

THE DECATHLON ASSOCIATION

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LAWSON, BEACH, BRONDYKE

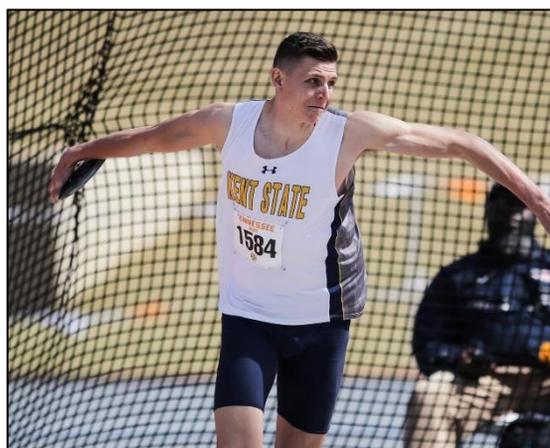
Bryan Clay Meet Will Be a Game Changer

Hello Again..... The second week of April provided several eye-opening early season scores and the most impressive came from the Tennessee Relays in Knoxville (4/11-12). 22 year old Kent State junior TJ Lawson added 151 points to his career best with a 7876 win. His 4280 1st day invoked memories of his 2017 freshman year form (9th at NCAAs). Lawson did not have an indoor season and this was his first start since last year's injury plagued NCAA 'dnf' finish. Career bests came in the 100m, shot and discus. He'll be an NCAA and USATF factor.

Rounding into shape is 28 year old Curtis Beach who made up 180 points in the 1500m (4:12.14) and posted his best ten event score in 3 years, 7684. It was his 31st career decathlon for the Duke U volunteer coach, although it was 217 points shy of the score recently put up by his Durham training partner Dan Golubovic.

At the Razorback Invitational in Fayetteville 30 year old vet Kurtis Brondyke was a solid 7578 winner over a large field. This marked his first CE since a serious leg injury at last year's Drake Relays. This also was his 31st career meet. As the assistant coach at Central Missouri, Kurtis brought four decathletes to Arkansas and the Mules went 3-4-5.

Shocker senior Ben Johnson was a winner at home at Wichita State's Woodman's Classic yet a vault 'nh' reduced his score to 6567.



Kent State Junior TJ Lawson used a trio of career best marks to establish a PR 7876 score in Knoxville.

Notable about the 14 weekend meets was the size of the fields...large by recent standards: 30 starters at the Mondschein in Kutztown, twenty at Southern Connecticut, 16 at McDonnell, 17 at Knoxville, 15 at Woodmans. A total of 183 starters in 15 meets. Next week will feature the Bryan Calu meet, with loaded fields.



Kurtis Brondyke (l) and Curtis Beach (r) punched tickets to July's nationals.

