

INDOOR SEASON BEGINS

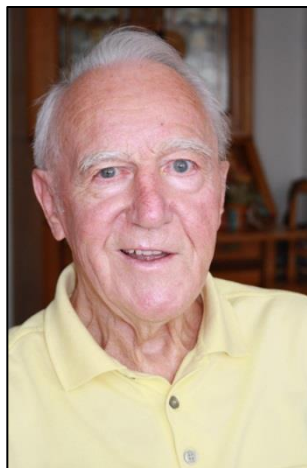
Legendary Coach Friedel Schirmer Dies

Hello Again.....The curtain for the 2014-15 CE season rang up over the first weekend of December and detailed results are posted on a new *Results Page*.

Sad news came from Hagen, Germany on Nov. 30th with the death of legendary decathlon coach Friedel Schirmer, 88, after a long illness. Schirmer was a 3x West German decathlon champion in the mid-20th century and carried his nation's flag in the Opening Ceremonies of the 1952 Helsinki Olympic Games. He placed 8th in the decathlon.

But it was his service as the national decathlon coach in the 1960s which earned him a universal reputation. Schirmer-trained decathletes almost swept the board in the 1960s. At the 1964 Tokyo Games Schirmer's protégé, Willi Holdorf won the gold medal and teammate Hans-Joachim Walde earned the bronze. Four years later in Mexico City Schirmer trained athletes Bill Toomey (who had trained under Schirmer in West Germany), Walde and Kurt Bendlin grabbed all of the medals. It was Bendlin's world record Toomey broke in 1969. West Germans also swept the medals at the 1966 European championships in Budapest.

One popular Schirmer tale finds him convincing Holdorf, who built up a nine event lead in Tokyo, that he needed to stay within 12 seconds of challenger, Estonia's Rein Aun/USSR to win the gold medal. Aun had well known distance running skills and a much faster 1500m PR. The margin was actually much larger (17 seconds), but



Schirmer took no chances. Holdorf then ran himself off his feet and was 12 seconds back at the finish. It took all the officials could do to get Holdorf on his feet for the awards ceremony.

Legendary German coach Friedel Schirmer died on Nov 30.

Schirmer led the decathlon into the modern era. No longer was the event seen as a conglomeration of diverse contests. For Schirmer the decathlon was a *single, distinct* event and he convinced a plethora of East German, Russian, Polish and especially American coaches that athletes should view it as such and train accordingly. He popularized decathlon training camps and invented the dual decathlon meet making West vs East German duals heady affairs, soon to be followed by Soviet and American coaches who saw his wisdom and closely imitated him. Today's Thorpe Cup, started in 1993 by Harry Marra and German coach Claus Marek, is in the Schirmer tradition. He was, to paraphrase a colleague, ungodly inventive and successful.

Schirmer was part of a triumvirate of great national coaches of the late 20th century. Fred Kudu, an Estonian who coached

the great Soviet athletes before the Soviet break-up in 1992, and Sam Adams, longtime coach at UCSB in Santa Barbara, preceded him in death. Kudu died in 1988, Adams 4 years ago.

Schirmer gave up athletics in 1969 and entered politics. From 1969-83 he was a SPD party member of the German Parliament, the Bundestag. His funeral took place on Dec. 5, 2014.

WEBB CUP ANNOUNCEMENT

As suggested by Bill Webb and a number of current coaches we are making a slight alteration to the annual Webb Cup point system. Nothing dramatic. As a matter a fact using either system there are no changes in the 2014 standings where Chico State earned the Cup. But we are convinced to place a slightly higher premium on 2, 3 and 4 man combined scores.

Here is the new system:

Place	2man	3man	4man	5man	6man	7man	8man
1 st	12	10	8	5	3	2	1
2 nd	10	8	6	4	2	1	
3 rd	8	6	5	3	1		
4 th	6	5	4	2			
5 th	5	4	3	1			
6 th	4	3	2				
7 th	3	2	1				
8 th	2	1					
9 th	1						



Previous System:

Place	2man	3man	4man	5man	6man	7man	8man
1 st	10	8	6	5	3	2	1
2 nd	8	6	5	4	2	1	
3 rd	6	5	4	3	1		
4 th	5	4	3	2			
5 th	4	3	2	1			
6 th	3	2	1				
7 th	2	1					
8 th	1						

What Does it Take to Qualify for USA National Collegiate Meets?

Now that the NCAA and NAIA use a 'list' for qualifying instead of a 'standard,' here is what it took last year to qualify for the previous two indoor and outdoor national collegiate meets.

	Indoor		Outdoor	
	list	score	list	score
2013 NCAA I	Top 16	5607	Top 24	7406
NCAA II	Top 13	5063	Top 16	6638
NCAA III	Top 13	4770	Top 20	6256
NAIA	Top 16	4402	Top 16	5965

	Indoor		Outdoor	
	list	score	list	score
2014 NCAA I	Top 16	5568	Top 24	7344
NCAA II	Top 14	4912	Top 16	6706
NCAA III	Top 15	4908	Top 20	6376
NAIA	Top 16	4528	Top 16	5947

2014-15 Indoor Season

The indoor season is now underway with nine low key 'openers' over the weekend. Liberty's Zach Davis won the season's initial heptathlon in Lynchburg, VA (4713 points) and Kent State senior Kyle Tywon posted the top score, a 5277 effort to win the Golden Flash meet. All results are posted on our accompanying *Results Page*.