbow surgery Filip reshirted last year's collegiate campaign but had an extraordinary summer placing 10th at the U.S. Olympic Trials and winning both the Pan-Am and Thorpe Cups. His 5680 total in Birmingham was 105 off a PR and, like Seals and half a dozen others, he'll be watching next weeks scores.



A pair of east coast juniors captured league titles by displaying leaping skills. John Seals, George Mason (left) and Trevor Knowles/Lehigh (right) won the Atlantic-10 and Patriot League crowns respectively.

Other weekend winners included NCA&T senior Todd Townsend who won the MEAC (5150) and Central Washington senior Kodiak Landis whose 5269 was good enough to win the D-II GNAC crown in Nampa.

An ungodly 36 conference meets are scheduled next week, a dozen of them from significant D-I leagues. In 2016 the final qualifying score was 5663.



Rice junior Scott Filip (left) ran up 5680 points to win the Conference USA crown in Birmingham.