

THE DECATHLON ASSOCIATION

DECA Newsletter

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UIBO 8326 at SEC ! Conference Weekend Ends, Qualifying Complete

Hello Again..... The final collegiate conference weekend ended Saturday evening --May 16—and with it the completion of national qualifying lists for all college levels.

The Southeastern Conference meet in Starkville, MS provided the big news, an 8326 effort by defending NCAA champ Maicel Uiibo/Georgia, 22, Polva, Estonia. The total was the 10th ever over 8300 by a collegian (record Trey Hardee/Texas at 8465 in 2006). After a 'dnf' at the NCAA indoor meet this was his initial decathlon of the season. It resulted a 103 point PR and featured six event marks within a whicker of career bests (sp,hj,400,disc,9v,1500m). He'll return to the nationals as the favorite intent on being the first to win back-to-back title since Ashton Eaton/Oregon in 2009-10.

A trio of others qualified for the NCAAAs via the SEC meet—Zach Taylor/Mississippi St soph, Markus Leemet/South Carolina soph and Arkansas senior Nathanael Franks. It now appears that a low 7300 score will punch tickets to Eugene and more than a few weekend decathletes may regret not putting more effort into their 1500 races.

Uibos marks: [8326 = 1.19+1.0 744+2.1 1416 218 50.89 15.01+1.4 4833 520 5692 4:28.57].

The SEC was not the only meet with top results. Eastern Michigan junior Solomon Ijah put together a breakthrough 7862 score to win the Mid-American affair in Muncie, Indiana. Other majors were weather impacted. 2013 NCAA champ Johannes Hock/Texas, 23, Cologne, Germany, posted his lowest total in 5 seasons but the 7367 was good enough for



Georgia's Estonian decathlete Maicel Uiibo put together ten solid efforts in Starkville producing a 8326 SEC score.

the Big 12 win in rainy Ames, IA. Teammate Wolf Mahler's 7305 score was good for 2nd.

Indoor king Luca Weiland/Minnesota, won the large field Big Ten meet in East Lansing with a 7635 total. Michigan State soph Tim Ehrhardt was runner-up with a qualifier, 7349. Nebraska's Cody Walton was 3rd with a 510 point PR, 7232. Nine surpassed 7k.

Scott Filip/Rice was the Conference USA winner with a PR 7632 in El Paso. The league also witnessed a fine 7549 score from Charlotte senior K'Vonte Scott and a 7464 total from Middle Tennessee's Ghanaian Atsu Nyamadi.



Eastern Michigan's Solomon Ijah used a PR 14.38 high to power an eye-opening 7862 to win the MAC title.

In other majors, Colorado State soph Josh Cogdill won at the Mountain West meet in San Diego with 7294 and Duke freshman Tanner Johnson came away with the rain delayed ACC crown from teammate Ian Rock at Tallahassee.

After a 4036 first day Kennesaw junior Bilal Abdullah won the Atlantic Sun crown in Jacksonville with 7145, 13 points less than the winning total by Luis Hanssler/



Scott Filip/Rice won at Conference USA

in Hutchinson, KS.

The week produced 42 7k scores at 23 ten-eventers. All but four were college league meets.

A year ago the final NCAA I qualifier posted a 7344 total.

South in High Point, NC saw the closest meet as Liberty senior Tevan McIntire prevailed by just nine points (7182) over teammate Zach Davis.

Michael Samuels of South Plains won the NJCAA meet (6683)