

Bronco jumper waits, wins

■ Drehle passes on middle heights, wins NAIA title with 7-0 leap.

By Ken Hambleton
Lincoln Journal-Star

While his top competition was jumping to new heights, Chad Drehle sat, and waited, and worried.

Once his wait was over, so were his worries as the 5-foot-9, 165-pound Hastings College senior cleared 7 feet on his second attempt to win the men's title at the NAIA Indoor Track and Field Championships Friday at the Devaney Sports Center.

Later during the day of mostly preliminary races on the track, Doane's Heather Rhoadarmer finished second to Wayland Baptist (Texas) freshman Michelle Hagge in the shot put.

The finals in the track events will begin at noon Saturday.

Azusa Pacific (Calif.) has a commanding lead in the men's competition with 53 points, followed by Western Oregon, Hastings and Lubbock, Texas. Doane is tied for eighth.

Southern University of New Orleans leads the women's field, with Azusa Pacific and Central State (Ohio) tied for second.

Drehle high jumped in the qualifying round, easily clearing 6-7 and earning All-America honors. But he passed on the next heights until all but two of the field were left compet-

ing.

Finally, Drehle took his second attempt of the day and cleared 7 feet, while Nathan Ourda of Baker (Kan.) and Lee Pool of Dallas Baptist missed.

"That was all I needed, but I was worried when all those people cleared 6-10 and then a couple more got 6-11," said Drehle. Drehle then missed three attempts at 7-1 but still won the title.

"I jumped 6-10 last year and got third," Drehle said. "And I wasn't all that sure about 7 feet, but I cleared that height two years ago in an outdoor meet and I was feeling pretty strong today."

Quentin Essen of Doane finished fifth in the high jump.

Doane's Rhoadarmer, a senior from Cozad, helped her team to sixth place after the first day. She won the outdoor and indoor national shot put titles the last two years and came into this year's meet with the second-best throw in the country behind eventual winner Hagge.

On her last throw Friday, Rhoadarmer threw the shot 10 inches past her previous best of the day and tied Hagge with a toss of 47-9. But Hagge followed with a toss of 47-10½ to win.

"Maybe I'm too old," Rhoadarmer joked. "I gave it all I had on that last throw and got a personal best but it just wasn't enough. I've got to give Michelle Hagge a lot of credit."

Rhoadarmer said she struggled early in the competition because she

was throwing the shot too low. "Coach Dave Dunnigan got me to get my elbow up and I gave it all I had on that last throw," she said. "What the heck. I had nothing to lose and everything to gain."

In other top performances Friday, Benny Fernando, a freshman from Azusa Pacific won the long jump with a leap of 25-5¼, just two inches off the national record. He led Azusa Pacific to a 1-2-3 sweep.

In the only final on the track Friday, Southern University of New Orleans blitzed the field in the women's 3,200-meter relay with a time of 9:11.34.

Concordia, with a team of Robin Leggett, Kyle Weinberger, Johna Speck and Dove Robinson, finished fourth in a school-record time of 9:26.83, nipping the fifth-place Doane team of Brandy Schwenk, Chris Skillman, Brenda Rauch and Christina Hurby, and the sixth-place Nebraska Wesleyan team of Amy Cooper, Tonya Roberts, Jennifer Huebert and Christine Haney. Doane's team also set a school record and the Wesleyan team beat its school record by 28 seconds.

Doane's Becky Steib had the fastest qualifying time in the 3,000, while Concordia's Robinson had the second-fastest qualifying time in the 800.

Results Men

Team scoring

Azusa Pacific 53, Western Oregon 26, Hastings 10,

Lubbock Christian 10, Oklahoma Baptist 9, Baker, Kan. 8, Linfield, Ore. 8, Dallas Baptist 6, Doane 6, Siena Heights 6, Central State, Ohio 4, Wayland Baptist 4, Findlay, Ohio 2, Jamestown, N.D. 1, Lindenwood, Mo. 1, Taylor, Ind. 1.

Finals

35-pound weight throw — 1. Rene Bustamante, Azusa Pacific, 60-6; 2. Ryan Parshall, Western Oregon, 59-7; 3. Steven Gehring, Western Oregon, 56-8; 4. James Van Ordean, Western Oregon, 54-1¼; 5. Ryan Root, Azusa Pacific, 53-4; 6. Tony Newman, Taylor, 52-10½.

High jump — 1. Chad Drehle, Hastings, 7-0; 2. Nathan Ourda, Baker, 6-11; 3. Lee Pool, Dallas Baptist, 6-10; 4. Scott Radetich, Linfield, 6-10; 5. Quentin Esser, Doane, 6-9; 6. Immanuel Khargub, Oklahoma Baptist, 6-8.

Long jump — 1. Benny Fernando, Azusa Pacific, 25-5¼; 2. Kevin Wiley, Azusa Pacific, 25-4¼; 3. Tage Peterson, Azusa Pacific, 24-6¼; 4. Craig Tomlinson, Central State, 24-1½; 5. Andre Eley, Findlay, 24-¼; 6. Edward Dilard, Lindenwood, 23-11.

3,200 relay — 1. Lubbock Christian, 7:40.64; 2. Oklahoma Baptist, 7:40.65; 3. Siena Heights, 7:44.42; 4. Linfield, 7:46.74; 5. Wayland Baptist, 7:49.52; 6. Jamestown, 7:50.77.

Women Team scoring

Southern-New Orleans 21, Azusa Pacific 18, Central State, Ohio 18, Mary, N.D. 16, Wayland Baptist 16, Doane 10, Hillsdale, Mich. 8, Jamestown, N.D. 8, Harding, Ark. 6, Western Oregon 6, Cedarville, Ohio 4, Concordia, Neb. 4, Missouri Valley 4, Mount Marty 4, Olivet Nazarene 4, Findlay, Ohio 2, Nebraska Wesleyan 2, Prairie View A&M 2, Dordt, Iowa 1, Lindenwood, Mo. 1.

Finals

Long jump — 1. Ronalee Davis, Central State, 20-¼; 2. Chameau White, Central State, 19-6; 3. Rowena Welford, Wayland Baptist, 18-9¼; 4. Tachele Duke, Missouri Valley, 18-5¼; 5. Yvette French, Prairie View A&M, 18-4¼; 6. Carlene Vassell, Southern-New Orleans, 18-3¼.

Shot put — 1. Michelle Hagge, Wayland Baptist, 47-10½; 2. Heather Rhoadarmer, Doane, 47-9; 3. Molly Duggan, Western Oregon, 46-¼; 4. Elisabeta Anghel, Olivet Nazarene, 44-4; 5. Kar Peters, Mary, 43-8¼; 6. Teresa Van Zee, Dordt, 43-8½.

High jump — 1. Selisha Hudson, Southern-New Orleans, 5-7; 2. Cindy Leung, Mary, 5-6; 3. Penny Mayberry, Harding, 5-5; 4. Joy Betler, Cedarville, 5-5; 5. Joanna Will, Findlay, 5-5; 6. Angela Boland, Lindenwood, 5-4.

3,200 relay — 1. Southern-New Orleans, 9:11.34; 2. Azusa Pacific, 9:17.70; 3. Hillsdale, 9:24.72; 4. Concordia, Neb., 9:26.83; 5. Doane, 9:26.97; 6. Nebraska Wesleyan, 9:30.70.

Doane's Thompson stands tall at NAAI track meet

BY STEVE SIPP
Lincoln Journal-Star

In Fred Beile's mind, the biggest story of the day stood 4-foot-11.

"Doane's small-but-mighty Heather Thompson felt she had no shot at earning All-America status in the 5,000-meter run Saturday at the NAAI Indoor Track and Field Championships at the Devaney Sports Center.

Doane Coach Beile wasn't counting on receiving any team points from the women's 5,000.

"Entering her in the race was more of a stop-gap kind of thing. We wanted to cover every distance with someone we thought was decent. We really didn't think she'd place," Beile said.

Thompson, however, completed a weekend in which she shaved nearly 25 seconds from her previous best 5,000-meter time by finishing fifth in 18 minutes, 13.25 seconds. The top six finishers in each event earn All-America status.

"When Fred told me to just go out and have fun, I knew he didn't expect much," said Thompson, a junior from Sutherland.

Thompson accepted her coach's low expectation level. After all, she noted she hadn't even finished among the top 10 in the preliminaries.

So what made Thompson perform so mightily?

Beile says a lot of it is Thompson's

discipline and confidence. But she can always have those things.

It was more than that.

"It was the atmosphere," Thompson said. "You get in here and get excited. You're in here with a group of fast runners. It gets your adrenalin going." Entering the meet — which began Thursday and ended Saturday — Thompson's best time in the 5,000 had been 18:37.

This from a runner who Beile never even thought of recruiting.

"She was terrible (in high school)," Beile said. "We recruited her sister (Tami), who was a heck of a hurdler, and Heather just kind of came along."

Thompson was one of several competitors from Nebraska schools who earned All-America honors Saturday, but the state schools produced no champions.

The highest individual finisher from a state school was Nebraska Wesleyan junior Adam Decker of Norfolk, who finished third in the 55 hurdles in a season-best 7:58 seconds even though he prefers outdoor hurdle events that are twice as long.

"I just get going about the fifth hurdle, and indoors we're done (right after that point)," Decker said. "Plus, I don't start strong at all."

In the men's team race, Lubbock (Texas) Christian prevailed with 108 points, and Azusa Pacific (Calif.) finished runner-up for the eighth time in

the last nine years.

Southern University-New Orleans captured the women's team crown with 90 points.

Results

Men

Team scoring

Lubbock Christian (Texas) 108, Azusa Pacific (Calif.) 97, Central State (Ohio) 56, Southern-New Orleans 42, Western Oregon 38, Oklahoma Baptist 25, Wayland Baptist (Texas) 18, Findlay (Ohio) 16, Linfield (Ore.) 16, Hastings 14, Siena Heights (Mich.) 14, Lindenwood (Mo.) 11, Nebraska Wesleyan 11, Doane 10, Hillsdale (Mich.) 10, Prairie View A&M (Texas) 10, Baker (Kan.) 8, Cedarville (Ore.) 8, Life (Ga.) 7, Dakota State (S.D.) 6, Dallas Baptist 6, Tenkyo Westmar (Iowa) 6, Taylor (Ind.) 5, Huntington (Ind.) 4, Jamestown (N.D.) 2, Olivet Nazarene (Ill.) 2, Park (Mo.) 2, Willamette (Ore.) 2, Mid-America Nazarene (Kan.) 1, Midland 1, Mobile (Ala.) 1, Oklahoma Christian 1.

Finals

55 — 1. Daniel Eflong, Lubbock Christian, 06:19. 2. Sayan Williams, Central St., 06:34. 3. Sayon Cooper, Central St., 06:42. 4. **Allen Haynes, Hastings, 06:43.** 5. Edward Dillard, Lindenwood, 06:44. 6. Kevin Wilky, Azusa Pacific, 06:46.

200 — 1. Daniel Eflong, Lubbock Christian, 21:33. 2. Sayan Williams, Central St., 21:48. 3. Tard Smith, Dakota St., 21:94. 4. Edward Dillard, Lindenwood, 21:95. 5. Ali Ahmed, Southern-New Orleans, 21:98. 6. Damon Sims, Oklahoma Christian, 21:98.

400 — 1. Ali Ahmed, Southern-New Orleans, 47:94. 2. Michael Sulzer, Central St., 48:13. 3. Ervin Whitehead, Tenkyo Westmar, 48:48. 4. Monte Raymond, Southern-New Orleans, 48:75. 5. Floyd Howell, Central St., 51:62.

800 — 1. Julius Achon, Southern-New Orleans, 1:51:32. 2. Josh O'Connor, Linfield, 1:51:71. 3. Darrin Browder, Southern-New Orleans, 1:52. 4. Dudley Dawkins, Oklahoma Baptist, 1:52:01. 5. Emmanuella Ngega, Park, 1:54:54. 6. Gus Ibarra, Mobile, 1:55:62.

3,000 — 1. Julius Randich, Lubbock Christian, 8:07:28. 2. James Bungei, Lubbock Christian, 8:12:95. 3. Peter Tanu, Lubbock Christian, 8:18:88. 4. Case Shay, Lubbock Christian, 8:23:97. 5. Simon Sawe, Lubbock Christian, 8:32:94. 6. Malcolm Campbell, Life, 8:33:58.

5 mile — 1. Julius Achon, Southern-New Orleans, 4:05:68. 2. Julius Randich, Lubbock Christian, 4:06:42. 3. Simon Sawe, Lubbock Christian, 4:08:5. 4. James Njoroge, Taylor, 4:08:59. 5. Lewis Anyega, Lubbock

Christian, 4:12:4. 6. Denes Balazs, Azusa Pacific, 4:12:54.

5,000 — 1. Peter Tanu, Lubbock Christian, 14:45:11. 2. Mike Mamo, Lubbock Christian, 14:57:36. 3. David Kosog, Life, 14:57:38. 4. Tim Kemel, Lubbock Christian, 14:57:6. 5. Warren Johnson, Hillsdale, 15:00:08. 6. John Gachau, Azusa Pacific, 15:15:55.

55 hurdles — 1. James Rollins, Central St., 07:46. 2. David Pope, Azusa Pacific, 07:58. 3. Adam Decker, Neb. Wesleyan, 07:58. 4. Brandon Schroer, Neb. Wesleyan, 07:57. 5. Justin Lyndon, Willamette, 07:73. 6. David Farr, Azusa Pacific, 07:83.

Triple jump — 1. James McCann, Western Oregon, 51-1 1/4. 2. Xiaojun Zhang, Findlay, 49-5 1/2. 3. Hong Lu, Azusa Pacific, 49-5 1/2. 4. Julian Smith, Lindenwood, 48-7. 5. Kevin Wardlaw, Olivet Nazarene, 47-1 1/2. 6. **Kyle Keifer, Midland, 46-11 1/4.**

Shot put — 1. Rene Bustamante, Azusa Pacific, 59-1 1/2. 2. Carl Brown, Siena Heights, 55-3/4. 3. Roderick Scott, Prairie View A&M, 55-0. 4. Jim Arnett, Huntington, 53-1/2. 5. Lucian Scott, Central St., 51-4 1/4. 6. Jason Stansbury, Mid-America Nazarene, 51-3 1/4.

Pole vault — 1. Tim Cookrell, Azusa Pacific, 16-0. 2. Joe Cunningham, Cedarville, 15-8. 3. Tony Bybee, Wayland Baptist, 15-4. 4. Jim Coleman, Hillsdale, 15-4. 5. **Pat Garrett, Doane, 15-4.** 6. Craig Stadler, Jamestown, 15-0.

Distance medley relay — 1. Lubbock Christian, 9:59:99. 2. Wayland Baptist, 10:09:16. 3. Azusa Pacific, 10:09:22. 4. Hillsdale, 10:14:79. 5. Oklahoma Baptist, 10:19:20. 6. **Nebraska Wesleyan, 10:19:44.**

1,600 relay — 1. Oklahoma Baptist, 3:14:07. 2. Central St., 3:14:12. 3. Findlay, 3:17:22. 4. Prairie View A&M, 3:17:6. 5. **Doane, 3:22:63.** 6. Southern-New Orleans, DQ.

Women

Team scoring

Southern-New Orleans 90, Central State (Ohio) 71, Azusa Pacific (Calif.) 51, Wis.-Parkside 39, Wayland Baptist (Texas) 38, Hillsdale (Mich.) 26, Doane 22, Prairie View A&M (Texas) 21, Mary (N.D.) 16, Cedarville (Ohio) 13, Findlay (Ohio) 8, Jamestown (N.D.) 8, Missouri Valley 8, Mobile (Ala.) 8, Olivet Nazarene (Ill.) 8, Western Oregon 8, Concordia (Neb.) 7, Moorhead State (Minn.) 7, Harding (Ark.) 6, Northwestern (Iowa) 6, Rio Grande (Ohio) 6, Midland 4, Mount Marty 4, Oklahoma Baptist 4, Southwestern (Kan.) 4, Westmont (Calif.) 4, Nebraska Wesleyan 3, Simon Fraser (B.C.) 3, Dordt 1, Lindenwood (Mo.) 1.

Finals

55 — 1. Chantel Rolle, Central St., 06:97. 2. Beverly Langley, Southern-New Orleans, 07:01. 3. Layphane Carnegie, Central St., 07:05. 4. Bridgette Edwards, Central St., 07:07. 5. Chantel Rolle, Southern-New Orleans, 07:14. 6. Ronalee Davis, Central St., 07:15.

200 — 1. Fatima Yusuf, Azusa Pacific, 23:64. 2. Catherine Pomaes, Central St., 24:40. 3. Altrice Taylor, Southern-New Orleans, 24:58. 4. Chantel Rolle, Southern-New Orleans, 24:72. 5. Bridgette Edwards, Central St., 24:84. 6. Beverly Langley, Southern-New Orleans, 25:04.

400 — 1. Fatima Yusuf, Azusa Pacific, 53:24. 2. Altrice Taylor, Southern-New Orleans, 54:93. 3. Seisha Hudson, Southern-New Orleans, 55:96. 4. Giliane Quinn, Oklahoma Baptist, 56:64. 5. Danielle Butler, Hillsdale, 56:71.

800 — 1. Vermetta Rolle, Southern-New Orleans, 2:14:06. 2. Patrice Pearl, Southern-New Orleans, 2:14:36. 3. Christine Smith, Southern-New Orleans, 2:14:74. 4. Tanya Wilde, Moorhead St., 2:15:31. 5. Jessica Faith, Moorhead St., 2:17:69. 6. **Dove Robinson, Concordia, 2:18:31.**

3,000 — 1. Jodie Young, Wayland Baptist, 10:05:79. 2. Arny Haines, Wis.-Parkside, 10:10:91. 3. Ann Marie Hynes, Rio Grande, 10:15:36. 4. Miriam Nedragel, Westmont, 10:17:94. 5. Becky Steb, Doane, 10:19:5. 6. Can Rampersad, Simon Fraser, 10:22:78.

5 mile — 1. Valerie Niese, Wis.-Parkside, 5:03:19. 2. Ivana Skladana, Mobile, 5:03:6. 3. Jodie Young, Wayland Baptist, 5:05:4. 4. Michelle Teodoro, Azusa Pacific, 5:05:94. 5. Carolyn Murray, Simon Fraser, 5:08:15. 6. Colette Marotto, Wis.-Parkside, 5:13:31.

1,600 relay — 1. Oklahoma Baptist, 3:14:07. 2. Central St., 3:14:12. 3. Findlay, 3:17:22. 4. Prairie View A&M, 3:17:6. 5. **Doane, 3:22:63.** 6. Southern-New Orleans, DQ.

55 hurdles — 1. Catherine Pomaes, Central St., 07:74. 2. Michelle Campbell, Azusa Pacific, 07:79. 3. Rowena Welford, Wayland Baptist, 08:24. 4. Debbi Cobbler, Missouri Valley, 08:26. 5. Yvette French, Prairie View A&M, 08:29. 6. Christine Gray, Prairie View A&M, 08:30.

Distance medley relay — 1. Wis.-Parkside, 12:14:43. 2. Hillsdale, 12:26:33. 3. **Doane, 12:27:43.** 4. **Midland, 12:28:65.** 5. **Concordia, 12:30:38.** 6. Moorhead St., 12:32:49.

1,600 relay — 1. Southern-New Orleans, 3:14:18. 2. Central St., 3:43:46. 3. Findlay, 3:56:6. 4. Southwestern, 4:00:87. 5. **Doane, 4:01:03.** 6. **Nebraska Wesleyan, 4:09:76.**

Triple jump — 1. Yvette French, Prairie View A&M, 40-5 1/2. 2. Stephanie Sherman, Cedarville, 39-1 1/4. 3. Christine Gray, Prairie View A&M, 39-1 1/4. 4. Ronalee Davis, Central St., 37-11 1/2. 5. Alicia Marshall, W. Oregon, 37-3 1/4. 6. Mary Sauer, Azusa Pacific, 36-8 1/2.