

# THE DECATHLON ASSOCIATION

## DECA Newsletter

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## DROUIN WITH 7-5<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> HIGH JUMP

### Williams Wins Georgia Meet with 8345 Total

**Hello Again....**In Santa Barbara on Friday, April 7, with perhaps the single event performance of the season Canadian Derek Drouin (27, Corunna, Ontario) erased the decathlon high jump record, one of the oldest event records in the book, co-held by '88 Olympic champ Christian Schenk and East German countryman Rolf Beilschmidt at 2.27m/7-5<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>. Bielschmidt's mark dated to a 1977 meet in Jena, East Germany while Schenk's was on the way to Olympic gold in Seoul in 1988. Bielschmidt's mark was the 2nd oldest on the books and 40 (!) years.

Drouin's performance came at the annual Sam Adams affair at Santa Barbara's Westmont College. It was Drouin's initial ten eventer and he placed 4th with a fine 7150 score. Drouin, who was the 2016 Olympic high jump champ in Rio and the 2013 Big Ten athlete of the year while at Indiana University has a PR of 2.40m/7-10<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> and 4 years ago set the indoor heptathlon record at 2.30m/7-6<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>, the highest leap ever recorded in a CE.

Incidentally, the American outdoor dec high jump record belongs to Tom Pappas at 2.21m/7-3 in Sydney in 2000. The indoor AR of 2.25m/7-4<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> belongs to Jeremy Taiwo in Nampa in 2013.

Drouin's performance overshadowed the fine 8345 performance at the annual Bulldog affair at Athens by Devon Williams, a Georgia senior who won the recent NCAA indoor meet. Williams trailed Kentucky's Tim Duckworth at the break, 4355-4331 but



Canadian Derek Drouin broke the decathlon World Record at the Sam Adams meet in Santa Barbara with a 2.28m/7-5<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> leap.

moved to the lead with a 13.83 hurdles. It was a consistent performance which left him 127 down on the recent collegiate record of A&M's Lindon Victor. Duckworth was 2nd and Nebraska junior Cody Walton third, both with PRs, 7973 and 7937. The meet featured 15 entries, (9 foreigners, 6 Americans), and depending upon which reporting service one believes, 7 or 8 finishers.



Georgia's Devon Williams ran up the season's 2nd highest collegiate score in Athens, 8345.

Two casualties were Michigan's Steven Bastien and Nebraska's Noah Gabel, both of whom vaulted. Both had fine first day scores. '14 and '15 NCAA champ Maicel Uibo/Estonia contested individual events. At the finish his 8356 school record survived.

The winner of the aforementioned Sam Adams meet was Wichita State junior Hunter Veith at 7610. In all the week featured 21 meets, 200 competitors and a dozen 7000 scores. Next week features Azusa's Mount Sac Relays/California Invitational which has 56 (!) starters listed.

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