

THE DECATHLON ASSOCIATION

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INDOOR SEASON SLOGS AHEAD NCAA Adjusted Scores Confusing

Hello Again...the beginning of the 38th season for the *DECA Newsletter* started slowly during the January, 2013 season amid some confusion about collegiate heptathlon scores. At this point (2nd week of January) the top scores have been posted before the holidays. During the second weekend of competition (Jan 17-20) with most meets being conducted in Big Ten or Northeast regions, the most compelling affair was held in Kingston, RI. There URI senior captain Andrew Reigstad, 22, Greenville, RI held off a late charge by NCAA D-II champ Nick Lebron, junior, Newington, CT at the Rhode Island Qualifier. Reigstad had the meet seemingly well-in-hand having won 5 of the first six events vs Lebron head-to head. In fact Lebron was only 4th with just the 1000m remaining. Yet he ran ahead alone and his 2:40.68 pushed him past the UConn pair of Jesse Chapman and Ben Waruch. Both Reigstad and Lebron finished with PR scores, 5388 and 5291.

In other weekend meets Wisconsin junior Jay Cato won the annual elite pentathlon in Madison with a 3878 score. Ohio State's Cory Kunze was the Gladstein victor in Bloomington, IN (5235) while Corey Hammon of Illinois captured the Illini Classic at home. Duke's Ian Rock was the UNC's Dick Taylor winner (5171).

The previous week witnessed Montana's Jeff Mohl (5590 in Bozeman) and NDSU's Andy Lillejord (5400 in Fargo) win home meets.



URI's Andrew Reigstad, 22, Greenville, RI (l) outlasted D-II champ Nick Lebron/S Conn St, as both PR'd in Kingston.



Confused About NCAA Scores ?

The major story of the current season thus far deals with how to follow the NCAA's formula for adjusting scores for different size tracks (here use Barry's

I must admit that I am not a fan of adjusting any scores although the NCAA effort is well intentioned. It may be necessary, for qualifying purposes (NCAA national indoor fields are limited) for some middle distance/distance events to be adjusted because of different size tracks. The NCAA formula starts with a 200m banked track and then makes adjustments for unbanked tracks of varying size. Unfortunately the early season tweakings seem to be unnecessarily generous. For example, the December winning 5819 effort of Manhattan's Tom Bechert has been adjusted to 5904, a whopping 85 points, or eight seconds (in the

normal range the slope is 10/11 points per second) in the 1000m. This is simply unrealistic. Eight seconds! Some adjustments are as high as 100 points! To me this makes little sense because the speed at which CE's run the middle distances (here men-1000m) is, on average, so slow, that it would matter little what size track they were on. Let's be honest here...there's only one Curtis Beach, a CE'er who can run with the top middle distance athletes. Everyone else is a lap behind.

Please be reminded that the adjusted scores, as reported by TFRRS reporting system are just that, "adjusted for qualifying purposes" **and should not be considered actual performances**. This is going to cause a lot of confusion.

An explanation of the adjustment procedure can be found at: <http://www.trackandfieldnews.com/index.php/special-articles/1385>. Yet there seems to be no explanation for an eight second (85 point) change in a heptathlon score. Perhaps it's just a typo.