

THE DECATHLON ASSOCIATION

DECA Newsletter

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QUALIFYING HEATS UP WAC, Conf USA sets tone

Hello Again... More than a dozen American collegiate conferences offered their championship meet this past weekend. Most of the ‘noise’ reverberated around several D-I performances.
NCAA D I

Going into the weekend the D-I Qualifying bubble score was a 5588 score. Eyes were on a pair of DI meets: WAC and Conf USA. The Western Athletic Conference rolled out a competitive 15 man meet at the Albuquerque Convention Center of Friday-Saturday, Last year’s Southland outdoor runner-up and ’29 NJCAA hept champ, JJ Ply of Abilene Christian (Dayton, NV) used a consisient approach and six marginal career bests to catch Aidan Diggs, a Grand Canyon junior (Goodyear, AZ) for a 173 point victory, 5633 to 5460. PR scores for both. Ply’s score puts him in the conversation for an NCAA D-I ticket.

Meanwhile the far-flung Conference USA convened at the CrossPlex on Saturday-Sunday and also provided aanother highly competitive 7-eventer. Scottish u20 and u17 hept and dec record holder Joel McFarlane (Monikie, Scotland) opened with a 3105 first day score, barely ahead of the Rice pair of home-grown Texans: Grant Levesque (El Paso) and Gus Henry (Cottonwood Shores). The trio waged a 3-way war until Henry dropped off and the Levesque used vault skills (5.09m/16-8¼) and seven bars to secure his win. His PR 5625 was almost identical to Ply’s sum. Both will now have to wait thru the upcoming “Conference Week” before booking arrangement to Birmingham.

NCAA D II

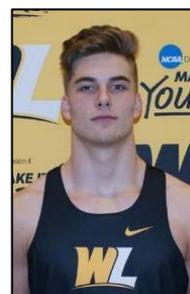


A pair of native born Texans, JJ Ply/Abilene Christian (l) and Grant Levesque/Rice (r) put up almost identical scores in winning the WAC and Conf USA crowns.

The top D-II effort came from The Mountain East league as most D-II conference affairs will be held in the upcoming week. Adam O’Donnell grad asst, Martinsburg, WV a. won the title with a 100 point career best, 4988.

NAIA

The NAIA’s top effort came Mount Marty senior Seth Weibelhaus who caught Sergio Arcos/Doane at the Great Plains affair in Crete.



Aidan Diggs/Grand Canyon (l) and Adam O’Connell/ West Liberty (r) both PR’s in league meets.