

THE DECATHLON ASSOCIATION

DECA Newsletter

Volume XXXXIII

Number 19

May (1), 2018

WILLIAMS' 7925 HAMMERS PAC-12 Collegiate Conferences in Full Swing

Hello Again.....



If your school contained a tree in its logo you were in luck last week. Stanford junior Harrison Williams (22, Memphis, TN) won his first Pac-12 crown in Palo Alto (May 5-6) with a decisive 7925 score, his 2nd best ever. With improved throws in the shot and discus Williams had no trouble pasting the weekend league. He actually did not need to even mark in the final two events to win the overall title. His margin of victory exceeded 1600 points. It feels great," Williams said. "Especially on my home track. That means a lot." This was Williams' first decathlon at home and it was the first decathlon of any kind there since 2007. Williams took the lead on the second event, went on a streak of seven consecutive event victories. In no event did he place lower than second.

"He's certainly a gamer," said Michael Eskind, Stanford's associate head coach and multis coach. "You want someone that competes at their highest level when it matters most." Williams was 4th as a freshman and 5th as a sophomore before a redshirt 2017 season. Stanford's only other previous conference decathlon champion was Travis Clark, who won the Pac-10 crown in 1994. The event was not contested at the conference championships until 1973, long after Bob Mathias, the Olympic decathlon champion in 1948 and 1952, competed at Stanford.



Stanford junior Harrison Williams vaulted 5.25m/17-2¾. He also had a disc PR and an dec shot PR on the way to the Pac-12 title.

At the Ivy League Champs in Philadelphia Dartmouth junior Ben Ose (21, Eden Prairie, MN) used jumping skills (PRs in long and high jumps and 4.80m/15-9 vault) to win the 15th Heptagonal (Ivy League) title with a 300 point PR 7491 and winning score which is also likely to be an NCAA I qualifier. Although teammate Ben Collelo'18 (21, Sudburg, MA) won the final two events (a PR 66.06m/216-9 jav and 4:39.04 1.5k) and finished with a career best 7198 score, it was Ose who led from start to finish over a small field and amid wind swirling conditions. The wind was so unpredictable that it took Ose two attempts to clear 4.40m, 4.50m 4.60m and 4.70m before nailing

4.80/15-9 in a first try. Wind direction seemed to change every two minutes (thus necessitating a change in steps) and precluded a clearance at 4.90m/16-3/4).

The week/weekend was a busy one in which 39 (!) meets took place, almost all of them collegiate conference affairs. The Big West crown was won by Kyle Clancy, a UC-Davis junior at 7181 while the Southland title went to SE Louisiana junior Brian Donna at 7006. In other D-I leagues: Rhode Island freshman Drew Nealey won the Atlantic Ten title (6683); Troy Zanger, a Binghamton soph with 6701 won the America East crown; Navy junior Ben Stewart was 6580 winner at the Patriot League; Nick Fofana, a Northeastern senior, was the Colonial AA champ at 6370; Alcorn's Aaron Worell, a soph, was a 6369 winner at SWAC, and Zach Stadnicka, a Oakland U soph won the Horizon League title at 6638 points.

There was a quartet of NCAA D-II notable affairs: Merrimack senior John Braga won the Northeast Ten crown at 6901 and NW Missouri junior Kevin Schultz won at the MIAA champs at 7050 while favorite Tanner McNutt was injured in the 100m and withdrew. Brit Harry Maslan/Angelo State, won the Lone Star League crown at 7144. And Saginaw Valley's Sam Black (6991) came out ahead at the Great Lakes Intercollegiates (GLIAC) in Ashland, OH.



Dartmouth junior Ben Ose prevailed at the Ivy League meet in Philly with a PR 7491 effort.

Leif Van Grinsven, a junior at Wheaton, IL, posted the 3rd best seasonal D-III mark, 6725, to win the CCIW title. The best NAIA mark came from Cleet Wrzesinski of Dickinson State, ND, 6393 at the North Star Conference affair.

An additional 35 + meets are on tap for the upcoming week including most of the D-I majors. At the moment the 24th best D-I score is 7229. Normally it takes a mid 7400 point effort to move onto the D-I nationals. Stay tuned. And watch out for thos trees.

Timber!!!