

THE DECATHLON ASSOCIATION

DECA Newsletter

Volume XXXXV

Number 5

February (3), 2020

CONFERENCE SEASON UPON US

Smaller Schools Start the Avalanche

Hello Again... The “Collegiate Conference Season” is upon us. During the 3rd week of February many (17 in fact) of the D-II, D-III, NAIA and JC conferences conducted their indoor title affairs, a process that will explode next week/weekend with another forty (!) indoor heptathlons that will go a long way in deciding entry lists for March’s national indoor affairs.

Only one D-I league, Conference USA, got an early start with its meet at Birmingham’s CrossPlex (2/22-23). UT-San Antonio’s freshman Jack Turner had separated himself from the eleven man field during the high jump. He ended with a winning 5142 score. He led the weekend scores by a single point. Australian teammate Gary Haasbroek, who had an earlier certain NCAA-I qualifying marks, sat out the hept.

Binghamton’s Troy Zanger (5141) and Prairie View senior Tristan Ham (5081) won the other two D-I conference meets (America East and SWAC).

A quartet of D-II leagues were on display with Texas A&M-Kingsville junior Dean Wallace posting a Lone Star winning mark (4889). The top D-II mark came from Dakota Tidwell/NW Nazarene’21 who became the GNAC champ (4914). West Liberty junior Adam O’Donnell went wire-to-wire winning the Mountain East meet (4785) in Huntington, WV.



Binghamton’s Troy Zanger, Prairie View’ Tristram Ham posted leading weekend totals,

The North Coast Conference meet in Oberlin, OH was the lone D-III affair. There Oberlin junior Adriano Atallah had an easy time scoring 4475.

Missouri Valley senior Clayton Gause (4785) and Doane senior Levi Sudbeck (4912) both cruised their NAIA 7 eventers. After establishing insurmountable leads neither broke 3:25 for 1k in winning the Heart of America and Great Plains league meets respectively. JC Regional meets abounded with Eric Roth/New Mexico JC a 4742 winner in Region V in Hobbs, NM. The region #11 meet in Storm Lake, IA witnessed an anomaly. The entire field vault nh’d. Iowa Central CC’s Ronnie Johnson won at 4142.

Next week the tsunami arrives. Forty (40!) collegiate conference meets are on tap in an exercise that likely will rewrite the national qualifying lists. Hold on to your hats.