

THE DECATHLON ASSOCIATION

DECA Newsletter

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FIRST DAY at NCAAS

Eaton Leads Addy After Rain Delay



Hello Again..... After ten days of just awful weather the skies over Des Moines looked no more promising on day one of the 2008 NCAA Div I decathlon. This town could not catch a break and all morning of Wednesday, June 11 the sky looked ominous as officials in the downtown area evacuated hotels in anticipation of flooding via the Des Moines River. At Drake Stadium meet management conducted the 100 meters in steady rain and significant headwinds. With the exception of Speedy Oregon sophomore Ashton Eaton, no one was remotely close to a PR. Two minutes after the fourth and final sprint section lightning roared thru Des Moines and the decathlon was postponed and the heavy rains came. It poured!

The postponement lasted for over 2 hours and the remainder of the day the 26 man field battled headwinds. As a matter of fact, 41 of 50 scored marks (82%) contended with headwinds, so big scores would not be in the offing at Drake.

In spite of the weather, a trio of athletes put on a terrific show. Eaton won 3 events including a MR 400m in 47.25 and managed a PR with a standing shot. He caught Addy in the 5th event and led 4289 to 4238 at the break. NCAA indoor

hept champ Gonzalo Barriolhet, the South American champion who represents Florida State, also put together 5 solid marks to stand 5th.



The NCAA Committee took a field of 26. Two last minute dropouts were Kevin Johnson/Colorado State and Skyler Riesing/Nebraska. They were replaced by Conference USA winner Wesley Bray of Houston and Mid-American Conference champion Kevin Dwyer/Miami (Ohio).

39th NCAA Div I Decathlon
Drake Stadium
Drake University
Des Moines, Iowa
June 11-12, 2008



100 Meters: [10:04 – 10:20 am]

Rain fell inconsistently in the hour lead-up to the first event. Running north to south, 3 of the four section faced headwinds. In Section I Missouri sophomore Nick Adcock caught UT-SA's Tommy Wolfe, 11.18 top 11.22. (-1.0mps head wind). The second race had the top sprinters and battle between the bullish

Addy (out fast) and the smooth striding Eaton was classic. The latter's 10.64 second clocking (PR of 10.51) was all the more impressive b/c of the wind (-1.1mps) and rain.

SF Austin's Aaron Harlan, younger brother of 2004 champion Ryan Harlan, won the third section in 11.20 seconds (headwind -0.4) and Penn's Max Westman was the victor in the 4th race (11.21 seconds). On average the athletes ran .26 seconds slower relative to lifetime bests. Only three of 26 broke 11 seconds. Given the premium placed on total scores one could only say the start was disappointing. *After One: Eato 942, Addy 890, Mood 874, Clar 832.*

Long Jump: [1:06 – 1:56 pm]

After an additional delay to repair the toe-boards the 2nd event was greeted by.....you guessed it...more headwinds. 63 of the 70 recorded wind readings were negative. The sun returned and dried out a good part of Drake Stadium after 1 pm.

Ashton Eaton's near PR 7.68m/25-2½ long jump pushed his lead to 144 points. (credit: *Des Moines Register*)



Eaton's 3rd round 7.68m/25-2½ opened eyes, especially when the head-wind measured -2.6mps and his PR was just 2cm more. He opened a 144 point lead over Addy who trailed Chris Richardson II 7.33m/24-¾ to 7.31m/23-11¾.

Only two others in Flight #1 and no one in Flight #2 managed 7 meters. Kansas State's freshman Moritz Cleve won Flight #2 with a 6.82m/22-4½ leap. *After Two: Eato 1922, Addy 1778, Mood 1700, Rich 1697.*

Shot Put: [2:31 – 2:58 pm]

While the on-the-field scoreboard malfunctioned Cleve won Flight #1 with a PR 13.82m/45-4¼. It went unmentioned until discovered after the event. In Flight #2 Addy took over the lead when he posted a 14.85m/48-8¼ toss in round #1, 9 feet better than Eaton. Both continued to improve. Addy eventually managed 15.31m/50-2¾ and Eaton, who took three standing throws, got a PR 12.79m/41-11½. Addy's lead was a razor thin 11 points.

The event's surprise was the terrific 16.04m/52-7½ grunt by Norwegian frosh Lars Rose/Missouri, moving him to 5th. All the while Washington State's Ricky Moody was attempting to overcome a deficit in his score caused by the headwinds of the first two events. Here he managed a fine 14.61m/47-11¼. Displaced 4 days earlier on the Olympic Trials list by Joe Cebulski's fine mark in Dallas, Moody needed big marks to displace someone else in a game of provisional score hot potato. He now stood an unenviable 19th with Eaton (18th), Chris Randolph (17th) and Brandon Hoskins immediately ahead of him.

After Three: Addy 2587, Eato 2576, Ricjh 2466, Mood 2466.

High Jump: [3:32 – 5:17 pm]



Des Moines River flooding near Drake University (credit: *Des Moines Register*)

The event moved smartly until stalled by circular track races which interfered with some approaches. In Flight #2 tall RJ McGinnis simple hurdled the bar on every attempt eventually clearing 1.84m/6-½, something never before seen at

the NCAA meet. Rise continued his hot streak with a PR 1.96m/6-5 clearance, a mark also managed by Eaton. Significantly Addy, jumping in Flight #1 managed the same bar (although he had a verrrry close miss at a PR bar- 1.99m/6-6¼) so the differential between the two remained 11 digits. Moody and Barriolhet equaled lifetime bests of 2.02m/6-7½. Flight #1 was won impressively by Justin Johnson/Cal St-Northridge at 2.08m/6-9¾.

At the same time the most impressive (and scary) numbers announced confirmed that flooding occurred in 53 Iowa counties during the afternoon and the Des Moines River was approaching levels not seen since the disastrous 1993 flood. Meet management kept one eye on the NCAA meet and the other on the height of the Des Moline River in an eerie scene reminiscent of W. P. Kinsella's infinite baseball game in his (how ironic) classic *Iowa Baseball Confederacy*.

After Four: Addy 3354, Eato 3343, Mood 3288, Rich 3233.

400 meters: [6:00 – 6:16 pm]

Temperatures were fine by late afternoon (low 70s) but the athletes faced a very stiff headwinds (up to 6mps!) on the homestretch that stood several of them up. In the first section Cleve, out of lane 8, ran a nice 49.84 to lead fellow German Stefan Hommel to the tape (50.22).

Section #2 was competitive as Penn State's Shawn Colligan (49.07), Mat Clark of Northern Iowa (49.51) and Dartmouth senior Tyler Koskenoja (49.80) too turns exchanging the lead.

Ricky Moody captured the 3rd race in a near PR 51.21 seconds while the much anticipated 4th race disappointed no one. Addy and Eaton battled evenly for 320 meters but the stylish Eaton cruised away in the final 80 meters for a meet record 47.25 clocking. Addy's 48.72, was fine under the conditions, but Eaton had

grabbed back the lead of 51 points and held it overnight. 5 of 6 broke 50 seconds in the final race.

After Five: Eato 4289, Addy 4238, Mood 4048, Adco 3963...48 points separated 4th thru 9th.

The forecast for Thursday----
thunderstorms.....

1st day Results

6/11-12 39th NCAA Div I Champs, Drake University, Des Moines, IA

| | | | | | | | |
|------|------------------------------------|-----------|---------|------|------|-------|-------|
| 4289 | Eaton, Ashton/Oregon | 10.64-1.1 | 768-2.6 | 1279 | 196 | 47.25 | |
| 4238 | Addy, Jangy/Tennessee | 10.97-1.1 | 731-1.3 | 1531 | 196 | 48.52 | |
| 4048 | Moody, Ricky/Washington St | 10.94-1.1 | 705-1.2 | 1461 | 202 | 51.21 | |
| 3963 | Adcock, Nick/Missouri | 11.18-1.0 | 687-2.0 | 1350 | 199 | 48.88 | |
| 3958 | Barriolhet, Gonzalo/Fla St-CHI | 11.22-0.4 | 712-0.6 | 1345 | 202 | 50.61 | |
| 3945 | Rise, Lars/Missouri-NOR | 11.47+0.1 | 684-1.4 | 1604 | 196 | 50.57 | |
| 3936 | Richardson II, Chris/Long Beach St | 11.26+0.1 | 733-2.4 | 1466 | 196 | 52.51 | |
| 3924 | Clark, Mat/Northern Iowa | 11.13-1.1 | 696-1.0 | 1237 | 202 | 49.51 | |
| 3915 | Johnson, Justin/CSU-Northridge | 11.25+0.1 | 687-1.0 | 1241 | 208 | 49.95 | |
| 3801 | Hommel, Stefan/Florida-GER | 11.28-1.0 | 674+0.7 | 1452 | 187 | 50.27 | |
| 3730 | Cepeda, Raven/Northern Iowa | 11.25-1.1 | 652-1.5 | 1460 | 190 | 51.58 | |
| 3721 | Cleve, Moritz/Kansas St-GER | 11.27-0.4 | 682 | 0.0 | 1382 | 178 | 49.84 |
| 3703 | Ayers, Michael/Tennessee | 11.17-1.1 | 665-1.5 | 1256 | 187 | 49.87 | |
| 3696 | Koskenoja, Tyler/Dartmouth-CAN | 11.43+0.1 | 650-0.2 | 1344 | 190 | 49.80 | |
| 3690 | Parish, BJ/Arkansas St | 11.25-0.4 | 649-0.9 | 1322 | 190 | 50.45 | |
| 3613 | Wolfe, Tommy/Tex-San Antonio | 11.22-1.0 | 646+0.5 | 1356 | 196 | 53.88 | |
| 3606 | Hoskins, Brandon/Liberty | 11.30-1.1 | 630-1.4 | 1294 | 194 | 49.59 | |
| 3600 | Colligan, Shawn/Penn St | 11.28-0.4 | 629-0.7 | 1200 | 187 | 49.07 | |
| 3576 | McGinnis, RJ/Minnesota | 11.59+0.1 | 674-4.2 | 1350 | 184 | 51.89 | |
| 3573 | Hustedt, Josh/Stanford | 11.42-1.0 | 676-2.5 | 1146 | 193 | 51.82 | |
| 3563 | Dwyer, Kevin/Miami(OH) | 11.34-0.4 | 655+1.2 | 1231 | 199 | 53.78 | |
| 3466 | Westman, Max/Pennsylvania | 11.21+0.1 | 654-1.3 | 1181 | 178 | 51.65 | |
| 3336 | Shotwell, Frank/Michigan | 11.30-1.0 | 616-0.4 | 1227 | 175 | 52.29 | |

| | | |
|---------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 2832 | Harlan, Aaron/SF Austin St | 11.20-0.4 625-0.5 1331 nh 52.86 |
| dnf | Kilmartin, Donovan/Texas | 11.29-1.0 691-0.7 1390 187 withdrew |
| dnf | Bray, Wesley/Houston | 11.52+0.1 653-0.5 1219 nh withdrew |
| 25s/24f | | |