

THE DECATHLON ASSOCIATION

DECA Newsletter

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CONFERENCE WEEKEND #3

Final NCAA Qualifying

Hello Again....In 30 indoor heptathlon US collegians rewrote to qualifying lists for the upcoming NCAA I, II, III and NAIA nationals this past weekend (Feb. 21-24). On the Saturday-Sunday portion the most noteworthy performances came from the (snowed in) Big 12 meet in Ames, Iowa.

There Texas frosh Johannes Hock, 20, Cologne, GER (the German national runner-up in 2012) ran up an impressive 5858 score to look up an NCAA bid. A pair of Kansas State Wildcats, Devin Dick and Tomas Kirieliue were 2nd and 3rd at 5603 (an NCAA bubble total) and 5537. All three marks will warrant an NCAA adjustment for track size and bank.

The 6-2, 200 lb Hoch (on right) was the 2011 European Junior bronze medalist and the 2012 German under-23 champion.

Other major conference news included the 5645 upset at the Missouri Valley meet in Cedar Falls, IA where Wichita's Austin Bahner turned in a 5645 effort over local Ethan Miller of UNI, 5532. Yet Miller has a better seasonal best at 5682. Rice's Clayton Chaney was the Conf USA winner. Steven Bastien, a freshman at Samford U and son of former NCAA/AAU scorer Gary Bastien/E Michigan in 1980s, won the Southern Conference meet in Winston-Salem, NC.



At the D-II level Central Missouri senior Brent Vogel *matched* his PR of 5450 to win the MIAA affair in Warrensburg while the top D-III score was turned in by Zach Anderson/Wisconsin-Stout to win the

WIAC meet in Stevens Point.

In all, while snow blanketed much to the Mid-West, Plains and East Coast, 363 collegiate decathletes laced 'em up in 32 meets nationwide. It was one busy weekend.

NCAA I qualifying is nearly complete with 5623 (5651 with an adjustment) at the 16th top score. Final qualifying ends next weekend.

Up next, the 28th USA national indoor CE champs at the Convention Center in Albuquerque, Fr-Sat, March 1-2.

