

THE DECATHLON ASSOCIATION

DECA Newsletter

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USA INDOOR MEET FINDS 2016 HOME

2nd Weekend Nets Fine Scores

Hello Again..... In order to allow scores to qualify for the IAAF World indoor champs (scheduled for March 18-19) in Portland, OR the USA national indoor heptathlon has been relocated to Doane College, Crete, NE on February 26-27, 2016. Doane, an annual NAIA power, has earned a reputation for combined events over the years and sports a new 200 meter Mondo track with the ability to have two sites for each field event.

The men's heptathlon and women's pentathlon will be conducted at Doane with no other meet attached so event scheduling will not be influenced by the remainder of the meet, often a major complaint from CE athletes and coaches who grated on 'non-interfering' early morning starts with few spectators. Doane head coach and meet director Ed Fye predicts that the Fuhrer Field House will be filled to capacity for the 31st national CEs, not an idle comment for a program that has a team roster of 156 (!) and 13 coaches.



Fuhrer Field House, Doane College, Crete, NE



Weekend heptathlon winners included defending Ivy League champ Nico Robinson/Dartmouth (l) who won in New Haven, CT and defending NAIA champ Kale Wolken/Doane (r), who won at home in Crete, NE.

The field house has recently gone thru renovation with a high performance arena floor, remodeled locker rooms, classroom and lounge spaces and rehab training facilities. Jeremy Taiwo will be defending.



The Weekend Summary:

With the decision to relocate the USA indoor nationals at Doane the competitions during the second weekend of December took on added meaning. Opportunities to exceed the indoor champs standard of 5450 points popped up at four venues. Doane hosted its Holiday affair and reigning NAIA champ Kale Wolken '16, (6-3, 190), Tecumseh, NE, added 169 points to his PR and ended with an eye-opening 5660 score. Technically he was the first seasonal USATF qualifier yet it is unlikely that he'll compete (on his home track) since his conference meet (GPAC) is scheduled for the week before and the NAIA

nationals for the week after the USATF meet. But one thing is certain, that is Wolken will own the facility record score as the USA nationals approach.

A few hours after the Doane meet concluded Justin Green, a recent Colorado State grad (Liberty Hill, TX), ran up a 5575 total (25 shy of his PR) which punched his ticket to Crete, NE.

Opportunities for a pair for additional qualifiers fell short late. Akron grad Bryan Jones (Canal Fulon, OH-PR 5437) won the Kent State Golden Flash hept with 5377 letting the qualifier slip away in the final two events. And last year's NCAA II bronze medalist Dillon Schrodt ('15, Lincoln, NE), now a grad assistant at his alma mater, Nebraska-Kearney, was 236 up on his 5447 PR after 4 events, and then vault nh'd (at 3.95m/12-11½) at the Foster Pre-Holiday affair in Kearney. Both appeared to have the necessary 5450 well in hand before the mishaps.

A pair of Ivy leaguers won early meets. Dartmouth's fast improving Heptagonal champ Nico Robinson '17 (Stanford, CA-PR 5342) improved by 309 points over his '14 performance at the SCSU Elm City hept in New Haven, CT getting the 5180 win. And Princeton junior Jake Scinti (Cheshire, CT) won a local meet at Jadwyn Gym managing 5238 points. Kansas State junior Adam Deterding (Hays, KS) won the Attila Zsivoczky pentathlon at home in Manhattan scoring 3538 points.



Bryan Jones/Canal Fulon, OH (l), Justin Green/Liberty Hill, TX (center) and Jake Scinti/Cheshire, CT won weekend heptathlons.