

THE DECATHLON ASSOCIATION

DECA Newsletter

Volume XXXXIV

Number 5

Feb. (3), 2019

CONFERENCE SEASON UNDERWAY

An Avalance of Meets Coming Up

Hello Again..... The busiest week of the year commences tomorrow with the Sun Belt heptathlon at CrossPlex. An additional 41 (!) meets are on tap, with many major conferences conducting their indoor championships. The USATF nationals is also on the docket for Friday-Saturday at Staten Island's Ocean Breeze.

Host Queen's University (NC) introduced eight (!) starters at their home meet at the JDL FastTrack in Winston-Salem. Alum Vince Schneider won at 5136 turning back 32 (!) opponents. Noteworthy were those who did not finish: Curtis Beach and Dan Golubovic, now both volunteer coaches at Duke; Josh Mulder and first day leader Paris Williams of Kennesaw State (4003 points for 5 events)

The past weekend drew meets at most collegiate levels. At NCAA D-I Conference USA drew the most attention The expected tussle in Birmingham between UTSA's Australian freshman Gary Haaslebroek and Rice's 'Triple C' senior Charlie Card-Childers. Haas led at the break, 3133-3033, and prevailed in the vault, 5.00m/16-4¾ to 4.80m/15-9 and won, 5559 to 5461.

High Point senior Pablo Romero's 5231 score was enough to capture the Big South meet. Tristan Ham, a junior at Prairie View was the SWAC winner at 5006. The Naval Academy hosted the Patriot League champs and went 1-2-4 with senior Ben Stewart leading the way with a PR 5509.



Naval Academy senior Ben Stewart, Charlestown, RI, added the Patriot League indoor title (5509 points) to his '18 outdoor crown.

Major news at the D-II level came from the Lone Star Conference meet in Lubbock, Texas. Going into the final event only 33 points separated a trio of foreign freshman: 21 year old Charles Valentin/TAMU-Kingsville (France), Alexandros Spyridonidis/Angelo State (Greece...21 in 3 weeks) and 20 year old Croatian Trpimir



Charles Valentin/TAMU-Kingsville (l) won the Lone Star Conf meet. Charlie Card-Childers/Rice (c) was the runner-up at Conference USA while Concordia soph Cody Williams (r) won the GPAC with the week's top NAIA score.

Siroki/Angelo St.

Valentin followed the pace of Dragon Pesic/Angelo State of Montenegro and held off the Angelo State freshmen for a PR 5493 win. Spyridonidis was 96 points back. TAMU-Kingsville's soph Jonathan Harper (with a PR 5289) was the lone American in the top 6!

Central Washington senior Kodiak Landis was the GNAC winner in Nampa with a 5228 effort, 30 points better than soph teammate Braydon Maier. Northeast 10 saw Southern Connecticut State junior Philip Quayle as their champion (4788).

Several NAIA leagues conducted championship meets. Concordia (NE) soph Cody Williams (Imperial, NE) won the GPAC league meet with a nifty 5213 score. NCCAA winner was Bethel (IN) senior Ezra Griffith at 4528.

At the JUCO level Louis Humbert (soph, Cloud County) won the Region VI at 5004 in Pittsburg, KS.

The upcoming week will feature at least 41 additional indoor heptathlons, virtually all collegiate conference affairs. Sharpen the pencils.