

# THE DECATHLON ASSOCIATION

## DECA Newsletter

Volume XXXVII

Number 3

January (3), 2012

## HARDEE is ATHLETE of the YEAR

### World and American Rankings Released

**Hello Again.....**A little bit of 2011. *T&F News* rankings are now available and, to no one's surprise, Trey Hardee, undefeated with decisive victories at Götzis and Daegu, was ranked 1<sup>st</sup> nationally and globally. As well, the 6-5, 204 lb Austin native was named the 2011 "U.S. Athlete of the Year," by *T&FNews*.

World leader Ashton Eaton was 2<sup>nd</sup> on both lists and 2011 marked the 10<sup>th</sup> time in a century and the first time since 1975 (Bruce Jenner and Fred Dixon) that Americans were ranked 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> globally.

Other USA 1-2 decathlon world rankings:

(by: *T&F News*)

1966	Bill Toomey and Russ Hodge	kk s c
1956	Milt Campbell and Rafer Johnson	
1953	Milt Campbell and Bob Richards	
1952	Bob Mathias and Milt Campbell	The
1950	Bob Mathias and Bill Albans	
(by: <i>American Decathletes, a 20<sup>th</sup> Century Who's Who</i> )		
1940	Bill Watson and Lee Todd	
1936	Glenn Morris and Bob Clark	
1924	Harold Osborn and Emerson Norton	

### The 2011 Rankings

<u>World</u>	<u>USA</u>
1. Trey Hardee/USA	1. Trey Hardee/Nike
2. Ashton Eaton/USA	2. Ashton Eaton/Nike
3. Leonel Suarez/CUB	3. Mike Morrison/Cal
4. Aleksey Drozdov/RUS	4. Ryan Harlan/unat
5. Eelco Sintnicolaas/HOL	5. Miller Moss/Clemson
6. Mikk Pahapill/EST	6. Curtis Beach/Duke
7. Pascal Behrenbruch/GER	7. Gray Horn/Florida
8. Mihail Dudas/SEB	8. Joe Detmer/unat
9. Jan Felix Knoebel/GER	9. Chris Helwick/unat
10. Larbi Bouraada/ALG	10. Michael Ayers/Georgia



It came as no surprise that world champ Trey Hardee was ranked first globally.

The American rankings marked a dramatic shift towards the collegiate scene...one half of the ranked athletes were collegians, almost like roll call at the NCAA championships. As recently as 1996 no US collegian was nationally ranked as the event's top tier belonged exclusively to post-collegians. The last time that as many as five collegians were ranked nationally was 1984 (Muzzio, Ramos, Gonzales, Connolly and Sayre). But 2012 is not 1984 when the world top rankings were dominated by guys named Thompson, Hingsen and Wentz.

Not only does the US enjoy the top tier world rankings (don't forget current Olympic champ Bryan Clay and '10 national champ Jake Arnold, both of whom were injured last

season...and now incidentally, train together)  
but there's a good deal of talent out there and  
much of it is very young.