

THE DECATHLON ASSOCIATION

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BALLANGEE SPINS 7895 Hogs Dominate in Fayetteville

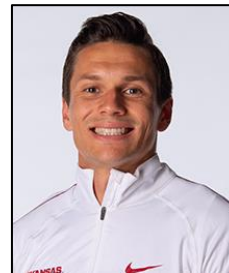
Hello Again.....In a weekend that witnessed but , half-a-dozen meets, all of the action was packed into one site. Without the Drake and Oregon Relays conducting decathlons the McDonnell Invt. in Fayetteville was the weekend's focus. A very deep University of Arkansas club provided a pair of NCAA I qualifiers and three performances which *averaged* 7651 points.

Leading the parade was 23-year old junior Markus Ballangee (6-5, 200, Moneta, VA) whose winning 7895 PR total pushes him to 3rd on the D-I qualifying list and 4th on the national list. He used an eye-opening (and Victor/Brophy like) 52.57/172-5 discus toss. The CR is 55.22/181-2 (Lindon Victor/TAMU-2017). The Liberty U transfer also PR'd in the hurdles (14.34) and added 173 points to his career best score.

Nearly as impressive for coach Mario Sategna's clubs was the PR 7707 runner-up performance by soph Daniel Spejcher (pronounced 'spray-sher,' Lake Park HS, Bloomindale, IL- the same school that spawned Zach Ziemek, Tim Ehrhardt and Scott Filip) 9th at the NCAA i) who's five event PRs pushed his best to 7707. Cal transfer/senior Tyler Brendel was 3rd at 7351. So deep were the Hogs that soph Etamar Bhastekar, (Mitzpe Ramon, Israel) a 5680 indoor performer who vaulted 5.22m/17-1½ today) did not start the decathlon.

Conference championship season begins next week with twenty league meets at all levels.

Markus Ballangee, Arkansas, used throwing skills to improve his career best while winning the McDonnell meet in Fayetteville.



Daniel Spejcher (l) and Tyler Brendel (r) went 2-3 at the McDonnell affair.