

THE DECATHLON ASSOCIATION

DECA Newsletter

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SEC PROVIDES TOP EFFORTS

D-I Qualifying Features Plethora of New Names

Hello Again.....This will be the 2nd Newsletter of the weekend covering the final two days (May 11-12) of 'Collegiate Conference Weekend.' The NCAA D-I qualifying list was rewritten, notably in Knoxville, Waco AND Blomington, IN, sites for the SEC, B-12 and Big 10 championship affairs. In all nine new names went on the D-I list while 7475 ended as the magic number, the final qualifying mark.

At the Southeastern Conference meet in Knoxville, Georgia's 5th year Karl-Robert Saluri (24, Tallinn, Estonia) caught Arkansas's high-flying Gabe Moore (22, Freeport, FL) in the final event to prevail 7934 to 7901, the latter a 202-point career best. His 48.24m/155-5 discus was notable. Texas A&N junior Nathan Hite () improved to 7723 for 3rd and Derek Jacobus (22, Palo, IA), in his final Arkansas season, was 4th with a 7555 score. Missouri grad student Rauno Liitmae () of Estonia contested his first American decathlon and used a significant javelin PR (67.00m/219-9) to edge onto the qualifying list with a 7524 PR. In all, the SEC placed 4 new names on the NCAA Eugene roster!!

The Big Ten meet in Bloomington, IN saw Michigan State soph Nick Guerrant overtake Wisconsin's Zach Lorbeck on day two winning with an improved 7569 score. Lorbeck dropped to 4th (7341) behind Wisconsin senior Sawyer Smith (7486) and Minnesota's Teddy Frid (7402). Last's year's runner-up, Nebraska senior Cody Walton,



Arkansas junior Gabe Moore improved his decathlon PR by 202 points managing 2nd place (7901) at the SEC meet in Knoxville, TN.

injured most of the season, withdrew after day one. Iowa senior William Dougherty faced bad luck for a second time at the Big Ten. A hurdle 'DQ' taking him out of contention. A year ago it was a vault 'nh.'

In Waco, Texas the Big 12 meet was a two-man affair. Texas junior Steele Wasik



BIG winners include: TWELVE- Steele Wasik/Texas (left), and **TEN-** Nick Guerrant/Michigan St (right)

(7588) outlasted unheralded Aaron Booth a New Zealander soph at Kansas State (7508).

At other D-I meetings: Paris Williams, a Kennesaw State soph won the Atlantic Sun meet at 7236; Cincy senior Alex Bloom won the American Conference crown (7318) at home. Wichita State's (with half the 12 entries) Ben Johnson was second (7272); Wade Walder/Butler, was the Big East winner (7020) in Geneva; Ben Collerton/Texas State won the Sun Belt at home (7148); James Brandenburg/Illinois State (7031) was the Missouri Valley winner. D-II's John Braga, a Merrimack (MA) senior, was the New England winner at Dartmouth (7064).

The 12 Fri-Sat meets netted 22 7000+ scores.

At the present here is the NCAA-D-I qualifying list:

NCAA I		
8185	Tim Duckworth	Kentucky-GBR'18
8046	Hunter Veith	Wichita St'18
8044	Tim Ehrhardt	Michigan St'18
8020	Johannes Erm	Georgia-EST'21
7934	Karl Saluri	Georgia-EST'18
7925	Harrison Williams	Stanford'19
7901	Gabe Moore	Arkansas'19
7876	Scott Filip	Rice'18
7724	TJ Lawson	Kent St'20
7723	Nathan Hite	Texas A&M'19
	[10]	
7722	Nathan Mechler	Houston-CAN'20
7683	Trent Nytes	Wisconsin'19
7673	William Dugherty	Iowa'18
7655	Joe Delgado	Louisville'18
7588	Steele Wasik	Texas'19
7576	Adrian Rily	UTSA-JAM'18
7569	Nick Guerrant	Michigan St'20
7555	Derek Jacobus	Arkansas'18
7537	Markus Balengee	Liberty'20
7524	Rauno Liitmae	Missouri-EST'18
	[20]	
7508	Aaron Booth	Kansas St-NZ'20
7496	Sawyer Smith	Wisconsin'18
7491	Ben Ose	Dartmouth'19
7475	Kevin Neilsen	BYU'18

Of the top 24: half (12) are seniors: eleven are new to the NCAA championship meet; seven (30%) are foreign athletes; twenty schools are represented, seven from the SEC.