LITTLE NOISE in WEEK #2
II, III, NAIA Athletes Dominate

Hello Again…..The final weekend in March, 2008 was mostly a quiet one. The second decathlon weekend (March 24-30) saw 11 additional decathlon meets and 90 athletes start. The top score was posted by Augustan College (IL) junior Ted McMillan, who used a 2.04m/6-8 ¼ high jump to score 6598, two points off of the NCAA III auto standard. Even some of the normally Div I meets were captured by small college athletes: For example, the Florida State Relays was won by Doug Thomasey, a former Div III Lynchburg College student, who overcame a 200 point differential in the final event to win.

Weekend scores and national qualifying by smaller schools (NCAA Div II, III and NAIA) was dominant. By the end of March decathletes from the smaller four year schools had posted 19 national qualifying marks, a heady figure for so early in the season. 8 have come in Div II, 7 in Div III and another 4 for NAIA schools which invites the top 16 scoring athletes to its national meet.

Qualifying Standards:

	Auto	Provisional
NCAA II	6920	6300
NCAA III	6600	6000
NAIA	Top 16 scores	

Cal State-LA's Julian Gonzales leads the smaller school qualifiers. The 6-1 junior from Hacienda Heights, CA scored 7098 in mid-March.

In all, Feb/March netted 26 meets and more than 260 different athletes competing.

And April promises to produce a lot of noise. The upcoming weekend features such large and high scoring affairs as the Texas Relays in Austin (Wed-Thus, April 2-3), the Cal Multis in Berkeley (Wed-Thurs, April 2-3) and Arizona's Jim Click Shootout in Tucson (Thurs-Fri, April 3-4). A minimum of ten meets are scheduled for the weekend..

In open meets vet Ryan Harlan vaulted 4.85m/15-11, tossed 16.18m/53-7, and 44.54m/146-1 at Rice's Victor Lopez Invt. But he false started in the 110m hurdles.

Results of the Herschel Neil decathlon in Maryville, MO, normally

stacked with Div II entries, was
unavailable at post-time.