

# THE DECATHLON ASSOCIATION

## DECA Newsletter

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## CLAY LEADS in BEIJING AFTER 3 Wins 100, LJ, Hardee 3<sup>rd</sup>, Pappas injured

**Hello Again** This newsletter provides coverage of the Olympic Games decathlon thru the break (initial three events) of day one in Beijing. The weather, surprisingly, is rainy. A field of 40 athletes declared and there appeared to be a lot of former USA collegiate champs on the field, 7 in all. The only bigger group were athletes from former Soviet Republics (14!). Ah for a Cold War!

Games of the 29<sup>th</sup>  
Olympiad  
Beijing, China  
August 21-22, 2008



### 100 Meters: (9:20- 9:52 am)

As tactfully as one can say it, it rained like hell during the 100m making the track slick and forcing to postponement of some of the other T&F events. But not the decathlon, which went on as scheduled. Considering the conditions, the times were remarkable. The very first race contained the world record holder, Roman Sebrle/CZE, who had sustained a pair of serious leg injuries earlier in the year. Running in lane 5, next to Cuban whiz Leonel Suarez, Sebrle reacted quickly the gun (0.150—I just love it when reaction times are reported) but Suarez took over by 20 meters and ran away from the field, getting a significant PR of 10.90. Tall and bearded Russian Aleksandr Pogorelov was 2<sup>nd</sup> in 11.07. Sebrle lost ground here, finishing 6<sup>th</sup> in 11.21 seconds.

The second section featured a pair of former SEC Conference deca champs: Tom Pappas(ex-Tennessee) in lane 7 and Maurice Smith/JAM (ex-Auburn) in lane 8. But most eyes were on Andrei Krauchanka, in lane 2, who was one of the pre-meet favorites and who had false started twice at last year's



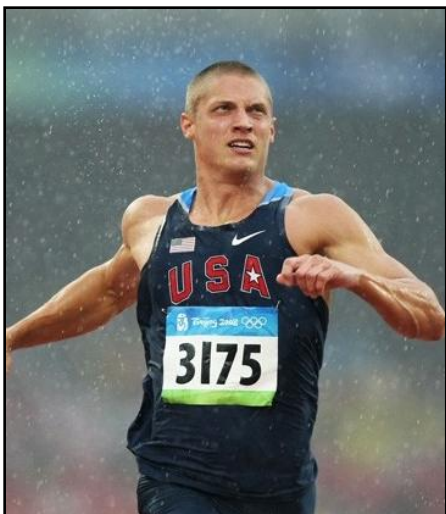
The rain says it all in Beijing as Bryan Clay leaves the track drenched but in first place after the 100 meters world champs in Osaka.

Pappas looked sluggish and Cuban Yordani Garcia (in lane 4) ran away from the

field getting a PR 10.65 clocking. Smith was 2<sup>nd</sup> in 10.85 and Krauchanka's 10.96 (for 4<sup>th</sup>) was a seasonal best. Pappas was 8<sup>th</sup> in 11.12 seconds. Two races, 2 wins for Cuba, both in lifetime bests! Slight headwinds.

The third race contained all the fast sprinters. Ironically, the quickest, Americans Bryan Clay and Trey Hardee, drew adjacent lanes (2 and 3) and the pair dominated—going 1-2-- the event with Clay winning in a fine 10.44 seconds, .08 ahead of Hardee. Clay's speedy reaction time of 0.136 was good news. Interestingly, Tennessee's Jangy Addy/LBR got a PR here, 10.75 for 4<sup>th</sup> while Olympic bronze medalist Dmitry Karpov (even though he had the fastest reaction time of 0.128) was obviously injured and last in 11.83, almost 1½ seconds slower than his Athens 100m performance. Massimo Bertocchi of the University of Toronto TC was 7<sup>th</sup> in 11 dead. Aiding wind of +0.3 mps.

By the time of the fourth race the rain had calmed to a drizzle and NCAA indoor heptathlon champ Gonzalo Barroilhet/CHI (Florida State) drew lane 4. Qi Haifeng, the only Chinese athlete in the meet, rode the



Trey Hardee posted a fine 10.52 in the rainy 100 meters

local's shouting like a wave and was 2<sup>nd</sup> in 11.15 seconds, behind Spain's David Gomez, 11.12. Barroilhet was 6<sup>th</sup> in 11.33 seconds.



Cuban Leonel Suarez wins the first sprint section over defending decathlon champ Roman Sebrle/CZE (r).

The final race was won by Iran's (no pun intended) Hadi Sepehzad in 10.92. Former NCAA runner-up Attila Zsivoczky/HUN, injured the entire season, was well back in 11.86 seconds.

Because the heavy rain continued there was a chance that the long jump would be postponed.

*After One: Clay 989, Hard 970, Kasy 968, Garc 942, Addy 915.....Papp 834(19th), Sebr 814(27th)*

**Long Jump:** (11:02 – 12:32 am)

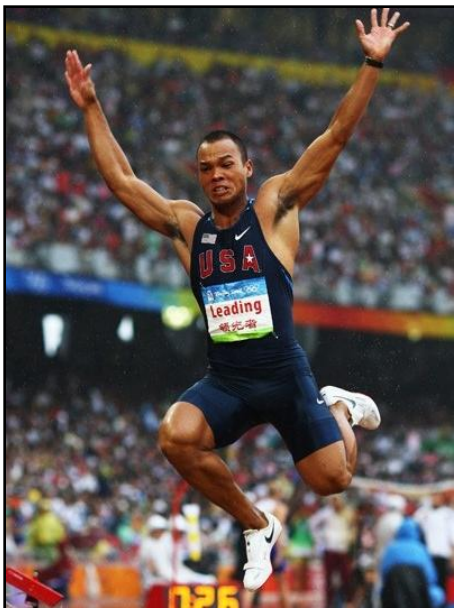
The event was postponed for 30 minutes (originally scheduled for 10:30 am. It was impossible to follow results live (e.g. IAAF waited until the event was over to post results while the major TV network had mistakenly used the heptathlon order of events and listed the women's heptathlon as the 2<sup>nd</sup> decathlon event!?!). When all of that was sorted out Group A got under way the surprising Jang Addy, in Group A, opened with a 7.31m/23-11¾ effort to lead round #1. Leonel Suarez took over the lead in round #2 with a 7.33m/24-¾ leap but Addy improved in Round #3 to win the pit 7.38m/24-2½.

Gonzalo Barroilhet stopped Talahassee hearts by fouling on his first two attempts (ala NCAA indoor), then managed 7.08m/23-2¾. Dimtry Karpov, Attila

Zsivoczky and Uzebekistan's Vitaliy Smirnov all withdrew.

In Group B (the seeded jumpers) Bryan Clay brought his game face. His 7.64m/25-¾ first round leap gave him a safer. Two minutes later Trey Hardee soared 7.72m/25-4 (one inch off his Eugene PR) to take over the lead. Young German Michael Schrader (7.70m/25-¾), Roman Sebrle (7.67m/25-2), Tom Pappas (7.41m/24-¾) and Andrei Krauchanka (7.61m/24-11¾) all posted fine marks in round #1.

In round #3 Sebrle added a cm to his best, but the story was Clay, who popped a



If anyone was ready for bad conditions, it was Bryan Clay who nailed a 7.78m/25-6¼ here and did not have leap under 7.61m.

terrific 7.78m/25-6¼ in round #2 to win the event and extend his overall lead.

It is not surprising that no one else improved as many of the athletes had step problems or slipped on the toe-board. The conditions were miserable. Winds varied from -0.7 to +1.9 mps. As a matter of fact, nearly 40% of all the long jump efforts resulted in a foot foul at the toe-board (42 or 114), an extraordinary number.

*After Two: Clay 1994, Hard 1960, Kasy 1918, Schr 1891, Krau 1832....Addy 1820 (6<sup>th</sup>), Sebr 1794 (7<sup>th</sup>), Papp 1747 (12<sup>th</sup>).*

**Shot Put:** ( 1:10 – 2:02 pm)

Tom Pappas withdrew before the shot put. In Group A (seeded section). In round #1 tall Cuban Yordani Garcia led with a 15.82m/51-11 pop. Bryan managed a safe 15.27m/50-1, then equaled his seasonal best of 15.53m/50-11½ in the second round. Aleksandr Pogorelov took the event lead with a 16.25m53-¾ but the disappointment spread



Leonel Suarez looked more and more like a medalist with 2 PRs in the first 3 events.

to Maurice Smith who, off his seasonal best of 1.78m/58-4, could only cover 15.09m/49-6 of Beijing real estate.

In round #3 the meet's Pogorelov upped his margin to 16.53m/54-2¾ but the meet's defining moment came with a rush at the end of the round. With nothing to lose Bryan Clay heaved a lifetime best 16.27m53-4½ to win the event. Bam! That's it! At the break Bryan held a

In Group B Aleksey Drozdov/RUS surpassed teammate Pogo by a cm while Krauchanka managed a PR 14.39m/47-2½. Trey Hardee managed came up with a 13.49m/44-3 effort.

After Three: Clay 2862, Kasy 2717, Hard 2657, Pogo 2632, Garc 2612, Addy 2604...Krau 2584 (9<sup>th</sup>)...Sebr 2570 (10<sup>th</sup>)..

### Results:

#### 21-22 29<sup>th</sup> Olympic Games, Beijing, China

2862	Clay, Bryan/USA	10.44+0.3 778 0.0 1627
2717	Kasyanov, Oleksiy/UKR	10.53+0.3 756+1.2 1515
2657	Hardee, Trey/USA	10.52+0.3 772-0.2 1349
2632	Pogorelov, Aleksandr/RUS	11.06-0.6 737+0.6 1653
2612	Garcia, Yordani/CUB	10.64-0.2 7707+0.3 1582
2604	Addy, Jangy/LBR	10.76+0.3 738+0.9 1491
2599	Schrader, Michael/GER	10.80+0.3 770-0.1 1367
2592	Drozdov, Aleksey/RUS	11.02-0.1 723-0.1 1626
2584	Krauchanka, Andrei/BLR	10.96-0.2 761-0.2 1439
2570	Šebrle, Roman/CZE	11.21-0.6 768+0.8 1478
2545	Raja, Andres/EST	10.89-0.2 729+0.2 1479
2534	Suárez, Leonel/CUB	10.90-0.6 733+0.8 1449
2512	Smith, Maurice/JAM	10.85-0.2 704-0.8 1509
2497	Sephehrzad, Hadi/IRI	10.92-0.1 680+1.0 1602
2453	Barras, Romain/FRA	11.26-0.1 708+1.0 1542
2438	Karlivans, Janis/LAT	11.36-0.6 726+1.3 1485
2430	Sysoyev, Alexey/RUS	11.03-0.2 677+0.3 1542
2428	Parkhomenka, Aliaksandr/BLR	11.29-0.4 699 0.0 1549
2421	Bertocchi, Massimo/CAN	11.00+0.3 705-0.8 1410
2400	Pahapill, Mikk/EST	11.15-0.6 704+0.6 1436
2398	Niklaus, Andre/GER	11.12-0.6 729+1.4 1436
2393	Martineau, Eugene/NED	11.19-0.4 719+0.6 1378
2385	Haifeng Qi/CHN	11.15-0.4 722+1.6 1340
2370	Dizdarevic, Slaven/SVK	11.16-0.1 702+0.3 1397
2319	Sitar, Damjan/SLO	11.21-0.6 725-0.1 1241
2317	Halvari, Mikko/FIN	11.18-0.6 688-0.2 1372
2315	Gómez, Daniel/ESP	11.12-0.4 685+0.9 1358
2303	Barroilhet, Gonzalo/CHI	11.33-0.4 708+1.9 1323



2298	Xhonneux, Frédéric/BEL	11.41-0.1 694+0.5 1399
2297	Awde, Daniel/GBR	11.06-0.2 712+0.3 1203
2289	Van Alphen, Hans/BEL	11.28-0.4 655+0.3 1486
2275	Abele, Arthur/GER	10.90+0.3 647+0.31355
2222	Andreev, Pavel/UZB	11.47-0.4 662-0.3 1415
2356	Shubianok, Mikalai/BLR	11.31-0.2 686+0.6 1488
2068	Covalenco, Victor/MDA	11.87-0.1 650+0.7 1344
1662	Chinin, Carlon/BRA	10.99-0.2 694 0.0 nm
1438	Smirnov, Vitalit/UZB	11.56-0.4 nm 1351
dnf	Pappas, Tom/USA	11.12-0.2 741+1.3
dnf	Zsivóczky, Attila/HUN	11.86-0.1
dnf	Karpov, Dmitri/KAZ	11.83+0.3
40 starters-		