

# THE DECATHLON ASSOCIATION

## DECA Newsletter

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## CLAY INJURED in OSAKA SMITH, KAPPOV, SEBRLE LEAD

**Hello Again...**We begin the first day of decathlon coverage of the 11<sup>th</sup> IAAF World championships from Osaka, Japan. 27 year old Bryan Clay is the defending champion in a field of 30. It is less humid, overcast and cooler, little wind (strong thunderstorms swept thru Osaka the previous day) and but 1100 spectators are in the stadium for the first event.



**11<sup>th</sup> IAAF World Championships**  
**Osaka, Japan**  
**August 31-Sept 1, 2007**

**100 meters:** [10:00 am-11:12-11:36]  
The athletes in the initial section were ready to roll and the meet was off and STALLED. After a false start charged to Frenchman Romain Barras the gun then misfired on the second try and officials took a full ten minutes to replace it. The first race started at 10:12 am and was eventful only because local favorite Hiromasa Tanaka/JPN won in 11.05 and Russian Vitaliy Smirnov took three steps into the race then walked away.



In the days first event Bryan Clay won the 100m (10.44) while Maurice Smith/JAM recorded a PR in 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10.62

The event story was in section#2 where 21 year old Andrei Krauchanka/BLR, looking nervous, false started twice and official, after a protest, led the dazed Gotzis winner away. What a shock!

German Norman Muller then had the fastest false start in recent memory not giving the starter enough time to fire the gun. , By now this race was 18 minutes late and Bryan Clay, in lane 5, put the field away with a smooth looking 10.44 (+0.7mps) to assume command. To Clay right ex Auburn NCAA champ Maurice

Smith recorded a PR 10.62. This track would do nicely, certainly fast enough.



Bryan Clay (r) leads the second 100m section with 10.44.

In section #3 Tunisian Hamdi Dhoubi/TUN false started (again, very fast gun) and when they were finally away cleanly Dmitry Karpov powered away for a strong looking 10.70. Paul terek ran a strong 10.95 in 4<sup>th</sup> nipping Tom Pappas by 1/100<sup>th</sup>, a seasonal best for the '03 champ. Roman Sebrle faded to 6<sup>th</sup>., caught in 11.04 into a slight headwind (-0.2mps).

The final race saw Estonian Andres Raja clip 10.92, but the pleasant surprise was NCAA champ Jake Arnold who recorded a PR 11.14 out of lane 8. Last year's IAAF indoor champ Andre Nicklaus/GER, in a bizarre outfit of headdress and large sunglasses, was well off form in 4<sup>th</sup>.

So, with the exception of Krauchanka's exit, the event went pretty much as forecasted. Interestingly, in spite of the early am start, gun delays and 5 false starts putting the meet 20 minutes behind schedule, 7 recorded lifetime bests.

*After One: Clay 989, Smit 947, Gour 935, Karp 929.....12<sup>th</sup> Tere 872, 13<sup>th</sup> Papp 870, ..15<sup>th</sup> Sebr 852...21<sup>st</sup> Arno 830,*

**Long Jump:** [11:00 am- 11:15-12:20 pm]

Inexplicably Bryan Clay was thrown into the weaker section of the long jump. Officials admirably attempted to seed the event but mistakenly used his Indianapolis long jump mark (7.18m/23-6 3/4 instead of his 7.80m/25-7 1/4 at Gotzis). This was just careless paperwork. Bryan

got @ one half of the toe-board on his first attempt and covered 7.44m/24-5 of Osaka real estate. He did not improve in round #2 (7.42m24-4) 1/4

Meanwhile, of the contenders in Group B, Pappas 7.21m/23-8 on his first attempt, 3 cm shy of Terek, while Karpov , an 8 meter leaper, could manage but 7.19m/23-7 1/4), then did not improve in round #2. Sebrle did, getting 7.56m24-9 3/4, but so did the veteran Pappas, managing to stretch his long frame 7.44m/24-5.

Meanwhile there was high drama in Group A on Clays final try and when the measurement came up he had taken the event lead with a 7.65m/25-1 1/4 leap. He the had to wait to see how Karpov, Sebrle and Pappas fared in round #3 of Group B.

Karpov, the Asian record holder who is coached by Pavel Hämäläinen, Edward's father, has always had step problems and he managed a meager 7.10m/23-3 1/2 on his least effort. Roman did not seem to have his



Tom Pappas got a nifty 7.44m/24-5 leap and moved to 3<sup>rd</sup> overall.

usual speed and pop and could not improve. Nor did Pappas and the event quietly ended with Clay in great shape and four fine efforts by the four Americans. Arnold improved top 6.86m/22-6 1/4 in the third round, 11cm shy of his PR. Maurice Smith, the last jumper

Interestingly and bravely, the dispirited Krauchanka continued and

actually won group B with a 7.58m/24-10 ½ effort, but well off his 7.90m/25-11 mark from Götzis. The seeding mistake by the officials resulted in a silly result: the top jump in the weaker group (Clay) bettering the best mark in the top group. Common guys, pay attention! Bryan won his group by a foot and a half!

*After Two: Clay 1961, Smit 1882, Mull 1803, Sebr 1802....6<sup>th</sup> papp 1780...7<sup>th</sup> Karp 1788....14<sup>th</sup> tere 1748....25<sup>th</sup> Arno 1611.*

**Shot Put:** [1:00 pm- 1:00-1:50 pm]

All of the action was in group A, seeded as the superior throwers. Tom Pappas made some noise in round #1 with a 16.31m/53-6 toss to lead the event and move to 3<sup>rd</sup> overall. Maurice Smith, throwing last in the order, managed but 15.12m/49-7¼. Sebrle's 14.94m/49-¼, and Clay's 14.58m/47-10 (all arms, no legs) were sub-standard for both.

In Round #2 Sebrle pumped 15.92m/52-3 and Bryan responded with a 15.51m/50-10¾, yet neither would improve in round #3. But it was Smith who impressed with a terrific 17.32m/56-10 toss, just missing Michael Smith's/CAN meet record from Athens in 1997. The effort boosted him into the overall lead, 33 points ahead of Clay. Karpov improved in the final round getting 16.08m52-9.

Ex Kansas Stater Attila Zsivoczky/HUN won Group B with a 15.13m/49-7¾ toss. Lifetime bests were recorded by Sysoyev, Muller and Juantorena.

*After Three: Smit 2815, Clay 2782, Papp 2660, Sebr 2648, Karp 2644.....11<sup>th</sup> Tere 2526...22<sup>nd</sup> Arno 2384.*

**High Jump:** [6:30 pm- 8:24 pm]

Bryan Clay pulled a quad muscle and limped away from the event, his chances of repeating as world champ gone. Maurice Smith exited early also, but stayed healthy as both managed

but 1.97m/6-5½. Paul Terek got 2.00/6-6 ¾ and Tom Pappas 2.03m/6-8. Karpov went a bar higher, 2.06m/6-9 but the show was the

Olympic champ Roman Seberle used a 3<sup>rd</sup> attempt clearance at 2.12m/6-11½ to move into 2<sup>nd</sup> place.



veteran Seberle who skied 2.12m/6-11 ½ on his 3<sup>rd</sup> attempt to best a pair of Cubans, Yordani Garcia and Al Juantorena. Sebrle stopped here. The bulky Russian Drozdov also negotiated 2.12 and could not get over 2.15m7- ½. That put the Olympic champion into 2nd behind Smith and 5 digits up on Clay.

In the adjoining group B it was Jake Arnold who salvaged some early troubles and leaped a PR 2.03m/6-8 to place 2<sup>nd</sup> behind the come-backing Zsivoczky who got 2.09m/6-9 Clay's injury put a damper on a weird decathlon..

*After Four: Smit 3591, Sebr 3563, Clay 3558, Karp 3503, Papp 3491....12<sup>th</sup> Tere 3329...16<sup>th</sup> Arno 3215.*

**400 meters:** [9:35 pm- 9:40 – 10:00 pm]]

Tunisian Hamdi Dhoubi won so easily in the first race (47.59) that it appeared he should have been in another race. He should have. For some reason Tunisian officials did not send in his seasonal best marks and he was placed in the slowest section even though he is one of the event's premier 400 meter runners. HELLO.

German Arthur Abele outleaned Estonian Andres rajõ, 48.58 to 48.59 in the second race but Sebrle again impressed



**Dmitry Karpov powered a 47.44 400m and finished day one in second place.**

with his conditioning, clocking a seasonal best 48.80. the three Americans were up the track: Arnold (49.02, Pappas (49.22), Terek 49.34.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> section was uneventful as Russian Aleksey Sysoyev won in a PR 48.42.

The final race was a dilly as Karpov and Smith duelled in the stretch. The Kazak came away with a fine 47.44 over the Jamaican's PR 47.48.

*After Five: Smit 4525, Karp 4439, Sebr 4434, Droz 4353, Papp 4342... 10<sup>th</sup> Tere 4174... 14<sup>th</sup> Arno 4103.*

### **USA Quotes [provided by USATF]**

**Tom Pappas** (Knoxville, Tenn.): It was a struggle. It was a weird decathlon-a lot of weird stuff happened. I'm trying to hang in there. I've been pretty average so far.

**Paul Terek** (San Luis Obispo, Calif.): It started out all right. It was a little disappointing at the end. Could've performed better in the shot and the 400. Gotta get home and get rested up. If I perform the way I'm supposed to, I'll be in the hunt for a good place.

**Robert Arnold** (Santa Rosa, Calif.): Actually I had a really good day today. I'm ahead of my first day total. I took a lot of jumps in the high jump, so I was dead in the 400. Otherwise, it went well, especially

in the high jump. Those second day events have been going well for me. I expect to have a second day PR.



### **RESULTS:**

4525	Maurice Smith/JAM	10.62+0.7	750	0.0
1732	197	47.48		
4439	Dmitri Karpov/KAZ	10.70-0.2	719	0.0
1608	206	47.44		
4434	Roman Sebrle/CZE	11.04-0.2	756-	
0.1	1592	212	48.80	
4353	Aleksey Drozdov/RUS	10.97+0.2	725-	
0.3	1649	212	50.00	
4342	Tom Pappas/USA	10.96-0.2		
744+0.4	1631	203	49.22	
4310	Norman Muller/GER	10.90+0.7		
744+0.1	1518	197	47.58	
4303	Aleksey Syoyev/RUS	10.80-0.2	701-	
0.3	1616	203	48.42	
4294	Yordani Garcia/CUB	10.73+0.7		
715+0.2	1494	209	49.23	
4186	Andre Nicklaus/GER	11.12+0.2		
742+0.4	1412	206	49.40	
4174	Paul Terek/USA	10.95-0.2	726-	
0.8	1481	200	49.34	
4156	Carlos Chinin/BRA	10.83+0.7	726-	
0.1	1272	203	48.18	
4135	Alberto Juantorena/CUB	11.13+0.2	743-	
0.3	1354	209	50.37	
4131	Arthur Abele/GER	10.87+0.7	717	0.0
1358	200	48.58		
4103	Jake Arnold/USA	11.14+0.2		
686+0.4	1473	203	49.02	
4083	Han van Alpen/BEL	11.11+0.2		
735+0.3	1467	188	48.52	
4077	Francois Gourmet/BEL	10.67+0.7		
715+0.3	1374	185	47.98	
4073	Andres Raja/EST	10.92+0.2	742-	
0.3	1426	185	48.89	
4068	Romain Barras/FRA	11.36-0.5		
713+0.4	1503	200	49.32	
4052	Attila Zsivoczky/HUN	11.44-0.5	700-	
0.1	1513	209	50.58	
3971	Josef Karras/CZE	11.12-0.2	744-	
0.8	1323	194	50.60	
3967	Hamdi Dhoubi/TUN	10.93-0.2	705-	
1.0	1340	182	47.59	
3960	Eugene Martineau/Ned	11.25-0.5	713-	
0.3	1369	200	50.38	
3953	Alex Parkomenka/BLR	11.29-0.5	692-	
0.2	1598	194	51.16	

3902 Augustin Felix/ESP 11.17+0.2 712-  
0.1 1329 203 52.08  
3881 Kun-Woo Kim/KOR 11.29-0.5 712-0.4  
1283 191 48.99  
3791 Hiromasa Tanaka/JPN 11.05-0.5 678-0.3  
1192 188 48.59  
3745 Hans Olaf Uldal/NOR 11.21-0.2  
693+0.5 1365 182 50.70  
dnf Bryan Clay/USA 10.44+0.7 765-  
0.1 1551 197 dns  
Andrei Krauchanka/BLR dsq 758-  
0.9 withdrew  
Vitaliy Smirnov/UZB dnf withdrew