

THE DECATHLON ASSOCIATION

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EYES OF TEXAS ON EATON

D-II, D-III Goes to Texans

Hello Again....When one enters the new Gilliam Fieldhouse on the Texas A&M campus one is struck by the size two identically sized flags, draped high above the infield. One is America's Stars and Stripes, while the other represents the Lone Star state. They are huge. And the host state stood tall over the March 13-14 weekend, hosting the D-1 heptathlon while Texans won the initial D-II and D-III multis.

21 year old Ashton Eaton, Bend, Oregon, withstood the challenge of defending champ Gonzalo Barroilhet/Florida State to become the first NCAA D-I athlete to win both the outdoor decathlon (2008 in des Moines) and indoor heptathlon. Eaton completed the historic double on the Texas A&M campus by running up a 5988 score, 109 points better than the Chilean/Seminole Olympian.

Eaton won a share or outright 4 of the 7 events and got PRs in both the hurdles and vault. Places 3-4-5 went to Big 12 athletes, arguably the nation's top multi event conference. Foreign athletes took 4 of the top 6 spots.

Meanwhile a pair of Texans captured the initial NCAA D-II and D-III multis. In Houston 6-9 Abilene Christian senior Camille Vandendreissche (a Frenchman with CE's longest name) won the 12 man D-II 7 eventer with a fine 5448 score. And Trinity University, TX senior was the D-III 5 event winner with a 3859 effort in Terre Haute, IN over 11 others.



**6th NCAA-I Heptathlon
Championships
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX
March 13-14, 2009**

The 5988 point heptathlon win by Junior Ashton Eaton (right) began a barrage of victories for the Ducks at the NCAA indoor T&F championships as Oregon captured the team title for coaches Vin Lanana and Dan Steele. Eaton, 21, won a share or in whole 4 of the 7 heptathlon events.



60m Hurdles: [Noon – 12:15 pm]

The 14 athletes were grouped into 5 races run with non-adjacent lanes. I always disagreed about running in non-adjacent lanes, but we've been over this numerous times. But the athletes were well seeded and each of the five races was competitive. (ed suggestion: schedule the sections from slow to fast, rather than the other way around.). In the first race Eaton reacted fastest to the report and held a marginal lead over all 5 barriers, clocking a PR 7.90 seconds, 9/100th over Barroilhet. What a race! Neither made a mistake and the battle between the seasonal

leader and the defending champ was everything it promised to be.

Nebraska's Stockholm frosh Bjorn Barrefors missed a PR by 1/100th of a second



Missouri's Nick Adcock clobbered the first barrier, then recovered to clock 8.24 for the 60m hurdles.

in winning the second race in 8.09 seconds. K State's Moritz Cleve was second in 8.15.

The 3rd race was captured by a hard charging Pelle Rietveld, a 24 year old senior at Florida State in 8.20 out-leaning Utah State's John Strang who equaled his 8.25 PR. Washington's Jeremy Taiwo, a 6-5 frosh and son of a two time Olympic triple jumper, raced to a PR in the 4th race getting 8.31 seconds. In the final race NDSU senior Matt Bishoff, (with a PR 8.66) out-leaned Tennessee soph Michael Ayers (what was with the black sox?).

Eaton had extended his 40 point 1st day lead over Barro to 63 in front of 214 spectators.

After Five: Eato 4257, Barr 4194, BJOR 4186, Adco 4118.

Pole Vault: [12:49 – 2:12 pm]

Grouped by ability into two groups, the lone victims were a pair of freshman. Taiwo could have used some earlier height to iron out steps and managed but 3.70m/12-1½ by passing too many early heights. And Florida's Gray Horn nh'd at his opener, 4.40m/14-5¼. In the North pit Adcock =PR at 4.60m/15-1 while Wake's talented Brent LaRue got a pair of PRs eventually settling for 4.80m/15-9 to tie Cleve. To this author it was amazing to see several in a lower (and correctly) seeded pit jumping at heights over 16 feet. Vault performances have come a long way.

In the South pit (higher seeded vaulters where one needed to be a 5 meter performer to get in!---was this Götzis?)



Defending NCAA heptathlon champ Gonzalo Barroilhet had center stage at the end of the vault, but could not manage 5.30m/17-4½

Barroilhet, Dan Keller and Eaton all made 5.10m/16-8¾, the latter pair on 3rd efforts. For Eaton the clearance equaled his outdoor lifetime best mark. Barro then passed 5.20m/17-¾ while Keller and Eaton both had two close but unsuccessful attempts. The tall Barro couldn't negotiate 5.30m/17-4½ and the event abruptly ended as more that 1200 watched the Eaton-Barro draw and the margin remained 63 points.

After Six: Eato 5198, Barr 5135, BJOR 5035, Adco 4908.

1000 meters: [2:46 – 2:49 pm]

The event became anticlimactic, when, during the first lap Barrefors grabbed the early lead and slowed the pace. On the final half lap Taiwo overran the field and sprinted to a 2:43.90 victory but overall places 1 thru 5 did not change-Eaton-Barro-Barrefors-Adcock-Cleve. Rietveld put 5



Swedish frosh Bjorn Barrefors of Nebraska got a PR 5795 3rd place at NCAAs and led a Big 12 3-4-5 sweep.

seconds between himself and Keller to move to 6th and Strang (perhaps used to running all

his 1ks at altitude,) was the only athlete to post a PR (2:50.51) and he just edged Lars Rise by 4 points to grab the final scoring spot. A trio (Barrefors, Rietveld and Strang managed PR scores.

After Seven: Eato 5988, Barr 5878, Bjor 5795 PR, Adco 5719.

Final Results:



3/13-14 6th NCAA D-1 Heptathlon, Texas A&M, College Station, TX

5988	Eaton, Ashton/Oregon	6.86	739	1168	202	7.90	510	2:47.68
5879	Barroilhet, Gonzalo/Fla St-CHI	7.12	717	1389	199	7.99	510	2:52.11
5795	Barrefors, Bjorn/Nebraska-SWE	7.13	738	1427	193	8.09	480	2:50.57
5719	Adcock, Nick/Missouri	7.17	688	1461	202	8.24	460	2:45.74
5657	Cleve, Moritz/Kansas St-GER	7.22	693	1365	193	8.15	480	2:45.43
5620	Rietveld, Pelle/Florida St-NED	7.16	675	1372	187	8.20	490	2:44.08
5589	Keller, Daniel/North Carolina	7.42	690	1344	199	8.51	510	2:49.26
5532	Strang, John/Utah St	6.96	734	1036	205	8.25	430	2:50.51
5528	Rise, Lars/Missouri-NOR	7.30	723	1607	187	8.65	450	2:51.31
5454	Ayers, Michael/Tennessee	7.13	699	1303	193	8.70	470	2:50.10
5423	Bishoff, Matt/N Dakota St	7.34	704	1269	202	8.66	470	2:54.15
5389	Taiwo, Jeremy/Washington	7.17	727	1228	199	8.31	370	2:43.90
4926	LaRue, Brent/Wake Forest	7.03	660	nm	196	8.16	480	2:49.03
4769	Horn, Gray/Florida	7.16	728	1249	199	8.33	nh	2:53.22

D-II- March 13-14, Houston, Texas

D-III, March 14, Terre Haute, IN



Trinity University's Todd Wildman used hurdling and jumping skills to capture the first NCAA D-III pentathlon in Terre Haute, IN.

Tall Camille Vandendriessche of Abilene Christian lead a successful parade of D-II athletes in Houston turning back Adams State's Wayne Durham (5247) and Missouri Southern's Philip Horn (5190). First day leader Darius Walker of Central Missouri was 4th as 5 exceeded 5000 points.

At Rose Hulman Institute in Terre Haute, IN, Todd Wildman of Trinity University, TX, used a terrific 55m hurdles (7.51) to put away a 12 man field early. His 2.08m/6-9¾ high jump was instrumental in achieving a 3859 pentathlon score as he won by a whopping 138 points over Augustana's Ted McMillan.

D-II Final Results :



3/13-14 1st NCAA D-II Champs, U of Houston, Houston, TX

5448	Vandendriessche, Camille/Abilene Christian	7.40	649	1443	190	8.60	510	2:50.33
5247	Durham, Wayne/Adams St	7.31	681	1265	196	8.90	430	2:44.92
5190	Horn, Philip/Missouri Southern	7.34	668	1106	205	8.21	450	3:07.03
5156	Walker, Darius/C Missouri	7.04	673	1212	193	8.52	370	2:47.33
5085	Lohman, Alex/Central Missouri	7.46	636	1364	181	8.69	470	2:54.79
4786	Thomas, Nathan/Pittsburg St	7.31	620	988	193	8.77	380	2:46.33
4730	Sanders, Cody/Western St	7.65	653	1113	187	8.80	400	2:54.80
4592	Mannerberg, Jason/Adams St	7.43	634	1127	178	9.04	370	2:51.36
4555	Graybill, Donnie/Shippensburg	7.61	634	1127	178	9.41	450	2:53.71
4384	Preble, Zac/Bemidji St	7.38	635	1513	184	8.86	nh	2:53.23
dnf	McDaniel, Kyle/Saginaw Valley St	7.28	628	971	199	10.32	nh	withdrew
1991	Saalfield, Craig/Emporia St	7.26	627	1111	nh	withdrew		

D-III Final Results:



3/14 1st NCAA D-III Pentathlon Champs, Rose-Hulman U, Terre Haute, IN [55m H]

3859	Wildman, Todd/Trinity, TX	7.51	677	1035	208	2:51.03
3721	McMillan, Ted/Augustana, IL	7.81	590	1123	208	2:43.29
3671	Harmon, Ben/Washington (MO)	8.14	699	1022	193	2:44.76
3637	Nwanna, Obinna/Case Western Reserve	8.06	638	1438	193	3:00.78

3620	Zill, Ben/Wisconsin-Oshkosh	7.99 633 1157 187 2:41.43
3544	Brondyke, Kurtis/Central (IA)	8.12 656 1130 196 2:56.61
3507	Delleman, Mike/Wisconsin-Stevens Pt	7.87 637 1213 175 2:49.28
3494	Miller, Ethan/Central (IA)	8.24 672 976 196 2:53.15
3487	Doyle, Ryan/St Olaf (MN)	8.45 631 1075 193 2:43.32
3371	Shol, Paul/Concordia-Moorhead	8.35 582 1213 178 2:42.04
3328	Westmark, Paul/Concordia-Moorhead	7.94 596 1006 175 2:44.14
3286	Petermann, Cory/Ithaca	8.74 626 1295 172 2:50.54
