

# THE DECATHLON ASSOCIATION

## DECA Newsletter

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## 'ZZ' NETS 6043 in NEBRASKA

### Indoor Season Gaining Momentum

**Hello Again:** The 21 CE meets during the 1<sup>st</sup> weekend of February provided 32 5000+ efforts and the top score for the USA, NCAA III and NAIA lists. The biggest news came from Nebraska where Olympian and former Wisconsin star Zach Ziemek took over the US lead with a nifty 6043 effort at the Seignie-Husker meet in Lincoln. As a volunteer coach at his alma mater he brought a quartet of Badgers, all of whom posted top scores. Notable juniors Trent Nytes (5656) and Zachary Lorbeck (5611) sandwiched local senior Cody Walton (5619). The meet turned out to be a Webb Cup precursor between Wisconsin and Nebraska as both have high scoring and deep squads. The Huskers were backed up by last year's JUCO champ Jared Seay (5459) and the 2017 national Jr champ Cale Wagner (5406).

There were a few other high-scoring 7 eventers. The Charlie Thomas affair at Texas A&M drew last year's NCAA I indoor and outdoor winners. Devon Williams/Chula Vista Elite, held off Rice senior Scott Filip, 5804-5717. And, while prepping for the IAAF world indoor meet in Birmingham, GBR, A&M grad Lindon Victor, did selected events.

Ex-Kansas State standout Reinis Kregers/LTH won the Deloss Dodds meet in Manhattan at 5556 points. Michigan State junior Nick Guerrant PR'd with a 5569 score to win the Akron Invitational. And Oregon transfer Joe Delgado, now a senior at



Olympian Zach Ziemek's 6043 Lincoln score took over the USA lead. New found hurdles skills netted an 8.08 60mH PR.

Louisville, won the Power 5 affair at Ann Arbor, Michigan (5627)

The nation's top NAIA total was fashioned by Vanguard senior Winston Lawson (5257) and Central (IA) speedy soph Will Daniels regained the NCAA III lead at 5158 at Waverly, IA. In all 27 meets and 254 competing athletes produced 32 5000+ efforts. Another dozen meets are scheduled for the upcoming week, the last week before our 'conference championship' season begins. Then all hell breaks loose with qualifying lists.

A few words about upcoming championship meets. *First*, the annual USA nationals are scheduled for the Albuquerque Convention Center for Friday-Saturday, Feb 16-17. A high-quality field is already on the books, including former national champs



**Big scores at small colleges: left: Winston Lawson of Vanguard took over the NAIA lead while Will Daniels /Central(IA) –right- regained the D-III top spot.**

Curtis Beach and Jeremy Taiwo. Both will attempt to earn a spot on the IAAF world champs start list.

*Second*, qualifying for the 2018 IAAF World Indoor Champs is a bit confusing. The CE fields for the worlds have been expanded to 12 entrants. The previous year’s *IAAF CE Challenge* winner (Rico Freimuth/GER) gets an automatic selection. The top five from last years decathlon list are invited as well as the top 5 scorers from the current indoor season. The IAAF gets to invite one at large selection filling the field to a dozen. No more than two entrants per nation.



At the present the top 5 scorers (sans Freimuth) from last year include:

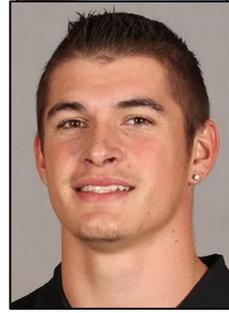
Kevin Mayer/FRA, Ilya Shkureniov/ RUS, Damian Warner/CAN, Lindon Victor/ GRN and, Eelco Sintnicolaas/NED. If there is an issue with Russian entries, Kurt Felix/GRN, Kai Kazmirek/GER and Janek Oiglane/EST are next on the outdoor list.

The current world indoor list, as it stands on Feb 5, 2018 reads:

6071	Tim Duckworth	GBR-Kentucky
6043	Zach Ziemek	USA
6039	Maicel Uibo	Estonia
6016	Tyler Adams	USA-Sam Houston St
6016	Oleksiy Kasyanov	UKR
6014	Ruben Gado	France

The scores from Tallinn, EST over the weekend were disappointing (5904 Kazmirek)

And since Duckworth and Adams are committed to the NCAA meet there will likely be a lot of last minute scrambling for these 5 spots. The USA champs will be a fine opportunity for many. ZZ looks safe for now. Who knows after that.



Top weekend scores came from College Station, TX where Devon Williams (upper left) held off Rice’s Scott Filip, upper right, 5804 to 5717. Michigan State junior Nick Guerrant (lower left) won (5569) at Akron while Louisville transfer Joe Delgado was a 5627 winner in Ann Arbor.