

# THE DECATHLON ASSOCIATION

## DECA Newsletter

Volume XXXII

Number 6

April (2), 2007

## WHAT DIDN'T HAPPEN

### Kilmartin redshirts, Snow Cancels 6 Meets

**Hello Again....**The first weekend of April, 2007, will be recalled more for what did *not* happen than for what did. Cold weather forced the cancellation or postponement of half a dozen multi event meetings and freezing weather spoiled numerous decent scores. And the 3x- NCAA indoor heptathlon champion announced he will forgo the 2007 outdoor season.

Normally the Texas relays holds center stage during April's initial week. A year ago Texan Trey Hardee upped Tom Pappas's collegiate record to 8467. And the overwhelming favorite in 2007 was Texas senior Donovan Kilmartin, Eagle, ID, who PR'd here a year ago at 7897. He was entered as "unattached" early in the week, and on Wednesday, his coach, Bubba Thornton, announced that Kilmartin, coming off a 3<sup>rd</sup> indoor collegiate heptathlon title, will pass on the outdoor season. Kilmartin said that he will use the break to concentrate on raising his grades in his major, petroleum engineering, and improving his bulk, speed and technique.

"This may seem kind of rare (for a senior to redshirt), but it's better for me," said Kilmartin, who said he plans to earn his master's degree in petroleum engineering next school year. "It's a chance to breathe and focus on bringing up my grades."

Thornton said Kilmartin — who was the favorite to win the decathlon title at the Texas Relays — has earned the break, and that it would give him a chance to win an outdoor title next year

Kilmartin said he decided with



Brandon Buteaux (l) of U Texas-San Antonio, took the Texas Relays crown two days after Donovan Kilmartin (r) announced he will redshirt the 2007 season.

Thornton on Monday to withdraw from the Relays. "This is so he can recover from the indoor season," Thornton said. "We want him to have a solid shot at winning the outdoor title. This is out of respect for him."

Weather did not seem to upset performances in Austin (Washington State Diana Pickler, posted a terrific 6205 seven event total and 8 heptathletes PR'd.). The men's side was won by San Antonio's Brandon Buteaux's 7332 led 8 Div I provisional qualifiers. Yet elsewhere snow and wind played havoc with scores. Even in the deep South, weather conditions buffeted performances...just ask those at

the master's golf tournament in Augusta. At Auburn's Tiger Classic Wisconsin senior Joe Detmer managed but 7296 in his opener.

Keep your eye on the weather forecast as the next week is filled with major decathlons...Sea Ray, Walton, Mount Sac.

### **Announcement...**

George Fox University, Newberg, OR, will host a decathlon Saturday-Sunday, May 12-13, this year (not 5/1-2) with excellent field and facilities and expectations of being a last chance qualifier for NCAAs and USATF meets. Newberg is about an hour's drive from Eugene. Those interested are asked to contact Josh Priester, GFU Track and Field, [jpriest@georgefox.edu](mailto:jpriest@georgefox.edu), 509 301 1764.



### **2006 ANNUAL COMBINED EVENTS**

**The new yearbook of international combined events will appear beginning of February 2006 with the following information:**

- world rankings 2006 men and women. This year including the top 200 for men and women and all results up till 7.500 points men and 5.600 points women
- results major meetings in 2006, including complete results of world championships, European cup Super League and First League, Götzis and I.A.A.F.- challenge
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- top 150 all performances men and women
- national and international records
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- world rankings according personal records in individual events
- 10 best rankings all time per event
- who is who in combined events

**The book contains 240 pages with information of combined events.**

**A must for every person interested in combined events.**

**All necessary information for coaches, athletes, journalists and other interested persons in combined events of all world top athletes is available in this annual**

**Ordering is possible at: Hans van Kuijen, de Bergen 66, 5706 RZ, Helmond, Netherlands  
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