

THE DECATHLON ASSOCIATION

DECA Newsletter

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SILKAUSKAS TOPS NCAA CARD

Deep Field Begins Post Eaton Era



Hello Again..... Kansas State's speedy Mantas Silkauskas, a lanky 22 year old junior from Kaunas, Lithuania, put up solid numbers at the 8th NCAA I indoor heptathlon and leads at the break with a 3347 point score, 29 up on Boise State junior Kurt Felix and 30 better than Missouri senior Lars Rise.

Silkauskas used an eye-opening 6.78 sprint (only Ashton Eaton and Trey Hardee have ever run faster at this meet), then a PR long jump 7.65m/25-1¼ on his 3rd attempt, and then nailed 2 solid marks in the shot and high jump. Given his 2nd day skills he is likely to extend his lead during the hurdles on the deep 16 man field before half-a-dozen athletes make a run at his total during the vault and 1000m. It may be close.

The major contender on day two will be Atlantic Coast Conference champ Miller Moss who is just 3 points down on his season leading 5903 score. Can anyone else score 5900 points tomorrow? Uncertain, but it is likely that at least 6 others can put up 5800+ totals, so there will be a traffic jam at the top of the leader board. In other words, it may take 5800+ points to score. Included in the group are: Rise (having a heckuva meet with 2 PRs and a shot win), Florida junior Gray Horn, Nebraska's Bjorn Barrefors, surprising 23years old Texas-Arlington freshman Romain Martin, and a pair of Pac-10ers, Jeremy Taiwo/Washington and Mike Morrison of Cal. All had terrific first day scores. Here's what happened.



Kansas State junior Mantas Silkauskas leads the first day of the NCAA I meet in College Station, Texas.



8th NCAA
Indoor Men's Heptathlon
Texas A&M University
College Station, Texas
March 11-12, 2011

60 Meters: [noon]

The starter's pistol for the 60m dash fired exactly (and I mean exactly!) at *noon*. Regrettably North Carolina's Mateo Sossah started a moment earlier and the field of 8 had to be recalled. When they did get off Boise State's Kurt Felix just did catch Washington's Jeremy Taiwo at the tape (7.05 to 7.06). Both times were career bests. French frosh Romain Martin/Texas-Arlington and Missouri senior Lars Rise (in 5th and 7th) also clocked lifetime bests. In the 2nd race Silkauskas and Clemson's Miller Moss were marginally



Missouri's Lars Rise (left) and Boise State's Kurt Felix (right) put up big 1st day numbers at the NAAs standing 3rd and 2nd respectively at the break.

ahead of the field at 20 meters then Silky just ran away from the field, getting 6.78 while Moss was caught in a PR 6.91 seconds as the remainder of the field ran personally fast times. A crowd of @ 250 were on hand for the initial action.

After One: Silky 962, Moss 915, Horn 879, Feli 865.

Long Jump: [12:40- 1:13 pm]

Jumping in parallel, adjacent pits, tall Jeremy Taiwo announced that he indeed was a contender. He opened pit #2 with a PR 7.28m/23-10³/₄ effort. Grenadian Felix led round #1 with a 7.36m/24-1³/₄. Bjor Barrefors managed a 7.20m/23-7 ¹/₄ leap in round #2, and Razorback freshman Kevin Lazas immediately =’d his own PR (7.14m/23-5¹/₄). Felix improved to 7.41m24-3³/₄, a mark that would win the pit. Oregon senior David Klech, returning to CEs after a 5 year absence, improved to 7.34m/24-1 in round #3.

In contiguous pit #1, Silky led round #1 with a 7.32m/24-¹/₂ effort. In round #2 Romain Martin, at 6-6, leaped a PR 7.20m23-7¹/₄ and Silky improved to 7.39m/24-3. And Rise followed with a 7.25m/23-9 ¹/₂ pop.

Round #3 had plenty of drama as Cal’s Mike Morrison nailed a 7.35m/24-1¹/₂ leap, while Moss, whose best thus far was just 7.16m/23-6 put together a career leap..... BUT....a marginal toe-board foul....it was big! Not to be outdone, Silkauskas hit the board perfectly and his leap covered 7.65m/25-1¹/₄ of College Station real estate, a

big PR, extending his overall lead to 156 points.

After Two: Silky 1934, Felix 1778, Moss 1767, Horn 1762.

Shot Put: [1:45-2:15 pm]

Rise led the early throwers with a 15.67m/51-5 put and it held up as the event winner. He moved from 11th to 2nd in the standings. This was a relatively weak event as 4 posted sub 40 foot tosses. Yet five posted career best marks: Martin, Lazas, Barrefors, Klech and Moss.

After Three: Silk 2580, Rise 2523Moss 2470, Felix 2468,

High Jump: [2:50-3:47pm]

Sandwiched around the women’s pentathlon 800m (where Oregon’s Brienne Theisen broke her own CR, 4540) the high jump,

Flat jumping Miller Moss neared his career best in the



high jump at the NCAA’s with a 2.02m/ 6-7¹/₂ clearance to stay on PR pace.

organized in two pits, featured some terrific jumping. In the west pit, Rise PR’d at 1.99m/6-6¹/₄ and minutes later Horn equaled his own career best at 2.02m6-7¹/₂. But the surprise was Martin who won the pit at 2.05m6-8³/₄.

At the higher seeded east pit Felix, the top jumper (he’s has cleared 2.17m/7-1¹/₂) waited too long, managed but a single bar

(2.05m/6-8¾) and that cost him the first day lead. Then Moss negotiated 2.02m/6-7½, excellent for him and Taiwo put up a PR 2.08m/6-9 ¾ mark. But the jumping was far from over. Lean Oregon senior David Klech squeaked over 2.11m/6-1 tying the meet record. He had several good attempts at 2.14m/7-¼ before the event ended.

The officials kept this event hopping: 13 different bars, 152 attempts, 70 clearances in just under an hour.

After Four: Silk 3347, Felix 3318, rise 3317, Moss 3292.

Day One results:

3/11-12 8th NCAA D-I Champs, Texas
A&M, College Station, TX



3347	Silkauskas, Mantas/Kan St-LIT	6.78	765	1265	196
3223	Taiwo, Jeremy/Washington	7.06	728	1195	208
3245	Horn, Gray/Florida	7.01	729	1289	202
3183	Klech, David/Oregon	7.08	734	1068	211
2905	Cato, Jay/Wisconsin	7.25	697	1126	193
3008	Beach, Curtis/Duke	7.13	723	1082	196
3292	Moss, Miller/Clemson	6.91	716	1358	202
3009	Sossah, Mateo/North Car-FRA	7.36	687	1353	196
3243	Barrefors, Bjorn/Nebraska-SWE	7.12	720	1430	199
3317	Rise, Lars/Missouri-NOR	7.20	725	1575	199
3077	Cleve, Moritz/Kansas St-GER	7.17	690	1393	193
3318	Felix, Kurt/Boise St-GRN	7.05	741	1338	205
3242	Martin, Romain/Texas-Arl-FRA	7.15	720	1354	205
3138	Lazas, Kevin/Arkansas	7.12	714	1328	196
3173	Morrison, Mike/California	7.09	735	1283	196
2994	Bray, Wesley/Houston	7.17	704	1332	184
				14s,14f.	

At the NCAA II meet at the Albuquerque Convention Center (pictured), Chadron State's Brad Gamble takes a 171



point lead into the 2nd day.

3/11-12 NCAA D-II Champs, Convention Center,
Albuquerque, NM

3057	Gamble, Brad/Chadron St	7.07	695	1134	203
2886	Ammann, Chris/Lock Haven	7.29	668	1127	200
2874	Vogel, Brent/Central Missouri	7.31	689	1170	191
2847	Stephens, Joe/Pittsburg St	7.35	683	1037	200
2780	Robinson, Laquone/Minn-Moorhead	7.04	658	935	194

2752	Boss, Shawn/C Missouri	7.38	627	1240	191
2707	Mahlberg, Bryson/Neb-Kearney	7.38	641	1115	191
2683	Snyder, Isaac/Lake Erie	7.18	627	1016	191
2635	Whitehead, Ryan/S Conn St	7.60	660	1214	179
2619	Grob, Tyler/Saginaw Valley St	7.21	598	1204	179
2611	Granillo, Tony/Emporia St	7.44	627	1041	191
2598	Wert, Brady/Slippery Rock	7.30	573	1222	185

Note: the NCAA III pentathlon will start tomorrow (Saturday, March 12).