

CLARK HIGHLIGHTS SLOW WEEK

Jacobus, Riley with Top Efforts

Hello Again....14 low key meetings highlighted the 3rd week of March as the decathlon season struggled to gain traction. The annual Texas Relays, the season's first major national meet, will be held in Austin this coming week [March 29-30].

The week's top score came from Fayetteville, AR as nearly a dozen prominent decathletes gathered for the Arkansas Spring Invitational. Vet Matt Clark (29, Ames, IA), the Razorback strength coach, fashioned a fine 7522w effort but most suffered from 'no-height' or "no mark"... itis. Included in the "misfortune" column were Kurtis Brondyke, Austin Bahner, Calvin Sullins, Lane Austrell and Devin Cornelius.

Arkansas junior Derek Jacobus (21, Palo, IA) fashioned a steady 7437 mark, an 80 point PR as he likely becomes the first NCAA I qualifier. His score included career bests in the 100m, discus and outdoor vault.

The week's only other "7k" came from Jamacian Adrian Riley, a junior at Texas-San Antonio who PR'd with a 7318 effort in a home based, low key affair (2 starters!).

In other meets: Long Beach State junior Cole Hicks (6826) won at Riverside where North Dakota State started 7(!); Oklahoma Baptist frosh Hayden Askley won at home with a 6539 windy score (aiding winds summed +12.5mps). Junior college stars won several meets: Lane's Wyatt Thompson-Siporen (a UCSB transfer) and Grant Shurtliff went 1-2 at the Jim Klien meet at Westmont, 6764



Razorback strenght coach Mat Clark, 29, won the Arkansas Spring Invitational with a nice 7522 score.

(10pt PR) and 6750; Mesa, AZ soph Xavier Johnson won at home with a 6518 effort. Northwest JCers do not compete at the NJCAA nationals.

The most thought-provoking meet was held in Montevallo, AL but a severe thunder-

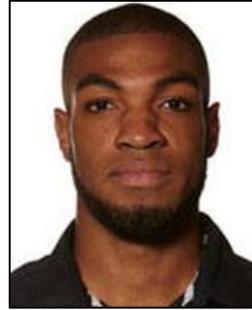


Luke Govero (lqft), a 6-5 freshman at Mississippi College won his first ever decathlon, a storm shortened Montevallo, AL meet. Derek Jacobus (right), a junior at Arkansas, PRd in Fayetteville at 7437.

storms with lightning (NCAA rules require immediate evacuation) stopped the affair after 7 events. Talented Luke Govero, a 6-5, 200 lb freshman from Mississippi College, in his first CEer, found himself in the lead with a 4808 score when the rains came.



Lane Community College (Eugene, OR) pair Wyatt Thompson-Siporen (left) and Grant Shurtliff (right) went 1-2 at Westmont.



Jamaican Adrian Riley (left), a junior at UTSA and Hayden Ashley (right), a freshman at Oklahoma Baptist won decathlons on home turf.