

CHAMPIONSHIP SEASON BEGINS

Wolken readies for NAIA Wars

Hello Again.....The 2015 indoor championship season began this past weekend with 8 collegiate conference heptathlons. The east coast conferences and NAIA leagues normally get a jump on the on other conferences, the former since they have a repechage in the IC4A meet and the latter since their nationals are a week earlier than NCAA affairs.

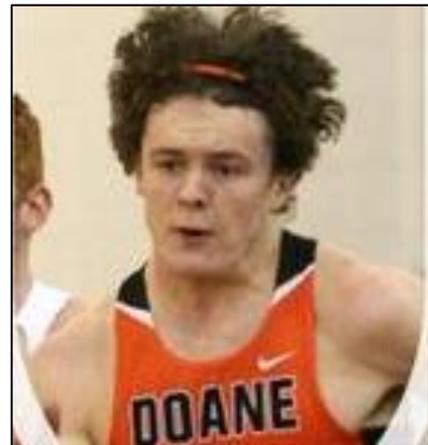
The weekend's top score came from Seward, NE where defending NAIA kingpin Kale Wolken, Doane, 21, a junior from Tecumseh, NE, built up a significant lead after 5 events at the Great Plains (GPAC) meet and cruised to a NAIA season leading 5307 score, 205 points up on Concordia soph Lucas Wiechman.

In other NAIA action: Graceland (IA) junior Joshua Stevens won the Heart of America AC title (4802) at home in Lamoni, IA; and Nate Brown of Grace became the NCCAA winner in Cedarville, OH with a 4580 score.

The NAIA nationals are schedule for March 5-6 at the Spire Institute in Geneva, OH and Wolken will be the prohibitive favorite.

The GPAC (Great Plains Athletic Conference) is not to be confused with the GNAC (Great Northwest Athletic Conference, a D-II league) which was also busy in Nampa, ID. New Zealand's Cody Thomas, a junior from Alaska-Anchorage, scored 4985, 115 more than Jaysen Yoro of St Martins.

Doane junior Kale Wolken (r) won the GPAC meet in Seward, NE and is the defending NAIA indoor champ.



The east coast D-I league were busy. Vermont junior Ed Simon posted a 5103 score to win the America East Conference meet at the NYC Armory. Binghamton junior Joe Miceli was runner-up with a 5034 effort.

Trevor Knowles, a Lehigh U freshman, won the Patriot League meet in Annapolis with a 4906 score. The Atlantic Ten meet turned out to be a confrontation of Rhody teammates, soph Ondrej Honka (4.81 pv) and junior Mike DiMambro, the former prevailing 5271 to 5141 in Kingston, RI.

The New England D-III meet (kudos to those who managed to get to Cambridge, MA. under all that snow), went to Eric Wainman, a senior from Bates, with a 4994 score. New weekend will be the busiest of the year as the conference championship meets will be in full swing. 33!! meets are scheduled including the 40th USA nationals for the Reggie Lewis Center in Roxbury, MA. Pray for good weather!!