

# THE DECATHLON ASSOCIATION

## DECA Newsletter

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## OH BROTHER !

### Lindon Victor/Texas A&M Scores CR at SECs

**HELLO AGAIN.....**The busiest week of the year featured thirty 30 meets (21 D-I conference champs), three(!) 8000 point efforts, 35 (!) 7ks, a challenge to the collegiate mark and more alterations of family records. Whew!

By far the most impressive performance came from Lindon Victor (21, St Georges, Grenada), the Texas A&M junior who decimated a good field at the SECs in Tuscaloosa, AL. Victor (the name is frequently reversed) dominated performance of 8446 points far overshadowed the comeback attempt by current NCAA D-I champ Maicel Uibo (23, Polva, Estonia), who approached his PR (8315 for 2nd), but who trailed Victor throughout. With one event remaining he trailed Victor by 253 points. Also overshadowed was a new 8k score by Georgia junior Devon Williams. Apologies for overlooking the Williams brother-sister combo score last week.

Not to be overlooked was the 7784 mark put up by '15 NCAA indoor champ Luca Weiland (21, Berlin, GER) who led the Big Ten meet in Lincoln, NE from start to finish. It was his season opener.

Here is a quick summary of the week/weekend action.

#### **Wed-Thur [5/11-12]**

Colorado State junior Josh Cogdill came from way back to overtake Dutchman Daniel Lam/New Mexico to win the Mountain West crown in Fresno (7149-7047).

#### **Thurs-Fri [5/12-13]**



**Lindon Victor/Texas A&M(right) outlegged Ser Whitaker /Missouri (left) in the SEC 100m. Victor's 8 (!) event PRs gave him a notable 8446 win and he'll go to the NCAA I meet as the prohibitive favorite.**

German Luis Hanssler, a senior at Memphis, defended his American Conference title in Orlando, and his winning 7369 total will get him back to the NCAA title meet.

In Toledo Eastern Michigan's Solomon Simmons (nee Ijah) withstood a late challenge from Akron's Alex McCune to win the Mid-American title, 7604-7520. The score for McCune punches a ticket back to the NCAAs in Eugene where he was 6th (7806) two years ago. Of league notables, Buffalo's injured Mike Morgan sat out the entire season.

Atsu Nyamadi, a senior at Middle Tennessee State and Ghana, easily captured the Conference USA title with a 7588 total. He was 3rd a year ago.'15 runner-up K'Vonte Scott, a Charlotte senior with a 7549 career



**Lindon Victor *pasted* the SEC discus with a new CR 54.56m/179-0. He won the event by a first down!**

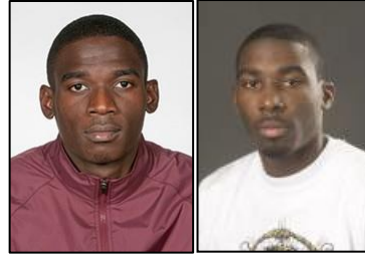
best), who was injured most of the year, got thru only 4 events in Mufreesboro before calling it a day.

At the Summit League affair in Vermillion, SD NDSU senior Brock Larson, with the meet wrapped up, cruised the 1500m (5:23+) and missed his first 7000 point score by 2 points!

The SEC champs in Tuscaloosa was all Lindon Victor. After a PR 100m (10.72 seconds) he took the lead with a PR 15.73m/shot, equaled his high best at 2.02m/6-7½ and then ran nearly two seconds under his 400 best (48.33) to lead day one with 4309 points. On day two his 14.70 hurdle clocking was a 3 tenths PR but what followed was truly eye-opening. With a discus PR of 51.29m/168-3, his opening spin of 48.34m/158-7 won the event but it was round #2 that went into the record books. His platter covered 54.56/179-0 of Alabama real estate...winning the discus by 32(!) feet, and setting a new collegiate record. Only three (WR belongs to Bryan Clay at 55.87m/183-3) have ever had longer decathlon throws. His overall lead stretched to 290 points with 331 up on Uibo.

Victor added a PR 4.55m/14-11 vault and a winning 68.96m/226-3 javelin to conclude to 5th best deca throwing performance in history (2675 pts vs Michael

Smith's/CAN '96 Götzis performance of 16.94m, 52.90m and 71.88m for 2748 points). By now Victor was 253 up on Uibo, Nonetheless he sped to a 16 second PR 4:47.12 missing Trey Hardee's CR of 8465.



**Lindon Victor (left) and former NCAA champ Kurt Felix/Boise State (right) are brothers.**

In all, 8 event PRs! Enough said and he'll head to Eugene, as they say in politics, as the presumptive nominee.

<b>Brother-Brother Record</b>		<b>5/15/16</b>
Felix-Victor/GRN	[Kurt 8302'15 & Lindon 8446'16]	16,750
Pappas/USA	[Tom 8784'03 & Billy 7745'03]	16,529
Rizzi/GER	[Andreas 8369'83 & Thomas 8056'83]	16,425
Motti/FRA	[William 8550'87 & Eric '7744]	16,294
Steele/USA	[Dan 8130'99 & Darrin 8129'95]	*16,259

\*Twin Record

And Victor's performance went into other record books. See attached box.

This was not to downplay the other fine SEC marks. Uibo's was the 3rd best of his career at 8315 and Williams' 8116 was a PR. The Kentucky pair of Tim Duckworth and Ibn Short also managed personal best scores of 7709 and 7588 for 4th and 5th. Nine recorded PR totals.

**Fri-Sat [5/13-14]**

Super-talent Bilal Abdullah, 4th at the NCAA indoor title meet, won the Atlantic Sun meet in Jacksonville with a PR 7286 total. At the ACC meet in Tallahassee Carolina senior Paul Haley seemed to have the meet well in hand (3913 1st day) until he stumbled over a hurdle in essence donating the meet to Andreas Christodoulou, a Miami frosh from Cyprus. Iowa State senior Taylor Sanderson captured the Big 12 affair in Dallas with a 7204 effort.

The Big Ten meet in Lincoln was deep with top efforts. Steven Bastien/Eastern Michigan and Cody Walton/Nebraska



Minnesota's Luca Weiland (7754)(left) and Michigan's Steven Bastien (7636) (right) got PRs in a 1-2 at the Big Ten Conference meet in Lincoln.

solidified their NCAA invites with 7636 and 7620 scores after Wieland victory. Unnoticed was Wisconsin senior Brandon Mortensen whose 7335 PR finished the weekend as the 25th best D-I effort. He'll be the NCAA I alternate. The Badgers scored four in Lincoln.

Wichita States Hunter Veith won the Missouri Valley title as the same fate befell him as Brock Larson, a 6998 score with a . laidback (5:19+) 1500 meters.

In other meets John Braga, a Merrimack College (Andover, MA) junior got a D-II qualifier by winning the all divisions New Englands in New Haven, CT. And Thomas FitzSimons won the initial Harry Marra Multis at Westmont (7427) but the story was Kurt Brondyke (7th at '15 USA nationals) who appeared on his way to USOT qualifier/PR when he came a cropper in the vault, opening at 4.40m/14-5¼. His 6316 final score for 8 events was eye-opening and ordinary marks for the pair of non-scoring events place him in the mid-7700 range. Brondyke, like other who finished the day with totals under expectations, have the "Last Chance season" coming up. See last week's *Newsletter* for dates.

### NCAA I Qualifying

Qualifying for the NCAA I meet is complete (see accompanying *Results Page*) and 7339 appears to be the 24th and final score. We will keep you posted for changes, injuries and no shows. The list is certain to raise the age-old question of foreign athletes. Seven of the top ten decathlon performers on our list are foreign collegians as are 9 of 24 (@37%). My guess is that this will be a major point of discussion in Eugene.

Meanwhile, on the Father-Son that has been so notable this season, Michigan's Steven Bastien added 219 digits to how own PR making the leading father-son combo now 15,483 for the Bastiens.