

THE DECATHLON ASSOCIATION

DECA Newsletter

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LEAPS & BOUNDS at BIG 10 Cato 6090, Drouin 7-6 ½

Hello Again....Yumpin' Yiminee. The Big 10 indoor heptathlon witnessed some of the best CE leaping in history on Friday and Saturday. No doubt the highlight was Hoosier Derek Drouin's new world indoor record of 7-6½ on the way to a huge PR score for him, 5817. The London Games Olympic bronze medalist and 2x NCAA high jump champ did not attempt the next bar which would have equaled his own PR of 2.33m/7-7¾. But he did take out Jeremy Taiwo's recent WR of 2.25m/7-4½ lasted less than 14 days. It is uncertain if he will contest the NCAA indoor heptathlon, but what a battle we would see in the high jump between the top pair in history.

And while the considerable crowd was abuzz over the Canadian, 6-5 from Ontario, he was hardly the only Big Ten story. Almost overlooked was the jumping performance of Wisconsin senior Jay Cato who won the heptathlon with a career best 6090 points. Consider: his 7.70m/25-3¼ long jump was one inch shy of Trey Hardee's collegiate record set in Albuquerque in 2006; a 2.03m/6-8 high jump and a 5.15m/16-10¾ all combined to make him one of the best all-around jumpers ever (if you are wondering, it's Ashton Eaton's 8.16m, 2.04m and 5.20m last year in Istanbul). Cato added 8 points to his PR score, set a year ago at the NCAAs.

Badger teammate Zach Ziemek posted a significant PR of his own, 5846, to help



Drouin's Big Ten heptathlon progression is worth noting:
2.06 2.09 2.12 2.15 2.18 2.21 2.24 2.27 2.30
O PPP O PPP O PPP XO XO O

push Wisconsin to the conference team crown.

A dozen indoor hepts doted the landscape over the weekend which saw a blizzard blanket much of the mid-west and postpone numerous meets.

Other notable winners included Georgia soph Garrett Scantling who captured the SEC affair in Fayetteville (while Kevin Lazas rested) with an imposing 5889 total, Jeff Mohl of Montana St who won the Big Sky meet with 5725, and Oregon's Dakotah Keys who notched a 5753 score to win the Mountain Pacific league meet in Seattle. More than a dozen additional meets will end on Sunday as athletes continue to rewrite the NCAA qualifying lists.

