

THE DECATHLON ASSOCIATION

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ARNOLD WINS MULTISTARS

Eaton's 8091 Rules PAC-10.

Hello Again....former and 2x NCAA decathlon champ Jake Arnold (Arizona '07) won his first major international 10 eventer over the weekend, turning back a big field at the 22nd annual *Multi-Stars* in Desanzano, Italy. Arnold's score fell half a dozen digits shy of 8000 but were 81 better than that of Austrian veteran Roland Schwartzl. 4 topped 7900 points. Arnold led German Lars Albert by 50 points with one event remaining. Arnold will remain in Europe and compete at Hypo-Bank in Götzis, Austria in three weeks.



"I am very happy but I am a bit jet-lagged," Arnold said.

"The organizers did a very good job. I am getting ready for Götzis. This year I will try to make the team for the World Championships in Berlin. It will be a very tough achievement."

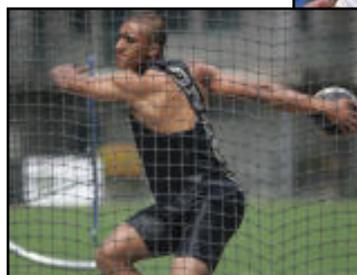
American Winners at MultisStars

1993	Sheldon Blockburger	7996
2005	Phil McMullen	8107
2006	Chris Boyles	7855
2007	Paul Terek	8134
2009	Jake Arnold	7994

On the same two days (May 9-10)--but 9 hours later—Oregon's Ashton Eaton posted his 2nd 8000 effort in 16 days while dominating the Pac-10 Conference affair in Eugene, OR. Eaton's 8091 effort was 31 off his PR as he recorded 4 individual



Jake Arnold (right) became the fifth American to win the IAAF MultiStars meet in Italy, while Oregon's Ashton Eaton (below) remained hot with a season leading 8091 effort at the Pac-10 meet.



lifetime bests (100m, short put, 400 meters and 110m hurdles---10.49, 12.63m/41-5¼, 47.12 and 14.01). Eaton will be the overwhelming favorite to defend his NCAA D-I title next month in Fayetteville, AK. Teammate Marshall Ackley, Jr, Nyssa, OR, was runner-up with a 7337 PR score, 38 better than that of Washington frosh Jeremy Taiwo. Both are provisionals likely to gain them admission to the dance.

"Back-to-back Pac-10 titles is nice," said Eaton afterwards, "but I'm happier getting those points for my team. I'm so overly proud of my teammates and I can't wait to see what next weekend will bring." Eaton was the first Oregon Duck to win consecutive decathlon titles since Pedro da Silva turned the trick in 1990-91.

The Pac-10 meet dominated a 12 meet (mostly conference championships) week which began in Alamosa, CO with Jeremy Bubb/Western State (6670) capturing the D-II



Jake Arnold's seasonal best 5.05m/16-6¾ vault (left) helped the cause in Desanzano. Robert Robinson's running prowess (right) of 10.82, 49.59, 14.64 was not enough at the Big West meet in Irvine.

Rocky Mountain meets. Reid Gustavson/U of British Columbia, posted a top NAIA mark (6510) by winning at Williamette U. A pair of D-II conference meets, the Lone Star (won by Kingsville's Harold Nair) and the PA State meet (won by Shippensburg's Don Graybill) produced no qualifying scores.

The all New England affair in



A trio of conference winners were home grown: Left, James Nunno, a senior from San Luis Obispo, won the Big West meet for Cla Poly-SLO; Cory Roberts, (center) junior from Metraux, LA was the Southland champ for SE Louisiana St; Max Westman (right), senior from Bala Cynwyd, PA was the Heptagonals winner for Pennsylvania.

Amherst, MA was won by Tuft's Fielding Pagel in 6871, the season's #2 D-III score.

At the D-I level four conference meets results in 8 provisional qualifying scores. Isaac Combs/ Louisiana -Monroe was a winner at the Sun Belt league meeting in Murfreesboro (6944). Cory Roberts was the



Tuft's Fielding 'Skip' Pagel (left) posted the nation's 2nd best D-III score while winning the New England title. Tommy Wolfe/Texas-San Antonio was third at Southland.

most consistent of a fine field at the Southland meets where his 7451 PR proved sufficient. Sam Houston State's surprising Matt Johnston got 7210 and early leader Tommy Wolfe/Texas-San Antonio faded to 7204 for 3rd. Arlington's Adolphus Jones PR's at 7148 in 4th.

At the Big West Conference meet in Irvine, James Nunno/Cal Poly-SLO 7204 score turned back teammate Corbin Duer (7135). First day leader Robert Robinson/Northridge and teammate Lance Gonzales, ran afoul of second day ills. The latter's impressive 63.28m/207-7 javelin was not enough to make up for a vault no-height.

At the Heptagonals in Philadelphia Penn's Max Westman (7128) turned back defending champ Tim Wunderlich of Dartmouth.

In all 17 NCAA/NAIA qualifying marks were turned in as observers anticipate a spate (or perhaps plethora, epidemic, wave or rash) of qualifying marks in the week to come. The week will touch off with the Demon Deacon meeting in Winston Salem. Major conferences which will conduct championship affairs include: Conference USA, Southeastern, Missouri Valley, Mountain West, IC4A, 3 Bigs-- 10, 12, Sky-- as well as MAC and WAC. There are a minimum of a dozen potential NCAA qualifiers in these fields, as of yet, do not have a qualifying score. The USA collegiate list will change daily.



And finally, it's come to this.....Dan O'Brien, 1996 Olympic decathlon champ, broke the Guinness world record for the fastest game of hopscotch with a time of 1:21.63 at Chelsea Piers in New York City on May 7, 2009 as part of the Crayola Outdoor Challenge. O'Brien played nearly a dozen games before bettering the previous record by nearly two seconds (*USA Today*, May 8, 2009).

As always, check our weekly posted 'Results Page' for meet details and updated lists.