

# THE DECATHLON ASSOCIATION

## DECA Newsletter

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## SEASON PICKS UP STEAM

### Drouin's 7-6 Goes for Naught

**Hello Again....**More meets and more significant performances marked the third week of January, 2014 as the early CE season clearly gained momentum. 14 meets produced 21 5000+ heptathlon scores, rewriting the national lists.

The most arresting development came in Bloomington, IN on Friday/Sat (Jan 24-25) where IU grad and Olympic high jump medalist Derek Drouin, 23, m Coruna, ONT, attempted to put up big numbers, perhaps attracting attention of IAAF and WC Sopot officials. A year earlier in a 'serious' hept Drouin had score 5817 for 3rd at the Big tenj meet, getting a WR 2.30m/7-6½ jump in the process. The annual IU Gladstein affair had a 10 man field and Drouin led comfortably after 3 events but was a few point down on PR pace. He began jumping at 2.08m/6-9¾ and had no trouble clearing 2.29m/7-6, and now owns the top two jumps in CE history. He had 2 good attempts at a new WR 2.32m/7-7¼ before retiring. A 'dnf' the next morning in the 60m hurdles impeded any further chance at a big score. Kent State Kyle Tywon won the affair with 5241 points.

#### **Thursday-Friday, Jan 23-24**

The weekend opened on Thursday with the first "Tobacco Road Cup," a dual CE meet (2women+2 men scoring) between North Carolina and Duke as part of the Dick Taylor meet in Chapel Hill. It was all Duke as redshirt senior Curtis Beach, 23, Albuquerque, NM, won easily with 5403 points and the Blue Devils went 1-2-3 on the



Olympic high jump medalist Derek Drouin has two tries at 2.32m/7-7 ¼ at the Gladstein meet in Bloomington.

men's side and 1-2 on the women's for an easy team victory.

At the Air Force Academy Multis BYU senior Chase Dalton (25 next week, Tigard, OR) PR'd and won easily over teammate Josh Weirich, 5621 to 5433. It was the nation's top score and it lasted as such for all of 24 hours.

#### **Friday-Saturday, Jan 24-25**

At the Cherry and Silver meet in Albuquerque Georgia soph Maicel Uibo, 21,



Weekend winners included Chase Dalton/BYU(left) at Air Force, Curtis Beach/Duke (center) at Chapel Hill, and Maicel Uibo/Georgia (right) in Albuquerque.

Polva, Estonia, scored a workmanlike 5811 over a field of 4 to take over the collegiate leaderboard. The Arizona pair of Harrison Ivie and Pau Tonneson went 2-3. Included in Uibo's marks was a PR equalling 2.11m/6-11 high jump.

In other meets Ohio State senior Cory Kunze won at the McCravey meet in Lexington (5304) while Brown's Evan Weinstock and Peter Rhodes went 1-2 at Harvard (5214 & 5132). The Jack Johnson CE meet in Minneapolis promised to be a high scoring affair as Minnesota rolled out 3 promising freshmen. But dropouts mounted, event-by-event. First day leader Luca Weiland, Berlin, Germany, withdrew after tallying 3125 points on day one. Seasonal leader Andy Lillejord/NDSU got thru 4 events and comebacking Jack Szmanda, the '12 Big 10 runnerup, got thru 5 before both withdrew. That left Minnesota frosh Jamie Crum with the 4896 win.

Smaller schools had their say. Calvin Sullins/Siena Heights, posted his 2nd victory in 14 days winning at Findlay, Ohio and '12 NCAA III champ Richard Roethel/Christopher Newport returned after a year's absence to win at home. Updates on the latter are difficult to find as his school has posted only his football accomplishment on its bio page. But rest assured, lack of info or not, Roethel will be a D-III force (PR 5434 hept) in March and the confrontation with defending champ Eric Larson of Central (IA) '15 will be much anticipated.

Any number of athletes used the weekend to tune up for next week 24 meets are scheduled including major affairs in Seattle, Ames, Fayetteville and Wichita. The most impressive marks were put up by '13 NCAA indoor runner-up Jay Cato/Wisconsin who double horizontal jumped 5.15m/16-10  $\frac{3}{4}$  and 2.19m/7-2 $\frac{1}{4}$ (PR!). Watch out!